Are there any additional restrictions?
- Yes. In addition to the general restrictions on all employees:
  - senior employees (employees with base pay of $164,004 or more per year, paid under the Executive Schedule, or are O-7 or higher) are barred for 1 year (or 2 years for political appointees) from representing anyone before their former agency and for 1 year from representing or advising a foreign government;
  - political appointees may not lobby their former agency for 5 years, lobby any Administration official for the duration of the Administration, or ever aid or advise a foreign government;
  - attorneys are subject to bar rules;
  - employees who received a buy-out are barred for 5 years from re-employment with the Government;
  - procurements official and project managers for a procurement of $10,000,000 or more are barred for 1 year from receiving compensation from the contractor;
  - EDA employees are barred for 2 years from working for EDA grantees; and
  - USPTO employees are barred for 1 year from obtaining patent rights.

How can I get advice and more information about these rules?
- By contacting the Ethics Law and Programs Division at 202-482-5384 or ethicsdivision@doc.gov.

Are there restrictions on me after I leave Federal service?
- Yes. After you leave the Government you may not represent (see below) anyone before a Federal agency or Federal court regarding:
  - any specific-party matter (see below) on which you worked or
  - for 2 years after leaving the Government, any specific-party matter on which a subordinate worked.

Are these the only restrictions?
• No. You also may not:
  - use protected nonpublic information,
  - receive payment for representational activities of others (such as a partner of yours) that took place during the period you worked for the Government, or
  - testify on matters related to your Government work.

What is a “specific-party matter”?
- Any matter in which those involved are identified by name, such as a contract, grant, patent, law suit, or license.

What is “representing”?
- Communicating to a Federal official to influence Government action on behalf of someone other than yourself.

A WORD ABOUT ETHICS

Ethics Law and Programs Division – Office of the General Counsel
United States Department of Commerce
202-482-5384 – ethicsdivision@doc.gov – www.commerce.gov/ethics
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