



Michigan Department of State Campaign Finance Complaint Form

This complaint form may be used to file a complaint alleging that someone violated the [Michigan Campaign Finance Act \(MCFA\)](#). Electronic submission of the form to BOERegulatory@Michigan.gov is strongly recommended. 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 MATTHEW SCHONERT		Daytime telephone number +1 (231) 250-9931
Mailing address 22050 BOULDER AVE		
City EASTPOINTE	State MI	Zip 48021
Email (recommended) MRSCHONERT@GMAIL.COM		

Section 2. Alleged Violator (Respondent)

Name JOCELYN HOWARD		
Mailing address 28401 MOUND ROAD #1333		
City WARREN	State MI	Zip 48090
Email (recommended) JOCELYNHOWARD4CITYCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM		
Committee ID (optional)		

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

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

Section(s) of the MCFA alleged to be violated:

MCL 169.247(1)

Explain how these sections were violated:

Candidate's yard signs, fliers, and website do not include identifier required by MCL 169.247(1)

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

See attachments for photos and screenshot of website

You may also visit the website at <https://jocelynhowardforwarren.com>

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

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

07/18/2023

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.

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



Jocelyn Howard for Warren City Council

HOME WHAT YOU SAID YOU WANTED



Welcome

JOCELYN HOWARD
FOR WARREN,
MICHIGAN

A LEADER
COMMITTED TO A
BETTER WARREN

DONATE

IT'S ABOUT WARREN

Check out this great video!
Please donate any amount to advance this campaign.

<https://donorbox.org/jocelyn-howard-for-warren-city-council-at-large>



ABOUT US:



Who is Jocelyn Howard?

Jocelyn Howard has been a Warren resident for nearly 20 years and had served as the Warren Planning Commission chair for nearly a decade. She is a trusted leader and community advocate and supports a wide range of civic and neighborhood initiatives. Jocelyn is known for her ability to develop a consensus, while being a balanced thinker and a problem solver.

Jocelyn works in the education and non-profit arena to implement change that benefits industries, the underserved, and students. She is sought after to mitigate precieved problems and create pathways for success. She has recieved many awards and recognition for her service, but her reward is seeing lives changed. Jocelyn holds a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Behavior and a Master's degree in Business Administration.

Vision for Warren, Michigan

Warren is the 3rd largest city in Michigan yet, we need leadership and change that benefits our citizens. When I was chair of the Warren Planning Commission for the first time in 50 years, we were able to develop a new City Master Plan. This plan is the thoughts, desires, and ideas of the residents of Warren. But a plan needs implementation. I am prepared to take on this task. The plan requires us to focus on 3 key areas:

- 1) Creating better-paying jobs for Warren residents.
- 2) Partnering with businesses to support city beautification and parks.
- 3) Creating an environment where young families want to live and raise their families.

In the current Master Plan, our residents have spoken about the things that they want to see in Warren. We no longer have the time nor the inclination for bickering. It is time to move Warren forward.

As a city official, my job would be to: support the vision of the city, build partnerships both in and outside of the city, engage residents in townhall forums for their concerns, maintain a positive business climate, maintain our fire and police presence, attract new developments, promote educational initiatives, and improve/maintain our neighborhoods.



Community Service- The heart of my focus

Serving the community is the heart of building the community. Our focus has always been community engagement, blood drives, food drives, and advocating for those who are voiceless.

Community Service- The heart of my focus

Because it may be good with your family, doesn't mean it's good with everyone's family. Our goal is to be available to share resources with those who cannot afford the daily resources.



Keep in touch

Sign up to keep up with Jocelyn's scheduled events and community forums

Email

CONTACT US

Drop us a line!

Name

Email*

Message

This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Service](#) apply.

Better yet, see us in person!

Check back to see when we will be in your neighborhood.

Jocelyn Howard for Warren, Michigan

Hours

Today Closed ▼

PHOTOS AND EVENTS





JH *Jocelyn*
HOWARD
FOR CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

It's About **Warren.**
It's About **Us.**
It's About **Time.**

"Going **FORWARD** with **HOWARD**"



AIR VAC

Brittani RINGALI
CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 5



Jocelyn HOWARD
FOR CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

It's About **Warren.**
It's About **Us.**
It's About **Time.**

"Going FORWARD with **HOWARD**"

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

August 2, 2023

Jocelyn Howard
28401 Mound Rd. #1333
Warren, MI 48090

Re: *Schonert v. Howard*
Campaign Finance Complaint No. 23-049

Dear Ms. Howard,

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 a complete and correct identification statement on certain campaign-related materials. 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). Materials produced by anyone other than a candidate or the candidate committee are required to include the phrase "with regulated funds" after the paid for by statement. MCL 169.247(4). 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. The campaign yard signs, website, and fliers uses words of express advocacy by urging voters to elect Jocelyn Howard for City Council at large. The committee's name, address, and required disclaimer is omitted. Since this phrase is absent, the evidence supports the conclusion that a potential violation 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 and the phrase “with regulated funds.”

