PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF ETHICS
REGULATION NO. 9, LOBBYING

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9.0 Scope. This Regulation, promulgated by the Board pursuant to its authority under Sections 4-1100 and 8-407 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter and Chapters 20-600 and 20-1200 of the Philadelphia Code, specifically Section 20-1210, interprets and provides implementing detail to Philadelphia’s lobbying ordinance found at Code Chapter 20-1200. The examples provided in this Regulation are for illustration and are not intended to be exhaustive. In order to provide a single document for the convenience of users, this Regulation restates all provisions of Chapter 20-1200 that concern application of Chapter 20-1200 to lobbyists, lobbying firms and principals.

9.1 Definitions. As used herein, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings indicated.


(B) a. Administrative action. Any of the following:

i. The Mayor’s approval or veto of legislation;

ii. The nomination or appointment of an individual as a City officer or employee;

iii. The proposal, consideration, promulgation or rescission of an executive order; or

iv. An agency’s:

(a) 1. Proposal, consideration, promulgation, review, revision, approval, disapproval, rejection, or rescission of a regulation;

(b) 2. Development or modification of a written statement of policy;

(c) 3. Preparation of a Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, or contract specifications;

(d) 4. Solicitation, award, or administration of a contract, including for the procurement of goods or services;

(e) 5. Solicitation, award, or administration of a grant, loan, or agreement involving the disbursement of public monies;

(f) 6. Adjudication of claims, determination of complaints, or imposition of fines or fees; or

7. Determination with respect to:

a. zoning or the use, development, or improvement of real property subject to City regulation;

(g) Determination with respect to any of the following:
**Exhibit C to Regulation No. 9 Hearing Report:**

**All changes made by amendment**

(i) b. the terms of the acquisition or disposition by the City of any interest in real property;

(iii) c. a license or permit for the use of real property of or by the City;

(iii) d. a franchise or concession;

(b) Adjudication of claims, determination of complaints, or imposition of fines or fees.

i. The review, revision, approval or disapproval of a regulation.

ii. The Mayor’s approval or veto of legislation.

iii. The nomination or appointment of an individual as a City officer or employee.

iv. The proposal, consideration, promulgation or rescission of an executive order.

(C) b. (1) A “political action committee” as defined in section 1624(1) of established pursuant to the Pennsylvania Election Code, the Chair or Treasurer of which is a principal, an officer or an employee of a principal, a lobbyist, or an employee of a lobbyist. (2) A political action committee is not an “affiliated political action committee” if an employee of a registrant serves as the officer of a political action committee in a clearly personal capacity, and the goals and mission of that political action committee clearly have no relationship to the goals and mission of the registrant.

has an officer who:

(a) Must be included in a registration statement under section 1624(b)(2) and (2) of the Pennsylvania Election Code; and

(D) c. **Agency.** Any of the following, unless the lobbying of the entity is subject to the Pennsylvania Lobbying Law (65 P. C.S. § 13A01 et seq.):

i. An office, department, board, commission, or other entity that is part of the government of the City of Philadelphia, including City Council;

ii. Any City-related agency, as defined at Philadelphia Code Section 17-1401(9), which includes an authority or quasi-public corporation that either receives appropriations from the City, has entered into continuing contractual or cooperative relationships with the City, or operates under legal authority granted by City ordinance, including the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation, the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development, and the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia, and any other entity that meets the definition of “City-related agency” under Section 17-1401(9) of The Philadelphia Code;

iii. The School District of Philadelphia, including any board or other instrumentality thereof; or


(F) e. Board. The Board of Ethics.

(G) Budget process. The consideration and passage of the annual operating budget and the capital budget and capital program, and any amendments thereto.

(H) f. City elective office. The offices of Mayor, District Attorney, City of Philadelphia.


(J) Commissioner, or City official Council.

(g) City officer or employee. Any person who is elected or appointed to a position in any branch of the government of the City of Philadelphia, including, but not limited to, members of agencies, authorities, boards and commissions, an agency however elected or appointed, including persons serving full-time, part-time, or intermittently, and persons serving with or without compensation.

(K) h. Compensation. Anything of value, including benefits, received or to be received from a principal by one acting as a lobbyist.

(L) i. Direct communication. An effort, whether written, oral or by any other medium, made A communication by a lobbyist or principal, directed to a City official or employee, the purpose or foreseeable effect of which is to influence legislative action or administrative action. The term includes personnel expenses and office expenses.

(M) j. Disciplinary Board. The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

(N) k. Economic consideration. Anything of value offered, promised, or received. The term includes compensation and reimbursement for expenses.

(O) l. Electronic Signature. The unique combination of user name, password, and PLIS registration number assigned to a lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal by the Board which shall be used by the lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal to file a registration statement, expense report, termination or amendment to such filing and which constitutes a signature under oath or affirmation by a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or principal as required by Chapter 20-1200.

(P) Enrollment. The process by which a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or principal receives the user name, password and PLIS registration number that are required to access the mandatory Philadelphia lobbying electronic filing system.

(Q) Filed. For the purposes of imposition of the penalties in Chapter 20-1200:

(1) A lobbyist registration statement is filed when the Board has received all of the following:

(a) The electronic registration statement;
(b) The required electronic signature or signatures;

(c) All information required to be included in the lobbyist registration statement by this Regulation;

(d) A photograph of the lobbyist; and

(e) The annual registration fee required pursuant to this Regulation.

(2) A principal or lobbying firm registration statement is filed when the Board has received all of the following:

(a) The electronic registration statement;

(b) The required electronic signature or signatures;

(c) All information required to be included in the registration statement by this Regulation; and

(d) The annual registration fee required pursuant to this Regulation.

(3) An expense report is filed when the Board has received all of the following:

(a) The electronic registration statement;

(b) The required electronic signature or signatures; and

(c) All information required to be included in the expense report by this Regulation.

(4) An amendment to a registration statement or expense report is filed when the Board has received the electronic amendment containing required electronic signature or signatures.

(5) A notice of termination is filed when the Board has received the electronic notice of termination containing required electronic signature or signatures.

(R)m. Gift. Anything that is received without consideration of equal or greater value. The term shall not include a political contribution otherwise reportable as required by law or a commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business. The term shall not include hospitality, transportation or lodging.

(S)m. Hospitality. Meals, beverages and recreation and entertainment, but not gifts, transportation or lodging.

(T)m. Immediate family member. An individual’s spouse or Life Partner, child, parent, brother, sister and like relative-in-law or comparable relation of a Life Partner.

(U)m. Indirect communication. An effort, whether written, oral or by any other medium, to encourage others, including the general public, to take action, the purpose or foreseeable effect of which is to directly influence legislative action or administrative action, including, but not limited to such as letter-writing campaigns, mailings, telephone banks, print and electronic media advertising, billboards, publications and educational campaigns on public issues, but not including regularly published periodic newsletters primarily designed for and
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distributed to members of a bona fide association or charitable or fraternal nonprofit corporation.

(Y) Legislation. Bills, resolutions, amendments, and nominations pending or proposed in City Council, and any other matter that may become the subject of action by City Council.

(W) Legislative action. An action taken by a City official or employee involving the preparation, research, drafting, introduction, consideration, modification, amendment, approval, passage, enactment, tabling, postponement, defeat or rejection of:

(1) Legislation;

(2) Legislative motions;

(3) A veto by the Mayor; or

(4) Confirmation of appointments by the Mayor or City Council, or appointments to public boards or commissions by the Mayor or City Council.

(X) Lobbying. An effort to influence legislative action or administrative action including:

(1) Direct or, whether through (i) direct communication; (ii) indirect communication;

(2) Incurring office expenses; and

(3) Providing or (iii) by providing any gift, hospitality, transportation or lodging to a City official or employee for the purpose of advancing the interest of a lobbyist or principal.

For purposes of this Regulation and Chapter 20-1200, it is not lobbying when a principal, or a consultant or professional (e.g., an accountant, architect, attorney, doctor, or engineer), acting as the representative or agent of a principal or client, communicates with a City agency in a manner in which the principal or client is subject to or seeking a specific City agency action in which the principal’s or client’s interests, rights, or privileges are at issue, provided that such communication is in an effort to address those interests, rights, or privileges and is in the normal course for such matters. This exception shall not apply to efforts to influence general policy on behalf of an interest group, nor to direct communications with City officials or employees who the principal, representative, or agent knows or should know are not those who would ordinarily make determinations in the matter at issue.

Example 1: A City taxpayer receives a notice from the Department of Revenue that the taxpayer is in arrears on his net profits tax and imposing a substantial penalty and interest. The taxpayer’s accountant contacts the contact person listed on the notice, meets with that person, and provides documentation of the taxpayer’s position. Must the taxpayer register as a principal, the accountant register as a lobbyist, and the taxpayer file an expense report for the quarter?
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Result: The facts presented in this example do not constitute lobbying under the definition of "lobbying" in Paragraph 9.1(X). The accountant does not have to register as a lobbyist, and the taxpayer does not have to register as a principal or file an expense report.

Example 2: Same factual situation as above, except that, in addition to working with the assigned contact person in the Revenue Department, the accountant prepares a letter arguing that the Department should change its policy. On the taxpayer's behalf, the accountant meets with the Revenue Commissioner, the Managing Director, and takes to lunch the Councilperson for the taxpayer's district and two at-large Councilpersons, provides all these officials with the letter, and bills the taxpayer for his time and expenses, for a total of $5000.

