

Complainant:
Jacob Singer
9540 Klais Road
Clarkston, MI 48348
248-410-9621

RECEIVED/FILED
MICHIGAN DEPT OF STATE

2018 OCT 29 AM 9:59

CLERKS/GREAT SEAL

Alleged Violator:



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Committee Details

Committee ID:	97123
Committee Name:	TAXPAYERS ALLIANCE GROUP
Committee Type:	BALLOT QUESTION
Formation Date:	09/28/2018
Has Waiver:	No
Committee Address:	189 W. CLARKSTON, BOX 1 LAKE ORION, MI 48361
Telephone:	(248) 613-6295
Mailing Address:	PO BOX 314 LAKE ORION, MI 48361
Treasurer:	STONE, SUSAN 189 W. CLARKSTON, BOX 1 LAKE ORION, MI 48362
Telephone:	(248) 814-9700
Designated Recordkeeper:	STONE, SUSAN 189 W. CLARKSTON, BOX 1 LAKE ORION, MI 48362
Telephone:	(248) 814-9700

Violation 1:

A direct mail postcard was sent to voters which did not contain any information about how it was paid for, because it not have the name of the entity sending the card.

169.247 Printed matter or radio or television paid advertisement having reference to election, candidate, or ballot question; name and address; identification or disclaimer; size and placement; rules; exemption; statement that payment made "with regulated funds"; communication exempted under section 6(2)(j); violation as misdemeanor; penalty; prerecorded telephone message.

Sec. 47.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subject to subsections (3) and (4), a billboard, placard, poster, pamphlet, or other printed matter having reference to an election, a candidate, or a ballot question, shall bear upon it an identification that contains the name and address of the person paying for the matter.

Violation 2:

I do not have the section of state campaign finance law, which this violates.

A factual inaccuracy was listed on the same postcard.

“These bonds extend the debt payoff until 2045 or beyond.”

The official ballot language can be found on the Official Proposal List shown the Oakland County Elections website.

<https://www.oakgov.com/clerkrod/elections/Documents/11062018%20Proposal%20List.pdf>

The ballot language reads “The maximum number of years any series of bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of refunding, is not more than twenty (20) years.”

The Lake Orion Community Schools application to the Michigan Department of Treasury can be found on the Lake Orion Schools website under “Bond Election 2018” and “Treasury Application” at www.locsbond.org.

On Page 3 of the Treasury Application, Section G calls out the three proposed bonds in the Series, which are proposed to be dated 3/1/2019, 5/1/2022 and 5/1/2025.

Furthermore, on Page 9 of the Treasury Application, the proposal estimates that the bonds will be repaid by 2040.

The postcard’s assertion that the debt payoff will be extended until 2045 is possible, but is not the projection.

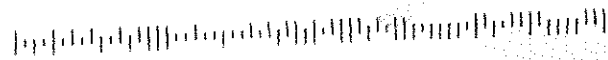
The postcard’s assertion that the debt payoff will be extended beyond 2045 is patently false and represents a clear attempt to mislead voters, since it would violate the ballot language.

Evidence:

PO Box 314
Lake Orion, MI 48361

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 615
ROYAL OAK MI

JOSHUA SETH HERMELL
3724 ACADIA DR
LAKE ORION MI 48360-2718



Vote No on Nov 6, 2018
No to \$160,000,000 bond
No to wasteful spending
No to higher taxes
No on the LO School Bond



WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE NO!

We are still paying on a \$85 MILLION Bond Debt and a \$10 Million Sinking Fund.

The Interest fees on this bond alone will exceed \$90 Million.

These bonds extend the debt payoff until 2045 or beyond.

Your tax rates and dollars paid could decline if this is voted down. That would be good for seniors.

Opening an Early Childhood Center when student enrollment is declining is bad planning and bad for local business.

With Declining student populations, we shouldn't be adding classrooms.

Higher Debt = Higher Taxes.

BAD FOR:

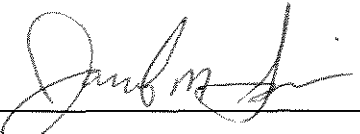
Your Pocket Book
Local Businesses
And Our Seniors!

**Help enable safer schools,
well educated children,
and a stronger community
by teaching them to live
within their means!**

Vote NO! on November 6, 2018

on the \$160,000,000 Lake Orion School Bond Proposal

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.



Signature

23-OCT-2013
Date



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

November 1, 2018

Taxpayers Alliance Group
189 West Clarkson, Box 1
Lake Orion, Michigan 48361

Re: *Singer v. Taxpayer Alliance Group*
Campaign Finance Complaint
No. 2018-07-090-47

Dear Taxpayer Alliance Group:

The Department of State (Department) has received a formal complaint alleging you have violated MCL 169.247 of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA) by failing to include a complete and correct identification statement on certain campaign-related materials.

The MCFA and corresponding administrative rules require a person who produces printed material that relates to an election 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.*

At issue in the complaint is a post card that was mailed to voters regarding the Lake Orion School Bond proposal. The card specifically urges votes to "Vote No" four different times, provides further information on the bond proposals, and ultimately expressly advocates for the defeat of the bond proposal.

Upon review, it appears that the paid for by statement is omitted entirely from these campaign materials in violation of MCL 169.247. Given this, the Department is hereby advising you that MCL 169.247(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.

Taxpayers Alliance Group
November 1, 2018
Page 2

Note that all printed materials that refer to an election or a ballot question produced in the future must include this identification statement. For all materials currently in circulation that refer to your candidacy, the paid for by statement must be corrected/included. If this information has been included, please provide this office evidence demonstrating the proper paid for by statements.

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 considers the instant action closed and resolved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Fracassi". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Adam Fracassi
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Jacob Singer