



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

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

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

Section 1. Complainant			
Your Name <u>William JAMES OSTASH</u>		Daytime Telephone Number <u>(989) 326-0001</u>	
Mailing Address <u>1000 HOYT AVE</u>			
City <u>SAGINAW</u>	State <u>MI</u>	Zip <u>48607-1720</u>	
Email (optional) <u>Williamjames65@gmail.com</u>			

Section 2. Alleged Violator			
Name <u>RACHEL BAKER</u>			
Mailing Address <u>403 S. BOND ST.</u>			
City <u>SAGINAW</u>	State <u>MI</u>	Zip <u>48607-1720</u>	
Email (optional)			

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

Section(s) of the MCFA alleged to be violated: 169.226, 169.233, 169.236, 169.251

Explain how those sections were violated:

Not Political Party NOT Filed with State of MI. This person created a political Facebook page too. She also put 100 signs in the city of Saginaw MI and none of them stated the committee they are. This was a person who went after my campaign against me without forming a committee to do so.


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

Photos of the signs in the city other than her yard. Photo of Facebook pages setup as political candidate yet no filing with the State of MI.

Section 4. Certification (Required)

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, each factual contention of this complaint is supported by evidence.

X


Signature of Complainant

October 22, 2022
Date

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

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

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, or belief, there are grounds to conclude that the following specifically identified factual contentions are likely to be supported by evidence after a reasonable opportunity for further inquiry. Those specific contentions are:

X

Signature of Complainant

Date

Section 15(8) of the MCFA provides that a person who files a complaint with a false certification is responsible for a civil violation of the MCFA. The person may be required to pay a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00 and some, or all, of the expenses incurred by the Michigan Department of State and the alleged violator as a direct result of the filing of the complaint.

Section 6. Submission

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

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

From: Bill Ostash <ostashforsaginawcitycouncil@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 12:17 PM
To: MDOS-BOERegulatory
Cc: ostashforsaginawcitycouncil@gmail.com
Subject: Non Registered Committee with Signs Up in Saginaw Michigan
Attachments: William Ostash reporting Rachel Baker signs no committee filed.pdf

Categories: Jessica

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Good Day,

There is a lady in Saginaw Michigan who is running a campaign against my campaign and it is not registered. I am asking that you please look at this matter regarding Michigan Campaign Finance Act violation. Here is the complaint form filled out.

Also to note all the information on her signs and Facebook page are false. I resigned from the Historic District Commission 2 years prior to her broke leg incident she is claiming I was involved with. The only ADA items I voted on are sidewalk ADA complaint approaches we put in and I was a yes vote and always will be.

Last, I have attached photos from her Facebook page. You will see on one of the photos from her Facebook page she does put down who she is. She wrote she paid for this a private citizen "Rachel Baker". Filed in the complaint I give her address of 403 S Bond St. in Saginaw, MI 48602. I have included photos of the signs throughout the city she has placed. These signs are on her Facebook page. The blue house is hers with those same signs in the yard. One of the photos from the Facebook page show her stating she bought 100 signs.



8:25

Don't Vote 4 Kevin Rooker & Bill...

Posts About Photos Mentions

Don't Vote 4 Kevin Rooker & Bill Ost
16h · 🌐

Him and his husband Kevin Rooker hurt families with disabilities!! Do not vote for him. Ad paid for Rachel Baker private citizen





8:20

Do Not Vote 4 Bill Ostash



Do Not Vote 4 Bill Ostash

1 likes • 1 follower

Like

Get Tickets

Posts About Photos Mentions

Details

8:22



Kevin Rooker

A call to John McColgan may help

Posts About Photos Mentions



Do Not Vote 4 Bill Ostash

10m · q

So now that my post is live let me take a minute to explain to you how Bill Ostash effected my life. He cause me extra pain, a extreme amount of embarrassment for well over a year. This is little to him that he actually as of last week I even remember who I am. He walked right up to my door and asked me what I would like the yard sign I requested. The emotions I felt when this happened were ins sadness, anger, pain, rage then I remedial the embarrassment and humiliation I went through because of him and I thought ok, I'm going to put up my own signs. I bought 100 signs and 100 stakes. My best friend said I've never seen anyone at anyone at all she heard the story I'm about to tell you and she said ok I'm helping you out the rest of the way. Today we spent 5 hours putting up the signs. I pictured in my account. 100 signs guess what 5 hours later they are all gone from all different neighborhoods all over the city of Saginaw. I had my signs so I decided I'd turn to Facebook to get the word out. Read next post for what happen to

8:38

all



About

Category



Political Candidate

Contact info



48602

Address



(989) 222-5679

Mobile



<http://www.dontvote4billostash.com>

Website

Basic info



Not yet rated (0 Reviews)

Public

Page transparency

Facebook is showing information to help understand the purpose of this Page.



Yesterday

4:59



all



Saginaw Neighborhood Watch

Jamie E Fook · 12h ·



???





Warm Regards,

Councilman Bill Ostash (*he/him/his*)
1000 Hoyt Ave
Saginaw, MI 48607-1720 | c: (989) 326-0001

Campaign:
Bill Ostash for Saginaw City Council

Leadership, Accessible, Safety, Development, Preservation, Your Voice!

#MovingSaginawForward

Sent from my MAC



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

November 14, 2022

Rachel Baker
403 S. Bond St.
Saginaw, MI 48607-1720

Re: *Ostash v. Baker*
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 179 – 26, 33, 36, 51

Dear Ms. Baker:

The Department of State (Department) has received a formal complaint filed against you by William Ostash alleging that you violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act). Specifically, the complaint alleges that you made qualifying independent expenditures that required the filing of an independent expenditure report. A copy of the complaint is included with this notice.

The MCFA requires that a person, other than a committee, that makes an independent expenditure of \$100.01 or more advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate must file an independent expenditure report within 10 days of making the expenditure. MCL 169.251(1). A person who fails to file a required report may be subject to late filing fees up to \$5,000 and a civil fine up to \$1,000, and/or imprisonment for no more than 90 days. MCL 169.251(2).

The complaint also alleges that you were required to form a committee. 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 [candidate, ballot question, etc.] 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). However, the word “person” is defined in the Act as businesses, corporations, and committees, among other entities. MCL 169.211. For purposes of determining whether a committee exists, “[a]n individual, other than a candidate, does not constitute a committee.” 169.203(4). Because you do not qualify as a committee, the Department dismisses the alleged violations of sections 26, 33, and 36 of the Act.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Department’s examination of these matters and your right to respond to the allegations before the Department proceeds further. It is important to understand that the Department is neither making this complaint nor accepting the allegations as true. The investigation and resolution of this complaint is governed by section 15 of the Act and

the corresponding administrative rules, R 169.51 *et seq.* An explanation of the process is included in the enclosed guidebook.