Note that all printed materials 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 at BOERegulatory@michigan.gov 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

c: Matthew Schonert

From: [Jocelyn Howard](#)
To: [MDOS-BOERegulatory](#)
Cc: [Mary Yancy](#)
Subject: Campaign Finance Complaint No. 23-049- Schonert v. Howard
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:10:09 AM
Attachments: [Campaign sign explanation SOS.pdf](#)

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

Dear Regulatory Department,

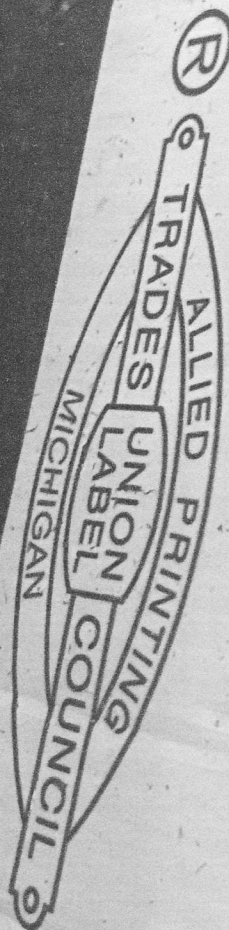
I am in receipt of the complaint filed alleging that I violated MCL 169.247, and omitting "paid for by name" on campaign signs. Please note the attached document that shows campaign signs with the attached statement attached. However, it can be pointed out that the ink faded by either sun or rain which made it not visible. We will do everything in our power to work with our printers to make sure this does not occur in the future. But, there was no negligence or intent on our part.

We will correct this on any and all future material. Thank you so much, and if there are any questions do not hesitate to reach me at 586-944-9076.

Jocelyn Howard

HOWARD

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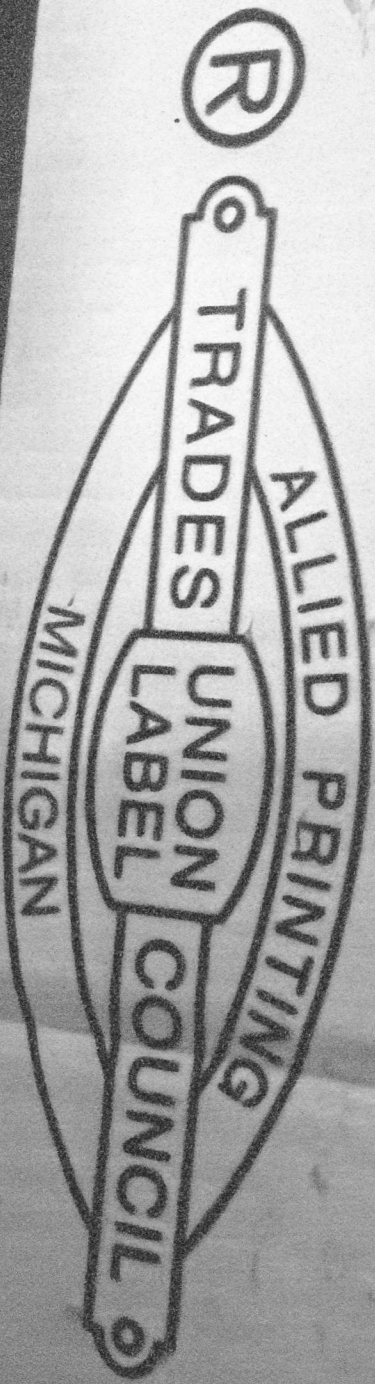
PAID For by FRIENDS OF
JOCELYN HOWARD
P.O. Box 1333, Warren 48090





PAIR
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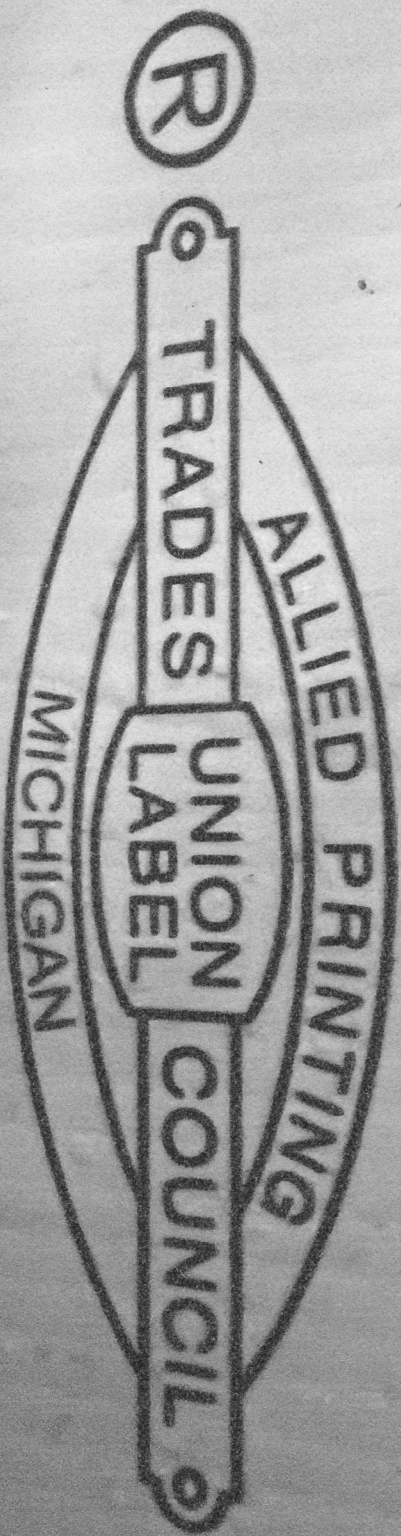




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P1 for b





PAID For by FRIENDS OF
JOCELYN HOWARD
P.O. Box 1333, Warren 48090

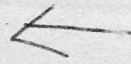


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