

STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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State Ethics Enters into \$3,000 Settlement with State Employee who Utilized State Resources on State Time for Private Businesses

Hartford –Former Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) employee Amisha Desai of Newington, Connecticut paid a penalty of \$3,000 for violating section 1-84(c) of the Code of Ethics which prohibits a state employee from using state resources to obtain financial gain. Through a separate but related personnel action, Ms. Desai lost her state position and is no longer a state employee.

Amisha Desai violated the use-of-office provisions when she used state resources to assist in running her private businesses.

During the years 2010 through 2014, Ms. Desai owned and operated several private businesses, including two restaurants, one liquor store and one hotel. During that time period, Ms. Desai utilized state resources, including her state-issued computer, state-provided e-mail account and state phone, in order to conduct her private businesses.

The investigation also revealed that Ms. Desai used these state resources to operate her private businesses while on state time and was compensated by the state for such time.

"Violations of the use of office provisions on state time while being paid by the state is a serious violation of the law," said Executive Director Carol Carson. "The Enforcement Division will continue to prosecute these violations vigorously."

View: Stipulation and Consent Order 2014-43

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The Connecticut Office of State Ethics mission is to ensure honesty, integrity and accountability in state government through education, interpretation and enforcement of the State of Connecticut Code of Ethics. To contact us please visit our website at www.ct.gov/ethics or call us at (860) 263-2400.