



Fatwa no. 7966

**Q: I work as a guard in a government agency. There is a contractor who brings four bottles of water to the agency every month, according to an agreement that was made with the agency for a specific price for each delivery. He asks me to write a report every month mentioning that these four bottles have been received, including the time**

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and date, to ensure that he receives the money due to him for the delivery. However, the agency does not use all this water and some months the contractor does not bring any water as we do not need it and other times he only delivers one bottle. However, he still requires a report from us acknowledging the receipt of the four bottles so he can get paid for them. I am afraid that I am being sinful by giving him this report, as it is considered to be a testimony. I am also afraid I might be helping him to take what is not Halal (lawful) for him, but he will never accept me giving him a report stating that less than four bottles were delivered a month. Some people are trying to convince me that this is the norm in many agencies and for other contractors in the same agency, but I am not comfortable about it. I am afraid I am cheating myself, my agency, and the contractor himself, who will accept nothing but this. Please, Your Eminence, give me a Fatwa (legal opinion issued by a qualified Muslim scholar) on this matter, so I can be well-informed. May Allah grant you long life!

**A:** It is not permissible for you to cheat. Your conscience will only be clear when you tell the truth about the number of bottles that are delivered every month. If you do not do so, you are cheating your agency and being sinful for cooperating with the contractor in sin, transgression, and taking undeserved money. Allah (may he be Glorified) says (what means): [﴿ Help you one another in Al-Birr and At-Taqwâ \(virtue, righteousness and piety\); but do not help one another in sin and transgression. And fear Allâh. Verily, Allâh is Severe in punishment. ﴾](#)

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The fact that many people cheat their companies does not furnish an excuse for you nor exonerate you from cheating yours.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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