

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced that earlier today, a Warren County grand jury indicted former Springboro Community City Schools Superintendent Daniel J. Schroer, 52, of Germantown, Ohio for various theft and ethics-related offenses that occurred during his time as superintendent of the school district.

The allegations against Schroer are as follows:

In the fall of 2019, the independent public accounting firm for Springboro Community City Schools (the "District") notified the Ohio Auditor of State of inconsistencies relating to Schroer's use of sick leave, vacation days, and mileage reimbursements that Schroer submitted to the District. In October 2019, the state auditor opened a preliminary investigation and subsequently determined that on 16 separate occasions, Schroer falsified school records to obtain reimbursement for travel not taken for school purposes. Specifically, investigators obtained cell phone tower data, credit card and ATM records, and other evidence that demonstrated that Schroer falsified reimbursement logs and obtained \$1,291.66 from the District for travel that either did not occur at all, or did not occur for school purposes.

During the course of its investigation, the state auditor's office also discovered other financial irregularities involving Schroer which it ultimately referred to the Ohio Ethics Commission. Ohio Ethics Commission investigators determined that while superintendent of the District, Schroer solicited and received personal loans totaling \$4,500.00 from three employees of the District who were Schroer's subordinates and who Schroer was considering for recommendations for administrative positions with the District.

Schroer also solicited and received personal loans totaling \$3,500.00 from the principals of Helping Others Prepare for Excellence (HOPE), Strategos Group, and CF Educational Solutions, three vendors who, at the time of the loans, were doing and/or seeking to do business with the District. In 2017, Strategos Group received \$21,000.00 from the District for consulting services.

During the 2018-19 school year, HOPE received \$5,300.00 from the District for consulting and counseling services. From February 2018 through June 2019, CF Educational Solutions received \$34,485.00 from the District "for services rendered", and shortly thereafter, Schroer went to work directly for CF Educational Solutions as its Senior Vice President – Leadership.

Investigators also determined that Schroer solicited and received \$6,800.00 in cash from Dave Stuckey and Charles Anderson. At the time of this loan, Stuckey and Anderson were (and continue to be) members of the District's board of education.

As superintendent of the District, Schroer is required to file an annual financial disclosure form with the Ohio Ethics Commission and disclose, among other things, any loans in excess of \$1,000.00 that he received during the reporting years. The purpose of the financial disclosure filing is to alert the public of any potential conflicts of interest that a public official may have that could affect the administration of their position. In his 2017 and 2018 financial disclosure filing, Schroer did not disclose any of the aforementioned loans/potential conflicts of interest.

As a result of this alleged conduct, a Warren County grand jury indicted Schroer for five counts of tampering with records (F3), one count of theft in office (F4), two counts of filing a false disclosure statement (M1), and six counts of representation by public employee or official (M1) (i.e., soliciting or accepting a thing of value as to manifest a substantial or improper influence). Schroer is scheduled to be arraigned on Friday, August 20, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in Warren County Common Pleas Court. Schroer is presumed innocent of all charges until tried in a court of law.

"Aside from the numerous conflicts of interest that Mr. Schroer chose not to disclose, it's just an extraordinarily sad day when someone that is responsible for educating students in our community is accused of stealing funds intended for those same students," Fornshell said.

Fornshell commended investigators from the Ohio Auditor of State's Office and the Ohio Ethics Commission for their efforts investigating the facts that resulted in today's indictment.



Warren County Prosecutor
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