

My second post to the page was a Sunday, February 7, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. Again, from my residence, and from my cell phone. *(Please see Attachment 4)* My third post was on Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 10:08 a.m., again from my cell phone and on a picture clearly taken on my cell phone. *(Please see Attachment 5)*. My next five posts were again either on a Sunday or a weekday, early morning hours or evening from my cell phone. Without getting repetitive, I have posted on this Facebook page a total of 13 times and only 2 of which were during what would be considered "normal business hours." Nonetheless, both posts that were done during "normal business hours" were done from my cell phone and while I was either on my lunch break, break or simply not in the office. I have never used my county issued computer or equipment to post to this page. Every message received through the page gives an alert to my cell phone and email of RansomLegal@gmail.com. And any response is through the same. I am surprised my response time is represented as so fast by Facebook, as there appears to be some posts that I have not responded to. *(See Attachment 4)*

I have also designated admins on Facebook, other than myself, to edit, manage, and post to the page as necessary, only further evidencing posts coming from locations outside of the office. The reason I also bring this up is in reference to the page comment under the photo provided by Mr. Harwell as his *Attachment 10*. The comment was made by someone at their residence, but also on my page as an admin, thus making it look like its actually coming from my page. I have confirmed that this was in fact done out of the office and at her residence while she was out for vacation. It is clear from the statement "when I am not there."

As a County Prosecutor, and as other elected officials, I am not always in my office during what would be considered "normal business" hours. My hours vary, and many times I am working in the early morning hours, evenings and weekends. It is common that I am out of the office at meetings, court and other functions that make it impossible for me to maintain what would be considered "normal business hours."

In response specifically to the photo with the coffee cup; that picture was taken by using a phone and posted with a phone and not using any county property. The post references myself, as prosecutor, being at work and thanking the ladies at Cornerstone Coffee McBain for the coffee. It in no way depicts a violation of MCL 169.257 of using County Stationary to "make a contribution or expenditure or provide volunteer person services." Nor was it my intent to do so. This photo in no way represents my own personal opinion as that of the agency as prohibited Sec. 15.342(2) and as quoted by Mr. Harwell. Nonetheless, to go even further to ensure compliance, I have since then removed the photo from public view.

In response to the petition circulation: Again I did not use County property, personnel, property or resources to circulate petitions. All signatures were obtained in compliance with campaign laws. The Petitions themselves in no way serve as evidence to the contrary. 14 of the signatures were not obtained by myself, but by James Bosscher. Most of the others were obtained at functions outside of a county organized function: one in particular is my pistol league at the Missaukee Gun Club.

In response to my Campaign Cover Page. The specific assertion is that my Sec. 7 typing of "Business Address" of P.O. Box 348, Lake City, MI 49651 is assuming that I use that for mailing. Although that is the P.O. Box for the Prosecutor's office in Missaukee, it is very clear from the form itself that I never intended for mail to be circulated or received by using the P.O. Box 348. On that same form, it clearly states on **Sec. 5 "Committee's Mailing Address"** as 6782 S. Lucas Road, McBain MI 49657. Again on Sec 8. **The Designated Record Keeper's Name and Mailing Address is:** Melissa J. Ransom, 6782 S. Lucas Road McBain, MI 49657. *(Please reference "Candidate Committee Cover Page provided by Mr. Harwell as his attachment 12)* I have never received mail at the P.O. Box 348. All campaign correspondence has been going to my correct committee mailing address. Ironically, Mr. Harwell used a very old P.O. Box 363 to send this complaint. That P.O. Box belongs to the former Prosecutor, Mr. William Donnelly, who this complaint was actually sent to and subsequently forwarded to me. P.O. Box 363 has no connection to our current office.

I want to thank you for your time to look into this matter further and review my response. It is my utmost desire to ensure that I am in compliance and find it unsettling that it has been called into question. Please feel free to contact my with any questions that may arise.

