

ILLINOIS REGISTER

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

NOTICE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS VIOLATION OF PROCUREMENT CODE

1. Statutory Authority: 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: Gerald Forsythe
3. Dates of Violations: May 11, 2017; June 7, 2017; June 22, 2017; and October 19, 2018
4. Description of Violations: Gerald Forsythe made five different contributions totaling \$7,701.00 to Citizens for Rauner, Inc., a political committee that was formed to support the election of Bruce Rauner to public office. At the time of the contributions, Bruce Rauner was a declared candidate for Governor. At the time that Gerald Forsythe made the contributions, he was prohibited from doing so because he was an affiliated person of INDECK Power Equipment Co., 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 Gerald Forsythe of the apparent violations, reviewed responsive material provided by Gerald Forsythe, and has considered the value, status, and necessity of the contracts. In addition, the Chief Procurement Officer has taken into consideration the recognition by INDECK Power Equipment Co. (Gerald Forsythe and the current President, Marsha Forsythe) of the violations 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 contributions within 30 days of the publication of this notice.