If you wish to file a written response to this complaint, you are required to do so within 15 business days of the date of this letter. Your response may include any written statement or additional documentary evidence you wish to submit. Materials may be emailed to BOERegulatory@michigan.gov or mailed to the Department of State, Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918. If you fail to submit a response, the Department will render a decision based on the evidence furnished by the complainant.

A copy of your answer will be provided to Mr. Ostash, who will have an opportunity to submit a rebuttal statement to the Department. After reviewing the statements and materials provided by the parties, the Department will determine whether “there may be reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] has occurred [.]” MCL 169.215(10). Note that the Department’s enforcement powers include the possibility of entering a conciliation agreement, conducting an administrative hearing, or referring this matter to the Attorney General for enforcement.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact the Regulatory Section of the Bureau of Elections at BOERegulatory@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Regulatory Section
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: William Ostash

December 7, 2022

Response to complaint No. 2022-11-179-26,33,36,51

To whom it may concern:

Complaint
Attached

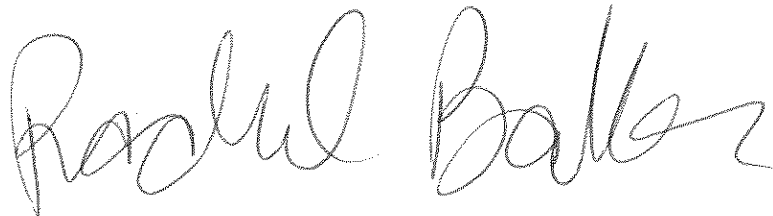
Can someone please explain what this letter means? From what I am understanding I am being fined because Mr. Ostash Lost the election and he is blaming me; a single mother of four (with twin handicapped boys) on a fixed income for putting up \$50 worth of yard signs (100 signs I got the posts from my shed they were in there when I bought the house, I got the signs in red cause they were blank red signs so my friend said you can have them. then my other friend and myself got together with her circuit making the words for the signs). It cost me \$50 in vinyl. Then we drove around Saginaw putting them up in areas other signs were. Within 2 hours he had them all taken down. So I then started a free Facebook page with one like and 1 follower (he was probably the follower) From what I understand he is upset about losing he is trying to get the State Michigan to make me pay for his loss.

As a Saginaw City resident I had an experience with Mr Ostash and his Husband Mr. Rooker. One that personally impacted my life in such a negative way it's still affects me to this day. A decision was made to send a cease and desist email to the contractor (United way free ramp). His husband and himself decided to get involved after being asking to help out in the build of my temporary handicap ramp from other people involved in the historical community. I needed the temporary ramp to leave my home for doctors appointment or in case of an emergency (my leg had been shattered and had to be reconstructed over 4 long painful surgeries). So instead of saying oh I'm busy on that day or sorry I can't help out this married couple decided to shut my ramp down by scaring the contractor.

When he came up for election, I being a voter, expressed my opinion. I felt that he did hurt families with disabilities like mine and so I spoke the truth. And the moment I did,

he saw my signs took them down less than 2 hours after I put them up! Then I created a FREE Facebook page (I followed all the protocol facebook told me to do to get the page page up. Facebook told me I had to put paid for by Rachel baker on my posts because I was going to do them as ads but I needed a notarized letter stating I was me. I didn't get a chance to take the paper to the bank to get notarized to send to facebook in time. So no money was spent on Facebook. Now, because I expressed my opinion, I get this letter? I don't understand. Voters are to have no opinion? Voters aren't allowed to express express their opinion or share them with other? I have to start a committee to be motivated and have an opinion in the USA? I didn't spend millions on a campaign against him I spent \$50 and hard work and determination to be heard by my fellow voters on my part. Maybe let's talk about the class 3 misdemeanor that was committed by taking downs signs that are not yours. I need to file a complaint for that please.

Rachel Baker
403 S Bond Street
Saginaw, MI 48602



RECEIVED/FILED
MICHIGAN DEPT OF STATE
2022 DEC 12 PM 2:07
FBI - JUDICIAL GREAT SEAL



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

November 30, 2022

Rachel Baker
403 S. Bond St.
Saginaw, MI 48607-1720

Re: *Ostash v. Baker*
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 179 – 26, 33, 36, 51

Dear Ms. Baker:

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A copy of your answer will be provided to Mr. Ostash, who will have an opportunity to submit a rebuttal statement to the Department. After reviewing the statements and materials provided by the parties, the Department will determine whether "there may be reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] has occurred [.]” MCL 169.215(10). Note that the Department’s enforcement powers include the possibility of entering a conciliation agreement, conducting an administrative hearing, or referring this matter to the Attorney General for enforcement.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact the Regulatory Section of the Bureau of Elections at BOERegulatory@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Regulatory Section
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

Enclosure
c: William Ostash



Michigan Department of State
Campaign Finance Complaint Form

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

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Your Name <u>William JAMES OSTASH</u>		Daytime Telephone Number <u>(989) 326-0001</u>	
Mailing Address <u>1000 Hoyt Ave</u>			
City <u>SAGINAW</u>	State <u>MI</u>	Zip <u>48607-1720</u>	
Email (optional) <u>Williamjames105@gmail.com</u>			

Name <u>RACHEL BAKER</u>		
Mailing Address <u>403 S. Bond St.</u>		
City <u>SAGINAW</u>	State <u>MI</u>	Zip <u>48607-1720</u>
Email (optional)		

Section(s) of the MCFA alleged to be violated: 169.226, 169.233, 169.234, 169.251

Explain how those sections were violated:

NON Political Party NOT Filed with State of MI. This person created a political Facebook page too. She also put 100 signs in the city of Saginaw MI and none of them stated the committee they are. This was a person who went after my campaign against me without forming a committee to do so.

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

Photos of the signs in the city other than her yard. Photo of Facebook pages setup as political candidate yet no filing in the State of MI.

From: Bill Ostash <ostashforsaginawcitycouncil@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 12:17 PM
To: MDOS-BOERegulatory
Cc: ostashforsaginawcitycouncil@gmail.com
Subject: Non Registered Committee with Signs Up in Saginaw Michigan
Attachments: William Ostash reporting Rachel Baker signs no committee filed.pdf

Categories: Jessica

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Good Day,

There is a lady in Saginaw Michigan who is running a campaign against my campaign and it is not registered. I am asking that you please look at this matter regarding Michigan Campaign Finance Act violation. Here is the complaint form filled out.

Also to note all the information on her signs and Facebook page are false. I resigned from the Historic District Commission 2 years prior to her broke leg incident she is claiming I was involved with. The only ADA items I voted on are sidewalk ADA complaint approaches we put in and I was a yes vote and always will be.

