



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

March 23, 2017

The Honorable Michael McKay
P.O. Box 125
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079

Dear Judge McKay:

The Department of State (Department) has completed its investigation of the complaint filed against you by Rene Rodriguez, 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. Rodriguez' 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. Rodriguez filed his complaint on November 1, 2016. You filed a written response on November 29, 2016, and Mr. Rodriguez filed a rebuttal statement on January 13, 2017.

Mr. Rodriguez alleged that you failed to include complete and correct paid-for-by statement on certain campaign materials. In support of his complaint, Mr. Rodriguez provided a newspaper advertisement which stated, "MIKE McKAY 7TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE" and "VOTE AUGUST 2 [.]". The phrase "paid for by" appears to have been omitted from the identification statement on this ad. Mr. Rodriguez also provided a newspaper ad which stated, "VOTE FOR MIKE McKAY FOR JUDGE AUGUST 2 [.]". This ad did not appear to include a paid-for-by statement. Mr. Rodriguez also provided copies of two pieces of campaign literature, but the Department is unable to discern whether these were one-sided pieces of literature or two-sided pieces with only one side copied. Finally Mr. Rodriguez provided a mailer that contains a paid-for-by statement that omits your first name from the committee name.

In your response you stated that you were required to submit artwork for your ads to one newspaper, and then that newspaper would reconfigure the ad for dissemination to the other local newspapers after submitting a proof to the campaign for approval. You asserted that on at least

The Honorable Michael McKay
March 23, 2017
Page 2

one occasion the newspaper mistakenly sent out ads to another newspaper that had not been approved by your campaign. You further asserted that it appears that this is what happened with the newspaper ad that does not contain a paid-for-by statement.

You also stated in your response that you are not certain if you asked for the language "paid for by" to be added to any materials as you "might have assumed that providing the name and address of the committee would have sufficed for informing voters who paid for the advertisement."

Finally, you stated in your response that it is your recollection that your campaign was "advised by the Bureau of Elections" that "McKay for Judge" would be in compliance with the identification requirements in section 47.

While the Department believes that the evidence tends to show that some of your campaign materials failed to contain a complete and correct paid-for-by statement, 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,



Lori A. Bourbonais
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Rene Rodriguez



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

January 24, 2017

The Honorable Michael McKay
P.O. Box 125
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079

Dear Judge McKay:

This letter concerns the complaint that was recently filed against you by Rene Rodriguez, which relates to a purported violation of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* The Department of State has received a rebuttal statement from the complainant, a copy of which is enclosed with this letter.

Section 15(10) of the MCFA, MCL 169.215(10), requires the Department to determine within 45 business days from the receipt of the rebuttal statement whether there is a reason to believe that a violation of the Act has occurred. Mr. Rodriguez's complaint remains under investigation at this time. At the conclusion of the review, all parties will receive written notice of the outcome of the complaint.

Sincerely,

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

Lori A. Bourbonais
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Rene Rodriguez

January 12, 2017

30734113 PM 3:54

-----783273122-----

Department of State
Bureau of Election
Richard H. Austin Building-1st Floor
430 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan 48918

RE: Response to Michael McKay and Mike McKay for Judge

Dear Bureau of Election,

Required "Paid for by"

Mr. McKay's assertion that he was required to submit all of his ads to the Courier-Leader in Paw Paw newspaper is wrong and untruthful.

As I understand Mr. McKay's answer, he does not contest that a violation was committed but he wrongfully blames the Courier-Leader Editor whom is not governed by Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections.

Mr. Mckay's campaign manager was Sidney Shank of 49962 County Road 653, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079. Ms. Shank also served as the campaign manager for the newly elected Sheriff in Van Buren County and another candidate whom ran for the open State Representative seat, the later candidate was eliminated during the August 08th primary vote. All of candidates, but Mr. McKay, whom were assisted by Ms. Shank had the required language "Paid for by" language in their published ads, therefore, logic would place responsibility squarely onto Mr. Mckay. As Ms. Shank has served as campaign manager for other currently political candidates whom are still holding office in Van Buren County, she must have known of the required language.

As an extra campaign manager Mr. Mckay retained, Mr. Ryan Gilbert, a self proclaimed political genius, whom knew or should have known the minimum requirements of political

publications.

According to the Courier-Leaders Publisher, Robin Griffin, 32280 East Red Arrow Hwy. Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 phone number is (269) 657-3072 she stated in an email to me:

“Good morning, Rene -

I just got off the phone with the legal counsel for the Michigan Press Association, and she advised me/The Courier, as a third party, to do nothing voluntarily right now. She said, as much as we want to set the record straight, we should wait for the Secretary of State to ask for more information. She wants us to go ahead and collect all our "data" and put a file together now, in case it's another three months down the road when they come back to us. She feels the SOS will see through the fictitious explanation of events/practices -- I hope she's right.” January 10th, 2017.

Robin further explained that as a courtesy to Ms. Shank, they agreed to re-format some of the ads but never altered the content of ads provided to them by either Ms. Shank or Mr. McKay. Further, they clarified that it was only Ms. Shank or Mr. McKay, whom had the authority to approve all the published ads for the McKay campaign.

Further, Mr. McKay was constantly advised and openly supported by our State Senator Tonya Schuitmaker and our State Representative Aric Nesbitt. (See Exhibit 5) In fact our State Senator Mrs. Schuitmaker hosted a fund raiser event in her home for Mr. McKay, on October 16, 2016. (See Exhibit 6) As the Vice-Chairperson of the Senate Judiciary Committee, surely she would have advised him of the required language on election publications. On, October 22, 2016, at DVD Enterprises owned and operated by Bernard Sherburn, (See Exhibit 7) whom had already donated the maximum (\$1,000.00) allowed to the Mr. McKay on May 13, 2016 per report submitted to the Bureau of Elections. At that event the keynote speaker was State Representative Aric Nesbitt. (See Exhibit 8)

With two campaign managers, and two highly ranked political individuals at the ready to help Mr. McKay, he knew or should have known of the required “Paid for by” language promulgated by the secretary of state regarding these issues which states:

R 169.36 Printed material or other campaign media; identification or disclaimer; exemption.

