



Clermont County Engineer Convicted of Using Office Resources for Political Campaign

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Clermont County Engineer Patrick Manger, 52, pled guilty today to soliciting or accepting improper compensation, a misdemeanor of the first degree, for utilizing Clermont County Engineer's Office resources for political and personal purposes from the period of 2003 through 2018. Manger will be sentenced on July 16, 2019.

As part of the conviction, Manger is also prohibited from holding any public office or public employment for a period of seven years, and is required to reimburse Clermont County taxpayers \$3,000 in restitution.

"For years, Manger was having engineer's office employees use engineer's office materials to print signs for Manger's political fundraisers. He further had employees, while 'on-the-clock', contact various vendors and solicit them to make contributions to Manger's political campaign. The employees even used engineer's office computers to track the political contributions.

Lastly, Manger had employees perform personal tasks for him while 'on-the-clock', such as transporting his personal lawn furniture to and from his residence to the engineer's office for winter storage," stated Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell.

The investigation into Manger's activities was initiated in 2018 after the state auditor's office received an anonymous complaint as to various alleged improper expenditures. The state auditor's office initially reported the matter to the Clermont County Prosecutor's Office. However, because the Clermont County Prosecutor's Office serves as statutory legal counsel to the Clermont County Engineer's Office, Fornshell was asked to serve as special counsel for the investigation and ultimate prosecution of Manger.

"You cannot use taxpayer money to fund your political campaign. It's that simple," Fornshell said.

Fornshell commended Ohio Auditor of State Investigators Craig Morgan and Gil Salem, and Assistant Prosecutor Kevin Hardman, for their work on the case.



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