Ethics 3 Answers

Scenario 1. You cannot simply delegate the decision-making to your assistant because you exercise authority over your assistant. Asking your spouse to withdraw the bid would immediately resolve the ethics problem because by virtue of your marital relationship, you have a beneficial interest in the contract. Participating in the award of the contract would be an ethical violation. The ethics problem may also be resolved by disclosing the relationship and declining participation in the contract. Your supervisor could act as an independent and impartial decision-maker on the contract.

Scenario 2. The employee has an outside interest in a transaction involving the state. He should disclose this interest and refrain from participating on the review panel.

Scenario 3. Pat needs to tell his supervisor immediately and be removed from regulating his spouse's payroll and payments.