



From the desk of the Ohio Inspector General:

The specific jurisdiction of the Office of the Inspector General extends to state agencies and employees within the executive branch of state government. This includes the governor, the governor's cabinet and staff, state agencies, departments, boards, commissions, and any individuals appointed, employed, or controlled under the authority of the governor. State universities and state medical colleges are included in this jurisdiction, but community colleges are not. Also excluded from our jurisdiction are the Ohio General Assembly; the Ohio Historical Society; all Ohio courts, federal, local and county government officials and agencies; and the offices of secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, and attorney general, including their staffs and employees. Generally, the Office of the Inspector General does not investigate cases involving private disputes or personnel issues, nor does the Office of the Inspector General intervene in private litigation.

Ohio law gives the Office of the Inspector General authority to investigate allegations of wrongful acts or omissions committed by state officers or employees. Any individual with information regarding acts of wrongdoing by a state official or agency may file a complaint with this office by completing the attached complaint form. Supporting documentation should also be submitted, along with the complaint form. If, upon review, that information or evidence appears credible and suggests reasonable cause to believe an act of wrongdoing or omission may have occurred by an agency or employee within our jurisdiction, an investigation may be initiated.

Occasionally, matters investigated by the Office of the Inspector General also fall within the jurisdiction of other investigative or regulatory agencies (i.e., law enforcement investigators, prosecuting authorities, Ohio Ethics Commission, etc.). In such cases, the Inspector General may make referrals to, or work in a joint or cooperative effort with, these agencies.

Anyone offering information in the form of documentation should be aware that such items may not be returned if used in the course of an investigation and could become a public record available for public inspection at the conclusion of an investigation. However, if appropriate, confidentiality can be granted to a complainant regarding information provided to the Office of the Inspector General. Such a grant is appropriate when revealing the source of a complaint would place the complaining witness in jeopardy.

At the conclusion of an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General, a report of investigation is completed documenting our investigative findings. We provide the completed report to the governor and the agency being investigated. The report may include recommendations for the agency to consider in addressing and avoiding the recurrence of fraud, waste, abuse, or corruption in the future. A report of investigation may also be forwarded to a prosecutor for review when the underlying facts merit possible criminal prosecution.

Thomas P. Charles
Inspector General

Revised January 2009

- List names, addresses, and phone numbers of all relevant witnesses who can support your allegations:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

- List all relevant documents that support your allegation, or include copies.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Are you requesting confidentiality in this matter? Yes No
If yes, why? _____

Have you contacted the relevant state agency regarding your allegations? Yes No
What was the result? _____

Have you referred this matter to any other agencies? Yes No
If yes, which agencies? _____

Is there any civil, criminal, or administrative litigation pending in this matter? Yes No
If yes, what is the current status? _____

By signing this statement, I represent that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE

DATE