Rule 36. (1) "Printed material having reference to an election, a candidate, or a ballot question shall bear the identification or disclaimer, or both, provided in section 47 of the act in a place and in a print clearly visible to and readable by an observer. Any other medium used for campaign purposes shall clearly and **unequivocally** include the identification or disclaimer, or both, provided in section 47 of the act.

(2) The identification required by section 47 of the act for printed material shall include the words "**Paid for by,**" followed by the **full name** of the **person** or **committee paying** for the material and the person's or committee's street name or post office box, city or town, state, and zip code. A disclaimer shall be in the same form as and identification, except that it shall be preceded by the phrase "Not authorized by the candidate committee of (candidate's name).

(3) A campaign item, the size of which makes it unreasonable to add an identification or disclaimer, or both, as designated by the secretary of state, is exempted from this rule."

The act and authority is crystal clear, the "Paid for by" is required and all of Mr. McKay's printed material required that the "full name of the person or committee paying for the material". In this case Mr. MaKay ignored both portions of the statue throughout his entire campaign. In fact in addition to the previously filed violation exhibits, attached are more exhibits that are in violation to the act by:

date published,	newspaper published,	violation	exhibit #
July 29, 2016	Courier Leader	Missing "Paid for by" and No Full Name	(Exhibit 9)
Oct. 28, 2016	Courier Leader	No full name of either ¹	(Exhibit 10)
Oct. 30, 2016	Van Buren Reminder	No full name of either	(Exhibit 11)
Oct. 31, 2016	Paw Paw Flashes	No full name of either	(Exhibit 12)
Nov. 3, 2016	Courier Leader	No full name of either	(Exhibit 13)

¹**"Paid for by,"** followed by the **full name** of the **person** or **committee paying** for the material and the person's or committee's street name or post office box, city or town, state, and zip code. In all of these ads Mr. McKay does not use his full name or his full committee name as required by the Act.

Nov. 3, 2016	Courier Leader	No full name of either	(Exhibit 14)
Nov. 6, 2016	Van Buren Reminder	No full name of either	(Exhibit 15)
Nov. 6, 2016	Van Buren Reminder	No full name of either	(Exhibit 16)
Nov.7, 2016	Paw Paw Flashes	No full name of either	(Exhibit 17)
Nov. 7, 2016	Paw Paw Flashes	No full name of either	(Exhibit 18)
Nov. 5, 2016	St. Mary's School Auction	No full name of either	(Exhibit 19)

Failed to use his full name or committee paying for the material

On March, 09, 2016, Mr. McKay was notified via an e-mail by Amy Lovegrove that his committee name was changed to "Michael McKay for Judge". Further, he was warned that: "Section 24 of MCFA requires that a candidate committee's name must contain both the first and last name of the candidate, therefore we have amended your committee name to include the candidate's full name." (Exhibit 20)

In his response, Mr. McKay, acknowledges that he was notified that "Michael" had to be added to the committee name, but that the committee had "already had our first campaign material either produced or in the process of production."

As I understand his answer, he says he knew that he had to correct his committee name but that it did not make financial sense to comply with the law. Unfortunately, his logic either now or March of 2016, is contrary to State Election Law.

Coincidentally, in reviewing the "reported" purchases made prior to March 09, 2016, the McKay for Judge campaign, did not report any expenditures prior to March 09, 2016. Perhaps, an inquiry should be made into whom paid for the items "purchased or ordered" prior to March 09, 2016. Also, noteworthy is that majority of reported purchases were made on June 28, 2016, according to the Itemized Direct Expenditures for the Michael McKay for Judge campaign.

Mr. McKay's logic in not following the law is simply wrong, especially from someone

whom has sworn to uphold the law. A candidate whom stated that he would be a “Rule of Law Judge,” one would think that as now he is a Judge in Van Buren county, he would simply accept responsibility.

If the Department accepts his answer as valid, it will set a disturbing precedence for future candidates that will thwart the law in their favor and totally circumvent MCFA, by ordering all or part of the campaign before they get caught with the violation. If that occurs it would render the Bureau of Election, MCFA and the Department of State , useless.

Mr. McKay further asserts, that: “It is also my recollection we were advised by the Bureau of Election that “McKay for Judge” would be in compliance with the applicable laws and rules regarding campaign materials.” In this statement he shifts his responsibility onto the very agency that is now investigating his actions. His statement is contradicts the notice that he received on Wednesday, March 09, 2016 from Department Analyst Amy Lovergrove. (Exhibit 20).

Omitted Michael in order deceive voters

Mr. McKay, claims: “that the lawsuit had been dismissed years earlier at the first hearing in federal court.” Again, Mr. McKay is attempting to deceive this investigator by making false statement. In fact Mr. McKay knows that the litigation [1:13-cv-01366-PLM] is on going as a Motion to Compel Mr. McKay to Comply with a Subpoena, was filed in that case on September 28, 2016. (See Exhibit 21) As a result of that Motion the United States Magistrate Judge, Phillip Green stated in the Order:

“IT IS ORDERED that Mr. McKay shall, within fourteen days of the date of this Order respond to subpoena request 21 only to indicate whether any of the following persons have contributed to his **judicial campaign** and, if so, in what amount: Kelly Page; Gary Stewart, Jr.; Paul Hamre; Peggy Grote; and Michael Bedford.”. (See Exhibit 22)

In part the United States Magistrate Judge, Phillip Green relied on various exhibits attached with the original motion. One of which could have in impact of this investigation and into Mr. McKay's claim that the court found no wrong doing. That exhibit was an M-Live Report, titled "Van Buren County public officials accused of tampering with campaign signs"

In that report two of Mr. McKay's co-defendant's in the Federal lawsuit (Current Van Buren County Prosecutor Mike Bedford² and General Counsel for the Village of Paw Paw, Kelly Page) were identified by a witness of taking part in removing a campaign sign of the candidate running against Mr. McKay. (See Exhibit 23)

As explained in my original formal complaint, Mr. McKay will and has gone through every avenue in an effort to thwart and defray any investigation for him and his committee's wrongdoing and his cavalier philosophy has paid off for him as he is currently the seating District Court Judge for Van Buren Court. He has the backing of the "important political people" whom have not prosecuted him or tried to stop him, and have gone on as business as usual in Van Buren County.

Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the Bureau of Elections through the Department of State (Department) to enforce all regulations related to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA), and I trust that Department will forward this complaint to the Michigan Attorney General for prosecution because Mr. McKay's conduct was simply inexcusable.

Mr. McKay a previous assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Van Buren County whom according to his campaign with "15 years of criminal experience and whom had handled over 5,000 cases for Van Buren Count" whom promised to keep our community safe. Who is going to protect us from individuals like him whom violate the law and then make up stories and try to have others make up stories for them. Surely, Mr. McKay should have known that he was in

² It is note worthy to state that at the time of the sign removing incident Mr. Bedford was a Candidate for Van Buren County Prosecutor and he ran un opposed.

violation of the core philosophy and spirit of MCFA throughout his campaign and he failed to correct his conduct. Even now as a Judge for Van Buren County, he tries to deflect fault to others, by trying to blame the staff members of the Courier-Leader and the Bureau of Elections for his misconduct.

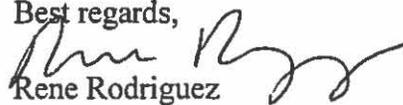
Most recently, after being served with this complaint, Mr. McKay tried to wrongfully convince the staff of the Courier-Leader to accept responsibility for his actions. Mr. McKay has not been in office for a month and he is already trying to use his authority to thwart a rightful and transparent investigation, by asking potential witnesses to lie for him. He asked the staff of the Courier-Leader stated "all you have to do is right me a letter stating that it was your fault." In my view it sounds to me that he is trying to obstruct the investigation and thwart the law that he promised to uphold.

Finally, it is concerning that the day the Mr. McKay, received a copy of the Complaint in this matter he executes the Campaign Finance Compliance Affidavit, and signs it under penalty of perjury. "I further acknowledge that making a false statement in this affidavit is perjury - - a felony punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both." (MCL 168.848, 933 and 936) (Exhibit 24)

As Mr. McKay, in his response accepted that he knew that he was in violation of various sections of the MCFA, he should have known that he was in violation of MCL 168.848 when he executed the affidavit. Therefore, Judge McKay, shall be held accountable for his actions regardless of his title.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions or needed exhibits to move forward with this matter.

Best regards,


Rene Rodriguez

From the desks of...

Tonya Schuitmaker

State Senator

Aric Nesbitt

State Representative

October 2016

EXHIBIT

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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This November, voters in Van Buren County will be asked to select a district court judge to replace retiring Judge Robert Hentchel. It is essential for the future of the county that we elect a person with the experience, temperament, and commitment to justice necessary to serving in such an important position. The person that is best suited for that position is Mike McKay.

Mike has spent his entire professional life working to protect Van Buren families. His lengthy tenure as a Michigan State Police trooper rendering aid to those in need and confronting criminals that would do us harm is a testament to his character. In fact, his career as a trooper was cut short after being attacked in the line of duty.

Undeterred and still committed to serving, Mike attended law school at Michigan State, after which he went to work in the Van Buren County Prosecutor's office. In that role, Mike continues to go after dangerous criminals, having prosecuted over 5,000 cases. He has also contributed significantly to the success of the Drug and Mental Health Treatment Courts. Oftentimes the most effective way to prevent criminal behavior is to address the underlying causes. By correctly assessing when intervention is needed and getting individuals into treatment, Mike has been instrumental in turning potential lifelong offenders into productive citizens.

Van Buren County needs an honest judge who will fairly and rightly administer justice—a judge possessing wisdom acquired through experience. We need someone who knows this county and has worked tirelessly to put its residents first. Unlike his opponent, a liberal registered Democrat, Mike McKay will be a rule of law judge that we can be proud of and can count on to protect our Constitution.

As lifelong Van Buren County residents ourselves, we want a strong voice for our community. Accordingly, we offer our wholehearted endorsement of Mike McKay and would encourage all of our friends and neighbors to vote November 8th for Mike McKay for 7th District Court judge.

Sincerely,



Tonya Schuitmaker
State Senator



Aric Nesbitt
State Representative

EXHIBIT

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MIKE MCKAY

THE STRONG CHOICE

Please Join Us

for a Pure Michigan fall afternoon with pumpkins and pizza honoring

Mike McKay

Candidate for 7th District Judge

with Special Guests

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker

Representative Aric Nesbitt

Sunday, October 16, 2016

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The Home of Tonya Schuitmaker

29924 60th Avenue, Lawton, MI 49065

Tickets

\$50 per person

\$100 per family

*Please make checks payable to:
Mike McKay for Judge*

You're Invited!
to a dinner reception honoring

Mike McKay

Candidate for 7th District Judge

Saturday, October 22, 2016

6:00 pm Cocktail Hour

7:00 pm Lasagna Dinner

DVD Enterprises

45667 M-51 Highway, Decatur, MI 49045

Tickets

\$25 per person

\$50 per couple

Children 12 and under are

free

For either event, please kindly reply

to Ryan Gilbert

(269) 598-7744

ryanjeffreygilbert@gmail.com

Canon 7 of the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct prohibits a judicial campaign committee from soliciting more than \$100 per lawyer. If you are a lawyer, please regard this request as informative and not a solicitation for more than \$100.

