

# CODE OF ETHICS

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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear employees:

E Light Electric Services has a long reputation for honesty and integrity in business dealings and lawful and ethical behavior. This reputation is a source of pride for us as well as one of our greatest assets because it instills the necessary trust and confidence in us by our customers, subcontractors, suppliers, and the overall community in which we live. Here at E Light Electric Services, we are committed to the highest standards of business ethics.

In order to maintain our commitment to integrity, we have established a Code of Ethical Conduct and Corporate Compliance Program. The Code of Ethical Conduct is intended to identify the standard our employees are expected to follow whenever conducting business at this company and the Corporate Compliance Program is intended to ensure that all employees are abiding by the Code. As an employee, you are expected to read both the Code and the Program and certify annually your commitment to complying fully with them.

To administer this Program, I have appointed Roseanne Mullis as the corporate compliance officer. Among other things, she will be responsible for implementing appropriate procedures and policies, ensuring that each of you receive a copy of the Program, providing regular training on compliance with the Program, and ensuring effective and appropriate enforcement of the Program. Roseanne Mullis reports directly to Bob Hamilton, Vice President of Finance and has my full support and attention. I expect our officers and managers will ensure that this Program and Mrs. Mullis receives full attention and full cooperation in the program's implementation. Also, even though I have appointed Mrs. Mullis, corporate compliance officer, please know that I maintain an open door policy for any employee who has concerns regarding Company or employee practices.

I cannot stress strongly enough that E Light Electric Services does not, and will not, tolerate any form of unlawful or unethical behavior by any person or entity associated with it. At the very least, E Light Electric Services requires that each of its employees conducts himself or herself in accordance with the laws and regulations that apply to our business and not condone criminal or unethical behavior by others. Each of you is expected to alert Mrs. Mullis of any information you may have of any unlawful or unethical behavior by any of our employees, prime contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, or customers. Violation of this program, including failure to report a violation or other unlawful or unethical behavior, can be grounds for discipline, including termination.

Our continued success depends on all of us doing the right thing at all times and maintaining the highest ethical standards. Only in this way, can we continue to earn the trust and confidence of our customers and the community in which we live.

Sincerely,

Perry Herrmann  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
E Light Electric Services



## **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

It is E Light Electric Services' policy to maintain the highest ethical standards and comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. We believe that adherence to this policy will ensure our continued success as well as earn and maintain the confidence of our customers and the community in which we live. In order to ensure E Light Electric Services operates pursuant to this policy, we have established this Code of Ethical Conduct. The following general rules apply to the implementation of this Code of Ethical Conduct:

All employees must adhere to this Code of Conduct. Any officer, director, or employee violating this Code is subject to discipline, which may include demotion or dismissal.

All employees have a duty to report all suspected violations of the Code or other potentially unethical behavior by anyone, including officers, directors, employees, agents, customers, subcontractors, suppliers, and prime contractors, to the Corporate Compliance Officer.

Employees in management positions are personally accountable for their own conduct and the conduct of those reporting to them. Each management employee is expected to inform those reporting to them about this Code of Conduct and take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with this Code.

No employee has the authority to direct, participate in, approve, or tolerate any violation of this Code by anyone.

Any employee who has questions about the application of this Code should consult with the designated Corporate Compliance Officer.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Code of Ethical Conduct**

The written statement of acceptable behavior by E Light Electric Services' officers, directors, and employees that ensures E Light Electric Services operates according to the highest ethical standards.

**Code**

The Code of Ethical Conduct.

**Corporate Compliance Officer**

The company official designated by the President to be responsible for implementing and administering the Code of Ethical Conduct. In the case where there is no Corporate Compliance Officer, or the Corporate Compliance Officer is not available, the Company President will be responsible for implementing and administering the Code of Ethical Conduct.

**Corporate Compliance Program**

The written procedures and policies used by E Light Electric Services that are designed to ensure that all officers, directors, and employees are aware of the Code of Ethical Conduct and adhere to its standards. The Corporate Compliance Program is implemented and administered by the Corporate Compliance Officer.

**Employee**

Any person employed by E Light Electric Services, including employees, foremen, managers, officers, directors, and persons authorized to act on behalf of the Company.

