

\$HOW ME THE MONEY!

NOT SO FAST....

Many OFFICIAL agencies and organizations at Youngstown Air Reserve Station have attempted to solicit private local businesses for donations/gifts/money. Such solicitations for official purposes are ILLEGAL. Please ensure that your subordinates are aware of the prohibition against soliciting for official programs, and contact the legal office for any questions related to this issue. EDUCATE YOURSELVES! Help your organization and YARS stay within the ethical confines of the law.

Air Force employees may not solicit gifts to the Air Force, or any official agency, program, or event thereof. Most employees understand that they cannot use their official position to solicit personal benefits. However, some mistakenly believe they may solicit prizes, discounts, and financial contributions as long as the contributions benefit the Air Force. This is NOT TRUE.

Employees are not allowed to seek outside financial support for official internal activities, such as office parties, prizes for award winners, or even retirement gifts. AFI 51-601 implements 10 U.S.C. § 2601 establishes procedures for receiving, accepting, and processing both conditional and unconditional gifts offered to the Dept of the Air Force, including gifts to the Air Force intended for distribution to individual members of the Air Force. It does NOT authorize the solicitation of gifts by Air Force personnel to use for official activities or programs.

Additionally, the DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoD 7000.14-R) contains guidance on acceptance of gifts by DoD organizations under 10 USC 2601. Section 300502 states: "Department of Defense personnel shall not solicit, fund-raise for, or otherwise request or encourage the offer of a gift. Acceptance authorities shall not accept gifts offered contrary to this policy."

Private organizations may solicit gifts/donations off base, however, AFI 34-223, para 10.15.1.3 states: "POs and unofficial activities/organizations may accept gifts and donations. These organizations will not solicit gifts or donations on base. Off-base solicitations must clearly indicate that they are for a PO or an unofficial activity/organization, and not for the base or any official part of the Air Force. Donor/gift recognition may not be made publicly. Recognition of the gift or donation can only be made to members of the PO or those present at an event benefiting from the donation/gift."

For more information or if you have questions, please call the YARS at DSN 346-1334 or send your question to nancy.rubino.1@us.af.mil.