



## JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

Post Office Box 1629  
Charleston, West Virginia 25326-1629  
(304) 558-0169 • FAX (304) 558-0831

March 10, 2003

Re: JIC Advisory Opinion 2003-04

Dear

Your recent letter to the Judicial Investigation Commission requesting an advisory opinion has been reviewed by the Commission. In that correspondence you stated that you attended a recent event and that a door prize ticket was provided to everyone in attendance. At the conclusion of the meeting, approximately 16 tickets were randomly selected from the two to three hundred total number of tickets. A door prize was given to each of the 16 ticket holders drawn. The door prizes ranged in value from \$50 to \$500. You stated that your ticket was pulled and the door prize given to you was \$75 cash. You asked whether such prize must be treated as a gift as discussed in the Code of Judicial Conduct.

After reviewing your request and the relevant sections of Canon 4D(5) it is the opinion of the Commission that the door prize which you define in your letter does not fall within the scope of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

It is hoped that this opinion fully addresses the question which you have raised. If you have any further question regarding this matter do not hesitate to contact the Commission.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald H. Cookman", is written over a horizontal line.

Donald H. Cookman, Chairperson  
Judicial Investigation Commission

DHC:nb