Sincerely,



1

Aeresa Hammick Spann, Deloris Dee Brinks and 16 others

Chronological

Greg Winkelmann Give a "free pass" for the 300th like. I bet you get there real quick.

Like · Reply · Message · 1 · February 7 at 11:42am

Write a comment

Press Enter to post.

Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor updated their profile picture

Published by Melissa Ransom on February 2



Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 4:40am



Keep This page...

with both hands for better stability, gun control, and safety? Just wondering is all, not trying to start anything.

Like · Reply · Message · April 19 at 12:15pm · Edited

Write a comment



Press Enter to post

Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Published by Melissa Ransom (P) · February 7

are than 200 likes in 24 hours! Thanks ever
support!

Sunday, February 7, 2016 at 12:32am

20 people reached



Like · Comment · Share

Theresa Harbeck Spant, Deirdre Dee Brooks and 16 others

Checked out

Greg Vinkelmann Give a like pass for the 2000 like I set you get this
fast quick

Like · Reply · Message · Share · Comment

①



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Published by Melissa Ransom [?] - February 28 *

So glad I became a member of the Missaukee Conservation Club. It has improved my gun control and safety. I look forward to our Thursday nights.



Re
20
201

Keep M
Th

2

RANSOM

Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee
 County Prosecutor
 Community

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO KEEP MELISSA RANSOM



Like Message

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO	
Start Date	Started on July 1, 2013
Short Description	My name is Melissa Ransom and I am running for your Missaukee County Prosecutor. Please like and share my page as we work to Keep Melissa Ransom!
Phone	(231) 839-3111
Email	mransom@missaukee.org

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Dove
 NEW Dove Dry Oil Moisture
 with Moroccan Argan
 Oil—nourish & protect even
 the driest skin!

Like Page

YOUR GAMES



RECOMMENDED GAMES



- Joy Thornton
- Nazareth Christian ...
- Rosette Bruni
- Dan Chaffee
- Ashley Kotalk
- Pennie Brigham
- Bobby Flint Photoz
- MORE FRIENDS (15)
- Ashley Nicole Peter

https://www.facebook.com/messages/1180274683



3

MILLIONAIRE RANSOM

Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor
 Missaukee County Prosecutor
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 Community

Like Message ...

Timeline **About** Photos Likes Videos

Create Page

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No time for a Masters?
 ion.bakercollegeonline.com
 Earn your Master degree
 100% online from an
 accredited leader in online
 education.

YOUR GAMES MORE



RECOMMENDED GAMES MORE



- Heather Marie
- Ron Chaffee
- Vicki Musselman
- Piper Dore
- Joan Chaffee
- Ashley Nicole Peter...
- Ashley Carlson
- MORE FRIENDS (8)
- Allen Others

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO

Start Date Started on July 1, 2013

Show Description My name is Melissa Ransom and I am running for your Missaukee County Prosecutor. Please like and share my page as we work to Keep Melissa Ransom!

Email mransom@missaukee.org



4

Keep MELISSA RANSOM
 as Missaukee County Prosecutor
 Community
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Like Message

Create Page

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100% ONLINE

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO	
Start Date	Started on July 1, 2013
Board Description	My name is Melissa Ransom and I am running for your Missaukee County Prosecutor. Please like and share my page as we work to Keep Melissa Ransom!
Email	mransom@missaukee.org

Ready to earn more?
 ien bakercollegeonline.com
 Take your Nursing career to the next level 100% online with a bachelor or master degree



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 att.com
 Get the Samsung Galaxy S6 Active for \$0 down on AT&T Next

Chat (13)



(5)

KEEP MELISSA RANSOM

Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

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Like Message

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO	
Start Date	Started on July 1, 2013
Short Description	My name is Melissa Ransom and I am running for your Missaukee County Prosecutor. Please like and share my page as we work to Keep Melissa Ransom!
Email	mransom@missaukee.org

Create Page

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AT&T
Get the Samsung Galaxy S7 for \$0 down on AT&T Next.



