

CPA Releases Statement on Trump, LL Bean and Political Contributions

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CPA Statement on Trump, LL Bean and Political Contributions

Bruce Freed, president of CPA, issued the following statement about the controversy over President-elect Donald Trump's endorsement of LL Bean following a contribution to a political action committee supporting Mr. Trump from a Bean family member:

“President-elect Donald Trump’s endorsement of LL Bean following receipt of a contribution to a political action committee supporting him from a Bean family member raises serious quid-pro-quo issues. Preferential tweeting puts a level playing field for companies at risk. The Bean episode highlights how companies can be bribed, bullied or rewarded for making political contributions. Although the contribution involved was personal, the exchange demonstrates the need for companies to take steps to protect themselves from the risks posed by pressure to engage in political spending. The best safeguard is the adoption of political transparency and accountability policies. These include clear policies that set out when and how companies will spend politically.”

The Center for Political Accountability has been spearheading the effort that is bringing transparency and accountability to corporate political spending. For more information, visit politicalaccountability.net/reports/political-spending-and-unintended-consequences and read the 2016 CPA-Zicklin Index at politicalaccountability.net/index.

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