



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

June 11, 2014

Jeffrey Sakwa  
Trust Sakwa for Trustee  
1600 Normandy  
Clawson, Michigan 48017

Dear Mr. Sakwa:

The Department of State (Department) received a formal complaint filed by Marylyn Britten against you, alleging that you violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* The investigation and resolution of this complaint is governed by section 15 of the Act and the corresponding administrative rules, R 169.51 *et seq.* A copy of the complaint and supporting documentation is enclosed with this letter.

The MCFA requires the name of a candidate committee to include the first and last name of the candidate. MCL 169.224(2)(a). A person who violates this provision may be subject to a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00.

Ms. Britten alleges that you have failed to include both your first and last name in your candidate committee name.

In support of her complaint, Ms. Britten provided an email that indicates that is was paid for in part by the Committee to Elect Jeff Sakwa MSU Trustee, but the committee name listed on your Statement of Organization filed with the Department lists the name of your committee as Trust Sakwa for Trustee.

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.

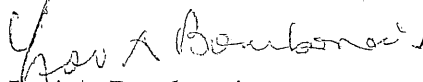
**If you wish to file a written response to the complaint, you are required to do so within 15 business days of the date of this letter.** Your response may include any written statement or additional documentary evidence you wish to submit. All materials must be sent to the Department of State, Bureau 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 Ms. Britten, 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 or conducting an administrative hearing.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Bourbonais". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" being more prominent.

Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Marilyn Britten

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

**Reset 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:

Section 1. Complainant		
Your Name	Daytime Telephone Number	
Marilyn Britten	(517) 349-5304	
Mailing Address	1874 Birchwood Drive	
City	State	Zip
Okemos	MI	48864

Section 2. Alleged Violator		
Name	Trust Sakwa for Trustee (a registered candidate committee)	
Mailing Address	1600 Normandy	
City	State	Zip
Clawson	MI	48017

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

Section(s) of the MCFA violated:

169.221(1); 169.224(2)(a); 169.224(4)

Explain how those sections were violated:

Above (original) committee name does not include first & last name of candidate.

Different committee apparently formed before February, before 2013 Annual Report

was filed, but no amended St. of Org. filed. Comm. name remains as above.

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

E-mail message of February 2014.

2014 JUN -5 PM 4:38

BUREAU OF ELECTIONS  
MI DEPT OF STATE

**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

Signature of Complainant

Date

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

Section 15(6) of the MCFA (MCL 169.215) requires 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:*

X

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  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H. Austin Building – 1st Floor  
430 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, Michigan 48918

Revised 06/03/2011

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AM

My friend Linda Lee? LOL

Original Message-----

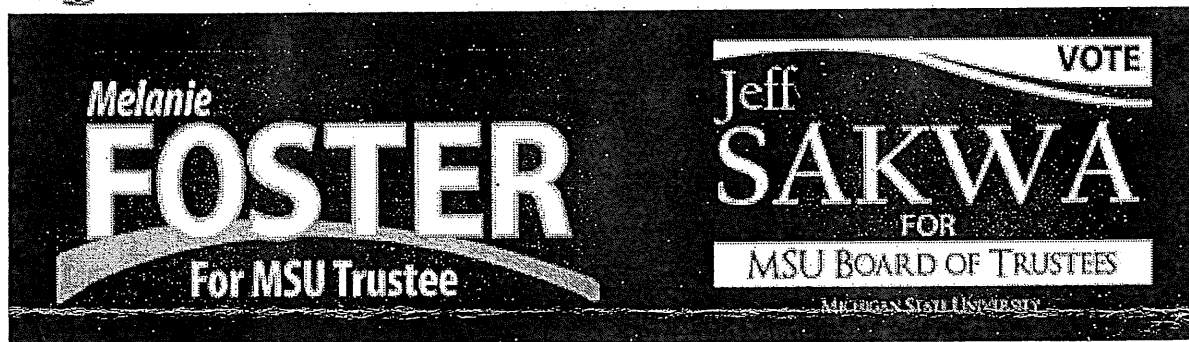
From: Jeff Sakwa and Melanie Foster <JeffandMelaniefortrustee@gmail.com>

Sent: Tue, Feb 11, 2014 7:00 am

Subject: Unanimous Support from MIGOP Vice-Chairs



**CHAMPIONS FOR CONSERVATIVE CAUSES**



Fellow Conservatives,

As we prepare to head to the State Committee meeting this weekend, we want to update you about our campaigns for the MSU Board of Trustees. We have spent the past few months traveling around the great state of Michigan talking with activists at GOP events and Tea Party meetings. Everywhere we went, we were inspired by and grateful for the abundance of support we received. We know that the grassroots encouragement from Conservatives like you will help lead us to victory. That's why we are pleased to have the backing of our MIGOP Grassroots Vice-Chair.

