**Discussion Topic 2**

topic 2 - Hardware service contracts and Audi car

**What would you do?**

You are in charge of awarding all computer hardware service contracts (valued at over $2 million per year) for your employer. In recent emails with the company’s current service contractor, you casually mentioned that you were looking to buy a new car and that you really liked the Audi automobile, but it was very expensive. You are surprised when the contractor texts you the name of the sales manager at a local Audi dealer and suggests you give him a call. The contractor says the owner of the dealership is a good friend and he will be able to give you a great deal on a new Audi. If your manager saw a copy of the texts exchanged with the contractor, could it appear that you were soliciting a bribe? Could this offer be considered a bribe? What would you do?

When formulating your answer consider the following steps of the ethical decision making process (available in tutorials notes)

**1. Develop a problem statement​**

* A clear, concise description of the issue​
* Don’t make assumptions; verify “facts”​

**2. Identify alternatives​**

* Enlist help of others​ to identify several alternative solutions to the problem

**3. Choose an alternative​**

* Defensible and consistent; consider impact on others​
* Weigh various laws, guidelines and principles that may apply.

Group Answer

**The problem:**

During the communication with the service contractor, the employee inadvertently mentioned to the contractor that he liked Audi cars. The contractor texted the employee that he knew the local Audi dealer and they were friends. If you contact the dealer, he will give you a great deal for Audi cars.

**Our possible actions:**

1. Using the working email address for personal use or sharing any personal information with coworkers through the working email address is risky if the manager found this activity. It is potentially illegal and is a breach of trust leading to dismissal. Accepting any personal offers from any contractor or any co-worker in the working email address will be considered as a bribe rather than considered as a friendly relationship.
2. Based on the question I will avoid sharing my personal information or issues with the Clients in the working emails as this supports integrity issues. >
3. Accepting the offer from a contractor can get a great deal and save money. But in future, the contractor may demand any large deal in return for his offer and maybe tell the manager about this offer if the person did not accept his demand.
4. If you were to accept the discounted Audi from the contractor, the contractor may demand reparations later because of the deal that you were given. The action would be to report the offered deal to your manager to ensure that you are not seen as accepting bribes.
5. If the manager caught the mails and gets that person has enjoyed his car by the offer provider by on the company’s customer service contractor, he will surely consider it as a bribe.
6. As for whether it will be regarded as asking for bribes, In a certain relationship, reasonable use of familiar people is a reasonable use of resources and can improve work efficiency.

**Our chosen action:**

The person would not accept this offer from the contractor with sorry and thanks. It is a breach of trust that he has used his official email address and done personal conversation with the company’s contractor and it may result in dismissal.

In the future, he would avoid sharing personal information with the contractor in the working email address.