Result: This is clearly lobbying under the second sentence of Paragraph 9.1(X). The taxpayer must register as a principal, the accountant as a lobbyist, and the taxpayer must file an expense report for the quarter. (NOTE: Under both of these examples, whether registration and reporting is required also depends on whether the taxpayer or the accountant, or both, are exempt under any of the provisions of Paragraph 9.24, especially the thresholds in Paragraphs 9.24(D), (E), and (F)).

Example 3: An accountant representing a seller in a real estate transaction contacts the City Revenue Department to discuss a realty transfer tax issue on the transaction which is not addressed by the City's regulations and is otherwise unclear. Not satisfied with the result, the accountant contacts a tax attorney in the Law Department. The seller's accountant and the Law Department attorney discuss the transaction and arrive at a mutually-agreeable approach to the realty transfer tax issue for that transaction.

Result: The facts presented in this example do not constitute lobbying under the definition of "lobbying" in Paragraph 9.1(X). The accountant does not have to register as a lobbyist, and the client does not have to register as a principal or file an expense report, because the issue concerns specific City action involving the individual client's interests.

Example 4: An attorney is contacted by a client to process an application with the Department of Licenses and Inspections (L&I) for a building permit for the construction of a new food market. Subsequent to the submission, the zoning examiner reviews the application and L&I issues a denial of the permit. The attorney, on behalf of his client, applies to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a variance. The examiner contends that the food market requires more off-street parking than that which is provided on the plan. The attorney disagrees with this reading of the Code and discusses the matter with the zoning examiner in order to determine the basis of the L&I ruling. The attorney also contacts the staff of the City Planning Commission and the applicable Deputy L&I Commissioner to gather information, as preparation for the variance hearing.

Result: The facts presented in this example do not constitute lobbying under the definition of "lobbying" in Paragraph 9.1(X). The attorney does not have to register as a lobbyist, and the client does not have to register as a principal or file an expense report, because the issue concerns specific City action involving the individual
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client's interests, and the attorney is preparing for a hearing. However, if the attorney
were to contact the L & I Commissioner or the Chair of the Planning Commission in
an attempt to influence L & I to reverse its denial of the building permit, such
contacts would be outside the normal course of business, and would constitute
lobbying.

Example 5: An engineer has been engaged by a college to represent its interests in
the development of a proposed academic building. In order to proceed with the
development, City Council ordinances will need to be obtained to: (i) relocate the
underground Water Department right of way to another part of the college’s property;
and (ii) permit certain sidewalk encroachments. The college’s engineer contacts and
meets with the relevant officials of the Water Department, the Streets Department, and
the City Planning Commission and the applicable District Council person to facilitate
the introduction and passage of the required ordinances.

Result: The facts presented in this example do not constitute lobbying under the
definition of "lobbying" in Paragraph 9.11(X). The required ordinances do not
concern or affect general policy issues. Rather, the required ordinances are "special
ordinances" under Section 21-501 of the Philadelphia Code, wherein the property
owner identifies itself, pays a fee to the City and otherwise participates in public
meetings(s) and hearing(s) on the proposed ordinances. Additionally, the special
ordinances concern only private rights appurtenant to a particular piece of real estate.
The engineer does not have to register as a lobbyist, and the client does not have to
register as a principal or file an expense report. However, if the engineer or the client
were to contact other Council members or the Mayor in an attempt to influence the
passage or approval of the subject ordinance, that would constitute lobbying.

(Y) Lobbying firm. An entity that engages in lobbying for economic
consideration on behalf of a principal other than the entity itself.

(Z) Lobbyist. Any individual, association, corporation, partnership,
business trust or other entity that engages in lobbying on behalf of a principal for
economic consideration, including an attorney at law while engaged in lobbying;
provided, however, that attorneys engaged in lobbying are subject to the
requirements and restrictions of Chapter 20-1200 only to the extent permissible
under the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct, while engaged in
lobbying.

(AA) Oath or Affirmation. The electronic signature of an individual who is
required to sign a registration statement, a quarterly expense report, a notice of
termination, or an amendment to any such filing shall constitute an oath or
affirmation which is a statement of the correctness of the contents of the registration
statement, quarterly expense report, notice of termination, or amendment to any such
filing. A false statement in a registration statement, a quarterly expense report, a
notice of termination, or an amendment to any such filing shall be subject to the
penalties provided in City Code §20-1207 and in 18 Pa.C.S. §4904.
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(BB) y. **Office expense.** An expenditure for an office, equipment or supplies, utilized for lobbying.

(CC) y. **Person.** A business, individual, corporation, union, association, firm, partnership, committee, club or other organization or group of persons.

(DD) y. **Personnel expense.** An expenditure for salaries or other forms of compensation, benefits, vehicle allowances, bonuses and reimbursable expenses paid to lobbyists, lobbying staff, research and monitoring staff, consultants, publications and public relations staff, technical staff, clerical and administrative support staff and includes individuals who engage in lobbying but are exempt from reporting under §20-1204 of the Philadelphia Code relating to exemption from registration and reporting. For an individual for whom lobbying is incidental to regular employment, the term means a good faith prorated estimate based on the value of the time devoted to lobbying or clerical and administrative support staff.

(EE) y. **PLIS.** Philadelphia Lobbying Information System.

(FF) z. **Principal.** An individual, association, corporation, partnership, business trust or other entity:

(1) A person that engages in lobbying on its own behalf or on whose behalf a lobbying firm or lobbyist engages in lobbying:

(2) That engages in lobbying on the principal’s own behalf.

(GG) aa. **Registrant.** A registered lobbyist, registered lobbying firm or registered principal.

(HH) **Regulation.** Any rule or regulation promulgated under the procedure set forth in Section 8-406 or Section 8-407 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, and any formal or informal opinion issued by the City Solicitor.

(I) **Reporting period, quarterly reporting period, or expense reporting period.** Any of the following quarterly periods:

(1) First Quarter—January 1 through March 31.

(2) Second Quarter—April 1 through June 30.

(3) Third Quarter—July 1 through September 30.

(4) Fourth Quarter—October 1 through December 31.
9.2 Filing Deadlines.

(A) When the deadline for a filing with the Board, pursuant to Chapter 20-1200, falls on a weekend or holiday, or on a day that the Board’s office is closed or closes early, the deadline for the filing will be extended to the following City business day.

(B) An expense report shall be filed no later than 30 days after the end of the Quarter as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Covers the period</th>
<th>Expense Report due on or before</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>January 1 through March 31</td>
<td>April 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>April 1 through June 30</td>
<td>July 30</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>July 1 through September 30</td>
<td>October 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>October 1 through December 31</td>
<td>January 30</td>
</tr>
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SUBPART B. REGISTRATION BY PRINCIPALS, LOBBYISTS, AND LOBBYING FIRMS

SUBPART B. REGISTRATION; ANNUAL FEE

9.2 Requirement to register.

(A) When the deadline for a filing with the Board, pursuant to Chapter 20-1200, falls on a weekend or holiday, or on a day that the Board’s office is closed or closes early, the deadline for the filing will be extended to the following City business day.

(B) An expense report shall be filed no later than 30 days after the end of the Quarter as follows:

a. A principal shall register with the Board within ten days of its incurring expenses for lobbying in that quarter of a calendar year exceeding $2,500. In calculating the amount of its lobbying expenses, a principal shall include all office and personnel expenses related to the principal’s direct communications, indirect communications, and provision of gifts, transportation, hospitality, or lodging to City officers and employees.

b. A lobbyist shall register with the Board within ten days of engaging in lobbying for which he or she has or will receive economic consideration of more than $2,500 in that quarter of a calendar year. However, an individual who engages in lobbying on behalf of his or her employer shall not be required to register if he or she engaged in less than 20 hours of lobbying activity in that quarter.

c. A lobbying firm shall register with the Board within ten days of engaging in lobbying for which it has or will receive economic consideration of more than $2,500 in that quarter of a calendar year.
d. In calculating the amount of its lobbying expenses, a principal, lobbyist, or lobbying firm shall exclude any expenses exempted pursuant to Subpart D.

e. A principal’s lobbyist’s, or lobbying firm’s registration is effective only from the date of filing through December 31 of the same calendar year. A principal, lobbyist, or lobbying firm shall renew its registration in each calendar year in which it meets the requirements set forth in this Paragraph.

f. Gifts of food, beverage, entertainment, or admission provided to a City officer or employee at a reception that the City officer or employee attends in his or her official capacity do not count towards the registration threshold unless the person who paid for the food, beverage, entertainment, or admission lobbies the City officer at the reception.

Example for 9.2: On January 10, XYZ Inc. retains Mr. A and Ms. B to directly communicate with members of City Council regarding pending legislation. On January 25, Mr. A has earned $3,000 from XYZ for direct communications to officers and employees of City Council. Over the rest of the 1st quarter, Mr. A engages in direct communications for which he earns a further $2,000. In the entire 1st quarter, Ms. B engaged in direct communications for which she earned $2,000 from XYZ. XYZ Inc. has no other costs associated with lobbying in the quarter.

