



## Press Release

My name is Patrick Beaird. I live and work in Springfield and I'm currently employed as an IT project manager for the Bureau of Communications and Computer Services (also known as BCCS), which is part of the State of Illinois agency known as Central Management Services. I have over 17 years with the state starting in 1991.

Through my years of public service as a graphic artist, web developer, web team manager and project manager I can say I'm truly proud to have been part of a number of fulfilling efforts as a state employee.

These efforts have ranged from leveraging the internet to provide information and state services to improving web usability and accessibility, as well as e-forms, managing the Tech Town venue at the Illinois State Fair, a formalized structure for project management and currently projects involving the Illinois Century Network fiber backbone, IWIN and others.

After enduring years of political corruption, cronies and a lack of administration wisdom in silent disgust, I was encouraged by the arrest of Governor Blagojevich, and ultimately came to the conclusion, along with my wife, that it was time to speak out. To that end, I have made it my New Year's resolution for 2009 to do all I can to return Honor, Integrity, Respect and Authentic Public Service to State Government by becoming an active agent of change! I've created a web site called ReclaimIllinois.com, started informing others and have begun to reach out whenever and wherever I can to inform citizens, start dialog and encourage action.

I have developed a set of goals as follows:

### **Goals Aimed at Citizens**

- Inform the public of how corruption affects them
- Let citizens know what they can do to combat corruption
- Provide connections to informative resources
- Rally citizens to informed/wise political action
- Work toward a day when Illinois citizens are not embarrassed by our elected officials.
- Work toward the time when Illinois politicians will be generally thought of as trustworthy, authentic public servants

### **Goals Aimed at State Employees**

- Unite state employees to stand up and speak out against wrongs
- Urge state employees to no longer fear reprisals and retaliation
- Strive for the time when all state employees will be proud to be public servants
- Encourage state employees to accept a noble mission as: loyal guardians, fighting and working every minute to ensure that the good of the citizen is always the first priority.
- Have pride in being a government employee as part of a successful organization.

## **Goals Aimed at Government**

- Advocate for frugal management using common sense and sound judgment.
- Leadership without question of integrity.
- Successful removal and prosecution of the Corrupt, Cronies and the Self-Serving for their actions
- Restitution from those who have in any way defrauded, overcharged and/or misappropriated public funds or misled the people of Illinois.
- Enact checks and balances to prevent the spread of corruption again.
- Advocate for sweeping reforms
- Advocate for compassionate public service
- Advocate for better communications inside and out

## **To aid in achieving these goals I have created a number of recommendations to government leadership which include but are not limited to:**

- The Firing of Blagojevich cronies Now, starting with agency directors, deputy directors and lackey support staff, starting within CMS.
- Immediate halt of ALL use of the IBM-TSP contract for the hiring of contractual workers.
- Immediate halt in the payment of travel, lodging or any other expenses for Chicago area staff which commute to Springfield for work.
- Providing of all FOIA requests made to entities under the Governor on a single public web site in PDF format for future access by all.
- Review of ALL projects, initiatives and strategies.
- The review of ALL contracts (i.e., master contracts, consulting, leases, etc.) to ensure that they are in the state's best interest.
- Investigation and prosecution of those who, in any way, have defrauded, overcharged and/or misappropriated public funds and misled the people of Illinois.
- Rethinking and revamping of the Ethics Training game plan which has been a hypocritical joke under the Blagojevich administration.
- The hiring of appropriate staff resources to support quality service and provide additional jobs.

To spread my message and rally sustained activism among state employees and citizens in general, I will be talking to fellow state employees and citizens, maintaining the Reclaim Illinois web site ([www.ReclaimIllinois.com](http://www.ReclaimIllinois.com)), holding events, encouraging leaders to do the right thing, and uncovering corruption.

I request your attention and support in getting the word out.

Thank You,

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