



STATE OF INDIANA

Mike Braun, Governor

Kevin M. Garvey, Commissioner
Bureau of Motor Vehicles
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
888-692-6841

June 22, 2026

Office of Inspector General
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104
Indianapolis, IN 46202

FILED

JUL 09 2026

INDIANA STATE
ETHICS COMMISSION

Re: Ethics Waiver for Jeff Stokes

As the Appointing Authority of Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, I am filing this waiver of the application of the Code of Ethics' post-employment restriction as it applies to Jeffrey Stokes in his post-employment, uncompensated, motorcycle safety training with Kerstings Cycle Center, Riders First, and Dreyer MotorSports.

I understand that I must file and present this waiver to the State Ethics Commission at their next available meeting. I further understand that this waiver is not final until approved by the State Ethics Commission.

A. This waiver is provided pursuant to IC 4-2-6-11(g) and specifically waives the application of *(Please indicate the specific restriction in 42 IAC 1-5-14 (IC 4-2-6-11) you are waiving):*

- ☐ IC 4-2-6-11(b)(1): 365 day required "cooling off" period before serving as a lobbyist.
- ☐ IC 4-2-6-11(b)(2): 365 day required "cooling off" period before receiving compensation from an employer for whom the state employee or special state appointee was engaged in the negotiation or administration of a contract and was in a position to make a discretionary decision affecting the outcome of such negotiation or administration.
- ☐ IC 4-2-6-11(b)(3): 365 day required "cooling off" period before receiving compensation from an employer for which the former state employee or special state appointee made a directly applicable regulatory or licensing decision.
- ☒ IC 4-2-6-11(c): Particular matter restriction prohibiting the former state employee or special state appointee from representing or assisting a person in a particular matter involving the state if the former state officer, employee, or special state appointee personally and substantially participated in the matter as a state worker. *(Please provide a brief description of the specific particular matter(s) to which this waiver applies below):*



An Equal Opportunity Employer

Jeff Stokes had substantial decision-making authority related to selecting and supporting Ride Safe Indiana (RSI) providers. He oversaw the management of the provider contracts and the supporting policies and rules associated with the RSI provider group and Kerstings Cycle Center, Riders First, and Dryer Motorsports are members of the RSI provider group.

- B. IC 4-2-6-11(g)(2) requires that an agency's appointing authority, when authorizing a waiver of the application of the post-employment restrictions in IC 4-2-6-11(b)-(c), also include specific information supporting such authorization. Please provide the requested information in the following five (5) sections to fulfill this requirement.

1. Please explain whether the employee's prior job duties involved substantial decision-making authority over policies, rules, or contracts:

Jeff Stokes had substantial decision-making authority related to selecting and supporting Ride Safe Indiana (RSI) providers. He oversaw the management of the provider contracts and the supporting policies and rules associated with the RSI provider group.

2. Please describe the nature of the duties to be performed by the employee for the prospective employer:

Jeff Stokes is seeking permission to teach motorcycle safety training classes, without compensation, to support the safety of riders.

3. Please explain whether the prospective employment is likely to involve substantial contact with the employee's former agency and the extent to which any such contact is likely to involve matters where the agency has the discretion to make decisions based on the work product of the employee:

On June 30, 2026, Jeff will be retiring from employment with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. He will have no direct contact with the agency after that time. If he is able to become a motorcycle safety trainer, his direct contact will be with the RSI provider, not the agency.

4. Please explain whether the prospective employment may be beneficial to the state or the public, specifically stating how the intended employment is consistent with the public interest:

Jeff Stokes carries the necessary certifications from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) as a RiderCoach (RC) and RiderCoach Trainer (RCT) to teach motorcycle safety classes. The BMV/state currently has contracts with two other individuals in the state who hold RCT certifications. BMV has an additional contract with a man from Kentucky who is RCT certified, but he has been inactive for several years and it is unclear if he intends to resume training in Indiana. These gentlemen are paid to conduct RC training courses by the state. If Jeff were to be able to coach a Basic Rider Course (BRC), he would be partnered with one of BMV's current contractors for motorcycle safety training. Coaching a BRC is for new or novice riders, not coaching new RCs. RCs conducting BRCs work for, and may be compensated by RSI providers, and not the state. Because the pool of available trainers is so small, having Jeff as an additional key resource will strengthen our training capacity and help us reach more individuals learning to ride safely.



An Equal Opportunity Employer

5. Please explain the extent of economic hardship to the employee if the request for a waiver is denied:

There is no economic hardship as Jeff would be conducting training for free.

C. Signatures

1. Appointing authority/state officer of agency

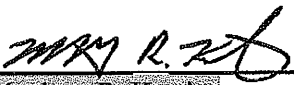
By signing below I authorize the waiver of the above-specified post-employment restrictions pursuant to IC 4-2-6-11(g)(1)(A). In addition, I acknowledge that this waiver is limited to an employee or special state appointee who obtains the waiver before engaging in the conduct that would give rise to a violation.


Kevin M. Garvey

06/23/2026
DATE

2. Ethics Officer of agency

By signing below I attest to the form of this waiver of the above-specified post-employment restrictions pursuant to IC 4-2-6-11(g)(1)(B).


Matthew R. Kestian

6/23/2026
DATE

D. Approval by State Ethics Commission

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Approved by State Ethics Commission	
	
Katherine Noel, Chair, State Ethics Commission	<u>7-9-26</u> Date

Mail to:
Office of Inspector General
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104
Indianapolis, IN 46202
OR
Email scanned copy to: info@ig.in.gov

*Upon receipt you will be contacted with
details regarding the presentation of this
waiver to the State Ethics Commission.*



Indiana
A State that Works

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