By February 4, XYZ must register as a principal and Mr. A must register as a lobbyist. Ms. B does not have to register as a lobbyist in the 1st quarter, nor must XYZ Inc. identify Ms. B as an affiliated lobbyist on its registration. However, in the expense report XYZ files for the 1st quarter, XYZ must include the money paid to Ms. B as part of its total lobbying expenses, as explained in Subpart C.

9.3 General Rule. Unless exempt from registration and reporting under City Code §20-1204 and Subpart D of this Regulation, a lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal shall register with the Board in the electronic format mandated by the Board within ten days of engaging in lobbying.

Example: On January 10, 2012, Vice President Jones of Business Firm X meets with the local District Councilman concerning a pending bill in Council. Jones spends a total of 5 hours of his time preparing for and participating in this meeting, and the Firm’s only expense is Jones’ time, which, for 5 hours, is valued at less than $1000. On February 15, 2012, Business Firm X contracts with the lobbying firm of Y to do all lobbying for the firm for the year beginning on that date. Under the contract, Lobbying Firm Y will bill Business Firm X on a monthly basis. On March 5, 2012, Lobbying Firm Y begins contacting City Council members on behalf of Business Firm X. On April 6, 2012, Lobbying Firm Y bills Business Firm X $3000 for lobbying in March. Who must register and when?

Result: The thresholds for registration are stated in Paragraph 9.24 and Code Section 20-1204. Under these thresholds, an employee who engages in lobbying for his employer of less than 20 hours is exempt from registering as a lobbyist, so Vice President Jones’ 5 hours of lobbying on January 10 does not require him to register. Nor must Firm X
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register as a principal based on Jones' work, since the expense does not exceed the threshold of $2500. Since Lobbying Firm Y did $3000 worth of lobbying, the dollar threshold is passed and Business Firm X must register as a principal and Lobbying Firm Y must register as a lobbying firm. But these registrations need not occur until ten days after the thresholds are exceeded, or by April 16.

9.4. Registration Period:

(A) On or after January 1, 2012, the registration period shall be for the period of time that begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 of each calendar year.

(B) Unless terminated, a registration statement is effective from the date of filing through December 31 of that calendar year.

9.3 General Rule. Unless exempt from registration and reporting under City Code §20-1204 and Subpart D of this Regulation, a lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal shall register with the Board in the electronic format mandated by the Board within ten days of engaging in lobbying.

Example: On January 10, 2012, Vice President Jones of Business Firm X meets with the local District Councilman concerning a pending bill in Council. Jones spends a total of 5 hours of his time preparing for and participating in this meeting, and the Firm's only expense is Jones' time, which, for the 5 hours, is valued at less than $1000. On February 15, 2012, Business Firm X contracts with the lobbying firm of Y to do all lobbying for the firm for the year beginning on that date. Under the contract, Lobbying Firm Y will bill Business Firm X on a monthly basis. On March 5, 2012, Lobbying Firm Y begins contacting City Council members on behalf of Business Firm X. On April 6, 2012, Lobbying Firm Y bills Business Firm X $3000 for lobbying in March. Who must register and when?

Result: The thresholds for registration are stated in Paragraph 9.24 and Code Section 20-1204. Under these thresholds, an employee who engages in lobbying for his employer of less than 20 hours is exempt from registering as a lobbyist, so Vice President Jones' 5 hours of lobbying on January 10 does not require him to register. Nor must Firm X register as a principal based on Jones' work, since the expense does not exceed the threshold of $2500. Since Lobbying Firm Y did $3000 worth of lobbying, the dollar threshold is passed and Business Firm X must register as a principal and Lobbying Firm Y must register as a lobbying firm. But these registrations need not occur until ten days after the thresholds are exceeded, or by April 16.

9.4. Registration Period:

(A) On or after January 1, 2012, the registration period shall be for the period of time that begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 of each calendar year.

(B) Unless terminated, a registration statement is effective from the date of filing through December 31 of that calendar year.
9.3. **Annual Registration Fee.** In order to register, a principal, lobbyist, or lobbying firm shall pay a fee of $200 plus an additional nominal processing charge. Each separate registrant shall pay the annual fee and processing charge. A registrant shall pay the annual fee even if it registered and paid the fee in a previous calendar year. The annual registration fee is non-refundable and non-transferable.

9.4 **Method of registration.** A principal, lobbyist, or lobbying firm shall electronically register using the Philadelphia Lobbying Information System. In order to register, the registrant shall create a PLIS account at http://plis.cloudapp.net/. Upon completion of the registration process, including payment of the annual registration fee, the registrant shall receive a PLIS registration number.

9.5 **Annual Registration Fee.**

(A) Each principal, lobbying firm or lobbyist required to register under Chapter 20-1200 shall pay an annual registration fee of $100 to the Board, made payable to the "City of Philadelphia."

(B) A separate annual registration fee shall be paid for each registration period for each principal, lobbying firm or lobbyist required to be registered, even if employed by a firm, association, corporation, partnership, business trust or business entity that is also required to register and that has paid or will pay the annual registration fee.

(C) The annual registration fee is nonrefundable and nontransferable and is a flat fee for the calendar year in which it is paid, regardless of when during the calendar year the annual registration fee is paid. A registrant will not be required to pay more than one annual registration fee in any given calendar year, unless a registrant terminates and attempts to reregister during the same calendar year.

(D) The failure to pay an annual registration fee as required by Chapter 20-1200 constitutes a failure to register.

9.6 **Renewal of Registration.**

(A) An annual registration shall end on December 31 of a calendar year.

(B) A new registration statement shall be filed and an annual registration fee shall be paid for each calendar year as required by Paragraph 9.3.
9.5 Information required for registration.

a. Each registrant shall provide the following information:
   i. name, business address, telephone number, and email address;
   ii. the date the registrant commenced lobbying; and
   iii. the name and the Department of State filer identification number of any affiliated political action committee, and acronym, if applicable.

b. A principal that is an association or organization with members shall include in its registration statement the approximate number of dues-paying members of the association or organization in the most recently completed calendar year.

c. A principal or lobbying firm shall also provide:
   i. the nature of its business; and
   ii. the name, business address, and PLIS registration number of each individual engaged in lobbying for economic consideration on behalf of the principal or lobbying firm that is required to register pursuant to Paragraph 9.2(b).

d. A lobbyist shall also provide:
   i. the name, business address, telephone number and PLIS registration number of each principal for whom the lobbyist is engaged in lobbying;
   ii. the name and PLIS registration number of any lobbying firm with which the lobbyist has a relationship involving economic consideration;
   iii. the name and Department of State filer identification number of any candidate political committee of which the lobbyist is the Chair or Treasurer; and
   iv. a statement as to whether he or she is an attorney.

e. Amending a Registration Statement. A principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist shall file an amended registration statement with the Board within 14 days of a change occurring in the required information.

9.6 Electronic signature required for registration.

a. A principal or lobbyist that is an individual shall sign on his or her own behalf.

b. For a principal that is not an individual or for a lobbying firm, the signer shall be an individual who has the authority to sign documents on behalf of the principal or lobbying firm.

c. The electronic signature shall constitute consent by the principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist to receive service of notices, mailings, or process at the address listed in the registration statement, even if the principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist is located outside the City.

9.7 Termination of Registration. A principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist may terminate its registration by filing a notice of termination with the Board. Within 30 days of receiving the notice, the Board shall send a letter confirming the termination. Notwithstanding a termination of registration, a principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist must
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comply with the reporting requirements of this Subpart for any quarter in which it engaged in reportable lobbying.

9.7 Contents of Principal and Lobbying Firm Registration Statements

(A) Each principal or lobbying firm required to register shall file a separate registration statement setting forth the following information:

(1) Name and PLIS registration number;

(2) Permanent address;

(3) Daytime telephone number;

(4) E-mail address;

(5) Name and nature of business;

(6) Name, Department of State registration number and acronym of any affiliated political action committees;

(7) Name, permanent business address, and PLIS registration number of each individual who will for economic consideration engage in lobbying on behalf of the principal or lobbying firm;

(8) Date lobbying commenced.

NOTE: In light of the requirement in Code Section 20-1202(4) that registration must be filed within ten days of "engaging in lobbying" (if other thresholds are met), the information in (8) above is necessary in order for the Board to be able to determine if the deadline requirements are being complied with. This Paragraph 9.7(A)(8) does not define "lobbying" for any other purpose. See the Example at Paragraph 9.3 for further explanation.

(B) A lobbying firm shall include in its registration statement the following information for each principal it represents:

(1) Name;

(2) Permanent business address;

(3) Telephone number;

(4) PLIS Registration number.

(C) A principal that is an association or organization with members shall include in its registration statement the approximate number of dues-paying members of the association or organization in the most recently completed calendar year.

9.8 Signatures on Registration Statements

(A) If a principal or lobbying firm is an individual, that individual shall sign the registration statement with his or her electronic signature.

(B) If a principal is a firm, association, corporation, partnership, business trust or business entity, a named officer or other individual who has the authority to sign
documents on behalf of the principal shall sign the registration statement with his or her electronic signature.

(C) Any lobbyist who is an individual shall sign the registration statement with his or her electronic signature.

