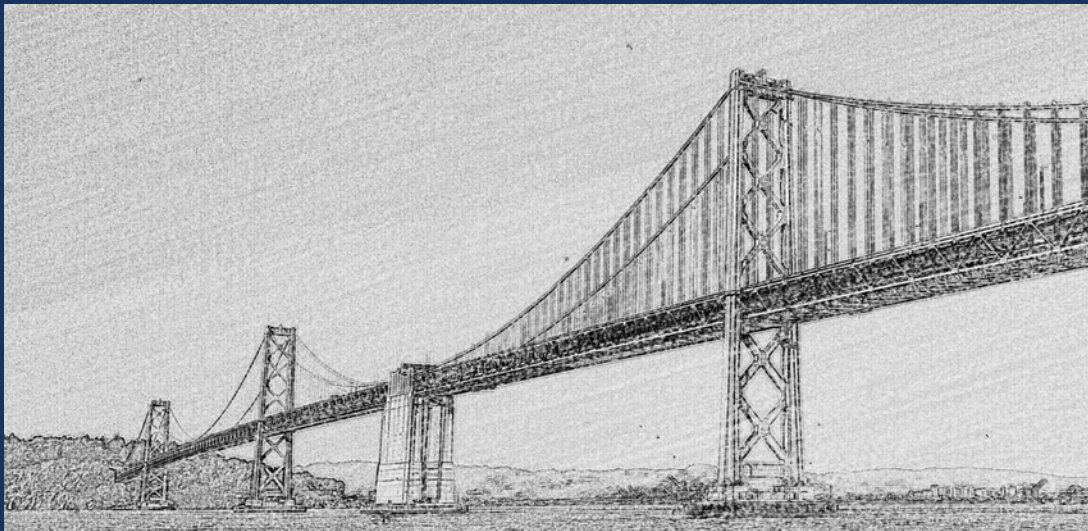


ETHICS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

A PRESENTATION TO THE
SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES



MARCH 30, 2017

LeeAnn Pelham, Executive Director
San Francisco Ethics Commission
sfethics.org

FIRST THINGS FIRST.

