



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE
STATE OF IOWA**

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE _____ June 1, 2010

Contact: Andy Nielsen
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Auditor of State David A. Vaudt today released a report on the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board for the year ended June 30, 2009.

The Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board is charged with promoting the public's trust and confidence in government by ensuring the integrity of political campaigns, the ethical standards for officials and employees of the executive branch of state government and the lawful conduct of executive branch lobbyists.

A copy of the report is available for review at the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board, in the Office of Auditor of State and on the Auditor of State's web site at <http://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/index.html>.

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**REPORT OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
IOWA ETHICS AND CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE BOARD**

JUNE 30, 2009

Office of
**AUDITOR
OF STATE**
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June 1, 2010

To W. Charles Smithson, Director of the
Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board:

The Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board is a part of the State of Iowa and, as such, has been included in our audit of the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2009.

In conducting our audit, we became aware of an aspect concerning the Board's operations for which we believe corrective action is necessary. As a result, we have developed a recommendation which is reported on page 4. We believe you should be aware of the recommendation which pertains to the Board's compliance with statutory requirements and other matters. The recommendation has been discussed with Board personnel and their response to the recommendation is included in the report.

The Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board's response to the finding identified in our audit is included on page 4. While we have expressed our conclusion on the Board's response, we did not audit the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the officials and employees of the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board, citizens of the State of Iowa and other parties to whom the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board may report. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of the Board during the course of our audit. Should you have questions concerning the above matter, we shall be pleased to discuss it with you at your convenience. Individuals who participated in our audit of the Board are listed on page 5 and they are available to discuss this matter with you.

DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA
Auditor of State

WARREN G. JENKINS, CPA
Chief Deputy Auditor of State

cc: Honorable Chester J. Culver, Governor
Richard C. Oshlo, Jr., Director, Department of Management
Glen Dickinson, Director, Legislative Services Agency

Report of Recommendations to the
Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board

June 30, 2009

Findings Reported in the State's Report on Internal Control:

No matters were noted.

Other Findings Related to Internal Control:

No matters were noted.

Finding Related to Statutory Requirements and Other Matters:

Meeting Minutes – The Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board conducts meetings in person and through conference calls. Board policy is to approve prior Board meeting minutes at a following meeting which is in person. After minutes are approved, the minutes are signed by the Board's Executive Secretary. Minutes from two fiscal year 2009 Board meetings were not signed or approved as of April 8, 2010. The Board held a meeting on October 21, 2009, which was in person.

Recommendation – The Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board should ensure Board meeting minutes are approved and signed in a timely manner and in accordance with Board policy.

Response – The draft of the minutes for each meeting were posted on the Board's website shortly after each meeting and have remained on the website. Thus, the public, the regulated community, and oversight bodies had full public disclosure. The Board recognizes the unintentional oversight, and will take steps to ensure this issue does not occur in the future. The Board will approve the minutes at the Board's April 29, 2010 meeting.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

Report of Recommendations to the
Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board

June 30, 2009

Staff:

Questions or requests for further assistance should be directed to:

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