(D) An electronic signature on a registration statement that is filed with the Board by a principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist shall:

(1) Constitute the oath or affirmation required pursuant to City Code §20-1206(3) of the individual who signed the registration statement to the validity and accuracy to the best of the attester's knowledge of the information reported on the registration statement and that the individual acknowledges that the oath or affirmation is being made subject to 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities), and

(2) Constitute consent by the principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist to receive service of notices, other official mailings, or process at the address listed in the registration statement that was filed with the Board, even if the principal or lobbying firm is located outside the City.

9.9 Contents of a Lobbyist Registration Statement.

(A) A lobbyist who is required to register shall file a single registration statement with the Board, setting forth the following information:

(1) Name;

(2) Permanent business address;

(3) Daytime telephone number;

(4) E-mail address;

(5) Name, permanent business address, daytime telephone number and PLIS registration number of each principal for whom the lobbyist will engage in lobbying;

(6) Name and PLIS registration number of any lobbying firm with which the lobbyist has a relationship involving economic consideration;

(7) Name, Department of State registration number and acronym of any affiliated political action committees;

(8) Name, Department of State registration number and acronym of any candidate political committee of which the lobbyist is an officer who must be included in a registration statement under section 1624(b)(2) and (3) of the Pennsylvania Election Code;

(9) Date lobbying commenced.

(B) Any lobbyist who is an individual shall include a recent passport-sized (2 inch x 2 inch) photograph of the lobbyist at the time he or she files the registration statement.
(C) If a lobbyist is a firm, association, corporation, partnership, business trust or business entity, the registration statement shall be signed by a named officer or other individual who has the authority to sign documents on its behalf.

(D) The failure to submit a photograph constitutes a failure to register as required by Chapter 20-1200.(E) A lobbyist shall indicate on the registration statement if he or she is admitted to practice law by a court of record of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

9.10 Amending a Registration Statement.

(A) A principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist shall file an amended registration statement with the Board within 14 days after a change occurs in the information required to be included in any registration statement.

(B) A principal that is an association or organization shall amend its registration statement if there is a change in the number of the principal's dues-paying members. The amended registration statement shall be filed with the Board within 14 days of the end of the year in which the change occurs.

9.11 Termination of Registration; Notice of Termination.

(A) A lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal shall terminate his, her or its registration by filing a notice of termination with the Board.

(B) After a review of the notice of termination, but no later than 30 days after receipt of the notice, the Board shall issue to the lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal a letter stating that the registrant has terminated registration. The filing of a notice of termination shall not affect the Board's authority to conduct investigations and hearings.

(C) No lobbying may occur after the filing of a notice of termination unless the lobbying is pursuant to a separate registration statement that is filed with the Board and that, at the time of the lobbying, has not been terminated.

(D) Filing a notice of termination shall not exempt a lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal from any of the requirements in City Code §20-1203, relating to reporting.
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SUBPART C. REQUIREMENT TO FILE QUARTERLY EXPENSE REPORTS

SUBPART C. QUARTERLY EXPENSE REPORT: CONTENTS

9.12—RESERVED

9.8 Filing Deadlines.

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If the filing deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, or on a day that the Board’s office is closed or closes early, the deadline for the filing is the following City business day.

9.9 Principal expense report. A registered principal shall electronically file an expense report with the Board for each quarter in a calendar year, beginning with the quarter in which it registers. If a registered principal’s lobbying expenses are $2,500 or less in a given quarter, the principal may, in lieu of a report, file a statement so stating. In calculating the amount of its lobbying expenses, a principal shall exclude any expenses exempted pursuant to Subpart D.

9.10 Lobbying firm or lobbyist expense report. A lobbying firm, or a lobbyist who is not associated with a lobbying firm, shall electronically file an expense report with the Board if, in a given quarter, a represented principal failed to disclose the lobbying firm’s or lobbyist’s activity in a required expense report.

9.11 A lobbying firm or lobbyist expense report shall be filed on or before 30 days after the date the principal’s report was or would have been due. The filing of an expense report by a lobbyist or lobbying firm does not relieve a principal of any reporting requirements.

9.12 Method of filing an expense report. Principals, lobbying firms, and lobbyists shall electronically file required expense reports by using the Philadelphia Lobbying Information System. In order to file an expense report, a principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist must first register, as provided in Subpart B.
9.13 General rule. A registered principal shall, under affirmation, file an expense report with the Board, in the electronic format and with an electronic signature or signatures, as required by this Regulation, no later than 30 days after the last day of each reporting period.

9.14 Reporting Threshold:

(A) A registered principal shall file a quarterly expense report required under this section when total expenses for lobbying made on the principal’s behalf by the registered principal, its registered lobbying firm(s) and registered lobbyist(s) exceed $2,500 in a reporting period.

(B) In a reporting period in which total expenses for lobbying on the principal’s behalf by the registered principal, its registered lobbying firm(s) and registered lobbyist(s) are $2,500 or less, a statement to that effect shall be filed by checking the appropriate block on the quarterly expense report form.

9.13 Content of an expense report. An expense report filed pursuant to this Subpart shall contain the following information:

a. The name and PLIS registration number of each lobbyist that received economic consideration of more than $2,500 in a quarter of that year or behalf of the principal.

b. Direct communications. Total expenses during the quarter for direct communications, including those for related personnel expenses and office expenses, and a description of each specific administrative action or legislative action (including bill number, if any) that was the subject of such communications, including:

i. the subject matter of the communication. If not available in the PLIS drop down menu, the filer shall describe the subject matter in the space provided;

ii. the position taken, such as supported, opposed, proposed, or amended; and

iii. the name or names of any City officer or employee to whom communication were directed and his or her department or agency. If a communication was directed to a City officer or employee and that officer’s or employee’s staff were present, the report need not list the staff members in attendance. If a direct communication occurs with multiple individuals who are staff of a City officer or employee, it is sufficient to report that the direct communication was with “staff of (name of officer or employee).”

c. Indirect communications. Total expenses during the quarter for indirect communications, including those for related personnel expenses and office expenses, and a description of each specific administrative action or legislative
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action (including bill number, if any) that was the subject of such communications, including:
  i. the subject matter of the communication. If not available in the PLIS drop down menu, the filer shall describe the subject matter in the space provided;
  ii. the position taken, such as supported, opposed, proposed, or amended;
  iii. a description of the persons or groups to whom the indirect communication was directed; and
  iv. the method used for the indirect communication, such as a letter, billboard, or telephone bank.

d. Gifts, hospitality, transportation, or lodging, as follows:
  i. The filer shall disclose the total amount of expenses for gifts, hospitality, transportation, or lodging provided to City officers or employees or their immediate family members during the quarter.
  ii. In the case of gifts, hospitality, transportation, or lodging of $25 or more in the aggregate provided to a City officer or employee, or the immediate family member of a City officer or employee, during the quarter, the filer shall also disclose:
     1. the name of the recipient and, if a City officer or employee, his or her position, job title, and agency;
     2. a description of what was provided, including its value;
     3. the date and location each gift, hospitality, transportation, or lodging was provided; and
     4. the name and address of the source of each gift, payment, or reimbursement.

Example for 9.13(d): XYZ Inc. files an expense report for the 1st quarter. During the quarter, XYZ gave City Officer A and Employee B each a $20 Phillies ticket. XYZ also paid for a $50 lunch for City Officer C.

In its 1st quarter expense report, XYZ must disclose a total of $90 in expenses in the section for gifts, hospitality, transportation, and lodging. XYZ must also disclose the details of the payment for Officer C’s lunch, as set forth in Paragraph 9.13(d)(ii). Because each of the Phillies tickets was worth less than $25, XYZ does not need to provide the information required by 9.13(d)(ii) for those transactions.

e. The name, permanent business address and telephone number of any person that contributed more than 10% of the total resources received by the principal during the quarter, including any and all contributions, dues, or grants.

f. Any other lobbying costs.
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g. A statement affirming that, to the best of the filer’s knowledge, the filer is in compliance with Paragraph 9.22 regarding conflicts of interest.

h. The electronic signature of the individual filing the report and of each lobbyist named in the expense report. A lobbyist may include with his or her electronic signature a description of the limits of his or her knowledge concerning the contents of an expense report.

9.15—Reporting of Direct and Indirect Communications Conducted in an Expense Report Period. Each expense report shall include the following:

(A) The names, PLIS registration numbers, addresses, and phone numbers of all lobbyists by whom lobbying is conducted on behalf of the principal. The expense report shall include the electronic signature of each lobbyist or lobbying firm named in the expense report.

(B) A description of each specific subject matter, issue, administrative action, or legislative action (including bill number, if any) being lobbied and the following additional information for the direct communications concerning that subject matter, issue, administrative action, or legislative action:

(1) The category of the subject matter or issue being lobbied which shall be indicated by selecting the appropriate subject matter category from a drop-down menu in PLIS on the expense report form or, if no relevant category is available, by describing the subject matter or issue in the space provided.

(2) The position taken on the specific subject matter, issue, administrative action, or legislative action being lobbied, such as supported, opposed, proposed, or amended.

(3) The name or names of the City official or employee who was lobbied and his or her department or agency.

(a) If a meeting is conducted with a City official or employee and members of that official’s or employee’s staff are present, it is sufficient to report the name of the City official or employee. It is not required to report the staff members in attendance.

