#### Gift Tracking Database User Guide

#### Dear Public Official:

I have created a gift tracking database (for Microsoft Access 2000 or higher), based on a presentation I received at a SACRS (State Association of County Retirement Systems) conference. Counsel for LACERA (Los Angeles County Employees' Retirement Association) provided a presentation on the importance of tracking and reporting gifts. A log sheet was provided, whereby one sheet would be needed for each individual. This seeded, or seated, the idea for this automated database.

I hope I have created a database that is user friendly and stable enough for simplified use. Since I did not have the time to make it fool proof or infallible, some database experience and training is recommended before use. At a minimum, a review of the following guide will help with understanding its structure and operation.

There are basically two sections: data entry and reporting.

The <u>data entry</u> section is for adding gift entries, donor individuals, and donor companies. A donor individual must have a donor company. If a donor company does not exist for the individual you want to add, you will need to add the company first. If a donor individual is a sole proprietor, simply enter their full name as the company to place them under. (e.g. Individual = Donald Kendig and Company = Donald Kendig)

The various <u>reports</u> alert you to possible conflicts of interest, law violations, and Form 700 reporting requirements. Law violations can occur by exceeding a calendar year maximum. A conflict of interest on a particular agenda item or decision may exist based on exceeding a rolling 12 month "look back" maximum.

To save individual's time setting this database up for their use, the database if prepopulated with firms and individuals from the SACRS roster. There are first names for individuals and company names. The form 700 requires addresses, so fields have been provided for them, but they are not necessary.

To see how the reporting works, before jumping in and using it, I have also provided some fictitious sample data from 1951 and 1952 for the reports. To see how the reports would appear with your data, you can click on them and enter dates based on the years 1951 and 1952, or the ranges from 1/1/1951 to 12/31/1952.

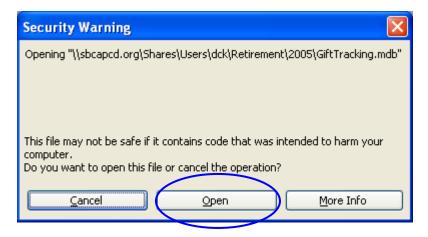
If you have any questions about the database or how to use it, please contact me. If you would like to know more about conflict of interest laws and our reporting requirements, consult with your counsel or view the FPPC website.

Very truly yours,

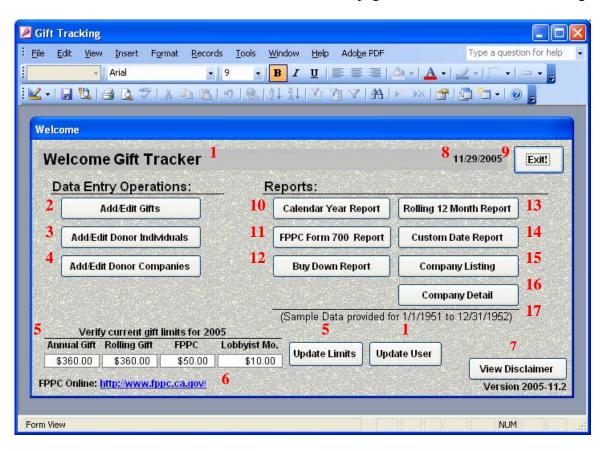
Donald Kendig, CPA

## **Expanded Instructions**

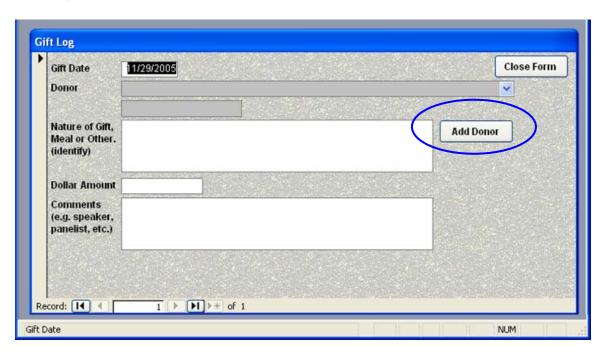
On opening, you might get this message, depending on your security settings. Even though this database was created on a "clean" machine, it has some custom VBA coding that I developed, which triggers this generic warning message. Select "Open" to proceed.

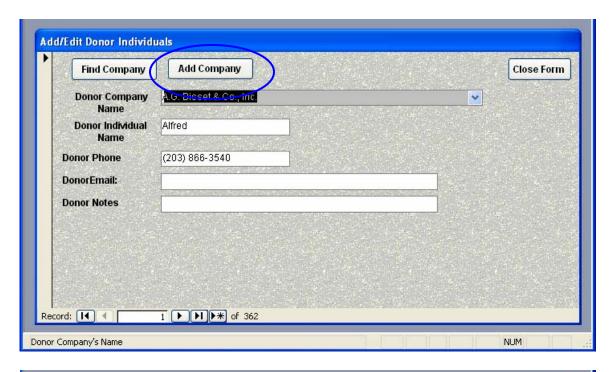


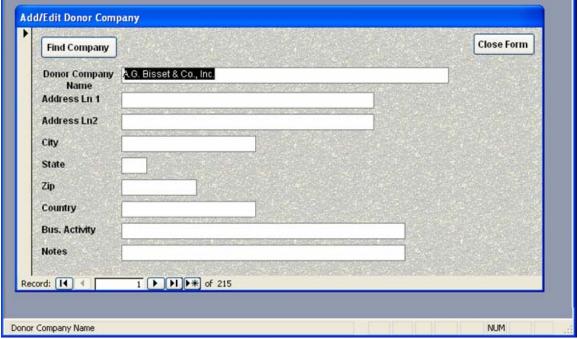
This is the welcome Screen. Items numbered on this page are described on the following.



