



# Department of Justice

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**LAWYERS FROM OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S  
OFFICE CROSS-DESIGNATED AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEYS  
TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY ON PUBLIC-INTEREST CASES**

Steven M. Dettelbach, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, announced today the cross-designation of two investigative attorneys from the Ohio Ethics Commission and one lawyer from Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray's office to assist in cases investigated by the U.S. Attorney's office.

"We are excited to have Paul Nick and Julie Korte join our efforts to stamp out public corruption and Mark Wiseman to work with us on mortgage fraud," Dettelbach said. "We often see overlap in cases between our responsibilities and those of the Ohio Ethics Commission and the Ohio Attorney General's office. This arrangement will enhance communication and cooperation and enhance the efforts of all three agencies."

"Through the appointments of special counsel, we are forming an aggressive alliance to fight mortgage fraud on multiple levels," said Cordray. "Mark Wiseman's

experience in combating foreclosure will further enhance our ongoing efforts in assisting federal investigations and prosecutions.”

Wiseman, 44, of University Heights, currently serves as Principal Assistant Attorney General in the Consumer Protection Section of Cordray’s Cleveland regional office. Previously having served as the original director of the Cuyahoga County Foreclosure Prevention Program, Wiseman specializes in issues such as predatory lending and foreclosure rescue scams with a focus on helping Ohio families avoid home foreclosure.

Paul M. Nick and Julie Korte will assist as needed in prosecuting cases and insuring public officials abide by state laws that require them to accurately disclose all their sources of income and revenue.

“The designation of Ohio Ethics Commission Investigative Attorneys builds upon the positive working relationship over the past 25 years between the United States Attorney’s Office in the Northern District and the Ethics Commission,” said David E. Freel, Executive Director of the Ethics Commission. “Working together where our mutual jurisdiction and responsibilities to the public intersect helps to eliminate gaps in federal and state oversight of criminal misconduct by public servants.”

Nick is the Chief Investigative Attorney for the Ohio Ethics Commission and has been with the Ethics Commission for 15 years. Mr. Nick supervises the Commission’s investigations into the conduct of state and local officials and employees, and those with whom they do business. Mr. Nick has served as a special prosecutor in over 25 ethics-related, white-collar criminal prosecutions of public officials across the state. Before joining the Ethics Commission staff, Mr. Nick served as an Assistant City Prosecutor and Assistant City Attorney in the Columbus City Attorney’s Office. Mr. Nick is a graduate

of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Korte is the Senior Investigative Attorney for the Ohio Ethics Commission and has worked for the Commission since 1999. Ms. Korte has also served as a special prosecutor in ethics-related, public corruption prosecutions. Ms. Korte worked with other Special Investigators of the Commission and state and federal investigators on the Bureau of Worker's Compensation Task Force that investigated and prosecuted various state officials and private sector investment marketers. Prior to her service at the Commission, Ms. Korte served as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney with the Auglaize County Prosecutors Office and had a private practice. Ms. Korte is a graduate of the University of Toledo College of Law and the University of South Florida.

The Ohio Ethics Commission is an independent and bipartisan state agency that oversees the Ethics Law for all state and local public officials and employees, apart from those serving in the General Assembly and Judiciary, through advisory, education, financial disclosure, and investigative responsibilities to the public. The Ethics Law is sanctioned by criminal penalties for intentional violations. The Commission is 36 years old; created upon the enactment of the Ohio Ethics Law in 1973.