(b) If a direct communication occurs during a City Council meeting or hearing with multiple individuals who are staff of a City official or employee, it is sufficient to report that the direct communication was with “staff of (name of official or employee),”

(C) A description of each specific subject matter, issue, administrative action, or legislative action (including bill number, if any) being lobbied and the following additional information for the indirect communications concerning that subject matter, issue, administrative action, or legislative action:

(1) The category of the subject matter or issue being lobbied which shall be indicated by selecting the appropriate subject matter category from a drop-down
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menu in PLIS on the expense report form or, if no relevant category is available, by describing the subject matter or issue in the space provided.

(2) The position taken on the specific subject matter, issue, administrative action, or legislative action being lobbied, such as supported, opposed, proposed, or amended;

(3) A description of the persons or groups to whom the indirect communication was directed;

(4) The method used for the indirect communication, such as a letter, billboard, or telephone bank; ———

(5) The term indirect communication shall not include regularly published periodic newsletters primarily designed for and distributed to members of a bona fide association or charitable or fraternal nonprofit corporation.

Example 1: Assuming that no exemption pursuant to Paragraph 9.24 applies, when lobbying concerns an insurance contract with the City, the category selected shall be "insurance," and it shall be a sufficient description of the specific subject matter to report the contract number and the City Department from which the contract is sought.

Example 2: In 2015, Bill No. 15001 would rezone a property in City Neighborhood A to permit construction of a warehouse. Restaurant X is located next to the property in Bill No. 15001. Restaurant X pays for a billboard on Route 95 that tells residents of City Neighborhood A to call or write their Councilmember to oppose Bill No. 15001. Assuming that no exemption pursuant to Paragraph 9.24 applies, Restaurant X would report the following on its expense report: the category of the indirect communication is zoning; the specific subject matter is Bill No. 15001; the position is "opposed"; the method is a billboard; and the communication is directed to citizens.

9.16 — Reporting of Total Lobbying Costs in a Report Period. — The total costs of all lobbying expenses for the reporting period shall be reported on the expense report and shall include:

(A) The amount of economic consideration paid to lobbying firms or lobbyists for lobbying during the reporting period;

(B) The total costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation and lodging, given to or provided to City officials or employees or their immediate families during the reporting period;

(1) Any cost for a gift, hospitality, transportation or lodging given to or provided to a City official or employee or to his or her immediate family which is of a value not exceeding $25 need not be included in the total costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation and lodging on an expense report. If the same or similar gift, hospitality, transportation or lodging is provided on more than one occasion or to more than one City official or employee, the aggregate economic
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value of which is more than $50, that value shall be included on the expense
report in the total costs reported for gifts, hospitality, transportation and lodging.
(2) The valuation of a complimentary ticket to a fundraiser shall be the ticket
price to the general public;
(3) The reportable value of gifts, transportation, lodging or hospitality shall be
the fair-market value to the registrant, that is, the costs of purchasing the same or
similar items or services in marketplace transactions.
(4) See also Paragraph 9.19 which requires that notice be given to the recipients
of gifts, hospitality, transportation, and lodging.

(C) The total costs for personnel expenses made during the reporting period.

(1) Reportable personnel costs include expenditures for salaries or other forms of
compensation, benefits, vehicle allowances, bonuses and reimbursable expenses
paid to lobbyists, lobbying staff, research and monitoring staff, consultants,
lawyers, publications and public relations staff and technical staff, as well as
clerical and administrative support staff and individuals who engage in lobbying
but who are exempt from reporting under City Code §20-1204 and Subpart D of
this Regulation.

(2) Compensation, benefits and expenses of any nature shall be included if paid
in furtherance of lobbying. These expenses include transportation, food and
lodging paid for any individuals in furtherance of lobbying.

(3) If compensation is reported by or for an individual or entity whose lobbying
is incidental to regular employment, it shall be sufficient to report a prorated
estimate based on the value of the time devoted to lobbying.

(D) The total costs for office expenses during the reporting period, including but not
limited to offices, equipment and supplies utilized for lobbying.

(E) Any other lobbying costs.

(F) Each lobbying expense described in Paragraphs 9.16(A) through 9.16(F), above,
made during the reporting period shall be allocated to one of the following three
categories and shall not be included in more than one category:

(1) The costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation and lodging given to or provided
to City officials or employees or their immediate families and shall include any
thing of value.

(2) The costs for direct communication.

(3) The costs for indirect communication.

(G) For the purpose of calculating total lobbying costs reportable in an expense
report, a registrant may use a reasonable method of estimation and allocation. Any
reasonable method may be used to determine how to allocate expenses between direct
and indirect communication costs. The registrant shall maintain a detailed written
description of the method of estimation and allocation used and shall make such
written description available when requested by the Board.
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(H) A registered principal that attempts, or that retains a lobbying firm or lobbyist to attempt, to influence an agency’s preparing, bidding, entering into or approving a contract shall ensure that the related expenses are included in any expense report filed under Subpart C.

9.14 In reporting gifts, hospitality, transportation, or lodging as required by Paragraph 9.13(d):

a. The reportable value of gifts, transportation, lodging or hospitality is their fair market value.

b. If a City officer or employee has repaid, in whole or in part, any costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation or lodging provided to him or her or his or her immediate family member, the report shall disclose both the initial expenditure for the gift and the repayment by the officer or employee.

c. The reportable value of a ticket to an event is the ticket price a member of the general public would pay.

d. A filer need not report gifts of food, beverage, entertainment, or admission provided to a City officer or employee at a reception attended by the City officer or employee in his or her official capacity, unless the filer lobbies the officer or employee at the reception.


(A) In accordance with Code Section 20-1203(2)(e), each expense report must include any expenditure on any gift, hospitality, transportation, or lodging, or reimbursement for the same, provided to a City official or employee, where the fair market value of the gift, hospitality, transportation, lodging, or reimbursement received exceeds the value of the cost borne by the official or employee.

EXCEPTION: When a City official or employee attends a reception in connection with his or her public office or employment at the invitation of and hosted by an organization and, at the reception, receives food, beverage, entertainment, and admission without charge, the fair market value of the same shall not be considered a gift to the individual official or employee within the meaning of Code Chapter 20-1200. Accordingly, the reception host is neither required to report the related expenditure on any expense report required to be filed under this Regulation or City Code Chapter 20-1200 nor to include it in the calculation of any reporting thresholds under this Regulation or City Code Chapter 20-1200. Provided, however, that if lobbying-covered by Code Chapter 20-1200 occurs at such a reception, such lobbying activity and any related expenditure must be reported pursuant to Chapter 20-1200 and this Regulation.

(B) For each expenditure described in Paragraph 9.17(A), the report must identify the following:

(1) Name of the official or employee who received the value:
(2) Position of the official or employee who received the value and his or her job title and unit of government.

(3) Description of thing of value provided, including fair market value received.

(4) Date and place provided.

(5) Name and address of the source of each gift, payment or reimbursement.

(C) For any quarterly report period, where the value of all expenditures for gifts, hospitality, transportation, lodging, or reimbursement received by a particular official or employee from the same registrant, in the aggregate for the calendar year, to that point, is less than $200, Paragraph 9.17(C) does not require reporting of those expenditures pursuant to Paragraph 9.17(B) in that reporting period. However, the value shall be included in the total costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation, lodging or reimbursements pursuant to Paragraph 9.16(B).

(D) Notwithstanding Paragraph 9.17(C) above, once the aggregate total cost of all expenditures for gifts, hospitality, transportation, lodging, or reimbursements to a recipient in a calendar year reaches or exceeds $200, the registrant shall report such previously unreported expenditures on that quarter’s report, and on each subsequent expense report in that calendar year report the details of each subsequent gift, transportation, hospitality, lodging, or reimbursement to that recipient.

(E) A lobbyist, lobbying firm, principal, or City official or employee is not relieved by the provisions of Chapter 20-1200 from the restrictions in City Code §20-604 (Gifts, Loans and Favors to City Personnel), or from financial disclosure requirements such as those in Code §20-610, or from departmental or other restrictions or prohibitions on the offer or acceptance of gifts, hospitality, transportation, and lodging.

(F) The requirement to report gifts, hospitality, transportation, and lodging expenses shall not apply to anything of value received from immediate family when the circumstances make it clear that the motivation for the action was the personal or family relationship.

Example: Paul is a City employee who received tickets with a value of $150 from lobbyist for Principal A on March 15th. Because the $150 gift of the tickets is less than $200, Principal A is not required to disclose the details of the gift on the expense report for the first quarter, but must include the $150 value of the tickets in the total costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation, and lodging on that report. See Paragraph 9.16.

On May 15th, another lobbyist for Principal A gives Paul tickets with a value of $50. Because the total value of all gifts to Paul in the calendar year is now $210, Principal A must on its second quarter report include the $60 value of the tickets in the total costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation, and lodging, and report both the $150 and $60 gifts in detail. If Principal A gives any additional gifts to Paul in that calendar year to
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Paul, regardless of their value, each one must be reported in detail on the appropriate expense report and included in the total cost of gifts for the quarter.
9.18 Repayment to a Principal or Lobbyist for Gifts, Hospitality, Transportation or Lodging

If a City official or employee repays, in whole or in part, any costs for gifts, hospitality, transportation or lodging received from a registrant, and if the gift, hospitality, transportation or lodging expense is or would have been required to be reported on an expense report under Paragraph 9.17, the expense report shall disclose both the expenditure and the repayment.