Paid for by McKay for Judge

P.O. Box 125, Paw Paw, MI 49079

Paid for by the committee: McKay for Judge P.O. Box 125 Paw Paw, MI 49079



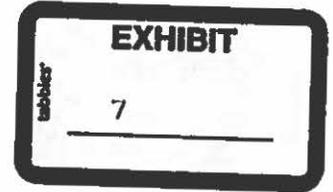
RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
KALAMAZOO DISTRICT OFFICE



DAN WYANT
DIRECTOR

May 5, 2014



Mr. Bernie Cherber
DVD Enterprises
45667 M-51
Decatur, Michigan 49045

Van Buren County

Dear Mr. Cherber:

VIOLATION NOTICE

On April 29, 2014, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Air Quality Division (AQD), received a complaint of open burning located on County Road 352, Decatur, Michigan. The burning has been confirmed by local authorities.

The following violation occurred:

Process Description	Rule/Permit Condition Violated	Comments
Open burning	R 336.1310 (Rule 310)	Burning of brush and trees within 1400 feet of the village limits

The open burning of trees and brush from land clearing within 1400 feet of a village limit is a violation of Act 451, Rule 310. In order to comply with Rule 310, DVD Enterprises is advised to immediately discontinue any open burning within 1400 feet of the village of Decatur limit. The DEQ encourages the reuse and recycling of wastes whenever possible.

Please initiate actions necessary to correct the cited violation and submit a written response to this Violation Notice by May 23, 2014. The written response should include: the dates the violation occurred; an explanation of the causes and duration of the violation; whether the violation is ongoing; a summary of the actions that have been taken and are proposed to be taken to correct the violation and the dates by which these actions will take place; and what steps are being taken to prevent a reoccurrence.

If DVD Enterprise believes the above observations or statements are inaccurate or do not constitute violations of the applicable legal requirements cited, please provide appropriate factual information to explain your position.

Mr. Bernie Cherber
Page 2
May 5, 2014

Thank you for your attention to resolving the violation cited above. If you have any questions regarding the violation, please contact me at the telephone number listed below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorothy Bohn". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Dorothy Bohn
Senior Environmental Quality Analyst
Air Quality Division
269-567-3552

DB:CF

cc: Mr. Jack Conklin, Village of Decatur/Hamilton Fire Department
Ms. Lynn Fiedler, DEQ
Ms. Teresa Seidel, DEQ
Mr. Thomas Hess, DEQ
Ms. Mary Douglas, DEQ

EXHIBIT
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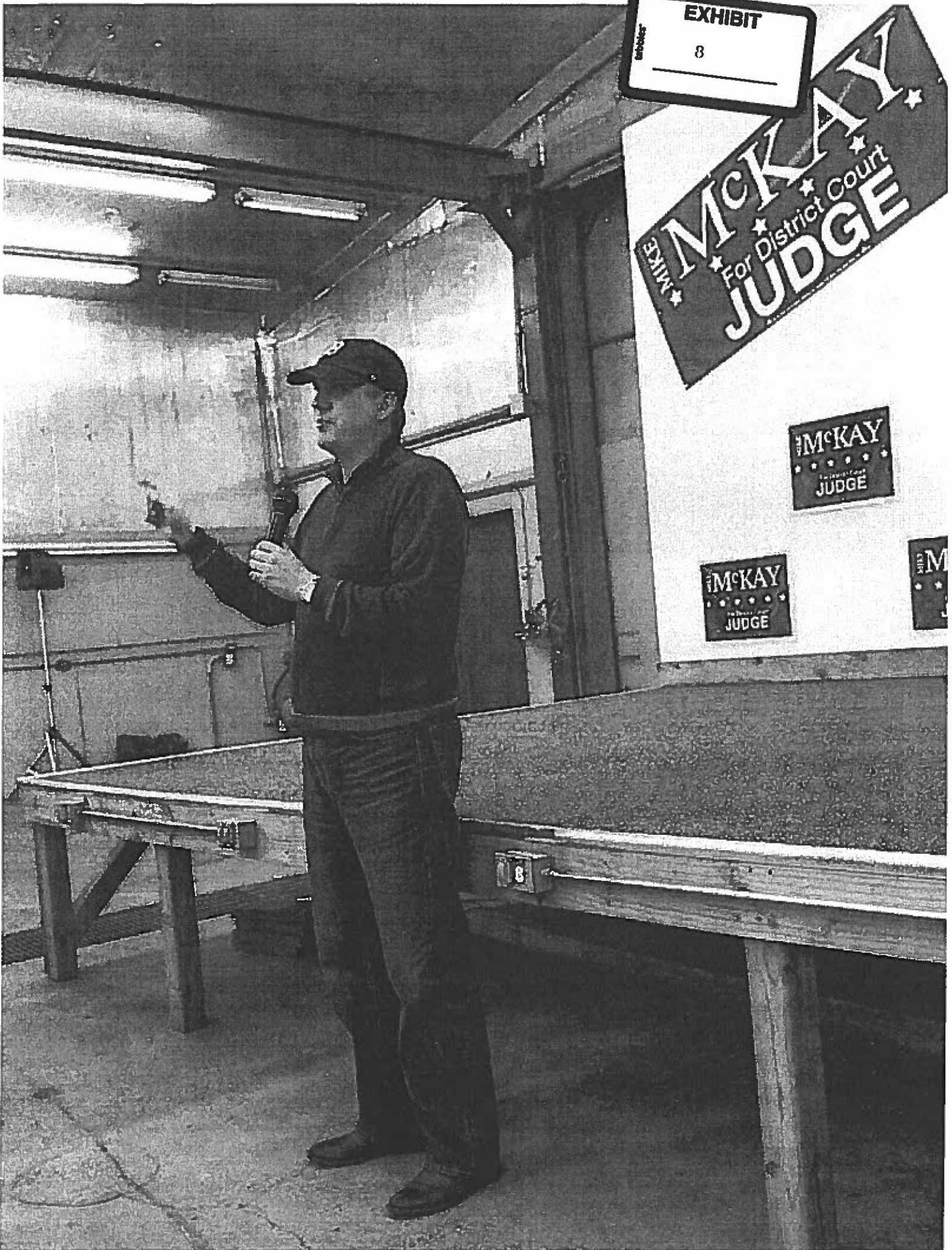
MIKE
MCKAY
For District Court
JUDGE