**Program**

Corporate Compliance Program.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT****Equal Employment and Nondiscrimination**

The continued success of our company is dependent upon employing the most qualified people and establishing a work environment that is free of discrimination, harassment, intimidation or coercion related to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation. This policy extends to all phases of employment, including hiring, placement, promotion, transfer, compensation, benefits, training and the use of facilities. E Light Electric Services is committed to complying with all applicable laws related to equal employment opportunities and to ensure that there is no unlawful discrimination by any officer, director, or employee. E Light Electric Services is committed to a work environment in which everyone is treated with respect, trust, honesty, fairness, and dignity.

**Environmental Compliance**

E Light Electric Services is committed to full compliance with all federal, state and local environmental laws, standards, and guidelines. Not only is environmental compliance legally necessary, but it is also an important component of our obligation to the community and our good reputation. It is essential that each employee involved with regulated air emissions, water discharges, hazardous materials, or other regulated pollutants know and comply with all applicable environmental laws and guidelines. No one at E Light Electric Services may participate in concealing an improper discharge, disposal, or storage of hazardous materials or other pollutants. Any person who has

reason to believe that there may have been violations of any aspect of E Light Electric Services' environmental compliance policy shall report immediately to the Company's environmental compliance officer or Corporate Compliance Officer. Moreover, in addition to compliance with all environmental laws and guidelines, E Light Electric Services is also committed to utilizing energy and materials in a manner that will minimize the impact on the environment when feasible. E Light Electric Services will also consider using recycled materials whenever feasible.

### **Safety & Health**

E Light Electric Services considers employee safety and health as one of the highest priorities. Many of the job activities, products, and materials handled by our employees require strict adherence to safety procedures, rules and regulations. Each employee must be aware of the Company's safety program that incorporates all of the applicable health and safety laws and guidelines and follow all applicable procedures. Also, supervisors are responsible for ensuring that all reasonable safeguards and precautions are taken in the workplace including ensuring compliance with the Company's procedures and guidelines, promoting safe work practices, and the use of personal protective equipment. If any employee has any safety related concerns, he or she should report these concerns to the Company's Director of Education and Loss Prevention.

### **Drugs and Alcohol**

E Light Electric Services is firmly committed to providing its employees with a safe and productive work environment to the extent possible and promoting high standards of employee health. Accordingly, E Light Electric Services expects all of its employees to report to work and be able to perform his or her duties productively and safely. Drug and alcohol abuse by employees is regarded as unsafe by creating an increased risk to the safety of themselves, their fellow employees, and the general public and contrary to the Company's interests in maximizing its productivity. Therefore, drug and alcohol abuse by an E Light Electric Services employee will not be tolerated and the company will take appropriate action to ensure compliance with this policy. Additionally, anyone caught using drugs or alcohol on construction or service projects will be subject to discipline, including termination.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

Employees must avoid situations in which their personal interests could conflict with, or even appear to conflict with, the interests of the Company. Conflicts of interest arise when an individual's position or responsibilities with the Company present an opportunity for personal gain of profit separate and apart from that individual's earnings from the Company or where the employee's interests are otherwise inconsistent with the interests of the Company. A conflict of interest may arise in any number of situations and it is impossible to describe each and every instance. As a general matter, if you think that any situation may be a potential conflict of interest, you should consult with the Corporate Compliance Officer. However, the following situations have a great potential for conflicts of interest:

## **Outside Employment**

As a matter of company policy, employees may pursue outside employment opportunities. However, such opportunities must not interfere with the employee's job responsibilities with the Company. Any outside employment that interferes with the employee's job responsibilities or conscientious performance of his or her duties are deemed to be a conflict of interest is not permitted. Likewise, an employee's participation in civic, charitable, or professional organizations or activities that interferes with the employee's job responsibilities or conscientious performance of his or her job is deemed to be an impermissible conflict of interest. Additionally, employees may not use company time or resources to further non-company business. Employees also may not use the Company's name to lend weight or prestige to an outside activity without prior approval from authorized management. Prior to engaging in any outside employment activity or participating in any civic, charitable, or professional organization or activity that may give rise to an actual or potential conflict of interest; the employee must consult with the Corporate Compliance Officer and obtain express written approval. In addition, the Company may take disciplinary action, including termination, against employees who engage in unlawful off-duty activities.