Get a FREE punch card App
www.flok.com
Do you run a Restaurant, Coffee Shop, Spa or Salon?
Get a FREE punch card app

Chat (15)



6

KEEP MELISSA RANSOM



Keep Melissa Ransom as
Missaukee County Prosecutor
Community

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Like Message

Create Page

Sponsored



Kohl's
Go mad (hatter) for the new
LC Lauren Conrad Alice in
Wonderland collection
<http://kohls.com>

Like Page

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO	
Start Date	Started on July 1, 2013
Short Description	My name is Melissa Ransom and I am running for your Missaukee County Prosecutor. Please like and share my page as we work to Keep Melissa Ransom!
Email	mransom@missaukee.org

Chat (5)



7

RANSOM



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor
Community
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Like Message

Create Page

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO

Start Date	Started on July 1, 2013
Short Description	My name is Melissa Ransom and I am running for your Missaukee County Prosecutor. Please like and share my page as we work to Keep Melissa Ransom!
Email	mransom@missaukee.org

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"Best. Game. EVER!"
☆☆☆☆ Hot Shot Casino Slots
Mr. Monopoly is waiting for YOU! PLAY NOW & Win 300,000 FREE COINS!

Play Now

Chat (21)



8

RANSOM



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor
Community
Like Message

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO

Start Date Started on July 1, 2013

Short Description * This page is authorized and paid for by the Committee to Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor
6782 S. Lucas Road Mcbain, MI 49657 231.920.229

Email mransom@missaukee.org

Create Page

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Pet Armor Plus
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Fast acting and long lasting topical formulated to protect your dog against pests



Free Shipping + Low to \$8
100 000+ Styles of Fashion
Clothes from \$8-45 Shop Now!

Chat (13)

↑

9



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Community

For By the Committee To Keep Melissa Ransom

Like Message

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

PAGE INFO

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Start Description This page is authorized and paid for by the Committee to Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor 6782 S. Lucas Road McBain, MI 49657 231.920.229

Email mransom@missaukee.org

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Chat (14)



10

MELISSA RANSOM



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor
@KeepMelissaRansom
Committee To Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor, 6782 S. Lucas Road, McBain, MI 49657

Like Message

Timeline **About** Photos Likes Videos

2 notifications from Cameron Harwell and Anna Carrington



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About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

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Chat (16)

(11)

Facebook browser interface showing the page title and address bar.

Address bar: <https://www.facebook.com/keepmelissaransom/>

Navigation bar: Home, Search, and other utility icons.

Keep MELISSA RANSOM

Missaukee County Prosecutor

Missaukee County Prosecutor

@keepmelissaransom

Keep Melissa Ransom
6782 S Lucas Road McBain, MI 49957

Like Message

Timeline About Photos Events

About Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

Started on July 1, 2013

This page is authorized and paid for by the Committee to
 Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor
 6782 S Lucas Road McBain, MI 49957 231 920 229