MCKAY
For District Court
JUDGE

MCKAY
For District Court
JUDGE

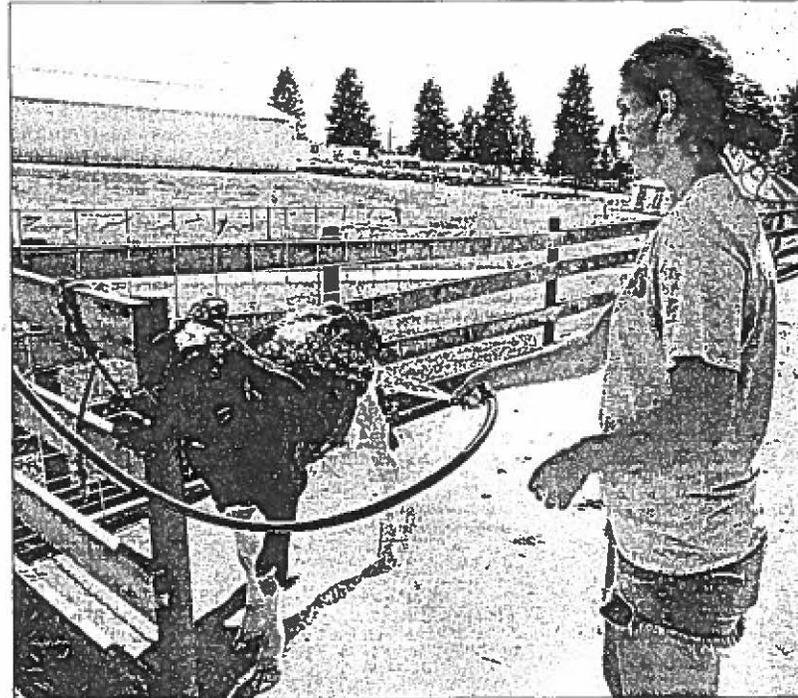
MIKE
MCKAY
For District Court
JUDGE

8



INSIDE:

MORE "FRONT PAGE"
NEWS...PGS. 3, 6, 7
Ob P
CLASSIFIEDS...Pg. 12



FAIR WEATHER

It seems "Fair Week" has become traditionally the hottest of the year, and last week's Van Buren Youth Fair ran true to form. With temperatures in the 90s daily, everyone tried to beat the heat. Rachel Rickli, 19, a 10-year member of the Almena Happy Helpers 4-H Club, offers a cool-down Monday afternoon to her dairy feeder calf, Blitz, a holstein. The Super Kicker Rodeo Presentation last Friday night featured the ever-popular mutton-bustin' event for young ones. The return of poultry exhibits to this year's Van Buren Youth Fair, following last year's ban, brought this



The Community Leader FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2016

SERVING PAW PAW • LAWTON • MATTAWAN • LAWRENCE • GOBLES

NO. 31 32280 E. RED ARROW HIGHWAY • P.O. BOX 129 PAW PAW, MI 49079

USPS 561-620 75¢

VOTE TUESDAY, AUGUST 2 • POLLS OPEN 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

Primary races critical here

Tuesday's Primary Election will essentially elect Van Buren County's 7th District Court Judge. Appearing on the non-partisan ballot are Nichole Dunfield-Hameed, Cirilo Martinez, and Michael McKay. The three have been campaigning for the position, providing below, answers to identical questions to remind vot-

ers of their qualifications one more time before they cast their votes. The polls will be open on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Because this is a primary, voters can only cast votes within one party. Voting for both Republican and Democratic candidates invalidates the partisan section of the

primary ballot. Non-partisan offices and proposals will appear after the partisan section of the ballot. Other races and proposals to appear on county ballots are reviewed on pages 3, 6 and 7; opinions of the candidates abound in the Readers' Voice columns on pages 4 and 5.

7th DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
NON-PARTISAN

NICHOLE DUNFIELD-HAMEED



DUNFIELD-HAMEED



MARTINEZ



McKAY

WHAT DRIVES YOU TO RUN FOR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE?
I have wanted to be a judge from a very young age. Through my years as a local attorney I have witnessed the impact a good judge can have on people. I believe I have the experience and demeanor necessary to be a fair and impartial judge.
Further, I want to prove to my daughters that you should always work hard to reach for your dreams.

WHAT EXPERIENCE WILL YOU BRING TO THE BENCH?

CIRILO MARTINEZ

WHAT DRIVES YOU TO RUN FOR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE?
Growing up I experienced the law first hand when my family hired an attorney who lied to us. This experience, along with working side-by-side with my father and seven brothers in the fields throughout Van Buren County as seasonal farm workers, taught me the value of hard work. I discovered that we all have a responsibility to our community and this

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THE VAN BUREN COUNTY COURTS?
The Court is an independent institution. This independence does not mean that the Courts must work alone. If elected, I plan to increase the cooperation of our community partners. I will use all the tools available to improve the quality and efficiency of our judicial system. The Courts utilizing the will work achieving cross jurisd

tabbler

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EXHIBIT



MIKE MCKAY

7TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE VAN BUREN COUNTY

THE STRONG CHOICE FOR A RULE OF LAW JUDGE



- Former State Trooper • Current Assistant Prosecutor • Dedicated Public Servant
- Represented Van Buren County in over 5,000 criminal cases • The Experience to be District Court Judge

Mike McKay is running for District Court Judge in Van Buren County. Here is some background on him and his career.

