2016 Lobbyist Registration Audit of Bill Rush

FINDING(S)

Bill Rush failed to complete his required lobbyist training (See Training section).

EMPLOYER(S)

• Outdoor Advertising of TN

REGISTRATION(S)

Mr. Rush registered as a lobbyist for one employer during 2016. Based on the audit documentation, Mr. Rush timely registered his lobbying relationship with his employer and paid all registration fees.

LOBBYING AGREEMENT(S)

Based on a review of the audit documentation provided by Mr. Rush, he was a direct employee of the employer. The employer had no employment contract with the lobbyist employee. However, per statements of the lobbyist, statements of his employer 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. Rush reported he had no business or familial relationships with persons who were officials in the legislative branch or officials in the executive branch.

TRAINING

According to the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records, Mr. Rush did not complete his required lobbyist training for the 2016 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. Rush did not complete the training online or by attendance during 2016. The Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records indicate Mr. Rush paid all training fees.