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September 9, 2019

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

CONTACT:
Nancy S. Nicolescu
(860) 263-2397
Nancy.Nicolescu@ct.gov

Former DPH Employee Pays $2,500 Penalty to the Office of State Ethics

Hartford – Former Department of Public Health employee Andrea Lombard of Windsor, Connecticut, paid a $2,500 penalty to the Office of State Ethics for violating the Code of Ethics when she used her state position in the hiring of her daughter for a temporary summer position, and for failing to disclose the conflict of interest, in violation of sections 1-84 (c) and 1-86 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 1-84 (c) states in pertinent part: “No public official or state employee . . . shall use his public office or position . . . to obtain financial gain for himself, his spouse, [or his] child . . . .”

In 2018 Ms. Lombard, as part of her official state duties, was responsible for hiring several outside consultants to temporary administrative positions for the summer. Ms. Lombard directed an outside vendor to hire her daughter to one of the four open positions, and after her daughter was hired, she maintained a supervisory role over her daughter for the duration of the summer.

Section 1-86 (a) further required Ms. Lombard, when faced with a potential conflict of interest, to prepare a written statement signed under penalty of false statement describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the conflict. Ms. Lombard was then required to deliver a copy of the statement to her immediate superior. However, Ms. Lombard failed to prepare or deliver a conflict of interest disclosure with respect to the hiring and supervision of her daughter.

“Whenever a state employee uses his or her state position for personal financial gain, or the financial gain of a family member, it undermines the integrity of state government and encourages a cynical view of public service,” said Peter Lewandowski, Executive Director of the Office of State Ethics.

View: Stipulation and Consent Order: 2019-09

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