Ethics ~~Czar(in)~~-Free Zone

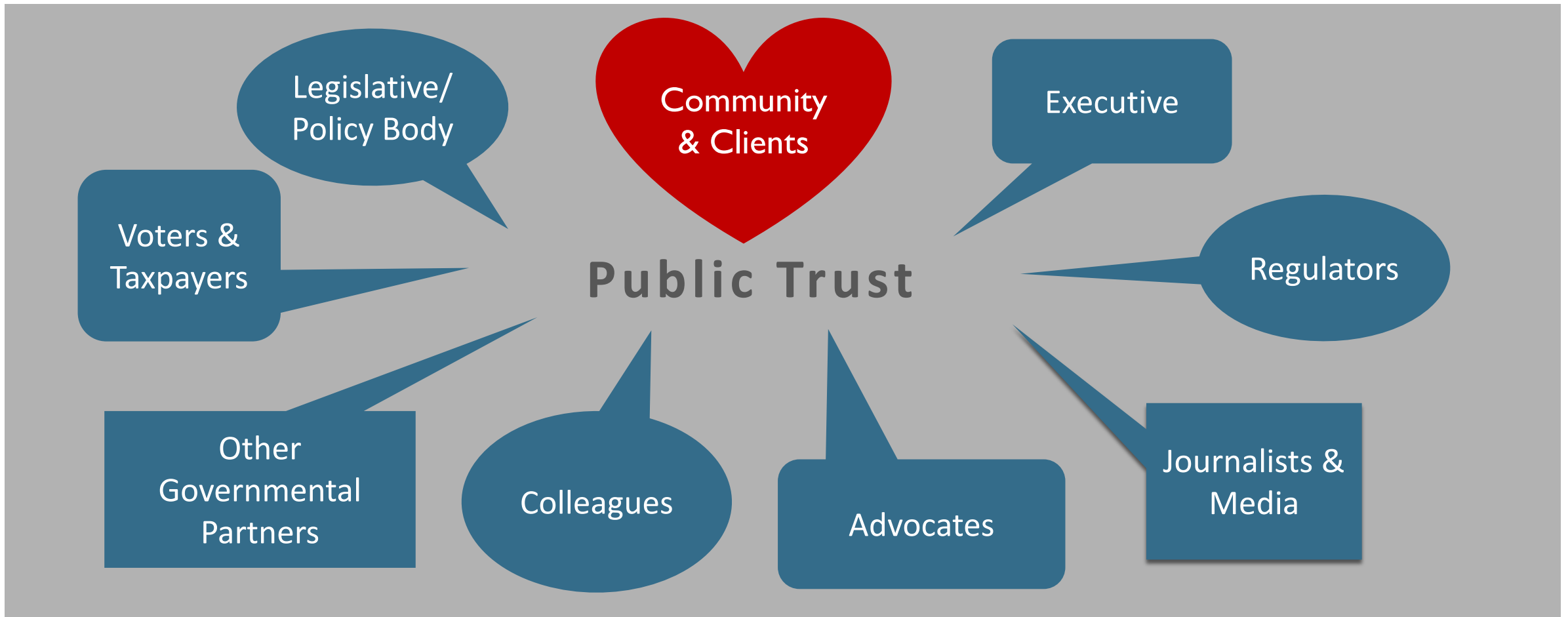
PUBLIC SERVICE ETHICS

AN ONGOING COMMITMENT

“Public office is a public trust
and all officers and employees
of the City and County
shall exercise their public duties
in a manner consistent with this trust.”

SF Charter Section 15.102

PUBLIC SERVICE LANDSCAPE



ETHICS



Standards of behavior
that tell us
what humans ought to do
in their personal and professional lives.

Markkula Center for Applied Ethics

GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS

“...is not interested in the notion of ‘being good,’
rather it is concerned
with decision-making conflicts
between public and private obligations.”

Orange County Grand Jury “Ethics in the County,” April 2013

Ethical dilemmas
are often described as
slippery slopes;



unseen

until one falls and is unable to regain sure footing.

<http://www.isaca.org/Journal/Past-Issues/2008/Volume-3/Pages/Auditor-Ethics-for-Continuous-Auditing-and-Continuous-MonitoringI.aspx>

SURE FOOTING: PRINCIPLED ACTION

STEWARDSHIP

TRANSPARENCY

ACCOUNTABILITY



“...independent, impartial, and responsible to the people ...” SFC&GCC Sec 3.200

STEWARDSHIP | TRANSPARENCY | ACCOUNTABILITY

Political Reform Act of 1974

Govt Code Sec.1090

SF Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code

Dept'l Statement of Incompatible Activities (SIA)



