



Michigan Department of State
Campaign Finance Complaint Form

BUREAU OF ELECTIONS • RICHARD H. AUSTIN BUILDING - 1st Floor
430 W. ALLEGAN STREET • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48918

RECEIVED
MICHIGAN DEPT. OF STATE

2020 NOV -5 PM 12:51

This complaint form may be used to file a complaint alleging that someone violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA). For instructions on how to complete this form, see the Campaign Finance Complaint Guidebook & Procedures document. All spaces are required unless otherwise indicated.

Section 1. Complainant			
Your Name <i>ELIZABETH MASTERS</i>		Daytime Telephone Number <i>810.543.3058</i>	
Mailing Address <i>1629 FOX RD.</i>			
City <i>WALES</i>	State <i>MI</i>	Zip <i>48027</i>	
Email (optional) <i>Lizze.toddmasters@gmail.com</i>			

Section 2. Alleged Violator			
Name <i>Terry Peters For WALES TOWNSHIP Supervisor</i>			
Mailing Address <i>2978 STAPLETON RD.</i>			
City <i>WALES</i>	State <i>MI</i>	Zip <i>48027</i>	
Email (optional) <i>terrypetersbros@gmail.com</i>			

Section 3. Allegations (Use additional sheets if more space is needed.)

Section(s) of the MCFA alleged to be violated: Failure to Report ANY Finances

Explain how those sections were violated:

Failed to report any campaign finance expense
or contributions by General Election Pre-election
deadline of Oct 23rd, 2020. Statement of organization
is signed by Terry Peters, agreeing ~~not~~ to waive
report.

Evidence included with the submission of the complaint that supports the allegations:

Terry Peters has purchased professionally
printed mailers, send 3x5 to all registered voters.
Also, approximately 10 printed 8'x4' double sided
signs, with over 100 printed yard signs. Fuel costs.

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

Elizabeth Masters
Signature of Complainant

Date

10/28/2020

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

If, after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, you are unable to certify that certain factual contentions are supported by evidence as indicated above, you may 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:

verified no expense Report by Jay DeBoyer, SCLClerk 10/18
printed mailer Sept. 15

printed mailer Oct 23

printed mailer Oct 26

Approx 10 8'x10' Printed/double sided signs.

Approx 150 18"x24" Printed double sided signs.

Sign posts, fuel, man-hours of employees mowing ditches for sign visibility.

