



Michigan Department of State Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Complaint Form

This complaint form may be used to file a complaint alleging that someone violated the [Michigan Campaign Finance Act](#) (MCFA), the [Candidate for Office Financial Disclosure Act](#), or the [Public Officers Financial Disclosure Act](#) (financial disclosure acts). Electronic submission of the form to BOERegulatory@michigan.gov is strongly recommended. For instructions on how to complete this form, see the [Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Complaint Guidebook](#) document. All spaces are required unless otherwise indicated.

Section 1. Complainant

Your name		Daytime telephone number
Jacob Rushlow		2698761543
Mailing address		
5535 Daisy Ln.		
City	State	Zip
Kalamazoo	MI	49009
Email (recommended)		
rushlowj62@gmail.com		

Section 2. Alleged Violator (Respondent)

Name		
Richard Overton		
Mailing address		
45282 MICHIGAN 51		
City	State	Zip
Decatur	MI	49045
Email (recommended)		
unknown		
Committee ID (optional)		
521360		

Please include email addresses to expedite processing time and mitigate mail delays.

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

I allege a violation of the following:

- ☒ MCFA
- ☐ Public officer disclosure
- ☐ Candidate disclosure

Identify the section(s) of the MCFA or relevant financial disclosure act section(s) alleged to be violated and explain how the section(s) were violated:

Mr. Overton has violated MCL 169.247 by not including a paid for by disclaimer on handouts he has been presenting in district.

At a local township board meeting, the subject spoke about his candidacy while handing out materials attached with this complaint with no paid for by disclaimer anywhere in the three page document. The subject is a former candidate, so he should be familiar with basic campaign finance laws. Additionally, the subject solicits donations, yet fails to comply with MCL 169.247 by letting individuals know who is paying for the solicitation.

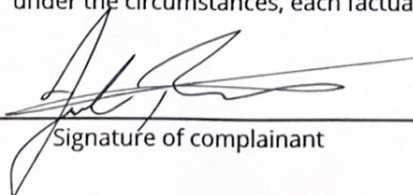
This is yet another blatant violation of our election laws, and the subject should be held accountable due to knowing better and failing to follow a basic, well-known law.

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

Evidence will be attached to the email.

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.



Signature of complainant

4-16-24
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:


Signature of Complainant

4-16-24
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 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. MCL 169.215(16).

The financial disclosure acts prohibit a person from filing a complaint with a false certification. MCL 169.313(7); MCL 15.713(7).

Section 6. Submission

Once completed, submit the complaint form with your evidence to BOERegulatory@Michigan.gov. Alternatively, you may 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

Richard Overton
Conservative Republican
Michigan House of Representatives
39th District

LET'S GET BACK ON TRACK!

We've gotten "Off Track". We're moving farther away every year from the founding values that made this country successful. We're dangerously close to moving even farther. It's time to get back on track and protect our children from a valueless society that will only bring our future generation's pain and anguish. History tells us that no nation that has liberalized morality has survived. I will fight to protect our children from those who would violate their privacy and pollute their innocence.

Firsthand experience in the issues facing Michigan

Marine Veteran Vietnam – Michigan State Trooper – Community College Administrator – Insurance Agent – Small Business Owner – Technical Representative for Skilled Trades Apprenticeships – U. S. Department of Labor - Public/Private Sector Management experience

EDUCATION

Graduate of Decatur Public Schools; attended Southwestern Michigan College for a semester then enlisted in the Marines. I returned to SMC working and using the GI bill I would complete my associate degree and then later again working construction and using the GI Bill graduated from Ferris State University with a Bachelor Degree in Management.

FAMILY

Married 44 years – wife recently deceased
Daughter: Dr. Pharmaceutical Medicine, Son U.S.A.F. fighter pilot, Daughter - Masters in Social work – Hospice Coordinator, Eight Grandchildren

In my career I've fought to keep post-secondary education affordable. I've challenged the State of Michigan and major beer producers to adhere to Michigan's advertising laws. I currently have a request for action in the attorney general's office.

I've been active in Veteran issues; spearheading the Vietnam memorial at my VFW Post home in Decatur; volunteering for 10 years with the University of Michigan's "Buddy to Buddy" program which helped military members returning from combat assignments; as a member of the Van Buren County Soldiers and Sailors relief board; and with hundreds of individual veteran assistance needs. I also served for years on the Decatur Township Zoning board.

Email: dickoverton17@gmail.com Cell Phone: 269-325-8707

Donate: Committee to Elect Richard Overton, 45282 M-51, Decatur, MI 49045

I will accept only personal checks from registered voters of this district. If you would not be a constituent I would represent, I should not be taking money from you for my campaign.

He spoke at Geneva
Twp 4.9.2024

THINGS I WOULD ADDRESS AS A STATE REPRESENTATIVE

I AM PRO LIFE IN ALL CASES – I define "abortion" as "The termination by any means, of a healthy, lawfully conceived pregnancy before the birth of the child". In every case all life saving measures available should be afforded a child even when removed for the health of the mother.

I would ...

