

October 6, 2009

### **New Advisory Opinion**

On September 24, 2009, the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board met and decided on one new opinion, summarized below. Click on the AO number to read the full text of the opinion.

### **[AO 2009-9, Application of General Statutes 1-80 \(b\) to a Member of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board](#)**

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board (CEAB or Board) concluded that a CEAB Member's initial appointment to the Board was invalid, as he held public office in a period three years prior to the appointment. The CEAB Member's subsequent appointment to the Board by the appointing authority is, however, valid under the Code, and any actions taken by him in his capacity of CEAB Member prior to this valid appointment are legally binding on those affected by them, pursuant to the "de facto officer" doctrine.

### **Agency Update**

On September 30, the terms of two CEAB Members expired: Chairman Robert Worgaftik and Vice Chairperson Sister Sally Tolles. This month, CEAB Member G. Kenneth Bernhard becomes the new Chairperson, and we welcome two new CEAB Members: General David Gay (Retired), of Windsor and former Senator Winthrop Smith, Jr., of Milford.

### **Ethics Training**

Remember that OSE staff is available to come to you to provide your agency personnel with training on the Code of Ethics for Public Officials and State Employees. To request a training, please complete and e-mail the [Training Request Form](#).