



# CSI Digest

June 2016

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I was pleased to announce on June 22<sup>nd</sup> the launch of a new electronic toolkit that is designed to help Ohio's small businesses navigate regulatory issues and other matters. This new business asset is part of Ohio's Common Sense Initiative (CSI), which Governor John Kasich created in 2011 and tasked me with leading to help create a more jobs-friendly regulatory climate in Ohio. The



concept of the toolkit was conceived by business members of the Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE), the small business division of the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP). We have made great progress reforming Ohio's regulatory environment through CSI, but our progress is enhanced when small business owners and the organizations which represent them take part in the CSI process. The [CSI Small Business Toolkit](#) gives them the information they need in a simple, accessible way, and I hope it leads to even more business participation. Specifically, it gives Ohio's businesses information on how to participate in the rule review process, how to use CSI to resolve specific regulatory challenges, and shares some of the successes CSI has had in helping the business community since the office was created in 2011. COSE/GCP has also dedicated a portion of its own state regulatory [website](#) to CSI's Toolkit. As we prepare to celebrate Independence Day, we look forward to continuing the work to free Ohio businesses from unnecessarily burdensome regulations through increased participation in the CSI process. Have a Safe and Happy Fourth of July!

*Mary Taylor*

## CSI UPDATE: SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The [Small Business Advisory Council](#) (SBAC) is the nine-person advisory board comprised of small business owners and executives that meets quarterly to provide CSI with a small business perspective and guidance on its activities. At its most recent meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Council traveled to Toledo, where it was hosted by the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce. Lt. Governor Taylor commented on the progress CSI has made, and then unveiled the new CSI online toolkit described above. Additionally, the Council heard about Ohio's energy landscape and the State of Ohio's MBE and EDGE programs from representatives of the PUCO and the

Department of Administrative Services, respectively. The Council also met with a representative from the Ohio Department of Taxation to learn about the complicated applicability of Ohio’s sales tax in the manufacturing process. The next meeting of the Council is currently scheduled for August 10<sup>th</sup> in Columbus. The current Council members are:

Orlando Alonso	Tom Demaline	Mike Flowers
Mike Baach	Crystal Faulkner	Sandy Milligan
Michael Canty	Rick Fedorovich	Lorraine Walker

### CSI AT WORK

**Quick Serve Restaurant (QSR) Sales Tax Audits** – In Ohio, restaurants are required to tax food purchases that are consumed on-site, but not purchases made for consumption off-site. As a result, business owners can face significant liability if their employees are not appropriately asking their customers if the food is “for here or to go,” and there is no definitive way to identify after-the-fact whether the appropriate tax was collected. The CSI Office worked with the Department of Taxation and a working group of industry stakeholders over a period of more than a year to work through ideas to make the audit process more predictable and understandable, and to give business owners tools to better demonstrate to the state that they are following the law. The resulting [report](#) from the Department helps achieve the balance CSI sought, and outlines a variety of options for QSR businesses, including one called the Restaurant Compliance Program that reduces the likelihood of being selected for an audit and waiving of the 15% penalty applied during an audit should one occur. A high-level summary of the various options can be found on pages 18-19 of the report.

### AGENCY SPOTLIGHT: AGING

**Nutrition Rules** – The Ohio Department of Aging (“ODA”) worked on a series of related rule packages to overhaul the regulations addressing nutrition for individuals receiving meals under the federal Older Americans Act and Ohio’s PASSPORT Program to tailor the services involved to better meet the needs and wants of the individual consumer. In addition to the individual consumer, this overhaul impacted those groups and organizations that deliver those meals. These meal providers expressed concerns about some of the requirements that were originally proposed, and in response ODA worked with stakeholders from 2014 all through 2015. As a result of those efforts, the final rules crafted by ODA eliminated 210 unnecessary regulations and reduced the impact of 26 other rules on groups that deliver meals to the individual consumers.

### RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED IN JUNE

STATE AGENCY	CSI RECOMMENDATION ON RULE PACKAGE
Casino Control Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum Internal Control Standards</li> <li>• 2016 Five Year Review Batch One</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 Five Year Review Batch Two</li> </ul>
Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing</li> <li>• Check-cashing businesses</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standards for measuring sponsor compliance with applicable laws and rules</li> </ul>
Environmental Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 401 Program Rules</li> <li>• NOX and VOC Emission Statements and Air Pollution Control Fees</li> <li>• Underground Injection Control</li> <li>• Iron and manganese treatment</li> <li>• WQS Reorganization</li> </ul>
Landscape Architects Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Injunctions</li> </ul>

For more detailed information about rules CSI has reviewed or is in the process of reviewing can be found at [CSI Active Rule Packages](#).

## CONTACT CSI AND BE IN THE KNOW

- Help contribute to Ohio's success by pointing out to us state regulations that hinder your growth. [Share Your Solutions](#) or [email](#) us.
- Sign up for [e-Notification](#) of proposed rules that affect you or your members, and comment directly to agencies and CSI. Your comments help us evaluate the agency's rules. Choose the state agencies and program areas that impact your business. You'll receive user friendly emails notifying you of agencies' early stakeholder outreach, formal comment periods, and more.
- [Sign Up](#) for periodic updates on the progress of CSI.
- To stay informed, visit us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).
- You can also reach us by calling (855) 821-8898.