Example: On January 15th, a City official received tickets costing $300 from a lobbyist for Principal A. On March 4th, the official sent a check for $150 to Principal A as a partial repayment for the tickets. Because the $300 gift of the tickets was $200 or more, both the $300 gift and the $150 repayment must be reported on the principal’s first quarter expense report.

9.15 Written notice to a recipient of gifts, hospitality, transportation or lodging.

At least seven days prior to filing an expense report with the Board, a registrant shall provide written notice to each City official or employee who will be listed in the expense report as a recipient of gifts, hospitality, transportation or lodging. The written notice shall include the following information:

a. The value and a description of each gift, or payment for hospitality, transportation, or lodging;

b. The date and location of receipt;

c. The name and address of the source of the gift; and

d. The total amount of the gifts and payments for hospitality, transportation, or lodging given during the expense reporting period and the cumulative amount given from January 1 through the end of the applicable reporting period.

9.19 Written Notice to a Recipient of Gifts, Hospitality, Transportation or Lodging

(A) At least seven days prior to submitting an expense report to the Board, a registrant shall provide written notice to each City official or employee who is listed in the expense report as a recipient of a gift or gifts, hospitality, transportation or lodging.

(B) The written notice shall include the following information:

(1) The name of the recipient official or employee and his or her department and position;

(2) The cost and a description of each gift, or payment for hospitality, transportation, or lodging;

(3) The date and place of receipt;

(4) The name and address of the source of the gift; and
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(5) The total amount of the gifts and payments for hospitality, transportation, or lodging given during the expense reporting period and the cumulative amount given from January 1 through the end of the applicable reporting period.—

9.16 In reporting the expenses described in this Subpart, a registrant may use any reasonable method of estimation and allocation, including for allocation of expenses between direct and indirect communication costs. The registrant shall maintain a detailed written description of the method of estimation and allocation used and shall make such written description available to the Board upon request.

9.17 A registered principal that attempts, or that retains a lobbying firm or lobbyist to attempt, to influence an agency’s preparing, bidding, entering into or approving a contract shall include the related expenses in an expense report filed under Subpart C.

9.20 Lobbying Firm or Lobbyist Expense Report

(A) Although generally not required to file expense reports, a lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a lobbying firm shall submit an expense report if either of the following occurs:

(1) During the reporting period the lobbying firm or lobbyist engaged in lobbying that was not reported in any expense report filed by a principal or principals represented;

or

(2) The lobbying firm or lobbyist engaged in lobbying on behalf of any entity that is exempt under City Code §20-1204(7) relating to government officials acting in an official capacity.

(B) The expense report filed by a lobbyist or lobbying firm shall contain the information described in Subpart C.

(C) The expense report shall be filed on or before the 30th day after the due date of a principal’s report.

(D) The filing of an expense report by a lobbyist or lobbying firm does not relieve a principal of any reporting requirements.

9.21 Reporting Contributions to a Principal: Each expense report shall include the following:

(A) The name, permanent business address and daytime telephone number of any individual, association, corporation, partnership, business trust or other business entity that contributed more than 10% of the total resources received by the principal during the reporting period.

(B) The term “total resources” includes all contributions to the principal and all dues and grants received by the principal during the reporting period.
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9.22 Signatures Required on the Expense Report

(A) Signature of Principal:

(1) If a principal or lobbying firm is an individual, that individual shall sign the expense report with his or her electronic signature.

(2) If a principal is a firm, association, corporation, partnership, business trust or business entity, a named officer or other individual who has the authority to sign documents on behalf of the principal shall sign the expense report with his or her electronic signature.

(3) Each electronic signature for the principal shall:

(a) Constitute the oath or affirmation required pursuant to Section 20-1206(3) of Chapter 20-1200, of the individual(s) who signed the expense report on behalf of the principal to the validity and accuracy of the information reported on the expense report and that the individual acknowledges that the oath or affirmation is being made subject to 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

(b) Constitute consent to receive service of notices, other official mailings, or process at the address listed in the registration statement that was filed with the Board, even if the lobbyist is located outside the City.

(B) Signature of Lobbying Firm or Lobbyist

(1) A named officer or other individual in a lobbying firm who has the authority to sign documents on behalf of the lobbying firm shall sign the principal’s expense report with his or her electronic signature.

(2) A lobbyist shall sign the principal’s expense report with his or her electronic signature.

(3) The electronic signature of the individual described in (1) and (2) above shall serve as his or her affirmation, to the best of his or her knowledge, of the validity and accuracy of the information in the expense report during the reporting period. A lobbying firm or lobbyist may include with his or her electronic signature a description of the limits of his or her knowledge concerning contents of the expense report.

9.18 Amending an Expense Report. A principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist shall file an amended expense report with the Board within 15 days of the principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist determining that information was omitted from an expense report or that information reported in an expense report is incorrect.

9.23 Amending an Expense Report

(A) A principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist shall file an amended expense report, including the required electronic signature(s), with the Board within 14 days after the principal, lobbying firm, or lobbyist determines that information was omitted from an expense report or that information reported in an expense report is incorrect.
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(B) The filing of an amended expense report by a principal, lobbyist or lobbying firm does not relieve the principal, lobbyist or lobbying firm of any reporting requirements.

SUBPART D. EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION AND REPORTING

9.24 Exemptions

19 The following persons and activities are exempt from registration and reporting:

a. An individual who limits lobbying to preparing testimony and testifying or commenting before City Council or a committee of Council, or participating in an administrative proceeding of an agency. For this purpose, "administrative proceeding" shall have the meaning as defined in 2 Pa. C.S. §101, and the phrase "administrative proceeding of an agency" shall refer to adjudications under the Local Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S. §551 et seq. City Council.

Note: This Paragraph 9.24(A) is derived from an exemption stated in the Philadelphia Code, Section 20-1204(1). See the Note to Paragraph 9.24(1), below.

(B) b. An individual who is an employee of an entity engaged in the business of publishing or broadcasting while engaged in the gathering and dissemination of news and comment on the news to the general public in the ordinary course of business.

c. An individual who does not receive economic consideration for lobbying.

(C) An individual whose economic consideration for lobbying, from all principals represented, does not exceed $2,500 in the aggregate during any reporting period.

(D) An individual who engages in lobbying on behalf of the individual's employer if the lobbying represents less than 20 hours during any reporting period.

(E) Except as required under City Code §20-1203(7), a principal whose total expenses for lobbying purposes do not exceed $2,500 during any reporting period.

Example: In January 2012, a nonprofit group that supports safety hires a lobbyist (registered with the State) to meet with the Mayor, along with the group's executive director, to ask for his support of a bill in Council prohibiting anyone from running with scissors. The executive director and the lobbyist both spend 5 hours preparing for the meeting and meeting with the Mayor, and the lobbyist bills the nonprofit group $1000 for his time. That is the only lobbying in Philadelphia for any client that
the lobbyist does in the first half of 2012 and the only lobbying activity that the nonprofit group engages in during that same period. Who must register and report?

Result: No one. Even though the activity is clearly lobbying under Paragraph 9.1(X), the lobbyist did not receive more than $2,500 in the quarter, and is exempt under 9.24(D). The executive director of the nonprofit did not spend 20 hours in lobbying in the quarter, and is exempt under 9.24(E). And the nonprofit group itself did not incur lobbying expenses exceeding $2,500 during the quarter, and is exempt under 9.24(F).

(G) A City official or employee who acts in an official capacity, as well as elected or appointed officials and employees of the following jurisdictions, when acting in an official capacity: the Commonwealth, political subdivisions thereof, other States or political subdivisions thereof, and the federal government.

(H) d. A government officer or employee acting in his or her official capacity.

e. An individual representing a bona fide church or bona fide religious body of which the individual is a member where the lobbying is solely for the purpose of protecting the constitutional right to the free exercise of religion.

f. An individual who is not a registered lobbyist and who serves on an advisory board, working group or task force at the request of a City agency.

(J) g. Participating as a party or as an attorney at law or representative of a party in a case or controversy, or in any administrative adjudication. This includes all actions, including responses, questions, discussions, submissions, and settlement negotiations regarding any claim, controversy, assessment, voluntary tax disclosure, in which the principal or letter ruling request. Provided, however, a client is subject to or seeking a specific agency action in which the principal’s or client’s interests, rights, or privileges are at issue, provided that such communication is in an effort to address those interests, rights, or privileges and is in the normal course for such matters. However, this exemption shall not apply to efforts to influence general policy or on behalf of an interest group, nor to direct communications with City officials or employees who the principal, representative, or agent knows or should know are not those who would ordinarily make determinations in the matter at issue.

Note: This Paragraph 9.24(J) is derived from an exemption stated in the Philadelphia Code, Section 20-1204(10). Other communications with the City government, in the normal process of a party seeking to resolve a dispute with the government, may not be exempt under this Paragraph 9.24(J). However, such communications may not constitute “lobbying,” as defined in Paragraph 9.1(X). In difficult cases, advice
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should be sought, in advance of acting, from the Board, in accordance with Regulation No. 4.