- BA, Northern Michigan University
- JD, Michigan State University College of Law, with honors
- Served as a State Trooper for ten years at MSP South Haven
- Current Assistant Prosecutor for Van Buren County

Mike began his career in Van Buren County when the State Police first assigned him as a Trooper at MSP in South Haven. He spent his entire career assigned to our county, which was cut short after he was hit by two cars on M-43 as he investigated a traffic crash.



After leaving the State Police, Mike decided to stay in public service by becoming

ing a prosecutor. He was accepted to law school at Michigan State, where he completed prestigious externships with the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division and the Governor's Office of Legal Counsel. He ultimately graduated from law school with honors.

Mike began his legal career with the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office before joining the Van Buren County Prosecutor's Office where he has been ever since. As an Assistant Prosecutor for Van Buren County, Mike has established a reputation for fighting for crime victims and taking on



difficult cases. At the same time, Mike has demonstrated a commitment to solve problems and improve our communities - he served as a Drug Treatment Court prosecutor and currently serves on the Mental Health Court.

- Prosecuted a cold-case double murder
- Multiple guilty verdicts against the same serial child molester to assure lengthy sentences and protect future victims
- Extensive work in the Michigan Court of Appeals

- Served as a Drug Treatment Court prosecutor
- Current Mental Health Court prosecutor

Mike McKay has been a dedicated public servant in Van Buren County, both in uniform and the courtroom. He has the experience to know what it takes to keep our communities SAFE, while at the same time being FAIR and making Van Buren County a better place to live.

Mike and his wife Tiara with their three children - Ian (10) Avery (8) and Jack (5)



McKay for Judge
P.O. Box 125 • Paw Paw, MI 49079
McKayForJudge@gmail.com

VOTE FOR MIKE MCKAY FOR JUDGE AUGUST 2

The Courier Leader

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2016

SERVING PAW PAW • LAWTON • MATTAWAN • LAWRENCE • GOBLES

NO. 44 32280 E. RED ARROW HIGHWAY • P.O. BOX 129

USPS 564-620

PAW PAW, MI 49079



75¢

Commissioners accept Antwerp Twp. farm for conservation easement

By Paul Garrod
news4garrod@vineyardpress.biz

PAW PAW - The Van Buren County Commissioners at their Board of Commissioners (BOC) meeting Tuesday afternoon formally authorized the acceptance of an Antwerp Township farm for conservation easement, should it be successfully funded, and serve as the applicant to the USDA, should it be recommended that applicant and easement holder are one in the same.

Van Buren County Administrator Douglas Cultra said the county places priority importance on the preservation of open space and farmland in accordance with the approved Master Plan.

The county has created and maintained a Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program and previously purchased development rights on the 81-acre Lachman Farms parcel.

Francis Ryan's land is located on both sides of County Road 652, or Main Street, in Mattawan. Ryan owns a total of 162 acres, with 54 acres located on

The issue was decided in a special election held Aug. 21, where voters approved the annexation by a 709 "yes" to 159 "no".

At that time, Ryan stated that he wanted to annex his 165-acre fruit farm that included 50 acres of grapes, cherries and apples from the village, stating that he wanted to protect his farmland from development.

Village officials at that time stated that Ryan could protect his farmland from development by recording a permanent deed restriction.

In 1997 and 1998, Ryan went through the state of Development Rights only to have two requests of the Mattawan Village Council that would have allowed him to participate in the program denied.

Commissioners approved a request from Van Buren County Sheriff Dale Gribler and County Prosecutor Mike Bedford to implement a file sharing plan between the respective departments, along with the eventual participation of the local police.

Additional funds totaling

\$38,252.65 are needed for additional Wi-Fi, six laptops and a temporary parttime secretary.

With the additional funding, the two departments will attempt to automate a source document storage, retrieval, and distribution system.

Commissioners also approved the following 2016-2017 snow removal bids:

Animal Control - Hartford
Mike Sullins Excavating,
\$1,650/\$80 hr.;

Human Services - West - Mike
Sullins Excavating, \$6,500/\$150
hr.;

Human Services - East
Clarence Stimac, \$2,875/\$144
hr.;

Sheriff's Office lots
Clarence Stimac, \$1,225/\$225
hr.

Administration Building and
Niles Street - Mike Sullins Exca-
vating \$1,120/\$120 hr.;

Courthouse and Annex
Building - Mike Sullins Excavat-
ing \$1,600/\$120 hr.;

County Building - West
(South Haven) deBest Inc.
\$3,698.00/\$98 hr.

Van Buren County's first "plank road" from Paw Paw to Lawton. In 1850, Van Buren County voters elected Willard a delegate to the Constitutional Convention to write Michigan's new constitution. In 1859, he was elected Paw Paw's first village president. That same year, he became the driving force and president of Prospect Hill Cemetery.

In 1874, he had built a 127-foot enclosed observation tower upon the highest elevation of Prospect Hill. Willard died in 1879 and was buried on an elaborate burial site at the base of his tower with a beautiful view of the community he helped create, according to Brill. Two years later, Willard's tower fell when a tornado struck Paw Paw during the early morning hours.

Brill said after a three-year process, the Michigan Historical Commission approved the Isaac Watts Willard state historical marker.

Brill expressed his appreciation to John H. Tapper, Jr., who allowed the marker to be placed on the edge of his GM dealership property on South Kalamazoo Street.

3 p.m.

Stuff the Bus is hosted by United Way, in cooperation with Boy and Girl Scout troops, grocery stores and local school transportation providers. Food and personal care items will be accepted during the six-hour period.

The goal of Stuff the Bus is to collect supplies for local food pantries to stock them up before the holiday season when winter fuel bills are high, and when children are on break from school and cannot get free/reduced lunches and/or breakfasts.

