



Offices of the
Inspector General

LUCY LANG
Inspector General

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February 17, 2022

Robert Williams
Executive Director
New York State Gaming Commission
One Broadway Center, 5th Floor
Schenectady, New York 112305

Re: NYS IG 2881-342-2021

Dear Executive Director Williams:

The Offices of the New York State Inspector General¹ recently completed an investigation regarding the outside activities of ██████████, a New York State Gaming Commission (Commission) supervising veterinarian assigned to ██████████ Raceway. In sum, the investigation found that ██████████ is the sole principal owner of ██████████, a holistic veterinary practice which also offers equine services. Although the business was incorporated in 2019, ██████████ did not disclose and seek approval from the Commission for her outside activity until March 2021. At that time, ██████████ failed to disclose that her practice included equine care. In addition, she obtained initial approval for her outside activity from the presiding judge at ██████████ Raceway and not from her immediate supervisor, who advised he would have discussed the potential for conflict in providing equine services.

After speaking with the Inspector General, ██████████ fully disclosed her activity to the Commission and sought guidance from the Commission's ethics officer.

The Inspector General recommends that the Commission update its policies and procedures related to outside activities and consider requiring the Commission's ethics officer review all requests for outside employment/activities for potential conflicts of interest. Additionally, the Commission should consider instituting periodic reminders

¹ Effective June 18, 2021, the duties and responsibilities of the Office of the Gaming Inspector General were transferred to and encompassed by the Offices of the New York State Inspector General. See, Racing, Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Breeding Law §130.

regarding the affirmative obligation of staff to notify their supervisors of all outside activities as required by the New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics.

The above information is being provided to you for your review and any action you may deem appropriate. If you should have any questions, please contact Deputy Inspector General for Gaming Lisa Lee at lisa.lee@ig.ny.gov or at 212. [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucy Lang". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lucy Lang
Inspector General

cc: Edmund C. Burns, Esq.
General Counsel