

Subject: Re: FW: Candidate Lists
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2014 16:28:48 -0400
From: John Anthony La Pietra <jalp5dai@att.net>
To: Quiroga, Evelyn (MDOS) <QuirogaE1@michigan.gov>

Dear Ms. Quiroga:

It has been seven and a half weeks since my most recent e-mail to you, responding to your message saying that the Bureau would start listing general-election candidates on line "soon".

You told me that on May 23 – the week after the Libertarian Party of Michigan held its state convention and nominated its candidates for the general election in November. It has also now been five and a half weeks since the Green Party of Michigan held its convention June 7-8, after which I delivered paperwork to the Bureau myself on the 9th. And it was two and a half weeks ago that the US Taxpayers Party of Michigan turned in all its nomination paperwork June 30 after convening on the 28th.

And yet the Bureau has not done anything to inform voters about any of these nominees. (Or others; the Natural Law Party may not have submitted its nominees to the Bureau yet – but NPA/ "No Party Affiliation" candidates who have already filed their qualifying petitions deserve to be mentioned as well.)

This failure can be plainly seen in the continued emptiness of the list page set up by the Bureau in March:

http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/election/candlist/14GEN/14GEN_CL.HTM

This is important information – and not only for those people actively involved in the alternative (or "non-primary") parties. 46% of voters polled by Gallup last month self-identified as neither Republicans nor Democrats:

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/15370/party-affiliation.aspx>

Add to that 46% any Democrats or Republicans who also want to consider voting strategically in the primary, and we see that a probable majority of Michigan voters has an interest in knowing all their alternatives before August 5.

I urge the Bureau to act now, with the "fairness and evenhandedness" the Michigan Supreme Court recognized over 30 years ago as a vital element of the Constitutional charge to preserve the purity of elections by protecting "the right of qualified voters, regardless of their political persuasion, to cast their votes effectively".

And time is short. 4pm tomorrow is the deadline for NPA candidates to file qualifying petitions. Friday will be 18 days before the primary – and 18 days that you have not posted information on the US Taxpayers candidates since their paperwork was filed with you. You have similarly denied voters notice of Green and Libertarian nominees for 39 and 60 days respectively.

I hope to hear from you in the next few days, with the word that the Bureau has finally posted the information it has about all nominees who have qualified for the November 4 ballot on the Webpage created for that purpose – and has provided links to that list right next to all existing links to the August 5 primary-candidates list. If this is done "soon", the Secretary of State may be spared the trouble and expense of more urgent action to provide voters with the necessary information at the polls.

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Green Party of Michigan
Statewide Elections Co-ordinator
Calhoun County Co-ordinator
and
2014 candidate for Attorney General

John Anthony La Pietra – Attorney General for the People
386 Boyer Court
Marshall, MI 49068
Facebook: [jalp4thePeople](#)

Some of my e-mails are intended to include legal information provided in the course of a case – or of deciding whether or not to take on a case. So their contents are private, and privileged, to the extent the law says they are. If you got this e-mail but weren't supposed to have gotten it, please let me know – and then delete the contents from your computer. Thank you.

I do not consent to collection, storage, or any other use of any of my e-mails (or any related metadata) by anyone to whom the e-mail is not directly addressed – whether government agencies, corporations, or individuals.

At 1:31pm on 5/24/2014, John Anthony La Pietra wrote:

> Dear Ms. Quiroga:
>
> Thank you for responding so promptly. I look forward to seeing
> the list up – and linked. And I will work to make sure the
> Bureau gets prompt notice of GPMI's 2014 convention
> nominees Monday, June 9.
>
> jalp
>
>
> Quiroga, Evelyn (MDOS) wrote:
>
>> John:
>>
>> I received your email below. The General Election Candidate
>> Listing will be posted soon. I can't guarantee a date however. e

