

November 27, 2019

Office of General Council
Federal Election Commission
1050 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20463

RECEIVED
FEDERAL MAIL CENTER
2019 DEC -9 AM 9:57

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION

2019 DEC -9 AM 11:26

MUR # 7667

DEC 9 2019

Re: Complaint Against McDermott for Congress (C00726018)

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Charles Kallas, the “complainant”, and I’m writing you as Chairman of the Hammond Republican Party in Hammond, Indiana. As part of our political process we regularly obtain and analyze various politically connected information and public records to ensure accountability and transparency in our local community. When I along with other residents of Hammond discover that public officials or their campaigns have acted negligently or fraudulently, we tend to be vocal and try to have the matters resolved before it becomes an issue.

I bring to your attention, the “respondent”, McDermott for Congress (C00726018) the committee for Candidate Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. (H0IN01135), for the Indiana 1st Congressional District and what I believe to be violation by this Candidate.

I. Factual Summary

1. Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. is a candidate for U.S Representatives in Indiana’s 1st Congressional District with the committee McDermott for Congress which was announced on November 6, 2019.
2. Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. is the current Mayor of Hammond, Indiana and re-elected on November 5, 2019.
3. On November 8, 2019 he appeared on local radio network, WJOB, and formally announced that the weekly show was now “paid for and authorized by McDermott for Congress” as heard in the following URL:
<https://www.facebook.com/WJOB.1230/videos/2485466478205323/>
4. On or about November 12, I along with other residents of Hammond received our bi-monthly water bill from the Hammond Water Department which included a newsletter, as shown in ‘Exhibit A’, that had a section on the upper right side of the page stating the following: “Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. invites you to tune into WJOB AM 1230 on Friday mornings at 7:45-8:30am. Please feel free to call in and talk to the Mayor. 219.845.1100”
5. This section of the newsletter is acting as advertisement for the McDermott for Congress show and its being portrayed as official city sponsored event by the Mayor. There was no mention, or disclosure, of who was paying for the McDermott for Congress ad and is

interpreted that the Mayor is using his political office to advance his campaign.

6. On November 15, 2019, I as Hammond Republican Chairman issued a press release regarding this information and stated that a formal FEC complaint would be filed.
7. On November 17, 2019, the Mayor brought up the history of “his” WJOB show and claimed that ‘his’ WJOB show can be a way for residents of Hammond to contact him concerning city issues. URL link:
<https://www.facebook.com/WJOB.1230/videos/797476330673105/>
8. Since the McDermott for Congress Committee is paying for the WJOB show, the Mayor doesn’t allow call-ins from individuals he deems invalid. As a result, it’s not a true official government contact method for the Mayor because of the bias and censorship towards select resident(s).
9. The Mayor, in the past, has censored Ms. Marsha Hahney (now deceased) from his radio show. In August 2010, “Hahney filed a federal lawsuit against the city of Hammond, accusing Mayor Tom McDermott Jr. and other city employees of harassment, ridicule and libel in their attempts to prevent her from posting political comments on various Internet message boards. She also alleged McDermott made false statements about her on his WJOB radio show, and refused to let her call into the show.” This is shown in ‘Exhibit B’ and which is the following URL:
<https://chicago.cbslocal.com/2011/02/15/woman-dies-after-hammond-ind-fire/>
10. The Mayor banned Mr. John Naurcy, a frequent WJOB radio caller known as ‘Lefty’, from his radio show. As explained in the following URL:
https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-dt5g8-53b702?fbclid=IwAR2cZTCMgMuCKEq9PW0U4GJBZlsQDT4BX71U6L6V_-PuHkgnKQqhMgxK2U#.WWvoJY1tKn4.facebook
11. The Mayor has displayed similar behavior with other individuals regarding ‘his’ WJOB show going as far as banning, censoring, rejecting and degrading callers. If he can deem anyone in the community invalid of voicing their concerns it makes it an unreliable way to communicate to an elected official.

II. Conclusion

For these reasons, I request a full, formal investigation into the advertisement and mailer using taxpayer resources used by Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. committee by portraying it as official government business. These actions are particularly egregious because they flagrantly promote their illegal advertisement activities, lawlessness, and disrespect for the rule of law.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

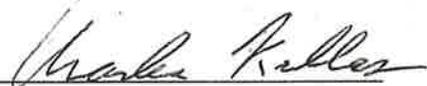


Charles Kallas

Charles Kallas
Hammond Republican Chairman

Hammond, IN 46323

I hereby swear, to the best of knowledge and belief, that the foregoing is true and correct.