- 1. Customizable name: the name at the top can be customized by clicking on the update user button. this name will also personalize all of the reports.
- 2. Button for adding/editing/deleting gifts
- 3. Button for adding/editing donor individuals
- 4. Button for adding/editing donor companies
- 5. Current gift limits and button to update limits in out years:
- 6. Hot link to FPPC online.
- 7. Important database disclaimer message.
- 8. Current date
- 9. Exit button
- 10. Calendar year report of all gifts.
- 11. Calendar year report for only gifts that need to be reported on the Form 700.
- 12. Calendar year report showing gifts that exceed the legal limit and that need to be bought down.
- 13. Rolling 12 month report for conflict of interest determination.
- 14. Custom date report for individualized analysis and review.
- 15. Company listing with individual names and phone numbers.
- 16. Detailed company listing with company address and individual email information, among other things such as individual and company notes.
- 17. Sample data from 1/1/1951 to 12/31/1952 was used to test the reports and is available to allow you to sample the reports.
- 1. Gift Log Form: Use this form to enter gifts you receive. If you cannot find a donor company or individual in the pull-down list, click on the Add Donor button. The Add/Edit Donor Individual Form will appear. If a company listing does not exist for the individual you will need to click on the add company button which will open the Add/Edit Donor Company form. (Companies must exist before individuals can be added to them.)



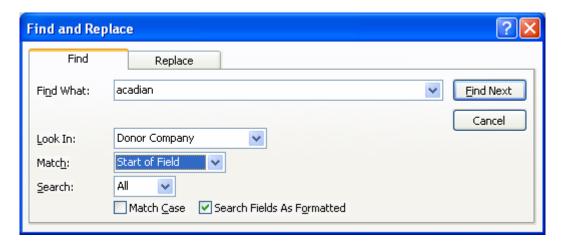


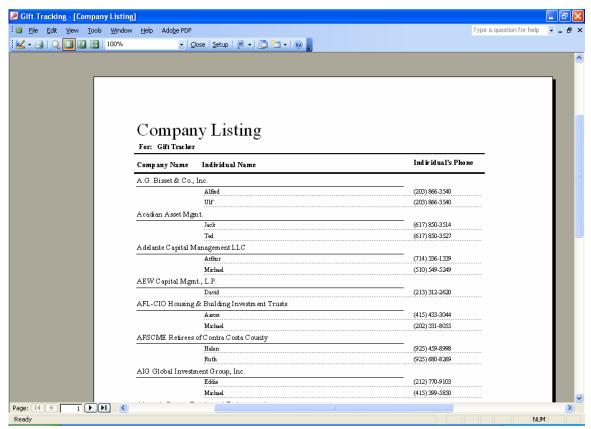


**Note:** Both forms only allow you to enter new companies and individuals or correct names. This is because the database is a multi-year continuous reporting system. If you were able to delete a company or individual from the company a few years down the road, you might loose your ability to print historical reports with that donor in it.

This can make the list quite long over time, and I am interested in any ideas for easier company management. The note on the bottom of the following page does explain how to get a fresh start.

When finding a company, a tip is to Match only the start of the field. You could also try matching any part. Also there is a report that lists them alphabetically. You can print the report periodically to update your Company listing.

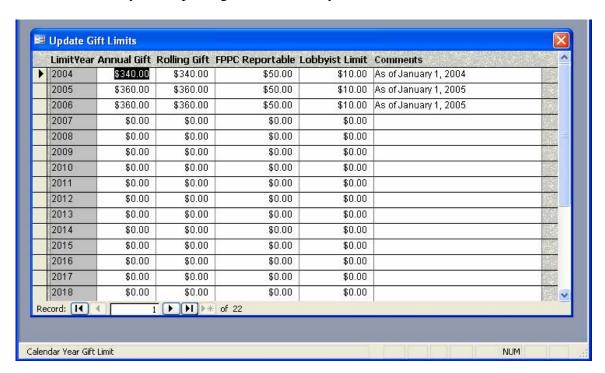




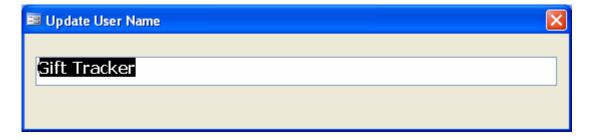
**Note:** The database is pre-seeded with a listing of Investment Management firms and sample data. If these are not firms you regularly work with, or you would like to start from scratch, you download and use the blank database as a starting point.

## **Miscellaneous Forms**

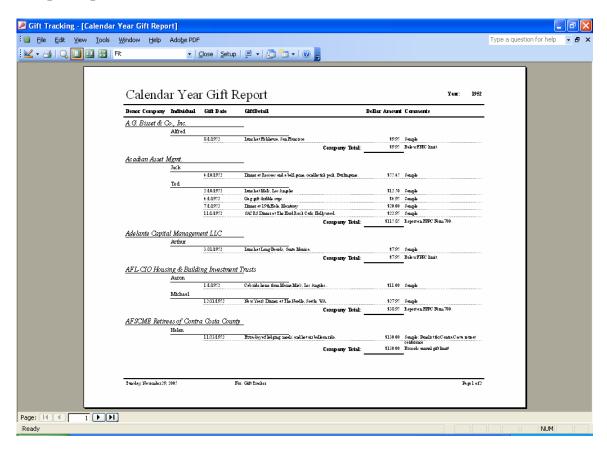
This form allows you to update gift limits in out years.



This is the form for updating the database user name.



# Sample Report



#### **Disclaimer**

Don't forget to review the disclaimer.

