



Department of Justice – Policy Handbook

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Mission Statement

The Department of Justice shall defend the national legal interest, investigate and prosecute on behalf of the Federal Government, and manage FoI (Freedom of Information) requests, all while acting ethically and lawfully, upholding the principles of justice, integrity, and truth.

In pursuit thereof,

Employees of the Department of Justice, including the Attorney General, are required to remain unbiased and impartial, and to defend the Constitution and Laws of Redmont over the will of even the President.

(Partially adapted from the Constitution)

Guiding Principles

The Department of Justice shall follow these Guiding Principles, in order to uphold the above Mission Statement:

1. Impartiality – With respect to the unique circumstances of each case, prosecutors must exercise their discretion with fairness and always maintain impartiality whenever working on any case.
2. Justice – The fundamental principles of Redmontian Justice are outlined in the Constitution. These principles must be respected in every action taken by the Department.
3. Integrity – Each employee, and the Department of Justice as a whole, will uphold the Constitution and Laws of Redmont, even when no one is watching.
4. Truth – The Department of Justice shall seek the truth in every situation, so as to avoid falsely accusing citizens of wrongdoing.
5. Public Safety – The safety of Redmont's citizens are of the utmost importance to this department, and as such should always be a factor when making decisions. Assess the risks to both of these factors when deciding upon sentencing, plea agreements, charges, and act accordingly after doing so.
6. Transparency – Upon making a decision, you should be able to defend it, not only to department leadership but to the court it will be in or is in front of. Documenting what led you to your decision should always be done.

In pursuit thereof,

The following principles shall also be followed by Employees of the Department of Justice:

Charging Principles

1. Sufficient Evidence – No charges shall be filed without sufficient evidence to back up the claims. To ensure this, always consider the strength of the evidence in which you will be presenting, the credibility of any witness(es), and any other factors which might be relevant.
2. Charging – Upon evaluation of the crimes committed and the evidence supporting the accusations of the same, all well-supported accusations of a crime must be charged to the accused. No well-supported accusation shall be omitted from these official charges, and official charges may only be added if new evidence of a crime emerges or an overlooked charge becomes scrutinized.

Principles of Plea Negotiations

1. Balanced Interests – When conducting negotiations for a plea agreement, there are several factors for the prosecutor to keep in mind. Consider the fairness and interests of both the defendant and victim, but as well as the public as a whole. Plea agreements must be fair and just.
2. Victim Input – Where reasonable, Prosecutors should meet with the victim(s) of a crime before entering into plea negotiations and/or agreements. Victims' input and their wishes should always be considered when offering a plea, although ultimately the decision on how to move forward lies with the Department of Justice.

Prosecutorial Principles

1. Fair and Impartial Prosecution – Prosecutors must seek only justice when handling a case, never personal or business interests. As a prosecutor, you are committed to the preservation of the fundamental principles of Redmontian Justice.
2. Honesty – Prosecutors must be forthcoming and honest at all times when dealing with a court of law, parties involved in a case, and the general public.
3. Evidence Preservation – As a prosecutor it is your duty to ensure the disclosure, as well as the preservation, of any favorable evidence to the defendant in a case, as well as providing any evidence to the court which may undermine the credibility of witness(es) testimony in the case. This is to ensure there is never a question on the integrity of the case the department has put before the court, or the witness(es) the prosecution has put forth.

Investigatorial Principles

1. Fair and Impartial Investigation – Investigators must seek only justice when investigating, never personal or business interests. As an investigator, you are committed to the preservation of the fundamental principles of Redmontian Justice.
2. Integrous Investigation – Investigations must focus solely on the purpose of the investigation, never going outside the confines of the law nor disregarding the rights of any citizen.
3. Exculpatory and Incriminating Evidence – Investigators must supply all evidence, whether incriminating or exculpatory, to the Department of Justice throughout each investigation. The Department of Justice is not here to file as many prosecutions as possible, but to uphold justice itself.

Handling Conflicts of Interest

1. Avoiding Conflicts – Any actual or apparent conflicts of interests should be avoided by you as an employee of the Department of Justice. It is your duty to report any potential conflicts of interest to department leadership to further assess. You should never engage in behavior that could appear to compromise the professional integrity which is required of you in this position.
2. Recusal – Prosecutors **must** immediately express interest to department leadership to recuse themselves from any prosecution or investigation which may have personal or professional conflicts that may impact their impartiality. Failure to do so could result in forced recusal or disciplinary action, up to and potentially including termination of employment from the department.
3. Employment Disclosure – Employees shall disclose their employer and any affiliations to department leadership throughout their tenure within the Department of Justice. This disclosure is essential to maintaining transparency and preventing any potential conflicts of interest that may arise in the course of their duties.

