

October 31, 2022

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

Email: [BOERegulatory@michigan.gov](mailto:BOERegulatory@michigan.gov);

Re: Campaign Finance Complaint against **RFFW LLC** for Money Laundering

To the Michigan Department of State:

This Complaint is submitted, pursuant to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act Section 169.215, to request the Michigan Department of State (the "Department") to immediately investigate and take appropriate enforcement action against RFFW LLC, 1905 Northwood Boulevard Suite 500, Royal Oak MI 48073 (registered office address)/1901 St. Antoine Street, Detroit, MI 48220 (contribution address), Telephone No. (313) 393-7507.

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RFFW LLC is a Michigan limited liability company that is not registered as a ballot question committee. However, under MCL 169.203(4) and the precedent the Department set forth in a 2021 complaint decision and a 2014 complaint decision, RFFW LLC should have registered as a committee and filed the required reports.<sup>1</sup>

On July 14, 2022, RFFW LLC filed as a Michigan limited liability company.<sup>2</sup> Thereafter, in what could be one of the greatest business miracles ever witnessed for a startup limited liability company, RFFW LLC somehow amassed \$500,000 and donated this amount a mere 15 days later to Reproductive Freedom For All, a Michigan ballot question committee:<sup>3</sup>

REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM FOR	520255-	DIRECT	RFFW LLC	DETROIT	07/29/2022	\$500,000.00
<u>ALL</u>	BAL		1901 ST. ANTOINE	MI 48220		
			ST.			

It is not a violation for an organization to make contributions to a ballot question committee.<sup>4</sup> However it is "a violation of the Act for an organization to raise money on behalf of the ballot question committee in order to shield the organization's donors from the reporting requirements of the Act."<sup>5</sup> The facts of this case demonstrate that this is precisely what occurred here, and is far worse than the 2021 Department decision that found organizations "were

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*LaBrant v. Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, Michigan! My Michigan!*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint filed May, 25, 2021 decision filed Oct. 27, 2021) (attached as Exhibit A); *D'Assandro v. Home Care First, Inc.*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint filed August 30, 2013 (decision filed February 9, 2014 (attached as Exhibit D).

See Exhibit B, the Articles of Organization of RFFW LLC.

See 2022 Pre-General Campaign Finance Report for Reproductive Freedom For All filed on October 28, 2022.

See Exhibit A. (citing MCL 169.203(4)).

See Exhibit A (citing MCL 169.203(4)).

soliciting or receiving funds for the purpose of collecting contributions with the intent of financially supporting the ballot question committee.”<sup>6</sup> Thus, we request the Department investigate and find there is reason to believe that multiple violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA) occurred.<sup>7</sup>

## I. Law.

Under Michigan law, a “committee” is defined as an organization:

“that receives contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the action of the voters for or against the nomination or election of a candidate, the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question, or the qualification of a new political party, if contributions received total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year or expenditures made total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year.”<sup>8</sup>

The statute further specifies that an organization does not meet the definition of a committee solely because it makes an expenditure to a ballot question committee or an independent expenditure committee.<sup>9</sup> However, the organization does meet the definition of a committee if it “solicits or receives contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to that ballot question committee or independent expenditure committee.”<sup>10</sup>

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Whether or not an organization meets the definition of a committee is consequential because a committee is required to report and publicly disclose information. An organization must file a statement of organization within ten days of formation and thereafter file statements disclosing the organization’s contributions and expenditures.<sup>11</sup> If an organization fails to file the required statements, civil or criminal penalties are imposed.<sup>12</sup>

In an October 27, 2021 decision, the Michigan Department of State considered the case of *LaBrant v. Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, Michigan! My Michigan!*, MI Finance Complaint No 2021-5-8-21 (Oct. 27, 2021) (2021 Complaint). This case involved two 501(c)(4) organizations, Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility (MCFR) and Michigan! My Michigan! (MMM), which were not registered as committees themselves but had made contributions to a ballot question committee, Unlock Michigan (Unlock).<sup>13</sup>

The Department had two pieces of evidence which led to their ruling: (1) the organizations’ 2019 form 990 showing their assets at the end of the year and (2) the amount of contributions they gave as disclosed by Unlock in 2020.<sup>14</sup> MCFR had \$715,137 in assets at the end of calendar year 2019 and contributed approximately \$1,780,000 to Unlock from June to

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See Exhibit A (citing MCL 169.203(4)).

MCL 169.15(10).

MCL 169.203(4).

*Id.*

<sup>0</sup> *Id.*

<sup>1</sup> MCL 169.224.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., MCL 169.234.

<sup>3</sup> *LaBrant v. Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, Michigan! My Michigan!*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint filed May, 15, 2021 (decision filed Oct. 27, 2021) (attached as Exhibit A).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

October 2020.<sup>15</sup> MMM had \$172,452 in assets at the end of calendar year 2019 and contributed approximately \$550,000 to Unlock from June to October 2022.<sup>16</sup>

There was no evidence of the date or amount of contributions received by MCFR and MMM throughout 2020 or the total amount of their assets at any particular point during the year.<sup>17</sup> Both MCFR and MMM filed affidavits stating that they neither “solicited or received contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to Unlock Michigan or any other ballot question committee.”<sup>18</sup>

After comparing MCFR and MMM’s assets at the beginning of 2020 and the contributions each made to the ballot question committee during the year, the Department found that the assets MCFR and MMM each contributed to the ballot question committee during 2020 “far exceeds the assets controlled by the organizations” at the beginning of the year.<sup>19</sup> Additionally, MCFR and MMM made contributions to the ballot question committee “within days of similarly sized payments” from the ballot question committee to its vendor, which demonstrated coordination “to some extent.”<sup>20</sup> The Department found there “may be reason to believe” that MCFR and MMM should have registered as committees themselves and filed the required statements.<sup>21</sup> The decision stated:

“As previously stated, it is not a violation of the Act for a group to raise funds in its normal course of conduct and make contributions to a ballot question committee or to coordinate with that ballot question committee. It is, however, a violation of the Act for an organization to raise money on behalf of the ballot question committee in order to shield the organization’s donors from the reporting requirements of the Act. The fundraising necessary to allow MCFR to contribute \$1,780,000 to Unlock and MMM to contribute \$550,000 to Unlock from June to October 2020 is substantial. Although it may be possible that each entity raised those funds in the first half of 2020 independently of each entity’s support for Unlock, to assume that the aggressive fundraising activity necessary for each organization to raise the sums that were then transferred to Unlock was completely independent strains credulity. The disparity between each organization’s assets going into 2020, the amount that each organization contributed to Unlock, and the timing of those contributions demonstrate a level of coordination showing the entities were not independent of each other.

In particular, the number of payments that MCFR and/or MMM made to Unlock days before Unlock made similarly sized payments to NPM suggests that MCFR and MMM were soliciting or receiving funds for the purpose of collecting contributions with the intent of financially supporting Unlock. Such fundraising for the purpose of supporting a ballot question committee, as is evidenced in the instant case, makes MCFR and MMM themselves ballot question committees responsible for registration and for filing appropriate campaign statements under the MCFA, but neither organization, to date, has registered as a committee nor

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<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>0</sup> *Id.*

<sup>1</sup> *Id.*

filed those campaign statements as required by sections 24 and 33 of the Act.

Given the coordination between Unlock, the proximity of contributions made to Unlock and the expenditures made by Unlock, and the fact that neither MCFR nor MMM would have been able to make such contributions to Unlock without soliciting/receiving additional funds during 2020, there is reason to believe that MCFR and MMM may have solicited/received funds for the purpose of making contributions to Unlock.”<sup>22</sup>

Therefore, in the 2021 Complaint the Department found an organization making contributions to a ballot question committee actually becomes a committee itself is when:

“Although it may be possible that each entity raised those funds in the first half of 2020 independently of each entity’s support for Unlock, to assume that the aggressive fundraising activity necessary for each organization to raise the sums that were then transferred to Unlock was completely independent strains credulity.”

## **II. Analysis**

### **Issue Presented: Whether RFFW LLC Is A Committee Thereby Mandating Registration Obligations With the Department.**

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RFFW LLC is a Michigan limited liability company formed on July 14, 2022. As in the 2021 Complaint, the fundraising necessary to allow RFFW LLC to contribute \$500,000 to Reproductive Freedom For All is “substantial.”<sup>23</sup>

In fact, this case is more egregious than the 2021 Complaint because RFFW LLC’s fundraising was simultaneous with its contributions to Reproductive Freedom For All. In the 2021 Complaint, the organizations began 2020 with more assets (\$715,137 and \$172,452) and they had at least six months where they could have fundraised independently before making contributions to the ballot question committee.<sup>24</sup> However, in this case, RFFW LLC did not exist until July 14, 2022 and within the next **15 days** it made a \$500,000 contributions to Reproductive Freedom For All. The assets RFFW LLC contributed to the ballot question committee on July 29, 2022 “far exceeds the assets controlled by the organizations” (these being the words of the Department itself in the 2021 Complaint) 15 days earlier.<sup>25</sup> There simply was no significant time period where RFFW LLC’s fundraising was independent of its contributions to Reproductive Freedom For All. To suggest otherwise is far beyond any strain of credulity.

Because RFFW LLC does not publicly disclose its donations and expenditures, the total assets controlled by this entity or the timing of the contributions it received in July 2022 are not publicly known. Likewise, in the 2021 Complaint, the Department did not have this information for MCFR and MMM prior to their donations to Unlock. The Department found this information was unnecessary and presumed the funds were raised for the purpose of financing Unlock in the 2021 Complaint. The same standard certainly must apply here. Moreover, given the short period of 15 days to earn funds before making a \$500,000 contribution (as compared to six months in

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<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

the 2021 Complaint), it is clear that any funds raised by RFFW LLC was for the purpose of contributing to Reproductive Freedom For All.

Applying the analysis in the 2021 Complaint decision to the present situation:

“[I]t is not a violation of the Act for a group to raise funds in its normal course of conduct and make contributions to a ballot question committee or to coordinate with that ballot question committee. It is, however, a violation of the Act for an organization to raise money on behalf of the ballot question committee in order to shield the organization’s donors from the reporting requirements of the Act. The fundraising necessary to allow [RFFW LLC] to contribute [\$500,000] to [Reproductive Freedom For All] . . . from [July 14, 2022 to July 29, 2022] is substantial. Although it may be possible that [this] entity raised those funds [simultaneously] independently of [the] entity’s support for [Reproductive Freedom For All], to assume that the aggressive fundraising activity necessary for [this] organization to raise the sums that were then transferred to [Reproductive Freedom For All] was completely independent strains credulity. The disparity between [this] organization’s assets going into [July 29, 2022], the amount that [this] organization contributed to [Reproductive Freedom For All], and the timing of those contributions demonstrate a level of coordination showing the entities were not independent of each other.

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....Such fundraising for the purpose of supporting a ballot question committee, as is evidenced in the instant case, makes [RFFW LLC] [itself a] ballot question committee[] responsible for registration and for filing appropriate campaign statements under the MCFA, but [this] organization, to date, has [not] registered as a committee nor filed those campaign statements as required by sections 24 and 33 of the Act.

Given the ... fact that [RFFW LLC] would [not] have been able to make such contributions to [Reproductive Freedom For All] without soliciting/receiving additional funds [from July 14, 2022 to July 29, 2022], there is reason to believe that [RFFW LLC] may have solicited/received funds for the purpose of making contributions to [Reproductive Freedom For All].”<sup>26</sup>

The evidence in this case far exceeds the “reason to believe” standard that RFFW LLC “may have taken actions that qualify [it] as a ballot question committee” and thus has violated Michigan Campaign Finance Act sections 24 and 34.<sup>27</sup>

Moreover, the evidence in this case further suggests that this is a blatant case of money laundering, a violation of MCL 169.241(3). RFFW LLC was formed on July 14, 2022. The Organizer of RFFW LLC is an attorney named Brandon Dalziel.<sup>28</sup> The registered office of RFFW LLC (1905 Northwood Boulevard, Royal Oak, MI 48073) is a residential property owned by Mr. Dalziel.<sup>29</sup> RFFW LLC contributed \$500,000 to Reproductive Freedom For All on July 29, 2022. The 2022 Pre-General report filed by Reproductive Freedom For All listed the address

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> See Exhibit B, the Articles of Organization of RFFW LLC.

<sup>9</sup> See Exhibit C, the property assessment record for 1905 Northwood Boulevard, Royal Oak, Michigan 48073.

for RFFW LLC as 1901 St. Antoine Street, Detroit, MI 48220, which by no coincidence happens to be the office address for attorney Brandon Dalziel.<sup>30</sup> Accordingly, this evidence suggests that RFFW LLC not only solicited contributions for the sole purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee, but was formed for the purpose of shielding the true identity of the contributors to a ballot question committee.

RFFW LLC's money laundering scheme is the functional equivalent of the 2014 matter where an entity called Home Care First, Inc. solicited and received funds from various SEIU organizations, and then made corresponding contributions to a ballot question committee.<sup>31</sup> In that 2014 matter, by forming a nonprofit corporation instead of a ballot question committee, the respondents "thwarted the disclosure purposes of the MCFA and deprived the electorate of any meaningful opportunity to discover the source of [a ballot question committee's] funds prior to Election Day."<sup>32</sup> Consequently, the Department found reason to believe that the MCFA was violated in that 2014 matter.<sup>33</sup> In the present case, by forming a limited liability company instead of a ballot question committee to solicit and receive funds for a ballot question committee, RFFW LLC's money laundering scheme attempts to achieve the same result as the 2014 matter involving Home Care First, Inc. and should receive the same treatment from the Department here.

### **III. Conclusion and Request for Action.**

The facts support a finding that RFFW LLC solicited contributions for the sole purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee, and that RFFW LLC was formed for the purpose of shielding the true identity of the contributor(s) to a ballot question committee. In violations of Sections 24, 34, and 41(3) of the MCFA. We respectfully request the Michigan Department of State immediately investigate the apparent violations set forth in this Complaint and find reason to believe that RFFW LLC has violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act. It is clear, given the facts in this case and the precedent set forth by the 2021 Complaint, the 2014 matter involving Home Care First, Inc., and the text of MCL 169.203(4) -- that RFFW LLC must file as a committee and identify the true identity of the contributor(s) to Reproductive Freedom For All, including filing all outstanding statements and reports, paying any late filing fees, and any applicable civil or criminal penalties.

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.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick Meyers  
105 Lake Ridge Dr.  
Mason, MI 48854

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<sup>0</sup> Brandon M. Dalziel - Bodman ([bodmanlaw.com](http://bodmanlaw.com))

<sup>1</sup> *D'Assandro v. Home Care First, Inc.*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint filed August 30, 2013 (decision filed February 9, 2014 (attached as Exhibit D)).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

# EXHIBIT A

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

October 27, 2021

Brian D. Shekell  
Clark Hill  
500 Woodward Ave., Suite 3500  
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Mr. Shekell:

The Department of State (Department) has finished its initial investigation of the campaign finance complaint filed against your clients Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility (MCFR) and Michigan! My Michigan! (MMM), as well as against Unlock Michigan (Unlock), by Robert LaBrant alleging violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act). This letter concerns the current disposition of the complaint against your clients.

The complaint alleged that MCFR and MMM solicited or received donations for the purpose of making expenditures to Unlock. Unlock is a ballot question committee regulated by the MCFA. In support of these claims, Mr. LaBrant stated that MCFR and MMM together contributed over \$2.3 million in funding to Unlock from June to October 2020, "nearly 86%" of Unlock's total funding during that period. The complaint also showed that MCFR and/or MMM frequently provided large amounts of funding to Unlock within days of Unlock making a large payment to the outside signature-gathering firm National Petition Management (NPM).

MCFR and MMM also jointly responded to the complaint.<sup>1</sup> In their response, MCFR and MMM claimed that neither organization "solicited or received contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to Unlock Michigan or any other ballot question committee." MCFR and MMM included a September 9, 2020 affidavit from Heather Lombardini stating that "MCFR ha[d] not

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<sup>1</sup> MCFR and MMM also alleged that the instant complaint should be dismissed as a successive complaint. However, as indicated in the Department's April 9, 2021 dismissal to Mr. LaBrant, the prior complaint asked the Department only to investigate whether 5 contributions were violative of the Act. Because the instant complaint raises allegations not previously addressed in the first complaint, and adds an additional party, the Department does not treat this as a successive complaint.



solicited or received contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to Unlock Michigan or any other ballot question committee.”<sup>2</sup>

Mr. LaBrant provided a rebuttal statement. In his rebuttal, Mr. LaBrant cited the failure of MCFR or MMM to provide financial statements or other information showing that the organizations did not violate the MCFA as evidence that the organizations had in fact violated the Act.