X

Elizabeth Masters
Signature of Complainant

Date

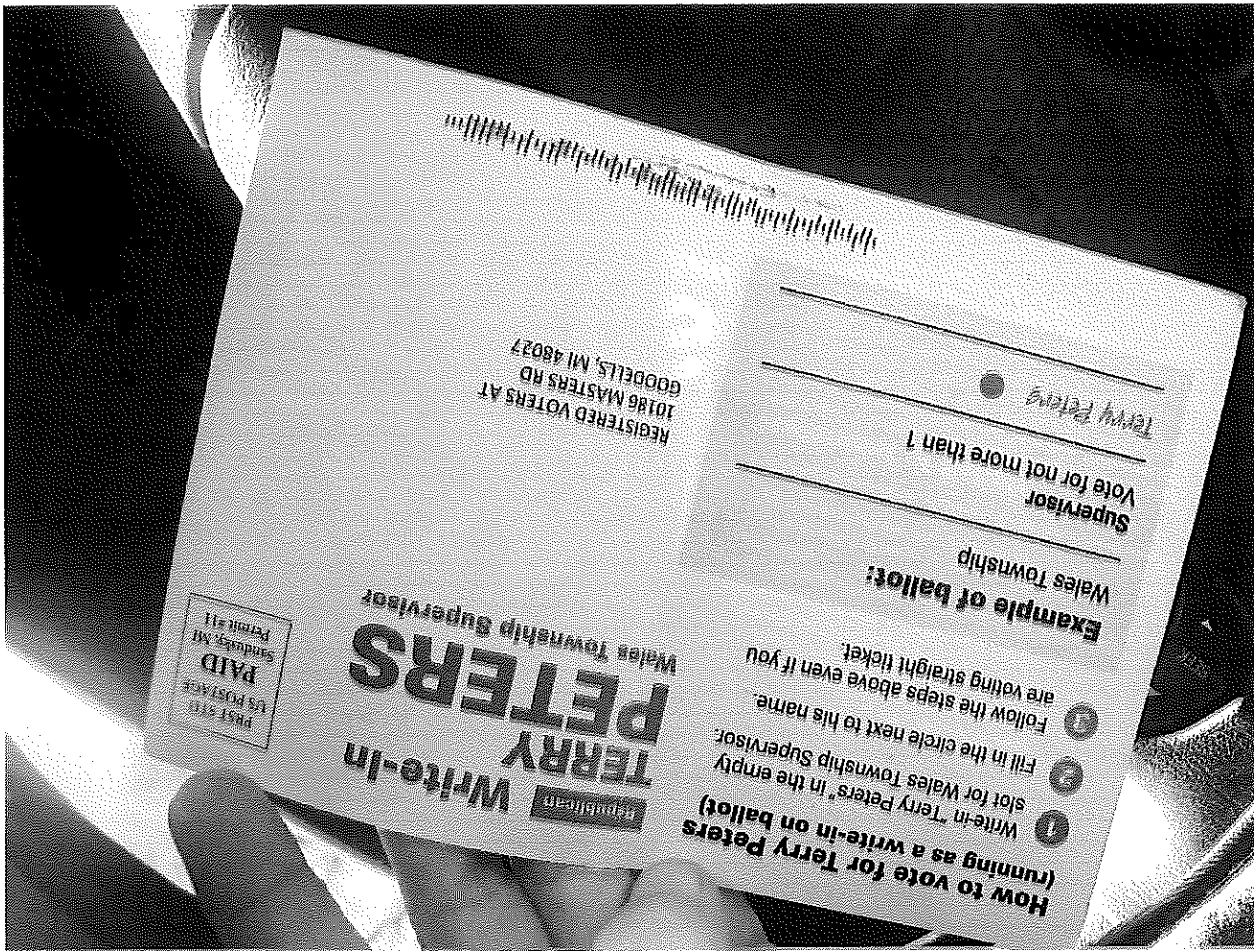
10/28/2020

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.

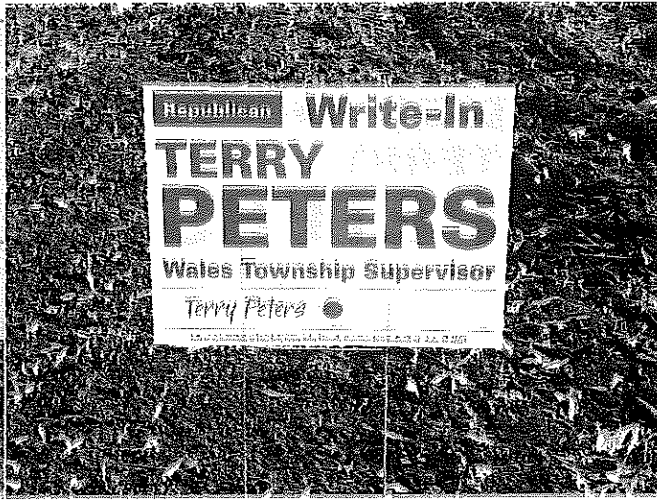
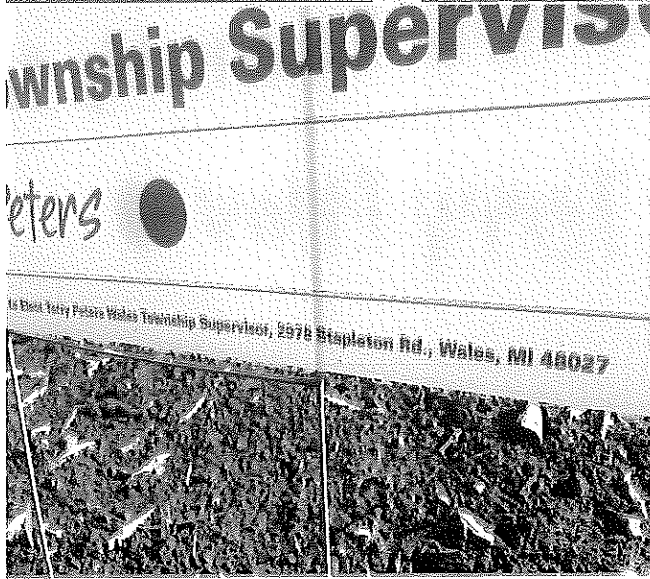
Section 6. Submission

