

March 31, 2011

John T. Chisholm, Milwaukee County District Attorney
Safety Building
821 W. State Street
Rm. 405
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Re: Request for Investigation

Dear Mr. Chisholm:

I am writing to express my concern over the campaign finance report recently filed by Milwaukee County Executive candidate Jeff Stone and to request that your office conduct an investigation into the inconsistent and incomplete information contained therein.

Both Milwaukee County and the State of Wisconsin have significant interest in maintaining the integrity of the electoral process in a manner that assures public confidence in its accuracy, efficiency and fairness.

Some of the errors contained in this report include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The finance report includes \$6,900 worth of donations from well before the reporting period in January, effectively double counting the money.
- The finance report includes two deposits that are made on March 22, 2011, one day after the reporting period, effectively increasing the campaign's fundraising total compared to other campaigns by adding a day to the reporting period. Those two deposits are listed as \$10,245 and \$18,546.61 respectively.
- The finance report fails to include ten days worth of on-line contributions.
- The finance report fails to identify employer/occupation information for hundreds of donors.
- The finance report fails to complete the year-to-date column on the cover sheet, despite having completed this information in prior reports.

These inconsistencies are compounded by the fact that the Stone campaign failed to timely file his error-riddled report, in clear violation of Wisconsin Stat. Section 11.20(2), which states that pre-election reports must be received by the appropriate filing agency no later than eight (8) days prior to the election date. In this case, the campaign finance report as required under Wisconsin Stat. Section 11.06 was due to the Milwaukee County Election Commission no later than March 28, 2011. On March 29, 2011, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported that Stone's report was in fact filed one day late.

The above-stated errors and inconsistencies, coupled with misrepresentations made by the Stone campaign that they had raised approximately \$500,000 over the course of the entire campaign, when the actual total is barely more than half that, seem to indicate that the Stone campaign is purposely misleading the electorate and falsely reporting momentum his campaign does not have.

As stated by Wisconsin Stat. Section 11.001, "Campaign reports provide information which aids the public in fully understanding the public positions taken by a candidate or political organization. When the true source of support or extent of support is not fully disclosed, or when a candidate becomes overly dependent upon large private contributors, the democratic process is subjected to a potential corrupting influence."

The integrity of the campaign finance reporting system is a vital component to the democratic process. As such, I respectfully request that your office conduct a thorough investigation into Jeff Stone's inaccurate and incomplete campaign finance report.

The public and the operation of an open, honest democratic process need and deserve a swift resolution of this matter. I urge you to fully investigate this matter and make the necessary findings as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Tate". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

Michael J. Tate
Chair, Democratic Party of Wisconsin