Create Page

Sponsored

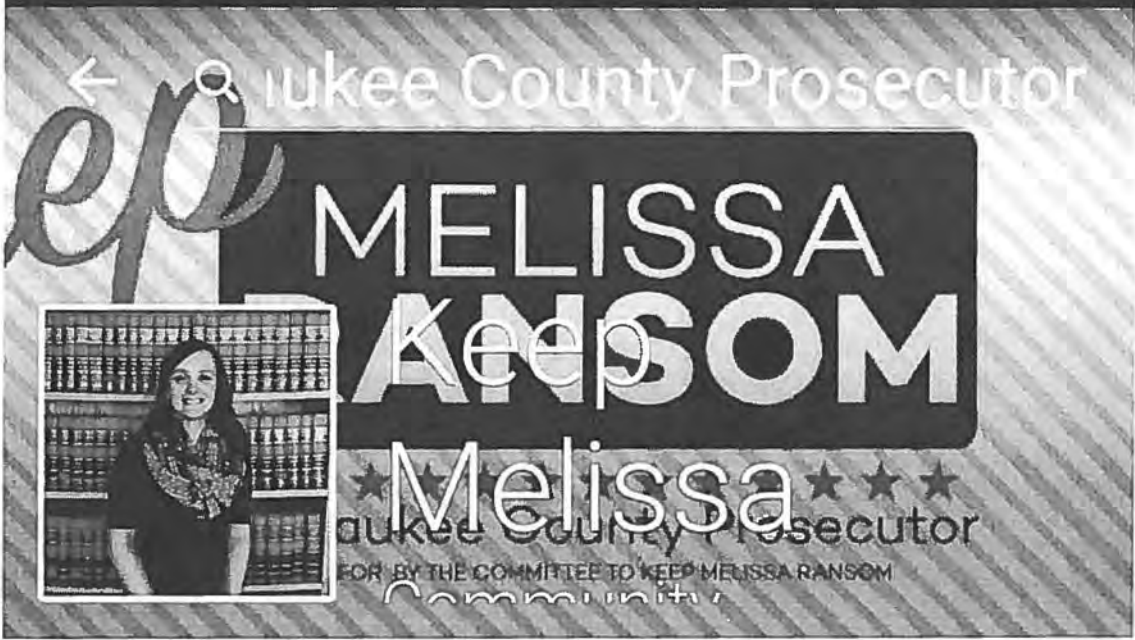
Customize your space with
 custom Facebook Pages
 designs. Perfect for any type
 of business. Free design support.





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 with AT&T Business.
 Get up to a \$500 reward card
 when you switch to AT&T
 Business Internet Service.

Windows taskbar showing various application icons and system tray information.


System tray: Chat (18), 2:00 PM, 6/5/2016






- 
Like
- 
Message
- 
Save
- 

 Very responsive to messages

 324 people like this
Dawn Kelly and 4 other friends

 Invite friends to like this Page

About

 Typically replies within minutes
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 Call (231) 839-3111



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[SBM Connect](#) |

Member Directory Search Details

Only active members are eligible to practice law in Michigan.

[Search Again](#)

Melissa J. Ransom—P73521 (active and in good standing)

ADDRESS

Missaukee County Prosecuting

129 S Main St

PO Box 348

Lake City, MI 49651-0348

[Map It](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: (231) 839-3111

e-Mail: mransom@missaukee.org

[vCard Electronic Business Card](#)

Committees: Representative Assembly

Sections: Young Lawyers

Michigan Licensed: 1/11/2010



Cadillac, MI Law Office

Melissa J. Ransom Attorney at Law

The law office of Melissa J. Ransom Attorney at Law of Cadillac, MI is a general practice law firm. We provide quality and effective legal representation in a variety of legal areas. We are dedicated to pursuing the best legal outcome for our clients.



Learn More About Melissa J. Ransom Attorney at Law:

- Criminal defense
- Divorce
- Family law
- Probate
- Landlord / tenant
- Child custody

Melissa is a Cadillac Alumni of 2001. She received her undergraduate degree in History from Michigan State University in 2005 and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Detroit Mercy in 2009. Melissa is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and of the American Bar Association.

Contact Melissa J. Ransom Attorney at Law today at 231-920-8542 for a free initial consultation.

Contact Information

231-920-8542 ✳

[Click to email us](#)

[View our full website](#)

[Address / Get Directions](#)



Melissa J. Ransom Attorney at Law
121 N. Mitchell St. Suite F
Cadillac, MO 49601

note:
↑ My own office address listed. CSH.



Missaukee County Prosecutor's Office

Missaukee County Prosecutor's Office
129 S Main St
Lake City, MI 49751

- Timeline
- About
- Photos
- Reviews
- More

Like | Message

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DiscountMugs
discountmugs.com
Sunglasses can be personalized with your logo or unique design. Free Shipping on select items.