On October 8, 2021, the Department requested that MCFR and MMM provide the Department with IRS Form 990s for calendar year 2019 and 2020. The Department also requested that each organization provide the date and amount of each donation received in excess of \$500 or expenditure made in excess of \$500 between January 1, 2020 and the present, as well as the total value of assets controlled by each organization after each of those donations and expenditures. MCFR and MMM each provided a Form 990 for calendar year 2019 but declined to provide a Form 990 for calendar year 2020 and declined to provide the requested information about expenditures, contributions, and assets.

In Michigan, a committee is an organization which “receives contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the action of the voters for or against the nomination or election of a candidate, the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question, or the qualification of a new political party, if contributions received total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year or expenditures made total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year.” MCL 169.203(4). The MCFA requires committees to file certain campaign statements detailing contributions and expenditures. See, e.g., MCL 169.234. Failure to file these required statements can result in civil and criminal penalties. *Id.* An organization making an expenditure to a ballot question committee is not a committee under the MCFA and is not subject to the reporting requirements of the MCFA, however, unless that organization “solicits or receives contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to that ballot question committee.” MCL 169.203(4). Upon meeting the definition of committee, the organization is obligated to file a statement of organization with the appropriate filing official within 10 days of the committee’s formation, MCL 169.224, and is also required to file various campaign statements detailing the organization’s contributions and expenditures.

As discussed below, the Department finds that there may be reason to believe that MCFR and MMM violated the MCFA. Both MCFR and MMM may have taken actions that qualify each organization as ballot question committees under the MCFA. At the end of calendar year 2019, MCFR had \$715,137 in assets, and MMM had \$172,452 in assets. From June to October 2020, MCFR contributed approximately \$1,780,000 to Unlock, while MMM contributed

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<sup>2</sup> For the reasons more fully set forth below, despite these statements presented in the affidavit, they are not enough to overcome the other evidence submitted.

approximately \$550,000. In each case, the contributions by each organization to Unlock during 2020 far exceeds the assets controlled by each entity at the start of 2020. Moreover, the contributions by MCFR and/or MMM to Unlock were often made within days of similarly sized payments by Unlock to NPM, as set out in the following chart:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Contributing Organization</b>	<b>Amount Contributed to Unlock</b>	<b>Amount Paid by Unlock to NPM</b>
June 9, 2020	MCFR	\$10,000	-
June 18, 2020	MCFR	\$150,000	-
June 24, 2020	MCFR	\$400,000	-
June 25, 2020	-	-	\$300,000
July 20, 2020	MCFR	\$100,000	-
July 21, 2020	-	-	\$100,276.21
July 31, 2020	MCFR	\$35,000	\$100,000
August 3, 2020	-	-	\$44,784.85
August 6, 2020	MCFR	\$150,000	-
August 6, 2020	MMM	\$100,000	\$228,212
August 14, 2020	MCFR	\$25,000	-
August 20, 2020	MMM	\$100,000	-
August 21, 2020	MCFR	\$110,000	-
August 21, 2020	MMM	\$100,000	\$330,000
August 27, 2020	MCFR	\$700,000	-
August 28, 2020	-	-	\$166,248.86
August 31, 2020	-	-	\$160,317.68
September 11, 2020	-	-	\$183,298.30
September 18, 2020	-	-	\$150,000
October 1, 2020	MCFR	\$100,000	-
October 1, 2020	MMM	\$150,000	-
October 5, 2020	-	-	\$218,203.96
October 21, 2020	MMM	\$100,000	-

Given that contributions by MCFR and MMM to Unlock were closely followed by expenditures Unlock made to NPM totaling an almost identical value, it is clear that MCFR and MMM coordinated to some extent with Unlock. Accounting for the assets controlled by each organization at the end of calendar year 2019, between January 1, 2020, and October 1, 2020, MCFR solicited/received at least \$1,064,863 in contributions, while between January 1, 2020, and October 21, 2020, MMM solicited/received at least \$377,548.

As previously stated, it is not a violation of the Act for a group to raise funds in its normal course of conduct and make contributions to a ballot question committee or to coordinate with that ballot question committee. It is, however, a violation of the Act for an organization to raise

money on behalf of the ballot question committee in order to shield the organization's donors from the reporting requirements of the Act. The fundraising necessary to allow MCFR to contribute \$1,780,000 to Unlock and MMM to contribute \$550,000 to Unlock from June to October 2020 is substantial. Although it may be possible that each entity raised those funds in the first half of 2020 independently of each entity's support for Unlock, to assume that the aggressive fundraising activity necessary for each organization to raise the sums that were then transferred to Unlock was completely independent strains credulity. The disparity between each organization's assets going into 2020, the amount that each organization contributed to Unlock, and the timing of those contributions demonstrate a level of coordination showing the entities were not independent of each other.

In particular, the number of payments that MCFR and/or MMM made to Unlock days before Unlock made similarly sized payments to NPM suggests that MCFR and MMM were soliciting or receiving funds for the purpose of collecting contributions with the intent of financially supporting Unlock. Such fundraising for the purpose of supporting a ballot question committee, as is evidenced in the instant case, makes MCFR and MMM themselves ballot question committees responsible for registration and for filing appropriate campaign statements under the MCFA, but neither organization, to date, has registered as a committee nor filed those campaign statements as required by sections 24 and 33 of the Act.

Given the coordination between Unlock, the proximity of contributions made to Unlock and the expenditures made by Unlock, and the fact that neither MCFR nor MMM would have been able to make such contributions to Unlock without soliciting/receiving additional funds during 2020, there is reason to believe that MCFR and MMM may have solicited/received funds for the purpose of making contributions to Unlock.

When presented with a complaint, the Department is tasked to determine "whether or not there may be reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] occurred."<sup>3</sup> MCL 169.15(10). Once the

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<sup>3</sup> The MCFA directs the Department to initiate the resolution process if "there may be reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] occurred." MCL 169.15(10). The Department notes that, under federal law, the Federal Election Commission (FEC) will initiate an investigation into a campaign finance complaint if the Commission finds that "reason to believe that a violation of [federal law] has occurred or is about to occur." 11 CFR § 111.10. The FEC will find that "reason to believe" a violation has occurred or is about to occur when "the available evidence in the matter is at least sufficient to warrant conducting an investigation, and where the seriousness of the alleged violation warrants either further investigation or immediate conciliation." Federal Election Commission; Policy Statement; Commission Action in Matters at the Initial Stage in the Enforcement Process, 72 Fed. Reg. 51, 12545 (March 16, 2007). Because the MCFA sets a lower threshold for the Department to initiate an informal resolution process – whether there "*may be* reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] occurred" (emphasis added) – than federal law sets for the FEC to initiate an investigation – whether there *is* "reason to believe" – the Department's longstanding practice is to initiate the informal resolution process when the evidence available to the Department at the time that a determination is issued can reasonably support an inference that the MCFA has been violated.

Department has made this determination, the Department must employ “informal methods such as a conference [or] conciliation” to correct the potential violation or to prevent further violation. *Id.* As part of the informal resolution process, parties may furnish the Department with evidence showing that a potential violation of the MCFA has not actually occurred. It is possible that MCFR and/or MMM can provide information tending to show that its fundraising activities in 2020 were in fact independent of subsequent or concurrent donations to Unlock, and thus demonstrate that MCFR and/or MMM are not ballot question committees regulated by the MCFA. However, such information has not been made available to the Department, and the evidence available to the Department at this time suggests that “there may be reason to believe” that MCFR and MMM “solicit[ed] or receiv[ed] contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure” to Unlock, and thus that MCFR and MMM are ballot question committees under the MCFA with corresponding and unfulfilled filing obligations.

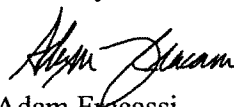
This letter serves to notify you and your clients that the Department has determined there may be reason to believe that your clients have violated the Act, and serves to notify you and your clients that the Department is beginning the informal resolution process. “If, after 90 business days, the secretary of state is unable to correct or prevent further violation by these informal methods, the secretary of state shall do either of the following:

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- (a) Refer the matter to the attorney general for the enforcement of any criminal penalty provided by this act.
  - (b) Commence a hearing as provided in subsection (11) for enforcement of any civil violation.”

MCL 169.215(11).

Please contact the undersigned at [fracassia@michigan.gov](mailto:fracassia@michigan.gov) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 5 to discuss a resolution to matter, including additional information your clients may be able to provide that may affect the Department’s determination of the scope of any violation that may have occurred.

Sincerely,



Adam Fracassi  
Bureau of Elections

# EXHIBIT B

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**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS**  
**FILING ENDORSEMENT**

***This is to Certify that the*** ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

***for***

RFFW LLC

***ID Number:*** 802885307

***received by electronic transmission on*** July 14, 2022 ***, is hereby endorsed.***

***Filed on*** July 14, 2022 ***, by the Administrator.***

***The document is effective on the date filed, unless a subsequent effective date within 90 days after received date is stated in the document.***



***In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Department, in the City of Lansing, this 14th day of July, 2022.***

*Linda Clegg*

***Linda Clegg, Director***  
***Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau***

**LARA** Corporations  
Online Filing System  
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Form Revision Date 02/2017

**ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION**  
For use by DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

*Pursuant to the provisions of Act 23, Public Acts of 1993, the undersigned executes the following Articles:*

**Article I**

The name of the limited liability company is:

RFFW LLC

**Article II**

Unless the articles of organization otherwise provide, all limited liability companies formed pursuant to 1993 PA 23 have the purpose of engaging in any activity within the purposes for which a limited liability company may be formed under the Limited Liability Company Act of Michigan. You may provide a more specific purpose:

**Article III**

The duration of the limited liability company if other than perpetual is:

**Article IV**

The street address of the registered office of the limited liability company and the name of the resident agent at the registered office (P.O. Boxes are not acceptable):

1. Agent Name: CSC-LAWYERS INCORPORATING SERVICE (COMPANY)
2. Street Address: 2900 WEST ROAD
- Apt/Suite/Other: SUITE 500
- City: EAST LANSING
- State: MI Zip Code: 48223

3. Registered Office Mailing Address:

P.O. Box or Street Address: 1905 NORTHWOOD BLVD

Apt/Suite/Other: SUITE 500

City: ROYAL OAK

State: MI Zip Code: 48073

Signed this 14th Day of July, 2022 by the organizer(s):

Signature	Title	Title if "Other" was selected
Brandon Dalziel	Organizer	

By selecting ACCEPT, I hereby acknowledge that this electronic document is being signed in accordance with the Act. I further certify that to the best of my knowledge the information provided is true, accurate, and in compliance with the Act.

☐ Decline ☒ Accept

# EXHIBIT C

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**1905 NORTHWOOD BLVD Block 999** ROYAL OAK, MI 48073-3921 (Property Address)

Parcel Number: 72-25-08-480-006 Account Number: 4013900101



Item 1 of 2

1 Image / 1 Sketch

**Property Owner:** DALZIEL, BRANDON**Summary Information**

## &gt; Residential Building Summary

- Year Built: \*\*\*
- Full Baths: \*\*\*
- Sq. Feet: \*\*\*
- Bedrooms: \*\*\*
- Half Baths: \*\*\*
- Acres: \*\*,\*\*\*

## &gt; 7 Building Department records found

- > Assessed Value: \$\*\*\*,\*\*\* | Taxable Value: \$\*\*\*,\*\*\*
- > \*\*\* Special Assessment found
- > Property Tax information found
- > Utility Billing information found

Access additional record information for a small convenience fee. \*

> Additional areas of information include: *Property Information, Tax Information, Special Assessments Information, Utility Bill Info.*[Show Purchase Options](#)

\* Additional record information is free for all homeowners, click the 'Show Purchase Options' button for more information.

**Owner Information**

Not Available

**Amount Due**Property Total **\$0.00****Projects**

Project Number	Filed As	Status	Number of Items
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No records to display.

Displaying items 0 - 0 of 0

**Permits**

To request an inspection or pay on a record, click View

Permit Type	Permit Number	Associated Project	Status	Date Issued	Last Inspection	Amount Due	
Building	PB13-01476		EXPIRED	10/3/2013	9/2/2014	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>
Building	PB16-00853		FINALED	6/22/2016	7/1/2016	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>
Electrical	PE14-000745		FINALED	7/2/2014	1/8/2015	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>
Mechanical	PM14-000587		FINALED	7/7/2014	7/8/2014	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>
Mechanical	PM14-000639		EXPIRED	7/21/2014	10/29/2014	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>
Plumbing	PP14-000496		EXPIRED	7/3/2014	7/8/2014	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>

1

Displaying items 1 - 6 of 6

[Apply for a Permit](#)**Enforcements**

To pay on a record, click View

Enforcement Type	Enforcement Number	Status	Filed Date	Last Inspection	Amount Due	
Enforcement	E192240	Resolved	7/17/2019	8/7/2019	\$0.00	<a href="#">View</a>

1

Displaying items 1 - 1 of 1

**Attachments**

Date Created	Title	Record
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No records to display.

Displaying items 0 - 0 of 0

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# EXHIBIT D

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

February 7, 2014

Michael J. Hodge  
Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C.  
One Michigan Avenue, Suite 900  
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Andrew Nickelhoff  
Sachs Waldman  
2211 East Jefferson Avenue, Suite 200  
Detroit, Michigan 48207

Dear Mr. Hodge and Mr. Nickelhoff:

The Department of State (Department) has completed its initial investigation of the campaign finance complaint filed against Citizens for Affordable Quality Home Care (Citizens) and Home Care First, Inc. (HCFI) by Gideon D'Assandro, which alleged that Citizens violated sections 34, and 41 of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.*, and HCFI violated sections 24, 34, and 41 of the Act. This letter concerns the disposition of D'Assandro's complaint, which was filed on August 30, 2013. You filed an answer on behalf of the respondents on October 21, 2013, and D'Assandro filed a rebuttal statement on November 5, 2013.

D'Assandro alleged that although the HCFI committee was formed on March 23, 2012, its Statement of Organization was not filed until October 30, 2012. D'Assandro further alleged that HCFI deliberately filed its Statement of Organization and campaign finance statements late to delay reporting contributions it received from various Service Employee International Union (SEIU) organizations, which it then contributed to Citizens, in order to prevent public disclosure of the true source of the contributions until after Election Day. D'Assandro also alleges that although Citizens reported contributions from HCFI, those reports are incomplete or inaccurate because the money was "wrongfully reported to the public as being made by Respondent HCFI . . . when, in fact, these contributions were actually made by various SEIU organizations."

The MCFA requires a committee to file a statement of organization within 10 days after a committee is formed. MCL 169.224(1). Late fees may be incurred if the statement of organization is filed late. *Id.* Failure to file a statement of organization for more than 30 days is a misdemeanor. *Id.* By statutory definition, a committee is formed when "a person receives contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the action of the voters for or against . . . the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question . . . if contributions received total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year or expenditures made total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year." MCL 169.203(4). For purposes of determining whether a committee exists, the word "person" includes a "group of persons acting jointly." MCL

169.211(2). A statement of organization must be filed within 10 days of reaching one of these \$500.00 thresholds.

The Act further requires committees to file periodic campaign finance statements and reports. MCL 169.234. The failure to file a single campaign statement may trigger late filing fees. MCL 169.234(3), (4). In certain circumstances, a failure to file may constitute a misdemeanor offense. MCL 169.234(6). Additionally, the MCFA requires filed campaign finance statements and reports to be complete and accurate. MCL 169.234. A treasurer who knowingly files an incomplete or inaccurate statement or report may be subject to a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00 or the amount of an undisclosed contribution, whichever is greater. MCL 169.234(7).

Finally, the Act prohibits a contribution "made, directly or indirectly, by any person in a name other than by which that person is identified for legal purposes." MCL 169.241(3). A knowing violation of section 41 is a misdemeanor offense. MCL 169.241(4).

In the course of the Department's investigation of D'Assandro's complaint and its thorough review of Citizens' and HCFI's filed campaign statements, the Department finds there may be a reason to believe violations of the Act occurred, not precisely as D'Assandro alleged, but as explained below.

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### Summary

For the reasons that follow, the Department concludes:

- **Citizens is HCFI's ballot question committee.** While there were 2 committees filed, there was in fact only one committee. HCFI and Citizens had a director/ treasurer in common (Hoyle), and 99.9984% of the money in Citizens' account came from contributions raised by HCFI's efforts.
- **Citizens did not designate a secondary depository;** therefore, contributions solicited by HCFI were improperly deposited into HCFI's account.
- **Contributions solicited by HCFI for Citizens were improperly commingled with HCFI funds.**
- **Citizens knowingly filed incomplete and inaccurate campaign statements** by failing to disclose the true source of the contributions solicited by HCFI.

### Background

On March 1, 2012, Dohn Hoyle, Norm DeLisle, and Elizabeth Thomas (a member of the 2012 SEIU Healthcare MI Executive Board)<sup>1</sup> signed the Articles of Incorporation for Home Care First, Inc.<sup>2</sup> According to your answer:

A primary task on [HCFI]'s agenda was to find a means of resurrecting the MQC3 or at least restoring as many of its services and functions as possible. It

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<sup>1</sup> SEIU Healthcare Michigan 2012 LM-2.

