

§2C1.3

any other public official with a similar level of authority. Examples of a public official who holds a sensitive position include a juror, a law enforcement officer, an election official, and any other similarly situated individual.

4. **Inapplicability of §3B1.3.**—Do not apply the adjustment in §3B1.3 (Abuse of Position of Trust or Use of Special Skill).

Background: This section applies to the offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving of a gratuity to a public official in respect to an official act. It also applies in cases involving (1) the offer to, or acceptance by, a bank examiner of a loan or gratuity; (2) the offer or receipt of anything of value for procuring a loan or discount of commercial bank paper from a Federal Reserve Bank; and (3) the acceptance of a fee or other consideration by a federal employee for adjusting or cancelling a farm debt.

<i>Historical Note</i>	Effective November 1, 1987. Amended effective November 1, 1989 (amendment 121); November 1, 1991 (amendment 422); November 1, 1995 (amendment 534); November 1, 2001 (amendment 617); November 1, 2004 (amendment 666); November 1, 2010 (amendment 746); November 1, 2015 (amendment 791).
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§2C1.3. Conflict of Interest; Payment or Receipt of Unauthorized Compensation

- (a) Base Offense Level: **6**
- (b) Specific Offense Characteristic
 - (1) If the offense involved actual or planned harm to the government, increase by **4** levels.
- (c) Cross Reference
 - (1) If the offense involved a bribe or gratuity, apply §2C1.1 (Offering, Giving, Soliciting, or Receiving a Bribe; Extortion Under Color of Official Right; Fraud Involving the Deprivation of the Intangible Right to Honest Services of Public Officials; Conspiracy to Defraud by Interference with Governmental Functions) or §2C1.2 (Offering, Giving, Soliciting, or Receiving a Gratuity), as appropriate, if the resulting offense level is greater than the offense level determined above.

Commentary

Statutory Provisions: 18 U.S.C. §§ 203, 205, 207, 208, 209, 1909; 40 U.S.C. § 14309(a), (b). For additional statutory provision(s), *see* Appendix A (Statutory Index).

Application Note:

1. **Abuse of Position of Trust.**—Do not apply the adjustment in §3B1.3 (Abuse of Position of Trust or Use of Special Skill).

<i>Historical Note</i>	Effective November 1, 1987. Amended effective November 1, 1995 (amendment 534); November 1, 2001 (amendment 619); November 1, 2003 (amendment 661); November 1, 2005 (amendment 679).
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