



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

October 29, 2013

Linda Roberts
7874 Syracuse
Taylor, Michigan 48180

Dear Ms. Roberts:

The Department of State (Department) received two formal complaints filed by Alex Garza and Jeff Lamarand 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-related material. Copies of the complaints are 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), 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(5).

In support of their complaints, Mr. Garza and Mr. Lamarand provided a picture of a sign which states "Linda ROBERTS City Council [,]" a copy of a picture of what appears to be the same sign, a copy of a picture of a sign which states LINDA ROBERTS For Taylor City Council [,]" and a copy of the Itemized Expenditures Schedule 1B from one of your candidate committee filings. It appears that there is no paid-for-by statement on either 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 these complaints, you are required to do so within 15 business days of the date of this letter. Please send one single answer to both complaints, and 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 complainants.

A copy of your reply will be provided to Messrs. Garza and Lamarand, 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 administrative hearing, or referring this matter to the Attorney General for enforcement of the criminal penalty provided in section 47(5) of the Act.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Bourbonais".

Lori A. Bourbonais
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Alex Garza
Jeff Lamarand

**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:

Section 1. Complainant		
Your Name <i>Jeff Lamarand</i>	Daytime Telephone Number <i>734 552-8318</i>	
Mailing Address <i>PO Box 1972</i>		
City <i>Taylor</i>	State <i>MI</i>	Zip <i>48180</i>
Section 2. Alleged Violator		
Your Name <i>Linda M. Roberts</i>		
Mailing Address <i>7874 Syracuse</i>		
City <i>Taylor</i>	State <i>MI</i>	Zip <i>48180</i>
Section 3. Alleged Violations (Use additional sheet if more space is needed.)		

Section(s) of the MCFA violated:

Section 47 (1) 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.247 (1) Section 5

Explain how those sections were violated:

No disclaimer on campaign sign

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

*photo documentation - attached
copy of campaign expenditure - report*

Section 4. Certification (Required)

X Jeffery D. Lund Date 10-17-13
Signature of Complainant

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

X

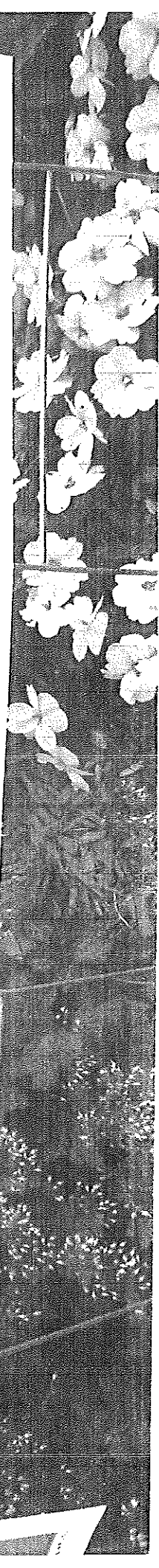
Signature of Complainant _____ Date _____

lect Linda

ROBERTS

City Council

Experienced Leadership
Restore the Pride





**ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES
SCHEDULE 1B
CANDIDATE COMMITTEE**

Expenditure Name	Address	Fund Raiser	Purpose	Date	Amount
Direct					
Favors, Joyce	12919 Murray, Taylor, MI 48180	<input type="checkbox"/>	Literature Distribution	06/11/2013	\$63.94
Favors, Joyce	12919 Murray, Taylor, MI 48180	<input type="checkbox"/>	Media - Billboards / Outdoor Advertising	06/11/2013	\$350.00
SubTotal					\$413.94
Total					\$413.94

Michigan Department of State BUREAU OF ELECTIONS
Campaign Finance Complaint Form MI DEPT OF STATE

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 Alex Garza	Daytime Telephone Number (313) 443-6106	
Mailing Address 5962 Jackson		
City Taylor	State MI	Zip 48180

Section 2. Alleged Violator		
Your Name Linda Roberts		
Mailing Address 7874 Syracuse		
City Taylor	State MI	Zip 48180

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

Section(s) of the MCFA violated:

Section 47(1), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.247(1), Section J

Explain how those sections were violated:

Campaign Signs do not have Contact/paid for information on them

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

(Pictures included)

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

Alex A. Garza
Signature of Complainant

10/17/13
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:

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
Legal and Regulatory Service Administration
Richard H. Austin Building - 4th Floor
430 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan 48918

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Linda

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City Council

**Experienced Leadership
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LINDA ROBERTS

For Taylor City Council

"Experienced Leadership"



BEAT THE GUNNING
Leadership

LINDA ROBERTS

For Taylor City Council

"Experienced Leadership"

STATE MAP
Gates

Shelton Shuman 202
& Associates
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT
(714) 212-2555



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

November 19, 2013

Alex Garza
5962 Jackson
Taylor, Michigan 48180

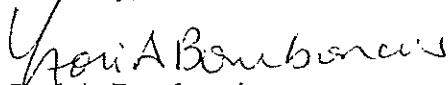
Jeff Lamarand
P.O. Box 1972
Taylor, Michigan 48180

Dear Mr. Garza and Mr. Lamarand:

The Department of State received a response to the complaints you filed against Linda Roberts, which concern 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, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918. Please submit only one statement signed by both of you.