>>
>> Evelyn Quiroga, Director
>> Disclosure Data Division
>> Michigan Bureau of Elections
>> Phone: 517.335.2790
>>
>> Follow Us On Twitter Follow us on Twitter @MichCFR
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: SOS, Disclosure Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 11:11 AM
>> To: Quiroga, Evelyn (MDOS)
>> Subject: FW: Candidate Lists
>>
>> Disclosure email.
>>
>> Lucinda J. Sheltroun, Departmental Technician Bureau of
>> Elections/Office of the Great Seal
>> Phone: 517-335-2659 FAX: 517-373-0941
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: John Anthony La Pietra [mailto:jalp5dai@att.net]
>> Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 3:26 AM
>> To: Quiroga, Evelyn (MDOS)
>> Cc: SOS, Disclosure
>> Subject: Re: Candidate Lists
>>
>> Dear Ms. Quiroga:
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>>
>> I am writing to follow up on one point of last month's
>> correspondence. As you are aware, the Libertarian Party of
>> Michigan held its state convention this past Saturday, May
>> 17 – and nominated a number of candidates, some of whom
>> are mentioned on their Website:
>>
>> <http://michiganlp.org/>
>>
>> I hope to see these candidates on the Bureau's 2014
>> general-election candidates list:
>>
>> http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/election/candlist/14GEN/14GEN_CL.HTM
>>
>> by the end of this week – especially since the corresponding
>> primary-election candidates list:
>>
>> http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/election/candlist/14PRI/14PRI_CL.HTM
>>
>> is at the stage where little if any maintenance is needed.
>> Similarly, I look forward to seeing a link to the general-
>> election list join the one already present for the primary-
>> election list at the top of the base "Elections in Michigan" page:
>>
>> <http://www.michigan.gov/sos/1,1607,7-127-1633---00.html>
>>
>> and that the two lists are treated equally in all postings across
>> state Websites, even as the general-election list grows with
>> the addition of candidates from other alternative parties
>> (including my own Green Party) and candidates of No Party
>> Affiliation. This is necessary for voters to have a fair chance

>> to find out, as they consider how (or whether) to vote in the
>> August 5 primary, about alternatives they will also have
>> available to choose from on November 4.
>>
>> As always, I thank you in advance for your time and your effort
>> in responding to this message – and to the situation it describes.
>>
>>
>> John Anthony La Pietra
>> (NOTE: John is my first name,
>> and Anthony is my middle name . . .
>> but I usually use them together –
>> partly to honor my late father Anthony,
>> and partly so people are less likely to think
>> my last name is "Pietra" and my middle name is "La")
>>
>> On 4/24/2014, John Anthony wrote:
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>>
>>> Dear Ms. Quiroga,
>>>
>>>
>>> I have been watching the list of candidates who filed petitions
>>> or paid fees to appear on the August 5 primary ballot. This list
>>> has added a few candidates in the past two days (since Tues-
>>> day's filing deadline), but there has been no update now since
>>> about 10:30 this morning. I know the list may be subject to
>>> shrinkage if anyone withdraws her/his name – but can you tell
>>> me if it now has all the additions it will get? (That is, have you
>>> processed all filings made to the Bureau directly and received
>>> updates from all counties whose borders encompass any full
>>> legislative districts?)
>>>
>>> I am also pleased to see that you have set up a page for
>>> general-election candidates already. As you probably
>>> already know, three of the four alternative parties with
>>> columns on the ballot have scheduled nominating
>>> conventions already. The Libertarians will hold their
>>> convention on May 17; the US Taxpayers Party will convene
>>> on June 28. We Michigan Greens will gather for our statewide
>>> convention June 7-8; I do not yet know of any county
>>> caucuses, though of course it is still possible that one or
>>> more county groups may hold caucuses by or before the
>>> primary date. If that happens, I will make sure that you and
>>> the Bureau are notified. And I will be watching to see the
>>> candidates go up on the general-election page, and a link to
>>> that page go up next to the primary list's link on the base
>>> "Elections in Michigan" page (and wherever else it appears).
>>>
>>> I know you have been a good contact person for this issue in
>>> past years, so I am writing you again. If there is someone else
>>> I should be contacting instead, please feel free to let me know.
>>> (In fact, if there [is] a directory somewhere with names, e-mails,
>>> and areas of responsibility of people at the Bureau, I would be
>>> happy to know where it is and use it.) Either way, I thank you
>>> in advance for your time and attention to this request – and for
>>> your efforts so far on the list in general.