



STATE OF OHIO

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION FINDS OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES EMPLOYEE IMPROPERLY FALSIFIED BID DOCUMENTS AND PARTICIPATED IN AUCTION

Columbus, Ohio, September 12, 2019

The Ohio Inspector General issued a report of investigation today after receiving a referral from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) alleging Dredge Operator 1 Jason Love submitted a falsified bid using his father's name in order to purchase a boat motor being auctioned by ODNR.

Investigators determined that Love signed his father's name and contact information to a bid form and submitted it to ODNR in a sealed bid auction. The investigation further determined that Love won the bid for the boat motor; signed his father's name to a receipt; and paid for the boat motor in cash. ODNR policy prohibits an ODNR employee from bidding on items in auctions or using any type of proxy to bid on behalf of the employee.

The report of investigation has been referred to the Highland County Prosecuting Attorney.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2019-CA00022 is now available at: <http://watchdog.ohio.gov/investigations/2019investigations.aspx>

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