

2014 Lobbyist Registration Audit of Robert Byrd

FINDING(S)

1. Mr. Robert Byrd failed to timely register as a lobbyist for his employer (see Registrations section).
2. Mr. Byrd failed to complete his required lobbyist training. (see Training section).

EMPLOYER

- AIR EVAC EMS, Inc.

REGISTRATIONS

Mr. Bryd registered as a lobbyist for one employer during 2014. Based on the audit documentation, Mr. Byrd was an employee of AIR EVAC EMS, Inc. with duties that included lobbying during 2014. He was also registered as their lobbyist in 2013, thus the lobbyist had continuing lobbying relationship with his employer. Therefore, the lobbyist should have registered within 7 days of the commencement of the year which is January 8, 2014. Mr. Bryd did not register until March 27, 2014, 78 days late. The Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records indicate Mr. Byrd paid all registration fees.

LOBBYING AGREEMENTS

Based on a review of the audit documentation provided by Mr. Byrd, he was a direct employee of the employer. The employer had no employment contract with the lobbyist employee. However, per statements of the lobbyist and review of his job description, it appears the terms of employment were within the statutes for lobbying activities including having no terms for contingency payments based on lobbying success.

FAMILY OR BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Mr. Bryd reported he had no business or familial relationships with persons who were officials in the legislative branch or officials in the executive branch.

TRAINING

Based on review of the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records, Mr. Bryd did not complete his required lobbyist training for the 2014 registration year. T.C.A. § 3-6-114(b) requires each registered lobbyist to complete an annual training course. When a lobbyist completes the training online, the system records the training on the web-based system. If the lobbyist attends the legislative ethics training, their name is recorded at the training event and then the computer is marked to show training occurred. Based on the review of the system records Mr. Bryd did not complete the training online or by attendance during 2014. The Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records indicate Mr. Byrd paid all training fees.