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Contact:
Christy Talbot
202-464-1662 x 115
ctalbot@columbiabooks.com

Lobbying Compliance Handbook to Answer Pressing Questions on HLOGA

Bethesda, Md. (July 23, 2008) – Lobbyists.info, a division of Columbia Books & Information Services, is pleased to announce the publication of *The Lobbying Compliance Handbook: A Practitioner’s Guide in the Age of HLOGA*, written by Cleta Mitchell, a partner with Foley & Lardner. Mitchell is a leading authority on laws, policies and issues related to federal and state lobbying ethics regulations.

This 470-page handbook, formatted in an easy-to-use desktop binder, provides practical and real-world guidance to lobbyists affected by the enactment of the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act (HLOGA) last year.

“This handbook gathers in one place all the information needed to guide people through the thicket of rules, regulations and procedures resulting from HLOGA,” said Mitchell. “This handbook will be useful to any lobbyist or entity that wants to feed a Hill staffer under one of the exceptions to the rules. It also provides step-by-step information on how to file one of the required forms.”

The Lobbying Compliance Handbook is divided into two parts to reflect the delicate balance between work and play in Washington, and how HLOGA applies to each.

Part I, “Compliance with LDA and HLOGA,” includes information on the changes made to the LD-1 and LD-2 disclosure filings lobbyists submit to the House and Senate. Various examples and charts also describe in-depth the political contributions and payments to disclose on the new LD-203 form.

This section also provides tips on setting up a compliance system. Sample compliance policies and time and financial tracking sheets are included as guides for organizations to use in creating their own internal compliance documents.

Part II of the handbook, “Modern Living under the Ethics Rules,” advises lobbyists in various social interactions with congressional members and staff. This section includes checklists to help a lobbyist determine whether he may provide a member or staffer with

a meal. Tables that detail dating and exchanging gifts under HLOGA will also help lobbyists socialize with members and Hill staff without inadvertently running afoul of the law.

The handbook also includes charts detailing the types of travel an organization can permissibly provide for a member of Congress, tips on gift-giving under executive branch regulations and procedures for negotiating for a lobbying job after leaving the Hill.

The Lobbying Compliance Handbook is available as a binder for desktop reference and as an electronic PDF. As additional guidance and clarifications are issued by Congress and the FEC, subscribers will receive automatic updates and notification of the changes via email.

For more information, please visit this site:
<http://www.columbiabooks.com/servlet/the-44/lobbyists-lobbyist-lobbist-lobbists/Detail>

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