

## CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

## NOTICE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION VIOLATION OF PROCUREMENT CODE

- 1. <u>Statutory Authority:</u> Section 50-37 of the Illinois Procurement Code, 30 ILCS 500/50-37, prohibits business entities with contracts and solicitations worth in excess of \$50,000 in combined annual value pending with a given officeholder responsible for awarding the contracts from making campaign contributions to campaign committees established to promote the candidacy of the officeholder or any other declared candidate for that office. The prohibition also extends to contributions made by various affiliated persons and businesses of a business entity that is subject to the prohibition. Section 50-37 requires that notice of violation of the prohibition and the penalty imposed is to be published in the Illinois Register.
- 2. Name of Contributor: Alpha Baking Company
- 3. <u>Date of Violation</u>: May 29, 2014
- <u>Description of Violation</u>: Alpha Baking Company made a contribution of \$2,500.00 to the Citizens for Rauner, Inc., a campaign committee established to support the election of Bruce Rauner to public office. Bruce Rauner was a declared candidate for Governor on November 25, 2013. At the time that Alpha Baking Company made the contribution it was prohibited from doing so on the basis of its contracts, bids and/or offers exceeding the \$50,000 annual total.
- 5. Summary of Action Taken by the Agency: Section 50-37 provides that State contracts with a business entity that violates the campaign contribution prohibition are voidable at the discretion of the chief procurement officer. The Chief Procurement Officer for Public Institutions of Higher Education has notified Alpha Baking Company of the apparent violation, reviewed responsive material provided by Alpha Baking Company, and has considered the value, status, and necessity of the contracts. In addition, the Officer has taken into consideration the recognition by Alpha Baking Company of the violation and their understanding of the necessity to avoid such situations in the future. We find that voiding affected contracts, bids or proposals would not be in the best interest of the State.

As required by Section 50-37(e) of the Procurement Code, Citizens for Rauner, Inc., is required to pay to the State an amount equal to the value of the contribution within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

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