# LYNCH MURPHY MCLANE LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Jill Gibson jgibson@lynchmurphy.com

September 29, 2022

Via Certified mail, Return Receipt Request, and Email Campaign@andreasalinasfororegon.com Andrea Salinas for Oregon PO Box 230985 Tigard, OR 97281

#### **CEASE AND DESIST**

#### CAMPAIGN ADS CONTAINING FALSE STATEMENTS

Election Violation—False Statements (ORS 260.532)

Dear Ms. Salinas:

This letter amends the cease and desist letter I sent you on September 26, 2022. It has come to my attention that you were directly contacted by the Hood River District Attorney's Office and informed that your political advertisements accusing Mike Erickson of being charged with drug possession are false. You were told by the DA's Office that that Mr. Erickson was never charged with anything related to drugs. Yet, you continue to run an advertisement called "The Truth" that falsely alleges Mr. Erickson was "Charged with Felony Drug Possession" and shows an image of four lines of cocaine.

You have and continue to knowingly violate ORS 260.532, which provides:

## False publication relating to candidate or measure

No person shall cause to be written, printed, published, posted, communicated or circulated, any letter, circular, bill, placard, poster, photograph or other publication, or cause any advertisement to be placed in a publication, or singly or with others pay for any advertisement, with knowledge or with reckless disregard that the letter, circular, bill, placard, poster, photograph, publication or advertisement contains a false statement of material fact relating to any candidate, political committee or measure.

\* \* \*

If a judgment is rendered in an action under this section against a defendant who has been nominated to public office or elected to a

public office other than state Senator or state Representative, and it is established by clear and convincing evidence that the false statement was deliberately made or caused to be made by the defendant, the finder of fact shall determine whether the false statement reversed the outcome of the election. If the finder of fact finds by clear and convincing evidence that the false statement reversed the outcome of the election, the defendant shall be deprived of the nomination or election and the nomination or office shall be declared vacant.

ORS 260.532 (1) and (8).

The attached Plea Offer provides proof that your accusations of drug charges are false.

Your ad also states that Mr. Erickson "Pled Guilty to Drunk Driving TWICE LEGAL LIMIT." This is false as twice the legal limit is .16 % breath-alcohol content and Mr. Erickson has never been charged with this or pled guilty to this.

Your false ad could have dire consequences for you if you win this election because of how close the race is. The race for Oregon's new 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District is much tighter than previously believed. Cook Political Report, 2022 House Race Ratings (Sep. 21, 2022). *The Oregonian* has expressed a similar sentiment, stating that you face tougher election odds as inflation and President Joe Biden's low approval rating improve Republican candidates' chances. Betsy Hammond, *2 Oregon Congressional Races Tighter than Once Believed*, Oregonian (Aug. 8, 2022). This increases the likelihood that you would be deprived of a successful election if it can be shown that the false ad influenced voters to not vote for Mr. Erickson. This showing would be relatively easy as the average voter is likely to not vote for a candidate who has been charged with felony drug charges.

We demand that you immediately cease and desist from running this false ad and from falsely accusing Mr. Erickson of being charged with felony drug possession. If we must take legal action, we will seek economic damages, noneconomic damages, and attorney fees.

Sincerely,

Jill Gibson

Attachment

### **HOOD RIVER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

OFFER FOR NEGOTIATED PLEA

**EXPIRATION DATE:** 

Notify D.A.'s office by 12/29/16

DEFENDANT'S NAME:

MICHAEL ERICKSON

**DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY:** 

Tara Lawrence

PROSECUTOR:

Timothy Wong

## **CASES PENDING**

 Court #
 DA #
 CHARGES

 16CR61355
 16-667
 DUII (BAC 0.12)

 16VI146303
 Fail to Maintain Lane

 Fail to Signal

OFFER: Plead guilty to DUH and enter statutory diversion; State will dismiss remaining violations and not file additional charges, including but not limited to Recklessly Endangering Another Person and Unlawful Possession of Hydrocodone.

• <u>DUII</u> Diversion

DATE: 12.7.2016

Timothy Wong, Deputy District Attorney

Email-

Fax

OREGON UNIFORM CITATION AND COMPLAINT 1/4/10/10/10/10	7
	>
Use for All Violations or Crimes Where Separate Complaint Will Not be Filed/ORS 153.045 or 133.068  CRIME(S) OR OR ON OR	
(see A below) (Not Both) (see B below) TRAFFIC	
STATE OF OREGON  CITY/OTHER PUBLIC BODY: OREGON STATE POLICE	
COUNTY OF: HOOD RIVER	
Court HOOD RIVER CO CIRCUIT COURT  DEFENDANT The undersigned certifies and says that the following person	
ID Type DL ID No 4125069 State OR Ph.  Name Last ERICKSON  First MICHAEL MI KURTIS	
Name Last ERICKSON	
Address 255 STAMPHER RD  City. LAKE OSWEGO State OR Zip: 97034 Passenger	
Sex M Race W DOB 01/27/1963 Hgt 6'05"Wgt 240 Hair	
Eyes Lic. Exp. 2021 Juv . Lic Class: c Emp.to Drive:	
At the following time and place in the above-mentioned state and county	
On or About Date/Time <sup>1</sup> 09/17/2016 02:19 AM At or Near	
SERPENTINE / EUGENE	
HOOD RIVER  NB, □ SB: □ EB 🔀 WB □	
Highway Premise Open to Public Other	
VEHICLE Involving the following	
Year. 2013 Make FORD Model F15	
Color BLU Type PU Regrs/Vin/ID# 529GAS State. OR	
Acadent: Prop. Damage injury Endanger Other.	
Com'l Veh Haz Mat Driver Not Reg Owner. S	
Other Com'l Pass:	
HWY Work Zone: School Zone: VBR. Safety Corndor	
Radar: Pace Laser Other	
Alleged Speed: Designated Speed Posted Limit  Offense # 813.010	
DUII - ALCOHOL	
Warning:   Presumptive Fine1 MUST APPEAR	
Intentional.  Knowing Reckless	
Criminal Negligence No Culpable Mental State.	
Warning	
Presumptive Fine2:	
Intentional Knowing. Reckless.	
Criminal Negligence No Culpable Mental State.	
Warning	
Presumptive Fine3	
Intentional Knowing Reckless Criminal Negligence No Culpable Mental State	
OTHER	
Expl ·	
SIGNATURE I certify under ORS 153.045 and 153.990 and under other applicable law and under	
penalties for false swearing, do swear/affirm that I have sufficient grounds to and do believe that the above-mentioned defendant/person committed the above offense(s)	
and I have served the defendant/person with this complaint	
Survey of Officer Ab Ferr	
Signature of Officer. Officer ID 52231	
Officer ID Agency Name OREGON STATE POLICE	
Issue Date 09/17/2016	
YOUR COURT APPEARANCE DATE, TIME AND LOCATION ARE	
10/17/2016 08:30 AM LODGED - TO BE SET LOCATION HOOD RIVER CO CIRCUIT COURT COURTHOUSE 309 STATE ST.	