

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

NOTICE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION 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: Mr. Tom Grunloh
3. Date of Violation: December 8, 2025
4. Description of Violation: Mr. Grunloh, an affiliated person of the business entity Grunloh Construction, Inc., made a contribution of \$1,000 to Bailey for Illinois, a campaign committee established to support the election of Darren Bailey to the Office of Governor. At the time of the contribution, Darren Bailey was a declared candidate for the Office of Governor, and Grunloh Construction, Inc. had submitted a bid for a contract with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the total annual combined value of which was in excess of \$50,000.
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 Mr. Tom Grunloh of the apparent violation, reviewed responsive material provided by Mr. Tom Grunloh, and has considered the value, status, and necessity of the contract. In addition, the Chief Procurement Officer has taken into consideration the recognition by Mr. Tom Grunloh of the violation and his 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, Bailey for Illinois 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.