ACCOUNTABILITY

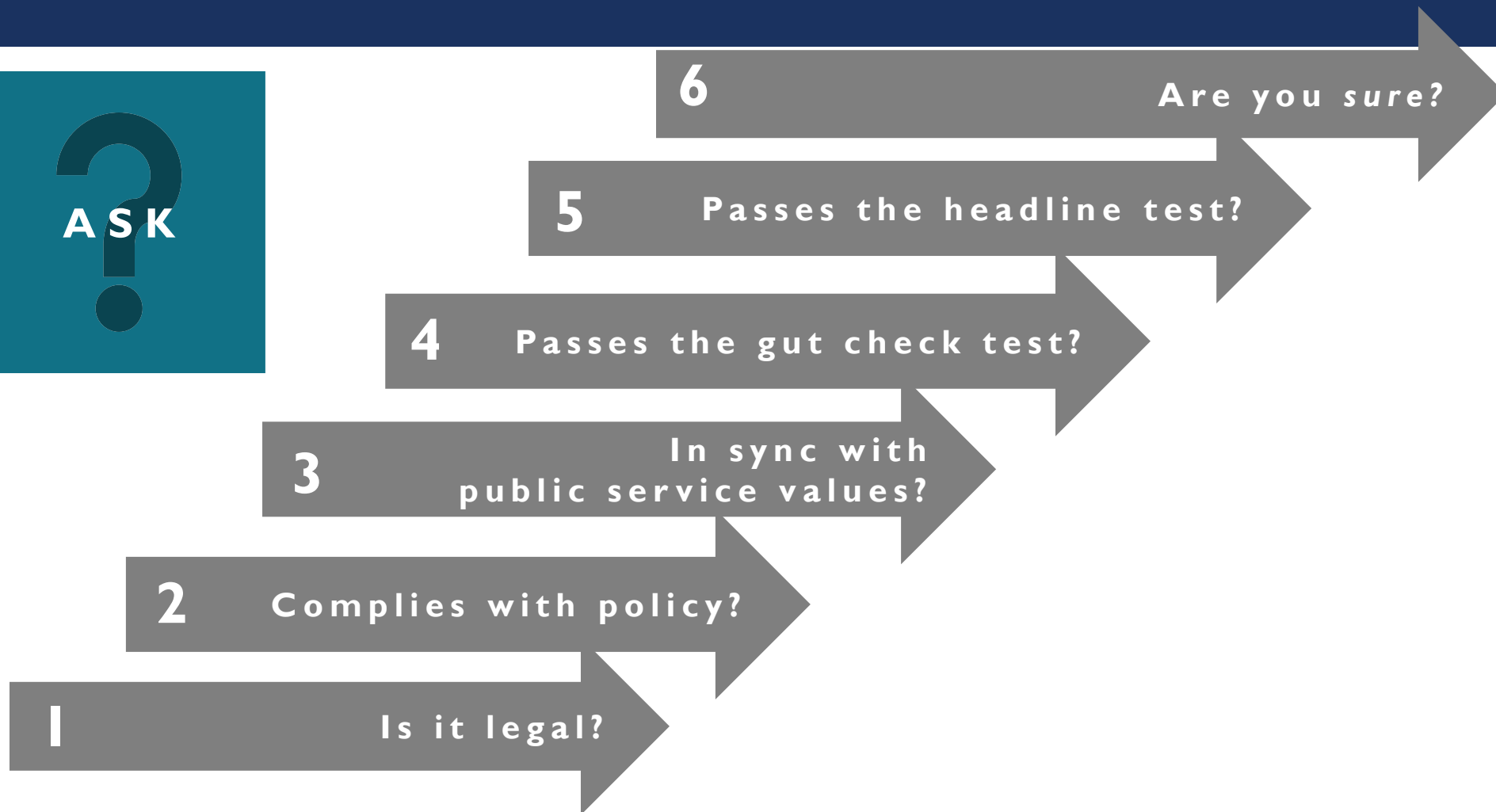


Engaging in the activities that are prohibited may subject an officer or employee to discipline

...up to and including possible termination of employment or removal from office, as well as to monetary fines and penalties.

SFC&GC Code § 3.242; Charter § 15.105

NAVIGATING THE GRAY



ETHICS COMMISSION

sfethics.org

advice

resources to increase awareness

compliance information and tools

public disclosure

policy role for strong, clear, workable laws

whistleblower retaliation protections

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Individually

- ✓ act with impartiality
- ✓ avoid conflicts of interests
 - ✓ be familiar with the laws
- ✓ comply with their letter *and* spirit
 - ✓ ask for guidance
 - ✓ report wrongdoing

Ethics Commission

- ✓ accessible public disclosures
- ✓ strong, workable, enforceable laws
 - ✓ practical compliance tools
 - ✓ clear and timely guidance
- ✓ confidential, fair & thorough inquiries
- ✓ Impartial, timely resolution of cases

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

“Vibrant democratic institutions depend upon the consent and support of the governed.

Public confidence is necessary for democratic institutions to be healthy and flourish.”



Stephen D. Potts, Former Director, U.S. Office of Government Ethics

“MOMENTS OF TRUTH”

“Decisions...will never be easy, precisely because they involve...difficult choices, balances, and the reconciliation of competing goals and values.

Ralph Heintzman, Canadian Public Service Management Agency

But they are moments of truth, in which the public good is defined and achieved - or not achieved - in specific, concrete circumstances.”



FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US

sfethics.org



We're here to assist!

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