

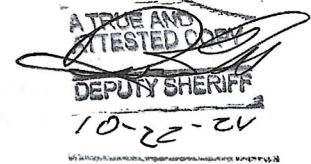
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| STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT 30th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY | SUMMONS | CASE NUMBER 24 - 830 -CZ |
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| Court address 313 W. Kalamazoo St. 1st Floor, Lansing, MI 48933 | Court telephone number (517) 483-6500 |
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| Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone number DANA NESSEL, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN Michigan Department of Attorney General-COD P.O. Box 30736 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 335-7632 |
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| Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number Brien Winfield Heckman (P76006) Michigan Department of Attorney General Corporate Oversight Division P.O. Box 30736 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 335-7632 |
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| Defendant's name, address, and telephone number DONALD PELTIER 356 Granby Road South Hadley, MA 01705 |
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Instructions: Check the items below that apply to you and provide any required information. Submit this form to the court clerk along with your complaint and, if necessary, a case inventory addendum (MC 21). The summons section will be completed by the court clerk.

Domestic Relations Case

- There are no pending or resolved cases within the jurisdiction of the family division of the circuit court involving the family or family members of the person(s) who are the subject of the complaint.
- There is one or more pending or resolved cases within the jurisdiction of the family division of the circuit court involving the family or family members of the person(s) who are the subject of the complaint. I have separately filed a completed confidential case inventory (MC 21) listing those cases.
- It is unknown if there are pending or resolved cases within the jurisdiction of the family division of the circuit court involving the family or family members of the person(s) who are the subject of the complaint.

Civil Case

- This is a business case in which all or part of the action includes a business or commercial dispute under MCL 600.8035.
- MDHHS and a contracted health plan may have a right to recover expenses in this case. I certify that notice and a copy of the complaint will be provided to MDHHS and (if applicable) the contracted health plan in accordance with MCL 400.106(4).
- There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint.
- A civil action between these parties or other parties arising out of the transaction or occurrence alleged in the complaint has

been previously filed in this court, _____ Court, where it was given case number _____ and assigned to Judge _____

The action remains is no longer pending.

Summons section completed by court clerk.

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

1. You are being sued.
2. **YOU HAVE 21 DAYS** after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to **file a written answer with the court** and serve a copy on the other party **or take other lawful action with the court** (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).
3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
4. If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

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|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Issue date OCT - 8 2024 | Expiration date* JAN - 7 2025 | Court clerk <i>[Signature]</i> |
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*This summons is invalid unless served on or before its expiration date. This document must be sealed by the deal of the court.

PROOF OF SERVICE

TO PROCESS SERVER: You must serve the summons and complaint and file proof of service with the court clerk before the expiration date on the summons. If you are unable to complete service, you must return this original and all copies to the court clerk.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE / NONSERVICE

I served personally by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, and delivery restricted to the addressee (copy of return receipt attached) a copy of the summons and the complaint, together with the attachments listed below, on:

I have attempted to serve a copy of the summons and complaint, together with the attachments listed below, and have been unable to complete service on:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name | Date and time of service |
| Place or address of service | |
| Attachments (if any) | |

I am a sheriff, deputy sheriff, bailiff, appointed court officer or attorney for a party.

I am a legally competent adult who is not a party or an officer of a corporate party. I declare under the penalties of perjury that this certificate of service has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------------|
| Service fee \$ | Miles traveled | Fee \$ | |
| Incorrect address fee \$ | Miles traveled | Fee \$ | TOTAL FEE \$ |

Signature _____
Name (type or print) _____

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SERVICE

I acknowledge that I have received service of a copy of the summons and complaint, together with

_____ on _____
Attachments (if any) Date and time

_____ on behalf of _____
Signature

Name (type or print)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 30TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
INGHAM COUNTY

DANA NESSEL, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF
THE STATE OF MICHIGAN,

Plaintiff,

No. 2024- 830 - CZ

v

HON. JUDGE WINFELD HECKMAN STOKES

DONALD PELTIER,

Defendant.

Brien Winfield Heckman (P76006)
Attorney for Plaintiff
Michigan Department of Attorney General
Corporate Oversight Division
P.O. Box 30736
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7632

COMPLAINT

Attorney General Dana Nessel, by and through Assistant Attorney General Brien Winfield Heckman, brings this Complaint for Money Had and Received, and other Equitable Relief (Complaint). Under this Complaint, the Attorney General makes the following allegations.

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is the Attorney General of the State of Michigan, appearing on

behalf of the People of the State of Michigan, pursuant to her statutory and common law authority to obtain fines, injunctive relief, and through *parens patriae* authority to address the wrongfully obtained funds from Michigan-based donors.

2. Defendant, Donald Peltier, is an individual, residing at 356 Granby Road South Hadley, MA 01705.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendant because he has been transacting business throughout Michigan.

