



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, DC

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SUBJECT: BRAC Ethics Guidance re Participation of Air Force Personnel in Non-Federal
BRAC Organizations

The SAF/GC and Designated Agency Ethics Official for the Air Force (AF), Mary Walker, released an important Ethics Guidance dated March 2, 2004, prohibiting AF member participation in groups organized to insulate a base from closure or realignment in BRAC 2005. Any unauthorized or questionable participation in such groups has the potential to undermine the fairness of the BRAC 2005 process and damage the integrity of the AF.

The attached opinion provides that AF personnel are prohibited from participation in, or support of, organizations whose purpose is to directly or indirectly insulate an installation from BRAC. AF personnel must avoid activities that offer even the appearance of impropriety. Airmen and civilians should consult with their ethics officials for assistance to distinguish impermissible "BRAC-proofing" from permissible interaction with military-civic organizations.

Nothing less than a heightened awareness of and scrupulous adherence to JER standards and BRAC guidance documents will be accepted by the Air Force. Public service is a public trust, and all Airmen, civilians and contractor personnel have the duty to place law and ethical principals above private interests and gain. Please ensure the prompt and maximum distribution of this policy and attached legal opinion through command, legal, and public affairs channels. The impartiality of the BRAC process depends on a thorough understanding of the ethical considerations and compliance with the BRAC laws.

NELSON F. GIBBS
Assistant Secretary
(Installations, Environment & Logistics)

T. MICHAEL MOSELEY
General, USAF
Vice Chief of Staff

Attachment:
SAF/GC, Sep 2003 Legal Opinion