

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

AMENDED NOTICE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION VIOLATION
OF PROCUREMENT CODE

This notice amends and supersedes the Notice of Campaign Contribution Violation of Procurement Code dated August 20, 2021, which was published in the *Illinois Register* at Volume 45, Issue 34, pages 10724 to 10725.

1. Statutory Authority: Section 50-37 of the Illinois Procurement Code, 30 ILCS 500/50-37, prohibits business entities with state 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: Avram Lothan
3. Dates of Violations: December 5, 2017 and December 19, 2017
4. Description of Violation: Avram Lothan made two different contributions totaling \$250.00 to Friends of Daniel Biss, a political committee that was formed to support the election of Daniel Biss to public office. At the time of the contributions, Daniel Biss was a declared candidate for Governor. At the time that Avram Lothan made the contributions, he was prohibited from doing so because he was an affiliated person of Lothan Van Hook DeStefano Architecture LLC, which holds State contracts totaling more than \$50,000 annually.
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 Avram Lothan of the apparent violations, reviewed responsive material provided by Avram Lothan, and has considered the value, status, and necessity of the contracts. In addition, the Chief Procurement Officer has taken into consideration the recognition by Lothan Van Hook DeStefano Architecture LLC of the violations and their understanding of the necessity to avoid such

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situations in the future. We find that voiding affected contracts, bids or proposals would not be in the best interest of the State.

The original notice erroneously mentioned Karen Lothan, an affiliated person of Lothan Van Hook DeStefano Architecture LLC, as having made two different campaign contributions to Friends of Daniel Biss and called for the campaign to pay an amount equal to the contributions to the State. However, Karen Lothan did not make any contributions to Friends of Daniel Biss.