



STATE OF OHIO

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEWS POSSIBLE CONFLICTS AT THE OHIO VETERANS HOMES
Columbus, Ohio, March 17, 2016

The inspector general issued a report of investigation today involving a self-reported conflict of interest at the Ohio Veterans Homes in Sandusky and Georgetown. The Ohio Department of Veterans Services, the parent organization which administers the Ohio Veterans Homes, identified an estimated \$5.3 million in federal penalties and loss to the state of Ohio.

The former legal counsel of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services expressed concern that several physicians working at the veterans homes were also medical directors of Stein Hospice, a private medical contractor. The hospice was providing private services using state resources and equipment at the Georgetown facility, and paying no rent for use of the site.

The Ohio Inspector General has referred the report of investigation to the Ohio Ethics Commission and State Medical Board of Ohio. The report of investigation will also be provided to the Office of the Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Ohio Department of Veterans Services anticipates working with federal authorities on this matter.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation 2014-CA00049 is now available at:

<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2016Investigations.aspx>

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