



**Richard L. Baird**  
**4755 Hawk Hollow Drive East**  
**Bath, MI 48808**

September 4, 2014

**VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL WITH CONFIRMED DELIVERY & FAX: (517) 487-5213;  
(313) 222-6774**

Ms. Karla Swift  
Michigan State AFL-CIO  
419 Washington Square South, Ste. 200  
Lansing, MI 48933

Mr. Stephen Henderson  
Detroit Free Press  
615 W. Lafayette Blvd.  
Detroit, MI 48226

**Re: Notice of Libel and Request for Retraction**

Dear Ms. Swift and Mr. Henderson,

Under the right given me by Michigan Compiled Law 600.2911(2)(b), I write to demand the immediate retraction and correction of the false and derogatory statements you published in the Detroit Free Press under the header *Rick Snyder paying price for his underlings' actions* on August 30, 2014. These statements were intentionally and unequivocally designed to harm my professional reputation, paint me in a false light, and damage my existing contractual relationships. The substantially inaccurate accusations include, but are not limited to:

1. Richard Baird is an individual who "breaks the law to illegally reduce [a tax bill]...That's exactly what happened when Richard Baird moved to Michigan..."
2. Richard Baird "claimed both tax deductions [in Michigan and Illinois]."
3. Richard Baird committed a "case of voter fraud."
4. Richard Baird is "a certified public accountant..."
5. Richard Baird was an accounting-specific "executive at one of the nation's top accounting firms..."
6. Richard Baird knowingly "filed for a double tax exemption..."
7. Richard Baird "[got] caught doing something wrong..."

A public records search proves that each statement is patently untrue. Under Michigan law, your retraction must be made in the same manner and at the same time of day as the libel. Please issue your retraction on this Sunday, September 7, 2014.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Baird