## **Personal Financial Interests**

Employees should avoid personal financial interests that might be in conflict with the interests of the Company. Such interests may include, but are not limited to, the following: obtaining a financial or other beneficial interest in a supplier, customer, or competitor of the Company; directly or indirectly having a personal financial interest in any business transaction that may be adverse to the Company; acquiring real estate or other property that the employee knows, or reasonably should know, that is of interest to the Company. Such personal financial interests include those interests of not only the individual employee, but also those of the employee's spouse, children, parents, grandparents, siblings and family in-law. If the employee knows, or reasonably should know, that a personal financial interest may be in conflict with the interests with the Company, the employee must first consult with the Corporate Compliance Officer and obtain express written approval.

## **Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy**

Bribery and corruption are not only against our Company values; they are illegal and can expose both the employee and the Company to fines and penalties, including imprisonment and reputational damage. Bribery is never permitted. We will not seek to influence others, either directly or indirectly, by offering, paying or receiving bribes or kickbacks, or by any other means that is considered unethical, illegal or harmful to our reputation for honesty and integrity. Employees and representatives of the Company are expected to decline any opportunity which would place our ethical principles and reputation at risk.

Employees and representatives should seek clarification on any questions or concerns regarding activities under consideration or the interpretation of any law. If you are offered a bribe from a person or entity doing business with or seeking to do business

with the Company, report it immediately to the Director of Education and Loss Prevention. Violations can be reported anonymously by calling: 1-866-536-5084. Our Whistleblower Policy protects employees who report concerns in good faith.

### **Government Personnel**

All forms of gifts and entertainment to or from government personnel (Federal, State, and local), including persons that may be acting for or on behalf of the government, are expressly prohibited. However, the Corporate Compliance Officer may authorize an exception where a familial or personal relationship exists outside of the employee's business relationship with the government employee.

### **Non-Governmental Personnel**

Receiving or accepting gifts or entertainment in the business context is a particularly sensitive area and can be inappropriate, or even illegal, depending on the circumstances. For this reason, it is important that all employees be extra sensitive when it comes to giving or receiving gifts and entertainment from non-governmental personnel (as stated above, the giving or receiving of gifts from government personnel is prohibited). Therefore, regardless of the circumstances, the following rules apply:

The Corporate Compliance Officer must approve the giving or receiving of all forms of gifts and entertainment that are in excess of a value of \$500.00.

Money, in any form, is never given, offered, solicited, or accepted.

No gift or entertainment may be given or received if it is, or could reasonably be construed to be, intended to influence an employee's behavior.

No employee may encourage or solicit gifts or entertainment of any kind from any individual or entity with whom the Company conducts business.

The Corporate Compliance Officer may authorize the expenditure of a non-monetary gift or entertainment with a value equal to or less than \$500 in the aggregate for any calendar year to an individual or entity with whom the Company conducts business only if it is for a legitimate and identifiable business purpose.

Employees may receive a non-monetary gift or entertainment from an individual or entity with whom the Company conducts business with a value equal to or less than \$500 in the aggregate for any calendar year, provided that such gifts or entertainment are reported to and approved by the Corporate Compliance Officer and is for a legitimate and identifiable business purpose.

The Corporate Compliance Officer may authorize an exception where a familial or personal relationship exists outside of the employee's business relationship with the non-governmental employee.



## COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

All employees are expected to be familiar with, and conform to, the Company's document retention procedures specific to each department. Contact your department head for details concerning document retention procedures. Additionally, all Company and employee communications, correspondence, and records must be accurate, complete, and timely. The contents of any written communication must be legible and unambiguous. If, after making any communication, correspondence, or record, the employee discovers that s/he has made a mistake, then the employee must take all steps as may be reasonably necessary to correct such mistake. Any employee who knowingly makes a false or misleading communication, correspondence, or record will be terminated.

