



Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

ICPA objects to Laura Belin's exclusion from governor's news conference

kobradovich@iowacapitaldispatch.com <kobradovich@iowacapitaldispatch.com>

Fri, Jul 30, 2021 at 11:50 AM

To: Iowa Capitol Press Association <iowacapitolpress@gmail.com>, news@weareiowa.com, Allison Smith <arsmith@hearst.com>, Benjamin Fisher <benjamin.fisher@thmedia.com>, Brianne Pfannenstiel <bpfann@dmreg.com>, Caleb McCullough <caleb-mccullough@uiowa.edu>, Chris Gothner <Chris.Gothner@hearst.com>, Clark Kauffman <ckauffman@iowacapitaldispatch.com>, "Coltrain, Nicholas" <ncoltrain@registermedia.com>, Cynthia Fodor <cfodor@hearst.com>, Dave Price <Dave.Price@whotv.com>, David Pitt <dpitt@ap.org>, Don Schmith <dschmith@weareiowa.com>, Erin Murphy <erin.murphy@lee.net>, Grant Gerlock <ggerlock@iowapublicradio.org>, Ian Richardson <IRichardson@registermedia.com>, Jack Hunt <jalns@hotmail.com>, James Lynch <james.lynn@thegazette.com>, John Pemble <jpemblem@iowapublicradio.org>, Julia Shanahan <julia-shanahan@uiowa.edu>, Katarina Sostaric <ksostaric@iowapublicradio.org>, Kay Henderson <khenderson@radioiowa.com>, Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>, Lauren White <lauren-white@uiowa.edu>, Michael Crumb <michaelcrumb@bpcdm.com>, Monica Madden <Monica.Madden@whotv.com>, Perry Beeman <pbeeman@iowacapitaldispatch.com>, Rachel Droze <RDroze@weareiowa.com>, Rod Boshart <Rod.Boshart@thegazette.com>, "Schmelzer, Amy" <ASCHMELZER@hearst.com>, Stephen Gruber-Miller <sgrubermil@registermedia.com>, Katie Akin <kakin@iowacapitaldispatch.com>, Eleanor Hildebrandt <ehildebrandt@iowacapitaldispatch.com>

Hi, everyone:

I am forwarding a copy of the email the ICPA officers sent this morning to Pat Garrett, objecting to the exclusion of Laura Belin from the governor's news conference this week. We also issued a statement to AP's Ryan Foley related to this topic and a separate public records issue.

Thanks,

Kathie Obradovich

Pat:

The Iowa Capitol Press Association objects to your exclusion of one of our members, Laura Belin, from the governor's news conference on July 28.

Belin, as a contractor with KHOI Radio, meets the only written media credential qualifications that exist in state government, created by the Iowa House for the 2020 legislative session. Another journalist and ICPA member who meets this same criteria, Jack Hunt, was credentialed to cover the Legislature in 2020 through a contract with a separate media organization. Further, the governor routinely admits journalists to cover news events outside of the Des Moines area who have never been credentialed by any state entity.

We respectfully request that Belin be admitted to all future news events as a member of the working press. Some representatives of the association would be happy to meet with you to discuss this issue.

--

Iowa Capitol Press Association

Erin Murphy, President

Kathie Obradovich, Vice President

Katarina Sostaric, Secretary

[@iacapitolpress](#)

[iowacapitolpress.com](#)

