

Ethics in Brief:

Frequently Asked Questions

about:

The Stop Trading on
Congressional Knowledge Act
(The “STOCK” Act)



On April 4, 2012, the President signed the Stock Act prohibiting Members of Congress from using nonpublic government information to profit from stock trades. *The law also imposes additional new requirements upon the Executive Branch.*

Frequently Asked Questions on the NEW Rules on Disclosure and Reporting:

Question: Will my OGE-278 Report be placed on the Department's website?

Answer: Yes. All OGE-278's submitted in 2012 are to be placed on the website on August 31, 2012. However, the new law does NOT require posting of OGE-278 reports submitted in prior years.

Question: I put personal information (such as my children's names) on my past year's OGE-278. Is it too late to redact that information?

Answer: This is not a problem. We in the Office of Ethics are ready to assist you, if you want to review your prior year's reports.

Question: For the new 30-day Transactions reporting requirement, what transactions are covered?

Answer: Effective on July 3, 2012, all transactions over \$1,000 of stocks, bonds, commodity futures and options are covered. But, this does not include sales of actual commodities (such as corn or wheat).

Questions: Call Office of Ethics (202) 720-2251 or DAEO.ethics@dm.usda.gov