

BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION SECTOR

MEMORANDUM NO. M-2015 - 024

To: ALL BANKS AND NON-BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Subject: Text scams using the name of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) officials to solicit money or prizes

It was brought to the attention of the BSP that there are solicitations addressed to BSP supervised financial institutions (BSFIs) or their officers being perpetrated by individuals purporting to be senior officers of the BSP. As part of the modus operandi, the scammer poses as a BSP official and, through text messages, invokes a "personal favor" from BSFIs or their officers to sponsor a cash prize for fictitious events (e.g., golf tournament, etc.) allegedly supported by the BSP official, or sponsored by the BSP.

In view of this latest text scam, please be advised that:

- The BSP strictly enforces its Code of Conduct which enjoins its personnel to act with integrity and utmost professionalism at all times. Consistent with the highest standards of ethics and conduct, the BSP implements a "No Gift Policy" whereby BSP personnel are prohibited from soliciting, accepting or receiving, directly or indirectly, any gift, favor or anything of value, from any person, bank, or institution which is registered, licensed, accredited, regulated or examined and supervised by the BSP, including from their officers and employees, or from any interested person, even on the occasion of family celebrations, local or national festivities, such as Christmas, or appreciation of any service rendered;
- The BSP urges caution when dealing with similar scams involving solicitation of money or anything of value using the name of the BSP or any of its senior officials. Such spurious messages should be disregarded; and
- All BSFIs are requested to inform the BSP if any of their officers receives such messages. Reports of similar incidents should be addressed to the Financial Consumer Protection Department, Supervision and Examination Sector, 5th Floor, Multi-Storey Building, BSP Complex, Malate, Manila or through any of the following: email – <u>consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph</u>, direct Line – (02) 7087087, or trunkline – (02) 7087701 local 2584.

For information and guidance.

Deputy Governo

27 May 2015