



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATES STATE MENTAL HEALTH EMPLOYEE OPERATING
GROUP HOME

Columbus, Ohio, December 15, 2014

The Ohio Inspector General has issued a report of investigation today reviewing the actions of a state psychiatric hospital employee who was operating a privately-owned adult group home. The inspector general opened the investigation based on a complaint received from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Deavonte Williams, a therapeutic program worker at the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital in Toledo, was found to have opened a group home, and received a referral from the hospital allowing a patient to stay at Williams' group home. The investigation revealed a lack of communication among hospital staff about whether referring hospital patients to a group home owned by an employee of the hospital was ethical or proper.

The investigation further uncovered several instances where the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital violated an order of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas. While the court order expressly prohibited a hospital patient from visiting a group home, the inspector general found the hospital allowed the patient to visit a group home in violation of the order.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2013-CA00093 is now available at:
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2014Investigations.aspx>

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