Last, I have attached photos from her Facebook page. You will see on one of the photos from her Facebook page she does put down who she is. She wrote she paid for this a private citizen "Rachel Baker". Filed in the complaint I give her address of 403 S Bond St. in Saginaw, MI 48602. I have included photos of the signs throughout the city she has placed. These signs are on her Facebook page. The blue house is hers with those same signs in the yard. One of the photos from the Facebook page show her stating she bought 100 signs.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, each factual contention of this complaint is supported by evidence.

X

Signature of Complainant

Date

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

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, or belief, there are grounds to conclude that the following specifically identified factual contentions are likely to be supported by evidence after a reasonable opportunity for further inquiry. Those specific contentions are:

X

Signature of Complainant

Date

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



8:25

100%

< Don't Vote 4 Kevin Rooker & Bill O...

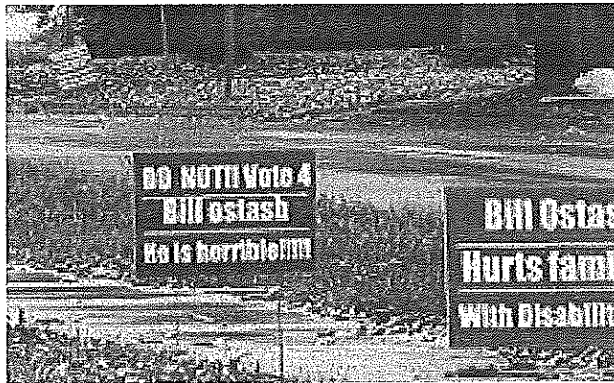
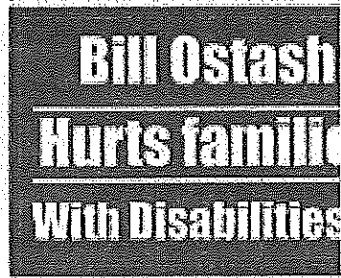
Posts About Photos Mentions

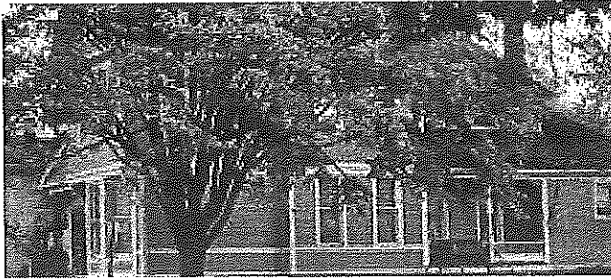


Don't Vote 4 Kevin Rooker & Bill O...

100%

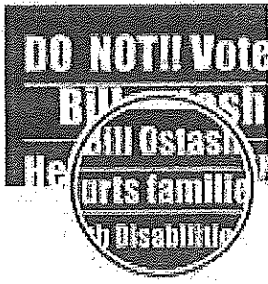
Him and his husband Kevin Rooker hurt fami...
disabilities!! Do not vote for him. Ad paid for
Rachel Baker private citizen





8:20

Do Not Vote 4 Bill Ostash



Do Not Vote 4 Bill Ostash

1 Like · 1 Follower

Like

Get Tickets

Posts · About · Photos · Mentions

Details

8:22



Posts · About · Photos · Mentions

Do Not Vote 4 Bill Ostash

So now that my post is live let me like a real explain to you how Bill Ostash effected my life causing me extra pain, a release amount of embarrassment for well over a year. This is how he has that he actually as of last week I was a member who I am, he walked right in knocked right in my door and asked me who would like the yard sign I requested. The emotions I felt when this happened were less sadness, anger, pain, rage then I needed in embarrassment and humiliation I need three because of him and I thought, you want my own sign? I bought 100 signs and 100 t-shirts. My best friend said I've never seen anyone at all who heard the story I'm asking you and the sign for the business you sold this up today was there 5 hours pulling up the sign pictured in my account. 100 signs given to them later they are all gone from all different neighborhoods all over the city of Saginaw. My sign so I decided to turn to Facebook to word out, Reagined post for what happen in

1 Like
1 Follower

8:38

44



About

Category



Political Candidate

Contact info



49602

Michigan



(888) 222-5670

USA, IL



<http://www.danmiller4illinois.org>

Illinois

Basic info



Not yet rated (0 Reviews)

1.6 mi

Page transparency

Facebook is tracking information to help understand the purpose of this Page.



Yonkers, NY

4:59

11:17

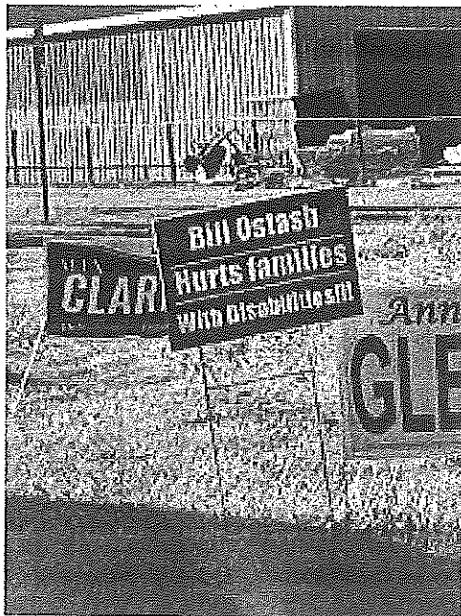


Saginaw Neighborhood Watch

Jamie E Fook · 13m · K1

???





Warm Regards,

Councilman Bill Ostash *(he/him/his)*
1000 Hoyt Ave
Saginaw, MI 48607-1720 | c: (989) 326-0001

Campaign:
Bill Ostash for Saginaw City Council

Leadership, Accessible, Safety, Development, Preservation, Your Voice!

#MovingSaginawForward

Sent from my MAC



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

January 4, 2023

William James Ostash
1000 Hoyt Ave
Saginaw, MI 48607

Re: *Ostash v. Baker*
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 179 – 26, 33, 36, 51

Dear Mr. Ostash:

The Department of State received a response from Rachel Baker to the complaint you filed against her 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 or mailed to the Department of State, Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Sincerely,

Regulatory Section
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

MDOS-BOERegulatory

From: William Ostash <williamjames65@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 8:50 PM
To: MDOS-BOERegulatory
Cc: William Ostash
Subject: Ostash vs. Baker Rebuttal from Mr. Ostash
Attachments: William Ostash Rebuttal to Ms Baker Rebuttal to BOE.pdf; 403 S Bond Building Permit for the Temparary Ramp.pdf; 403 S Bond Building Permit pulled 02.24.2020.pdf; Campaign Catalyst Invoice 67540.pdf; Campaign Catalyst Order 5706.pdf; Fwd Help out a neighbor this Saturday.pdf; Fwd Helping out our neighbor changed date.pdf; Fwd MML Event Confirmation 2022 MML Convention.pdf; Letter of Resignation as HDC Commissioner 11-30-2018.pdf

