



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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CT Office of State Ethics Reaches \$2,500 Settlement With Former DCF Employee

Hartford – Curtis Harmon of Hamden, CT, formerly an Advanced Nurse Practitioner at the Department of Children and Families (DCF), paid a civil penalty of \$2,500 for allegedly violating the Code of Ethics by accepting other employment that impaired his independence of judgment. Section 1-84(b) of Connecticut General Statutes states, “[n]o. . . state employee. . . shall accept other employment which will either impair his independence of judgment as to his official duties or employment or require him, or induce him, to disclose confidential information acquired by him in the course of and by reason of his official duties.”

Mr. Harmon worked at DCF from February, 2004 to March, 2010. He was also employed as an advanced practical registered nurse by a behavioral health provider between January, 2004 and May, 2006. In May 2006, the predecessor agency of the Office of State Ethics provided a staff opinion advising DCF and Mr. Harmon that his outside employment with Behavioral Management, LLC would be impermissible under the Code of Ethics. As of May, 2006, Mr. Harmon no longer worked as an employee of the behavioral health provider but was engaged as an independent contractor with that company until October, 2009. As a DCF employee, Harmon provided treatment for DCF clients who were thereafter referred by DCF for treatment at the behavioral health provider, and, while an independent contractor, Harmon provided treatment for DCF clients on more than 40 occasions.

Mr. Harmon settled without admission of guilt and stated in the Stipulation and Consent Order that at all times when he may have furnished services to clients of DCF while he was employed with the behavioral health provider he believed he had direct authorization and approval from his supervisor.

“The Code of Ethics seeks to prevent conflicts where a state employee’s official duties overlap with his or her private professional employment,” said OSE Executive Director Carol Carson. “In such cases, it may be the client who is least well-served.”

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View: [Stipulation and Consent Order Docket No. 2010-31](#) in the Matter of Curtis Harmon.