

## **Code of Ethics of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals**

As board members of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals, we recognize the importance of codifying and making known to the profession and to the membership at large the ethical principles that guide the work of board members in the government meetings industry in providing information, services, and leadership to the society.

Ethical dilemmas occur when values are in conflict. The Code of Ethics of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals states the values to which we are committed, and embodies the ethical responsibilities of conduct as a national board member.

We significantly influence or control the selection, organization, preservation, and dissemination of information and leadership through the guidance of our national bylaws. In our organizational system grounded in government and professional ethics, we as board members are explicitly committed to carry out the abilities of our elected office to the best of our abilities. We have a special obligation as elected officials to guide the society in its present course and to ensure the free flow of information and ideas to foster the future growth of the Society to benefit its members.

The principles of this Code are expressed in broad statements to guide ethical decision-making. These statements provide a framework; they cannot and do not dictate conduct to cover particular situations.

- I. We provide the highest level of service to all members of the society through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all members.**
- II. We uphold the principles of our national by-laws, Rules of Conduct, Board Responsibilities and Code of Ethics.**
- III. We protect each members right to benefit from the society's mission statement with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted.**
- IV. We recognize and respect national and chapter rights.**
- V. We treat co-board members and other members with respect, fairness and good faith, and advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our society.**
- VI. We do not advance private interests at the expense of the society, our members, colleagues, or our employees.**
- VII. We distinguish between our personal convictions and professional duties and do not allow our personal beliefs to interfere with fair representation of the aims of our society.**
- VIII. We strive for excellence in the profession by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills, by encouraging the professional development of members, and by also fostering the aspirations of members of the society.**
- IX. We maintain the right to make decisions in the name of the society with reasonable care for its continued solvency and quest to advance its mission for the benefit of the majority members.**

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand The Society of Government Meeting Professionals Code of Ethics promise to uphold their principles in the execution of my duties as an elected officer.

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Signature

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Date