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Dear BOE,

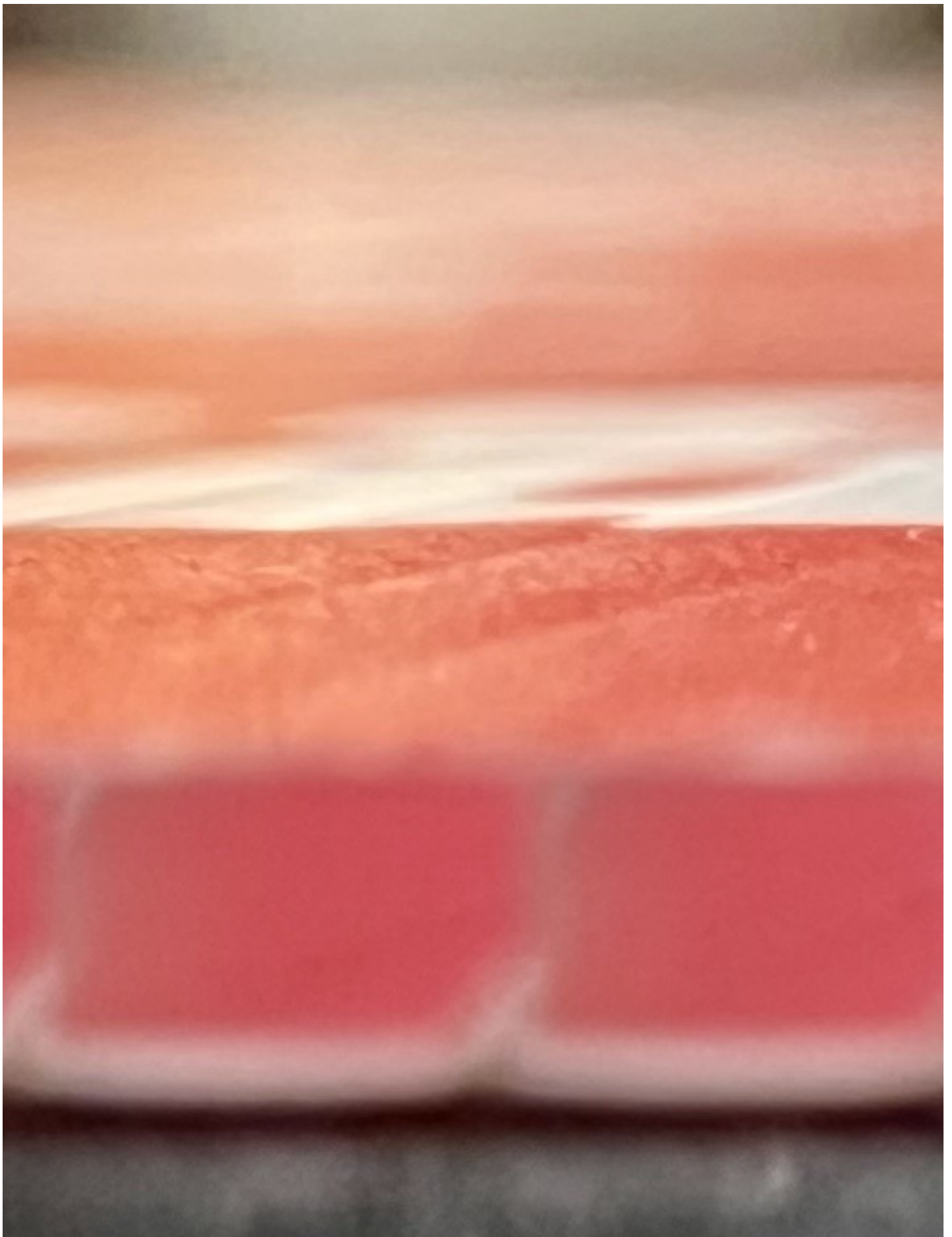
Please find my rebuttal to the letter I received on January 17, 2022 dated January 11, 2023 form your office regarding Rachel Baker's rebuttal to my complaint filed with you office.

Ostash vs. Baker Complaint 2022-11-179-26, 33, 36, 51.

The attachments support the pdf rebuttal I am writing to you.







12:27



Don't Vote 4 Kevin Rooker & Bill...



Don't Vote 4 Kevin Rooker & Bill Ostash

23m · 🌐



Like



Comment



Share

Don't Vote 4
Bill Ostash

He is running for City of
Saginaw Councilman. Don't
Vote 4 him he hurts families
with disabilities!

1:37



Transactions in 2



Delta Hotels Muske

Muskegon, MI

10/20/22



Barney Maffet Plac

Muskegon Heights, MI

10/20/22



Delta Hotels Muske

Muskegon, MI

10/20/22

1:42



Transactions in 2



Tesla Supercharger

Card Number Used

10/21/22



Delta Hotels Muske

Muskegon, MI

10/20/22



Barney Maffet Plac

Muskegon Heights, MI

10/20/22

Regards,

William Ostash

Sent from my MAC

January 17, 2023

William Ostash
1000 Hoyt Ave
Saginaw, MI 48607
(989) 326-0001

Bureau of Elections
Lansing, MI 48918

Dear Bureau of Elections,

Regarding Ms. Baker stating she made these signs with vinyl lettering I feel is not a true statement. For my campaign I had signs made and 100 had cost me over \$800.00. See attachment invoice and order from Campaign Catalyst. Why I feel the signs were not made with vinyl tape with friends as she states. I have obtained a sign and took a few photos of it. I obtained this sign from a resident. The sign was put on the owner's property with no approval. See photos "A.jpeg, B.jpeg, C.jpeg" attached. You can see these are printed. Photo C.jpeg shows there is not vinyl, and the letters edges are perfect. Also, she was able to create content as needed. See Facebook page attached screen shot "D.jpeg". You can see the meta data shows I captured this on October 22, 2022. You also can see in this photo content had changed from myself to now my husband as well. He ran for Saginaw Public School Board. The signs had complete rewording. He has not filed a Bureau of Elections (BOE) complaint as I have for violating the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA) to date.

Also, to address her statement, I took her signs down and I am in violation of a class three misdemeanor. The week Rachel Baker put her signs up I was in Muskegon Michigan attending the 2022 Michigan Municipal League Conference. I left for the conference on Tuesday October 18, 2022, and returned to Saginaw on October 21, 2022. See the attached photo "E.jpeg" which shows charges to my credit card for purchased in Muskegon. Photo "F.jpeg" shows Tesla charging charges I had returning home Friday October 21, 2022. I have also attached the conference confirmation email: *Fwd MML Event Confirmation 2022 MML Convention.pdf* from the City Manager staff that booked this trip. Not sure how this relates to her rebuttal. But I addressed it.

