

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

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CHRISTIAN KLEINJANS,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 1:24-CV- 643

Hon. Hala Y. Jarbou

v.

M. SCOTT KORPAK, MATTHEW SHANE,  
and ERIN MOORE, in their official  
and personal capacities,

Defendants.

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**DECLARATION OF MARK NORTHRUP**

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Mark Northrup states:

1. I am the Mayor of the City of Hudsonville, Michigan, and an elected member of the Hudsonville City Commission, where I have served since 2013.
2. I am a Republican. In the 2022 elections for Ottawa County Commission candidates, I endorsed Joe Moss, who was running in the Republican primary in my County Commission district under the Ottawa Impact banner.
3. In late December 2022, after Moss won the Republican party primary and the general election in November 2022 for a Commission seat, Moss telephoned me. I was aware that Moss was (and is) the leader of the Ottawa Impact political action committee. This telephone call was the first time prior to that, or since, that

he and I have spoken directly. At that time, it had been reported in local media that the Hudsonville City Commission had selected a candidate for its new City Manager, but the City Commission was in the process of negotiating that individual's contract with him.

4. When Moss called me, he said that he had heard that Hudsonville was negotiating a contract with a new City Manager. Then Moss told me that he "had done research on" our selection for City Manager. Moss told me "don't hire him." Moss said that Hudsonville should not go through with the hire because Moss alleged that our candidate for the City Manager job was a Democrat in college.

5. I told Moss that the City's hire was none of his business, and that it was the City of Hudsonville's business to decide who its City Manager should be. That quickly ended the telephone call between Moss and me.

6. The City Manager job is non-partisan, as are all of the City employment positions. In the City of Hudsonville, we pride ourselves in looking for the most qualified person for every job and hiring those individuals, not getting mired in party politics that have nothing to do with the efficient running of local government.

7. I am currently running in the 2024 Republican primary for the Ottawa County Commission, seeking to unseat Moss.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this statement is correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated: July 2, 2024

*Mark Northrup*  
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Mark Northrup

*Julie Ann Mast*  
JULIE ANN MAST  
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA  
My Commission Expires October 7, 2024  
Acting in the County of *Gen*