Defendant Rights

1. Respect for Rights – The Department of Justice must always respect the defendant's legal and constitutional rights. Any moment a defendant chooses to express their rights granted to them under the Constitution, this will not be used against them, either as an admission of guilt or otherwise.
2. Innocent Until Proven Guilty – Any defendant is afforded the right to be presumed as innocent until proven guilty, and as such, you must recognize and respect this as well. Refraining from public comments and statements relating to your case is encouraged, as it may impact the integrity of the case you are over.

Witnesses & Evidence

1. Truthfulness – Prosecutors must ensure that testimony given by the Commonwealth's witnesses are truthful and accurate. If you knowingly allow a witness to lie on the stand (or reasonably should have known this would happen), or potentially mislead the court, that is strictly forbidden and subject to immediate termination.
2. Evidence Confidentiality – Evidence must be stored properly and safely, and must never be leaked to the public prior to being released by the Attorney General or being used in Open Court. Failure to follow this principle will result in disciplinary action, up to and potentially including termination of employment from the department.

Victims of Crimes

1. Respect – While the primary purpose of the Department of Justice is to defend the national legal interest, you are mandated to treat victims of a crime with compassion and respect. Victims are to be informed about trial progressions, and should generally also be offered a chance for their testimony to be heard.

Confidentiality

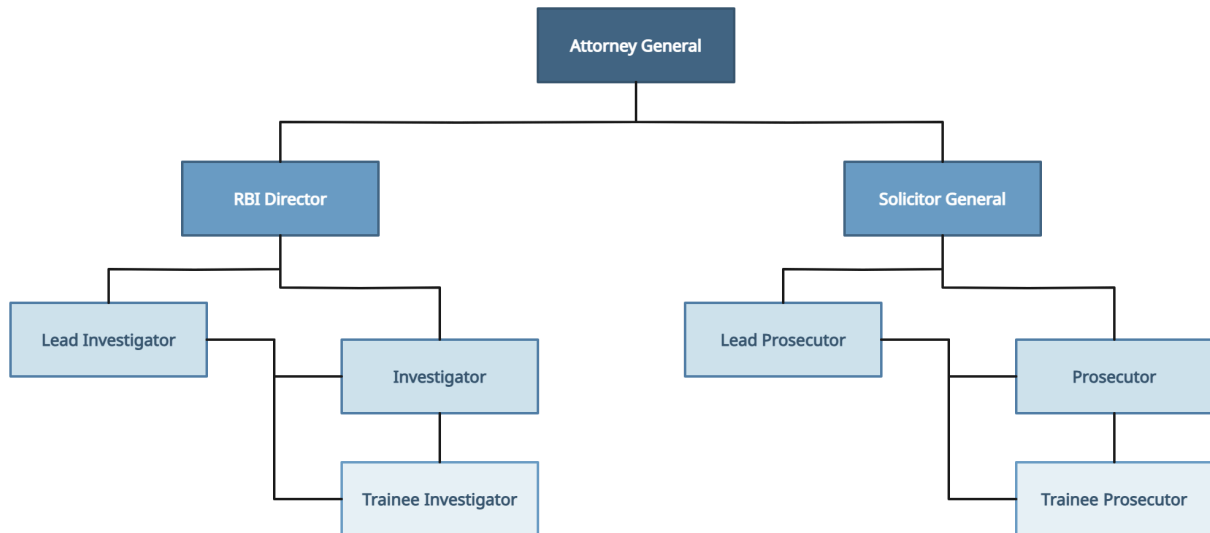
1. Confidential Communication – All communication regarding ongoing and future investigations and cases are classified, and should only be accessed by employees of the Department of Justice throughout the course of their duties. Leaking confidential communication is a crime in most circumstances, and you may be prosecuted for doing so. Furthermore, leaking confidential communication will result in disciplinary action, up to and potential including termination of employment from the department.

Sentencing Principles

1. Public Safety – The safety of this community is of utmost importance to this department, and as such should be of utmost importance when involved in an assignment. As such, you are to determine the safety risk, and act accordingly.
2. Sentencing Recommendations – Sentencing decisions should be made without regard to player status, playtime, or any other irrelevant factors at play. A prosecutor should determine sentencing based upon the seriousness of the event in front of them, as well as past offenses which may have relation to it.
3. Case by Case Justice – Sentencing recommendations to the court should include the unique circumstances of each case, as well as the defendant's criminal history. Before any prosecution may be filed, the lead prosecutor must have access to the defendant(s) criminal record, should there be one.
4. Considerations – The Department Justice adheres to all sentencing guidelines laid out under law, meaning the minimums and maximums for each charge. Given Prosecutorial Discretion, the prosecutor at hand may decide on the severity of sentencing, however any malice in this decision made by an individual will quickly be reprimanded by department leadership.