Rachel's comment about her Facebook page that is has one follower, and she assumes it is me. I run many Facebook pages and you can see who your followers are. I can say it was not me. I was not going to follow this page. Not sure how this relates to her rebuttal. But I addressed it.

Rachel Baker states I am upset with the election loss, and I am making her pay for this by filing a complaint. This is a false accusation. I filled out the complaint date October 22, 2022 (17 days before election on 11/08/2022) and emailed all to the BOE on October 31, 2022 (8 days before election 11/08/2022). Rachel Baker received a copy my complaint in the first packet mailed to her that states this. I am very confused with this accusation that is misleading. Not sure how this relates to her rebuttal. But I addressed it.

You can read my Facebook post-election post here which shows I was not upset:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=610782817719378&set=a.269072605223736>.

I have included the text posted verbatim next.

My Reflection on my election loss November 8, 2022.

First, WOW!! What an amazing four years I had serving the residents of Saginaw, Michigan as your Councilman.

However, the day after this election I was in disbelief that I'd lost, as were many of you, my friends, and fellow residents. Thank you for all the calls, texts, and messages of support.

Emotionally, I felt grief as though I had lost an immediate family member. Because I lost something I truly loved doing and had my soul into.

I was deeply involved in neighborhood associations, commissions, and boards prior to Covid. Then late 2021 began to do so again. I poured myself into this city, volunteering and helping residents wherever and whenever I could. I was accessible, got things done and was responsive.

As I reflected about my loss the next day. I kept processing all the conversations I was having afterwards. Especially from my Mayor, Brenda Moore who I adore and look to as a mentor. During our conversation she said, "Brother, look how much you have grown, don't forget your contacts and the Michigan Municipal League (MML)"!

I then thought about all the people I have met, helped, and worked with and decided that I was not going to stop serving my community or go anywhere. This election loss had only made me stronger!!

I reflected even further; I saw my incredible growth as a person. I have learned so much, gained friendships, connections, and knowledge, over the last four years.

I realize, I will have some time now to do things I have been wanting to get moving. As a City Councilman time was slim because I worked it first. My residents came above all, and they can attest to that. I had heard that residents would say, "when you need something, call Bill"! City staff could not believe I had a 9-5 job running an IT Programming team, because of the time I spent with my council position.

Over the course of the next two years, I will continue to build myself. One, of which, I am working directly with one of our neighborhoods on the SW side regarding community organization and programming for their center. I will also prepare to run for council again in 2024. It will be one heck of a campaign and I will work even harder to reach some areas of Saginaw I was not able to. Saginaw is big city to walk knocking doors, trying to reach them all is a challenge.

I will continue to be very active in Saginaw. I will frequent the neighborhood associations. I will continue to serve on the Planning Commission, and I applied to the Saginaw Economic Development Corporation

(SEDC) commission. I will devote time to help with the Potter Street Train Station restoration project. I want to make sure I can lend a hand with this preservation initiative where needed. Especially with STARS transit looking to restore the station and put their corporate headquarters there. I will continue to serve on the Saginaw County Animal Shelter Board. Last, I will keep my seat on the Great Lakes Bay Pride Board, LGBTQ+ non-profit as a director. I can have a huge impact on our community for you.

Looking back, I need to remember what was accomplished with the city staff and as City Council for Saginaw. First, there marijuana legalization in the state of MI in 2018. We had to act, as there was organizing within the city to create their own ordinance per the new law if we did not. We got this done and it was solid. Second, we had to deal with the pandemic. There was a city to run. This went on for two years. I feel city staff, Manager Morales and City Council did a great job to get through this.

To revisit my personal accomplishments. I will be ever so proud of bringing two programs to our city. They are:

One, working with Saginaw County Health Department, City of Saginaw Staff, City Attorney, Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, our Saginaw Police Department, and countless others, we put in place a harm reduction/safe syringe program to assist with heroin addiction. Saginaw County was one of the Michigan counties, that had not adopted the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MHHS) program. Hence, the beautiful 50-foot mural on the County Building representing this.

Second, with the help of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the city Urban Planner Robert Gollin and the Historic District Commission (HDC), the city implemented, "Certified Local Government (CLG)". CLG covers the preservation development side. This can have and will have huge grant potentials for economic development. To note, prior the city was certified as a "Redevelopment Ready City (RRC)" impacting the DDA district. The CLG certification program can also work in tandem with our RRC certification.

As stated, I am not going anywhere or stopping. I am just getting started, reprioritizing and setting new goals and directions. I may have lost an election, but I feel I won. Because I get to continue to #MoveSaginawForward and doing what I love. So, let's get it done.

Once a Councilman, always a Councilman and I am here to serve!!

Peace, Love and Thank You Saginaw for ALL the support you have given me throughout my tenure and after the election loss I endured.

*Sincerely,
Former Councilman Bill Ostash Saginaw, MI*

Enjoy and Peace

Not sure how this relates to her rebuttal. But I will address it. Rachel Baker is stating I have affected her life regarding an accident in her rebuttal. She is stating I had stopped the building of a ramp for access to her house. She states I sent a cease-and-desist email to her contractor which an attorney would send, so I am very confused with that statement.

The accident and issue she had was with the City of Saginaw in 2020 for permits to build the ramp. She has failed to state that the issues were with the Historic District Commission (HDC) needing to approve the ramp build. There would not have been an issue if Rachel Baker would have obtained the building permit. Building permits trigger the HDC application. Supporting documents for this attached:

1. Emails forwarded to me by the HDC Secretary.
 - a. Email titled: *Fwd Help out a neighbor this Saturday.pdf*
 - i. This email from Rachel's neighbor Sherri Gregory sent February 12, 2020, stating the ramp would be built Saturday February 15, 2020. (Sherri was a HDC commissioner at the time, not sure why Sheri did not explain the process to Rachel). HDC commissioner Kevin Rooker (my spouse) responds to Sherri explaining there is a process to follow. Explaining what is needed to make this happen. In the thread Sherri asked Kevin to handle if he would, she is on a cruise. Note this is happening in 2020, I resigned from the HDC in November 2018, see attached resignation *Letter of Resignation as HDC Commissioner 11-30-2018.pdf* sent to the Saginaw City Clerk.
 - ii. I am not a part of her ramp build issue with the City of Saginaw Michigan as Rachel states.
 - b. Email titled: *Fwd Helping out our neighbor changed date.pdf*
 - i. Important to note here, Sherri has communicated with Rachel about the issues, and Rachel is fine with the date moving per Sheri.
 - c. Screen shots from City of Saginaw website, public records for permits.
 - i. Pdf: 403 S Bond Building Permit for the Temporary Ramp.pdf
 1. Shows the building permit pulled 12 days after the email sent to Kevin.
 - ii. Pdf: 403 S Bond Building Permit pulled 02.24.2020.pdf
 1. Shows the permit for the ramp pulled on February 24, 2020.