<sup>2</sup> Answer to Complaint, Ex E.

**was decided at the time of HCFI's formation that this purpose could best be achieved by a campaign of public education and by protecting MQC3 from the vicissitudes of politics through a constitutional amendment.** (Emphasis added.)<sup>3</sup>

You further admit in your answer that "[i]t was understood that at the beginning, one of [HCFI's] principle activities would be to assist and provide financial support to [Citizens] in order to re-establish the [MQC3]."<sup>4</sup> On March 13, 2012, HCFI's Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, identifying the incorporators as Hoyle, DeLisle, and Thomas, and appointing them as the only three members of HCFI's Board of Directors.<sup>5</sup> Thomas appointed Robert Allison, Director of Governmental Affairs for SEIU Healthcare MI<sup>6</sup>, as her alternate director.<sup>7</sup>

On March 2, 2012, the very next day following the incorporation of HCFI, the Citizens ballot question committee was formed.<sup>8</sup> The treasurer of Citizens was Hoyle, one of the three individuals who incorporated HCFI. Both HCFI's Articles of Incorporation and Citizens' Statement of Organization list the same address as the registered office of HCFI and the mailing address of Citizens.<sup>9</sup>

HCFI held its organizational meeting on March 22, 2012. At that meeting, the HCFI Board of Directors passed a motion requiring that all checks or wire transfers above \$5,000 must be expressly and specifically approved by the Board.<sup>10</sup> Also during this meeting, "[t]he Directors discussed three projects and/or requests for financial support [.]"<sup>11</sup> One of these projects was "[a] Constitutional ballot measure to establish permanently, a registry like that being run by the MQC3 [.]"<sup>12</sup> The three Directors unanimously approved a wire transfer of \$450,000 from HCFI to Citizens.<sup>13</sup>

Hoyle was one of only three directors of HCFI and simultaneously served as the treasurer of Citizens. The HCFI directors were required to approve every check or wire transfer made to Citizens (since all exceeded the \$5,000 threshold requiring a vote of the Board). This enabled Hoyle, in his dual role as Citizens' treasurer and HCFI director, to know when Citizens required an infusion of funds and authorize transfers from HCFI accordingly. The transfers often coincided with substantial expenditures by Citizens.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Answer to Complaint, pg. 3.

<sup>4</sup> Answer to Complaint, pg. 4.

<sup>5</sup> Answer to Complaint, Ex. F.

<sup>6</sup> SEIU Healthcare Michigan 2012 LM-2.

<sup>7</sup> Answer to Complaint, Ex. G.

<sup>8</sup> Citizens' Statement of Organization.

<sup>9</sup> Answer to Complaint, Ex. G, and Citizens' Statement of Organization.

<sup>10</sup> The Board also authorized Thomas, who had been named Secretary-Treasurer, to make wire transfers when directed by the Board. Answer to Complaint, Ex. G.

<sup>11</sup> Answer to Complaint, Ex. G.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* This transfer represented 90% of HCFI's funds.

<sup>14</sup> For example, on June 21, 2012, Citizens' cash on hand was \$66,435.40, until a \$250,000 transfer was received from HCFI one day later. That very day, June 22, 2012, Citizens made an expenditure of \$219,305.45 to PCI

Indeed, from March 2012 until the November 6, 2012 general election, HCFI solicited and received contributions from various SEIU organizations, and then made contributions in corresponding amounts to Citizens – in some cases transferring as much as \$1.25 million to Citizens on the very same day it received funds from an SEIU organization.<sup>15</sup> According to the campaign statements filed by Citizens and belatedly filed by the Home Care First ballot question committee, HCFI received and transferred \$9.36 million to Citizens during the 2012 election cycle. HCFI was the sole contributor to Citizens, save for a \$150 contribution from the Dearborn Democratic Club. In other words, 99.9984% of Citizens' contributions came from a handful of SEIU organizations via transfers from HCFI.

While HCFI was collecting contributions and funneling them to Citizens, and Citizens was identifying HCFI as its single contributor on campaign statements filed pursuant to the MCFA, SEIU International formed its own ballot question committee<sup>16</sup> and began reporting the contributions it was making in support of Proposal 4. Although Citizens was reporting that it was receiving contributions exclusively from HCFI, SEIU International disclosed that it made \$4,808,000 million in contributions to Citizens *directly*.<sup>17</sup> However, SEIU International subsequently filed an amended Pre-General campaign statement on October 31, 2012, which reflected no direct contributions to Citizens and \$4,458,000 in contributions to HCFI.

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At the end of October 2012, after SEIU International publicly disclosed its contributions to support the ballot question, HCFI determined that it, too, should form a ballot question committee "out of an abundance of caution" since it had solicited and received contributions for the purpose of supporting Proposal 4.<sup>18</sup> On October 30, 2012 (the day before the SEIU International amended its Pre-General campaign statement to reflect contributions made to HCFI instead of Citizens), HCFI filed a Statement of Organization for a ballot question committee.

Under the MCFA, a group of persons acting jointly constitutes a committee once the monetary threshold is met. MCL 169.203(4). Here, Hoyle, DeLisle, and Thomas acted in concert to solicit funds from SEIU organizations that were ultimately spent by Citizens in support of Proposal 4. They were required to form a *single* committee that would disclose the source and amount of the contributions it received and the expenditures it made. That committee ought to have been Citizens. Instead, Hoyle, DeLisle, and Thomas devised a scheme by which contributions from SEIU organizations would purportedly pass through HCFI on their way to Citizens, but HCFI would refrain from disclosing the sources of those contributions. In essence, the contributions made by the SEIU affiliates and expenditures made by Citizens were artificially divided between

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Consulting. This same-day transfer and expenditure enabled Citizens to pay a bill which it otherwise would have been unable to afford.

<sup>15</sup> See, e.g., the pre-general campaign statement belatedly filed by the Home Care First ballot question committee, which received \$250,000 from SEIU Healthcare MI on 9/27/12 and \$1,000,000 from SEIU International Ballot Question Committee on 9/28/12, then subsequently made two contributions totaling \$1.25 million to Citizens on 9/28/12.

<sup>16</sup> SEIU International formed its committee on August 28, 2012 and filed its Statement of Organization with the Department on September 7, 2012.

<sup>17</sup> SEIU International Ballot Question Committee Pre-General campaign statement filed October 26, 2012 (original).

<sup>18</sup> Answer to Complaint, pg. 9 and Ex. G.

two entities, HCFI and Citizens, thwarting the disclosure purposes of the MCFA. Funds solicited and received by HCFI for the purpose of supporting a ballot question were not HCFI's funds; they were Citizens' funds and should have been reported as contributions from the various SEIU organizations.

This bifurcation enabled Hoyle, DeLisle, and Thomas to conceal the true funding source behind Proposal 4, and deprived voters of this vital information until after Election Day.

### *Secondary Depository and Commingling of Funds*

Under the MCFA, a committee "shall have 1 account in a financial institution in this state as an official depository for the purpose of depositing all contributions received by the committee . . . and for the purpose of making all expenditures." MCL 169.221(6). Secondary depositories "shall be used for the sole purpose of depositing contributions and promptly transferring the deposits to the committee's official depository." *Id.* In addition, section 21(12) prohibits a committee from commingling contributions that it receives "with other funds of an agent of the committee or of any other person."<sup>19</sup> A person who violates section 21 of the Act is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$1,000.00. Section 24 of the Act requires a committee to "list the name and address of each financial institution in which a secondary depository is or is intended to be located." MCL 169.224(2)(c). A person that fails to disclose the existence of a secondary depository is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$1,000.00. MCL 169.215(15).

Citizens omitted a secondary depository from its Statement of Organization, yet it received contributions that were initially deposited into HCFI's account and subsequently transferred to Citizens' official depository account. Under this arrangement, HCFI's account functioned as a secondary depository for Citizens. There were 49 transactions conducted through this undisclosed secondary depository – 31 contributions and 18 expenditures. Because Citizens did not list a secondary depository on its Statement of Organization, the Department concludes that there may be a reason to believe that Citizens violated section 24 of the Act.

Section 21 requires contributions deposited into a secondary depository to be "promptly" transferred to the committee's official depository. A review of the campaign statements filed shows that on March 23, 2012, SEIU Healthcare MI made a \$500,000 contribution which was deposited into HCFI's bank account, but only \$450,000 of this amount was transferred to Citizens' account on that day. The remaining \$50,000 was not transferred to Citizens' account until June 5, 2012, 74 days later.

Additionally, contributions to Citizens were commingled with funds belonging to HCFI when they were deposited into HCFI's account. The Department finds that 49 transactions occurred through this commingled account.

An analysis of the campaign statements filed by both Citizens and the HCFI belatedly-formed ballot question committee also reveals several instances where HCFI purportedly transferred more money to Citizens than it had available. For example, based on HCFI's reported

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<sup>19</sup> Under the Act, a person includes a corporation. MCL 169.211(2).

contributions and expenditures, it appears that HCFI transferred \$1.6 million to Citizens on September 6, 2012 when it only had \$1.56 million available. HCFI does not report receiving another contribution until September 11, 2012 to cover this deficit. On September 24, 2012, HCFI appears to have transferred \$350,000 to Citizens when it only had \$310,000 available. It was 3 days before HCFI received a contribution to cover this deficit. HCFI also appeared to transfer more money than it had available on September 28, 2012 (\$40,000 deficit), October 4, 2012 (\$20,000 deficit), and October 12, 2012 (\$20,000 deficit). One of three things occurred – 1) HCFI's bank allowed it to make a transfer to another account in an amount that would overdraw HCFI's bank account by tens of thousands of dollars, which the Department finds improbable; 2) HCFI and Citizens shared the same bank account and there was no physical transfer of money; or 3) Citizens reports and the reports that were belatedly filed after the election are incomplete or inaccurate.

Because the funds appear to have been commingled and were not promptly transferred to the Citizens account, the Department concludes there may be reason to believe Citizens violated section 21 of the Act.

#### **Inaccurate or Incomplete Reports**

Section 34 of the MCFA requires ballot question committee to timely file complete and accurate campaign statements. A treasurer who files an incomplete or inaccurate statement or report is subject to a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00 or the amount of the undisclosed contribution, whichever is greater. MCL 169.234(7).

The Legislature has made it clear that an important purpose of the Act is to make public the source of the funds behind a registered ballot question committee. In fact, as recently as July 3, 2012, the Legislature amended the Act to enhance the penalty for the non-disclosure of contributions to a ballot question committee and to require a ballot question committee to file additional campaign statements to provide more timely information regarding the source the committee's funds to the public.<sup>20</sup> 2012 PA 277 increased the highest penalty for a violation of section 34 of the Act from \$1,000.00 to the amount of the undisclosed contribution.

When Hoyle, DeLisle, and Thomas incorporated HCFI and Hoyle formed Citizens, they attempted to evade the disclosure provisions of the MCFA by artificially dividing contributions and expenditures between two committees. The enclosed table illustrates the total contributions obtained by Citizens, by funneling the money through HCFI, that were hidden from public view prior to the 2012 November election. It includes 31 distinct contributions from SEIU entities, totaling \$9.36 million, between March and November, 2012.

The Department notes that in response to the complaint, you contend that "SEIU's support for Proposal 4 was not a closely-held secret[.]" and provided several newspaper articles in support of your position. Certainly, statements made to the news media do not suffice where the Act requires public disclosure of a committee's financial activity through the filing of campaign

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<sup>20</sup> Prior to Public Act 277 of 2012, a treasurer or other person responsible for report preparation who failed to disclose a contribution on a report was subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.00.



statements. The Department further recognizes that the reports you have provided tend to show that the opponents of the proposal publically raised the issue of SEIU's interest in placing a provision for home care workers in the Michigan Constitution, but they also bolster the fact that other than the contributions reported by SEIU International, no one knew where the money for the ballot question was coming from. Further, despite possessing intimate knowledge of Citizens' and HCFI's finances and thus the original source of Citizens' funds, when Hoyle was asked by The Detroit News right before the 2012 November election to disclose the donors to Home Care First, he surprisingly responded, "I think it's safe to say that workers and advocacy groups on behalf of seniors and disability groups are funding it."<sup>21</sup>

Additionally, on its original 2012 Post-General campaign statement, SEIU International reported 2 separate contributions to Citizens on October 25, 2012 – one for \$397,000 and one for \$200,000. HCFI and Citizens reported this as a single \$597,000 contribution. SEIU International subsequently filed an Amended 2012 Post-General campaign statement, which omits the \$200,000 contribution to Citizens. You acknowledge in your answer to the complaint that this amendment "corrected one erroneous entry,"<sup>22</sup> but Citizens still reports receiving and expending this \$200,000, and has not disclosed any alternate source for these funds.

In short, the belated revelations of the source of HCFI's funds thwarted the disclosure purposes of the MCFA and deprived the electorate of any meaningful opportunity to discover the ultimate source of Citizens' funds prior to Election Day. There was no public disclosure of the contributions from various SEIU groups until 8 days after the election. Because the Department concludes that the functions of gathering contributions and making expenditures was artificially bifurcated between two entities and that Citizens failed to report the true source of its contributions, the Department finds there may be a reason to believe Citizens violated section 34 of the Act.

#### **Late Contribution Reports**

The MCFA requires committees to report late contributions by filing a late contribution report within 48 hours of receipt of the contribution. MCL 169.232(1). Citizens was required to file three late contribution reports for 6 contributions purportedly received from various SEIU organizations (not HCFI) on October 25, 30, and November 2, 2012. Although Citizens filed late contribution reports, they erroneously identify HCFI as the source of these late contributions. Based on these facts, the Department concludes there may be a reason to believe Citizens violated section 32 of the Act.

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<sup>21</sup> The Detroit News, Chad Livengood, November 5, 2012, available at <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121105/POLITICS01/211050346>. While those groups may have wanted to the proposal to pass, they certainly were not the source of funding behind HCFI or Citizens. When Hoyle made that statement, he was well aware that all of the funding for Citizens had actually come from a few SEIU organizations.

<sup>22</sup> Answer to Complaint, pg. 5

**Proposed Resolution**

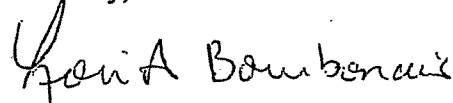
Therefore, based on the foregoing, the Department finds that there may be reason to believe that Citizens violated the MCFA. MCL 169.215(10). Having made this determination, the Department is required by law to attempt to resolve this matter informally. *Id.* The Department now offers you this opportunity to informally resolve the complaint by executing the enclosed conciliation agreement, which requires Citizens to pay a civil fine to the State of Michigan in the amount of \$256,000.00. This amount represents the following:

Secondary Depository MCL 169.221(6), (13), 224(2)(c)	49 transactions \$1,000.00 per violation	\$49,000.00
Commingleing of Funds MCL 169.221(12), (13)	49 transactions \$1,000.00 per violation	49,000.00
Incomplete or Inaccurate Campaign Statements MCL 169.234(7)	31 contributions \$5,000.00 per violation	155,000.00
Incomplete or Inaccurate Late Contribution Reports MCL 169.232, 215(15)	3 inaccurate reports \$1,000.00 per violation	3,000.00
TOTAL		\$256,000.00

If Citizens accepts this settlement, the executed conciliation agreement and payment in full must be submitted to this office **on or before February 21, 2014**. Payment must be made by check or money order payable to the State of Michigan; please include the notation, "Conciliation Agreement, Attn: Bureau of Elections" on your check or money order.

Please be advised that if the Department is unable to resolve this complaint informally, it is required by MCL 169.215(10)-(11) to commence an administrative hearing to enforce the civil penalties provided by law. "If after a hearing the secretary of state determines that a violation of this act has occurred, the secretary of state may issue an order requiring the person to pay a civil fine equal to triple the amount of the improper contribution or expenditure plus not more than \$1,000.00 for each violation." MCL 169.215(11).

