

**REPORT OF PAYMENTS ACCEPTED FROM NON-FEDERAL
SOURCES UNDER 31 U.S.C. § 1353
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

For Period Beginning October 1, 201__ and Ending March 31, 201__
For Period Beginning April 1, 201__ and Ending September 30, 201__

This report implements 31 U.S.C. § 1353. It does not supersede other reports that may have to be filed when travel or travel expenses are accepted under other authority. For definitions and policies, see 41 CFR Part 304-1.

1. Bureau/Office

2. For Report of this Event
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3. Event (*Identify meeting or similar function for which payment was accepted under 31 U.S.C. § 1353. Forms documenting payments of \$250 or more per employee and/or accompanying spouse must be sent to the Department Ethics Office.*)

4. Sponsor of the Event

5. Location of Event

6. Dates of Event

From: _____, 201__ To: _____, 201__

7. Nature of Event

8. Employee

Name: _____
Official Title: _____
Office: _____
Travel Dates: _____
From: _____ To _____

9. Accompanying Spouse (*If Applicable*)

Name: _____
Employee: _____
Government Position: _____
Travel Dates: _____
From: _____ To _____

10. Non-Federal Sources of Payment (*Identify all non-Federal sources from which payment was accepted under 31 U.S.C. § 1353 for this employee and/or accompanying spouse in connection with this event.*)

A. _____ C. _____

B. _____ D. _____

11. Nature of Payments (*Itemize on back of form.*)

12. Nature of Payments (*Indicate total amount of payments accepted under 31 U.S.C. § 1353 for this employee and/or accompanying spouse in connection with this event.*)

Total of Payments to Agency by Check \$ _____ Total of payments Provided in Kind \$ _____

13. Certification. The statements in this report are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Employee's Signature

Date

14. I have determined that this travel situation complies with the ethics conditions for acceptance of travel payments under 41 CFR 304-1.4.

Ethics Review (By Ethics Official)

Date

15. Approval.

Supervisor's (or Authorizing Official's) Signature

Title

Date

ACCEPTING OFFICIAL TRAVEL PAYMENTS FROM NON-FEDERAL SOURCES

As a rule, whenever you are on official travel for the Department of the Interior, DOI or another Federal agency should pay for your travel expenses. Sometimes, however, a private sector organization may express its generosity by offering to pay for all or part of the official travel expenses incurred by an employee. When this occurs, the statutory provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 1353 may be used to authorize the Department to accept the employee's travel related expenses. Regulations implementing this statute are contained in 41 C.F.R. § 304-1. In order to use the travel acceptance authority under 31 U.S.C. § 1353, certain conditions and procedures must be satisfied.

Conditions and Procedures for Acceptance of Travel Payments Under 31 U.S.C. § 1353

Federal regulations require that the travel authority under 31 U.S.C. § 1353 must be used, where appropriate, before any other travel acceptance authority is considered. An agency may accept payment for an employee and/or the employee's spouse's travel from a non-Federal source when the proper consideration is given to the conflict of interest criteria and a written authorization to accept payment is issued **in advance** of the travel event. Written authorization is accomplished by completing Form DI-2000. The Authorized Approving Official documents on this form that the non-Federal travel payment is:

- I. For travel relating to an employee's official duties (including attendance because the employee's presence at the meeting is necessary to permit participation in the meeting by another employee or because a spouse's presence at the meeting or similar function is in the interest of the agency) under an official travel authorization issued to the employee, and to an accompanying spouse when applicable;
- II. For attendance at a meeting or similar function relating to the official duties of the employee; and
- III. From a non-Federal source that is not disqualified on conflict of interest grounds.

NOTE: 31 U.S.C. § 1353 does not authorize payments to be accepted from a non-Federal source for a meeting or other event required to carry out an agency's statutory or regulatory functions. For example, a statutory or regulatory function essential to an agency's mission would include an investigation, inspection, audit, site visit or program evaluation.

In making this determination, the Authorized Approving Official shall be guided by all relevant considerations including, but not limited to:

- a. The identity of the non-Federal source;
- b. The purpose of the meeting or similar function;
- c. The identity of other expected participants;

- d. The nature and sensitivity of any matter pending at the agency affecting the interests of the non-Federal source;
- e. The significance of the employee's role in any such matter; and
- f. The monetary value and character of the travel benefits offered by the non-Federal source.

Authorized Approving Official

For purposes of this policy, the term "Authorized Approving Official" means that Department official who has been delegated the authority to approve the usual travel authorizations of the employee who will benefit from the non-Federal travel payment.

The following procedures must be satisfied before the employee begins travel:

1. Each employee (and/or the accompanying spouse) must have an approved travel authorization. Each travel authorization must contain a statement indicating that: a) all or part of the employee's travel expenses will be paid for by (name of the non-Federal source); b) the authority to accept the travel related payment is 31 U.S.C. § 1353; and c) the planned travel situation complies with the ethics conditions for acceptance under 41 C.F.R. § 304-1.
2. A form DI-2000 must also be completed and signed by the employee and approved by the Authorized Approving Official after receiving concurrence by a servicing ethics official.
3. Payment from a non-Federal source to cover the travel related expenses of an employee may be made in the form of a check or similar instrument made payable to the agency. Employees may also accept payments-in-kind (i.e. an airline ticket) on behalf of the Department and other payments when authorized to do so. Employees may not accept cash.

A copy of each completed Form DI-2000 must be filed with the Departmental Ethics Office or the bureau Deputy Ethics Counselor. These forms are collected by the Departmental Ethics Office and used as part of the required reports to the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

Any questions regarding the use of the non-Federal travel acceptance authority under 31 U.S.C. § 1353 should be addressed to your servicing ethics counselor of the Departmental Ethics Office.