



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INVESTIGATION OF EVIDENCE FAILS TO SUPPORT FORMER OHIO CORRECTIONS OFFICER'S ALLEGATION

Columbus, Ohio, November 25, 2014

The Office of the Ohio Inspector General issued a report of investigation today which found the evidence did not substantiate a complaint made against officials at the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

A former corrections officer alleged the warden of the Lebanon Correction Institution violated the training policy of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, when conducting a firearms training session at the institution. The complainant believed this amounted to a safety issue for the officers and possibly a falsification of records.

The evidence showed that the manner in which the firearms training session was conducted was a decision made by Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction Training Academy, not by an independent decision of the warden of the Lebanon Correctional Institution. While the investigation did find some corrections officers were credited with more hours than was actually spent in the training, the error was found to be a misunderstanding of how to document the training hours, and was not intentional.

The question of officer safety was also determined to not be an issue as the records showed the classroom training hours necessary for the corrections officers to be in compliance with agency policy had been met a few months prior to the firearms training session in question. The manner in which this firearms training session was conducted and the hours credited to corrections officers had no impact on the standing of the agency's accreditation status.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2014-CA00012 is now available at:

<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2014Investigations.aspx>

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