Get a FREE punch card App
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Do you run a Restaurant, Coffee Shop, Spa or Salon?
Get a FREE punch card app

About Missaukee County Prosecutor's Office

Overview

Page Info



Missaukee County Prosecuting Attorney

129 S Main St
Lake City, MI

(231) 839-3111

Today 8:30AM - 5:00PM

<http://www.missaukee.org/d>



Melissa Ransom



Melissa Ransom

Add Friend

Message

Timeline About Friends 3 Mutual Photos More

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Get the reliability you i ATT.COM/SMALLBUSIN Get up to a \$500 reward when you switch to AT& verse® Internet Service



Build Your Store on FE www.shopify.com Be easy to find. Sell on Facebook.

About

To see what she shares with friends, send her a friend request.



You and Melissa have 3 mutual friends

Overview

Work and Education

Public Defender at Wexford County Probate Court

Places She's Lived



Studied at Michigan State University Past: Cadillac High School

Contact and Basic Info

Family and Relationships



Lives in Cadillac, Michigan From Cadillac, Michigan

Details About Melissa

Life Events

No relationship info to show

Friends

Add Friend

All Friends Mutual Friends High School Current City Hometown More

Search Friends



Keri Emery Cook 1 new post

Friends



Crystal Luhrs 57 mutual friends including Mark Pitz and Auni Deana

Friends



Bill Barnett 10 new posts

Friends



Chris Stoddard 37 mutual friends

Add Friend



Niki Nichols 9 mutual friends

Add Friend



Kyle Maury 5 mutual friends

Add Friend



Missaukee County Prosecutor

Public Figure

Add a Button Like Message

Timeline About Photos Events More

Promote

THIS WEEK

1,828 Post Reach

141 Post Engagement

2 of 10 Resource Posts

1 day Resource Time

About Cameron Harwell for Missaukee County Prosecutor

Page Info

People Public Figure

Cameron Harwell for Missaukee County Prosecutor

Choose three words to describe your Page

www.facebook.com/HarwellForProsecutor

Launched on April 27

121 N. Mitchell St., Cadillac, Michigan 49601

Current No Party Affiliation

Write a short description for your Page

Paid for & approved by:
Cameron Harwell for Missaukee County Prosecutor
121 N. Mitchell St.
Cadillac, MI 49601
(231)876-1728

- Enter bio

- Enter awards

- Enter gender

- Enter more info about yourself

- Enter some personal interests

(231) 876-1728

camharwell@gmail.com

*

*

*

Melissa Ransom



Melissa Ransom

Add Friend

Message

- Timeline
- About
- Friends 3 Mutual
- Photos
- More

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Febreze NOTICEables coupons.com
 Just one of our refills do a job of up to 4 of theirs. \$ now on Febreze NOTICEables.



Build Your Store on FE
www.shopify.com
 Get ahead of the game.

About

To see what she shares with friends, send her a friend request.



You and Melissa have 3 mutual friends

- Overview
- Work and Education
- Places She's Lived
- Contact and Basic Info
- Family and Relationships
- Details About Melissa
- Life Events

CONTACT INFORMATION

No contact info to show ←

BASIC INFORMATION

Gender Female

Friends

Add Friend

- All Friends
- Mutual Friends
- High School
- Current City
- Hometown
- More
- Search Friends



Keri Emery Cook
 1 new post

Friends



Crystal Luhrs
 57 mutual friends including Mark Pitz and Aunt Deana

Friends



Bill Barnett
 10 new posts

Friends



Chris Stoddard
 37 mutual friends

Add Friend



Niki Nichols
 9 mutual friends

Add Friend



Kyle Maury
 5 mutual friends

Add Friend

19



Like



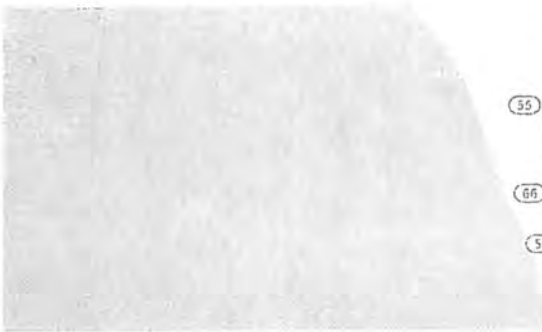
Save



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About



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209 S Canal St, Lake City, Michigan



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Co. # used for private practice to date.