Sincerely,



Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

Table 1  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO HCFI, SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO CITIZENS

Statement	Date	Contributor	Amount	Total For Reporting Period
PRE-PRIMARY CS	3/23/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$500,000.00	
	4/23/2012	SEIU MI STATE COUNCIL	\$150,000.00	
	4/25/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION	\$250,000.00	
	6/5/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$250,000.00	
	6/11/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION	\$250,000.00	
	6/22/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION	\$250,000.00	
	6/26/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$250,000.00	\$1,900,000.00
PRE-GENERAL CS	8/28/2012	SEIU UNITED LONG TERM CARE	\$150,000.00	
	8/28/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$900,000.00	
	8/28/2012	SEIU UNITED HEALTH WORKERS	\$200,000.00	
	8/31/2012	SEIU 774 NW	\$100,000.00	
	8/31/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE IL/IN	\$150,000.00	
	9/11/2012	SEIU UNITED 1199	\$100,000.00	
	9/17/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$500,000.00	
	9/21/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$750,000.00	
	9/27/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$250,000.00	
	9/28/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$1,000,000.00	
	10/2/2012	SEIU UNITED HEALTH WORKERS	\$20,000.00	
	10/4/2012	SEIU MI STATE COUNCIL	\$150,000.00	
	10/11/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$1,000,000.00	
	10/18/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$808,000.00	
	10/18/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE WI	\$10,000.00	
	10/19/2012	SEIU 1133	\$10,000.00	\$6,098,000.00
POST-GENERAL CS	10/23/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE PA	\$10,000.00	
	10/24/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$250,000.00	
	10/25/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE IL/IN	\$100,000.00	
	10/25/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION	\$597,000.00	
	10/30/2012	SEIU HEALTHCARE MI	\$100,000.00	
	10/30/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$130,000.00	
	11/2/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$65,000.00	
	11/2/2012	SEIU INTERNATIONAL UNION BQC	\$110,000.00	\$1,362,000.00
Total Contributions				\$9,360,000.00



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

**In the Matter of:**

**Citizens for Affordable Quality Home Care  
Dohn Hoyle, Treasurer  
400 Galleria Officentre, Suite 117  
Southfield, Michigan 48034**

**Committee Id. No. 515805**

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**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

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Pursuant to MCL §169.215(10) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the Act), MCL §169.201 *et seq.*, the Secretary of State and Citizens for Affordable Quality Home Care (Respondent) hereby enter into a conciliation agreement with respect to certain acts, omissions, methods, or practices prohibited by the Act.

The Secretary of State alleges that there may be reason to believe that the Respondent violated MCL §169.221(6) and 169.224(2)(c) of the Act by failing to disclose the existence of a secondary depository.

The Secretary of State further alleges that there may be reason to believe that the Respondent violated MCL §§169.221(12) by commingling funds with Home Care First, Inc.

The Secretary of State further alleges that there may be reason to believe that the Respondent violated MCL 169.232(1) by failing to file three late contribution reports identifying the true sources of its late contributions.

The Secretary of State further alleges that there may be reason to believe that the Respondent violated MCL 169.234(7) by knowingly filing incomplete or inaccurate campaign statements, which omitted the true sources of its contributions.

Respondent believes that it did not intentionally violate the foregoing provisions of the Act. However, the Respondent, without admitting any issue of law or fact, except as stated herein, hereby voluntarily enters into this conciliation agreement and assures the Secretary of State that it will comply with the Act and the Rules promulgated to implement the Act.

By executing this conciliation agreement, the Respondent certifies that it has paid a civil fine in the amount of \$199,000.00 to the State of Michigan.

The Secretary of State and the Respondent further agree that this agreement is in effect and enforceable for four years from the date it is signed by the Secretary of State or her duly authorized representative.

The Secretary of State and the Respondent further agree that this agreement, unless violated, shall constitute a complete bar to any further civil or criminal action against the Respondents or their contributors in relation to this complaint with respect to matters covered in the conciliation agreement.

The Secretary of State and the Respondent further agree that the complaint and investigation that resulted in this agreement are disposed of and will not be the basis for further proceedings against the Respondents or their contributors in relation to this complaint, except pursuant to this agreement.

The Secretary of State and the Respondent further agree that this agreement will not prevent the Secretary of State from taking action for violations of this agreement.

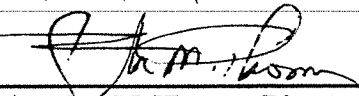
The Secretary of State and the Respondent further agree that the Respondent's performance under this agreement shall be given due consideration in any subsequent proceedings.

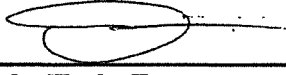
The Secretary of State and the Respondent further agree that this agreement, when signed, shall become a part of the permanent public records of the Department of State.

The Secretary of State and the Respondent finally agree that the signatories below are authorized to enter into and bind the parties to this agreement, and have done so by signing this agreement on the date below.

**RUTH JOHNSON**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

**RESPONDENT**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher M. Thomas, Director  
Bureau of Elections

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dohn Hoyle, Treasurer  
Citizens / Affordable Quality Home Care

Date: 3/10/2014

Date: 3/10/14



**Dykema Gossett PLLC**

Capitol View  
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900  
Lansing, MI 48933

WWW.DYKEMA.COM

Tel: (517) 374-9100

Fax: (517) 374-9191

**W. Alan Wilk**

Direct Dial: (517) 374-9122

Direct Fax: (855) 256-1485

Email: WAWilk@dykema.com

December 13, 2022

**Via Email:**

**BOERegulatory@michigan.gov**

Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H. Austin Building - First Floor  
430 W. Allegan  
Lansing, MI 48918

**Re: October 31, 2022 Complaint Against RFFW LLC (via Department Letter, dated November 21, 2022)**

Dear Bureau of Elections:

This is a response to a complaint filed against RFFW LLC ("RFFW") on October 31, 2022 by Patrick Meyers ("*Complainant*") alleging certain violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the "*Act*"), 1976 PA 388, as amended, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* I respectfully request the complaint be dismissed because it fails to establish that there is reason to believe that a violation of the Act has occurred.

Complainant alleges that RFFW violated the Act by failing to register as a committee under MCL 169.224(1) because RFFW meets the definition of a committee under MCL 169.203(4). Complainant, however, failed to demonstrate that RFFW is a committee and, instead, premises his allegations on an unsupported idea that RFFW and Reproductive Freedom For All were engaged in a "money laundering scheme," and, therefore, RFFW must be a ballot question committee. Complainant's conspiracy theory is simply not true nor suggests a violation of the Act occurred.

The validity of Complainant's allegations is contingent on whether RFFW meets the definition of a committee under the Act. It does not. The Act defines a "committee" as "a person that receives contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the action of the voters for or against. . . the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question." MCL 169.203(4). Notably, a "person" includes a limited liability company such as RFFW. MCL 169.211(2).

The Act creates a “safe harbor” in some instances and states that a person—in this case, a limited liability company—“making an expenditure to a ballot question committee... **shall not, for that reason,** be considered a committee or be required to file a report for the purposes of this act.” MCL 169.203(4) (emphasis added). Stated differently, simply making a donation to a ballot question committee is insufficient to meet the definition of a committee under the Act. To trigger registration as a committee, there must be sufficient evidence that “the person solicits or receives contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to that ballot question committee.” *Id.*

The only conduct at issue in this matter is the fact that RFFW made one donation to a ballot question committee. That donation, without more, does not require registration as a committee. Likewise, Complainant has failed to provide any evidence to establish RFFW “solicit[ed] or receiv[ed] contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to [Reproductive Freedom For All].” *Id.* Complainant improperly relies on *LaBrant* and *D’Assandro* in an attempt to infer that RFFW coordinated with Reproductive Freedom For All. Contrary to Complainant’s assertion, the situations of *LaBrant* and *D’Assandro* are distinguishable and do not apply in this case.

In both *LaBrant* and *D’Assandro*, the Department found violations of MCL 169.224(1) because the contributions made by the organizations represented a majority of the total contributions received by the ballot question committee. This reasonably demonstrated that the organizations were funneling money to the ballot question committee indicating the organization and the ballot question committee were essentially the same entity.<sup>1</sup> For example, the contributions from the organization at issue in *D’Assandro* represented “99.9984%” of all the money in the ballot question committee’s account.<sup>2</sup> The organization even admitted that it was formed for the purpose of contributing to the ballot question committee; thus, there was no question that the organization was soliciting contributions on behalf of the ballot question committee.

The same was true in *LaBrant*. There, the Department found that the contributions made by Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility (“MCFR”) and Michigan! My Michigan! (“MMM”) over a four month period suggested substantial coordination with Unlock Michigan (“Unlock”), a registered ballot question committee. The 15 contributions made by MCFR and MMM to Unlock represented “**nearly 86%** of Unlock’s total funding during this period.”<sup>3</sup> Given that the great

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<sup>1</sup> *LaBrant v Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint Filed September 17, 2022, April 9, 2021 Decision at p 4; available at [https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/20delrio/UM\\_File.pdf?rev=3b6bf3f8fc0a4ac0acde8edf1aa0de8b&hash=EE982950ED11030690E0D78A034DFEB6](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/20delrio/UM_File.pdf?rev=3b6bf3f8fc0a4ac0acde8edf1aa0de8b&hash=EE982950ED11030690E0D78A034DFEB6)

<sup>2</sup> *D’Assandro v Home Care First, Inc.*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint filed August 30, 2021, February 7, 2014 Decision at p 2; available at [https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/06diljak/DAssandro\\_v\\_Home\\_Care\\_and\\_Citizens\\_CA\\_cover\\_letter\\_and\\_Conciliation\\_Agreement.pdf?rev=1aa8a102696646e9a671d843e59a7615](https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/06diljak/DAssandro_v_Home_Care_and_Citizens_CA_cover_letter_and_Conciliation_Agreement.pdf?rev=1aa8a102696646e9a671d843e59a7615)

<sup>3</sup> *LaBrant v Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, et al.*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint Filed May 25, 2021, October 27, 2021 Decision at p 1, available at <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/->



majority of Unlock's total assets came from MCFR and MMM's contributions, the Department concluded that it was reasonable to assume MCFR and MMM coordinated with Unlock thereby suggesting the organizations "solicit[ed] or receiv[ed] contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to [Unlock]." *See* MCL 169.203(4).

Even more telling, the Department was able to identify how those contributions were used by Unlock. Within days of MCFR's and MMM's contributions, Unlock made a correlating expenditure, often in an amount equivalent to the contribution, to an outside signature gathering firm, National Petition Management.<sup>4</sup> The parallels supported that the contributions made by MCFR and MMM were not simply donations; MCFR and MMM were funneling money to Unlock. The organizations were so intertwined in Unlock's political activities that MCFR, MMM, and Unlock were essentially the same entity.

This level of intermingling cannot be said for RFFW and Reproductive Freedom For All because the two are in fact independent of each other. First, Complainant points to one donation made on July 29, 2022, not a series of multiple transactions or contributions. Second, Complainant cannot and did not point to specific expenditures made by Reproductive Freedom For All that correlated with RFFW's contributions to suggest coordination, and that RFFW was funding particular political activities. There is simply insufficient evidence to infer RFFW and Reproductive Freedom For All were working together to solicit contributions as required under *LaBrant* and *D'Assandro*.

More importantly, RFFW's contribution represents a small fraction of all the money given to Reproductive Freedom For All. In 2022, Reproductive Freedom For All received over \$47 million in contributions.<sup>5</sup> The contributions made by RFFW represents approximately only 1% of all money donated to the committee in 2022. Clearly, the proportion of RFFW's contributions to all money received by Reproductive Freedom For All does not imply any coordination between the two, let alone enough to suggest RFFW was funneling money to Reproductive Freedom For All. Allegations of a "money laundering scheme," as argued by Complainant, are completely illogical.<sup>6</sup> Accordingly, RFFW cannot be considered a committee because there is no evidence to create a reasonable belief that RFFW was soliciting or receiving contributions on behalf of Reproductive Freedom For All and, thus, was required to register as a committee.

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</media/Project/Websites/sos/CFR-Complaints/LaBrant-v-MCFR-and-MMM.pdf?rev=6514c4206c264bcd818281874c0ec26a&hash=2C32C3686A36C795A97DB8C6E9F6133D>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> Reproductive Freedom For All Post-General Committee Statement, attached as Exhibit 1.

<sup>6</sup> RFFW specifically denies that it coordinated with Reproductive Freedom For All in any way. *See* Declaration of Organizer RFFW LLC ("Dec of RFFW"), ¶ 5, attached as Exhibit 2.

A limited liability company, like RFFW, is able to make donations to a ballot question committee without triggering registration under MCL 169.224(1), even if the donations are greater than \$500.00.<sup>7</sup> The names of individual members are not necessary and are only reported by a receiving ballot question committee if the limited liability company voluntarily provides a written statement attributing the funds to its members.<sup>8</sup>

As a limited liability company formed under the Michigan Limited Liability Company Act, 1993 PA 23, MCL 450.4101 *et seq* (“LLCA”), RFFW was not required to provide the name of its members when making a donation to a ballot question committee. In fact, the Act only requires that a person—or limited liability company—provide its name and address so that the ballot question committee may properly disclose the information. *See* MCL 169.226(g). So long as the information provided is the information “by which that person is identified for legal purposes,” no violation of the Act occurs. MCL 169.241(3). That is exactly what RFFW provided, and that is what Reproductive Freedom For All reported.

RFFW specifically denies that it has violated the Act in any manner. Indeed, RFFW was formed for liability purposes and to promote reproductive rights generally.<sup>9</sup> It determined a natural first and obvious extension of this purpose was to support a reproductive rights constitutional amendment in Michigan.<sup>10</sup> RFFW did not solicit nor fundraise funds from third parties to make any contribution, nor did RFFW receive funds from anyone that was not a member and owner of RFFW, for contributions to Reproductive Freedom For All or any other expenditure.<sup>11</sup> Besides contributing to Reproductive Freedom For All, RFFW has other activity and plans to use its funds to support other measures and interests that promote reproductive rights (again, this is why RFFW, which presumably stands for “Reproductive Freedom for Women,” was formed).<sup>12</sup>

In short, Complainant has not offered any evidence to allege a valid violation of MCL 169.203(4) and MCL 169.224(1). The Act is clear on what qualifies as a committee, and RFFW does not meet this threshold. RFFW’s donation to Reproductive Freedom For All does not require registration as a committee, nor is there sufficient evidence that RFFW “solicit[ed] or receiv[ed] contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to [Reproductive Freedom For All].” *See* MCL

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<sup>7</sup> Michigan Attorney General, Opinion No. 6807 (June 23, 1994), available at <https://www.ag.state.mi.us/opinion/datafiles/1990s/op06807.htm>

<sup>8</sup> *Id* (“The individual members are separate and distinct from the limited liability company similar to a partner in a partnership. See section 102(2)(i) and (1) of the LLCA. Accordingly, like a partnership, contributions from a limited liability company may be attributable to individual members if the contributions are accompanied by written statements containing the names and addresses of the contributing members and the amounts of their contributions.”)

<sup>9</sup> *See* Dec of RFFW, ¶ A. Notably, Brandon Dalziel is the organizer of RFFW and this designation does not render him a member of RFFW. *See* MCL 450.4202(1).

<sup>10</sup> *See* Dec of RFFW, ¶¶ D, 1.

<sup>11</sup> *See* Dec of RFFW, ¶¶ 4.

<sup>12</sup> *See* Dec of RFFW, ¶ 2.



Bureau of Elections  
December 13, 2022  
Page 5

169.203(4). Indeed, RFFW complied with the Act because it provided the legal name and address of the entity to Reproductive Freedom For All; the name of any RFFW member is not required. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the complaint be dismissed.

Sincerely,

**Dykema Gossett PLLC**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Alan Wilk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

W. Alan Wilk

123911.000001 4871-0401-0559.5

# EXHIBIT 1

# Michigan Committee Statement Summary Page

- ▣ **Committee Name:** REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM FOR ALL
- ▣ **Statement Type:** POST-GENERAL CS
- ▣ **Statement Year:** 2022

« Back to statement details

		This Period		Cumulative for Election Cycle
RECEIPTS				
3. Contributions				
a. Itemized Contributions	(3a.)	\$1,859,625.64		
b. Unitemized	(3b.)	\$0.00	(18.)	\$45,384,913.83

		This Period	Cumulative for Election Cycle	
c. Subtotal of Contributions	(3c.)	\$1,859,625.64	(19.)	\$0.00
4. Other Receipts	(4.)	\$0.00	(20.)	\$45,384,913.83
<b>5. Total Contributions and Other Receipts</b>	(5.)	\$1,859,625.64		
<b>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
6. In-Kind Contributions				
a. Itemized	(6a.)	\$273,356.17		
b. Unitemized	(6b.)	\$0.00		
<b>7. Total In-Kind Contributions</b>	(7.)	\$273,356.17	(21.)	\$2,453,282.86
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
8. Expenditures				
a. Itemized Direct	(8a.)	\$7,932,572.02		
b. Itemized GOTV	(8b.)	\$0.00		
c. In-Kind Expenditures	(8c.)	\$0.00		
d. Unitemized	(8d.)	\$0.00	(22.)	\$44,304,739.52

		This Period		Cumulative for Election Cycle
e. Subtotal of Expenditures	(8e.)	\$7,932,572.02		
			(23.)	\$0.00
9. Independent Expenditures	(9.)	\$0.00		
			(24.)	\$44,304,739.52
<b>9. Total Expenditures</b>	(10.)	\$7,932,572.02		
<b>IN-KIND EXPENDITURES</b>				
11. In-Kind Expenditures - Endorsements, Donations or Loans of Goods or Services	(11.)	\$0.00	(25)	\$0.00
<b>DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS</b>				
12. Debts and Obligations				
a. Owed by the Committee	(12a.)	\$0.00		
b. Owed to the Committee	(12b.)	\$0.00		
<b>BALANCE STATEMENT</b>				
13. Ending Balance of last report filed	(13.)	\$6,269,666.12		
14. Amount received during reporting period	(14.)	\$1,859,625.64		
15. Subtotal	(15.)	\$8,129,291.76		

		This Period	Cumulative for Election Cycle
16. Amount Expended during reporting period	(16.)	\$7,932,572.02	
<b>17. ENDING BALANCE</b>	(17.)	<b>\$196,719.74</b>	



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# EXHIBIT 2

## DECLARATION OF ORGANIZER

### RFFW LLC

I am the organizer of RFFW LLC (“RFFW” or the “Company”).

