



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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CONTACT: Nancy Nicolescu (860) 263-2397
Nancy.Nicolescu@ct.gov

Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board Accepts \$13K Settlement for Lobbyist Violations of the Code of Ethics

Kozak & Salina, LLC pays \$10K – Lobbyist David Kozak pays \$3K

Hartford – The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board approved Stipulation and Consent Orders in two cases at its regular meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2019 involving violations of the Code of Ethics.

In the first settlement, Kozak & Salina, LLC, of Rocky Hill, admitted violating General Statutes section 1-101nn in Part IV of the Code of Ethics ("Ethical Considerations Concerning Bidding and State Contracts"). Kozak & Salina, LLC paid a penalty of \$10,000.

From 2014 to 2016, Kozak & Salina, LLC was a party to a consultant services contract with the Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS). Kozak & Salina submitted invoices to CTHSS billing the state for work performed on behalf of a private client.

General Statutes section 1-101nn prohibits a consultant from charging the state for "work not performed" and from charging "unreasonable and unsubstantiated rates." By billing the state and receiving payment for work on behalf of its private client, Kozak & Salina violated 1-101nn.

"Detailed investigative and discovery work by staff at the Office of State Ethics led to this settlement, which resulted in a maximum \$10,000 penalty," said Executive Director Carol Carson. "It represents the first major case brought by the Office of State Ethics under provisions regarding Bidding and State Contracts."

In the second settlement, David Kozak admitted violating the Code of Ethics for Lobbyists when he failed to register to lobby on behalf of a private client prior to lobbying on the client's behalf before the Department of Education. Kozak paid a civil penalty of \$3,000, and filed the necessary registration and financial reports.

General Statutes sections 1-94 and 1-95 require communicator lobbyists to register with the Office of State Ethics prior to engaging in lobbying. Kozak believed that, because his client was seeking to donate equipment to the State of Connecticut that he was not required to register as a lobbyist on behalf of the client. Lobbying is defined as "communicating directly . . . with any official or his staff in the legislative or executive branch of government . . . , for the purpose of influencing any legislative or administrative action."

View: [Docket 2018-14 David Kozak](#)
[Docket 2017-32 Kozak & Salina, LLC](#)