



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

September 21, 2012

Harry Moore  
7018 North Cochran Road  
Charlotte, Michigan 48813

Dear Moore:

The Department of State (Department) has concluded its review of the complaint you filed against Mike Raines, concerning 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 alleged that Sheriff Raines failed to include a complete and correct identification statement on his campaign signs located throughout Eaton County. The MCFA and corresponding administrative rules require a person who produces printed material that relates to an election to include the phrase "Paid for by [name and address of the person who paid for the item]." MCL 169.247(1), R 169.36(2). A knowing violation constitutes a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.00, imprisonment for up to 93 days, or both. MCL 169.247(5).

Sheriff Raines filed a written response to your complaint on August 2, 2012. You did not file a rebuttal statement with the Department.

As evidence, you provided the Department a copy of a picture of one campaign sign which stated "I Like Mike RAINES FOR SHERIFF REPUBLICAN [.]". From the picture, it was possible to discern that something may have been written in the bottom right-hand corner of the sign, but it was not possible to determine for certain that writing was there or that it was an identification statement.

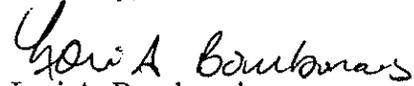
In the answer to the complaint, the treasurer of Sheriff Raines' campaign committee, Fred McPhail, stated that "[a]ll signs contain the proper disclaimers and language." Upon request of the Department, Mr. McPhail sent, via e-mail, two pictures of a Sheriff Raines campaign sign. The paid-for-by statement on the bottom right-hand corner of the sign is visible in both pictures.

After reviewing the evidence submitted by the parties, the Department has concluded that the evidence does not establish that there may be a reason to believe that Sheriff Raines has violated section 47 of the MCFA. Consequently, your complaint is dismissed without prejudice. If you find evidence of campaign signs or materials that do not contain a complete and accurate

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identification statement and wish to submit a new complaint, the Department will review the matter at that time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori A. Bourbonais". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Secretary of State

c: Mike Raines