Each pantry has submitted a Wish List of its most-needed items. Local Girl Scout troops and other service groups will be on-hand to pass out Wish Lists and collect donations. They will also shop on behalf of individuals who prefer to make a monetary donation or for whom shopping is difficult.

"United Way has worked very hard to coordinate all the aspects of Stuff the Bus," said Vera E. Tanier-Sebree, executive director of Van Buren County United Way. "We are so pleased with the support we're receiving. The community has been

Bus sites:

- Bangor - Harding's Friendly Market;
- Bloomingdale - Wagoner's;
- Covert - Dollar General;
- Decatur - Village Market;
- Gobles - Village Market;
- Hartford - Harding's Friendly Market;
- Lawton - Wagoner's;
- Mattawan - Wagoner's;
- Paw Paw: Family Fare, and
- South Haven: Village Market.

For further information, contact Van Buren County United Way, 269/667-2410.

Neighborhood Watch to meet Tuesday at Paw Paw Twp. Hall

PAW PAW - The Paw Paw Area Neighborhood Watch group will meet Tuesday, Nov. 1, at 6:30 p.m. at the Paw Paw Township Office, 114 N. Gremps Street, Paw Paw.

Bill Birch will be the guest presenter.

For more information, contact Laurel Sherburn at (269) 667-4952.

OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATING MARTIN HOFFMAN, MD

Bronson will be hosting an open house in honor of Dr. Martin Hoffman's upcoming retirement at the end of this year. Please join us in celebrating his more than 30 years as a family doctor in Mattawan and his role as the medical director at Bronson Commons, this area's skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility.



Saturday, November 19
2 to 4 p.m.
Bronson Commons
23332 Red Arrow Highway
Mattawan, MI 49071

RSVP

Amber at camfiela@bronsonhg.org or
(269) 283-5252 by Friday, November 11

BRONSON
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YOUR STRONG CHOICE
7TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
VAN BUREN COUNTY



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- Former State Trooper
- Current Assistant Prosecutor
- Dedicated Public Servant
- Represented Van Buren County in over 5,000 criminal cases
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ATTENTION COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP VOTERS

Due to the tornado damages at the Columbia Township Hall, the election (voting) will take place at the Columbia Township Fire Station #2 located at 12316 52nd Street, Grand Junction, Michigan.

Stacey Corke, Clerk
 269-434-6227

MIKE MCKAY
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7TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
VAN BUREN COUNTY



EXHIBIT 11

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Payments for the Van Buren Reminder may be dropped off anytime to our after-hour mail slots at either of our TWO office locations:

BANGOR OFFICE: 209 W. Monroe (M-43)
GOBLES OFFICE: 205 S. State St. (M-40)



Arlington Township Residents Inspection Notice

All new construction, as well as mobile and modular homes require inspections.

Contact John O'Connell, Zoning Administrator at 207-7746, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to apply for a zoning permit or to obtain information.

- Building Inspector: Chuck Moore, 269-569-0015
- Electrical Inspector: Russ Packett, (269) 208-7465
- Plumbing Inspector: Mike Field, (269) 348-4388
- Mechanical Inspector: Walt Devisser, (269) 427-7543
- Ordinance Enforcement Officer: John O'Connell, 207-7748

William Pugsley, Clerk
www.arlingtontownship.org



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1996 DODGE HALF TON extended cab, needs front w-joint, \$1,600 obo; Tow dolly for sale, \$300 obo; 269-501-0687.

STORAGE UNITS FOR RENT: 16'x20' w/overhead door, \$75/mo. Call 269-656-0989. Located behind Cancun Restaurant, formerly Busy Bca.

GARAGE SALE: Open all weather! Holiday decor, winter clothing, household misc. 911 Concord Hills subdivision. Fri., Nov. 4, 8-4 & Sat., Nov. 5, 8-1.

BURN BARRELS FOR SALE at L&L Auto, \$10 ea., 269-657-6933.

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23700 CR 375 Mattawan MI 49071
269-760-1358

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NEEDED: Caregiver/companion for elderly lady in Paw Paw, 269-207-7710.

WANTED: Older John Deere riding tractors, garden tractors & any John Deere equipment. Pay in cash, 269-303-1032.

ENGLISH MASTIFF/MIXED puppies for sale. For more info, call 269-270-4867.

BRUSH CREEK ANTIQUES/ Great Lakes II Antique Mall, downtown Lawrence. Open daily at 11 a.m., closed Mondays; 674-9766.

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PAWPAW FARMERS MARKET: Last day of the season, rain or shine, 9-1.

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- ▶ **PAW PAW KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** L#1 A03302
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- ▶ **PAW PAW LIONS** L#1 A81630
Sundays - 2:30 p.m., Early Birds 2 p.m.
Doors open at 12 p.m. • Paw Paw Lions Building
- ▶ **PAW PAW AMERICAN LEGION** L#1 A00551
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I am currently working to expand options for credit card purchases and will put a "help desk" program in place to improve online requests. Changes from the state will also increase efficiency. New voting equipment will be rolled out and more user-friendly, the state will release guidelines for filing electronic pleadings and our case file management system will change and reduce data entry time.

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Lawrence Township Planning Commission on November 22, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., at the Lawrence Township Hall, 205 N. Paw Paw St., P.O. Box 442, Lawrence, MI 49064, to consider the following:

The formal review of a Site Plan and Special Use Permit regarding property described as parcel number 80-13-022-030-00 (60631 CR 365, Lawrence, MI 49064), located East side of CR 365 Road, just North of Highway I-94, consisting of approximately 2.8 acres. Applicant is: R. Glass, Inc., 13648 Mount Zion Rd., Three Rivers, Michigan 49093, on behalf of McDonald's Towing. Deed Holder is: Schoolcraft Holdings, L.L.C., 2975 Interstate Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49048, D.B.A. McDonald's Towing. Applicant requesting approval of a Special Use Permit under Lawrence Township Ordinance section 7.2.6.

