

For Immediate Release

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Michigan Tea Party Is Not A Political Party

A group of people has filed a petition in the Michigan Secretary of State office to place “The Tea Party” on the statewide ballot in November of this year for the general election. The membership of the Michigan Tea Party Alliance has warned of this possibility in a press release in January when we first suspected that such an event could take place. We also sent out a notice on May 17th when we found out that the petition had just started circulating. Obviously we cannot reach everyone we want in order to inform them that this “Tea Party” is not a part of the Michigan Tea Party Alliance (MTPA) and that there are no known Tea Party organizations in the nation who think that forming another political party is a good idea. In fact we have all agreed that it would be much more effective to reform the existing two major political parties instead of starting a new one from nothing.

The MTPA fears that voters who are not aware of everything that is happening in the political sphere of the state on a daily basis will see the “Tea Party” on the ballot and vote for those candidates who are not truly vested in the conservative ideals the label typically represents. We suspect that the purpose of this filing to place “The Tea Party” on the ballot is to cause that confusion and draw enough votes from, most likely, the Republican Party candidates to throw an election to the Democrat candidate. We do know that hired petition gathers were instructed to tell prospects that they were collecting signatures on behalf of whatever local group there was (such as the Southwest Michigan Tea Party Patriots when they were in Allegan). Those statements were untrue and were used to trick well-meaning citizens into supporting something that they otherwise would not have. We, the members of the MTPA, are looking into any legal remedies that we may have to prevent this group from presenting a slate of candidates on the ballot in November.

The leadership of the undersigned organizations encourages all citizens to get involved in the political process, and to reshape the political parties into something in which they may once again take pride. We encourage people to look for candidates that will protect and defend the constitution, and we urge voters to ignore the “Tea Party” on the ballot.

The founders knew that it would be our sacred obligation as citizens to get involved, and to work hard to hold on to this great nation. We have much work to do, and future generations will look back in judgment. We hope you will join us in preserving the republic so that those future generations will look back upon us with pride, just as we do those who met in the summer of 1787 and gave us the Constitution of the United States of America and our republic.

Gene Clem

Spokesman for:

The Michigan Tea Party Alliance:

SW Michigan Tea Party Patriots

Rattle With Us

Tea Party of West Michigan

SE Michigan 9/12 Project

Metro Detroit Freedom Coalition

Berrien County Tea Party

Tea Party Patriots of West Oakland

Cass County Tea Party

ReTakeOurGov Tea Party

Muskegon Patriots

Romeo Area Tea Party

Ludington Tea Party

Lapeer County Tea Party Patriots

Port Huron Tea Party

Traverse Bay 9/12 Project

We The People of Mid Michigan

Western Thumb Tea Party Group

Allegan Tea Party

Calhoun County Tea Party

Blue Water Area Patriots

Lenawee 9/12 Project

Benzie County Patriots

Oscoda 9/12

Lakes Area Tea Party

Genesee Tea Party

Brighton Tea Party

Tri-City 9/12

Mecosta County Tea Party

Manistee Area Tea Party

Newaygo County Tea Party

Holland-Zeeland Patriots

Grassroots in Michigan

Montcalm Tea Party