Once completed, mail or hand deliver the complaint form with your evidence to the address below. The complaint is considered filed upon receipt by the Bureau of Elections.

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



Mail drop #1
 Sept 15



Wales Townsh

Terry Peters

Paid for by Committee to Elect Terry Peters Wales Township

Example of ballot:

Wales Township

Supervisor

Vote for not more than 1

Terry Peters

REGISTERED VOTERS AT
1887 GOODELLS RD
GOODELLS, MI 48027



My name is Terry Peters, and I am running as a Republican write-in candidate for Wales Township Supervisor. I am a farmer who started my farm in 1976 with my four brothers and eight dairy cows. We were only teenagers, and we spent all of our time either at school or working on the farm. My brothers and I didn't play baseball or any other sports because we were busy working together to provide for our family. We grew that farm to 200 head of dairy by the 80's. In 1987, my parents decided to retire, so we changed to beef cattle. We grew the beef cattle farm to over 600 head. In 1994, we made the switch to crop farming, so we could spend more time with our families. Our common goal is to make the farm successful, and we have worked together for over 42 years to achieve that goal. I have actively managed the farm for over 30 years. As a result, our farm is one of the most successful farms in Michigan.

As Wales Township Supervisor, I will serve the citizens of Wales Township. I will carefully manage the budget to provide all the services that Wales Township residents deserve. My 30 years of business experience that has made my farm a success will be put to work to take care of the citizens of Wales Township.

I am always available for the citizens of Wales Township to contact me with any questions or concerns.

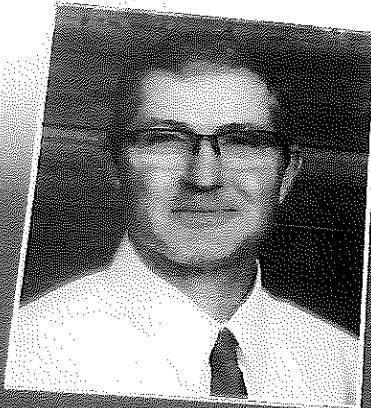
Thank you,
Terry Peters

Republican Write-In
TERRY PETERS
Wales Township Supervisor

REGISTERED VOTERS AT
1887 GOODELLS RD
GOODELLS, MI 48027

PAID
Sandwich, MI
48871
Printed 7/11

mail Drop #2 Oct 23



Republican

Write-In

**TERRY
PETERS**

Wales Township Supervisor

aid for by Committee to Elect Terry Peters, Wales Township Supervisor
2978 Stapleton Rd., Wales, MI 48027

STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION FORM FOR LOCAL CANDIDATE CON
ORIGINAL OR AMENDED
Information on this form is made by

Terry Peters

- Parishioner at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
- Has been married to his wife Lisa for 20 years
- Resident of Wales Township for 20 years
- Lifelong resident of St. Clair County
- From a family of 10
- Has been on the family farm for over 42 years
- Republican with deep rooted American values
- Knights of Columbus member
- Assistant Boy Scout Leader
- Volunteers for the St. Clair County 4-H Fair
- Has volunteered his time with local high school athletic programs
- Has experience working on projects with the Road Commission and the Drain Commission

