

Legal Opinion: GMP-0012

Index: 6.635  
Subject: Acceptance of Gift  
FOIA Exemption 6: Personal Identifiers Withheld

October 31, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM: Shelley A. Longmuir, Deputy General Counsel, GD

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Gift

You asked that I review whether you may accept two wall ornaments that were presented to you by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Parliament. In short, you may keep the gifts if their combined appraised value is less than \$200.

Officers and employees of the Government are prohibited from accepting gifts or gratuities from foreign governments, or representatives or subdivisions thereof without the consent of Congress. For items under \$200 in value, Congress has provided its consent.

Consequently, prior to accepting these gifts they should be commercially appraised by a qualified source. My staff has made arrangements with Ms. Marie Kissick, Director, Office of Administration and Management Services to have the items appraised. If the gifts appraise at less than \$200, you may keep them. If they appraise in excess of \$200 they must be reported to the General Services Administration (GSA). You may, however, purchase the gifts if they appraise in excess of \$200 by paying the appraised value and the cost of the appraisal.

I trust that this information is helpful. Please call me if you have further questions regarding this matter.