- A. I am not a member or a manager of RFFW. I do not have the authority to determine how RFFW spends its funds.
- B. I do not serve as a liaison or intermediary between RFFW and any other entity, and I did not do so when RFFW made donations to Reproductive Freedom for All.
- C. RFFW, and not me, is responsible for decisions related to contributions and funding of the Company’s activities.
- D. RFFW was formed as a limited liability company for liability purposes, and to my understanding, to support reproductive rights for women.

A representative of the Company has represented to me that:

- 1. RFFW decided a contribution to the Proposal 3 committee, Reproductive Freedom for All, was in line with the newly formed Company, and seemed like a logical and obvious avenue for advancing the Company’s goals, given the pending campaign to support a Michigan constitutional amendment in line generally with RFFW’s goals.
- 2. RFFW has other activity and plans to use its funds to support other interests that promote reproductive rights.
- 3. RFFW’s contributions were not the result of solicitations to third parties or fundraising from third parties.
- 4. RFFW did not receive any funds from persons that are not a member of the Company.
- 5. There was no coordination between RFFW and Reproductive Freedom For All, other than RFFW providing information needed for reporting purposes of the Company’s contributions.
- 6. If RFFW decides it will support a candidate that supports reproductive rights, RFFW will file as a PAC before contributing to that candidate committee.
- 7. If RFFW decides it will coordinate with any ballot question committee, or solicit or raise funds from others for the purpose of supporting a candidate that supports reproductive rights, or

a ballot question that supports such rights, RFFW will file as a ballot question committee (or political committee) as required under the Michigan Campaign Finance Act.

8. RFFW did not believe it had a mandatory obligation to file as a PAC or ballot question committee itself in order to make a contribution to a ballot question committee.

Executed on December 12, 2022.

  
BRANDON DALZIEL



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

December 13, 2022

Patrick Meyers  
105 Lake Ridge Dr.  
Mason, MI 48854

Re: *Meyers v. RFFW LLC*  
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 178 – 24, 34, 41

Dear Mr. Meyers:

The Department of State received a response from RFFW LLC to the complaint you filed against them alleging a violation of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, 1976 P.A. 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* A copy of the response is provided as an enclosure with this letter.

You may file a rebuttal statement after reviewing the enclosed response. If you elect to file a rebuttal statement, you are required to do so within 10 business days of the date of this letter. The rebuttal statement may be emailed to [BOERegulatory@michigan.gov](mailto:BOERegulatory@michigan.gov) or mailed to the Department of State, Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Sincerely,

Regulatory Section  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

## MDOS-BOERegulatory

---

**From:** Patrick Meyers  
**Sent:** Monday, December 26, 2022 11:29 PM  
**To:** MDOS-BOERegulatory  
**Subject:** Meyers v. RFFW LLC; Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022-11-178-24, 34, 41; Rebuttal Statement

**CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to [abuse@michigan.gov](mailto:abuse@michigan.gov)**

Dear BOE Regulatory Section:

I have received the Response filed by Respondent RFFW LLC. Please consider this email to be the Rebuttal Statement filed in the above-referenced matter.

The French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte once said:

“Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake”

See [never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake - Wiktionary](#)

While Napoleon’s use of the term “enemy” is a bit strong for the present proceedings, the Response filed by Respondent RFFW LLC actually confirms the allegations set forth in the Complaint and the Respondent’s own words further demonstrate the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA) violations set forth in the Complaint.

The unchallenged facts of the Complaint reference that on July 14, 2022, RFFW LLC was created as a Michigan limited liability company. Thereafter, in what could be one of the greatest business miracles ever witnessed for a startup limited liability company, RFFW LLC somehow amassed \$500,000 and donated this amount a mere 15 days later to Reproductive Freedom For All, a Michigan ballot question committee. As recently stated by the Michigan Department of State:

“It is clear that [RFFW LLC] had to solicit funds in order to make expenditures to [Reproductive Freedom For All] given that [RFFW LLC] could not have funded a single expenditure without conducting aggressive fundraising in [15 days from its formation on July 14 to the contribution made on July 29]. Any rationale to the contrary strains credulity.” Determination Letter dated November 30, 2022 in *The Foundation for Accountability and Civic Trust v. Bipartisan Solutions* Campaign Finance Complaint No. [2022 – 07 – 45 – 215](#)

The Response was the opportunity for the Respondent to present facts to negate the obvious finding that RFFW LLC solicited contributions for the purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee, and that RFFW LLC was formed for the purpose of shielding the true identity of the contributor(s) to a ballot question committee. Instead of even attempting to dig out of this hole, the already deep hole got a whole lot deeper.

Specifically, the Response makes the following fatal admissions:

1. “RFFW did not solicit nor fundraise funds from third parties to make any contribution, nor did RFFW receive funds from anyone that was not a member and owner of RFFW, for contributions to Reproductive Freedom For All or any other expenditure.” Response, Page 4.

Although RFFW claims that it did “not solicit nor fundraise funds from third parties to make any contribution”, it impliedly admits that RFFW did solicit contributions from its member(s) and owner(s) for the purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee. This admission illustrates that the Respondent meets the definition of a committee because

it “solicits or receives contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to that ballot question committee”. MCL 169.203(4). The Response’s contention that only a solicitation or receipt from “third parties” triggers committee status under MCL 169.203(4) is contrary to the text of the MCFA: There is no “member” or “owner” exception in MCL 169.203(4). The receipt of contributions from a “member” or “owner” by the Respondent for the purpose of later distribution to a ballot question committee triggers “committee” status pursuant to MCL 169.203(4) just as the receipt of contributions from a third party.

2. “Besides contributing to Reproductive Freedom For All, RFFW has other activity and plans to use its funds to support other measures and interests that promote reproductive rights (again, this is why RFFW, which presumably stands for “Reproductive Freedom for Women,” was formed). Response, Page 4.

How did RFFW amass \$500,000 in 15 days? What other “activity and plans” has truly been undertaken by RFFW? The Response was the opportunity for the Respondent to present facts to negate the obvious finding that RFFW LLC solicited contributions for the purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee, and the Respondent refused to deliver on this opportunity. Instead, the Respondent admits that “RFFW” stands for “Reproductive Freedom for Women” which by itself suggests that that RFFW LLC was formed for the purpose of shielding the true identity of the contributor(s) to Reproductive Freedom For All.

3. In the Declaration of Organizer RFFW LLC, it states that a “representative of the Company has represented to me that...” Response, Exhibit 2.

Please ignore for the moment that any representations from this unknown representative (who is not the Declarant) are hearsay and not evidence whatsoever under Michigan law (see Michigan Rules of Evidence, Rule 801 and 802). Instead, the question becomes: Who is this undisclosed “representative of the Company”? The purposeful concealment of the identity of this “representative of the Company” further demonstrates that RFFW LLC was formed for the purpose of shielding the true identity of the contributor(s) to Reproductive Freedom For All.

4. In the Declaration of Organizer RFFW LLC, it states that “If RFFW decides it will support a candidate that supports reproductive rights, RFFW will file as a PAC before contributing to that candidate committee.” Response, Exhibit 2, Paragraph 6.

The Complaint illustrates that by contributing \$500,000 to Reproductive Freedom For All within 15 days after its very existence, RFFW should have filed as a ballot question committee under MCL 169.224 and filed all reports required under MCL 169.234. However, now RFFW admits that if it contributed to a candidate committee (instead of to Reproductive Freedom For All), then it would be required to form a committee under the MCFA. This statement is yet another fatal admission because there is no difference between contributions to a candidate committee (which RFFW now admits requires registration and compliance with the MCFA) and contributions to a ballot question committee (which RFFW argues does not require registration and compliance with the MCFA).

For the reasons set forth in the Complaint, the facts support a finding that RFFW LLC solicited contributions for the purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee, and that RFFW LLC was formed for the

purpose of shielding the true identity of the contributor(s) to a ballot question committee --- In violation of Sections 24, 34, and 41(3) of the MCFA.

I respectfully request the Michigan Department of State immediately investigate the violations set forth in the Complaint (and now further confirmed by the Response) and find reason to believe that RFFW LLC has violated the Michigan Campaign Finance

Act. It is clear, given the facts in this case and the precedent set forth by the 2021 Complaint

in *LaBrant v. Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, Michigan! My Michigan!*, MIFinance

Complaint No [2021-5-8-21](#) (Oct. 27, 2021), the 2014 matter involving Home Care First, Inc., the text of MCL 169.203(4) and the many fatal admissions set forth in the Response -- that RFFW LLC must file as a committee and identify the true identity of the contributor(s) to Reproductive Freedom For All, including filing all outstanding statements and reports, paying any late filing fees, and any applicable civil or criminal penalties. If the Michigan Department of State does not aggressively pursue this matter, then any time that a contributor to a Michigan committee registered under the MCFA wishes to shield his or her identity, a limited liability company will be formed to avoid transparency and compliance with the MCFA.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this Rebuttal Statement.

Patrick Meyers

**From:** [Wilk, W. Alan](#)  
**To:** [MDOS-BOERegulatory](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW LLC Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 178 – 24, 34, 41  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 5:44:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [DYK21006-logo\\_RGB\\_FINAL\(Custom\)\\_d7656d32-7389-4b1f-8183-04753cc3fce5.png](#)  
[4878-3626-3270.2 - RFFW Conciliation Agreement.docx](#)

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Ms. McInerney:

In order to resolve the matter cited above, we have been authorized by our client to pursue the conciliation agreement process. Pursuant to the direction in your letter to correct a potential violation or prevent a future violation as set forth in the Act, we have attached a proposed conciliation agreement for your review. It is based in part on your recent language in conciliation agreements and prior resolutions that have been completed. The attached conciliation agreement focuses on the filing a ballot question committee registration and report, as described in your letter. We also believe that RFFW LLC could alternatively do an attribution of its contribution to the Reproductive Freedom for All ballot question committee and have that committee amend its report accordingly. We note that the footnote in your letter indicates that reporting of this nature is limited to the Section 55 context, but we are unsure as to why that is the case.

In any event, we believe we can resolve this either way. Upon review, please let us know if the attribution is acceptable, or whether the filing as a ballot question committee per the attached conciliation agreement is preferred. We can then pursue either the attribution letter or filing of the ballot question committee paperwork and get formal approval and execution by our client of the conciliation agreement.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks. -Alan.

**W. Alan Wilk**

Member

D 517-374-9122 ▪ M 517-881-3857  
[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com) ▪ [dykema.com](http://dykema.com)

**BIO** [VCARD](#)

201 Townsend Street, Suite 900  
Lansing, Michigan 48933





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**From:** MDOS-BOERegulatory <MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:41 PM

**Subject:** Meyers v. RFFW LLC Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 178 – 24, 34, 41

\*\*\* EXTERNAL \*\*\*

Please see the attached.

Thank you,

Regulatory Section  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

**From:** [Wilk, W. Alan](#)  
**To:** [MDOS-BOERegulatory](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:16:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [DYK21006-logo\\_RGB\\_FINAL\(Custom\)\\_d7656d32-7389-4b1f-8183-04753cc3fce5.png](#)  
[4878-3626-3270.2 - RFFW Conciliation Agreement.pdf](#)  
[RFFW Ballot Question Committee - Draft SOO.pdf](#)  
[RFFW Ballot Question Committee - Draft Dissolution Report.pdf](#)

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Adam:

Thank you for the review and update on getting the conciliation agreement completed to resolve this matter. Our client is reluctant to file the ballot question committee paperwork outside of the conciliation agreement, as the representations are those that they do not believe to be true. But we have advised them of the Bureau's position and that the Bureau would like to resolve this by having the filings completed in this manner. To get this done, we have modified the conciliation agreement to attach the proposed ballot question filing so you can review. And we also understand based on previous conciliation agreements that once you have reviewed, the Bureau will also require these to be filed before the conciliation agreement is signed by the Director. Please let me know if this process is acceptable and whether you have any further changes to the conciliation agreement.

Please let me know if you have any questions or further thoughts on this.

Thanks. -Alan.

**W. Alan Wilk**

Member

D 517-374-9122 ▪ M 517-881-3857  
[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com) ▪ [dykema.com](http://dykema.com)

**BIO VCARD**

201 Townsend Street, Suite 900  
Lansing, Michigan 48933



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---

**From:** MDOS-BOERegulatory <MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** Wilk, W. Alan <WAWilk@dykema.com>  
**Subject:** Meyers v. RFFW

\*\*\* EXTERNAL \*\*\*

Hi Alan,

We are in receipt of your proposed conciliation agreement, while we are not opposed to entering into a conciliation agreement, RFFW must register the committee and file the appropriate reports prior to the Department signing the agreement. Once the reports are filed, we will review and determine whether any additional late fees or fines are appropriate.

Thank you,

**Adam Fracassi**, *Regulatory Manager*  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State  
Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson  
P.O. Box 20126  
Lansing, Michigan 48901  
**Main:** 517-335-3234

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**In the Matter of:**

*Meyers v. RFFW LLC*  
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022-11-178-24, 34, 41

\_\_\_\_\_ /

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

Pursuant to MCL §169.215(10) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the Act), MCL §169.201 *et seq.*, the Secretary of State and RFFW LLC (Respondent) hereby enter into a conciliation agreement with respect to certain alleged acts, omissions, methods, or practices prohibited by the Act.

Respondent asserts that it did not engage in any activity that requires it to file as a ballot question committee or otherwise violated the Act, but understands that a complaint was filed that alleges otherwise.

Based on that complaint and preliminary findings, the Secretary of State alleges that there may be reason to believe that Respondent violated MCL §§ 169.224(1) and/or 169.234(1) & (2) by failing to file as a ballot question committee, submit a statement of organization, and timely report specified information.

Respondent maintains that it did not intend to register as a limited liability company for the purpose of soliciting money to contribute to a ballot question committee nor did it knowingly not register or report as a ballot question committee within the meaning of the Act.

However, without admitting liability, Respondent voluntarily enters into this Conciliation Agreement and assures the Secretary of State that Respondent will comply with the Act and Rules promulgated thereunder. Specifically, in order to prevent any future violation of the Act, Respondent will adopt the Compliance Plan as set forth in Exhibit A, which was created by counsel to guide Respondent's future activities—whether political in nature or not.

Respondent and the Secretary of State agree that Respondent has or will file a statement of organization as a ballot question committee and submit the necessary campaign finance statements with the Secretary of State pursuant to the Act, as attached to this agreement.

By executing this conciliation agreement, Respondent further agrees to pay late filing fees, and certifies Respondent has or will pay such late fees in the amount of \$500.00 to the State of Michigan.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement is in effect and enforceable for four years from the date it is signed by the Secretary of State or her duly authorized representative.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement, unless violated, shall constitute a complete bar to any further action by the Secretary of State with respect to the alleged violations that resulted in the execution of this agreement.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that the complaint and investigation that resulted in this agreement is disposed of and will not be the basis for further proceedings, except pursuant to this agreement.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement will not prevent the Secretary of State from taking action for violations of this agreement.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that Respondent's performance under this agreement shall be given due consideration in any subsequent proceedings.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement, when signed, shall become a part of the permanent public records of the Department of State.

The Secretary of State and Respondent finally agree that the signatories below are authorized to enter into and bind the parties to this agreement, and have done so by signing this agreement on the date below.

