Explanation of Non-State Employment Restrictions

The Ethics Act contains restrictions that may, under certain circumstances, affect whether a State employee or his/her family members may lawfully accept employment compensation or fees from another person or entity within one year after the employee ends his or her State employment. The restrictions, often referred to as the “Revolving Door Prohibitions,” are the following:

Restrictions Related to Contract Decisions

If, within one year before terminating state employment, a state employee participated personally and substantially in the award of state contracts or the issuance of state contract change orders with a cumulative value of $25,000 or more to a person, entity, its parent or subsidiary, that state employee (or the spouse or immediate family member living with such a person) may not knowingly accept employment or receive compensation or fees for services from that person, entity, or parent or subsidiary for one year after terminating state employment. 5 ILCS 430/5-45(a).

Restrictions Related to Regulatory or Licensing Decisions

If, within one year before terminating state employment, a state employee participated personally and substantially in making a regulatory or licensing decision that directly applied to a person, entity, its parent or subsidiary, that state employee (or the spouse or immediate family member living with such a person) may not knowingly accept employment or receive compensation or fees for services from that person, entity, or parent or subsidiary for one year after terminating state employment. 5 ILCS 430/5-45(b).

The Ethics Act requires the Office of the Attorney General (“OAG”) to adopt a policy delineating which positions under the Attorney General’s jurisdiction and control, by nature of their duties, may have the authority to: (1) participate personally and substantially in the award of State contracts with a cumulative value of $25,000 or more to one person or entity, and/or (2) participate in regulatory or licensing decisions. Designated OAG employees must go through the formal notification process with the Office of the Executive Inspector General for the Attorney General (“OEIG”) before accepting non-State employment.

Under the Ethics Act, any OAG employee in a designated position who is offered non-State employment during State employment or within a period of one year immediately after termination of State employment must notify the OEIG to obtain approval, prior to accepting the non-State employment.

A form has been prepared for you to use to notify the OEIG if you wish to accept non-State employment. The “Revolving Door Non-State Notification” form is available on the OAG’s
intranet, the OAG’s website or through the OEIG. You will be deemed to have provided appropriate notification once the completed forms have been received by the OEIG. As required by the Ethics Act, within ten (10) calendar days after receiving notification, the OEIG shall make a determination as to whether the State employee (or his or her spouse or immediate family member) is restricted from accepting employment. An OEIG’s determination may be appealed by either the employee or the Attorney General to the Executive Ethics Commission no later than ten (10) calendar days after the date of the OEIG’s determination.