



STATE OF OHIO

**OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION FINDS THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES IMPROPERLY CIRCUMVENTED STATE PURCHASING REQUIREMENTS**

Columbus, Ohio, November 15, 2018

The Ohio Inspector General issued a report of investigation today as part of a continuing series of investigations related to State of Ohio information technology (OIT) procurement processes. The initial investigation was based on complaints received by this office, a letter received from a state representative, and numerous articles published by The Columbus Dispatch.

The investigation by the Ohio Inspector General involved a no-bid contract with Gartner Inc. to complete a review of Ohio Department of Administrative Services (ODAS) OIT procurement processes. The investigation found that ODAS rushed the release and purchase request approval at the end of a fiscal year knowing that state requirements mandated the work be completed within the same fiscal year; failed to obtain three quotes in the absence of a controlling board waiver; and paid for the services prior to receiving the final deliverables. In addition, the investigation questioned whether or not Gartner Inc. met the criteria to be considered a “sole source” vendor or if the designation was used merely to rush the contract through the procurement process.

The report of investigation, containing four recommendations, will be provided to the Ohio Auditor of State’s Office and the Office of Budget and Management Office of Internal Audit for review and consideration.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2017-CA00014C is now available at: <http://watchdog.ohio.gov/investigations/2018investigations.aspx>

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