

September 15, 2014

Mr. Randall J. Meyer
Ohio Inspector General
Office of the Inspector General
James A. Rhodes State Office Tower
30 East Broad Street, Suite 2940
Columbus, OH 43215-3414

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL
2014 SEP 15 PM 2:57

Dear Inspector General Meyer:

This letter is in response to the recommendations made by your office to the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (ODAS) in File ID Number: 2014-CA00039. ODAS strongly believes in the need to carry out its mission in accordance with the strictest ethical guideline and to ensure that ODAS employees conduct themselves in a manner that fosters public confidence in the integrity of the department. The following action items detail how your office's recommendations have been implemented.

Recommendation #1:

Review the conduct of Harry Colson and consider whether administrative action is warranted.

Action:

By way of background, once ODAS became aware of the situation detailed in your report we immediately self-reported the incident to your office for investigation. At that time, ODAS fully cooperated with your office's investigation.

Following the release of your report, we reviewed the conduct of ODAS employee Harry Colson in order to determine whether he met the high expectations that we have at ODAS for honesty, integrity and compliance with our policies and Ohio law. Consequently, Harry Colson is no longer employed at ODAS. Mr. Colson resigned from his position the day the report was released.

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Recommendation #2

Provide employees with refresher training on the Ohio Ethics laws.

Action:

Even before the release of the report, and the recommendation that ODAS conduct refresher ethics training, ODAS' Office of Legal Services conducted Ohio Ethics laws refresher training to the Equal Opportunity Division. That training was held on June 5, 2014.

The Office of Legal Services then held additional refresher training with the ODAS procurement teams in the General Services Division (July 2, 2014) and the Office of Information Technology (July 28, 2014). Finally, the ODAS annual ethics training this year will include a refresher on some of the basic topics covered by ODAS policy and Ohio Ethics laws.

We appreciate the opportunity to detail the actions that ODAS has undertaken in response to your recommendations. Should you have any questions regarding our response, or need any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,



Robert Blair
Director