

City of Bell Ethics Requirements:

City Managers, City Attorneys, City Treasurers, Directors of Finance and any employee with a fiduciary responsibility

City Employee Code of Ethics:

The Code of Ethics requires all City Employees to:¹

- make unbiased decisions
- use their authority fairly
- refrain from using City of Bell resources or their position for personal gain
- be mindful of how their actions may be perceived by others.

Conflicts of interest:

Officials are required to:

- identify their financial interests publicly
- leave the room during deliberations and voting on matters in which they hold a financial interest, though they may speak during the public comment period as an interested citizen.²

Officials are prohibited from:

- influencing decisions where they have an organizational/personal relationship or financial interest unless legally required (does not include breaking a tie vote).³

Disclosures:

Officials are required to:

- disclose investments, interests in real estate, and sources of income whenever they declare their candidacy for the office in question, assume office, or leave office, and on April 1 of every year while in office.^{4 5 6 7}

Gifts:

Officials are prohibited from:

- accepting gifts from any single source during any calendar year that total more than \$460.⁸

The following categories may exceed \$460 in value:

- Reimbursements for travel
- Wedding gifts and gifts exchanged for birthdays, holidays and similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value.⁹

Valuation of gifts is generally determined by the fair market value of the gift at the time the gift was received.^{10 11}

Post-Government Employment:

City Managers are prohibited from:

- representing any third-party before an agency of the City government, unless that third-party is another government agency, for a one year after leaving their post.¹²

Officials are prohibited from:

- influencing a governmental decision directly relating to a prospective employer with whom they are negotiating or have arranged prospective employment.¹³

Nepotism:

Officials are prohibited from:

- appointing anyone to a full-time salaried position who is a relative of that official, by blood or marriage.¹⁴

¹ City of Bell Employee Code of Ethics.

² Cal. Gov. Code Section 87105.

³ Cal. Gov. Code Section 87100.

⁴ Cal. Gov. Code Section 87201.

⁵ Cal. Gov. Code Section 87202.

⁶ Cal. Gov. Code Section 87204.

⁷ Cal. Gov. Code Section 87203.

⁸ This amount is adjusted annually, current amount set by California Regulatory Code 18940.2.

⁹ Cal. Gov. Code Section 89503.

¹⁰ Cal. Regulatory Code Section 18942.

¹¹ California Regulatory Code Section 18946.3.

¹² Cal. Gov. Code Section 87406.3.

¹³ California Regulatory Code Section 18747.

¹⁴ Bell Charter Section 710.