



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL CONCLUDES JOINT INVESTIGATION OF STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO

Columbus, Ohio, May 21, 2014

The Ohio Inspector General has issued a report of investigation today after completing a joint investigation with the Ohio Ethics Commission in review of allegations made against a former executive director and a board member of the State Medical Board of Ohio.

A complainant alleged Lance Talmage, an appointed member of the State Medical Board of Ohio, and Richard Whitehouse, the state board's former executive director, entered into positions conflicting with the interests of the state medical board by also accepting appointments to the Federation of State Medical Boards, a nationwide organization.

The complainant questioned the propriety of Talmage and Whitehouse accepting compensation from the Federation of State Medical Boards, while serving with the State Medical Board of Ohio. The investigation determined the evidence did not support the allegation against Whitehouse, who was only reimbursed for travel expenses. However, Talmage received payment for service to the State Medical Board of Ohio, and at the same time, a stipend from the Federation of State Medical Boards for serving as board chair-elect. In this matter, the Ohio Ethics Commission entered into a settlement with Talmage, who reimbursed the State Medical Board of Ohio \$4,894.56.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2012-CA00106 is now available at:
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2014Investigations.aspx>

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