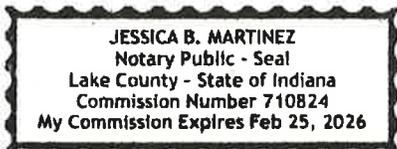
Charles Kallas

Signed and sworn to before me on this 27th day of November, 2019, by

Charles Kallas, Hammond Republican Chairman.


Notary

My Commission Expires: 02-25-2026



HAMMOND NEWS YOU CAN USE:

MAYOR'S NIGHT OUT

is typically the 3rd or 4th
 Wednesday of the month.
 Visit www.gohammond.com
 for information on when the Mayor
 will be in your district!
 Watch **MAYOR'S NIGHT OUT**
 on www.gohammond.tv
 each month shortly after the event.

Video of Mayor's Night Out will be available for 60 days.



Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. invites you to tune into WJOB AM 1230 on Friday mornings at 7:45-8:30am. Please feel free to call in and talk to the Mayor. 219.845.1100

VISIT

FOR HAMMOND'S LATEST EVENTS

<http://gohammond.com/calendar/>

YARD WASTE PROGRAM

Public Works will start picking up the 30 gallon paper, biodegradable yard waste bags on a regular weekly basis starting the week of April 15th (weather permitting) and will end the week of December 9th. Bags must not weigh more than 50 lbs. They must not be contaminated with other material such as paper, plastic or dirt, or they will not be picked up. Only grass and leaves can be placed in the yard waste bags. They will be picked up on your garbage pick-up day. Please set them out the night before to ensure on-time pick up. 853-6431 with any questions.

Register at Hammond Civic Center
 Call 219-853-6378 for more information
 Deadline to register: November 2th

FINGER-PAINTING PICASSOS

November 12, 19: Dec
 6:00pm - 7:00p
 Ages 2-4 with pa
 Hammond Civic C
 5825 Sohl Av

Children will work with paints, glue, paper
 All supplies borrowed apron an
 Special Holiday activity on

PROGRAM COST
 MINIMUM PARTICIP
 MAXIMUM PARTICIP

BUY ONLINE & SAVE BIG!
 50% OFF
 FIRST 100 ADULTS

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED & FREE PARKING

Yes! we have

- Elephants
- Tigers
- Horses

2019 ORAK

spectacularcircus.com

SHRINE CIRCUS

ALL NEW

PRODUCED BY CAIDEN INT'L CIRCUS

HURRY!
 FIRST 100 ADULTS PAY
JUST \$10
 Online at
spectacularcircus.com

Free Pass VALID with this offer

GENERAL ADMISSION
ADULTS \$20
CHILDREN \$10
 (12 yrs and under)

RESERVED SEATING BOX SEATS \$22

FREE PASS can be used for \$10 Discount on Reserved Seat for a child only.

HAMMOND CIVIC CENTER
 5825 Sohl Avenue, Hammond, IN 46320

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2019	NOVEMBER 30th, 2019 11:00am, 3:00pm & 7:00pm	DECEMBER 1st, 2019 1:30pm & 5:30pm

See spectacularcircus.com or Hammond Civic Center 9am to 4pm. The Hammond Civic Center Box Office is open every day for all performances. Reserved seats may be purchased at the Civic Center at 219-853-6378.

Come 1 hour before show times for family fun.

Come Ride the exotic animals and meet the circus stars.

Proceeds are for the benefit of ORAK Shriners. Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.

Exhibit 'A'

ING PARTY

ember 14 from 11am until 2pm. \$35 per person, cash credit card or bond Park Department. All materials are included. Space is limited. 219-853-6378 to reserve your spot.

PARTY OR SPECIAL EVENT

Room. Call 659-7678.

Exhibit 'B'

Former Newspaper Writer Dies After Hammond, Ind., Fire

February 15, 2011 at 9:08 am Filed Under: [death](#), [Fire](#), [Hammond, Indiana](#), [Marsha Harvey](#)



Silhouette Of Firefighter. File Photo. (Nate Azark/WBBM)

UPDATED 02/16/11 9:35 a.m.

