



## INDIVIDUAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

An individual may not serve as a Volunteer Advocate in the NJ Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman when the following conditions exist:

- ✚ A person or a member of the person's immediate family\* has
  - (i) Direct involvement in the licensing or certification of a long-term care facility;
  - (ii) Ownership, operational, or investment interest (represented by equity, debt, or other financial relationship) in an existing or proposed long-term care facility;
  - (iii) Employment of an individual by, or participation in the management of, a long-term care facility in the service area or by the owner or operator of any long-term care facility in the service area;
  - (iv) Receipt of, or right to receive, directly or indirectly, remuneration (in cash or in kind) under a compensation arrangement with an owner or operator of a long-term care facility;
  - (v) Accepting gifts or gratuities of significant value from a long-term care facility or its management, a resident or a resident representative of a long-term care facility in which the Ombudsman or representative of the Office provides services (except where there is a personal relationship with a resident or resident representative which is separate from the individual's role as Ombudsman or representative of the Office);
  - (vi) Accepting money or any other consideration from anyone other than the Office, or an entity approved by the Ombudsman, for the performance of an act in the regular course of the duties of the Ombudsman or the representatives of the Office without Ombudsman approval;
  - (vii) Serving as guardian, conservator or in another fiduciary or surrogate decision-making capacity for a resident of a long-term care facility in which the Ombudsman or representative of the Office provides services;
  - (viii) Serving residents of a facility in which an immediate family member resides.

*\*Immediate family*, means a member of the household or relative with whom there is a close personal or significant financial relationship.

- ✚ A person has been terminated from employment by a long-term care facility within the last five years.
  
- ✚ A person has been convicted of a crime or other offense which has not been expunged by the Court, either in New Jersey or in any other jurisdiction.

Applicants must be interviewed and successfully complete training and certification prior to placement as a long-term care facility. Volunteer Advocates will be required to attend regional quarterly meetings.