



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

May 15, 2018

Willie Bell  
4243 Kensington Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

Dear Mr. Bell:

The Department of State (Department) has completed its investigation of the complaint filed against you by Scott Boman, which alleged that you violated section 47(1) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.247(1), by failing to include a complete and correct identification statement on certain campaign-related material. This letter concerns the disposition of Mr. Boman's complaint.

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(6).

The Act also requires the Department to "endeavor to correct the violation or prevent a further violation by using informal methods [.]" if it finds that "there may be reason to believe that a violation ... has occurred [.]". MCL 169.215(10). The objective of an informal resolution is "to correct the violation or prevent a further violation [.]". *Id.*

Mr. Boman filed his complaint on October 19, 2017, and you filed a written response on November 6, 2017.

First, the Department apologizes for the delay in resolving this complaint. Regrettably, your answer was misfiled in our office and it was not brought to our attention until recently.

Mr. Boman alleged that you failed to include the paid-for-by statements on your campaign materials. In support of his complaint, Mr. Boamn provided pictures of signs which stated, "Re-Elect Willie Bell for Police Commissioner[.]" It appeared that the paid-for-by statements were omitted on these materials.

In your response you admitted that the omission of this information was a mistake and would not be repeated should you choose to run for future office.

While the Department believes that the evidence tends to show that your campaign material failed to contain a complete paid-for-by statement and a technical violation occurred, section



15(10) of the MCFA requires the Department to “endeavor to correct the violation or prevent a further violation by using informal methods such as a conference, conciliation, or persuasion [.]”

The Department is advising you that section 47(1) and R 169.36(2) require you to print a complete and accurate identification statement on all campaign materials, consisting of the phrase “paid for by” followed by the full name and address of your committee. Note that all printed materials that refer to an election or your candidacy produced in the future must include this identification statement.

Please be advised that this notice has served to remind you of your obligation under the Act to identify your printed matter, and may be used in future proceedings as evidence that tends to establish a knowing violation of the Act. A knowing violation is a misdemeanor offense and may merit referral to the Attorney General for enforcement action. MCL 169.247(6), 215(10).

The Department now considers this matter closed and will take no further action against you at this time.

Sincerely,



Adam L.S. Fracassi  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Scott Boman



**Willie Bell**  
4243 Kensington Avenue ∞ Detroit, Michigan 48224  
313-268-8831 ∞ [Bintab@aol.com](mailto:Bintab@aol.com)

RECEIVED/FILED  
MICHIGAN DEPT OF STATE  
2017 NOV 16 AM 8:17  
ELECTIONS/GREAT SEAL

November 6, 2017

Ms. Lori A. Bourbonais  
Michigan Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H. Austin Building  
430 West Allegan Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Lansing, Michigan 49818

Dear Ms. Bourbonais:

Thank you for your letter on October 27, 2017. I appreciate being made aware of the unfortunate oversight. As a three-time candidate over the last four years, I know that a disclaimer should appear on our mailers and other campaign material. It was not my intention to not have it included. To show proof of this, I have attached the literature used during my first campaign for the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners in 2013 and my race for the Michigan House of Representatives in 2016.

When the consultant who oversaw my literature development for the two previous campaigns was not available, I decided to handle it myself. Unfortunately, I did it at a time when I had to unexpectedly go out of town due to the death of my sister-in-law. As a result, this mistake was not caught during my proofread or from my printer.

As tomorrow is Election Day, I will not be printing any additional campaign material for this race. However, you have my assurance that this omission will not be repeated should I run for office in the future.

I may be reached at [Bintab@aol.com](mailto:Bintab@aol.com) or by phone at 313-268-8831 if you have questions.

