

Date: December 10, 2004

In reply refer to: Advisory-1204

Subject: Advisory Regarding Intoxicating Beverages

To: All OCFO Employees

The following information is provided to assist you in making the appropriate ethical decision regarding intoxicating beverages as the traditional holiday season approaches.

The Department ' s regulations governing the use of intoxicating beverages is published in Personnel Bulletin No. 735-1, dated November 12, 1996. Section 735.201(d) of the Bulletin states that employees are prohibited from:

“Using an intoxicating beverage on Government-owned or leased property (except when authorized by the Office of Operations for the Washington, District of Columbia complex; or by the Agency Head or designee in field locations owned by the Department; or by the Agency Head or designee in field locations leased by the Department or controlled by the General Services Administration [GSA], upon concurrence by the lessor or the appropriate GSA official); Transporting or using an intoxicating beverage in a Government-owned or leased vehicle.”

This prohibition includes the infamous “jello pops,” and other food items where alcohol is substituted for water or other liquids.

Further information regarding USDA Employee Responsibilities and Conduct may be reviewed by clicking [here](#).

If you have questions or encounter situations not covered by this memorandum, please contact your supervisor. Supervisors with inquiries should contact the Agency Ethics Office at 504-426-0308 or 504-426-0344.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Agency Ethics Official. Thank you for your support. Goodbye.



LINDA J. SIMMONS  
Agency Ethics Advisor