



STATE OF OHIO

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION FINDS OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
EMPLOYEE PRESSURED COWORKERS INTO PURCHASING NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS
DURING WORK HOURS**

Columbus, Ohio, April 5, 2018

The Ohio Inspector General issued a report of investigation today after receiving an anonymous complaint alleging Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) employee Brett Shearer was running a business selling nutritional supplements during the work day. Shearer is employed at ODOT as a Transportation Technician 3.

The investigation confirmed through multiple employee interviews that Shearer was selling AdvoCare products during the work day. In addition, Shearer's state email account was reviewed and over 100 emails were identified related to his secondary employment. Investigators subpoenaed records from a credit card processing company that further substantiated that supplement sales were being made by Shearer during hours that he was paid by ODOT.

The Office of the Inspector General found reasonable cause to believe that a wrongful act occurred based on violations of ODOT policies requiring employees to report secondary employment and for engaging in activities for personal profit during paid work hours.

The report of investigation has been sent to the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney and the Columbus City Attorney for consideration.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2016-CA00014 is now available at:
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/investigations/2018investigations.aspx>

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