



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL: STATE NURSE PRACTITIONER USED GOVERNMENT RESOURCES TO AID HIS PRIVATE MEDICAL CLINIC
Columbus, Ohio, November 20, 2014

The inspector general has completed an investigation of a complaint from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction concerning the actions of a state employed nurse practitioner.

The inspector general found John Gardner, a nurse practitioner for the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, followed proper procedure by making his employers aware he was planning to operate a private medical clinic in Newark when not at work for the state of Ohio. The investigation found, however, Gardner used his position to have the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction medical laboratory perform specimen analysis services for his private medical clinic. The investigation further discovered Gardner used his public position, while at work for the state, to gain access to the private medical records of a former Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction inmate. Gardner then used the government's email system to transmit the inmate's confidential medical records to Gardner's personal email address.

The report of investigation will be provided to the Columbus City Attorney and the Ohio Ethics Commission for consideration.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2013-CA00011 is now available at:
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2014Investigations.aspx>

Contact:
Carl Enslin
Ohio Deputy Inspector General
(614) 644-9110
carl.enslin@oig.state.oh.us

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