Sincerely



Willie Bell



# Elect WILLIE BELL

## FOR STATE REP DISTRICT 2

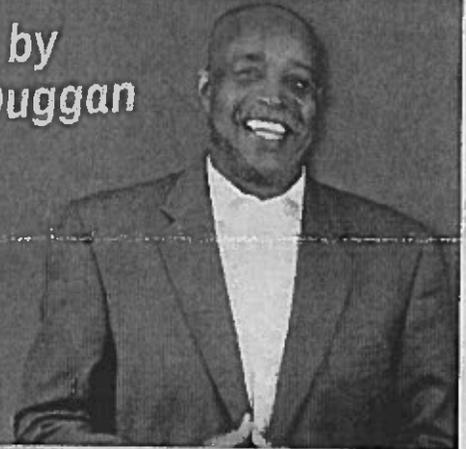
PAID-FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT WILLIE BELL - PO BOX 241238 - DETROIT, MI 48224 - LABOR DONATED



### EXPERIENCE & EDUCATION

U.S. Army Sergeant, Veteran of the Vietnam War  
Detroit Police Dept., Lieutenant, 32 years of Service  
Central Michigan Univ., Bachelor of Science

Endorsed by  
Mayor Mike Duggan



### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS, PAST CHAIR  
National Black Police Association, Past Chairman  
Detroit NAACP, Past Board Member  
East English Village, 41 yr. Resident

## TESTED & EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP

For more information: [electwilliebell@outlook.com](mailto:electwilliebell@outlook.com) or call 313-268-8831

# WILLIE BELL FOR POLICE COMMISSIONER DETROIT DIST. 4

### EXPERIENCE & EDUCATION:

- \* U.S. Army Sergeant, Veteran of the Vietnam War
- \* Detroit Police Dept. Lieutenant, 32 yrs. of Service
- \* Central Michigan Univ., Bachelor of Science
- Community Development

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- \* Plymouth United Church of Christ, Deacon
- \* National Black Police Association, Past Chairman
- \* Detroit NAACP, Past Board Member
- \* Dominican High School & Academy, Basketball & Track Coach
- \* East English Village, 39-yr. Resident



## PUBLIC SAFETY IS JOB ONE

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT WILLIE BELL - PO BOX 241238 - DETROIT, MI 48224  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WILLIE BELL.

EMAIL: [ELECTWILLIEBELL@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:ELECTWILLIEBELL@OUTLOOK.COM) OR CALL 313.473.7870





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

October 27, 2017

Willie Bell  
4243 Kensington Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

Dear Mr. Bell:

The Department of State (Department) received a formal complaint filed by Scott Boman against you, alleging that you violated section 47(1) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.247(1), by failing to include a complete and correct identification statement on certain campaign material. A copy of the complaint is provided as an enclosure with this letter.

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), Mich. Admin. 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(6).

Mr. Boman alleges that you failed to include a complete paid-for-by statement on your mailer.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Department's examination of these matters and your right to respond to the allegations before the Department proceeds further. It is important to understand that the Department is neither making this complaint nor accepting the allegations as true.

**If you wish to file a written response to this complaint, you are required to do so within 15 business days of your receipt of this letter. Please include any evidence that reflects any corrective measures you have taken to bring your campaign material into compliance with the MCFA.** Your response may include any written statement or additional documentary evidence you wish to submit. All materials must be sent to the Department of State, Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918. If you fail to submit a response, the Department will render a decision based on the evidence furnished by the complainant.

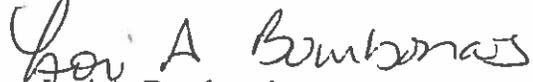
A copy of your reply will be provided to Mr. Boman, who will have an opportunity to submit a rebuttal statement to the Department. After reviewing all of the statements and materials provided by the parties, the Department will determine whether "there may be reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] has occurred [.]" MCL 169.215(10). Note that the Department's enforcement powers include the possibility of entering a conciliation agreement, conducting an

Willie Bell  
October 27, 2017  
Page 2

administrative hearing, or referring this matter to the Attorney General for enforcement of the criminal penalty provided in section 47(6) of the Act.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact me at (517) 241-0395.

Sincerely,



Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Secretary of State

c: Scott Boman

**Michigan Department of State  
Campaign Finance Complaint Form**

This complaint form may be used to file a complaint alleging that someone violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the MCFA, 1976 PA 388, as amended; MCL 169.201 *et seq.*).

