

State of Michigan Ruth Johnson, Secretary of State DEPARTMENT OF STATE Lansing

October 12, 2016

Royal Percy Lilly 17220 Hannan Road New Boston, Michigan 48164

Dear Mr. Lilly:

The Department of State (Department) received a formal complaint filed by Daniel Bradford 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 your campaign signs. 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).

In support of his complaint, Mr. Bradford provided a picture of a sign which states, "Write – In \rightarrow R P LILLY [,] FOR HURON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE [.]" The paid-for-by statement appears to be omitted from the sign.

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. 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, 1st 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. Bradford, 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

BUREAU OF ELECTIONS RICHARD H. AUSTIN BUILDING • 1ST FLOOR • 430 W. ALLEGAN • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48918 www.Michigan.gov/sos • (517) 373-2540 Royal Percy Lilly October 12, 2016 Page 2

enforcement powers include the possibility of entering a conciliation agreement, conducting an 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, Bunbonas

Lori A. Bourbonais Bureau of Elections Michigan Department of State

c: Daniel Bradford

Campaign Finance Complaint Form Michigan Department of State

2016 OCT -4 PH 3: 17

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This complaint form may be used to file a complaint alleging that someone violated the <u>Michigan</u> <u>Campaign Finance Act</u> (the MCFA, 1976 PA 388, as amended; MCL 169.201 erseq.): AM SEAL information on the form must be provided along with an original signature and evidence. **Please print or type all information**.

I allege that the MCFA was violated as follows:

Section 1. Complainant		
Your Name Eaniel Bradford		Daytime Telephone Number 734-778-7564
Mailing Address 26087 Schseiner, Alewfoston		
City New Boston	State	^{zip} 48/64
Section 2. Alleged Violator		
Name Royal Percy Lilly		
Mailing Address 1720 HANNAN Rd.		
New Boston	State MI	^{Zip} 48164
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:		
There is no "paid for by" on		
the sign. Mr. Lilly is AN		
established politican; He Knows		
the LAWS.		

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

04 attached phon fin SIGN 1 orwers. Strift

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

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

<u>Section 15(6) of the MCFA</u> (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:

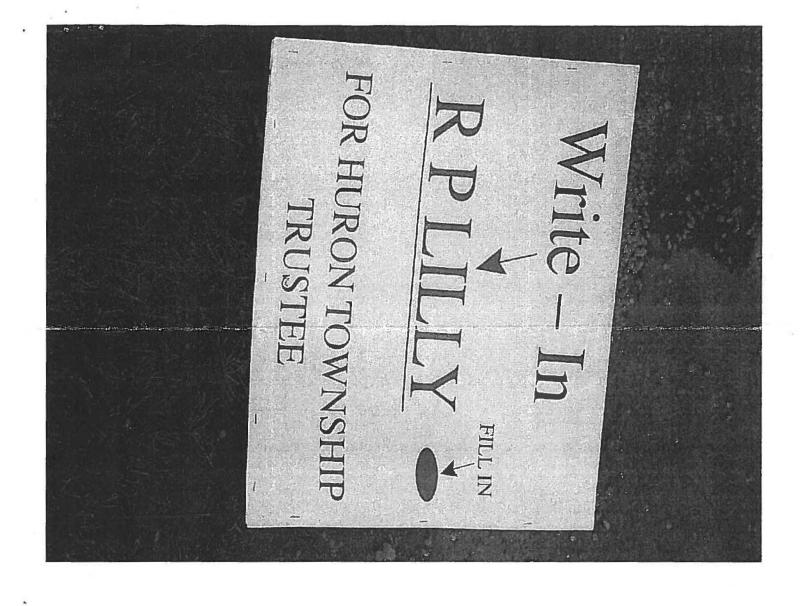
X ______ Date

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 with an **original signature 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: 01/16





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

November 2, 2016

Daniel Bradford 26087 Schreiner Road New Boston, Michigan 48164

Dear Mr. Bradford:

The Department of State received a response to the complaint you filed against Royal Lilly, 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 <u>within 10 business days</u> of the date of this letter to the Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Sincerely,

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Lori A. Bourbonais Bureau of Elections Michigan Department of State

c: R.P. Lilly

R.P. Lilly 17220 Hannan Rd. New Boston, Mi. 48164

THE PERFECTION OF ST 2016 OCT 21 AM 9:43 ELECTIONS/GREAT SEAL

October 15, 2016

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> To: Lori A. Dourbonais / Bureau of Elections Ref: Campaign Finance Complaint / Daniel Brandford

In response to your letter dated October 12th, 2016, I offer the following : I ordered 50 signs for my Write in campaign for Trustee. The printer that provided the signs did not include the required "paid for " information on the signs.

I created labels that contain the required information to be attached to the signs (see enclosed photograph).

A small number of the signs may have been placed in locations without the labels attached, this was not intentional, it was purely an oversight.

I have a list of all sign locations and I will check all signs to make sure that they contain the required information.

Thank you for bringing this to my attention.

Respectfully yours, R.P. Lillv

Paid for by the Committee to elect **R.P Lilly Township Trustee**

17220 Hannan Rd. New Boston, Mi. 48/164

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State of Michigan Ruth Johnson, Secretary of State DEPARTMENT OF STATE Lansing

March 24, 2017

R.P. Lilly 17220 Hannan Road New Boston, Michigan 48164

Dear Mr. Lilly:

The Department of State (Department) has completed its investigation of the complaint filed against you by Daniel Bradford, 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. Bradford'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. Bradford filed his complaint on October 4, 2016, and you filed a written response on October 21, 2016. Mr. Bradford did not file a rebuttal statement with the Department.

Mr. Bradford alleged that you failed to include a paid-for-by statement on your campaign signs. In support of his complaint, Mr. Bradford provided a picture of sign which stated, "Write-in R P LILLY FOR HURON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE [.]" The sign did not appear to contain a paidfor-by statement.

In your response you stated that the signs were printed without the paid-for-by statement, but that you "created labels that contain[ed] the required information to be attached to the signs." You further stated that some of the signs may have been placed without the labels, and that this was an oversight.

While the Department believes that the evidence tends to show that your signs failed to contain a complete paid-for-by statement and a violation of the Act occurred, section 15(10) of the MCFA requires the Department to "endeavor to correct the violation or prevent a further violation by

R.P. Lilly March 24, 2017 Page 2

using informal methods such as a conference, conciliation, or persuasion [.]" The Department is satisfied that you took appropriate corrective measures to bring your material into compliance.

Additionally, 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. <u>Note that all printed materials that refer to an election or your candidacy produced in the future must include this identification statement</u>.

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,

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Lori A. Bourbonais Bureau of Elections Michigan Department of State

c: Daniel Bradford