(K) h. Expenditures and other transactions subject to reporting under Article XVI of the Pennsylvania Election Code.

(L) i. Activities and efforts directly related to responding to publicly advertised invitations to bid and requests for proposals.

(M) j. Communication with a City official or employee on a routine, ministerial matter, such as:
   For purposes of this exemption, "routine, ministerial matters" include, but are not limited to, the following:
   i. Scheduling a meeting;
   ii. Requesting information about the status of an administrative matter;
   iii. Requesting forms or procedures;
   (4) iv. Requesting information on requirements for compliance with existing laws or regulations;

(5) v. Participating in an inspection required by law;
   vi. Responding to an audit conducted pursuant to law;
   vii. Performing services pursuant to an existing contract, but not communications concerning extensions of an existing contract;

(8) viii. Inquiring about the delivery of services or materials pursuant to an existing contract;

(9) ix. Filing a complaint with a City agency to seek enforcement of existing laws or regulations;

(+++) x. Filing a response to a complaint or other enforcement action commenced by a City agency; or

(+++) xi. Applying for means-tested City services or benefits for that individual as an agent or representative of a specific individual for whom the services or benefits are sought.
(N) Communications concerning extensions of an existing contract with the City are not routine, ministerial matters.

(O) For purposes of this Regulation and Chapter 20-1200, it is not lobbying when a principal, or a consultant or professional (e.g., an accountant, architect, attorney, doctor, or engineer), acting as the representative or agent of a principal or client, communicates with a City agency in a matter in which the principal or client is subject to or seeking a specific City agency action in which the principal’s or client’s interests, rights, or privileges are at issue, provided that such communication is in an effort to address those interests, rights, or privileges and is in the normal course for such matters. This exception shall not apply to efforts to influence general policy on behalf of an interest group, nor to direct communications with City officials or employees who the principal, representative, or agent knows or should know are not those who would ordinarily make determinations in the matter at issue.

(P) Activities of an individual volunteer, not undertaken for compensation, including an attorney rendering pro bono publico services in activities for improving the law.

**Example for 9.19(a):** In the 1st quarter, XYZ incurs expenses of $2,000 for testimony its CEO presents at a City Council hearing. XYZ incurs a further $3,500 in expenses for billboards urging citizens to contact Council members about the subject of the hearing. XYZ does not incur any other expenses for lobbying activity during the 1st quarter.

XYZ must register and file an expense report for the 1st quarter. However, in that expense report, XYZ only needs to disclose the $3,500 it spent on indirect communications. As provided by Paragraph 9.19(a), the $2,000 in expenses it incurred as a result of its CEO’s testimony is exempt from registration and reporting.
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SUBPART E. INDIRECT COMMUNICATION DISCLOSURE OTHER
REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

9.2520 Identification of Person Who Financed an Indirect Communication

Whenever any person makes an expenditure for indirect communication for the purpose of disseminating or initiating a
Any indirect communication, such as a mailing, telephone bank, print or electronic media advertisement, billboard, publication or education campaign, the communication shall clearly and conspicuously state the name of the person who made or financed the expenditure for the communication. This disclosure shall not be required for bumper stickers, pins, buttons, pens and similar small items upon which the statement cannot be conveniently printed. For small digital advertisements, this requirement shall be satisfied if the proper disclosure appears on the page a user arrives at by clicking the advertisement.

SUBPART F. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND UNLAWFUL ACTS

9.2621 Records retention.

a. A registrant shall maintain for four years, in written or electronic form, records of its Philadelphia lobbying activity in sufficient detail to enable the registrant to fully comply with the requirements set forth in this Regulation. Such records shall be made available for inspection within ten business days upon request by the Board.

b. If an original source document is not available to support a reportable expenditure, the registrant shall upon payment of the expense promptly prepare a written voucher, journal entry or other written or electronic form of record to document the expenditure. The record must include a notation of the reason an original source document was not available.

c. A registrant may keep records of all lobbying activity separate from records of the registrant’s non-lobbying activity. Upon receipt of a request from the Board to examine lobbying records, a registrant may redact any records that do not pertain to Philadelphia lobbying activity.

9.22 Conflicts of Interest.

a. A lobbyist shall not lobby on behalf of a principal on any subject matter in which the principal’s interests are directly adverse to the lobbyist’s interests or to the interests of another principal the lobbyist represented at anytime during the current four-year session of Council, unless:

   i. The lobbyist reasonably believes that he or she will be able to provide competent and diligent representation to each affected principal:
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   ii. The lobbyist provides written notice to each affected principal upon
       becoming aware of the conflict; and

   iii. Each affected principal provides written informed consent waiving the
       conflict of interest.

b. If a lobbyist is unable to comply with Paragraph 9.22(a), he or she shall promptly
   withdraw from one or more representations to the extent necessary to come into
   compliance with Paragraph 9.22(a).

c. If a lobbyist is not in compliance with Paragraph 9.22(a), neither the lobbyist’s
   employer, partner, nor any other person associated with the lobbyist shall lobby
   on behalf of the affected principals.

9.23 Contingent Compensation.

   a. A person may not compensate or incur an obligation to compensate a person to
      engage in lobbying for compensation contingent in whole or in part upon the
      occurrence, nonoccurrence or amendment of any administrative or legislative
      action.

   b. A person may not engage in or agree to engage in lobbying for compensation
      contingent in whole or in part upon the occurrence, nonoccurrence or amendment
      of any administrative or legislative action.

   c. An individual who is paid on a contingent or commission basis for the sale of
      goods or services may contact a City officer or employee regarding the purchase
      by the City or an agency of such goods or services, provided that such individual
      is contacting only those City officers or employees who have responsibility for
      making purchasing decisions regarding such goods or services in the normal
      course.

9.24 Prohibited Activities. A lobbyist, lobbying firm, or principal shall not:

   (A) Political Committees. A lobbyist may not
        serve as a treasurer or other officer
        who must be included in a registration statement under section 1634(b)(2) and (3)
        of the Pennsylvania Election Code, for the Chair or Treasurer of a candidate’s
        political committee or a candidate’s political action committee if the candidate is
        seeking City elected office;

        Fee Restrictions. A lobbyist may not
        charge a fee or receive economic consideration based on a contract, either written or oral, that any part of the fee
        economic consideration will be converted into a contribution to a candidate for
        public office or a political committee subject to reporting under Article XVI of
        the Pennsylvania Election Code;

   (C) False Information. A lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal may not
        for the purpose of influencing legislative action or administrative action, transmit, utter
        or publish to a City official or employee a communication, knowing that
(D) Conflicts of Interest

(1) Except as permitted by Paragraph 9.26(D)(2), a registrant may not lobby on behalf of a principal on any subject matter in which the principal's interests are directly adverse to the interests of another principal currently represented by the lobbyist or previously represented by the lobbyist during the current four-year session of Council, or directly adverse to the lobbyist's own interests.

(2) A lobbyist may represent a principal in circumstances described in Paragraph 9.26(D)(1) if:

— (a) The lobbyist reasonably believes that the lobbyist will be able to provide competent and diligent representation to each affected principal;

— (b) The lobbyist provides written notice to each affected principal upon becoming aware of the conflict; and

— (c) Each affected principal provides written informed consent waiving the conflict of interest.

(3) If a lobbyist represents a principal in violation of Code Section 20-1205 or if multiple representation properly accepted becomes improper under this section and the conflict is not waived, the lobbyist shall promptly withdraw from one or more representations to the extent necessary for the remaining representation to not be in violation of that section.

(4) If a lobbyist is prohibited by Code Section 20-1205 from engaging in particular conduct, an employer of the lobbyist or a partner or other person associated with the lobbyist may not engage in the particular conduct.

(5) A principal or lobbyist required to file an expense report under this Chapter shall include in the report a statement affirming that to the best of the principal's or lobbyist's knowledge the principal or lobbyist has complied with this section.

(6) A lobbyist and principal shall maintain the records relating to the conflict of interest set forth in Paragraph 9.26(D) for a four-year period beginning on the date the conflict is discovered and provide copies of the records to the Board upon request.

(7) Complaints regarding violations of Code Section 20-1205(5) involving a lobbyist or principal who is an attorney at law shall be referred to the Disciplinary Board to be investigated, considered and resolved in a manner consistent with the Rules of Professional Conduct.
(E) Multiple Principals. Nothing in this Subpart shall be construed to require a lobbyist representing multiple principals who each have an interest in the budget process to comply with Paragraph 9.26(D)(3) unless a conflict of interest exists under Paragraph 9.26(D)(1).

(F) Contingent Compensation.

(1) A person may not compensate or incur an obligation to compensate a person to engage in lobbying for compensation contingent in whole or in part upon any of the following:

   (a) Occurrence, nonoccurrence or amendment of legislative action.

   (b) Occurrence, nonoccurrence or amendment of an administrative action.

(2) A person may not engage in or agree to engage in lobbying for compensation contingent in whole or in part upon any:

   (a) Occurrence, nonoccurrence or amendment of legislative action.

   (b) Occurrence, nonoccurrence or amendment of an administrative action.