## ANTITRUST POLICY

E Light Electric Services is fully committed to compliance with the antitrust laws, which are designed to promote free and open competition in the marketplace. Not only does the customer benefit by getting the best product at the lowest price, but the Company also benefits by being able to compete on a fair level playing field with competitors. The antitrust laws are complex and must be complied with strictly. Routine business decisions involving prices, terms and conditions of sale, dealings with competitors, and many other matters, present problems of great sensitivity. It is therefore essential that every employee be generally aware of the antitrust laws and that all employees that are actively involved in the bidding process consider the antitrust laws as part of their decision making process. Below is a general overview of the antitrust laws: The Sherman Act is the primary federal antitrust statute. The Sherman Act prohibits any agreement among competitors to fix prices, rig bids, or engage in other anticompetitive activity. Violation of the Sherman Act is a felony punishable by a fine of up to \$10 million for corporations, and a fine of up to \$350,000 or 3 years imprisonment (or both) for individuals and may subject the Company and/or the individual to suspension or debarment. In addition, collusion among competitors may constitute violations of the mail or wire fraud statute, the false statements statute, or other federal felony statutes. In addition to receiving a criminal sentence, a corporation or individual convicted of a Sherman Act violation may be ordered to make restitution to the victims for all overcharges. Victims of bid-rigging and price-fixing conspiracies also may seek civil recovery of up to three times the amount of damages suffered. Most criminal antitrust prosecutions involve price fixing, bid rigging, or market division or allocation schemes. Under the law, price-fixing and bid-rigging schemes are per se violations of the Sherman Act. This means that where such a collusive scheme has been established, it cannot be justified under the law by arguments or evidence that, for example, the agreed-upon prices were reasonable, the agreement was necessary to prevent or eliminate price-cutting or ruinous competition, or the conspirators were merely trying to make sure that each got a fair share of the market.

**Price-Fixing:** Price-fixing is an agreement among competitors to raise, fix, or otherwise maintain the price at which their goods or services are sold. It is not necessary that the

competitors agree to charge exactly the same price, or that every competitor in a given industry join the conspiracy. Price-fixing can take many forms, and any agreement that restricts price competition violates the law. Other examples of price-fixing agreements include those to:

- Establish or adhere to price discounts;
- Hold prices firm;
- Eliminate or reduce discounts;
- Adopt a standard formula for computing prices;
- Maintain certain price differentials between different types, sizes, or quantities of products;
- Adhere to a minimum fee or price schedule;
- Fix credit terms; and
- Not advertise prices.

**Bid-Rigging:** Bid-rigging is the way that conspiring competitors effectively raise prices where purchasers - often federal, state, or local governments - acquire goods or services by soliciting competing bids. Essentially, competitors agree in advance who will submit the winning bid on a contract being let through the competitive bidding process. Bid-rigging also takes many forms, but bid-rigging conspiracies usually fall into one or more of the following categories:

**Bid Suppression:** In bid suppression schemes, one or more competitors who otherwise would be expected to bid, or who have previously bid, agree to refrain from bidding or withdraw a previously submitted bid so that the designated winning competitor's bid will be accepted.

**Complementary Bidding:** Complementary bidding (also known as "cover" or "courtesy" bidding) occurs when some competitors agree to submit bids that are either too high to be accepted or contain special terms that will not be acceptable to the buyer. Such bids are not intended to secure the buyer's acceptance, but are merely designed to give the appearance of genuine competitive bidding. Complementary bidding schemes are the most frequently occurring forms of bid rigging, and they defraud purchasers by creating the appearance of competition to conceal secretly inflated prices.

**Bid Rotation:** In bid rotation schemes, all conspirators submit bids but take turns being the low bidder. The terms of the rotation may vary; for example, competitors may take turns on contracts according to the size of the contract, allocating equal amounts to each conspirator or allocating volumes that correspond to the size of each conspirator company. A strict bid rotation pattern defies the law of chance and suggests collusion is taking place.

**Subcontracting:** Subcontracting arrangements can be part of a bid-rigging scheme. Competitors who agree not to bid or to submit a losing bid frequently receive subcontracts or supply contracts in exchange from the successful low bidder. In some schemes, a low bidder will agree to withdraw its bid in favor of the next low bidder in exchange for a lucrative subcontract that divides the illegally obtained higher price between them.