4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this Complaint because it includes a request for injunctive relief pursuant to MCR 3.310.

5. Ingham County is an appropriate venue for this action because it is the county in which the seat of state government is located, and the action is commenced by the Attorney General in the name and for the benefit of the People of the State of Michigan. MCL 600.1631.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant, Donald Peltier, created, operated, administered, controlled, or otherwise used around a half-dozen websites that falsely purported an affiliation with the Democratic Party, Republican Party, candidates thereof, or associated organizations, including but not limited to the following:

- a. DEMOCRATIC.WEBSITE,
- b. KAMALA-HARRIS.ORG,
- c. democraticnationalcommittee.co,

- d. NATIONALCOMMITTEE.DEMOCRAT,
- e. maf.democrat,
- f. REPUBLICANNATIONAL.NET,
- g. REPUBLICANNATIONALCOMMITTEE.NET,
- h. REPUBLICANNATIONALCOMMITTEE.ORG.

7. The above websites either had a donation tab or through links or redirects ended up at a website that had a donation tab.

8. Defendant sought to obtain donations through the website names.

9. Defendant used false “group” representations and used images of prominent Democratic party members on democraticnationalcommittee.co and maf.democrat to further the fraud:

- a. “Democrat”
- b. “Partner With Us”
- c. “We are eager to hear from you”
- d. “Help us to build a better tomorrow”
- e. “We need the help of volunteers like you.”
- f. “We’re counting on our best supporters like you to help us stand up to Trump and the Republicans”
- g. “We believe that cooperation is better than conflict”
- h. “The Democrat party has led the fight for LGBT rights, health care and workers' rights. We are the party of Joe Biden and FDR”
- i. “About Us” tab shows a picture of Chuck Schumer and prominent Democratic Party members.

10. Defendant used false “group” representations and used images of prominent Republican party members on republicannationalcommittee.org to further the fraud:

a. “Republican” or “Republicans”

b. “Show your Support ... Republicans are counting on your support to fight the Liberal agenda, hold the Democrats accountable, and support the America First agenda. We thank you for your generous contributions.”

c. “Contact us today and tell us what we can do to help you make a better tomorrow. We are eager to hear from you. Let us know your questions, suggestions and concerns by filling out the contact form below.”

d. “About Us” tab shows images of well-known Republican Party members.

11. Upon information and belief, Defendant makes other false statements on the websites to buttress (make more believable) his false representations of association:

a. “Copyright Progressive Media” and “Copyright 2024 Progressive Media”

b. “Paid for by the Progressive Media”

c. “© 2024 Conservative Media Group”

12. The Defendant obtained money from Michigan residents by use of donation tabs connected with some of the websites.

COUNT I — Money Had and Received

13. The Attorney General incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 12 as though fully set forth here.

14. Defendant solicited money from Michigan residents by using websites intended to mislead potential donors into believing they were donating to a political party, candidate, or associated or affiliated organization.

15. The Defendant's received a benefit from the donors and it would be inequitable for him to retain it.

COUNT II— Nuisance

16. The Attorney General incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 15 as though fully set forth here.

17. Under MCL 750.218(1), it is illegal for a person to obtain money under false pretenses. Through the websites described in this Complaint, Defendant obtained payments under false pretenses from Michigan residents within the meaning of this statute.

18. Further, it is illegal to attempt to commit a crime under MCL 750.92.

19. The Defendant's scheme of obtaining money by way of false internet solicitations harms the People of the State of Michigan.

20. Through the violations of MCL 750.218, and MCL 750.92, Defendant engaged in an activity constituting a common law nuisance. The Attorney General has broad authority to bring a civil action enjoining such nuisances. *Attorney Gen v PowerPick Club*, 287 Mich App 13, 44 (2010) (citing *Attorney General, ex rel Optometry Bd of Examiners v Peterson*, 381 Mich 445, 465-466 (1969))

RELIEF REQUESTED

Accordingly, the Attorney General respectfully requests that this Court enter

an order granting the following relief:

- a. Defendant should be permanently enjoined from making any solicitations to Michigan individuals or entities through mailings, electronic mail, internet transactions, telemarketing activities, or any other means, by way of false representations.
- b. Defendant should be fined the maximum amount permitted under the law.
- c. Defendant should be enjoined from retaining any funds received from Michigan individuals or entities, or otherwise be granted equitable relief in regards thereto.
- d. The Attorney General should be awarded damages resulting from the Defendant's fraudulent misrepresentations, including disgorgement of all resulting revenues.
- e. The Attorney General should be awarded her costs and attorney fees.
- f. Any other relief the Court deems appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Brien Winfield Heckman
Brien Winfield Heckman (P76006)
Attorney for Plaintiff
Michigan Department of Attorney General
Corporate Oversight Division
P.O. Box 30736
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7632
HeckmanB1@michigan.gov

Date: October 08, 2024