

INFORMATION BULLETIN 2015-02

April 3, 2015

To: PRFs of Approved Dispensaries, Applicants, and other Concerned Parties

Subject: Clarification Charitable Gaming Activities: Raffles, Drawings, etc.

Many dispensaries conduct raffles, drawings, or other games to win prizes, and more are expected as we approach April 20. However, it has come to our attention that many raffles and drawings conducted by dispensaries fall under the category of "Charitable Gaming", which is regulated by the Department of Justice, Charitable Activities Section.

While you should thoroughly review statutes and administrative rules with the Department of Justice, here is some general information regarding such events:

- The **only organizations that may qualify** to conduct bingo, raffles, or Monte Carlo events in Oregon are those that are exempt from the payment of federal income taxes. This includes public agencies and public schools. Private organizations may also qualify if they are active, nonprofit organizations exempt from the payment of federal income taxes. In addition, an organization must have held tax exempt status for at least one year and been engaged in its charitable, fraternal, or religious purpose during that time. See ORS 464-270(1)(b)
 - **No dispensaries meet these qualifications.**
- Generally, all nonprofit organizations wishing to operate bingo, raffle and Monte Carlo events are required to have licenses issued by the Oregon Department of Justice. See OAR 137-025-0040

Source: <http://www.doj.state.or.us/charigroup/howtoraffle.shtml>

Again, before you hold raffles, which includes drawings, bingos, wheel-spins, etc., **contact the Charitable Activities Section of the DOJ:**

~~~ 971-673-1880 or [charitable.activities@doj.state.or.us](mailto:charitable.activities@doj.state.or.us) ~~~