**Market Division:** Market division or allocation schemes are agreements in which competitors divide markets among themselves. In such schemes, competing firms allocate specific customers or types of customers, products, or territories among themselves. For example, one competitor will be allowed to sell to, or bid on contracts let by, certain customers or types of customers. In return, he or she will not sell to, or bid on contracts let by, customers allocated to the other competitors. In other schemes, competitors agree to sell only to customers in certain geographic areas and refuse to sell to, or quote intentionally high prices to, customers in geographic areas allocated to conspirator companies.

Compliance with the antitrust laws is a serious matter and, as explained above, violations could subject the Company substantial civil and criminal liability. Accordingly, any employee who violates antitrust laws may face disciplinary actions. Additionally, any employee who knows, or reasonably should know that an antitrust violation has been, or will be, committed and fails to report it to the Corporate Compliance Officer will be subject to discipline, which may include termination.

## **CLAIMS**

All requests or demands for payment made on behalf of E Light Electric Services pursuant to any contract or business agreement shall truthfully and accurately reflect the value of the goods or services provided. Under no circumstances may an employee make a false claim. Examples of false claims include billing extra time not spent working on a project, charging for materials not used in a project, or artificially inflating a claim in order to negotiate additional compensation from the customer. Any claims that are false, fraudulent or otherwise deceitful may subject the company, and/or the individual making the claim, to civil liability up to 3 times the amount false claim for payment, criminal liability punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment, a fine, and restitution, and administrative liability through suspension or debarment. Accordingly, any employee who knowingly makes false claims will be subject to discipline, which may include termination.

Additionally, any employee who knows, or reasonably should know, that another employee has submitted, or intends to submit, a false claim and fails to report it to the Corporate Compliance Officer, will be subject to discipline, which may include termination.

**Statements & Certifications:** All statements, representations, and certifications made on behalf of E Light Electric Services, whether written or oral, shall be accurate, truthful, and timely. Under no circumstances may an employee make a false or misleading statement, representation, or certification. Any statements that are false, fictitious, or fraudulent or contain materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or entries, may subject the Company, and/or the individual making the statement, to criminal liability punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment, a fine, and restitution, and administrative liability through suspension and debarment. In addition, if a false statement is used to

get a claim paid, then the Company and/or the individual may be subject to civil liability up to 3 times the amount claimed for payment.

## **COMMITMENT TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

E Light Electric Services is committed to full compliance with government sponsored opportunity programs, such as the disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) program, and maximizing the opportunities of DBEs. As such, E Light Electric Services will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the hiring of suppliers or subcontractors and will foster an environment in which everyone is treated with respect, trust, honesty, fairness, and dignity. For each government-funded contract, E Light Electric Services will make good faith efforts to maximize the participation of DBEs in subcontracts and ensure that each DBE is performing a commercially useful function. A DBE is deemed to be performing a commercially useful function if the DBE is responsible for executing the work and carrying out their responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work.

## **OBLIGATION TO REPORT VIOLATIONS AND COOPERATION**

Each employee must promptly report any known or suspected violation of this Code of Ethical Conduct and all other unlawful or unethical conduct to the Corporate Compliance Officer. Employees are obligated to report such known or suspected conduct without regard to the identity or position of the suspected offender. Any report made under this section will be strictly confidential and under no circumstances will any employee who makes a report be subject to any acts of retribution or retaliation or disciplinary action. Additionally, all employees must fully cooperate in any investigation of a suspected violation of this Code and fully cooperate with any request by the Corporate Compliance Monitor.

Any employee found to have violated this Code or engaged in other unlawful or unethical behavior shall be disciplined, including demotion or dismissal. Any employee who fails to report known or suspected violations of this Code or other unlawful or unethical behavior shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Any employee may report suspicions or concerns using our Employee Fraud Hotline. These calls may be made anonymously. The hotline number is 1-800-536-5084

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS**

Any violation of this Code is cause for disciplinary action that may result in any of the following consequences:

- Reprimand.
- Loss of compensation, seniority, or promotional opportunities.
- Reduction in pay.
- Demotion.

- Suspension with or without pay.
- Discharge.

## **CODE OF ETHICS ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

I acknowledge that I have received, reviewed and understand E Light Electric Services' Code of Business Ethics. I agree to strictly comply with the Code and understand that I will be subject to disciplinary action if I violate the Code.

**THIS COPY OF CODE OF ETHICS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS**