

[DECS ORDER NO. 44, s. 1997, May 06, 1997]

ESTABLISHING A POLICY AGAINST UNAUTHORIZED SALARY DEDUCTIONS AND LENDING ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE DECS SYSTEM, AND PROVIDING GUIDELINES ON THE RELEASE OF THE CHEQUE/SALARY OF TEACHERS AND OTHER PERSONNEL

**1.0
Background**

This Office has observed the proliferation of unauthorized lending groups or persons involved in lending activities within the DECS system. Noted also is the collusion between and among some DECS personnel and lending groups, persons, DECS officials and other personnel involved in lending activities to facilitate the collection of the salaries/cheques of teachers and other personnel, in whole or in part, through unauthorized deduction or withholding schemes, evidently in satisfaction of obligations contracted with them. These activities have reduced some of our personnel to collection agents who are given certain percentage for the job, and denigrated the efficiency and morale of our teachers and other personnel, especially those in the field offices.

Time and again, this particular problem has cropped up and this Department has consistently addressed the problem and maintained its stand against these practices.

**2.0
Policy Statement**

In view thereof and in line with our commitment to stop graft and corrupt practices and to bring back the dignity of teachers, the Department establishes its policy against all forms of unauthorized salary deductions, withholding of checks and lending activities within the DECS system. It shall provide guidelines on the release of the cheques/salaries of teachers and other personnel as herein set forth.

**3.0
Prohibitions**

Henceforth, the Department promulgates the following prohibitions against its officials and other personnel, to wit;

- a. No lending activities in any form shall be allowed within the DECS system in all levels unless authorized by law or by the Secretary;
- b. No person shall make any deduction whatsoever from the salaries, cheques of teachers and other personnel except under specific authority of law authorizing such