Statement of Beliefs

Terry Peters is a Republican who is willing to listen to input from all of the residents in Wales Township. "I have always enjoyed helping others, and I look forward to serving the residents of Wales Township. In addition, I support the maintenance and upkeep of the roads and their ditches in Wales Township for the safety and benefit of all the residents. My experience with the Road Commission and Drain Commission gives me the knowledge needed to do the job. With the support of all of my friends and family, I am proud to run for Wales Township Supervisor."

PRST STD
US POSTAGE

PAID

Sandusky, MI
Permit #11

Republican Write-In

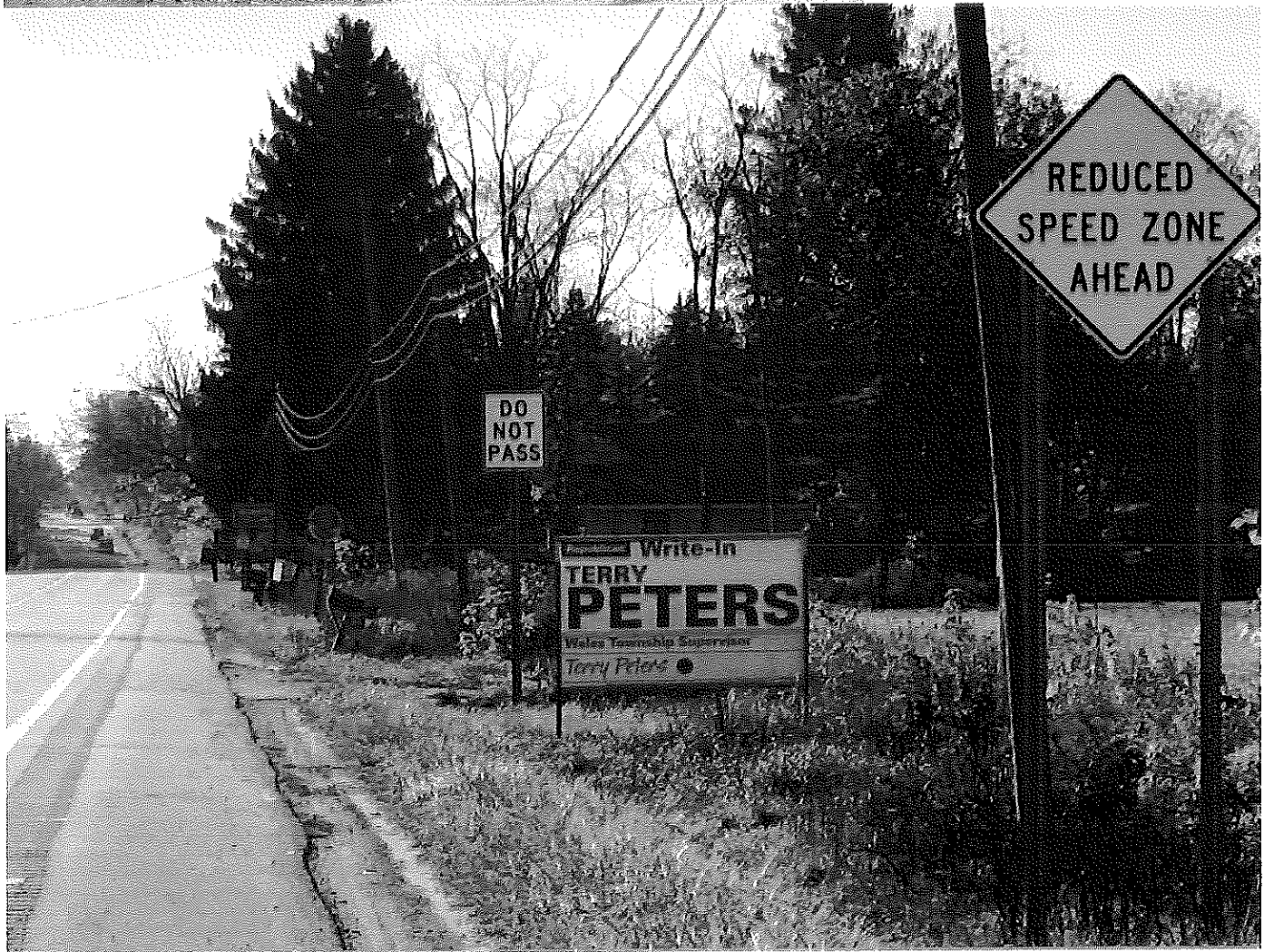
**TERRY
PETERS**

Wales Township Supervisor

Like my Facebook page
"Terry Peters write-in
Wales Township Supervisor"

REGISTERED VOTERS AT
1887 GOODELLS RD
GOODELLS, MI 48027

Mail Drop #3
Oct 26



Memphis TN 38119.



Lapeer
in
Caprells RD.





Wales Center Rd



Wales Center Rd.



Smith Creek
Rd.



Wales
Center Rd.



Wakes
Center 2:
I-69





Wales Center



Alpine Rd.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

January 26, 2021

Terry Peters
2978 Stapleton Road
Wales, MI 48027

Re: *Masters v. Peters*
Campaign Finance Complaint
No. 2020-11-196-33

Dear Mr. Peters:

The Department of State (Department) received a formal complaint filed by Elizabeth Masters against you alleging that you violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.*

The MCFA requires candidates and committees file contributions and expenditures with the appropriate filing official by specific dates. MCL 169.233(1) – (3). The MCFA requires a committee that receives or expends more than \$1,000 during any election to file campaign finance reports in compliance with the Act. MCL 169.233(6). A person who knowingly omits or underreports expenditures required to be disclosed by the Act is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$1,000 or the amount of the expenditures omitted or underreported, whichever is greater. MCL 169.233(11).

Ms. Masters alleges that you have failed to file any campaign finance statements required by the Act, and you have not requested or qualify for the reporting waiver under section 24.

