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## ***Press Release*** ***December 24, 2009***

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Ohio Ethics Commission  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **FORMER UPPER ARLINGTON CITY ENGINEER FOUND GUILTY**

Former Upper Arlington City Engineer Douglas K. Green pleaded guilty to an Ethics Conflict of Interest charge in Franklin County Municipal Court for using his authority as City Engineer to authorize a series of payments with an engineering firm that employed his spouse. Judge Paul M. Herbert sentenced Green to pay a \$500 fine and court costs. Green had previously paid restitution to the City of Upper Arlington.

The charges were filed by Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien upon a complaint filed by Ethics Commission Chief Investigative Attorney Paul M. Nick. Green admitted that from October 20, 2003 through December 20, 2005, he participated in the awarding of a contract for engineering services between the City of Upper Arlington and Floyd Brown Associates, an engineering firm, while Green's spouse was employed by Floyd Brown Associates. The City of Upper Arlington paid a total amount of \$120,896.00 pursuant to the contract after approval by City Council, which approval was based upon Green's recommendation. Green's spouse attended meetings related to the performance of this contract and her time was invoiced under the contract. The restitution was for payments made by the City to Floyd Brown Associates based upon Green's recommendation for work that was not completed under the terms of the contract.

The plea resulted from a joint investigation by the Ohio Ethics Commission and the City of Upper Arlington Police Department, in conjunction with the offices of Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien and Upper Arlington City Attorney Jeanine Amid Hummer.

The Ethics conflict of interest charge under Revised Code Section 102.03(D) is a first degree misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum penalty of up to a \$1,000 fine and/or six months in jail. The Ethics Law protects the public from improper conflicts of interest by prohibiting public officials and employees from hiring family and from misusing their public positions or participating in actions to benefit themselves or their family members.

The Ohio Ethics Commission is an independent state agency that oversees the Ethics Law for state and local public officials and employees outside of the General Assembly and judiciary. The Commission was created 35 years ago upon the enactment of the Ohio Ethics Law in 1973.