

January 19, 2001  
Re: IO-01-07

You inquired whether you may accept a door prize from Quest, a group affiliated with J.D. Edwards. You recently attended a J.D. Edwards Users Conference sponsored by J.D. Edwards and Quest, and at the conference, your name was selected to win a one-week trip to Florida. You said that about 200 people attended the conference.

I am enclosing for your information, advisory opinion 00-168, in which the ethics commission advised that county employees may not accept door prizes from controlled donors that exceed \$25 in value. J.D. Edwards is a controlled donor because it is an entity that is doing business with the county. Quest, referred to as "the independent J.D. Edwards users group", on the J.D. Edwards website (jdedwards.com), is presumably also doing business with the county, either through the contract with J.D. Edwards, or through its own contract. If this is the case, Quest is also a controlled donor. You have indicated that the purchasing office, and you in particular, are significantly involved in working with Quest and J.D. Edwards. Under these circumstances, the prohibition against receiving door prizes worth more than a nominal value would apply to prohibit your acceptance of the trip to Florida.

Thank you for your inquiry. If you have other questions, please call any time.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Dawson  
Executive Director

enclosure