

“The Lobbying Line”

2017 Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar



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GARDERE
attorneys and counselors

Outline of Presentation

Introduction

- I. Why Do Ethics Matter?
- II. Are You a Lobbyist?
- III. Gifts
- IV. Lobby Conflicts
- V. Political Contributions
- VI. Tips on Effective Lobbying



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Introduction

The Role of the Lawyer-Lobbyist

The Advantages of Utilizing a Lawyer as Your
Lobbyist:

Ethics, Confidentiality, Privilege, Conflicts

I. Why Do Ethics Matter?

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1. *Morality*

Santa Claus is watching.



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I. Why Do Ethics Matter?

2. *Criminal Penalties*

The District Attorney is watching.



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I. Why Do Ethics Matter?

2. Criminal Penalties

Violation of the Lobby Law or the Penal Code:

- Bribery
2nd degree felony, 2-20 years, fine up to \$10,000
- Contingent fees for lobbying
3rd degree felony, 2-10 years, fine up to \$10,000
- Other violations of the Lobby Law or the Penal Code
Class A misdemeanor, 1 year, fine up to \$4,000



I. Why Do Ethics Matter?

3. *Controversy; Distraction from Policy Efforts*

The Press
and The Opposition
are Watching.



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