

PRESIDIO COUNTY
CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

SECTION 1. PURPOSE:

Presidio County is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Maintenance of its tax-exempt status is important both for its continued financial stability and for public support. Therefore, state regulatory and tax officials view the operations of Presidio County as a public trust, which is subject to scrutiny by and accountable to such governmental authorities as well as to members of the Public.

Consequently, there exists between Presidio County, its Commissioners' Court, Elected Officials, Employees and the Public, a fiduciary duty, which carries with it a broad and unbending duty of loyalty and fidelity. The Commissioners' Court, Elected Officials and Employees have the responsibility of administering the affairs of Presidio County honestly and prudently, and of exercising their best care, skill and judgement for the sole benefit of Presidio County. Those persons shall exercise the utmost good faith in all transactions involved in their duties and they shall not use their positions with Presidio County or knowledge gained therefrom for their personal benefit. The interests of the organization must be the first priority in all decisions and actions.

SECTION 2. PERSONS CONCERNED:

This statement is directed not only to the County Judge, Commissioners and Elected Officials but to all Employees who can influence the actions of Presidio County. For example, this would include all who make purchasing decisions, all persons who might be described as "management personnel" and anyone who has proprietary information concerning Presidio County.

SECTION 3. AREAS IN WHICH CONFLICT MAY ARISE:

Conflicts of interest may arise in the relations of The County Judge, Commissioners, Elected Officials and Employees with any of the following third parties:

1. Persons and firms supplying goods and services to Presidio County.
2. Persons and firms from whom Presidio County leases property and equipment.
3. Persons and firms with whom Presidio County is dealing or planning to deal in connection with the gift, purchase or sale of real estate, securities, or other property.
4. Competing or affinity organizations.
5. Donors and others supporting Presidio County.
6. Agencies, organizations and associations which affect the operations of Presidio County.
7. Family members, friends and other employees.

SECTION 4. NATURE OF CONFLICTING INTEREST:

A conflicting interest may be defined as an interest, direct or indirect, with any persons or firms mentioned in Section 3. Such an interest might arise through:

1. Owning stock or holding debt or other proprietary interests in any third party dealing with Presidio County.
2. Holding office, serving on the board, participating in management or being otherwise employed (or formerly employed) with any third party dealing with Presidio County.
3. Receiving remuneration for services with respect to individual transactions involving Presidio County.
4. Using Presidio County's time, personnel, equipment, supplies or good will for other than Presidio County-approved activities, programs and purposes.
5. Receiving personal gifts or loans from third parties dealing or competing with Presidio County. Receipt of any gift is disapproved except gifts of a value less than \$50, which could not be refused without discourtesy. No personal gift of money should ever be accepted.

SECTION 5. INTERPRETATION OF THIS STATEMENT POLICY:

The areas of conflicting interest listed in Section 3, and the relations in those areas which may give rise to conflict, as listed in Section 4, are not exhaustive. Conflicts might arise in other areas or through other relations. It is

assumed that the Commissioners' Court, elected officials and all employees will recognize such areas and relation by analogy.

The fact that one of the interests described in Section 4 exists, does not necessarily mean that a conflict exists, or that the conflict, if it exists, is material enough to be of practical importance, or if material, that upon full disclosure of all relevant facts and circumstances it is necessarily adverse to the interests of Presidio County.

However, it is the policy of the Commissioners' Court that the existence of any of the interests described in Section 4 shall be disclosed before any transaction is consummated. It shall be the continuing responsibility of the Commissioners' Court, Elected Officials and Employees to scrutinize their transactions and outside business interests and relationships for potential conflicts and to immediately make such disclosures.

SECTION 6. DISCLOSURE POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

Transactions with parties with whom a conflicting interest exists may be undertaken only if all of the following are observed:

1. The conflicting interest is fully disclosed;
2. The person with the conflict of interest is excluded from the discussion and approval of such transaction;
3. A competitive bid or comparable valuation exists; and
4. The Presidio County Commissioners' Court has determined that the transaction is in the best interest of Presidio County.

Disclosure in Presidio County should be made to the County Judge (or if she or he is the one with the conflict, then to the County Auditor) who shall bring the matter to the attention of the Commissioners' Court. Disclosure involving Elected Officials, Department Heads or Employees should be made to the County Judge, (or if she or he is the one with the conflict, then to the County Auditor) who shall bring these matters to the attention of the Commissioners' Court.

