



Automobile Dealers Association of Indiana, Inc.

REGULATORY BULLETIN

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BULLETIN #17

GRATUITIES NOT WELCOMED BY STATE

The swiftly approaching holiday season and recent developments in the Bureau of Motor Vehicles have prompted this bulletin.

Many dealers like to express their appreciation to license branch and Bureau of Motor Vehicle Title and Dealer Division employees by sending flowers, candy, pizzas, gift certificates, and the like. They will often send these items to a whole department thinking this is more acceptable than sending it to one individual. And, in the past, it was. However, "things change" and different interpretations are handed down.

BMV employees have recently been reminded in Ethics Training that:

State employees are not allowed to accept gratuities from individuals or companies they regulate or serve ...

UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES OR IN ANY MANNER !
(i.e. food, flowers, gift certificates, etc.).

Violation of this ethics rule can result in disciplinary actions up to and including termination.

Therefore, if you wish to honor or recognize an employee of the BMV for 'going the extra mile' or exemplary customer service, you would better serve them by sending a letter to their respective license branch manager, department supervisor, or division director, and copying the Commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Just ask that "special" employee the name of their supervisor, manager, or director and their mailing address. The Commissioner's address is: Bureau of Motor Vehicles Commissioner, 100 North Senate Avenue, Indiana Government Center North Room N440, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

The letters you send will be put in the employee's personnel file as a positive reflection of their job performance and referenced for future job opportunities or upgrades.