

Handout #1 - “The Conference” Case Study

You and a colleague are attending a professional conference and notice one of your competitors is hosting a private seminar. There is a large sign in front of the conference door that says “Private Educational Session: XYZ Company Employees Only.”

You observe a large crowd of people entering the room. Many of them do not have their conference badges on. Your colleague suggests you both remove your badges and go to the seminar. “No one is checking badges here. Let’s go in. You never know what we might learn!” he tells you as he removes his badge.

1. Analyze the situation. What is going on in this example?
2. Consider the consequences. What is at stake? What are the potential consequences for you if you follow your colleague’s recommendation? What about consequences for the organization?
3. Take appropriate action. Based on our organization’s Code of Conduct and ethics and compliance programs, what action(s) should you take to address the situation?