

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF CUSTOMS OFFICERS

Профессиональная этика сотрудников таможенных органов

Романеня А.С., Сушко Е.Р.

Научный руководитель: ст. преподаватель Дерман И.Н.
Белорусский национальный технический университет

Each kind of human activity corresponds to certain types of professional ethics. The study of types of professional ethics shows the diversity of moral relations, as well as the specificity of the content and forms of moral requirements of each profession. In customs ethics, all norms and principles are aimed at effective customs control in the interests of ensuring the economic security of the republic, protecting the health and morals of people. Features of customs activity determine the need for the customs officer of professionally important special qualities and abilities.

A customs officer is primarily a person of the state. Appearance and culture of behavior communication form the impression of the entire customs service. The activities of a customs officer must comply not only with the provisions of the Constitution and current legislation but also with moral principles and norms. In his professional activities, the customs officer is obliged to refrain from conduct that could call into question the high level of performance of their duties.

The adoption of a Code of professional ethics is a key element for maintaining public confidence in customs officials. Professional ethics is a set of rules of conduct of a certain group of persons, which determines the nature of the relationship associated with a professional activity. It includes a system of universal and specific moral requirements and standards of conduct it is based on the general rules of conduct developed in society. The basic norms of communication culture of the customs officer coincide with moral requirements of the behavior of any person.

The Republic of Belarus has the code of professional ethics for customs officers, which is a means of ensuring discipline among customs officials.

The basic principles of service in customs bodies are:

legality – observance by the official at execution of the official duties of the Constitution of Republic of Belarus, the legislation of Republic of Belarus and international treaties;

independence – execution of duties according to competence without unreasonable interference of other officials;

impartiality – the obligation of an objective and neutral attitude of the official to any personal, economic, political or other interests;

equality – integrity and justice to all persons with whom the official interacts in the execution of his duties;

confidentiality – non-disclosure by the official of information that he/she has by virtue of official position, except in cases provided for by regulatory legal acts;

professionalism – the performance of their duties responsibly, competently, effectively, clearly and in good faith. These principles apply to both customs authorities and their employees.

Professional values of the official are: competence - the official in the activity acts on the basis of knowledge, abilities, practical experience at the solution of the tasks facing customs authorities; team spirit – the official interacts with others according to the General principles and interests of customs service; tradition.

Work in the customs authorities means compliance with the law, prevention of corruption and illegal actions, performance of official duties, informing persons, maintaining a neat appearance and others. The customs officer must have deep professional knowledge and high moral qualities: to be honest and principled; to take care of the state and private property; to show perseverance and initiative; to protect the honor and dignity of citizens; to respect the traditions and customs of other peoples; to improve the level of their professional knowledge; not to disclose information that can be used against the interests of the state; to be psychologically and physically prepared to work in the customs authorities.

These requirements, together with other personal qualities such as high discipline, responsibility, diligence, accuracy and loyalty to the spirit of the law, create genuine professionalism and are important qualitative characteristics of the customs officer's personality.

The study of professional ethics contributes to the formation of a professional culture of behavior of customs officers and is a prerequisite for increasing the effectiveness of his/her work, as well as maintaining the prestige of the profession, its social significance.

All the above moral qualities form the image not only of an individual employee, but also of the customs authorities as a whole, provided that the employee not only possesses these qualities, but also skillfully uses them. Therefore, the customs officer should be a model of good manners, high culture of communication and behavior, respect for citizens and colleagues.

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PERSONAL CUSTOMS INSPECTION AS AN EXCLUSIVE FORM OF CUSTOMS CONTROL

Личный таможенный досмотр как исключительная форма таможенного контроля

Романовская А. А., Овсянникова А. С.
Научный руководитель: преподаватель Захаренко Т.С.
Белорусский национальный технический университет

In the Customs Code of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) a personal customs inspection is highlighted as an exclusive form of customs control.

A personal customs inspection – is a form of customs control, which consists of searching individuals for smuggled goods.

This form of customs control is carried out when there are sufficient grounds to believe that these persons hide and voluntarily do not give out the goods that are moved illegally across the customs border of the Union.