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Driving school owner in Liberal arrested in sting operation for allegedly taking payments for passing grades, certificates

Kansas Department of Revenue agents arrested Lyle Seitter on Thursday after an undercover operation resulted in allegedly obtaining a fraudulent passing grade and certificate to bypass Kansas driver's license skills testing at The Driving School of Liberal, Kan.

Seitter, of Liberal, allegedly failed to follow required standards, accepting cash in exchange for passing the school. Seitter was arrested on a total of 26 felony counts including nine counts of commercial bribery, nine counts of making false information and eight counts of driver license application fraud.

Driving schools in Kansas are required to provide standard classroom and driving instruction and are licensed by Kansas Department of Education. With a driving school certificate, new drivers become eligible to apply for a Kansas driver's license.

"When a teacher fails to provide the required instruction, traffic safety is jeopardized," said Director of Vehicles Donna Shelite. "Only drivers who have demonstrated the proper knowledge and driving proficiency should be certified."

The Seward County Attorney's Office is prosecuting the case.

The Kansas Department of Revenue's Office of Special Investigations investigated the case with the assistance of special agents with the Kansas Attorney General's Office, detectives with the Liberal Police Department and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.