Please print or type all information.

I allege that the MCFA was violated as follows:

RECEIVED/FILED  
MICHIGAN DEPT OF STATE  
2017 OCT 19 PM 5:13  
ELECTIONS/GREAT SEAL

Section 1. Complainant		
Your Name Scott Avery Boman		Daytime Telephone Number (313) 247-2052
Mailing Address 4877 Balfour Road		
City Detroit	State Michigan	Zip 48224

Section 2. Alleged Violator		
Your Name Willie E. Bell		
Mailing Address 4243 Kensington Ave.		
City Detroit	State Michigan	Zip 48224

**Section 3. Alleged Violations (Use additional sheet if more space is needed.)**

Section(s) of the MCFA violated:

169.247

Explain how those sections were violated:

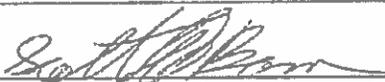
Candidate Willie E. Bell sent out a bulk mail campaign postcard urging recipients to "Re-Elect" him without including the correct an complete identification statement on the card.

Evidence that supports those allegations (attach copies of pertinent documents and other information):

I have included a high resolution scan of the document. Only the recipient's address is covered to protect the privacy of the recipient. The number of cards sent can be determined based on the amount of postage billed to Permit number 6067.

**Section 4. Certification (Required)**

*I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, each factual contention of this complaint is supported by evidence.*

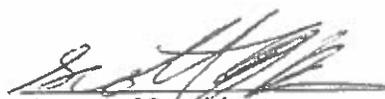
X  10-19-2017  
Signature of Complainant Date

**Section 5. Certification without Evidence (Supplemental to Section 4)**

Section 15(6) of the MCFA (MCL 169.215) required that the signed certification found in section 4 of this form be included in every complaint. However, if, after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, you are unable to certify that certain factual contentions are supported by evidence, you may also make the following certification:

*I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, or belief, there are grounds to conclude that the following specifically identified factual contentions are likely to be supported by evidence after a reasonable opportunity for further inquiry. Those specific contentions are:*

That over 500 post cards were sent out by Willic E. Bell without the complete and correct identification statement. These cards included the statement "Re-Elect" before the candidates name. The "further inquiry" would be based on number of cards sent out using Bulk Permit 6067.

X  10-19-2017  
Signature of Complainant Date

Section 15(8) of the MCFA provides that a person who files a complaint with a false certification is responsible for a civil violation of the MCFA. The person may be required to pay a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00 and some or all of the expenses incurred by the Michigan Department of State and the alleged violator as a direct result of the filing of the complaint.

Mail or deliver the completed complaint form and evidence to the following address:

Michigan Department of State  
Legal and Regulatory Service Administration  
Richard H. Austin Building - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
430 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, Michigan 48918

*Re-Elect* **Willie BELL**

**FOR POLICE COMMISSIONER  
District 4**

**Vote**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7**  
or by Absentee Ballot

**(313) 268-8831**

[www.facebook.com/ElectWillieBell](http://www.facebook.com/ElectWillieBell) • [www.electwilliebell.com](http://www.electwilliebell.com)

**Accountability is clear as a BELL**



**Committee to Elect Willie Bell**  
P.O. Box 241236  
Detroit, MI 48224

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 6067  
DETROIT MI





*Re-Elect*  
**Willie BELL**  
**FOR POLICE COMMISSIONER**  
District 4

Northeastern High School Graduate  
Central Michigan University Graduate

U.S. Army Sergeant - Honorable Discharge  
Vietnam War Vet

Served 32 years as a Detroit Police Officer  
Retired DPD Lieutenant

Past Board Member of the Detroit NAACP

Proud father and grandfather  
East English Village resident for over 40  
years

Active community advocate who works  
tirelessly with neighbors and youth

Dedicated to promoting justice, fairness,  
accountability and effectiveness in law  
enforcement

Twice elected by board members as  
Chairman of the Board of Police  
Commissioners



**Vote TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 or by Absentee Ballot**

