

BUY  
PHOTO  
REPRINTS  
ONLINE



**Many Hands**  
NEW ENGLAND'S MAGAZINE FOR HOLISTIC HEALTH

SERVICES DIRECTORY  
HOLISTIC NEWS AND REVIEWS  
COMMUNITY CALENDAR  
ALTERNATIVE CLASSIFIEDS

SUBSCRIBE TO  
THE GAZETTE  
ONLINE  
OR IN PRINT

**GAZETTENET.com**

Amherst Bulletin

The Recorder

Valley Advocate

Pioneer Valley

Many Hands

Hampshire Life

Sign out

Account

Trouble finding something?

Contact us

Classifieds

Daily Hampshire Gazette - Established 1786

news search

Local News | State/Region | U.S./World | Obituaries | Sports | Business | Schools | Colleges | Politics | Opinion | Entertainment | Health | Living | Sci/Tech

## Official fined for violation

Southampton case concerns dual jobs

By **CATHERINE BAUM**  
Staff Writer

Email this page | Printer-friendly version

Thursday, October 30, 2008

**SOUTHAMPTON** - Joseph Slattery, superintendent of the town's Water Department, recently paid a \$4,000 fine to the State Ethics Commission for violating the conflict of interest law.

Specifically, Slattery violated the law for holding multiple municipal positions and accepting appointment by his own board to a position supervised by that board, according to a disposition agreement issued Wednesday. Slattery signed the agreement last month.

The town's full-time Water Department superintendent since 1996, Slattery was also an elected member of the Board of Health from 1999 to January 2008. In January 2005, the board appointed him health agent, a position he held until January 2008.

The Board of Health agent, who is responsible for conducting on-site tests and inspections, may not also be a member of the Board of Health, unless the agent's appointment is approved at annual Town Meeting. There is no record that indicates Slattery's appointment was approved at Town Meeting.

The violations do not change Slattery's employment with the town, as he is not holding the health agent position, according to Town Administrator Diana Schindler.

Calls to Slattery and Board of Health Chairman Jean Paul Crevier were not returned.

"I wasn't aware of any of this going on ... it's all catching me by surprise," Selectmen Chairman Jess Dods said of the ethics violation. He noted the parties involved operate independently of selectmen. The Board of Health is elected and the superintendent of the Water Department is hired by the water commissioners.

"They're not really within our jurisdiction," Dods said.

The health agent receives a stipend of \$6,729 a year and a portion of health-service fees, Schindler said. For example, the health agent earns \$100 out of each \$135 septic fee, and the remaining amount goes to the town.

Slattery earns \$62,234 a year as Water Department superintendent.

The Ethics Commission began its investigation for possible violations of the conflict of interest law in December 2006, according to the disposition agreement.

Catherine Baum can be reached at [cbaum@gazettenet.com](mailto:cbaum@gazettenet.com).

Filed Under: [local](#) [news](#) [southampton](#)

Comments



### Popular stories

- [Obama chooses chief of staff; Kerry as Secretary of State?](#)
- [Tune-up gives UMass basketball fans first look](#)
- [Two hurt, one charged in crash](#)
- [Area Police News](#)
- [State tax change defeated; marijuana, dog racing measures pass](#)

### Gazette Newspaper Ads

[View all ads gallery](#)

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

# Bingo

POPE JOHN PAUL II CENTER  
Sugarloaf Street, South Deerfield

## WIN \$!

Play St. Stan's Bingo!

Sponsored by Holy Family Church  
Doors Open 4:30 • Games Start 6:30

[Click to enlarge](#)

**Post new comment**

**Your name:**  
[Catherine Baum](#)

**Subject:**

**Comment: \***



**Input format**

**Filtered HTML**

- Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
- Allowed HTML tags: `<a>` `<b>` `<i>` `<strong>` `<em>` `<code>` `<cite>` `<ul>` `<ol>` `<li>` `<img>` `<div>`
- Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

**Full HTML**

- Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
- Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

**More information about formatting options**



**USA's FREE Local Classifieds Site**

[NYC](#)      [Atlanta](#)      [Seattle](#)  
[Boston](#)    [Chicago](#)    [Miami](#)  
[Bay Area](#)   [Detroit](#)    [And more..](#)

**Always Free**    [Visit your Kijiji City](#)