

Received Oct. 27, 2017



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

October 23, 2017

**Via certified mail**

Mr. Randy Brooks, President  
Atlanta Public Library District  
100 Race Street, P.O. Box 568  
Atlanta, IL 61723

RE: Illinois Secretary of State Live & Learn Grant

Dear Mr. Brooks,

The Office of the Secretary of State is in receipt of your letter and corresponding documents sent on September 25, 2017, as well as the quarterly report filed with the Illinois State Library for the period of July 1 through September 30, 2017.

This letter shall serve as written notice that the grant funds must be repaid to the Illinois State Library within 90 days from the date of this letter, pursuant to 30 ILCS 705/8.

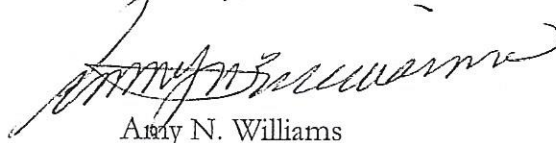
This Office has reviewed the materials provided in response to the letter sent to the Atlanta Public Library District on September 18, 2017. As you know, Article 12 of the grant agreement requires strict adherence to all Illinois laws. The Public Officer Prohibited Activities Act, 50 ILCS 105, expressly prohibits elected or appointed persons from having a financial interest in any contract or performance of any work on which they may be required to act or vote. The Act renders any such contract, performance of work void. This Office finds that due to William Thomas's financial interest in the building leased and contracted for during the term of this grant to be void pursuant to this Act. Because the lease was void during the relevant time period, the Atlanta Public Library District failed to achieve and maintain compliance with the terms of the grant.

This Office has determined that the full amount of the Live & Learn Construction Grant previously awarded to the Atlanta Public Library must be repaid, in full, to the Office of the Secretary of State within 90 days from the date of this letter. Further, the Atlanta Public Library District is not eligible for the Illinois State Library's per capita grant until the grant has been repaid in full.

The Grant Recovery Act does afford the Atlanta Public Library District with an opportunity for an administrative hearing, should you wish to contest the Office's determination. Pursuant to 30 ILCS 705/8(b), should you wish to request an administrative hearing, you must do so within thirty-five days from the date you receive this letter.

The grant funds should be repaid to the Illinois State Library, Gwendolyn Brooks Building, 300 S. Second St., Springfield, Illinois 62701-1976 and should be sent to the attention of Deputy Director Greg McCormick.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy N. Williams".

Amy N. Williams  
Office of the General Counsel  
298 Howlett Building  
Springfield, IL 62756  
[awilliams3@ilsos.net](mailto:awilliams3@ilsos.net)

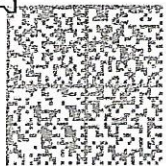


**JESSE WHITE**  
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**GENERAL COUNSEL**



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