Suggest Edits

Melissa J Ransom Attorney at Law

Law Firm

0 reviews on Yahoo

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Co # - private practice?

Directions

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A Leading National Mesothelioma Law Firm. Call Now.

Reviews

We currently don't have any Yahoo reviews for **Melissa J Ransom Attorney at Law**



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

March 11 · 🌐

My Friday coffee from Cornerstone Coffee in McBain. It gets me through that final day! It's almost the weekend folks!





Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor

March 11



My Friday co

Friday, March 11, 2016 at 9:04am

that final day: It's almost the weekend folks!

In Mcbain. It gets me thro





POSTS



Mary Canfield

February 5 at 11:29am

Are you people in missaukee co vote for Ransom

Comment

1 Like



Clorinda Starlin

February 5 at 3:30pm

Sandy "like" it too

Comment

1 Like



Like

Comment

Share



21

Chronological



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor What is your coffee cup doing on my desk? You know I tape.....audio and video.....when I'm not there, right? 😏

Like Reply 1 April 5 at 9:24am

Write a comment...



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor updated their cover photo.

February 1

Monday, February 1, 2016 at 1:32pm



☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ Missaukee County Prosecutor



Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor updated their cover photo.

February 5 · 🌐



Friday, February 5, 2016 at 3:09pm

Keep


**MELISSA
RANSOM**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Missaukee County Prosecutor

PROSECUTOR MISSAUKIE COUNTY MISSOURI


(20)




 **Keep Melissa Ransom as Missaukee County Prosecutor**

Like This Page · February 28 ·

So glad I became a member of the Missaukee Conservation Club! I have improved my gun contr and safety. I look forward to our Thursday nights. *

Like Comment Share 


31 Chronologica

 **Corey Wiggins** So what you are saying is that I have to be more careful when I ask for lesser charges?


Like · Reply · 2 · February 28 at 10:19am

 **David Koenig** You guys rock!

Like · Reply · February 28 at 1:11pm

 **Wayne Campbell** Just curious, why aren't they each holding their hand gun with both hands for better stability, gun control, and safety? Just wondering is all, not trying to start anything.

Like · Reply · April 19 at 12:15pm · Edited

 Write a comment...

People You May Know

See All



Jill Smart
2 mutual friends
Add Friend



Thomas Jefferson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Greatest 4th In The North Grand P...

Boost Event

Subscribed

+ Create Event

VISITOR POSTS

Cameron Harwell for Missaukee County Prosecutor

Thank you all for your support!!

Boost Post

Settings Help

Promote

THIS WEEK

1,470 Post Reach

112 Post Engagement

0 of 0 Response Rate

1 day Campaign Time

27

Spanish (Spain) Portuguese (Brazil) French (France) Deutsch

Create Post

Like Comment Retweet

Cameron Harwell for Missaukee County Prosecutor





STATE OF MICHIGAN
RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

August 16, 2016

Cameron Harwell
121 North Mitchell Street
Cadillac, Michigan 49601

Dear Mr. Harwell:

The Department of State (Department) has concluded its investigation of the complaint you filed against Melissa Ransom, which concerned an alleged violation of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* This letter concerns the disposition of your complaint.

You filed your complaint on May 4, 2016. Ms. Ransom filed an answer on May 24, 2016, and you filed a rebuttal statement on June 10, 2016.

