

Fashion & Apparel Confabs - When is a Favor a Felony? The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and Commercial Bribery Law under New York and California Law

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, New York Office
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Please join us for our upcoming *Fashion & Apparel Confab-ulous* Networking Event on March 11, 2008 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Our *Confabs* are informal networking events where you can "meet and greet" your peers in the industry followed by a short "hot topic" presentation by various industry experts.

Location:

Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, Suite 2400 New York, New York 10012

Agenda:

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Networking, Networking, Networking – Hors d'oeuvres and drinks

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **When is a Favor a Felony? The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and Commercial Bribery Law under New York and California Law.**

Once regarded as the "cost of doing business," the act of "greasing the palm" or giving money or gifts to someone to get favored treatment or something done may result in criminal liability under federal or state law. The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) is a federal law that prohibits individuals and businesses from bribing foreign government officials. New York and California commercial bribery law criminalizes the giving or receiving (or offering or soliciting) of "any benefit" without the consent of the receiver's employer, with the intent of influencing the receiver's business conduct.

If your company is doing business in New York, California or abroad, you should carefully examine whether you have effective policies and procedures in place to manage risks under these anti-bribery statutes. Careless behavior and allegations of bribery can subject your company to the risk of a law enforcement investigation, a public relations nightmare, and the potentially high cost of an internal and law enforcement investigation and possible prosecution in multiple jurisdictions under the FCPA and Commercial Bribery laws.