2021 Lobbyist Registration Audit of Sarah Cooper

FINDING(S)

1. Sarah Cooper failed to complete the required lobbyist training.

EMPLOYER(S)

• Emergent BioSolutions Inc.

REGISTRATION(S)

Sarah Cooper registered as a lobbyist for one employer during 2021. Based on the audit documentation, Sarah Cooper timely registered the lobbying relationship and paid all registration fees.

LOBBYING AGREEMENT(S)

Based on a review of the audit documentation provided, Sarah Cooper was a direct employee of the employer in 2021. The employer had no employment contract with the lobbyist employee. However, per statements from the lobbyist, the employer and review of the 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

Sarah Cooper reported 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, Sarah Cooper did not complete the required lobbyist training for the 2021 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 administratively entered into the system records (In person training was unavailable in 2021 due to Covid-19 related restrictions). Based on the review of the system records, Sarah Cooper did not complete the training online or by attendance during 2021. The Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records indicate Sarah Cooper paid all training fees.