Department of Justice Structure

Department of Justice Hierarchy



The Attorney General

The Attorney General is the head of the Department of Justice, and as such, has the following responsibilities:

1. Legal Representation – The Attorney General serves as the Chief Legal Officer of the Commonwealth of Redmont, representing its interests in legal matters. This includes providing legal advice to government agencies, officials, and departments.
2. Prosecution and Investigation – The Attorney General oversees, and in some cases contributes to, all lawsuits in which the Commonwealth of Redmont is a party, and may direct investigations into matters of public concern or criminal activity. This involves working closely with law enforcement agencies to ensure that justice is served and laws are upheld.
3. Defense of the National Legal Interest – The Attorney General is responsible for defending the Commonwealth of Redmont in legal disputes.
4. Civil Litigation – In addition to criminal matters, the Attorney General may handle civil litigation on behalf of the Commonwealth, such as lawsuits involving Department agencies, regulatory compliance, and Constitutional issues.
5. Legal Policy and Advocacy – The Attorney General may influence legal policy. They may also provide guidance on legal interpretations and proposed legislation.
6. Management – As the head of the state's justice department, the Attorney General manages legal resources, including attorneys, staff, and budgets, to effectively carry out the responsibilities of the office.
7. Delegation – Many of the Attorney General's responsibilities may be delegated to other employees of the Department of Justice. It is the Attorney General's responsibility to ensure all employees are treated fairly and have the opportunity to assist the Commonwealth through their work.

The Solicitor General

The Solicitor General is the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Justice, and as such, has the following responsibilities:

1. Coordination with the Attorney General – The Solicitor General works closely with the Attorney General in coordinating legal strategies, particularly in cases with significant legal implications.
2. Legal Policy Development – The Solicitor General may contribute to the development of legal policy, providing input on significant legal issues, proposed legislation, and regulatory matters by using appropriate means.
3. Legal Advisement – Similar to the Attorney General, the Solicitor General provides legal advice to the government.
4. Prosecution – The Solicitor General oversees, and in some cases contributes to, all lawsuits in which the Commonwealth of Redmont is a party.

5. Deputy Secretarial Responsibility – If the Attorney General becomes unable to fulfill their obligations due to resignation, removal, or order of the Attorney General, the Solicitor General shall take the responsibility of the Attorney General where allowed by law.

The RBI Director

The RBI Director is the head of the Redmont Bureau of Investigation, and as such, has the following responsibilities:

1. Coordination with the Attorney General – The RBI Director works closely with the Attorney General in coordinating investigatorial strategies.
2. Investigatorial Policy Development – The RBI Director may contribute to the development of investigation policy, providing input on significant legal issues, proposed legislation, and regulatory matters by using appropriate means.
3. Investigation – The RBI Director oversees, and in some cases contributes to, all investigations run by the Department.

The Department of Justice – Redmont Bureau of Investigation (all Investigators)

The Redmont Bureau of Investigation assists the RBI Director to investigate crimes and potential crimes, and as such, has the following responsibilities:

1. Criminal Investigations – At the direction of the AG or RBI Director, the Redmont Bureau of Investigation is tasked with conducting investigations into various criminal activities identifying infractions against the Commonwealth of Redmont and determining whether or not those infractions were of a criminal nature and deserve to be prosecuted for.
2. Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies – At the direction of the AG or RBI Director, the RBI collaborates with the executive cabinet to coordinate investigations, gather intelligence and evidence, and pool resources to identify prosecutable crime effectively.
3. Interviews and Interrogations – At the direction of the AG or RBI Director, RBI agents conduct interviews and interrogations of suspects, witnesses, and persons of interest to gather information, elicit confessions, and corroborate evidence. Skilled interrogation techniques, including rapport-building, cognitive interviewing, and behavioral analysis may be used to extract valuable intelligence and evidence.
4. Evidence – At the direction of the AG or RBI Director, the RBI utilizes evidence gathering techniques, including physical surveillance and evidence organization, to track and interrogate suspects and gather evidence.
5. Authority – At the direction of the AG or RBI Director, the RBI receives its authority through the executive branch and the Constitution which gives the Department of Justice the broad power to investigate. The RBI is established to provide support to the DHS when needed, detain criminals for DoJ related cases for interrogation, and arrest criminals. While the RBI is primarily an investigation force its investigation authority comes with the right to defend the Commonwealth.

The Department of Justice – Prosecutorial Division (all Prosecutors)

The Prosecutorial Division of the Department of Justice represents the Commonwealth in court, and as such, has the following responsibilities:

1. Legal Representation – At the direction of the AG or SG, representing the Commonwealth's interests in legal matters.
2. Prosecution – At the direction of the AG or SG, representing the Commonwealth in court.
3. Defense of the National Legal Interest – At the direction of the AG or SG, defending the Commonwealth of Redmont in legal disputes.
4. Civil Litigation – In addition to criminal matters, at the direction of the AG or SG, Prosecutors may handle civil litigation on behalf of the Commonwealth, such as lawsuits involving Department agencies, regulatory compliance, and Constitutional issues.

Accountability and Reevaluation

This policy shall be subjected to periodic review and, if necessary, updates. In an effort to ensure this department's ability to carry out justice to the best of its ability, this policy aims to implement further accountability within it, and that decisions made by the department and the employees working within it remain consistent with these principles.