



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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Former State Military Department Employee James Liss Proceeds to Hearing Before the Citizens Ethics Advisory Board

Hartford – Former State Military Department employee James Liss of Windsor Locks, Connecticut is facing a public hearing before the Citizen’s Ethics Advisory Board following a confidential hearing at which Judge Trial Referee John Langenbach found probable cause to believe that Liss violated use-of-office provisions of the Code of Ethics. Liss, who served as a Building Superintendent at Camp Hartell in Windsor Locks, CT, is accused of using state equipment, resources and time to obtain financial gain for himself.

Connecticut General Statutes section 1-84(c) prohibits a state employee from using his position to obtain financial gain for himself and Connecticut General Statutes section 1-84(q), provides that no state employee shall intentionally counsel, authorize or otherwise sanction action that violates any provision of the Code of Ethics.

Liss allegedly:

- used his access to state gasoline pumps to obtain gasoline for his personal use
- used a state vehicle for his personal use
- directed subordinate employees to assist in gathering scrap metal belonging to the State of Connecticut
- sold copper and other scrap metal from structures belonging to the State of Connecticut for financial gain
- directed subordinate employees to cut down trees on Military Department Property and to use state vehicles to transport the wood to his house for his personal use
- directed subordinates to falsify time sheets
- falsified time sheets to inflate overtime hours and to indicate that he was present at work when he was absent.

The allegations also allege that by acting in his own financial interest, Mr. Liss received a financial advantage for which he is liable to the State of Connecticut.

A public hearing will be scheduled for within 30 days. A judge trial referee will preside over the public hearing. The Citizen’s Ethics Advisory Board will decide whether the Code of Ethics was violated. The maximum penalty for each violation of the Code of Ethics is \$10,000.

View: [Complaint for Docket No. 2014-21](#)

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The Connecticut Office of State Ethics mission is to ensure honesty, integrity and accountability in state government through education, interpretation and enforcement of the State of Connecticut Code of Ethics. To contact us please visit our website at www.ct.gov/ethics or call us at (860) 263-2400.