7F. **Gifts and Gratuities**

The County recognizes that it is valuable and appropriate for employees to become friendly with the public. There can however, be an appearance of impropriety in the giving and receiving gifts, no matter how innocently intended. Employees are therefore prohibited from requesting or accepting any favors, gratuities, gifts, prizes, awards, trips or special considerations in any way related to their work or position with the County that would constitute a violation of ORS 244.040, a section known as the Government Standards and Practices Laws, which prohibit the following:

1. Accepting something of more than an insignificant value as a personal gift,
2. Performing any official action in exchange for a favor, gift, award, or any other special consideration.
3. Personally, receiving something such as prizes or discounts if that benefit is available only because of the employee holding their public position.

Best Practice: When in doubt, do not accept the gift, or make sure the item remains the property of the County and not the employee personally.