- have alcoholic beverages and marijuana products adhere to Michigan's commercial code regarding advertising of their products, requiring all material negative aspects of these products to be stated in every promotion/representation/advertisement of these products in the marketplace.
- forbid public school to invade the personal privacy of their students on any subject such as sex or faith. I would stand against the adoption of the "3 R's" program for Michigan schools and students.
- end the states involvement in promoting any private sexual preferences.
- end all race based initiatives, and hate crime observances.
- stop universities from accepting out of state students at the expense of in-state students of Michigan taxpayers.
- move to have university coaches recognized as "deans" of their program/pursuit and follow the same pay scale.
- prohibit universities from becoming members of broadcast initiatives that require Michigan Citizens to subscribe, to watch public university sports programs for which they already support with their tax dollars.
- address the issues of crime and law enforcement by addressing a key component which is the decline in our culture and the quality of our citizens. I would assure that all law enforcement officers are provided the same constitutional protection as the average citizen including the right of self-defense.
- stop applying for and receiving federal grants, as the Federal Government is already in debt in excess of 30 trillions of dollars. There is no money.
- cease providing tax incentives or grants or purchase goods from foreign firms from countries that discourage or limit the sale of American products of any kind.
- make English the official language of Michigan.
- stop the practice of charging out-of-state property owners a higher tax rate.
- stop lending our military guard units to the federal government unless a specific military goal is defined and support that the use of military force is the answer to the problem.
- Require universities and colleges to consider the first 124 credit hours as undergraduate work for the use of purpose of awarding financial aid.

RICHARD OVERTON ...candidate 39th District Michigan House of Reps

Consider if you will;

Luke 11:11 ... King James Version: "If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?"

We are not giving our children the bread they need. We are selling them booze, gambling, drugs and if the state gets its way we'll be endorsing every deviant variant in sex and peddling it to them in school. As a father of three and a grandfather of eight, I want to put a stop to this. I'm running to impact that and make changes.

Schools everywhere under the guise of health education and diversity, will be teaching that almost every personal lifestyle is acceptable and should be respected, even celebrated. This is just plain wrong. The "state" has no business creating a state religion that looks at everything to be okay, and as a condition of our participation in society and even our workplace we must go along. Nothing could be more un-American. Believe me I know about this in the workplace. I fought it continually.

Matthew 10:33 King James Version: "But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven."

When we contemplate the passage above, we recall the disciple Peter who denied Christ as was foretold by our Lord. So we think if we are ever confronted with such a question we are compelled to acknowledge our faith, and most of us hope we are never put in that situation. But that's not all of it.

We've been told, by those who emulate Peter, that we should keep our faith to ourselves. In doing so aren't we denying our faith in Jesus before men? If we can't steer our culture for the good of our children and our children's children, openly and unapologetically by the Lord's guidance, aren't we just modern day versions of Paul?

I am deeply concerned about the state of our nation. When the declaration was written the founding fathers not only rejected the King of England as their ruler, but all Kings, Czars, Dukes, Emperors and the like – the entire "blue blood" system that ruled the world in 1775.

Instead they recruited patriots with the promise of a new life. A nation not ruled by a King, but by the principle that is the cornerstone of our republic – the belief in a creator that has his mark on us all, a God that sees us as equals. This reference to a creator ironically was not a religious statement but a political one. It was the single principle on which they declared the authority to revolt against the King.

Our current representative for the 39th District of Michigan has voted to support the liberal thinking that is taking us down this road. I'm asking your help. Please make my candidacy known. Invite me to speak at your church or other civic group. I've enclosed and introductory paper.

Thank you, and God Bless and have mercy on our nation.



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

May 14, 2024

Richard Overton
45282 Michigan 51
Decatur, MI 49045

Re: *Rushlow v. Overton*
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 24-033

Dear Mr. Overton:

The Department of State (Department) has received a formal complaint alleging you have violated MCL 169.247 of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA) by failing to include an identification statement on campaign handouts. A picture of the handout was included with the complaint; a copy of the complaint is enclosed.

The MCFA and corresponding administrative rules require a person who produces printed material that relates to an election include the phrase "Paid for by [name and address of the person who paid for the item]." MCL 169.247(1), R 169.36(2). A knowing violation constitutes a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.00, imprisonment for up to 93 days, or both. MCL 169.247(6).

Upon review, the evidence submitted supports the conclusion that a potential violation of the Act has occurred. From the outset, the Department must consider whether the materials fall within the ambit of the MCFA. Because the materials explicitly advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate, or for the passage or defeat of a ballot proposal, the materials contain express advocacy as defined by the Act. MCL 169.206(2)(j). As explained above, such materials must contain a "paid for by" statement listing the name and address of the committee purchasing the materials. However, the evidence shows that the materials at issue here omit part or all of that required statement. That absence supports the conclusion that a potential violation of the MCFA has occurred.

After reaching this conclusion, the Act requires the Department to "endeavor to correct the violation or prevent a further violation by using informal methods" if it finds that "there may be reason to believe that a violation ... has occurred [.]". MCL 169.215(10). The objective of an informal resolution is "to correct the violation or prevent a further violation." *Id.*

Given this, the Department concludes that a formal warning is a sufficient resolution to the complaint and is hereby advising you that MCL 169.247(1) and R 169.36(2) require you to print a complete and accurate identification statement on all campaign materials, consisting of the phrase "paid for by" followed by the full name and address of your committee.

Note that all printed materials referencing you or your candidacy produced in the future must include this identification statement. For all materials currently in circulation, the paid for by statement must be corrected. If this information has been included in your materials and you wish to rebut the Department's conclusion, you must respond in writing to the Department within 15 business days of the date of this letter otherwise the Department will treat the complaint as resolved.

Please be advised that this notice has served to remind you of your obligation under the Act to identify your printed matter and may be used in future proceedings as evidence that tends to establish a knowing violation of the Act. A knowing violation is a misdemeanor offense and may merit referral to the Attorney General for enforcement action. MCL 169.247(6), 215(10).

Sincerely,

Regulatory Section
Bureau of Elections
Michigan Department of State

Enclosure
c: Jacob Rushlow