

HR Bartender Blog Disclosure Statement (as of January 2010)

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 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 might 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 guest blog on other sites. When I do, I don't make any money and I'm subject to their policies, procedures and editorial guidelines. I try to cross reference the guest post on my blog because it just seems like a really nice way to thank them for publishing my guest post.

Currently, HR Bartender doesn't have regular advertising or sponsorships. At some point, I think it would be nice and when that happens, you'll know ... well, because they'll be visible on the blog (doh!) And, if someone gives me a pile of money to write a post promoting their product/service, it will be duly noted.

Oh, I participate in Google AdSense and the Amazon affiliate program. Since the start of the blog, I have accumulated \$35 in Google AdSense revenue and \$7.67 with Amazon. They don't cut checks until you've amassed \$100 in revenue (each). I'm not holding my breath for this money and you probably shouldn't either.

And, while I would love it if people sent me samples (like iPhone web apps, netbooks, Starbucks coffee, wine, or anything with bacon in it) alas...they do not. So anything I write about is a result of either me buying it or my family/friends gifting it to me. Thank you 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 hamburger. 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 hamburger. If that happens, I'll be sure to disclose it – because it will be one really darn good hamburger.

I serve on a few boards and advisory committees. I do this, in part, because I feel it's important to give back to my profession and community. And if I sit on a board, it's because I believe in the organization's mission. Being a member of a board does not influence what I write. I'd like to think it works the other way around and I contribute to board decisions. Otherwise, why participate?

I've planned conferences for years so, occasionally, 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). If I believe the program is valuable to my professional development and can afford it, I attend. Recognizing that I'm self-employed, sometimes conference planners will offer to subsidize my expenses. No one has ever asked me to write about their event in exchange for attending a conference. But if I found the event valuable, I'd write about it (again, not as a professional journalist). Since I have received invitations to attend conferences prior to starting HR Bartender, I'm not sure I draw a correlation between the two. But just in case...I'm tossing it in.

The bottom line: I make an honest living blogging and being an employee training and human resources consultant (again, not as a professional journalist). 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