Former Springboro Schools Superintendent Pleads Guilty FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2022

DAVID P. FORNSHELL (513) 695-1325

Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced that earlier today, former Springboro Community City Schools Superintendent Daniel J. Schroer, 53, of Germantown, pled guilty to one count of tampering with records (F3), one count of theft in office (F4), one count of filing a false disclosure statement (M1), and one count 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). Sentencing is scheduled for April 21, 2022, at 10:45 a.m. in Warren County Common Pleas Court.

In October 2019, the Ohio Auditor of State's Office opened a preliminary investigation into inconsistencies relating to Schroer's use of sick leave, vacation days, and mileage reimbursements that Schroer submitted to the Springboro Community City Schools (the "District"). 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, Ohio Ethics Commission investigators determined that while superintendent of the District, Schroer solicited/pressured 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.

"This case is not about simple errors in judgment or not understanding conflicts of interest. Schroer repeatedly lied when he submitted fraudulent mileage reimbursement forms for trips that he knew he never took," said Fornshell.

Fornshell commended investigators from the Ohio Auditor of State's Office, the Ohio Ethics Commission, Assistant Prosecutor Kevin Hardman, and Assistant Prosecutor Katie Horvath for their work on the case.



Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell (513) 695-1325

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