

TOWNSHIP OF WESTAMPTON

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
WESTAMPTON SUPPLEMENTING THE CODE OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF WESTAMPTON BY ADDING
A SECTION ENTITLED "GIFT/HONORARIA BAN"**

ORDINANCE NO. 24-2005

WHEREAS, the Township of Westampton ("the Township") places the public trust above all else and remains steadfast in its commitment to the highest ethical standards; and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid the appearance of impropriety the Township has determined to enact a complete ban on the offer or acceptance of gifts and honoraria to members of the Township Committee, Township Administrator, Township Department Heads, and Township Employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Westampton, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey that the Township Ethics Policy be amended, effective immediately, to include the following provisions:

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION OF SOLICITATION OR ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

No Elected Official, Department Head, or Employee of the Township of Westampton, member of their immediate family, or business organization in which such official, department head or employee has an interest, shall accept or solicit any gift, favor, loan, service, promise of future employment or any other thing of value from any person or entity which has a municipal contract or the Elected Official, Department Head or Employee has reason to believe may be awarded a contract, whether awarded through

a bid process or otherwise, with the Township of Westampton. Excluded from this provision are the following:

- A. Gifts accepted on behalf of the Township and transferred immediately to the Township for its perpetual possession;
- B. Non-monetary awards presented in recognition of public service;
and
- C. Gifts conferred on account of kinship if these gifts are otherwise legally permissible and are not bartered for another benefit to influence the performance of an official duty by the Elected Official, Department Head, or Employee.

SECTION 2. PROHIBITION OF ACCEPTANCE OF HONORARIA

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No Elected Official, Department Head, or Employee of the Township of Westampton shall accept any compensation, honorarium, or gift from any person or entity in consideration of an appearance, speech, or article unless the appearance, speech, or article is wholly unrelated to the Elected Official's, Department Head's, or Employee's service with the Township of Westampton; and

SECTION 3. PROHIBITION ON OFFERING OF HONORARIA

No person or entity, business entity, professional corporation, professional association or professional partnership shall offer any compensation, honorarium, or gift of tickets to any venue of entertainment or to sporting events.

SECTION 4. These policies shall be incorporated as part of the existing Township Ethics Policy.

SECTION 5. Any person who accepts such prohibited gift or honoraria as set forth herein shall be subject to discipline, including a fine in the amount of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars for each such violation and/or suspension or removal.

SECTION 6. Any person who offers a prohibited gift or honoraria as set forth herein shall be subject to a fine of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars and shall not be awarded any contract by the Township of Westampton for a period of 24 months after such finding of violation.

SECTION 7. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 8. If for any reason any section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or illegal by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining sections hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

I, Donna Ryan, Clerk of the Township of Westampton, hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Township Committee on the 27 day of Sept 2005



Donna Ryan, Clerk