(3) It shall not be a violation of Paragraph 9.26(F) or Code Section 20-1205(7) for an individual who is paid on a contingent or commission basis for the sale of goods or services to contact a City official or employee regarding the purchase of such goods or services, provided that such individual is contacting only those City officials or employees who have responsibility for making purchasing decisions regarding such goods or services in the normal course.

9.27 Unlawful Acts

(A) A lobbyist or principal may not:

d. make a material misstatement or omission on a registration statement or expense report filed with the Board. However, if a filer learns that an already-filed registration statement or expense report included a material misstatement or omission and, within 15 days of learning the same, files an amended, corrected registration statement or expense report, that filer shall not be in violation of the City's Lobbying Law, except where the filer learned of the material misstatement or omission from the Board;

e. instigate the introduction of legislation for the purpose of obtaining employment to lobby in opposition to that legislation;

f. knowingly counsel a person to violate Philadelphia Code Chapter 20-1200 or any other provision of the City Code, State, or of any Federal or State statute law.
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(1) Engage in or counsel a person to engage in fraudulent conduct.

g. attempt to influence a City official or employee on legislative or administrative action by making or facilitating the making of a loan to the City official or employee;

h. while engaging in lobbying on behalf of the principal, refuse to disclose to a City official or employee, upon request, the identity of the principal;

(2) Commit a criminal offense arising from lobbying:

i. attempt to influence, by coercion, bribery or threat of economic sanction, a City official or employee in the discharge of the duties of office. Extort or otherwise unlawfully retaliate against a City official or employee by reason of the City official’s or employee’s position with respect to or vote on administrative or legislative action. Attempt to influence a City official or employee on legislative or administrative action by the promise of financial support or the financing of opposition to the candidacy of the City official or employee at a future election;

j. engage in conduct that brings the practice of lobbying or the legislative or executive branches of City government into disrepute.

(11) Make a material misstatement or omission on a registration statement or expense report filed with the Board pursuant to this Regulation and Chapter 20-1200. Provided, however, that if a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or principal learns that an already filed registration statement or expense report included a material misstatement or omission and, within 15 days of learning the same, files an amended, corrected registration statement or expense report, it shall not be a violation of this Chapter; further provided, however, that this exception shall not apply in cases where the filer learns of the material misstatement or omission from the Ethics Board.

(B) The Board:

(1) May, as it deems appropriate, refer an alleged violation of Code Section 20-1205(8) to any appropriate agency for investigation or law enforcement agency for investigation and prosecution; and

(2) Shall, if the subject of the complaint is an attorney at law, refer an alleged violation of Code Section 20-1205(8) to the Disciplinary Board.
SUBPART G. LOBBYING RECORDS

9.28 Records

(A) A registrant shall maintain records of its Philadelphia lobbying activity in sufficient detail to enable the registrant to fully comply with the registration and reporting requirements of Chapter 20-1200, which records may be in written or electronic formats. If a document is maintained in an electronic format, it shall be maintained to enable the Board to access in readable form all of the information reasonably necessary to substantiate the registration, statements or reports.

(B) The documents to be used in recordkeeping include: books, journals, ledgers, accounts, statements, invoices, bills, vouchers, receipts, charge slips, cancelled checks, payroll check stubs, time sheets, tax returns and related forms, contracts, subcontracts, business diaries and calendars and other related written or computerized records.

(C) A registrant may keep records of all lobbying activity separate from records of the registrant’s non-lobbying activity. If a registrant’s records include records of lobbying and non-lobbying activities, only those records that pertain to Philadelphia lobbying activity shall be retained and made available for inspection by the Board, upon request, as required by Code Section 20-1203(6) and this Regulation. Upon receipt of a request from the Board to examine lobbying records, a registrant may redact any records which do not pertain to Philadelphia lobbying activity.

(D) If an original source document is not available to support a reportable expenditure, the registrant shall, upon payment of the expenditure, promptly prepare a written voucher, journal entry or other written or electronic form of record to document the expenditure. The record must include a notation of the reason an original source document was not available.

(E) Documents to substantiate contributions of resources reportable under Paragraph 9.24, must include for each reportable item, the following information:

   (1) — The full names of the donor and donee;

   (2) — The amount or value and date of the contribution;

   (3) — In the case of a nonmonetary contribution, a description of the goods, services or other forms of resources provided;

   (4) — Instructions, directions, conditions, restrictions, limitations or controls provided or imposed by the donor as to the use or disposition of the contribution.

9.29 Period of Retention: A registrant shall retain all records of lobbying activity described in Subpart G for four years from the date of filing the subject report. Upon
request by the Board, these materials shall be made available to the Board for inspection within ten business days.

SUBPART II. ADVICE AND OPINIONS; ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES; and TRAINING

9.30 Advice and Opinions
Requests for advisory opinions and the process of issuing advisory opinions shall be subject to Board of Ethics Regulation No. 4, with the following additions:

(A) Paragraph 4.1(b), "such other matters as may be assigned by Council" shall be understood to include Chapter 20-1200.

(B) Paragraphs 4.1(c) and 4.1(f), in listing the persons who may receive advice, shall be read to include a lobbyist, a lobbying firm, a principal, the Disciplinary Board or a person or entity seeking to determine whether that person or entity is required to register or file expense reports pursuant to Chapter 20-1200 and this Regulation.

(C) Paragraph 4.4, on the information to be provided by a requestor, shall be read to require, from requestors, additional detail relating to the name, address, and telephone number of any principal, lobbyist, or lobbying firm that is the subject of the request.

9.31 Enforcement

(A) Investigations and hearings shall be governed by Board of Ethics Regulation No. 2, with the following additions:

(B) Paragraph 2.0(a), "other matters assigned to the Board by City Council" shall be understood to include Chapter 20-1200.

9.329.25 If the Board receives a complaint regarding a violation of this Subpart involving a lobbyist or principal who is an attorney at law, the Board shall refer the complaint to the Disciplinary Board.
SUBPART F. PENALTIES

(A) A person who violates this Chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to $2,000.

(B) Notwithstanding Paragraph 9.22(A), above.

9.26 The failure to register or amend a registration, or file or amend an expense report as required by Chapter 20 to 1200, this Regulation is subject to a civil penalty not exceeding $250 for each late day, provided that the total fines that may be imposed for failure to file a particular registration or report shall not exceed $2,000.

(C) 9.27 All other violations of the lobbying law are subject to a civil monetary penalty of $1,000 per violation that shall be increased or decreased as follows:

a. Mitigating factors. The civil monetary penalty of $1,000 shall be reduced by $500 if one of the following mitigating factors is present and shall be reduced by $750 if more than one of the following mitigating factors are present:
   i. Good faith effort to comply. The violator is found to have made a good faith effort to comply with the law.
   ii. Prompt corrective action. The violator is found to have taken prompt corrective action where corrective action was possible to remedy the violation.
   iii. Prompt self-reporting. The violator is found to have reported promptly the violation to the Board of Ethics.

b. Aggravating factors. The civil monetary penalty of $1,000 shall be increased by $1,000 for each of the following aggravating factors that is present, provided that the total civil monetary penalty that may be imposed for one violation shall not exceed $2,000:
   i. Intent. The violator is found to have acted knowingly. An act is done knowingly if done voluntarily and intentionally and not because of mistake or accident or other innocent reason.
   ii. Repeat violation. The violator previously has been found by the Board of Ethics in an administrative adjudication or by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated the same provision.
   iii. Obstruction of investigation. The violator is found to have obstructed the investigation of the Board of Ethics into the same violation.

9.28 The Board shall notify the Disciplinary Board if it imposes a penalty on any lobbyist or principal who is an attorney at law.
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9.29 In addition to any penalties imposed under Chapter 20-1200 pursuant to this Subpart, the Board may prohibit a person from lobbying for economic consideration for up to five years for intentional violations of this Chapter, the City's Lobbying Law. The Board shall not impose the prohibition under this Paragraph unless the person has been afforded the opportunity for a hearing.

(D) The Board shall notify the Disciplinary Board of any lobbyist or principal who is an attorney at law against whom a civil penalty is imposed.

(E) Affirmative Defense. Any of the following is an affirmative defense to an action brought under Chapter 20-1200:

(1) The respondent relied on an advisory opinion issued to the respondent by the Board pursuant to Paragraph 9.30;

(2) The respondent reasonably relied on notice as required by Paragraph 9.19;

9.33 Training

(A) Each lobbyist and principal shall within 120 days of filing a registration statement pursuant to Subpart B attend an initial training session conducted by the Board regarding the requirements of Chapter 20-1200 and other relevant sections of the City Code. Principals that do not have an office in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, or New Jersey may be sent materials prepared by the staff of the Board.

(B) In addition to the initial training described above, each lobbyist and principal shall be required to attend further training if the Board shall determine, by Resolution adopted at a public meeting, that additional training is necessary. Factors to be considered by the Board in determining whether additional training is necessary include:

(1) Any recent amendments to Chapter 20-1200 or other relevant sections of the City Code, and the degree of substantive change represented by such amendments;

(2) The number of years since the initial training attended by the lobbyist or principal;

(3) Other significant events that may indicate that re-training is called for;

(4) The availability and cost of available methods of providing training, such as on-line computer training;
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Training programs developed and conducted by the Board shall include programs
developed and approved by staff of the Board and on-line training programs developed
by staff.

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