Modification: Making non-substantive language revisions, providing for subsections, and providing a new exception to the prohibition of things of value in Ethics Rule 5.

[NOTE: Rule titles are provided for convenience, are not part of the Rules and will be updated as the Rule is modified to reflect the contents of the Rule.]

Rule 5.6. Prohibition on Things of Value Provided to or Accepted by Governor, Legislative Officers and Employees.

A. Legislative Lobbying Prohibition on Things of Value: Except as provided in these Rules, a legislative liaison, a legislative lobbyist or a lobbyist principal by whom the legislative liaison or legislative lobbyist is employed or retained shall provide no gift to the Governor, a legislator or any employee of the Governor or the Legislature. The Governor, a legislator or any employee of the Governor or the Legislature shall not knowingly accept anything of value from a legislative liaison, a legislative lobbyist or a lobbyist principal by whom the legislative liaison or legislative lobbyist is employed or retained except as permitted by these Rules.

B. Executive Lobbying Prohibition on Things of Value: Except as provided in these Rules, an executive lobbyist or a lobbyist principal by whom the executive lobbyist is employed or retained shall provide nothing of value to any officer or employee of an agency that is the subject of the executive lobbyist’s lobbying
activities. No officer or employee of an agency that is subject to an executive lobbyist’s lobbying activities shall knowingly accept anything of value from an executive lobbyist or a lobbyist principal by whom an executive lobbyist is employed except as permitted by these Rules. In no event shall a legislative liaison, a legislative lobbyist, an executive lobbyist or a lobbyist principal indirectly provide anything of value to any state officer or employee by providing a thing of value to a family member of the state officer or employee, other than as permitted by these Rules.

C. Cost Sharing: In no event shall the costs of a thing of value provided by a legislative liaison, or legislative lobbyist, or executive lobbyist to the Governor, a legislator or any employee of the Governor or the Legislature permitted by these Rules be divided or shared with other legislative liaisons, or legislative lobbyists, or executive lobbyists in filing a report required by these Rules unless otherwise provided by these Rules.

D. State Agency Tickets to Conferences: Agencies may provide two (2) tickets or admissions to any conference, seminar, lecture or similar event held within the boundaries of the State of Oklahoma and sponsored in whole or in part by the agency to the Governor, any legislator or any employee of the Governor or Legislature, provided the tickets or admissions are used by the recipient and a family member of the recipient. Items provided under this section are not required to be reported to the Commission.
E. Attendance Requirement: For all other gifts provided by a legislative liaison, legislative lobbyist, or executive lobbyist that include meals or attendance at an event, the lobbyist or legislative liaison must attend the meal or event with the recipient.

F. Materials related to State Responsibilities: A legislative liaison, legislative lobbyist, executive lobbyist, or lobbyist principal may provide, and a state officer or employee may accept, books and similar informational materials, including those in electronic, audio and/or video format, so long as such materials are related to the recipient’s responsibilities as an officer or employee of the State of Oklahoma. Materials provided pursuant to this subsection are not required to be reported to the Commission.

Effective and Operational Date: Sine Die Adjournment of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session.

Promulgated this ___ day of _______________, 2020

Amended: ___No; or ___Yes, Amendments Adopted: __________________________

Signed on Behalf of Commission:

_______________________________
Chair Stocker

Delivery to Legislature: In accordance with Oklahoma Constitution Article 29, § 3, the Executive Director shall cause promulgated Ethics Rules, including new, modified, or repealed Rules, to be delivered to the Governor and Legislature on the second day of the Legislative Session following the promulgation of the Rule(s).