Sincerely,


Lori A. Bourbonais
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Linda Roberts

November, 11, 2013

CTE Linda Roberts
7874 Syracuse
Taylor Michigan 48189

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

To Whom It May Concern,

In reply to your letter of October 29, 2013 concerning the signs I had posted that were missing my contact information and the sign placed at the Little League ball field. I wish to inform you that the majority of the signs have been removed and destroyed. Some of them seem to have disappeared from the location I placed them. There were signs being stolen on a regular basis during the campaign. I have picked up all the signs I could locate and have advised supporters through social media that if I missed any of the signs to please inform me or destroy them. All the signs that were not stolen were pick up by myself by November 3, 2013.

Those signs were purchased by an older lady supporter, who knew I couldn't afford to order them until I had money in the CTE Linda Roberts account, also to surprise me she order them on line from out of state and had them delivered to my house. She was going to pay for them but I could not allow that since I knew she was on a limited income. Since this was my first campaign I simply overlooked the fact that the information required on the signs were missing. I'll never make that mistake again.

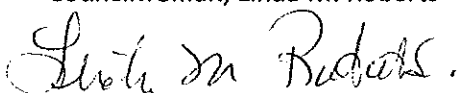
As to the large vinyl sign place at the ball park, I donated money from my personal account to support the Little League. The league director ordered the signs and placed them at the ball field and I only saw them from a distance since they were placed on the outfield fence. Since he had been placing signs there for several years and had numerous signs placed for a great number of candidates I didn't even think to check on them. I drove by the field and saw the signs from a distance. That sign has now been removed and destroyed. Another mistake I'll never make again.

Please accept my apologies for making some mistakes on my first but hopefully not my last campaign. Had I been informed of my mistake by Mayor Jeff Lamarand or by candidate Alex Garza I would have corrected the situation immediately.

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Councilwoman, Linda M. Roberts



ELECT

LINDA

11/11/71

LINDA

Select

ROBERT

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SPORTS
COUNCIL

ROBERT



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

February 14, 2014

Linda Roberts
7874 Syracuse
Taylor, Michigan 48180

Dear Ms. Roberts:

The Department of State (Department) has completed its investigation of complaints filed against you by Alex Garza and Jeff Lamarand, 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. Garza and Mr. Lamarand's complaints.

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(5).

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.

The complaints were filed by Mr. Garza and Mr. Lamarand on October 18, 2013, and you filed a written response on November 13, 2013. Neither Mr. Garza nor Mr. Lamarand filed a rebuttal statement.

Mr. Garza and Mr. Lamarand alleged that your campaign signs did not contain complete and correct paid-for-by statements. In support of their complaints, Mr. Garza and Mr. Lamarand provided a picture of a sign which states "Linda ROBERTS City Council [.]" a copy of a picture of what appears to be the same sign, a copy of a picture of a sign which states 'LINDA ROBERTS for Taylor City Council [.]' and a copy of the Itemized Expenditures Schedule 1B from one of your candidate committee filings. It appears that there is no paid-for-by statement on either sign.

In response, you filed a letter which stated that since this was your first campaign you had "simply overlooked the fact that the information required on the signs [was] missing." You further stated that "the majority of the signs have been removed and destroyed," and that you reached out to supporters through social media to contact you or remove them. You also provided pictures of your collected signs. Finally, you stated that the error was inadvertent.

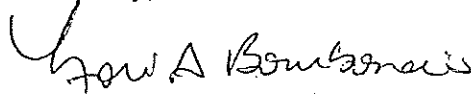
While the Department believes that the evidence tends to show that your campaign material failed to contain a complete paid-for-by statement, section 15(10) of the MCFA requires the Department to "endeavor to correct the violation or prevent a further violation by using informal methods such as a conference, conciliation, or persuasion [.]". The Department is satisfied that you took appropriate corrective measures once the potential violation was brought to your attention.

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. 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(5), 215(10).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Bourbonais".

Lori Bourbonais
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Alex Garza
Jeff Lamarand