"During the 2012 election cycle, Melanie and Jeff traveled all across the State of Michigan working for all of our candidates. They are some of the hardest working candidates I have met and I know that they will show the same dedication to our Conservative Cause. Please join me in supporting Melanie and Jeff for MSU Trustees."

—Nick Hawatmeh, Grassroots Vice-Chair

In fact, we have the support of all six MIGOP Vice-Chairs!

"Melanie and Jeff are proven conservatives dedicated to providing public higher education access and opportunities to the working families of Michigan. Please join me and ALL of the other Vice-Chairs in supporting them."

— Linda Lee Tarver, Ethnic Vice-Chair

Thanks to the hard work of individuals like you, 2014 is shaping up to be a great year for Republicans. We are proud of the unanimous support we have gained from our MIGOP leadership, but would be most proud to earn your endorsement. If you have not already done so, please click the endorse button below to show your support for our campaigns for the MSU Board of Trustees.

Thank you for all that you do. We look forward to seeing many of you at the State Committee meeting.

Melanie Foster and Jeff Sakwa  
Candidates for MSU Board of Trustees

**ENDORSE MELANIE AND JEFF**

Paid for by Committee to Elect Jeff Sakwa MSU Trustee  
30833 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Paid for by Melanie Foster for MSU Trustee  
P.O. Box 4525, East Lansing, MI 48826

[Click here to unsubscribe.](#)



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

June 27, 2014

Marilyn Britten  
1874 Birchwood Drive  
Okemos, Michigan 48864

Dear Ms. Britten:

The Department of State received a response to the complaint you filed against the Trust Sakwa for Trustee committee, which concerns an alleged violation of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA), 1976 P.A. 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* A copy of the response is provided as an enclosure with this letter.

If you elect to file a rebuttal statement, you are required to send it within 10 business days of the date of this letter to the Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Sincerely,

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

Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Jeffrey Sakwa

June 19, 2014

Michigan Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H. Austin Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
430 West Allegan St  
Lansing, MI 48918

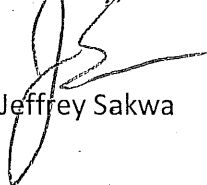
Dear Ms. Bourbonais,

I am writing in response to the formal complaint filed by Marylyn Britten against me. When I received her complaint, this was the first time I became aware that my candidate committee name didn't comply with the Michigan Campaign Finance Act. After I reviewed the complaint, I immediately filed the form to amend my committee name. I have attached a true and certified copy of the addendum for your review.

Please accept my apology in not including my first and last name in the committee name. This was an honest error and was not done intentionally.

If you need any additional information, please contact me at 248-808-3004.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Sakwa