HAMMOND, Ind. (STMW) — A former Northwest Indiana Post-Tribune reporter died Monday afternoon from injuries suffered in a fire at her Hammond, Ind. apartment.

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MOST VIEWED



19-Year-Old Student Found Dead In Car In UIC Parking Lot





Photo provided by Teas

Marsha Hahney, 58, suffered smoke inhalation, but the exact cause of death is still undetermined, according to the Cook County, Ill. Medical Examiner's Office. Hahney died at 4:26 p.m. Monday at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill.

The fire broke out at Hahney's apartment at 50 Brunswick St., around 10 p.m. Sunday.

Firefighters found Hahney unconscious behind the upstairs apartment door. At first they couldn't find a pulse, but paramedics stabilized her and transported her to Franciscan St. Margaret Health hospital in Hammond before she was flown to Illinois.

Two other residents were not injured, but they are staying with relatives since the building was badly damaged.

Hahney worked for the Post-Tribune for several years, in addition to WJOB and The Times.

Post-Tribune staff writer Lori Caldwell met Hahney when they both worked as correspondents. She recalled Hahney's dedication to telling the full story.

"For many years, Marsha Hahney was the 'go-to' correspondent when short-handed editors needed someone to cover a story at the last minute," Caldwell said. "She approached her assignments with her trademark curiosity and tenacity. She was particularly interested in environmental issues and took time to educate herself about the topics she wrote about and the people who made decisions that affected life in Northwest Indiana."

Hahney was committed to keeping public officials honest, particularly when they violated the state's Open Door law.

"Marsha looked at the motives behind actions taken by public officials and often challenged their words and deeds," Caldwell said.

Hahney also worked for the Hammond Street Department.



Lanes Of Dan Ryan Expressway Shut Down When Shooting Victim Runs Into Traffic



Body Of Missing Woman, Adriana Saucedo, Found In Abandoned Gary Elementary School, 3 Teen Suspects Identified



Five Women Escape Car Before It Bursts Into Flames On Interstate 55



6 Years After Marriage Equality Becomes Law In Illinois, Number Of Same-Sex Couples To Marry In Cook County Poised To Pass 15,000



Woman, Man Shot After Trying To Escape Gunman, Crashing Car In Auburn-Gresham



FOUND: Chicago Fire Department's Lost Firehouse Dog



Alderman Says Gangs Have Left At Least 13 Blocks In The Dark In Brighton Park, And Problem Is Getting Worse



3 Shot In Brawl Involving Dozens At Portage, Indiana Bar

2019 CAMRY

**0% APR FOR 60 MONTHS WITH
\$16.67 PER \$1,000 BORROWED**

**BLACK
FRIDAY**

Prototype shown with options.
[View disclaimer.](#)

 **TOYOTA**



SEE OFFERS

FIND A DEALER

In August, Hahney filed a federal lawsuit against the city of Hammond, accusing Mayor Tom McDermott Jr. and other city employees of harassment, ridicule and libel in their attempts to prevent her from posting political comments on various Internet message boards. She also alleged McDermott made false statements about her on his WJOB radio show, and refused to let her call into the show. She accused city employee Steve Fowler of releasing false medical information about her on a message board.

Hammond Fire Inspector Kevin Margraf said fire officials haven't found what started the fire. Investigators from the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the building owners' insurance company will convene at the property on Thursday.

Margraf said an ATF inspector was brought in to avoid the appearance of impropriety since Hahney had filed suit against the city.

The house has been boarded up and a security fence was erected, in addition to 24-hour police protection.

-Post-Tribune, via the Sun-Times Media Wire

(Source: Sun-Times Media Wire © Chicago Sun-Times 2011. All Rights Reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.)

TabletFeed

Woman, Man Shot After Trying To Escape, Crashing In Auburn...

A man and woman were shot and wounded after being followed and crashing their car in the Auburn-Gresham community early Saturday, police said.

How To Entirely Empty Your Bowels Every Morning - Top Surgeon Explains How

Gundry MD | Supplement | Sponsored

23 Ridiculously Cool Gadgets of 2019

Weekly Trends | Sponsored

Do This If Your Dog Scoots Across The Floor

Ultimate Pet Nutrition Nutra Thrive Supplement | Sponsored

Avoid These States When Retiring, USA States Ranked From Worst To Best

Finance101 | Sponsored

If You Can Qualify for Any Credit Card, These Are the Top 6