In Michigan it is unlawful for a public body or an individual acting on its behalf to use or authorize the use of "funds, personnel, office space, computer hardware or software, property, stationery, postage, vehicles, equipment, supplies, or other public resources to make a contribution or expenditure [.]” MCL 169.257(1). A knowing violation of section 57 is a misdemeanor offense. MCL 169.257(4).

Your complaint alleged that Ms. Ransom used county funds or resources to with regard to her "Keep Melissa Ransom Missaukee County Prosecutor" campaign Facebook page. You alleged that Ms. Ransom updated this Facebook page during business hours, and by doing so she "campaign[ed] during working hours a public officer." You further alleged that Ms. Ransom listed her county mailing address and telephone number on her 2015 October Quarterly campaign statement cover page in contravention of the Act. You finally alleged that Ms. Ransom circulated her nominating petitions "using public buildings, staff and other resources."

As evidence, you provided a screenshot of Ms. Ransom's Facebook information page which listed her county phone number and county email address, 4 screenshots which indicate the Facebook page was updated or posted to during normal business hours, a copy of Ms. Ransom's 2015 October Quarterly campaign finance statement cover page, and copies of 3 nominating petitions which contain signatures dated on weekdays.

The Department first notes that the mere appearance of Ms. Ransom's county phone number and county email address on her campaign Facebook page and campaign finance report does not give rise to a contribution or expenditure by the county. In order for a violation of section 57 to occur, county funds must be spent or county equipment or resources must be used in furtherance of a candidate's nomination or election. In her answer to your complaint, Ms. Ransom asserted that she has never received a phone to her county phone or an email to her county email

regarding her campaign. She further asserted that all campaign activity is conducted through her personal cellphone, which is not county-issued, and her personal email account. Additionally, Ms. Ransom has stated that the Facebook page has now been updated to include only her personal cellphone number and email address.

No evidence has been offered that would support a determination that Ms. Ransom actually conducted any campaign business using her county phone or county email account, and Ms. Ransom denies using her county phone or county email to conduct campaign activity. Because the evidence you have provided is insufficient for the Department to determine that the county office phone or county email was used for any campaign activity, this portion of your complaint is dismissed.

Your complaint also alleged that Ms. Ransom expended county funds in contravention of the Act by updating her campaign Facebook page during business hours. You provided screenshots which show that the page was updated or posted to on four occasions during normal business hours.

In her response, Ms. Ransom asserted that she has posted to the page twice during “what would be considered ‘normal business hours [,]’” but those posts were made while she was on her lunch break, break, or not in the office. She further asserted that she made the posts from her personal cellphone and that she has never used a county-issued computer or county-issued equipment to post to the Facebook page. She also asserted that there are other administrators of the page who can edit, manage, and post to the page. Ms. Ransom stated that her hours vary, and that she does not always work normal business hours, but sometimes works early morning hours, evenings, and weekends, and that she is out of the office often for meetings and court appearances.

Because no evidence was provided to the contrary, the Department takes Ms. Ransom at her word that the 2 updates or posts made by her during normal business were done while Ms. Ransom was on a break or away from her office, and that she used her own personal cellphone. Because the evidence is insufficient to support a determination that Ms. Ransom expended county funds to update her campaign Facebook page, this portion of your complaint is dismissed.

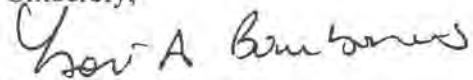
Finally, you alleged that Ms. Ransom circulated nominating petitions using county resources or staff. As evidence you provided copies of three nominating petitions which contain signatures dated on weekdays.

In her response, Ms. Ransom asserted that she did not use county property, personnel or resources to circulate the petitions.

Cameron Harwell
August 16, 2016
Page 3

The three petition sheets provided as evidence by you is insufficient to support a determination that the petitions were circulated using any county resources. While they may have been circulated on weekdays, the Department has no evidence that they were circulated on county time or using county resources. Therefore, this portion of your complaint is also dismissed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori A. Bourbonais".

Lori A. Bourbonais
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State