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF ELECTIONS

ORIGINAL OR AMENDED  
STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION FORM FOR CANDIDATE COMMITTEES

1. Committee ID #: <b>515572-6</b>		*2. Type of Filing: <input type="checkbox"/> Original: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment to items: <b>3 &amp; 7a &amp; 7b</b>		Eff. Date: <b>06/17/2014</b>
*3. Full Name of Committee (must include Candidate's first and last name): <b>COMMITTEE TO ELECT JEFFREY SAKWA MSU TRUSTEE</b>				
*4a. Candidate Full Name: Last Name <b>Sakwa</b>		First Name <b>Jeffrey</b>	M.I. <b>J</b>	
*4b. Political Party (if applicable):		*4c. County of Residence: <b>OAKLAND</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*4d. Office Sought: <b>MSU Trustee</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *4e. District/Circuit # or Jurisdiction:		
*5. Date Committee was Formed: <b>07/22/2011</b>				
*6a. Committee Phone: <b>(248) 855-6400</b>		6b. Committee Fax #: <b>(248) 855-6150</b>		
6c. Committee Email Address: <b>jsakwa@noblerealty.com</b>		6d. Committee Website Address: <b>N/A</b>		
*7a. Complete Committee Mailing Address (May be PO Box): <b>32300 Northwestern Hwy, Ste 125 Farmington Hills, MI 48334</b>		<b>TRUE &amp; CERTIFIED COPY</b> <i>[Signature]</i> 6/18/14		
*7b. Complete Committee Street Address (May not be PO Box): <b>32300 Northwestern Hwy, Ste 125 Farmington Hills, MI 48334</b>				
*8. Treasurer Name and Complete Address: <b>David L. Levine 30833 Northwestern Hwy, Ste 120 Farmington Hills, MI 48334</b> Phone #: <b>(248) 851-8000</b> Email Address: <b>sdlevine@swistaklevine.com</b>				
9. Designated Record Keeper Name and Complete Address: <b>Kevin S Goldman 6282 Orchard Woods Dr West Bloomfield MI 48324</b> Phone #: <b>(248) 867-6001</b> Email Address: <b>kgoldman@kayefinancial.com</b>				
*10. REPORTING WAIVER REQUEST: <input type="checkbox"/> YES, I/We WANT TO APPLY FOR THE REPORTING WAIVER. The committee does not expect to receive or expend in excess of \$1,000 in an election. I/We understand that if the committee does not spend or received in excess of \$1,000 in an election, the committee does not owe Pre, Post, Quarterly and Annual Campaign Statements. I/We further understand that the Reporting Waiver will be automatically lost if the committee exceeds the \$1,000 threshold and all required campaign statements must be filed. A Reporting Waiver does not exempt a committee from filing Late Contribution Reports. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO, I/We DO NOT WANT TO APPLY FOR THE REPORTING WAIVER. The committee expects to receive or expend in excess of \$1,000 in an election. I/We understand that the committee owes Pre, Post, Quarterly and Annual Campaign Statements even if the committee does not spend or receive in excess of \$1,000 in an election. I further understand that the Reporting Waiver cannot be requested retroactively to avoid filing requirements and to avoid paying late filing fees. Further information regarding Reporting Waivers can be found in Appendix C of the Committee Manual.				
*11. Name and Address of Depositories or Intended Depositories of committee funds. (Michigan Bank, Credit Union or Savings & Loan Association) : While this item must be completed, an account does not have to be opened until the first contribution is received. *Official Depository (name and address): <b>PNC Bank 28564 Orchard Lake Rd Farmington Hills MI 48334</b> Secondary Depository (name and address):				
12. <input type="checkbox"/> This item applies only to Gubernatorial Candidate Committees: Check if this committee intends to seek qualifying contributions or make qualifying expenditures.				
13. ELECTRONIC FILING: This item applies to committees that file with the Michigan Department of State Bureau of Elections only and does not apply to Candidate Committees that file with the County Clerk's office. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee spent or received or expects to spend or receive in excess of \$5,000 and is required to file electronically. <input type="checkbox"/> Committee did not spend or receive or does not expect to spend or receive in excess of \$5,000 and would like to file electronically voluntarily. Further information regarding Electronic Filing can be found in Appendix D of the Committee Manual.				
14. Verification: I/We certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of the above statement and that the contents are true, accurate and complete to the best of my/our knowledge or belief. If filing electronically, we further agree that the signatures below shall serve as the signatures that verify the accuracy and completeness of each statement filed electronically by the committee. I/We certify that all reasonable diligence will be used in the preparation of each statement electronically filed by this committee and that the contents of each statement will be true, accurate and complete to the best of my/our knowledge or belief. (Sign Name and Date)				
*Candidate: <i>[Signature]</i>		*Current Treasurer: <i>[Signature]</i>		Date: <b>06/18/2014</b>
Designated Record Keeper (Required only if filing electronically)		<i>[Signature]</i>		Date: <b>06/18/2014</b>



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

October 7, 2014

Jeffrey Sakwa  
Committee to Elect Jeffrey Sakwa MSU Trustee  
1600 Normandy  
Clawson, Michigan 48017

Dear Mr. Sakwa:

The Department of State (Department) received a formal complaint filed by Marilyn Britten on June 5, 2014 against you, alleging a violation of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* This letter concerns the disposition of Ms. Britten's complaint.

The MCFA requires the name of a candidate committee to include the first and last name of the candidate. MCL 169.224(2)(a). A person who violates this provision may be subject to a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00.

Ms. Britten alleged that you failed to include both your first and last name in your candidate committee name. The Department notes that your candidate committee name did include your last name.

The Department is required by law to attempt to resolve these matters informally. MCL 169.215(10).

The Department provided notice of the complaint to you by letter dated June 11, 2014. Upon receiving notice, you immediately contacted the Department and filed an amended Statement of Organization changing the name of your candidate committee to "Committee to Elect Jeffrey Sakwa MSU Trustee." You indicated that "[t]his was an honest error and was not done intentionally."

The Department is satisfied that you took appropriate corrective measures once the matter was brought to your attention, and no further enforcement action will be taken.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Marilyn Britten