

HR Bartender Blog Disclosure Statement (as of January 2012)

My goal in publishing HR Bartender was to create a place to talk about workplace issues, engage other HR and business pros in some conversation, and maybe offer a few helpful tips. I'm not a professional journalist but I do consider myself a professional *writer*. I have books in the Library of Congress (yea!) but they don't have anything to do with this blog. Someday I hope to write a book using the information from HR Bartender. When I do, you'll be the first to know (trust me – I won't be keeping it a secret.)

In addition to writing for HR Bartender, I occasionally write for other publications. Some of those assignments are paid and some aren't. When I do, I'm subject to their policies, procedures and editorial guidelines and I don't reproduce those articles on HR Bartender. There's a [RESOURCES](#) tab on the blog so you are able to check out my other articles if you are so inclined. (I hope you will, I'm very proud of them.)

I have no intention of charging people to read HR Bartender. So paid (as well as barter) advertising and sponsorships are available. I do this to offset the time and cost of publishing the blog. They are noted in the [advertising section](#) of the blog. And, if someone gives me a pile of money to write a post promoting their product/service, it has been and will continue to be duly noted.

I participate in a couple of affiliate programs. Over the past few years, I haven't received enough affiliate money to pay my electric bill for one month. Needless to say, I don't hold my breath for this money or rely on it as a source of income.

And, while I would love it if people sent me cool samples (like Starbucks coffee, wine, an iTunes gift card or anything with bacon in it) alas...they do not. I do get lots of free books that I use as giveaways. So the stuff I write about is a result of either me buying it or my family/friends gifting it to me. Many thanks to my family and friends – your gifts are always most appreciated!

Occasionally, companies that provide products and services will take me out to lunch, buy me coffee, etc. I probably should eat salad during these meetings, but most of the time I'll have a cheeseburger. During the business card swap, HR Bartender occasionally comes up. I've never been asked to endorse a product or service on the blog in exchange for a cheeseburger. If that happens, I'll be sure to disclose it – because it will be one really darn good cheeseburger.

I support a few associations and advisory committees. I do this, because I feel it's important to give back to my profession and community. If I support a group, it's because I believe in the organization's mission. Supporting a group doesn't change what I write. In fact, I'd like to think it works the other way around and I'm a contributor to the group's POV.

In addition to being a professional writer, I consider myself a professional speaker. As such, I get invited to attend conferences (sometimes as a speaker or a blogger or just because people think I'm fun to hang out with). Recognizing that I write and speak for a living, sometimes conference planners will offer me a free registration, subsidize my travel expenses or negotiate a sponsorship package.

The bottom line: I make an honest living speaking, writing and being a training and organizational development consultant. If anything changes, I'll be sure to let you know. Thanks for taking the time to read this disclosure. If you have any questions about it, feel free to drop me a note at slauby@hrbartender.com

- Sharlyn