Persons interested are requested to be present. Pertinent information relative to this request is on file at the Township Hall and may be examined at any time during regular business hours of 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Persons interested may visit the Township Hall, contact the Township Hall by telephone at (269) 674-4255, or attend the Public Hearing on the date specified. Written comments are also welcome at the address above. Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk's Office at least 5 days before the hearing.

Any person having an interest in any application may present any petition or document supporting his position for or against such application. All documents shall be submitted to the Building Official no later than fifteen (15) days before the hearing at which the application will be considered. The Township Hall will accept any such submissions.

Dated: 10-31-16
Brien Winfield Heckman
Township Attorney

Nov 4, 2016

HEALTHY COOKING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Looking for some delicious but healthy dishes to serve this holiday season? If yes, join us for this free food demonstration led by registered dietician Diane Delhey.

Wednesday, November 9
Demonstration begins at 12:30 p.m.
Antwerp Township Activity Center
24821 Front St., Mattawan



Diane Delhey, RD

Registration is required as lunch will be provided.
To register, call (269) 668-2615 ext. 200.

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Please Vote November 8th



MIKE
MCKAY

For Van Buren County 7th District Court Judge

THE HONORABLE CHOICE

- **WHEN MY OPPONENT ADVERTISED THAT I HAD NO EXPERIENCE, DESPITE MY:**
 - decade as a State Trooper
 - 5,000 cases and over 25 criminal jury trials as a prosecutor

I continued to campaign POSITIVELY
- **WHEN MY OPPONENT CALLED ME CORRUPT FOR SIMPLY BEING NAMED IN A LAWSUIT, DESPITE:**
 - his knowledge that the federal judge called the allegations "meritless" and dismissed them.

I continued to campaign with INTEGRITY
- **WHEN MY OPPONENT SAID I COULDN'T BE FAIR AND IMPARTIAL BECAUSE I AM A:**
 - former State Trooper
 - Assistant Prosecutor

I continued to campaign PROUDLY
- **WHEN CIRILO MARTINEZ CLAIMED TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY QUALIFIED BECAUSE HE:**
 - purchased a "super lawyer" award for \$500
 - was rejected for judicial appointments 3 times in Van Buren County
 - had been an immigration lawyer longer

I continued to campaign HONESTLY

- Mike McKay

The people of Van Buren County deserve integrity and character in their courtroom.

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EXHIBIT

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intertwines royal romance with magical fairies and their mischievous influence, and has a cast of

SNOW. For more information, call 269-492-4612. This is their second experience with it."

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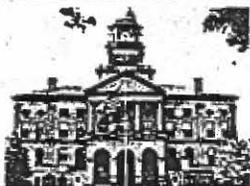
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7TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE VAN BUREN COUNTY



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15 Years Experience In Criminal Law

From uniform to the courtroom, Mike brings the unique experience of conducting criminal investigations in our communities and prosecuting cases in our courtrooms.

Accomplished Prosecutor

Mike has represented Van Buren County in over 5,000 civil hearings and criminal cases as a prosecuting attorney, and handled more than 25 criminal jury trials in cases ranging from assault, to crimes against children to murder.



Community Involvement

- Wings Of God Transition Home For Women, Board Member
- Current Mental Health Treatment Court Attorney
- Past Drug Treatment Court Attorney



"Mike McKay is the candidate to serve Van Buren County. His skill in the courtroom as a prosecutor, knowledge of the law, and experience make him the logical choice. I believe Mike McKay to be the most qualified candidate for District Court Judge."

- John H. Dominguez, Jr.

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Paw Paw, MI 49079

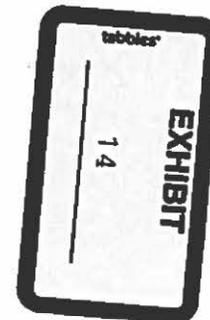
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7TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE VAN BUREN COUNTY

EXHIBIT
15



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15 Years Experience In Criminal Law
From uniform to the courtroom, Mike brings the unique experience of conducting criminal investigations in our communities and prosecuting cases in our courtrooms.

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- John H. Dominguez, Jr.

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MIKE MCKAY

For Van Buren County 7th District Court Judge

THE HONORABLE CHOICE

- **WHEN MY OPPONENT ADVERTISED THAT I HAD NO EXPERIENCE, DESPITE MY:**
 - decade as a State Trooper
 - 5,000 cases and over 25 criminal jury trials as a prosecutor

I continued to campaign POSITIVELY
- **WHEN MY OPPONENT CALLED ME CORRUPT FOR SIMPLY BEING NAMED IN A LAWSUIT, DESPITE:**
 - his knowledge that the federal judge called the allegations "meritless" and dismissed them.

I continued to campaign with INTEGRITY
- **WHEN MY OPPONENT SAID I COULDN'T BE FAIR AND IMPARTIAL BECAUSE I AM A:**
 - former State Trooper
 - Assistant Prosecutor

I continued to campaign PROUDLY
- **WHEN CIRILO MARTINEZ CLAIMED TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY QUALIFIED BECAUSE HE:**
 - purchased a "super lawyer" award for \$500
 - was rejected for judicial appointments 3 times in Van Buren County
 - had been an immigration lawyer longer

I continued to campaign HONESTLY

- Mike McKay

The people of Van Buren County deserve integrity and character in their courtroom.

Paid for by the committee: McKay For Judge | PO Box 125 Paw Paw, MI 49079

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- Residential rental property registration and inspections are required.

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Electrical Inspector: Lee Baily, 269-569-0831
Mechanical Inspector: Walter Devisser, 269-427-7543
Plumbing Inspector: Mike Fields, 269-348-4386
Rental Inspector: Chuck Moore, 269-569-0015
Burn Permits: Covert Fire Department, 269-764-1768

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 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday
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