

NEWS ALERT

July 27, 2016

Schuette asked to investigate Bloomfield Twp.email scandal

Bloomfield Township, MI -- Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette has been asked to probe the breach of privacy, misuse of public resources and unauthorized disclosure of resident emails by Township Supervisor Leo Savoie and Clerk Jan Roncelli.

A formal complaint, filed July 25, 2016 by resident Alice Wachol, a retired Consulting Principal for Fortune 500 Company, alleges that Supervisor Savoie improperly sought and received a list of resident's emails from Clerk Roncelli through a Freedom of Information Request (FOIA). These residents had signed up to receive e-newsletters about general township activities.

According to the complaint, Savoie's use of this information "was formatted intentionally to deceive the public and lead them to believe it was an official communication." In fact, the list was used to solicit campaign support for Savoie and township politicians he supports.

Savoie claims township attorney Bill Hampton gave him approval to request and use the list. Hampton acknowledged his role. A similar FOIA request from another citizen was denied just days after Savoie's was approved.

During the July 11th Board of Trustees meeting, Savoie admitted it was an improper operation - after he and his slate benefited from the reckless act.

Saviors' abuse of the public's trust is a classic example of the kind of power politics that Bloomfield Township residents have become increasingly wary. Liberation from such capricious and excessive exploits can come from an expeditious investigation by A.G. Schuette and a full measure of consequences for all involved.

More information regarding the Bloomfield Township email scandal can be obtained from Alice Wachol at awachol@gmail.com or at [313.919.3105](tel:313.919.3105)