

October 11, 2001
RE: IO-02-131

You inquired whether your office may keep a small television set that was given to one of your employees when the employee placed an order with an office supply company. The company has advertised in its catalogue that a television, worth \$69.99, will be given as a free gift to any first time purchaser buying a minimum of \$200 worth of equipment either on-line or through the catalogue. Your employee used the procurement card, so as the employee surmised, the television belongs to the county, not the employee. Since the television is a free gift to all first time purchasers and not just county employees, it is an acceptable gift. Your office may use the television as it chooses, and may award it as a prize if it chooses to do so.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Dawson
Executive Director