

# BOMMARITO LAW OFFICES, PLLC

180 E Washington Rd | PO Box 189 | Freeland, MI 48623

February 26, 2016

1328

Clerk of the Court Bay County Circuit Court 1230 Washington Ave. Bay City, Michigan 48708

Re:

Cynthia A. Luczak v Thomas L. Hickner, et al

Case No.: 15-3583-AW (KS)

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed herewith please find the following which I would appreciate being filed on behalf of Defendants in regards to the above-mentioned matter:

Defendant 18th Circuit Court and Defendant Kim Mead's Answer to First 1. Amended Complaint, New Matter and Affirmative Defenses.

Proof of Service box affixed thereto.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Best regards.

ALEXANDER D. BOMMARITO

BAY COUNTY

CORPORATION COUNSEL

e-mail: adb@freelandlaw.net

ADB/ls Enclosure

cc:

Matthew T. Smith Joseph W. Colaianne Attorneys at Law Defendants

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BAY

CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK, BAY COUNTY CLERK in her capacity as an elected official,

Case No. 15-3583-AW (KS)

Plaintiff.

HON. PAUL H. CHAMBERLAIN (P31682)

-VS-

THOMAS L. HICKNER, Bay County Executive, in his capacity as an elected official: BAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, the governing body for the County of Bay; 18th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT; and KIM MEAD. Bay County Circuit Court Administrator,

Defendants.

CLARK HILL, PLC

BY: MATTHEW T. SMITH (P46754) **JOSEPH W. COLAIANNE (P47404)** 

Attorneys for Plaintiff 212 E. Grand River Ave. Lansing, Michigan 48906 Telephone: 517-318-3100

**BOMMARITO LAW OFFICES, PLLC** 

ALEXANDER D. BOMMARITO (P62704)

Attorney for Defendants 180 E. Washington Road P.O. Box 189

Freeland, Michigan 48623 Telephone: 989-573-5300

## PROOF OF SERVICE

THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT THE FOREGOING INSTRUMENT WAS SERVED UPON ALL PARTIES TO THE ABOVE CAUSE TO EACH OF THE ATTORNEYS OF RECORD HEREIN AT THEIR RESPECTIVE ADDRESSES DISCLOSED ON THE PLEADINGS ON \_

BY: U.S. MAIL

HAND DELIVERED FEDERAL EXPRESS FAX\_\_\_\_OVERNIGHT COURIER\_\_\_\_ OTHER

## **DEFENDANT 18<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT AND DEFENDANT KIM MEAD'S** ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT, NEW MATTER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

NOW COME Defendants, 18th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT and KIM MEAD, Bay County Circuit Court Administrator, by and through their attorney, ALEXANDER D.

BOMMARITO, of BOMMARITO LAW OFFICES, PLLC, in answer to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint, further state as follows:

### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 1. Admitted.
- Admitted.
- 3. Admitted.
- 4. Admitted.
- 5. Admitted.
- 6. Admitted.
- 7. Admitted.
- 8. Admitted.
- 9. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 10. Defendants admit that as County Clerk, Plaintiff serves as the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 11. Defendants admit that as County Clerk, Plaintiff has custodial responsibilities for the Court records. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 12. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 13. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 14. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.

- 15. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 16. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 17. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 18. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 19. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 20. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 21. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 22. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 23. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 24. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 25. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.

- 26. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 27. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 28. Defendants admit that the current staffing level for the Clerk of the Circuit Court includes four (4) full-time employees. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 29. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 30. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 31. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 32. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 33. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 34. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 35. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 36. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.

- 37. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 38. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 39. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 40. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 41. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 42. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 43. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 44. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
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- 46. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 47. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.

- 48. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 49. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 50. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 51. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 52. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 53. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 54. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 55. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 56. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 57. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 58. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.

- 59. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 60. Denied for the reason that said allegations are untrue.
- 61. Denied for the reason that said allegations are untrue.
- 62. Denied for the reason that said allegations are untrue.
- 63. No response required, statute speaks for itself.
- 64. No response required, statute speaks for itself.
- 65. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.
- 66. Denied for the reason that said allegations are untrue.
- 67. Defendants aver lack of knowledge sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations contained therein, neither admitting nor denying same, leaving Plaintiff to her proofs in support thereof.

WHEREFORE, Defendants request a judgment of no cause for action, together with costs and attorney fees to be assessed.

# COMPLAINT FOR APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

68-94. No response required as this claim has been dismissed by the Opinion and Order of the Court dated February 5, 2016.

# COUNT II DECLARATORY RULING ON CLERK'S DUTY TO BE COUNTY AND CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

- 95. Defendants incorporate paragraphs 1 through 94 as if set forth word for word and paragraph by paragraph.
- 96. Admitted.
- 97. Defendants deny that MCL 600.591 states what Plaintiff alleges, as untrue.
- 98. No response required, case speaks for itself.

BUSINESS ADDRESS: 180 E. Washington Road P.O. Box 189 Freeland, Michigan 48623 Telephone: 989-573-5300