

Daily OBSERVER

Some Misconceptions and Gross Misinterpretations of AG Designate Kilby's CV

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We have followed with keen interest the hoopla surrounding the nominee for Auditor General for the Republic of Liberia. From the day of the president's announcement until today, there had been many things in the press that have caught our attention.

Kilby attended the University in College Park, Maryland. Not Maryland State University as has been reported in several print media.

He is a CPA. He did not say that he earned a CPA Certificate from the AICPA as misquoted by Liberia National Students Union (LINSU). There is a distinct difference between a CPA Certificate and a License to provide a particular service. The AICPA developed the Web Trust and the SysTrust audit programs. A CPA Practitioner is required to sign a Licensing Agreement with the AICPA/CICA (Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants to perform these services. Under these programs, Kilby's firm (Independent Software Certification, LLP) audited the Digital Assurance Corporation (DACBOND.com) a former - Ernest and Young Company, as shown in his C.V

Mr. Kilby was licensed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants under the Web Trust and SysTrust programs a.k.a. the AICPA Trust Services. These are the two IT Systems Audit Program licenses that the AICPA avail to practitioners to perform Information Systems audit within the public and private domain.

Yes, this information can easily be validated by the AICPA. The right questions need to be asked to get the correct answers. Being knowledgeable of what you are asking with always give you the correct answers to your questions.

LINSU either does not understand the CPA and Auditing Profession or it is a concerted effort to distort Mr. Kilby's accomplishments. We find this very disturbing and counterproductive. Many credible people are being derailed and undermined by our media reports. The failure of doing due diligence is harming the reputation of the country, if you ask my opinion on this practice.

It is not a strange concept in the United States to obtain a dual major in college. Kilby did earned a dual major from the University of Maryland at College Park in Accounting and Information

System Management. He did chose as an option, as stated in his CV to graduate with his bachelor in Information Technology Management.

The amount of credit that one must earn in accounting, business law, tax laws, etc. to take the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) examination is more than the credits needed to earn a Bachelors degree in Accounting in many universities. In fact, the AICPA and 50 State Boards of Accountancy were considering making the requirement to sit for the CPA exam more stringent. The proposal requires CPA candidates to possess a Masters degree to sit for the CPA exam.

No one without extensive knowledge in accounting can sit a CPA exam and pass it. Well, if you are a genius and exceptionally gifted, you may have a shot; but you have to study accounting.

We urge the Senate to confirm Mr. Kilby as Auditor General as all allegations against his CV has proven to be misrepresentations and misinterpretations. Please do the right for Liberia and let's put politics and grandstanding aside. Today, it is Robert L. Kilby, tomorrow it could be you.