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Alaskan Wins \$1000 Retirement Contribution in DASH for the STASH Contest

February 22, 2018 ANCHORAGE – In public libraries across the state, Alaskans learned about key investing topics—financial fraud, building a nest egg, selecting financial advisers, and the cost of investment fees—by participating in the 2017 [DASH for the STASH](#) investor education contest. At the conclusion of the contest, one lucky Alaskan was randomly selected to receive a \$1000 individual retirement account (IRA) contribution.

The winner, a 38-year-old Juneau woman, played DASH for the STASH at the Alaska State Library. She described her experience by saying, “I enjoyed the open and straightforward opportunity to learn about investing. The posters are fun, the class by Alaska’s Division of Banking and Securities was an informative and relaxed place to learn and ask questions without getting biased answers, and the staff at IPI [Investor Protection Institute] were helpful, friendly, and willing to share great information.”

The unique, scavenger hunt-like contest attracted an estimated 1300 participants to 138 participating locations in eight jurisdictions across the country. The *DASH for the STASH* contest is organized annually by the Investor Protection Institute (IPI) and state securities agencies. New to the 2017 program was an online version, which operated in a video game format. One winner per month was randomly selected from online participants to receive a \$150 IRA contribution.

“The Alaska Division of Banking and Securities is proud to collaborate on education programs such as DASH for the STASH because we are committed to providing Alaskans with tools to help them become more informed investors and protect themselves from potential financials scams,” said Kristy Naylor, acting director of the Division of Banking and Securities.

IPI President and CEO Don Blandin added, “We are honored to collaborate with state securities administrators, public libraries, workplaces and community organizations dedicated to educating their communities.”

The Division of Banking and Securities is a division of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development tasked with protecting consumers in Alaska. For information about the division, visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/dbs. For additional information about the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and its other agencies, visit commerce.alaska.gov.

The Investor Protection Institute (<http://www.ilinvest.org>) is an independent nonprofit organization that advances investor protection by conducting and supporting unbiased research and groundbreaking education programs. IPI carries out its mission through investor education, protection and research programs delivered at the national and grassroots level in collaboration with state securities regulators and other strategic partners. IPI is dedicated to providing innovative investor protection programs that will make a meaningful difference in the financial lives of Americans in all walks of life and at all levels of sophistication about financial matters.

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