



**MICHIGAN
ASSOCIATION
OF MAYORS**

**So now you are elected...nothing to worry about
right?**

**Christopher J. Johnson
MML General Counsel**



Big Amendment to the Election Law in 2018

- The legislature adds a new requirement to MCL 168.558.
- Lets review the text of the new requirement...

MCL 168.558(4) states...

An affidavit of identity must include a statement that as of the date of the affidavit, all statements, reports, late filing fees, and fines required of the candidate or any candidate committee organized to support the candidate's election under the Michigan campaign finance act, 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 to 169.282, have been filed or paid An officer shall not certify to the board of election commissioners the name of a candidate who fails to comply with this section, or the name of a candidate who executes an affidavit of identity that contains a false statement with regard to any information or statement required under this section.

What does this really mean?

- Often, candidates are their own treasurers.
- Even if you have someone else as the treasurer, it is generally a thankless job. After the election, the pressure is off and complacency occurs.

What does this really mean?

- Make sure that your treasurer is completely up to date on the filing of reports.
- Make sure that any fine that has been imposed has been paid.
- Before signing and dating the affidavit of identity!

What does this really mean?

There are several former and about to be former mayors throughout Michigan that wished they had payed attention to this **IMPORTANT** detail.

It even happened to one of our vice presidents of the league...

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

MATTIE McKINNEY HATCHETT,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

v

PONTIAC CITY ELECTION COMMISSION,

Defendant-Appellant,

and

GARLAND DOYLE,

Defendant-Appellee,

UNPUBLISHED

June 11, 2021

No. 357434

Oakland Circuit Court

LC No. 2021-187935-AW

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