

STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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Former Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Employee Dr. Leonard Lev Pays \$3500 to Settle Ethics Code Violations

Hartford – Leonard Lev, of Glastonbury, Connecticut a former Principal Psychiatrist at Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown, CT – a state facility operated by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) - paid a \$3,500 penalty for violating Sections 1-84 (c) of the Code of Ethics.

From December 2014 through December 2015, while a state employee, Dr. Lev owned a private company through which he provided psychiatric services for private patients. The services he provided for his outside business were unrelated to his state position. Nevertheless, during that time period, Dr. Lev utilized his state-issued computers and other state-owned equipment to process administrative paperwork related to this outside job, and he did so on state time, while receiving pay from the state. Under Section 1-84 (c) of the Code, a public official or state employee is prohibited from using state resources to obtain personal financial gain.

"State employees, who turn their offices into private, for-profit businesses will face significant penalties," said Executive Director Carol Carson. The Code of Ethics is clear that while state employees may have other jobs, their state jobs must come first. Preserving the independence of a state employee's judgment is not just part of the law, it is critical to maintaining the integrity of the public workforce."

Through a separate but related personnel action, Dr. Lev was investigated by DMHAS and eventually resigned.

View: Stipulation and Consent Order 2016-10

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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.