**JOCELYN BENSON**  
**THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

**RESPONDENT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jonathan Brater, Director**  
**Michigan Bureau of Elections**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**[NAME], Authorized Agent**  
**RFFW LLC**

**Date:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**\_\_\_\_\_

## **EXHIBIT A**

### **RFFW LLC – MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMPLIANCE PLAN**

In efforts to increase oversight of political activities and prevent future violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, RFFW LLC will implement this Compliance Plan, which includes, but are not limited to, the following measures:

- RFFW shall not solicit, request, or otherwise seek funds for the purpose of contributing to a ballot question committee, or any other political entity, without first registering as a ballot question committee pursuant to the Act.
- RFFW shall designate a treasurer or agent responsible for all recordkeeping and required campaign finance filings pursuant to the Act. The treasurer or agent shall also obtain a printed copy and/or have immediate access to the Michigan Bureau of Elections' Ballot Question Committee Manual.
- RFFW shall retain and keep political compliance counsel to advise and guide RFFW's political activities.
- RFFW and its members shall make available access to the Bureau of Elections' instructional webinars.
- RFFW shall obtain a separate bank account for all funds received for the purposes of engaging in regulated political activities, but only if RFFW continues to make contributions to political organizations and/or receives funds from donors for the purposes of making a contribution.
- If RFFW makes a contribution to a Michigan regulated political organization in an amount of \$500.00 or more from funds attributed to its members, RFFW shall attribute its contribution to its members and provide all necessary information to the political organization for reporting purposes.
- If RFFW does receive a contribution—from persons or entities not members of the LLC—and RFFW intends to make contributions to an active ballot question committee using those funds, RFFW will either return the funds received to the contributor or register and report as a ballot question committee.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF ELECTIONS

## BALLOT QUESTION COVER PAGE

• <b>Committee ID</b>	123456-0		
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• <b>Coverage Period</b>	07/18/2022 - 07/29/2022		
• <b>Address Information</b>			
• <b>Committee Mailing</b>	1901 St Antoine St Detroit MI 48220		
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Treasurer Name</b>	RENAE MOORE		
• <b>Treasurer Residential</b>	201 Townsend St Ste 900 Lansing MI 48933		
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Treasurer Business</b>			
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Recordkeeper Name</b>			
• <b>Recordkeeper Mailing</b>			
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Statement Type</b>	Dissolution Report		
• <b>Relates To</b>			
• <b>Election Date</b>	//		
• <b>Dissolution Date (effective)</b>	07/29/2022		
• <b>Qual/Non-Qual Date</b>	//		
• <b>Annual Statement Coverage Year</b>			
• <b>Treasurer/Recordkeeper Signed</b>	RENAE MOORE	• <b>Date</b>	06/14/2023

A committee that does not have a Reporting Waiver must file all required Campaign Statements. The Campaign Statements must include all applicable Schedules. Direct contributions, in-kind contributions, loans, expenditures, and outstanding debts count against the \$1,000 Reporting Waiver threshold. If any of the information listed in the items above has changed since the information was shown on the committee's Statement of Organization, an amendment to the Statement of Organization should accompany this Campaign Statement. **If a request for a Reporting Waiver is not received on or before the filing deadline of a required campaign statement, that campaign statement cannot be waived.**

Verification: I\We certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of this statement and attached schedules (if any) and to the best of my\our knowledge and belief the contents are true, accurate and complete.

Current Treasurer or Designated Record keeper:

(Type or Print) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**BALLOT SUMMARY PAGE**

• <b>Committee ID</b>		123456-0		
• <b>Committee Name</b>		RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• <b>Document Name</b>		Dissolution Report		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>This Period</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	
3. Contributions				
a. Itemized Contributions	(3a.)	1,000,000.00		
b. Unitemized	(3b.)	0.00		
c. Subtotal of Contributions	(3c.)	1,000,000.00	(18.)	1,000,000.00
4. Other Receipts	(4.)	0.00	(19.)	0.00
<b>5. Total Contributions and Other Receipts</b>	<b>(5.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>	<b>(20.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
6. In-Kind Contributions				
a. Itemized	(6a.)	0.00		
b. Unitemized (less than \$20.01 each)	(6b.)	0.00		
<b>7. Total In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>(7.)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(21.)</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
8. Expenditures				
a. Itemized	(8a.)	1,000,000.00		
b. Itemized GOTV	(8b.)	0.00		
c. In-Kind Expenditures - Purchase of Goods or Services	(8c.)	0.00		
d. Unitemized (less than \$50.01 each)	(8d.)	0.00		
e. Subtotal of Expenditures	(8e.)	1,000,000.00	(22.)	1,000,000.00
9. Independent Expenditures	(9.)	0.00	(23.)	0.00
<b>10. Total Expenditures</b>	<b>(10.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>	<b>(24.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND EXPENDITURES</b>				
11. In-Kind Expenditures, Endorsements, Donations or Loans of Goods and Services	(11.)	0.00	(25.)	0.00
<b>DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS</b>				
12. Debts and Obligations				
a. Owed by the Committee	(12a.)	0.00		
b. Owed to the Committee	(12b.)	0.00		
<b>BALANCE STATEMENT</b>				
13. Ending Balance of last report filed	(13.)			0.00
14. Amount received during reporting Period	(14.)			1,000,000.00
15. Subtotal	(15.)			1,000,000.00
16. Amount Expended during reporting Period	(16.)			1,000,000.00
<b>17. ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>(17.)</b>			<b>0.00</b>

**CONTRIBUTIONS (4A) BALLOT QUESTION**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	123456-0
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee
• <b>Document Name</b>	Dissolution Report

**# 4101- -Add****Date of Receipt:** 07/18/2022**Amt:** 1,000,000.00**Cumul:** 1,000,000.00**Name:** Shery Cotton**Occupation:** Member**Employer:** RFFW**Address:** 1901 St Antoine St**Business Address:** 1901 St Antoine  
St**City:** Detroit **State:** MI**City:** Detroit **State:** MI**Zip:** 48220**Zip:** 48220**Type of Contribution:** Direct

<b>Schedule Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000.00</b>
-----------------------	------------------------

**DIRECT EXPENDITURES (4B) BALLOT QUESTION**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	123456-0
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee
• <b>Document Name</b>	Dissolution Report

**# 4102- -Add****Date:** 07/20/2022**Amt:** 500,000.00**Cumul:** 500,000.00**Name:** Reproductive Freedom for All  
**Address:** 2966 WOODWARD AVE.  
**City:** DETROIT **State:** MI  
**Zip:** 48201**Purpose:** contribution  
**Ballot Proposal:** Reproductive Freedom for All  
**Support or Oppose:** Support  
**State or Local:** State  
**County:** Statewide**Payment on Debt/Obligation reported on previous statement:****Fund Raiser:****# 4105- -Add****Date:** 07/29/2022**Amt:** 500,000.00**Cumul:** 1,000,000.00**Name:** Reproductive Freedom for All  
**Address:** 2966 WOODWARD AVE.  
**City:** DETROIT **State:** MI  
**Zip:** 48201**Purpose:** contribution  
**Ballot Proposal:** Reproductive Freedom for All  
**Support or Oppose:** Support  
**State or Local:** State  
**County:** Statewide**Payment on Debt/Obligation reported on previous statement:****Fund Raiser:**

<b>Schedule Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000.00</b>
-----------------------	------------------------



STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION FORM FOR LOCAL BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEES FILED WITH COUNTY CLERK

Information on this form is made public.

1. Committee ID #:	*2. Type of Filing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original: <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to items:		Eff. Date:
*3. Date Committee was Formed: 07/18/2022			
*4. Full Name of Committee: RFFW Ballot Question Committee			
5. Acronym or Abbreviation (if any):			
*6. Complete Committee Mailing Address (May be PO Box): 1901 St. Antoine St., Detroit, MI 48220			
*7. Complete Committee Street Address (May not be PO Box): 1901 St. Antoine St., Detroit, MI 48220			
*Committee Phone: 517-374-9100		*Committee Email Address: compliance@dykema.com	
Committee Fax #:		Committee Website Address:	
*8. Treasurer Name and Complete Residential Address: Renae Moore, 201 Townsend St. Ste. 900, Lansing, MI 48933			
Phone #: 517-374-9100		Email Address: compliance@dykema.com	
9. Designated Record Keeper Name and Complete Address:			
Phone #:		Email Address:	
*10. REPORTING WAIVER REQUEST: <input type="checkbox"/> YES, I/WE WANT TO APPLY FOR THE REPORTING WAIVER. The committee does not expect to spend or receive in excess of \$1,000.00 in an <b>election</b> . I/We understand that if the committee does not spend or receive in excess of \$1,000.00 in an <b>election</b> , the committee does not owe detailed campaign statements. I/We further understand that the Reporting Waiver will be automatically lost if the committee exceeds the \$1,000.00 threshold and all required campaign statements must be filed. <b>A Reporting Waiver does not exempt a committee from filing Late Contribution Reports.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO, I/WE DO NOT WANT TO APPLY FOR THE REPORTING WAIVER. The committee expects to spend or receive in excess of \$1,000.00 in an <b>election</b> . I/We understand that the committee owes detailed campaign statements even if the committee does not spend or receive in excess of \$1,000.00 in an <b>election</b> . I/We 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 <a href="#">Appendix C</a> of the Committee Manual.			
*11. Name and Address of Depositories or Intended Depositories of committee funds. (Michigan Bank, Credit Union or Savings & Loan Association) *Official Depository (name and address): Chase Bank, 685 St. Clair, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230 Secondary Depository (name and address):			
12. List the specific ballot proposal(s) involved using the official ballot designation if available and mark support or oppose as appropriate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose Description: Proposal 3: Reproductive Freedom for All Indicate the ballot proposal district below by selecting County (include the county name), Multi-County or Local (include the name of the jurisdiction). If multi-county, list the county where the greatest number of voters eligible to vote on the proposal reside. <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
13. 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. 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.			
*Current Treasurer		*Designated Record Keeper (If Applicable)	
Date:		Date:	

**From:** [MDOS-BOERegulatory](#)  
**To:** [Wilk, W. Alan](#); [Fracassi, Adam \(MDOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 12:58:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Thanks for checking in, Alan. Adam is out of the office this week, but we are extending the deadline as we look into this. We will be in touch.

**Jenny McInerney**

*Regulatory Attorney*

Regulatory Section

[Michigan Bureau of Elections](#)

**Main:** 517-335-3234

---

**From:** Wilk, W. Alan <WAWilk@dykema.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 12:16 PM  
**To:** MDOS-BOERegulatory <MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov>; Fracassi, Adam (MDOS)  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

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Adam:

I am just touching base again to see if you had a chance to review the proposed filings and conciliation agreement. I also left you a voice mail as I note that today is the deadline from the original letter on this matter. I was hoping to either finalize this, or if we need a little more time to do so, please consider this a request to extend that deadline so that we can work to get this resolved in the near future.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks. -Alan.

**W. Alan Wilk**

Member

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**BIO** [VCARD](#)

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---

**From:** Wilk, W. Alan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:16 PM  
**To:** MDOS-BOERegulatory <[MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov](mailto:MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

Adam:

Thank you for the review and update on getting the conciliation agreement completed to resolve this matter. Our client is reluctant to file the ballot question committee paperwork outside of the conciliation agreement, as the representations are those that they do not believe to be true. But we have advised them of the Bureau's position and that the Bureau would like to resolve this by having the filings completed in this manner. To get this done, we have modified the conciliation agreement to attach the proposed ballot question filing so you can review. And we also understand based on previous conciliation agreements that once you have reviewed, the Bureau will also require these to be filed before the conciliation agreement is signed by the Director. Please let me know if this process is acceptable and whether you have any further changes to the conciliation agreement.

Please let me know if you have any questions or further thoughts on this.

Thanks. -Alan.

---

**From:** MDOS-BOERegulatory <[MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov](mailto:MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** Wilk, W. Alan <[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com)>  
**Subject:** Meyers v. RFFW

\*\*\* EXTERNAL \*\*\*

Hi Alan,

We are in receipt of your proposed conciliation agreement, while we are not opposed to entering into a conciliation agreement, RFFW must register the committee and file the appropriate reports prior to the Department signing the agreement. Once the reports are

filed, we will review and determine whether any additional late fees or fines are appropriate.

Thank you,

**Adam Fracassi**, *Regulatory Manager*

Bureau of Elections

Michigan Department of State

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson

P.O. Box 20126

Lansing, Michigan 48901

**Main:** 517-335-3234

**From:** [Wilk, W. Alan](#)  
**To:** [MDOS-BOERegulatory](#); [Fracassi, Adam \(MDOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 4:03:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[DYK21006-logo\\_RGB\\_FINAL\(Custom\)\\_d7656d32-7389-4b1f-8183-04753cc3fce5.png](#)  
[1286\\_001.pdf](#)

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We received the committee ID number, filed the two separate reports as requested, and have updated the attached conciliation agreement to reflect the new payment amount and copies of the filings.

The agreement has been signed and a hard copy along with the check for the payment have been mailed to you.

Thank you again for your assistance in getting this matter resolved.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks. -Alan.

**W. Alan Wilk**

Member

D 517-374-9122 ▪ M 517-881-3857  
[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com) ▪ [dykema.com](http://dykema.com)

**BIO VCARD**

201 Townsend Street, Suite 900  
Lansing, Michigan 48933



---

**From:** Wilk, W. Alan  
**Sent:** Friday, June 30, 2023 2:46 PM  
**To:** 'MDOS-BOERegulatory' <[MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov](mailto:MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov)>; [<FracassiA@michigan.gov>](mailto:Fracassi, Adam (MDOS))  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

Thanks for your review and for the proposed amendment that will allow us to complete the conciliation agreement for this matter. I have discussed with my client, and we agree with the terms of your proposed resolution. We are making the required changes and have filed the Statement of Organization. Once we receive the committee ID number based on that filing, we will get the



reports filed. Once those are filed, we will sign and send the conciliation agreement with the specified changes to you.

Thanks again and have a nice holiday weekend!

Thanks. -Alan.

---

**From:** MDOS-BOERegulatory <[MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov](mailto:MDOS-BOERegulatory@michigan.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 4:26 PM  
**To:** Wilk, W. Alan <[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com)>; Fracassi, Adam (MDOS) <  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

**\*\*\* EXTERNAL \*\*\***

Alan,

Thanks again for your patience. We have reviewed your draft statement of organization, dissolution statement, and conciliation agreement.

The first two are acceptable but the Department would require a higher late filing fee than the \$500 you propose. The maximum late filing fee for a late statement of organization is \$300. However, one of the two payments made by RFFW was on 7/20/22 and one on 7/29. Because the second payment occurred after the closing date for the July quarterly, this would mean that two payments would be on two separate reports and would trigger two late filing fees. Given your interest in conciliation, we would be willing to accept \$300 for the late Statement of Organization and \$1000 as a combined late filing fee for the late reports, for total late fees of \$1300.

If this is acceptable to you, please file the statement of organization and dissolution statement and make the specified change to the conciliation agreement before returning it to us.

**Jenny McInerney**

*Regulatory Attorney*

Regulatory Section

[Michigan Bureau of Elections](#)

**Main:** 517-335-3234

---

**From:** MDOS-BOERegulatory  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 12:59 PM  
**To:** Wilk, W. Alan <[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com)>; Fracassi, Adam (MDOS)  
**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

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[Michigan Bureau of Elections](#)

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**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

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[BIO](#) [VCARD](#)

201 Townsend Street, Suite 900

Lansing, Michigan 48933

The logo for Dykema, featuring the word "Dykema" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "i" is stylized with a dot that is a small square.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:16 PM

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**Subject:** RE: Meyers v. RFFW

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**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 11:53 AM

**To:** Wilk, W. Alan <[WAWilk@dykema.com](mailto:WAWilk@dykema.com)>

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Hi Alan,

We are in receipt of your proposed conciliation agreement, while we are not opposed to entering into a conciliation agreement, RFFW must register the committee and file the appropriate reports prior to the Department signing the agreement. Once the reports are filed, we will review and determine whether any additional late fees or fines are appropriate.

Thank you,

**Adam Fracassi**, *Regulatory Manager*

Bureau of Elections

Michigan Department of State

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson

P.O. Box 20126

Lansing, Michigan 48901

**Main:** 517-335-3234

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**In the Matter of:**

*Meyers v. RFFW LLC*  
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022-11-178-24, 34, 41

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**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

Pursuant to MCL §169.215(10) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the Act), MCL §169.201 *et seq.*, the Secretary of State and RFFW LLC (Respondent) hereby enter into a conciliation agreement with respect to certain alleged acts, omissions, methods, or practices prohibited by the Act.

Respondent asserts that it did not engage in any activity that requires it to file as a ballot question committee or otherwise violated the Act, but understands that a complaint was filed that alleges otherwise.

Based on that complaint and preliminary findings, the Secretary of State alleges that there may be reason to believe that Respondent violated MCL §§ 169.224(1) and/or 169.234(1) & (2) by failing to file as a ballot question committee, submit a statement of organization, and timely report specified information.

Respondent maintains that it did not intend to register as a limited liability company for the purpose of soliciting money to contribute to a ballot question committee nor did it knowingly not register or report as a ballot question committee within the meaning of the Act.

However, without admitting liability, Respondent voluntarily enters into this Conciliation Agreement and assures the Secretary of State that Respondent will comply with the Act and Rules promulgated thereunder. Specifically, in order to prevent any future violation of the Act, Respondent will adopt the Compliance Plan as set forth in Exhibit A, which was created by counsel to guide Respondent's future activities—whether political in nature or not.

