

# OSE NEWS DECEMBER 2013

## Survey: RATE OUR WEBSITE

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## Limited Space: REGISTER TODAY

### Winter Workshop: What does an ethical agency look like?

The Office of State Ethics is pleased to invite each state agency Ethics Liaison Officer, Ethics Compliance Officer or Agency Head to attend our Winter Workshop.

**Thursday, January 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 20 Trinity Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**

Visitor parking is available at the Capitol as well as at the nearby Legislative Office Building.

The workshop will provide information on:

- Statements of Financial Interests
- Governor Malloy's Standard and Guidelines
- How to maintain and update the SFI system
- How to Request Legal Advice
- Ethics Liaisons Best Practices and Voluntary Self Audit

Please RSVP to [Taliea.Hatcher-Redway@ct.gov](mailto:Taliea.Hatcher-Redway@ct.gov) no later than January 16, 2014.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## 2013 Legislative Updates

**Gifts to the State** – By law, restricted donors (e.g., registered lobbyists, etc.) cannot give “gifts” to public officials and state employees. There are numerous exceptions to this gift prohibition, among them, gifts to the state.

Existing law allows a state or quasi-public agency to accept goods or services (1) for use on agency property or that support an event and (2) that facilitate agency actions or functions.

[Public Act 13-244](#) amends the state Codes of Ethics' exemption for gifts to state or quasi-public agencies to include goods or services that support the participation by a public official or state employee at an event, and that facilitate state or quasi-public agency actions or functions.

Therefore, effective October 1, 2013, restricted donors may provide goods and services that support participation of officials and employees at an event (e.g., conference, site tour, training), so long as the event facilitates state action or functions.

**Specific Intent Required** - Effective upon passage, [Public Act 13-244](#) amends General Statutes § [1-84 \(q\)](#) establishing that a public official or state employee may be found in violation of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials for intentionally counseling, authorizing, or otherwise sanctioning actions that the code prohibits.

Happy Holidays

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