

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION

REGULATION 36-14-17009

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

(Adopted: November 20, 2012)

Regulation 36-14-17009 Out-of-state Travel

- (a) Any public official or employee who is required to file a yearly financial statement pursuant to section 36-14-16(a) shall disclose the source, value and description of any out-of-state travel and related transportation, lodging, meals and entertainment having an aggregate fair market value or actual cost greater than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) provided by any person or entity, other than the state or municipal agency of which he or she is a member or by which he or she is employed or his or her regular private employer, if under the totality of the circumstances it is more likely than not that the person or entity would not have provided the travel but for the official's or employee's public office or position.
- (b) Circumstances indicating that that the person or entity would not have provided the travel but for the official's or employee's public office or position may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:
- (1) The official or employee became acquainted with the provider through his or her public agency;
 - (2) The official or employee was offered the out-of-state travel and related transportation, lodging, meals and entertainment through a communication sent to or through the public official's or employee's agency;

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- 19 (3) Other officials or employees in the same agency are offered, or have been offered,
20 out-of-state travel and related transportation, lodging, meals and entertainment
21 from the provider;
- 22 (4) The official's or employee's counterparts in other public agencies or jurisdictions
23 have been offered similar out-of-state travel and related transportation, lodging,
24 meals and entertainment by the provider;
- 25 (5) The provider is affiliated with any "interested person," as defined by Regulation
26 36-14-5009, or has allowed an interested person to underwrite expenses
27 associated with the out-of-state travel and related transportation, lodging, meals
28 and entertainment;
- 29 (6) The provider is an entity whose membership is limited to, or is largely comprised
30 of, public officials;
- 31 (7) The official or employee had not received out-of-state travel and related
32 transportation, lodging, meals and entertainment from the provider prior to
33 attaining his or her public office or employment;
- 34 (8) If the out-of-state travel and related transportation, lodging, meals and
35 entertainment involves attendance at an event, any written references by the
36 provider or affiliated persons relative to the public official's or employee's
37 attendance or participation refer to his or her public office, duties or agency.

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- 38 (9) If the travel involves a conference or seminar, the subject matter of the conference
39 or seminar directly pertains to the public official's or employee's official duties.