

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

September 6, 2014

VIA PRIORITY MAIL WITH CONFIRMED DELIVERY, FAX & E-MAIL: (517) 487-5213; (703) 854-2038; sangel@lsj.com; and ekulhanek@lsj.com.

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

Ms. Stephanie Angel, Managing Editor
Ms. Elaine Kulhanek, Community Conversation Editor
Lansing State Journal Media Group
120 E. Lenawee St.
Lansing, MI 48919

Ms. Gracia Martore, CEO
Gannett Co., Inc. Headquarters
7950 Jones Branch Dr.
McLean, VA 22107

Re: Notice of Libel and Request for Retraction

Dear Ms. Swift, Ms. Angel, Ms. Kulhanek, and Ms. Martore:

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 Lansing State Journal under the header *Rick Snyder paying price for his underlings' actions* on August 29, 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..."

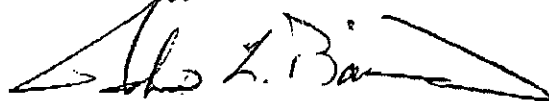
Ms. Stephanie Angel
Ms. Elaine Kulhanek
Ms. Gracia Martore
Ms. Karla Swift
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5. Richard Baird was an accounting-specific "executive at one of the nation's top accounting firms..."
6. Richard Baird knowingly "filed for a double tax exemption..."
7. Richard Baird "[got] caught doing something wrong..."

A public records search proves that each statement is patently untrue. After I bought my home in Michigan and surrendered my Illinois driver's license to the Secretary of State, I have only voted in Michigan. I am not, nor have I ever been, a Certified Public Accountant. The Bath Township assessor has confirmed I never signed a personal residence exemption (PRE) certification for my home in Bath, Michigan. In fact, I drew a large "X" across the PRE document at time of the home closing. Bath Township has publically apologized to me for its error in processing my PRE status.

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 as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Baird", written over a horizontal line.

Richard L. Baird