



EXECUTIVE ORDER

15-09

**EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ENSURE  
ETHICAL AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT**

**WHEREAS**, properly performing government business and maintaining the confidence of the people of Illinois require employees of the State of Illinois to adhere to the highest standards of honesty, integrity, and impartiality in their conduct and the performance of their official duties; and

**WHEREAS**, meeting this standard requires State Employees to avoid conflicts of interest in both appearance and practice; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Illinois deserve to know that their state government is being conducted in an open and honest manner and in the public interest; and

**WHEREAS**, a higher code of ethical conduct is required to restore the public's trust in state government and its officers, employees, and appointees; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of Article XIII of the Constitution of the State of Illinois recognizes the authority of any branch of government to establish and enforce ethical standards for that branch; and

**WHEREAS**, investigations by organizations such as the Better Government Association continue to identify misconduct by various government officials in the State of Illinois, such as, for example, the Better Government Association's recent investigation into the hiring practices at the Illinois Department of Transportation;

**THEREFORE**, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of Illinois, pursuant to the executive authority vested in me by Section 8 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, hereby order as follows:

**I. DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Executive Order:

**"Commission"** means the Executive Ethics Commission.

**"Gift"** has the meaning given to it in the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-5).

**"Lobby"** or **"Lobbying"** has the meaning given to it in the Lobbyist Registration Act (25 ILCS 170/2(e)).

**"Lobbyist"** has the meaning given to it in the Lobbyist Registration Act (25 ILCS 170/2(j)).

**"Lobbying Entity"** has the meaning given to it in the Lobbyist Registration Act (25 ILCS 170/2(k)).

**"Prohibited Source"** has the meaning given to it in the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-5).

“State Agency” means any officer, department, agency, board, commission, or authority of the Executive Branch of the State of Illinois.

“State Employee” means any employee, officer, or board member of any State Agency.

## II. REVOLVING DOOR BAN

1. No State Employee, while employed by or serving as an appointee of a State Agency, shall negotiate for employment or other compensation with any person or entity that is registered as a Lobbyist or Lobbying Entity and has identified that State Agency on its then-current Lobbyist or Lobbying Entity registration filed with the Secretary of State.
2. No former State Employee, within one year after leaving his or her position with a State Agency, shall accept compensation from any person or entity for Lobbying any State Agency.
3. The restrictions of this Section II are in addition to, and not in place of, the restrictions set forth in applicable law, including the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/5) and the Illinois Procurement Code (30 ILCS 500/50-30).

## III. GIFTS FROM PROHIBITED SOURCES: GIFT AND TRAVEL BAN

1. No State Employee, and no spouse of or immediate family member living with a State Employee, shall intentionally solicit or knowingly accept any Gift from any Prohibited Source that would be prohibited by Section 10-10 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/10-10) (the “statutory gift ban”).
2. The exceptions to the statutory gift ban contained in Subsection (8) (food and refreshments of up to \$75 per day) and Subsection (12) (other gifts of up to \$100 per year) of Section 10-15 of such Act do not apply to State Employees. This provision is not intended to preclude a State Employee from accepting *de minimis* meals or refreshments served at a business meeting or reception attended by the State Employee in the course of his or her official duties, provided that the State Employee adheres to any rules issued by the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget and his or her State Agency.
3. The exceptions to the statutory gift ban contained in Subsection (4) (educational missions) and Subsection (5) (travel expenses) of Section 10-15 of such Act do not apply to State Employees. This provision is not intended to preclude a Prohibited Source from paying for the cost of registration fees, travel, lodging, or meals, provided that, in addition to complying with all other applicable laws and regulations (including Section 1620.700 of the Illinois Administrative Code), (a) the Prohibited Source makes or arranges payment or reimbursement of such costs directly with the State Agency, and (b) the trip is approved in writing in advance by the Executive Director of the Commission.
4. Gifts, including but not limited to grants and monetary or in-kind donations, from any source to the State of Illinois are excluded from the statutory gift ban and this section.

## IV. ECONOMIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE

1. Each State Employee that is required to file a statement of economic interest pursuant to Article 4A of the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act (5 ILCS 420/4A-101 et seq.) shall, in conjunction with such filing each year, also disclose the following information:
  - (a) The address and nature of interest in any real property in which the employee or spouse or minor child of the employee has a greater than 5% financial interest and in which the State of Illinois is a tenant, lessor, or otherwise has an ownership or other beneficial interest in the real property, excepting the primary personal residence of those individuals;
  - (b) Any non-governmental position held, whether compensated or not, with any business entity, non-profit organization, labor group, educational institution,

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or other entity of any type, together with the nature and amount of any compensation; and

- (c) Any litigation involving the State of Illinois or any entity with a relationship with the State of Illinois, where the employee is a party to, or has a financial interest in, that litigation.
2. The Commission shall prepare forms or amend existing forms to be used to report the information described in this Section IV and shall provide those forms or amended forms to each individual required to report such information on or before April 1 of each year. Such statement shall be filed by each such individual with the Commission on or before May 1 of each year. The Commission shall ensure that all statements filed pursuant to this Section IV are made readily available for public inspection.
3. Each State Employee required to submit a statement pursuant to this Section IV shall notify the Commission in writing and without delay of any material change in circumstance that might result in a change to his or her disclosures filed pursuant to this Section IV.

#### **V. COOPERATION WITH SPECIAL MASTER**

Every State Agency and State Employee is directed to fully cooperate with the Special Master appointed by the United States District Court of the Northern District of Illinois pursuant to an order in *Michael L. Shakman and Paul M. Lurie et al. v. The Democratic Organization of Cook County et al.* (No. 69 C 2145) to investigate hiring practices in State Agencies.

#### **VI. EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS**

1. No State Agency shall enter into any employment contract with any person without prior review and approval by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget.
2. As soon as practicable, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget shall conduct a thorough review of the use of employment contracts by other agencies, boards, commissions, institutions, universities, authorities, and units of local government established under state law and other subdivisions of the State and shall recommend to the Governor legislation, regulations, rules, and policies to prevent the use of employment contracts for political, wasteful, or other improper purposes.

#### **VII. OTHER PROVISIONS CONTINUE TO APPLY**

This Executive Order does not alter the application of any other provision to State Employees.

#### **VIII. PRIOR EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

This Executive Order supersedes any contrary provision of any prior Executive Order.

#### **IX. SAVINGS CLAUSE**

Nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed to contravene any state or federal law. This Executive Order is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch of the State of Illinois and does not create any right to administrative or judicial review, or any other rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by a party against the State of Illinois, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

#### **X. SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, this invalidity does not affect any other provision or application of this Executive Order which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Executive Order are declared to be severable.


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**XI. EFFECTIVE DATES**

Section II of this Executive Order shall take effect on February 15, 2015, and the remainder of this Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.



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Bruce Rauner, Governor

Issued by Governor: January 13, 2015  
Filed with Secretary of State: January 13, 2015

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