



Illinois Ethics Matters

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor

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OEIG Finds Hiring Violation at IDOT



An OEIG investigation revealed that an Interim Bureau Chief at the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) violated administrative orders designed to prohibit political hiring or other non-merit based hiring.

Those administrative orders require, among other things, that interview panels exclude any potential panelist who would have a conflict of interest in connection with evaluating any of the applicants.

Acting on a complaint, the OEIG found that an Interim Bureau Chief participated in an employment interview in which the applicant was her neighbor and a long-time friend. The neighbor also had contributed to a political campaign in support of the Interim Bureau Chief's spouse. The neighbor was hired for the position.

The OEIG recommended that IDOT discipline the Interim Bureau Chief for violating administrative orders and IDOT conflict of interest policies, and that IDOT ensure that its staff review proper procedures. IDOT suspended the Interim Bureau Chief for 30 days. A copy of the report, [*In re: Campbell \(Case #15-01145\)*](#), is available on the OEIG website.

Reminder: Year-End Ethics Training Reports

Ethics Officers are reminded that Year-End Ethics Training Reports, summarizing training efforts with employees, appointees, and others, are due to the Office of the Governor later this month. For an extension or other concerns, please contact Christina McClernon, Associate General Counsel in the Office of the Governor.

EEC Levies C List Fines

Employees on the revolving door "C List" are required to seek a determination from the OEIG prior to accepting post-State employment. Employees should be notified when their agencies put them on the C List, and must remember that their duty to notify the OEIG continues for one year after leaving their State positions.

In recent weeks, the EEC has levied fines on three former employees who left State employment and accepted private sector jobs without first seeking an OEIG determination, including:

- a C List employee who left the State Board of Education in November 2015 and began with a private employer the following July;
- a C List employee who left the Department of Natural Resources in January 2015 and began with a private employer the following December; and
- a C List employee who left the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in March 2015 and began with a private employer the following January.

In each instance, the EEC levied a fine of \$500. Copies of the decisions are available on [the OEIG website](#).