To close, not sure why Ms. Baker's rebuttal had nothing to do with the complaint I filled where MCFA was not followed against my campaign. I don't think she has provided what the BOE has asked for. Nevertheless, she has now, once again created again a libel situation for herself with written false accusations against me claiming harm to her.

Sincerely,



William J. Ostash
1000 Hoyt Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48607-1720



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MUNICIPALITIES

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ACCOUNT

Home > Search Results > Record Details > Permit

Permit Details: PBUILD20-0015

Property Address: 403 S BOND ST, SAGINAW, MI 48602 | Parcel: [17 0394 00000](#)

Property Owner: BAKER, RACHEL E

Summary Information

> 0 Inspection(s) Found

Jump To: Permit Information | Inspection Information | Violations | Fees & Payments | Applicant Information | Owner Information

Important Message

Payments received will first be applied to past due City debts owed on the property per ordinance 151.114(c) (4) prior to being credited to the registration renewal.

Permit Information

Back To Top

Number	PBUILD20-0015	Category	Accessory Structure
Type	Building	Status	EXPIRED
Applied Date	02/24/2020	Expire Date	08/22/2020
Issue Date	02/24/2020	Finaled Date	No Data to Display
Work Description	TEMPORARY WHEELCHAIR RAMP		
Stipulations	PERMIT PAID BY KELLY WAHL FEE WAIVED PER JCS/3/6/2020		
Project	No Data to Display		

Inspection Information

Back To Top

Amount Due

Permit - Building	\$0.00
Total	

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ACCOUNT

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Home > Search Results > Record Details

403 S BOND ST MI 48602 (Property Address)

Parcel Number: 17 0394 00000 Account Number: 000000-083542



Item 1 of 2 1 Image / 1 Sketch

Property Owner: BAKER, RACHEL E

Summary Information

> Residential Building Summary

- Year Built: 1884
- Full Baths: 2
- Sq. Feet: 2,480

- Bedrooms: 4

- Half Baths: 1

- Acres: 0.140

> 13 Building Department records found

> Assessed Value: \$42,200 | Taxable Value: \$29,137

> 2 Special Assessments found

> Property Tax information found

> Utility Billing information found

Property Information

Tax Information

Special Assessments Information

Building Department

Utility Bill Info

Jump To:

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+ Owner Information

Back To Top

+ Projects

Back To Top

- Permits

Back To Top

To pay on a record, click View

Permit Type	Permit Number	Associated Project	Status	Date Issued	Last Inspection	Amount Due	
Building	PBUILD20-0015		EXPIRED	2/24/2020		\$0.00	View
Water Extension	PWEP09-872-00	J09-872	FINALED	6/16/2009		\$0.00	View

1

Displaying items 1 - 2 of 2

+ Enforcements

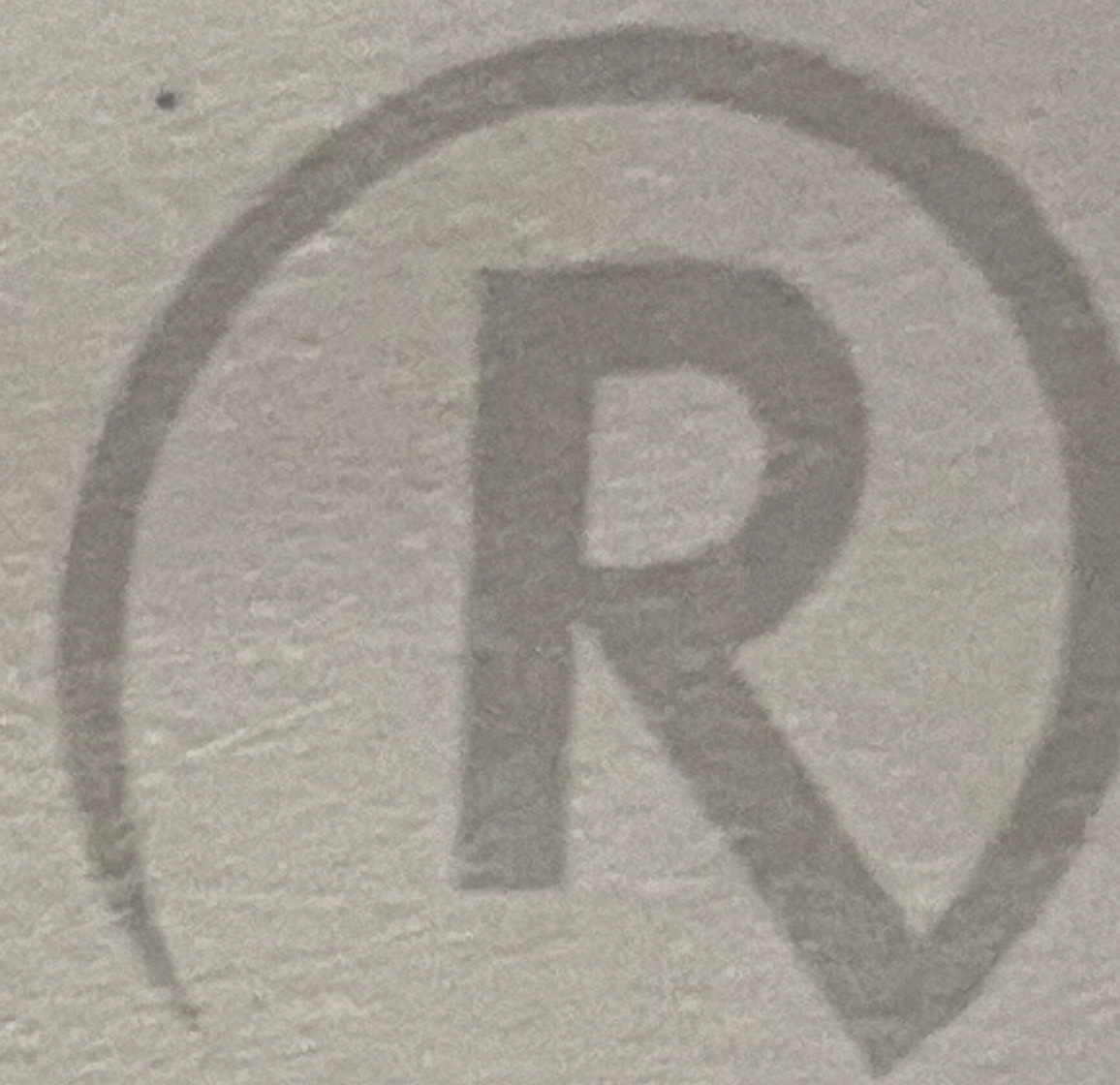
Back To Top

Invoice

No: 67540

Date: 9/12/22

Customer PO:



