



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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Office of State Ethics Enters into \$5,000 Settlement with State Employee who Utilized State Resources on State Time for Private Businesses

Hartford – Former Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) employee Sean Condon of Middletown, Connecticut, paid a \$5,000 penalty to the Office of State Ethics for violating sections 1-84 (c) and 1-84 (b) of Code of Ethics which prohibit a state employee from using state resources to obtain financial gain and engaging in other employment that impairs the state employee’s independence of judgement as to his state duties.

Following the issuance of a complaint and a preliminary investigation by this Office, the Enforcement Division found probable cause that Mr. Condon, an Associate Research Analyst for DEEP, violated the use-of-office provisions when he utilized his state-issued computer, state-provided e-mail account, and state phone in order to run several private businesses, including a retail men’s hair and skin care product business and an internet marketing business. The investigation revealed that Mr. Condon used these state resources to operate his private businesses while on state time and while he was being compensated by the state for such time.

Section 1-84 (c) states in pertinent part: “No public official or state employee . . . shall use his public office or position . . . to obtain financial gain for himself, his spouse, child, child’s spouse, parent, brother or sister or a business with which he is associated.”

In addition, the Enforcement Division found probable cause that Mr. Condon violated Section 1-84 (b) by accepting outside employment that impaired his independence of judgment as to his state position. In this matter, Mr. Condon’s operation of his private businesses from his workstation resulted in violations of DEEP work rules, which in turn resulted in a violation of Section 1-84 (b).

“One of the basic tenets of the State Code of Ethics is that public officials and state employees must not use their office or position for personal financial gain,” said Executive Director Peter Lewandowski. “Operating private businesses through misuse of state resources is a serious violation of the law and will be forcefully prosecuted by the Office of State Ethics.”

View: [Stipulation and Consent Order: 2020-12](#)

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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.