April 17, 2007

NO MERIT TO ALLEGED CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Inspector General David O. Thomas and Staff Attorney Amanda Schaeffer, after an investigation by Special Agent Darrell Boehmer, reports as follows:

On June 26, 2006, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) received a complaint regarding the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Board (ITPC) through the OIG hotline. The complaint was concerning a board member of the ITPC. The complaint alleged that the board member participated in a vote to give ITPC grant money to another grantee entity where the board member also held a position on the grantee board.

OIG Director of Field Investigations Darrell Boehmer was assigned and discovered that the grantee board positions are voluntary and non-paid. No other financial interest in the vote on the part of the board member was revealed.

Because the grantee board member did not have a financial interest in this ITPC vote, there is no violation of the state’s conflict of interest rules. We find no wrongdoing.

Dated this 17th day of April, 2007.

David O. Thomas, Inspector General