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. 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 investigatory process is explained in the attached publication, which is also available on our website.

If you wish to file a written response to this 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. Please submit any records to the Department via email at Elections@Michigan.gov. All materials must be sent to the Department of State, Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street,

Terry Peters
January 26, 2021
Page 2

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 answer will be provided to Ms. Masters, 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 penalty provided in section 33(11) of the Act.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact me at (517) 335-3234.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Fracassi".

Adam Fracassi
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Elizabeth Masters

February 9, 2021

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

via E-Mail:

Re: Master v. Peters
Campaign Finance Complaint
No. 2020-11-196-33

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are writing to you in connection with the Complaint filed by Ms. Masters. Mr. Peters in conjunction with the 2020 election filed the proper reports with the St. Clair County clerk's office on 10/28/2020. If you need further information contact the clerk's office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

TOUMA, WATSON, WHALING,
COURY, SSTREMER & THOMAS, PC

S Douglas Touma



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

RECEIVED/FILED
MICHIGAN DEPT OF STATE
2021 JUN 21 PM 1:47
ELECTION/GREAT SEAL

June 11, 2021

SECOND NOTICE

Terry Peters
2978 Stapleton Road
Wales, MI 48027

Via Certified mail

Re: *Masters v. Peters*
No. 2020-11-196-33

Dear Mr. Peters:

By correspondence dated January 26, 2021, the Department of State (Department) advised you of its intention to investigate a complaint filed against you by Elizabeth Masters concerning alleged violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 et seq. A copy of the Department's notice is enclosed with this letter.

