

July 31, 2012

Advisory Opinion Update

On July 19, 2012, the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board met and decided on the opinion summarized below. Click the AO number below to read the full text of the opinion.

ADVISORY OPINION NO 2012-8

Application of the Code of Ethics to Legislator outside employment

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board concluded that the petitioner's role as a ranking member of the Energy and Technology Committee—a role, we note, that he relinquished after accepting employment with NU—did not create a conflict so "significant" as to prohibit him from being employed by an entity subject to the Committee's jurisdiction.

Stipulation and Consent Order

Docket No. 2010-31 In the Matter of a Complaint against Curtis Harmon. On July 18, 2012, the Ethics Enforcement Officer of the Office of State Ethics ("OSE") and the Respondent settled this matter by entering into a Stipulation and Consent Order. The Complaint alleged that the Respondent, an Advanced Nurse Practitioner employed by the Department of Children and Families ("DCF") violated General Statutes § 1-84 (b) by accepting other employment that impaired his independence of judgment as to his official state duties and or induced him to disclose confidential information acquired by him in the course of his state employment. Under the terms of the Settlement, the OSE ordered the Respondent to pay a civil penalty of \$2,500 for his violations General Statutes § 1-84 (b).

Action Item – Agency Ethics Statements/Policies

Pursuant to Section **1-83** (a)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, each state agency, department, board and commission shall develop and implement, in cooperation with the Office of State Ethics, an ethics statement as it relates to the mission of the agency, department, board or commission. The executive head of each such agency, department, board or commission shall be directly responsible for the development and enforcement of such ethics statement and shall file a copy of such ethics statement with the Department of Administrative Services and the Office of State Ethics. Please e-mail your ethics statement to nancy.nicolescu@ct.gov by **September 1, 2012**. We will be posting your statements on our website for use by communicator lobbyists that engage in administrative lobbying.

Generally, your Ethics Statement should primarily identify any agency rules that are more restrictive than the provisions of the Connecticut Codes of Ethics, therefore eliminating the need to restate provisions from the Code. Our legal division is available to review and provide assistance, e-mail us at ethics.code@ct.gov for guidance.

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