Reimold
CORPOR

5171 Blackbeak Drive
Saginaw MI 48604
877-877-8777
reimold.com

Campaign Catalyst
5171 Blackbeak Drive
Saginaw MI 48604

Quantity	Description	Amount
50	Bill Ostash - 23" x 14.5" Campaign Yard Signs, 1/1, NO stakes, CC-PBYS23-51-GL): 1/1, Full Bleed: NO, Union Label: Yes, Ship to RPC for client pick up. Contact Bill for Pick Up	\$ 372.94
Please pay from this invoice. Due upon receipt. Thank you!		SUBTOTAL \$ 372.94 TAX \$ 22.38 SHIPPING \$ 0.00 TOTAL \$ 395.32 AMOUNT DUE \$ 395.32

We Accept: VISA | MasterCard | American Express | Discover

From: Campaign Catalyst brittney@campaigncatalyst.net
Subject: Your Campaign Catalyst order #5706 has been partially refunded
Date: August 12, 2022 at 1:38 PM
To: ostashforsaginawcitycouncil@gmail.com



Partial Refund: Order 5706

Hi William,

Your order on Campaign Catalyst has been partially refunded. There are more details below for your reference:

[Order #5706] (08/03/2022)

Product	Quantity	Price
<p>Yard Sign - Double Sided Poly Board Yard Signs</p> <p>Size: 23" x 14.5"</p> <p>Quantity: 50</p> <p>Colors: 1</p> <p>Union Label: Yes</p> <p>Quantity Discount: -\$0.00</p> <p>Upload File</p>	1	\$420.00

Subtotal:	\$420.00
Shipping:	\$93.74 via UPS Ground
Tax:	\$25.20
Payment method:	CardConnect Payment Gateway
Pick up	-\$93.74
Total:	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px;">\$538.94 <u>\$445.20</u></div>
Note:	I will pick up the signs. I was asked to ask you to refund the \$93.74 for shipping. Thank you.

Billing address


William Ostash
 Bill Ostash for Saginaw City Council
 1000 Hoyt Ave
 Saginaw, MI 48607
 9893260001
 ostashforsaginawcitycouncil@gmail.com

Shipping address

William Ostash
 Bill Ostash for Saginaw City Council
 1000 Hoyt Ave
 Saginaw, MI 48607

We hope to see you again soon.

Campaign Catalyst

From: Kevin kevmark58@gmail.com 
Subject: Fwd: Help out a neighbor this Saturday
Date: July 12, 2020 at 10:23 AM
To: Bill Ostash williamjames65@gmail.com



thread where I let sherry know that she didn't follow process or procedure.

Forwarded Conversation

Subject: Re: Help out a neighbor this Saturday

From: Kevin <kevmark58@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 12, 2020 at 8:17 PM
To: S. Gregory <sgregory13@gmail.com>
Cc: Alex Mixer <alexmixer@gmail.com>

Sherri....I understand the situation and feel for them but procedure and process needs to be followed and this must come before the HDC next week. Please instruct this person(s) to get a hold of Cassie and get their app in. Thanks..kevin

On Wed, Feb 12, 2020 at 2:58 PM S. Gregory <sgregory13@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Heritage Square Neighbors,

Some of you may have heard that one of our neighbors, a single mother of four, broke her leg recently, and has had to have several surgeries as a result. Some of our neighbors and friends are building her a temporary ramp. If you are available to help with construction and need the location, please contact the organizer, Kelly Wahl. You can reach Kelly by e-mail at taterboy.kw@gmail.com.

Building will be done this Saturday, February 15 beginning at 8am. Thanks to everyone who can help.

Sherri Gregory
e-mail communications

--

"When you hear the old line that money will not buy a quality education, it's almost always someone from a wealthy district. But if you talk about anything that would limit their money, they don't want to hear it." James E. O'Neill Jr. State Representative and Senator for Michigan.

This email and any attachments to it may be confidential and are intended solely for the use of

the individual to whom it is addressed. Any views or opinions expressed are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of others.

If you are not the intended recipient of this email, you must neither take any action based upon its contents, nor copy or show it to anyone.

From: **S Gregory** <sgregory13@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Feb 13, 2020 at 6:59 AM
To: Kevin <kevmark58@gmail.com>

Kevin,
Would you do me a big favor. I'm on a South American cruise now. Can you call the organizer and let her know the procedure.
Thanks,
Sherri

Sent from my iPhone

| On Feb 12, 2020, at 8:17 PM, Kevin <kevmark58@gmail.com> wrote:

From: **S Gregory** <sgregory13@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Feb 13, 2020 at 7:00 AM
To: Kevin <kevmark58@gmail.com>

Sorry- email her. I don't have her phone number.

Sent from my iPhone

| On Feb 13, 2020, at 6:59 AM, S Gregory <sgregory13@gmail.com> wrote:

| Kevin,

From: **Kevin Rooker** <kevmark58@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Feb 13, 2020 at 7:24 AM
To: S Gregory <sgregory13@gmail.com>

Done. You must be bored doing neighborhood stuff while on vacation...lol

Sent from my iPhone

| On Feb 13, 2020, at 7:00 AM, S Gregory <sgregory13@gmail.com> wrote:

Sorry- email her. I don't have her phone number.

From: **S Gregory** <sgregory13@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Feb 13, 2020 at 7:54 AM

To: Kevin Rooker <kevmark58@gmail.com>

On a bike tour right now in Montevideo. Just doing my civic duty. WiFi is very expensive on the ship.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2020, at 7:24 AM, Kevin Rooker <kevmark58@gmail.com> wrote:


Done. You must be bored doing neighborhood stuff while on vacation...lol

--

"When you hear the old line that money will not buy a quality education, it's almost always someone from a wealthy district. But if you talk about anything that would limit their money, they don't want to hear it." James E. O'Neill Jr. State Representative and Senator for Michigan.

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From: Kevin kevmark58@gmail.com 
Subject: Fwd: Helping out our neighbor changed date
Date: July 12, 2020 at 10:23 AM
To: Bill Ostash williamjames65@gmail.com



sherry's response to date changing for ramp

----- Forwarded message -----

From: S. Gregory <sgregory13@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Feb 14, 2020 at 11:58 AM
Subject: Helping out our neighbor changed date
To:

Dear Heritage Square Neighbors,
I received an update - that the ramp building for our neighbor will not be this Saturday, but the following Saturday, Feb. 22 @ 8am. Please contact the organizer, Kelly Wahl for more details and to confirm. You can reach Kelly by e-mail at taterboy.kw@gmail.com . I received a message from the neighbor with the broken leg, and she's very appreciative of the support of our neighbors.