The notice informed you that, pursuant to section 15(5) of the MCFA, MCL 169.215(5), the Department is reviewing whether you failed to comply with the requirements of the Act. You were provided an opportunity to respond to these allegations within 15 business days of your receipt of the notice, but to date no response has been filed on your behalf.

By this letter, the Department is providing you a final opportunity to submit a written response to the enclosed notice. Your response may include any documentary evidence you wish to submit and must be received by the Department on or before **July 7, 2021**. All materials must be sent to the Bureau of Elections, Michigan Department of State, Richard H. Austin Building, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Failure to submit a written response to this second notice will leave the Department no alternative but to make its determination based solely on the documentation furnished by Ms. Masters.

Sincerely,

Adam Fracassi
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

July 27, 2021

Elizabeth Masters
1629 Fox Road
Wales, MI 48027

Via email

Dear Ms. Masters:

The Department of State received a response to the complaint you filed against Terry Peters, 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, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Fracassi".

Adam Fracassi
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: Terry Peters



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

November 2, 2021

Terry Peters
2978 Stapleton Road
Wales, MI 48027

Re: *Masters v. Peters*
Campaign Finance Complaint
No. 2020-11-196-33

Dear Mr. Peters:

The Department of State (Department) has finished investigating the campaign finance complaint filed against you by Elizabeth Masters alleging violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA). This letter concerns the disposition of the complaint.

The complaint alleges that you failed to file a campaign statement as required under the MCFA. Specifically, the complaint alleges that you made expenditures during your campaign for Wales Township Supervisor but did not file a pre-election campaign statement documenting those expenditures election by the October 23, 2020 deadline. The complaint includes as evidence photos of yard signs and mailers advocating for your election and containing "Paid for by Committee to Elect Terry Peters Wales Township Supervisor" statements.

You have responded to the complaint. In your response, you stated that you filed the required campaign statement on October 28, 2020.

Ms. Masters filed a rebuttal statement, contending that your October 28, 2020 filing was submitted after the October 23, 2020 deadline.¹

¹ The rebuttal also contends that you did not file a required post-election campaign statement and that the amount of spending reported on the October 28 filing was incorrect. Because the original complaint did not address a failure to file a postelection campaign statement, the Department does not address that claim. The Department does note, however, that the St. Clair County Clerk does not have a record of you making a post-election filing. The Department also declines to address the claim that your reported spending was incorrect, as Ms. Masters does not include any evidence that the signs and mailers advocating your election included in the complaint would have required a larger expenditure than the \$2,778.84 you reported in your October 28 filing.

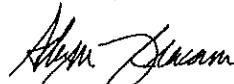
Terry Peters
November 2, 2021
Page 2

In Michigan, committees supporting or opposing the election of a candidate must file a preelection campaign statement no later than the eleventh day before the election where that candidate appears on the ballot. MCL 169.233(1)(b). Filing officials are responsible for determining whether statements or reports required under the MCFA are in fact filed. MCL 169.216(6). A statement filed "within 9 business days after the time it was required to be filed" is accepted as a late filing and is subject to late filing fees. MCL 169.216(7).

The Department has reviewed the evidence submitted in this matter and concluded that insufficient evidence has been submitted to support a finding that a potential violation of the MCFA has occurred. The St. Clair County Clerk confirmed receipt of your committee's pre-election statement on October 28, 2020, after the filing deadline. While technically late, the reports were filed prior to the filing of the instant complaint. Given that you filed the reports prior to the complaint being submitted, the Department concludes that there is insufficient evidence to determine a potential violation has occurred.

The Department notes that your committee may be assessed a late-filing fee by the County Clerk for any statement that was not timely filed. MCL 169.233(7). Late-filing fees are assessed and collected by the filing official with whom the statements are filed. MCL 169.217(1). Any questions regarding these late-filing fees should be directed to the County Clerk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Fracassi", is written over the printed name.

Adam Fracassi

Michigan Bureau of Elections

C: Elizabeth Masters