

Ethical Practice

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Marvelous Goal

- "The proper operation of a republic requires that public officers and employees be honest, impartial, and responsible to the people; that governmental decisions and policy be made in the proper channels of the governmental structure; that public office not be used for personal gain; and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. The purpose of the Board of Ethics is to promote these beliefs ..."
- Board of Ethics homepage at www.siouxfalls.org/mayor/boards-commissions/board-ethics

Underlying Issue

- City officials received gifts of paid travel
- Violated city ordinance and looks too much like bribery
- Who accepted gifts?
- When?
- How many times?
- How much money was involved?

Hiding Problems

- Ethics board found excuse to reject complaint 20A
- Stalled complaint 20B until after an election
- Board letter to city said travel gifts are common
- **Gifts are so common it's no problem (no penalty)!**
- Gift recipients were not identified
- Pretend a clear section of ordinance is confusing
- Council said please clarify
- Board said nothing to clarify
- Council voted – no problems here

My Request

- Identify all gifts of paid travel over last 2 years
- Council ignored my request
- SD DCI ignored my request to investigate
- Ethics board will not promote integrity & transparency by investigating paid travel gifts

Ordinance 35 Needs Work

- Reported multiple issues in previous presentations
- Found another problem
- Please merge sections 35.029 and 35.053
- Nearly identical, causes confusion, people likely to cite wrong section and have complaint rejected

Just Chillin'