The Commissioners' Court shall determine whether a conflict exists and in the case of an existing conflict, whether the contemplated transaction may be authorized as just, fair and reasonable to Presidio County. The decision of the

Commissioners' Court on these matters will rest in their sole discretion and their concern must be the welfare of Presidio County and the advancement of its purpose.

PRESIDIO COUNTY
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Preliminary note: In order to be more comprehensive, this statement of disclosure/questionnaire also requires you to provide information with respect to certain parties that are related to you. These persons are termed "affiliated persons" and include the following:

- a. your spouse, domestic partner, child, mother, father, brother or sister;
- b. any corporation or organization of which you are a commissioner, a board member, an officer, a partner, participate in management or are employed by, or are, directly or indirectly, a debt holder or the beneficial owner of any class of equity securities; and
- c. any trust or other estate in which you have a substantial beneficial interest or as to which you serve as a trustee or in a similar capacity.

1. NAME OF EMPLOYEE, COMMISSIONER, ELECTED OFFICIAL: (Please print)

- 2. CAPACITY:**
- _____ County Judge
 - _____ Commissioner
 - _____ Elected Official
 - _____ Department Head
 - _____ Employee

3. Have you or any of your affiliated persons provided services or property to Presidio County in the past year?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe the nature of the services or property and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

4. Have you or any of your affiliated persons purchased services or property from Presidio County in the past year?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe the purchased services or property and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

5. Please indicate whether you or any of your affiliated persons had any direct or indirect interest in any business transaction(s) in the past year to which Presidio County was or is a party?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, describe the transaction(s) and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

6. Were you or any of your affiliated persons indebted to pay money to Presidio County at any time in the past year (other than travel advances or the like)?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe the indebtedness and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

7. In the past year, did you or any of your affiliated persons receive or become entitled to receive, directly or indirectly, any personal benefits from Presidio County or as a result of your relationship with Presidio County, that in the aggregate could be valued in excess of \$1,000.00, that were not or will not be compensation directly related to your duties to Presidio County?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe the benefit(s) and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

8. Are you or any of your affiliated persons a party to or have an interest in any pending legal proceedings involving Presidio County?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe the proceeding(s) and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

9. Are you aware of any other events, transactions, arrangements or other situations that have occurred or may occur in the future that you believe should be examined by Presidio County Commissioners' Court in accordance with the terms and intent of Presidio County's conflict of interest policy?

_____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe the situation(s) and if an affiliated person is involved, the identity of the affiliated person and your relationship with that person:

I HEREBY CONFIRM that I have read and understand Presidio County's Conflict of Interest Policy and that my responses to the above questions are complete and correct to the best of my information and belief. I agree that if I become aware of any information that might indicate that disclosure is inaccurate or that I have not complied with this policy, I will notify the Presidio County Judge immediately.

Signature

Date

PRESIDIO COUNTY
GIFT POLICY AND DISCLOSURE FORM

As part of its conflict of interest policy, Presidio County requires that Commissioners' Court, Elected Officials, Department Heads and Employees decline to accept certain gifts, consideration or remuneration from individuals or companies that seek to do business with Presidio County or are a competitor of it. This policy and disclosure form is intended to implement that prohibition on gifts.

SECTION 1. "Responsible Person" is any person serving as a Commissioner, Elected Official, Department Head or Employee of Presidio County.

SECTION 2. "Family Member" is a spouse, domestic partner, parent, child or spouse of a child, or a brother, sister, or spouse of a brother or sister, of a Responsible Person.

SECTION 3. "Contract or Transaction" is any agreement or relationship involving the sale or purchase of goods, services or rights of any kind, receipt of a loan or grant, or the establishment of any other pecuniary relationship. The making of a gift to Presidio County is not a "contract" or "transaction".

SECTION 4. Prohibited gifts, gratuities and entertainment. Except as approved by the Commissioners' Court or for gifts of a value less than \$50 which could not be refused without discourtesy, no Responsible Person or Family Member shall accept gifts, entertainment or other favors from any person or entity which:

1. Does or seeks to do business with Presidio County or,
2. Does or seeks to compete with Presidio County or,
3. Has received, is receiving or is seeking to receive a Contract transaction with Presidio County.

GIFT STATEMENT

I certify that I have read the above policy concerning gifts and I agree that I will not accept gifts, entertainment or other favors from any individual or entity, which would be prohibited by the above policy. Following my initial statement, I agree to provide a signed statement at the end of each calendar year certifying that I have not received any such gifts, entertainment or other favors during the preceding year.

Signature

Date

Title/Position