

## CareerBuilder Survey Finds the Most Unusual Holiday Gifts Exchanged in the Workplace

### Higher percentages of employers planning to throw holiday parties for employees and give larger bonuses

CHICAGO and ATLANTA, Dec. 8, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Gift exchange events in the office can get really inappropriate, really fast – all it takes is one coworker to take the idea of a gag gift one step too far. CareerBuilder's annual holiday survey asked workers across the U.S. to share the most unusual gift they have received from a fellow employee during the holiday season.

Twenty-two percent of workers say they plan to buy holiday gifts for coworkers, and 21 percent plan to buy a gift for the boss, similar to last year.

Of those who plan to buy gifts for their coworkers or bosses, the majority (73 percent) expect to spend no more than \$25 on each gift, 33 percent will cap their spending at \$10 and 11 percent will spend \$5 or less.

### Most Unusual Gifts

Traditional holiday gifts are still office regulars: ornaments, gift cards, books and candy, but some workers may not know where "the line" is when it comes to holiday gift-giving at work. The following are among the most unusual presents workers received from co-workers:

- Two left-handed gloves
- Coconut bra
- Jar of gravy
- A fake lottery ticket
- A real stuffed duck
- Toilet paper that looked like money
- Post-it Notes
- Dish detergent
- A pen holder that looks like a crime scene victim
- A comic book of an obscure movie
- A handmade ornament for a sports team the recipient had never heard of
- A singing chicken
- A whip

### Employers Spreading the Holiday Cheer

While 46 percent of employers plan to give their employees gifts this year – on par with last year – they are also finding other ways to get into the holiday spirit.

- **Parties:** 69 percent of employers plan on throwing a holiday party for employees this year – up 3 percent from last year.
- **Bonuses:** 54 percent of employers plan to give employees holiday bonuses this year – the same as 2015 – but 15 percent say the bonus will be greater than last year.
- **Charity:** Nearly half of all employers (48 percent) plan to enrich the lives of others outside of the office by making charitable donations, on par with last year.

### Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted online within the U.S. by Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder among 2,379 hiring and human resource managers ages 18 and over (employed full-time, not self-employed, non-government) and 3,336 employees ages 18 and over (employed full-time, not self-employed; including 3,133 in the private sector) between August 11 and September 7, 2016. Percentages for some questions are based on a subset, based on their responses to certain questions. With pure probability samples of 2,379 and 3,336, one could say with a 95 percent probability that the overall results have sampling errors of +/- 2.01 and +/- 1.70 percentage points, respectively. Sampling error for data from sub-samples is higher and varies.

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