



Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

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

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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.

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Iowa Capitol Press Association

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Kathie Obradovich, Vice President

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