



# Gifts and NFE Seminar

**Ethics Counselor Course**

May 2016



# Scenarios

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- **You just started your new position as the ethics counselor for your organization – congratulations!**
- **What do you advise concerning each of the following gift or non-Federal entity scenarios?**



# Scenario

**AmeriCom, a communications industry association and a prohibited source, sponsors a two-day industry-wide seminar. The registration fee is \$500 and AmeriCom expects approximately 500 people to attend. Using \$2,000 from Tel-AI, a Government contractor, AmeriCom extends free invitations to four employees from your agency selected by Tel-AI. The employees will be attending in their personal capacities (excused absence). Can the employees accept free attendance at the seminar?**





# Scenario

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- You are the ethics counselor at Marine Corps Air Station, Breezy Point, Virginia. Your facilities director, who is a former Eagle Scout, has been asked by the local Boy Scout Council to be one of seven voting members of the Council. The Council is the governing body for area Boy Scout organizations.
  - Past installation personnel have not been asked to serve on the council.
  - One of those organizations has a majority of members who are the dependents of installation personnel, but that is only one of four organizations.



# Scenario

- **The facilities director is very savvy (for an aviator), and seeks your advice before accepting. He wants to accept because it will increase his exposure in the community, facilitate community relations, and assist in the coordination with the Boy Scouts during their annual camp-out at the air station.**
- **Having just completed the Ethics Counselors Short Course, you remember that there are several options, which do you recommend?**





# Scenario

- **Now that you have provided your advice to the facilities director, the Boy Scouts have asked to use a campground located on the Air Station for its annual camporee.**
  - **By regulation, only the installation commander may approve such requests from non-Federal entities.**
  - **The facilities director calls you to ask if he can forward the request with his recommendation.**



➤ **See any problems?**



# Scenario

**Jim, a civilian employee with your agency, has done some innovative work in rubber technology. The National Rubber Foundation (Foundation), an NFE that does business with your agency, has selected Jim to receive the Foundation's prestigious "Gumby" award. Jim does not deal with the Foundation as part of his official duties. Presented annually, this award includes a \$1,500 cash prize. The award will be presented to Jim during the awards luncheon at the Foundation's Convention in Las Vegas. The Foundation has invited Jim and his wife to attend the award luncheon and offered to pay their airfare and hotel expenses valued at \$1,200.**





# Scenario

**A telephone company work crew was installing some underground wiring at Naval Air Station (NAS) Paradise when they inadvertently struck a gas line causing an explosion in the barracks, injuring five occupants. The barracks building was severely damaged and had to be demolished.**





# Scenario

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- **In addition to the injuries and damage to the barracks, the occupants lost many personal items. Following the incident, there was an outpouring of support from the local community. The Commander has been advised of the following potential gifts.**
  - **A wealthy local businessman, who is a Navy contractor, has offered to make a monetary contribution sufficient to cover the expense of rebuilding the barracks.**
  - **The Chief of Naval Operations of the German Navy, who happened to be visiting NAS Paradise at the time, wanted to help out and has offered to give each of the barracks occupants a new Blu-Ray player. The Blu-Ray players are manufactured in Germany and cost \$360 each.**



# Scenario

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- **A local clothing store, that is not a prohibited source, has offered each occupant of the barracks a gift certificate worth \$150 dollars to help defray the cost of replacing clothing that was lost in the explosion.**
- **To show their appreciation for the military, a local restaurant has offered all military personnel a 10% discount on meals for the month of July.**



# Scenario

- Finally, the City of Paradise plans to honor the injured sailors at a 4<sup>th</sup> of July ceremony at which they will be named Paradise Citizens of the Year. At the ceremony, each sailor will be given a plaque. Food and drink will be served immediately after the ceremony.





# Scenario

- **The nearest NASCAR race track contacted your base commander with a really great idea. They want to have a "Salute the Military Day."**
  - **As part of the pre-race festivities, they'd like a performance and playing of the National Anthem by one of the military bands and thought the Commander could help arrange that.**
  - **An aerial flyover by military aircraft would be a nice finish.**
  - **The fans just love to see a HALO jump by the Parachute Team.**
  - **The raceway would honor the military by having the Commander drive around the track in the pace car.**
- **But wait, there's more...**





# Scenario

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- They would invite 10 service members and their families to attend for free and would let the Commander introduce them to the audience. Those members could then form a cordon for the drivers to walk through en route to the track. Oh, and they will allow a recruiting van outside the grandstand.
- To execute this amount of support will require one travel day for the various units, 1-2 days of rehearsals, 1 day of actual performance, and 1 day to return.
- The Commander thinks it's a great idea because it will attract recruits, boost morale, and maintain public support.
- You're asked whether it's OK to provide the support and how can we make it happen. Where do you start?
- Of course, this is a totally hypothetical scenario ....



# Scenario



➤ **What's wrong with this picture?**