Respondent and the Secretary of State agree that Respondent has filed a statement of organization as a ballot question committee and has further submitted the necessary campaign finance statements with the Secretary of State pursuant to the Act, as attached to this agreement as Exhibit B.

By executing this conciliation agreement, Respondent further agrees to pay late filing fees, and certifies Respondent has or will pay such late fees in the amount of \$1,300.00 to the State of Michigan (\$300 for Statement of Organization and \$1,000 for campaign finance reports).

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement is in effect and enforceable for four years from the date it is signed by the Secretary of State or her duly authorized representative.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement, unless violated, shall constitute a complete bar to any further action by the Secretary of State with respect to the alleged violations that resulted in the execution of this agreement.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that the complaint and investigation that resulted in this agreement is disposed of and will not be the basis for further proceedings, except pursuant to this agreement.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement will not prevent the Secretary of State from taking action for violations of this agreement.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that Respondent's performance under this agreement shall be given due consideration in any subsequent proceedings.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement, when signed, shall become a part of the permanent public records of the Department of State.

The Secretary of State and Respondent finally agree that the signatories below are authorized to enter into and bind the parties to this agreement, and have done so by signing this agreement on the date below.

**JOCELYN BENSON**  
**THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jonathan Brater, Director**  
**Michigan Bureau of Elections**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONDENT**  
**RFFW LLC**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Michael Stines, Authorized Agent**

Date: 7/7/23

## **EXHIBIT A**

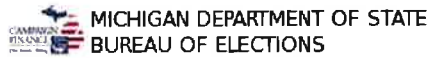
### **RFFW LLC – MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMPLIANCE PLAN**

In efforts to increase oversight of political activities and prevent future violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, RFFW LLC will implement this Compliance Plan, which includes, but are not limited to, the following measures:

- RFFW shall not solicit, request, or otherwise seek funds for the purpose of contributing to a ballot question committee, or any other political entity, without first registering as a ballot question committee pursuant to the Act.
- RFFW shall designate a treasurer or agent responsible for all recordkeeping and required campaign finance filings pursuant to the Act. The treasurer or agent shall also obtain a printed copy and/or have immediate access to the Michigan Bureau of Elections' Ballot Question Committee Manual.
- RFFW shall retain and keep political compliance counsel to advise and guide RFFW's political activities.
- RFFW and its members shall make available access to the Bureau of Elections' instructional webinars.
- RFFW shall obtain a separate bank account for all funds received for the purposes of engaging in regulated political activities, but only if RFFW continues to make contributions to political organizations and/or receives funds from donors for the purposes of making a contribution.
- If RFFW makes a contribution to a Michigan regulated political organization in an amount of \$500.00 or more from funds attributed to its members, RFFW shall attribute its contribution to its members and provide all necessary information to the political organization for reporting purposes.
- If RFFW does receive a contribution—from persons or entities not members of the LLC—and RFFW intends to make contributions to an active ballot question committee using those funds, RFFW will either return the funds received to the contributor or register and report as a ballot question committee.



# **Exhibit B**

**BALLOT QUESTION COVER PAGE**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	521201-0		
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• <b>Coverage Period</b>	07/18/2022 - 07/20/2022		
• <b>Address Information</b>			
• <b>Committee Mailing</b>	1901 St Antoine St Detroit MI 48220		
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Treasurer Name</b>	RENAE MOORE		
• <b>Treasurer Residential</b>	201 Townsend St Ste 900 Lansing MI 48933		
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Treasurer Business</b>			
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Recordkeeper Name</b>			
• <b>Recordkeeper Mailing</b>			
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Statement Type</b>	July - Quarterly		
• <b>Relates To</b>			
• <b>Election Date</b>	//		
• <b>Dissolution Date (effective)</b>	//		
• <b>Qual/Non-Qual Date</b>	//		
• <b>Annual Statement Coverage Year</b>			
• <b>Treasurer/Recordkeeper Signed</b>	RENAE MOORE	• <b>Date</b>	07/06/2023

A committee that does not have a Reporting Waiver must file all required Campaign Statements. The Campaign Statements must include all applicable Schedules. Direct contributions, in-kind contributions, loans, expenditures, and outstanding debts count against the \$1,000 Reporting Waiver threshold. If any of the information listed in the items above has changed since the information was shown on the committee's Statement of Organization, an amendment to the Statement of Organization should accompany this Campaign Statement. **If a request for a Reporting Waiver is not received on or before the filing deadline of a required campaign statement, that campaign statement cannot be waived.**

Verification: I\We certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of this statement and attached schedules (if any) and to the best of my\our knowledge and belief the contents are true, accurate and complete.

Current Treasurer or Designated Record keeper:

(Type or Print) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BALLOT SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>• Committee ID</b>		521201-0		
<b>• Committee Name</b>		RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
<b>• Document Name</b>		July - Quarterly		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>This Period</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	
3. Contributions				
a. Itemized Contributions	(3a.)	1,000,000.00		
b. Unitemized	(3b.)	0.00		
c. Subtotal of Contributions	(3c.)	1,000,000.00	(18.)	1,000,000.00
4. Other Receipts	(4.)	0.00	(19.)	0.00
<b>5. Total Contributions and Other Receipts</b>	<b>(5.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>	<b>(20.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
6. In-Kind Contributions				
a. Itemized	(6a.)	0.00		
b. Unitemized (less than \$20.01 each)	(6b.)	0.00		
<b>7. Total In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>(7.)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(21.)</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
8. Expenditures				
a. Itemized	(8a.)	500,000.00		
b. Itemized GOTV	(8b.)	0.00		
c. In-Kind Expenditures - Purchase of Goods or Services	(8c.)	0.00		
d. Unitemized (less than \$50.01 each)	(8d.)	0.00		
e. Subtotal of Expenditures	(8e.)	500,000.00	(22.)	500,000.00
9. Independent Expenditures	(9.)	0.00	(23.)	0.00
<b>10. Total Expenditures</b>	<b>(10.)</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>	<b>(24.)</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND EXPENDITURES</b>				
11. In-Kind Expenditures, Endorsements, Donations or Loans of Goods and Services	(11.)	0.00	(25.)	0.00
<b>DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS</b>				
12. Debts and Obligations				
a. Owed by the Committee	(12a.)	0.00		
b. Owed to the Committee	(12b.)	0.00		
<b>BALANCE STATEMENT</b>				
13. Ending Balance of last report filed	(13.)			0.00
14. Amount received during reporting Period	(14.)			1,000,000.00
15. Subtotal	(15.)			1,000,000.00
16. Amount Expended during reporting Period	(16.)			500,000.00
<b>17. ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>(17.)</b>			<b>500,000.00</b>

**CONTRIBUTIONS (4A) BALLOT QUESTION**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	521201-0
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee
• <b>Document Name</b>	July - Quarterly

**# 4101- -Add****Date of Receipt:** 07/18/2022**Amt:** 1,000,000.00**Cumul:** 1,000,000.00**Name:** Shery Cotton**Occupation:** Member**Employer:** RFFW**Address:** 1901 St Antoine St**Business Address:** 1901 St Antoine**City:** Detroit **State:** MI

St

**Zip:** 48220**City:** Detroit **State:** MI**Zip:** 48220**Type of Contribution:** Direct

<b>Schedule Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000.00</b>
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**DIRECT EXPENDITURES (4B) BALLOT QUESTION**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	521201-0
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee
• <b>Document Name</b>	July - Quarterly

**# 4102- -Add****Date:** 07/20/2022**Amt:** 500,000.00**Cumul:** 500,000.00**Name:** Reproductive Freedom for All**Purpose:** contribution**Payment on Debt/Obligation****Address:** 2966 WOODWARD AVE.**Ballot Proposal:** Reproductive**reported on****City:** DETROIT **State:** MI

Freedom for All

**previous statement:****Zip:** 48201**Support or Oppose:** Support**State or Local:** State**County:** Statewide**Fund Raiser:****Schedule Total****\$ 500,000.00**



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF ELECTIONS

### BALLOT QUESTION COVER PAGE

• Committee ID	521201-0		
• Committee Name	RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• Coverage Period	07/21/2022 - 07/29/2022		
• Address Information			
• Committee Mailing	1901 St Antoine St Detroit MI 48220		
• Phone			
• Treasurer Name	RENAE MOORE		
• Treasurer Residential	201 Townsend St Ste 900 Lansing MI 48933		
• Phone			
• Treasurer Business			
• Phone			
• Recordkeeper Name			
• Recordkeeper Mailing			
• Phone			
• Statement Type	Dissolution Report		
• Relates To			
• Election Date	//		
• Dissolution Date (effective)	07/29/2022		
• Qual/Non-Qual Date	//		
• Annual Statement Coverage Year			
• Treasurer/Recordkeeper Signed	RENAE MOORE	• Date	07/06/2023

A committee that does not have a Reporting Waiver must file all required Campaign Statements. The Campaign Statements must include all applicable Schedules. Direct contributions, in-kind contributions, loans, expenditures, and outstanding debts count against the \$1,000 Reporting Waiver threshold. If any of the information listed in the items above has changed since the information was shown on the committee's Statement of Organization, an amendment to the Statement of Organization should accompany this Campaign Statement. **If a request for a Reporting Waiver is not received on or before the filing deadline of a required campaign statement, that campaign statement cannot be waived.**

Verification: I\We certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of this statement and attached schedules (if any) and to the best of my\our knowledge and belief the contents are true, accurate and complete.

Current Treasurer or Designated Record keeper:

(Type or Print) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BALLOT SUMMARY PAGE**

• <b>Committee ID</b>		521201-0		
• <b>Committee Name</b>		RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• <b>Document Name</b>		Dissolution Report		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>This Period</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	
3. Contributions				
a. Itemized Contributions	(3a.)	0.00		
b. Unitemized	(3b.)	0.00		
c. Subtotal of Contributions	(3c.)	0.00	(18.)	1,000,000.00
4. Other Receipts		(4.)	0.00	(19.) 0.00
<b>5. Total Contributions and Other Receipts</b>		(5.)	0.00	(20.) 1,000,000.00
<b>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
6. In-Kind Contributions				
a. Itemized	(6a.)	0.00		
b. Unitemized (less than \$20.01 each)	(6b.)	0.00		
<b>7. Total In-Kind Contributions</b>		(7.)	0.00	(21.) 0.00
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
8. Expenditures				
a. Itemized	(8a.)	500,000.00		
b. Itemized GOTV	(8b.)	0.00		
c. In-Kind Expenditures - Purchase of Goods or Services	(8c.)	0.00		
d. Unitemized (less than \$50.01 each)	(8d.)	0.00		
e. Subtotal of Expenditures	(8e.)	500,000.00	(22.)	1,000,000.00
9. Independent Expenditures		(9.)	0.00	(23.) 0.00
<b>10. Total Expenditures</b>		(10.)	500,000.00	(24.) 1,000,000.00
<b>IN-KIND EXPENDITURES</b>				
11. In-Kind Expenditures, Endorsements, Donations or Loans of Goods and Services		(11.)	0.00	(25.) 0.00
<b>DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS</b>				
12. Debts and Obligations				
a. Owed by the Committee	(12a.)	0.00		
b. Owed to the Committee	(12b.)	0.00		
<b>BALANCE STATEMENT</b>				
13. Ending Balance of last report filed		(13.)		500,000.00
14. Amount received during reporting Period		(14.)		0.00
15. Subtotal		(15.)		500,000.00
16. Amount Expended during reporting Period		(16.)		500,000.00
<b>17. ENDING BALANCE</b>		(17.)		0.00

**DIRECT EXPENDITURES (4B) BALLOT QUESTION**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	521201-0
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee
• <b>Document Name</b>	Dissolution Report

**# 4105- -Add****Date:** 07/29/2022**Amt:** 500,000.00**Cumul:** 1,000,000.00**Name:** Reproductive Freedom for All**Purpose:** contribution**Address:** 2966 WOODWARD AVE.**Ballot Proposal:** Reproductive**City:** DETROIT **State:** MI

Freedom for All

**Zip:** 48201**Support or Oppose:** Support**State or Local:** State**County:** Statewide**Payment on Debt/Obligation  
reported on  
previous statement:****Fund Raiser:**

<b>Schedule Total</b>	<b>\$ 500,000.00</b>
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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**In the Matter of:**

*Meyers v. RFFW LLC*  
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022-11-178-24, 34, 41

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**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

Pursuant to MCL §169.215(10) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the Act), MCL §169.201 *et seq.*, the Secretary of State and RFFW LLC (Respondent) hereby enter into a conciliation agreement with respect to certain alleged acts, omissions, methods, or practices prohibited by the Act.

Respondent asserts that it did not engage in any activity that requires it to file as a ballot question committee or otherwise violated the Act, but understands that a complaint was filed that alleges otherwise.

Based on that complaint and preliminary findings, the Secretary of State alleges that there may be reason to believe that Respondent violated MCL §§ 169.224(1) and/or 169.234(1) & (2) by failing to file as a ballot question committee, submit a statement of organization, and timely report specified information.

Respondent maintains that it did not intend to register as a limited liability company for the purpose of soliciting money to contribute to a ballot question committee nor did it knowingly not register or report as a ballot question committee within the meaning of the Act.

However, without admitting liability, Respondent voluntarily enters into this Conciliation Agreement and assures the Secretary of State that Respondent will comply with the Act and Rules promulgated thereunder. Specifically, in order to prevent any future violation of the Act, Respondent will adopt the Compliance Plan as set forth in Exhibit A, which was created by counsel to guide Respondent's future activities—whether political in nature or not.

Respondent and the Secretary of State agree that Respondent has filed a statement of organization as a ballot question committee and has further submitted the necessary campaign finance statements with the Secretary of State pursuant to the Act, as attached to this agreement as Exhibit B.

By executing this conciliation agreement, Respondent further agrees to pay late filing fees, and certifies Respondent has or will pay such late fees in the amount of \$1,300.00 to the State of Michigan (\$300 for Statement of Organization and \$1,000 for campaign finance reports).

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement is in effect and enforceable for four years from the date it is signed by the Secretary of State or her duly authorized representative.

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The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that Respondent's performance under this agreement shall be given due consideration in any subsequent proceedings.

The Secretary of State and Respondent further agree that this agreement, when signed, shall become a part of the permanent public records of the Department of State.

The Secretary of State and Respondent finally agree that the signatories below are authorized to enter into and bind the parties to this agreement, and have done so by signing this agreement on the date below.

**JOCELYN BENSON**  
**THE SECRETARY OF STATE**



**Jonathan Brater, Director**  
**Michigan Bureau of Elections**

Date: 08/07/23

**RESPONDENT**  
**RFFW LLC**



**Michael Stines, Authorized Agent**

Date: 7/7/23

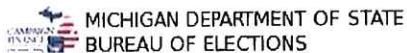
## **EXHIBIT A**

### **RFFW LLC – MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMPLIANCE PLAN**

In efforts to increase oversight of political activities and prevent future violations of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, RFFW LLC will implement this Compliance Plan, which includes, but are not limited to, the following measures:

- RFFW shall not solicit, request, or otherwise seek funds for the purpose of contributing to a ballot question committee, or any other political entity, without first registering as a ballot question committee pursuant to the Act.
- RFFW shall designate a treasurer or agent responsible for all recordkeeping and required campaign finance filings pursuant to the Act. The treasurer or agent shall also obtain a printed copy and/or have immediate access to the Michigan Bureau of Elections' Ballot Question Committee Manual.
- RFFW shall retain and keep political compliance counsel to advise and guide RFFW's political activities.
- RFFW and its members shall make available access to the Bureau of Elections' instructional webinars.
- RFFW shall obtain a separate bank account for all funds received for the purposes of engaging in regulated political activities, but only if RFFW continues to make contributions to political organizations and/or receives funds from donors for the purposes of making a contribution.
- If RFFW makes a contribution to a Michigan regulated political organization in an amount of \$500.00 or more from funds attributed to its members, RFFW shall attribute its contribution to its members and provide all necessary information to the political organization for reporting purposes.
- If RFFW does receive a contribution—from persons or entities not members of the LLC—and RFFW intends to make contributions to an active ballot question committee using those funds, RFFW will either return the funds received to the contributor or register and report as a ballot question committee.

