

The ECOT MAN Bill Lager's funds frozen.

Bill Lager owes \$117 million to the state, actually, he owes Ohio school districts from which he stole tax revenue. The amount Lager stole was no doubt closer to one half billion dollars since enrollment in his charter school operation was not audited for at least a dozen years. When state officials finally got around to auditing the enrollment, a dozen years had elapsed. The first year that ECOT was audited showed the theft totaled \$60 million for the one year.

The state's attempt to recover the stolen funds began nearly 7 years ago in Franklin County Common Pleas Court. On October 27, 2023, a court-appointed magistrate granted the state plaintiff's request for a preliminary injunction to freeze Lager's assets. Subsequently the court was obligated to decide whether the magistrate properly determined the factual issues and appropriately applied the law.

The court ruled on April 14, 2025, (18 months later) that Lager was strictly liable and that he breached his fiduciary obligations for private gain. Hence the court order enjoins Lager and his companies from consuming, encumbering, disposing of, concealing, or transferring assets or property interests pending the resolution of the case.

It is of interest that the Ohio Attorney General requested the asset-freezing injunction in September 2022.

The Judgment Entry is [here](#).

What do you think? Would a thief in this kind of scenario have had time, in a seven-year lapse, to have encumbered, disposed of, concealed or transferred his/her assets? Will the state ever collect any of Lager's stolen lucre? Don't count on it!

Who is at fault for this crime against public school districts and Ohio students? The answer is without a doubt; --the public officials who established the unregulated charter school scheme. The lack of regulations and monitoring in Charterland has invited fraud and corruption. Some nefarious crooks in the Ohio charter industry have shamed the state of Ohio.