



Laura Belin &lt;desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com&gt;

---

**FW: Scholarship funded by SRI/GovTech Services**

---

**Prichard, Todd [LEGIS]** <Todd.Prichard@legis.iowa.gov>  
To: "info@bleedingheartland.com" <info@bleedingheartland.com>

Fri, Sep 14, 2018 at 8:49 AM

---

From: Prichard, Todd [LEGIS]  
Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 2:47 PM  
To: 'Frank Rottinghaus'  
Subject: RE: Scholarship funded by SRI/GovTech Services

I see your concern. It seems pretty thin to me. While Meghan Tooker can say the vendors didn't choose the recipients, isn't the applicant pool limited to only the family of Treasurers'?

Todd

From: Frank Rottinghaus [mailto:[frottinghaus@floydcoia.org](mailto:frottinghaus@floydcoia.org)]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 4:29 PM  
To: Prichard, Todd [LEGIS]  
Subject: FW: Scholarship funded by SRI/GovTech Services

Hi Todd,  
I'm forwarding an e-mail exchange I've had with the legal counsel of the Iowa State Assn of Counties in regard to the Iowa Gift Law's application to a scholarship awarded to children and grandchildren of County Treasurer's. I am surprised that the executive director of the IECDB would arrive at this type of interpretation. Appears to be a shell game that obfuscates the intent of the law to me. What say you?  
Thanks for your time.  
Frank Rottinghaus

From: Kristi Harshbarger [mailto:[kharsbarger@iowacounties.org](mailto:kharsbarger@iowacounties.org)]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 9:10 AM  
To: Frank Rottinghaus  
Subject: RE: Scholarship funded by SRI/GovTech Services

Hi Frank:

I am aware of this scholarship and I think it complies with Iowa's gift law. A couple of important factors to that compliance that weren't mentioned in the announcement are: 1) the vendors made the donation for the scholarships to ISAC's Scholarship Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) entity. ISAC's Scholarship Foundation is not a restricted donor and thus not subject to Iowa's gift law. And we allow donations to be made with specific use parameters – for example the Foundation also gives a scholarship specifically to students interested in going to technology careers based on a specific donation from our ICIT affiliate and in the past ISAC districts have made donations to ISAC's Foundation for additional scholarships to be given to children of county officials in that particular district. 2) The winners of the scholarship were not actually selected by the vendors, but by a committee of treasurers. When we were approached about this scholarship for children of Iowa treasurers with a donation from vendors, we checked with Megan Tooker, executive director of the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board, on the legality of the situation. She said that the vendors could donate the money and the Foundation could give the scholarship, so long as the vendor didn't select the recipient.

I hope this information helps clear up your concern, but if you have additional questions, just let me know.

Thanks!  
Kristi

Kristi Harshbarger, General Counsel  
Iowa State Association of Counties  
5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266  
Email: [kharshbarger@iowacounties.org](mailto:kharshbarger@iowacounties.org)<<mailto:kharshbarger@iowacounties.org>>  
Phone: (515) 369-7014

Disclaimer: Please read this notice before using any materials or relying on any information in this e-mail. The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) provides education and information primarily as a general service to ISAC members. This communication, or any other communication with ISAC, does not create an attorney-client relationship. The information provided should not be interpreted or used as a substitute for a legal opinion from your county attorney or otherwise retained and qualified legal counsel.

From: Frank Rottinghaus [<mailto:frottinghaus@floydcoia.org>]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 12:50 PM  
To: Kristi Harshbarger  
Subject: Scholarship funded by SRI/GovTech Services

Ms. Harshbarger,

I'm finally getting around to dealing with an issue that has bothered me since I became aware of it. The issue is a scholarship award made by two companies that are vendors used by many county treasurers.

First of all let me share that I have been a longtime board member and past president of my local chapter of the Dollars for Scholars organization. My wife and one of my daughters are professional educators. I highly value advanced education for the young people who are the future of our Iowa communities.

I'm concerned that the donation of \$2,000 by SRI and GovTech Services is a clear violation of the Iowa gift law or at the least presents the appearance of an affront to the spirit of that law. I can see that this situation could be an embarrassment to the Treasurers Assn., ISAC and all local elected officials.

I have pasted the announcement of the winners of this scholarship by Ana Lair, then president of the Treasurers Association, in a newsletter distributed after this year's Annual Treasurers meeting.

Friday morning the announcement was made of the four \$500 SRI/GovTech Services scholarship winners. The winners are Ashlyn Frank, daughter of Vicki Frank, Louisa County Treasurer; Dana Killpack, daughter of Becky Killpack, Mills County Treasurer; Kacie Schreck, daughter of Marci Schreck, Guthrie County Treasurer; and Garrett Moorman, grandson of Debra Davison, Appanoose County Treasurer. We are grateful to SRI and GovTech Services for encouraging our students and appreciate the committee of county treasurers who served as the scholarship selection committee. This committee was chaired by Judy Crain, Fremont County Treasurer and included Dick Heidloff, Lyon County Treasurer; Rhonda McIntyre, Clinton County Treasurer; and Debbie Cannon, Ringgold County Treasurer. Congratulations Ashlyn, Dana, Kacie, and Garrett!

Your viewpoint on this matter will be much appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,  
Frank H. Rottinghaus  
Treasurer, Floyd County Iowa  
641-257-6118