# **Exhibit B**



## BALLOT QUESTION COVER PAGE

• Committee ID	521201-0		
• Committee Name	RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• Coverage Period	07/18/2022 - 07/20/2022		
• Address Information			
• Committee Mailing	1901 St Antoine St Detroit MI 48220		
• Phone			
• Treasurer Name	RENAE MOORE		
• Treasurer Residential	201 Townsend St Ste 900 Lansing MI 48933		
• Phone			
• Treasurer Business			
• Phone			
• Recordkeeper Name			
• Recordkeeper Mailing			
• Phone			
• Statement Type	July - Quarterly		
• Relates To			
• Election Date	//		
• Dissolution Date (effective)	//		
• Qual/Non-Qual Date	//		
• Annual Statement Coverage Year			
• Treasurer/Recordkeeper Signed	RENAE MOORE	• Date	07/06/2023

A committee that does not have a Reporting Waiver must file all required Campaign Statements. The Campaign Statements must include all applicable Schedules. Direct contributions, in-kind contributions, loans, expenditures, and outstanding debts count against the \$1,000 Reporting Waiver threshold. If any of the information listed in the items above has changed since the information was shown on the committee's Statement of Organization, an amendment to the Statement of Organization should accompany this Campaign Statement. **If a request for a Reporting Waiver is not received on or before the filing deadline of a required campaign statement, that campaign statement cannot be waived.**

Verification: I\We certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of this statement and attached schedules (if any) and to the best of my\our knowledge and belief the contents are true, accurate and complete.

Current Treasurer or Designated Record keeper:

(Type or Print) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BALLOT SUMMARY PAGE**

• **Committee ID** 521201-0  
 • **Committee Name** RFFW Ballot Question Committee  
 • **Document Name** July - Quarterly

		<b>This Period</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
3. Contributions			
a. Itemized Contributions	(3a.)	1,000,000.00	
b. Unitemized	(3b.)	0.00	
c. Subtotal of Contributions	(3c.)	1,000,000.00 (18.)	1,000,000.00
4. Other Receipts	(4.)	0.00 (19.)	0.00
<b>5. Total Contributions and Other Receipts</b>	<b>(5.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00 (20.)</b>	<b>1,000,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
6. In-Kind Contributions			
a. Itemized	(6a.)	0.00	
b. Unitemized (less than \$20.01 each)	(6b.)	0.00	
<b>7. Total In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>(7.)</b>	<b>0.00 (21.)</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
8. Expenditures			
a. Itemized	(8a.)	500,000.00	
b. Itemized GOTV	(8b.)	0.00	
c. In-Kind Expenditures - Purchase of Goods or Services	(8c.)	0.00	
d. Unitemized (less than \$50.01 each)	(8d.)	0.00	
e. Subtotal of Expenditures	(8e.)	500,000.00 (22.)	500,000.00
9. Independent Expenditures	(9.)	0.00 (23.)	0.00
<b>10. Total Expenditures</b>	<b>(10.)</b>	<b>500,000.00 (24.)</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND EXPENDITURES</b>			
11. In-Kind Expenditures, Endorsements, Donations or Loans of Goods and Services	(11.)	0.00 (25.)	0.00
<b>DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS</b>			
12. Debts and Obligations			
a. Owed by the Committee	(12a.)	0.00	
b. Owed to the Committee	(12b.)	0.00	
<b>BALANCE STATEMENT</b>			
13. Ending Balance of last report filed	(13.)		0.00
14. Amount received during reporting Period	(14.)		1,000,000.00
15. Subtotal	(15.)		1,000,000.00
16. Amount Expended during reporting Period	(16.)		500,000.00
<b>17. ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>(17.)</b>		<b>500,000.00</b>

**CONTRIBUTIONS (4A) BALLOT QUESTION**

• **Committee ID** 521201-0  
• **Committee Name** RFFW Ballot Question Committee  
• **Document Name** July - Quarterly

**# 4101- -Add****Date of Receipt:** 07/18/2022**Amt:** 1,000,000.00**Cumul:** 1,000,000.00**Name:** Shery Cotton**Occupation:** Member**Employer:** RFFW**Address:** 1901 St Antoine St**Business Address:** 1901 St Antoine  
St**City:** Detroit **State:** MI**City:** Detroit **State:** MI**Zip:** 48220**Zip:** 48220**Type of Contribution:** Direct**Schedule Total****\$ 1,000,000.00**



**DIRECT EXPENDITURES (4B) BALLOT QUESTION**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	521201-0
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee
• <b>Document Name</b>	July - Quarterly

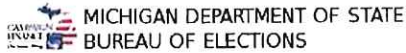
**# 4102- -Add****Date:** 07/20/2022**Amt:** 500,000.00**Cumul:** 500,000.00

**Name:** Reproductive Freedom for All  
**Address:** 2966 WOODWARD AVE.  
**City:** DETROIT **State:** MI  
**Zip:** 48201

**Purpose:** contribution  
**Ballot Proposal:** Reproductive Freedom for All  
**Support or Oppose:** Support  
**State or Local:** State  
**County:** Statewide

**Payment on Debt/Obligation  
reported on  
previous statement:**

**Fund Raiser:****Schedule Total****\$ 500,000.00**

**BALLOT QUESTION COVER PAGE**

• <b>Committee ID</b>	521201-0		
• <b>Committee Name</b>	RFFW Ballot Question Committee		
• <b>Coverage Period</b>	07/21/2022 - 07/29/2022		
• <b>Address Information</b>			
• <b>Committee Mailing</b>	1901 St Antoine St Detroit MI 48220		
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Treasurer Name</b>	RENAE MOORE		
• <b>Treasurer Residential</b>	201 Townsend St Ste 900 Lansing MI 48933		
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Treasurer Business</b>			
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Recordkeeper Name</b>			
• <b>Recordkeeper Mailing</b>			
• <b>Phone</b>			
• <b>Statement Type</b>	Dissolution Report		
• <b>Relates To</b>			
• <b>Election Date</b>	//		
• <b>Dissolution Date (effective)</b>	07/29/2022		
• <b>Qual/Non-Qual Date</b>	//		
• <b>Annual Statement Coverage Year</b>			
• <b>Treasurer/Recordkeeper Signed</b>	RENAE MOORE	• <b>Date</b>	07/06/2023

A committee that does not have a Reporting Waiver must file all required Campaign Statements. The Campaign Statements must include all applicable Schedules. Direct contributions, in-kind contributions, loans, expenditures, and outstanding debts count against the \$1,000 Reporting Waiver threshold. If any of the information listed in the items above has changed since the information was shown on the committee's Statement of Organization, an amendment to the Statement of Organization should accompany this Campaign Statement. **If a request for a Reporting Waiver is not received on or before the filing deadline of a required campaign statement, that campaign statement cannot be waived.**

Verification: I\We certify that all reasonable diligence was used in the preparation of this statement and attached schedules (if any) and to the best of my\our knowledge and belief the contents are true, accurate and complete.

Current Treasurer or Designated Record keeper:

(Type or Print) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BALLOT SUMMARY PAGE**

• <b>Committee ID</b>		521201-0	
• <b>Committee Name</b>		RFFW Ballot Question Committee	
• <b>Document Name</b>		Dissolution Report	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>This Period</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
3. Contributions			
a. Itemized Contributions	(3a.)	0.00	
b. Unitemized	(3b.)	0.00	
c. Subtotal of Contributions	(3c.)	0.00 (18.)	1,000,000.00
4. Other Receipts		(4.)	0.00 (19.)
<b>5. Total Contributions and Other Receipts</b>		(5.)	0.00 (20.) 1,000,000.00
<b>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
6. In-Kind Contributions			
a. Itemized	(6a.)	0.00	
b. Unitemized (less than \$20.01 each)	(6b.)	0.00	
<b>7. Total In-Kind Contributions</b>		(7.)	0.00 (21.) 0.00
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
8. Expenditures			
a. Itemized	(8a.)	500,000.00	
b. Itemized GOTV	(8b.)	0.00	
c. In-Kind Expenditures - Purchase of Goods or Services	(8c.)	0.00	
d. Unitemized (less than \$50.01 each)	(8d.)	0.00	
e. Subtotal of Expenditures	(8e.)	500,000.00 (22.)	1,000,000.00
9. Independent Expenditures		(9.)	0.00 (23.) 0.00
<b>10. Total Expenditures</b>		(10.)	500,000.00 (24.) 1,000,000.00
<b>IN-KIND EXPENDITURES</b>			
11. In-Kind Expenditures, Endorsements, Donations or Loans of Goods and Services		(11.)	0.00 (25.) 0.00
<b>DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS</b>			
12. Debts and Obligations			
a. Owed by the Committee	(12a.)	0.00	
b. Owed to the Committee	(12b.)	0.00	
<b>BALANCE STATEMENT</b>			
13. Ending Balance of last report filed		(13.)	500,000.00
14. Amount received during reporting Period		(14.)	0.00
15. Subtotal		(15.)	500,000.00
16. Amount Expended during reporting Period		(16.)	500,000.00
<b>17. ENDING BALANCE</b>		(17.)	0.00

**DIRECT EXPENDITURES (4B) BALLOT QUESTION**

• **Committee ID** 521201-0  
• **Committee Name** RFFW Ballot Question Committee  
• **Document Name** Dissolution Report

**# 4105- -Add****Date:** 07/29/2022**Amt:** 500,000.00**Cumul:** 1,000,000.00**Name:** Reproductive Freedom for All**Address:** 2966 WOODWARD AVE.**City:** DETROIT **State:** MI**Zip:** 48201**Purpose:** contribution**Ballot Proposal:** Reproductive Freedom for All**Support or Oppose:** Support**State or Local:** State**County:** Statewide**Payment on Debt/Obligation  
reported on  
previous statement:****Fund Raiser:****Schedule Total****\$ 500,000.00**

DYKEMA GOSSETT  
400 Renaissance Center  
Detroit, MI 48243

CHECK DATE: 07/11/23

PAYEE: STATE OF MICHIGAN

REFERENCE #	INVOICE #	INV. DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMT. PAID
	07102023-RFFW	07.10/23	Late Filing Fee	1,300.00
			TOTAL	\$1,300.00

MDOS  
11431002 7/17/2023  
ELCLTE \$1300.00



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

February 8, 2023

W. Alan Wilk  
Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Capitol View  
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900  
Lansing, MI 48933

Re: *Meyers v. RFFW LLC*  
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 178 – 24, 34, 41

Dear Mr. W. Alan Wilk:

The Department of State (Department) has finished its initial investigation of the campaign finance complaint filed against your client, RFFW LLC (RFFW), by Patrick Meyers alleging that your client violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act). This letter concerns the current disposition of the complaint against your clients.

Specifically, the complaint alleges that your client registered in Michigan as a limited liability company for the purpose of contributing money to a ballot question committee and used its status as a limited liability company to shield the committee's donors from the reporting requirements in the MCFA. The complaint alleges that your failure to file as a ballot question committee puts you in violation of sections 24 and 34 of the MCFA, which require committees to submit a statement of organization within ten days of the committee's formation and require the timely reporting of specified information, respectively. Further, the complaint appears to allege that RFFW is in violation of section 41 of the MCFA, which prohibits a person from making contributions in another's name.

You responded to the complaint on December 13, 2022. In your response you indicate RFFW simply making a donation to a ballot question committee is insufficient to meet the definition of a committee under the act, but rather it must be established that RFFW solicited or received contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to that ballot question committee. You further indicate that the only conduct at issue in this matter is a one-time donation made by RFFW to Reproductive Freedom for All, and that the complaint did not establish any level of intermingling or coordination between RFFW and Reproductive Freedom for All because the two are in fact independent of each other. Finally, you also indicate that besides contributing to Reproductive Freedom for All, RFFW has other activity and plans to use its funds to support other measures and interests that promote reproductive rights, as this is why RFFW was formed. On December 26, 2022, Mr. Meyers provided a rebuttal. In his rebuttal, Mr. Meyers indicates that RFFW was created as a Michigan LLC on July 14, 2022, and somehow amassed \$500,000

to donate to Reproductive Freedom for All a mere 15 days later. The rebuttal also notes that your client failed to present any facts to negate an obvious finding that RFFW solicited contributions for the purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee. Mr. Meyers claims that RFFW impliedly admits a violation of the MCFA when it seeks to draw a distinction that does not exist: between soliciting contributions from third parties for the purpose of making an expenditure to a ballot question committee and soliciting contributions from its member(s) and owner(s) for the purpose of making expenditures to a ballot question committee.<sup>1</sup> Further, Mr. Meyers argues that no evidence of other activities or plans has been provided by RFFW to establish that their sole purpose was anything but to support the ballot question committee.

In Michigan, a committee is an organization which “receives contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the action of the voters for or against the nomination or election of a candidate, the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question, or the qualification of a new political party, if contributions received total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year or expenditures made total \$500.00 or more in a calendar year.” MCL 169.203(4). The MCFA requires committees to file certain campaign statements detailing contributions and expenditures. See, e.g., MCL 169.234. Failure to file these required statements can result in civil and criminal penalties. *Id.* An organization making an expenditure to a ballot question committee is not a committee under the MCFA and is not subject to the reporting requirements of the MCFA, however, unless that organization “solicits or receives contributions for the purpose of making an expenditure to that ballot question committee.” MCL 169.203(4). Upon meeting the definition of committee, the organization is obligated to file a statement of organization with the appropriate filing official within 10 days of the committee’s formation, MCL 169.224, and is also required to file various campaign statements detailing the organization’s contributions and expenditures.

The MCFA requires ballot question committees to file campaign statements before and after elections, on a quarterly basis, and after the filing of the petition form. MCL 169.234(1-2). If a treasurer or other designated individual fails to file a required report, the committee, treasurer, or designated individual is subject to a late filing fee of not more than \$2,000, depending on the amount raised by the committee. MCL 169.234(4). If the statement is unfiled for more than seven days, the treasurer or other individual is also guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both. MCL 169.(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 169.241(7)

The MCFA also prohibits a contribution from being made, directly or indirectly, when it is made in the name of a person other than the name by which the person is identified for legal purposes. MCL 169.241(3).

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<sup>1</sup> While this exception exists in the MCFA, it only applies to separate segregated funds soliciting contributions from its members and does not apply to ballot question committees. See MCL 169.255.

As the Department stated in a 2020 campaign finance complaint determination,<sup>2</sup> “it is not a violation of the Act for a group to raise funds in its normal course of conduct and make contributions to a ballot question committee or to coordinate with that ballot question committee. It is, however, a violation of the Act for an organization to raise money on behalf of the ballot question committee in order to shield the organization’s donors from the reporting requirements of the Act.” The complaint alleges that your groups’ activities amount to such a violation.

The Department has reviewed this matter and finds that there is sufficient evidence to support a finding that there “may be reason to believe” that your client violated the MCFA. The evidence establishes that RFFW took actions that qualify the organization as a ballot question committee under the MCFA. The question here is not whether the funds contributed from a group to a ballot question committee accounted for an outsized proportion of total contributions received by the committee; rather, it is whether the contributions accounted for an outsized proportion of total contributions from the contributing group. As the Department stated in *LaBrant*, “The disparity between [the contributing groups’] assets going into 2020, the amount that each organization contributed to [the ballot question committee], and the timing of those contributions demonstrate a level of coordination showing the entities were not independent of each other.” In that case, the only way that the contributing groups could have contributed the amounts they did to the ballot question committee was through aggressive fundraising, with virtually all of those funds raised going to the ballot question committee.

That is the case here. The amounts contributed to Reproductive Freedom for All accounted for only a small portion of the total contributions the ballot question committee received in 2022. However, RFFW was a newly established LLC on July 14, 2022, and amassed \$500,000 to donate to Reproductive Freedom for All a mere 15 days later. It is clear that RFFW had to solicit funds in order to make expenditures to Reproductive Freedom for All given that RFFW could not have funded a single expenditure without conducting aggressive fundraising in those first 15 days as an LLC. Any rationale to the contrary strains credulity.

Such fundraising for the purpose of supporting a ballot question committee, as is evidenced in the instant case, makes RFFW itself a ballot question committee responsible for registration and for filing appropriate campaign statements under the MCFA, but your organization, to date, has not registered as a committee nor filed those campaign statements as required by sections 24 and 33 of the Act. Because RFFW solicited for the purpose of making a contribution to a ballot question committee, and RFFW failed to file campaign statements, the Department concludes there may be reason to believe that a potential violation of the Act has occurred.

### Resolution

Upon review, the evidence submitted supports the conclusion that a potential violation of the Act has occurred. When the Department finds that there may be reason to believe a violation has occurred, the Act requires the Department to use “informal methods such as a conference [or]

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<sup>2</sup> *LaBrant v. Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, Michigan! My Michigan!*, MI Campaign Finance Complaint filed May, 25, 2021 (decision filed Oct. 27, 2021)



conciliation” to correct the potential violation or to prevent further violation. MCL 169.215(10). The Department has 90 business days to reach an informal resolution of the matter. *Id.*

Given this, please contact the undersigned by emailing [BOERegulatory@Michigan.gov](mailto:BOERegulatory@Michigan.gov) to informally resolve this complaint. If the Department is unable to informally resolve the complaint by June 21, 2023, the Act requires the Department to refer the matter to the Department of Attorney General with a request that her office prosecute the criminal penalties outlined under the Act.

Sincerely,

Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Patrick Meyers