Sherri Gregory
e-mail communications

I'm sorry if you received this already. Several messages were rejected when I first sent it.

--

"When you hear the old line that money will not buy a quality education, it's almost always someone from a wealthy district. But if you talk about anything that would limit their money, they don't want to hear it." James E. O'Neill Jr. State Representative and Senator for Michigan.

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If you are not the intended recipient of this email, you must neither take any action based upon its contents, nor copy or show it to anyone.

From: BOstash@saginaw-mi.com
Subject: Fwd: MML Event Confirmation - 2022 MML Convention
Date: September 11, 2022 at 10:16 AM
To: Bill Ostash iCloud williamjames65@icloud.com



Councilman Ostash (*He/Him*)
City of Saginaw, Michigan
[1315 South Washington Ave | Saginaw, MI 48601](#)
[www.saginaw-mi.com](#) | [\(989\) 326-0001](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: League Admin <admin@mml.org>
Date: September 1, 2022 at 11:39:33 AM EDT
To: bostash@saginaw-mi.com, RHozeska@saginaw-mi.com
Subject: MML Event Confirmation - 2022 MML Convention

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.



Thank you for registering for the 2022 Annual Convention!

Please review the following confirmation and notify us if you have any questions. Please e-mail any corrections or changes to registration@mml.org.

Mr. William Ostash
Councilmember
Saginaw
1315 S. Washington Ave.

Saginaw MI, 48601-2599

This is to confirm your registration for the following:
2022 MML Convention - V22

Facility/Location: (for directions visit: maps.google.com)
VanDyk Mortgage Convention Center
460 W Western Ave

Muskegon MI, 49440

Begin Date/Time: Oct 19 2022 8:00AM **End Date/Time:** Oct 21 2022 12:30PM

Total Amount Billed:	\$520
<u>Total Amount Paid:</u>	\$520
Total Balance:	\$0

Thank you!

If a credit balance is shown, a refund will be forthcoming.

If credit card information was provided upon registration and a balance is still shown please allow additional time for processing.

Cancellation Policies

All cancellations must be submitted in writing to registration@mml.org by **Monday, October 10, 2022** and are subject to a \$85.00 cancellation fee for regular Convention registrations and \$30.00 for guest registrations.

No refunds will be given for cancellation requests received **after Monday, October 10, 2022**. Email cancellation requests to registration@mml.org.

If you are unable to attend, you may substitute a colleague for your entire registration. Sharing of registration is prohibited.

Accommodations

Please visit the convention [website](#) for information on hotel blocks and options.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

The League will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, familial status, height, weight, disability or political beliefs.

Questions?

For additional registration questions, please call 734-669-6371 or email registration@mml.org.

November 30, 2018

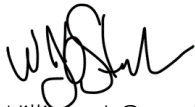
Janet Santos
Saginaw City Clerk
1315 S Washington Ave
Saginaw, MI 48601

Dear Janet,

Please accept this letter as notice of my resignation of my position on the Historic District Commission with the City of Saginaw Michigan. My last day will be November 30, 2018. It has been a pleasure working with you and the city of Saginaw Michigan over the last twelve years on this commission.

I make this decision with regards to the conflicts regarding PA566 The Incompatibility Act of the state of Michigan and the Opinion 7105 wrote by the then Attorney General Jennifer Granholm. She has clearly stated that in that opinion I would not be able to keep my seat on the Historic District Commission and serve as an elected Councilman for the city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WJ Ostash', with a stylized, cursive script.

William J Ostash



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

March 17, 2023

Rachel Baker
403 S. Bond St.
Saginaw, MI 48607-1720

Re: *Ostash v. Baker*
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 2022 – 11 – 179 – 26, 33, 36, 51

Dear Ms. Baker:

The Department of State (Department) has finished investigating the campaign finance complaint filed against you by William Ostash alleging you violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA or Act). This letter concerns the disposition of that complaint.

First, the complaint alleged that you made qualifying independent expenditures in the form of yard signs and Facebook postings that required the filing of independent expenditure reports. The complaint also alleged that, in the alternative, you were required to form a committee as a result of your actions.

From the outset, the Department dismissed the second allegation in full. 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 [candidate, ballot question, etc.] 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). However, the word “person” is defined in the Act as businesses, corporations, and committees, among other entities. MCL 169.211. For purposes of determining whether a committee exists, “[a]n individual, other than a candidate, does not constitute a committee.” 169.203(4). As such, you do not qualify as a committee and alleged violations of sections 26, 33, and 36 of the Act were dismissed.

You responded to the complaint in a letter dated December 7, 2022. In your response, you argued that you did not purchase the signs in question; rather, you were given the blank signs by a friend and found the stakes in your shed when you moved into your home. You stated the sign lettering was created by you and a friend using a Cricut for the cost of the vinyl, which was approximately \$50.00. You also argued that you were unable to complete the process of verifying your identity to purchase ads on Facebook and so your Facebook posts cost you no money, bringing the total expenses for your efforts to \$50.00.

In your response you also made allegations regarding the removal of the signs you placed in your neighborhood and the construction of an accessibility ramp at your home. These matters are not covered by the Act and will not be addressed further in this determination.

In an email received on January 17, 2023, Mr. Ostash rebutted your arguments. He provided close-up photographs of the signs, alleging to show their construction and quality, along with receipts documenting the cost of similarly printed signs for his campaign. Additional copies of postings from your Facebook group were also provided.

Accordingly, the Department proceeds to the determination stage considering all of the relevant material provided by both parties.

The MCFA requires that a person, other than a committee, that makes an independent expenditure of \$100.01 or more advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate must file an independent expenditure report within 10 days of making the expenditure. MCL 169.251(1). A person who fails to file a required report may be subject to late filing fees up to \$5,000 and a civil fine up to \$1,000, and/or imprisonment for no more than 90 days. MCL 169.251(2).

Expenditure is defined in the Act as “a payment, donation, loan, or promise of money or anything of ascertainable monetary value for goods, materials, services, or facilities in assistance of, or in opposition to, the nomination or election of a candidate, the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question, or the qualification of a new political party.” MCL 169.206(1)

The Department has reviewed the evidence submitted in this matter and finds that insufficient evidence has been presented to support a finding of a potential violation of the MCFA. Specifically, the Department finds your explanation that your costs for producing the yard signs totaled under \$100.00 and that no expenses were incurred when creating your Facebook posts credible. While evidence was submitted showing the cost of printed signs, sufficient evidence was not submitted to show your signs were not made with a personal Cricut machine. Additionally, no evidence was submitted showing there to be a cost associated with your Facebook posts. As such, the Department dismisses the Section 51 allegations contained in the complaint.

Accordingly, the Department dismisses the complaint and will take no further action.

Sincerely,



Jenny McInerney, Regulatory Attorney
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

c: William Ostash