

**BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA ETHICS COMMISSION
PROBABLE CAUSE REVIEW BOARD**

In Re:

J. MICHAEL IHLE,

COMPLAINT NO. VCRB 2014-126

Former Mayor of the City of Ravenswood

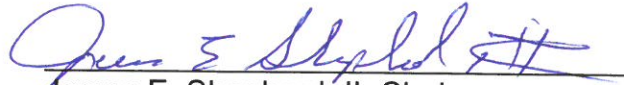
PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER


On this date, the Probable Cause Review Board, having investigated and considered the allegations set forth in VCRB 2014-126, unanimously finds that there is probable cause to believe that Respondent, J. Michael Ihle, violated the provisions of the Ethics Act as follows:

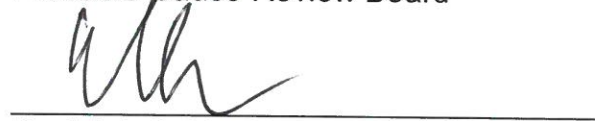
Count One: Respondent, J. Michael Ihle, while he was the Mayor of the City of Ravenswood, used a cellular phone owned by the City of Ravenswood and the City's cellular phone service plan for his 2014 West Virginia House of Delegates election campaign. The Respondent used the City-owned phone for this purpose from approximately January 2014 until his election in November 2014. The use of the City-owned cellular phone and service plan for a political campaign constitutes the knowing and intentional use of office for private gain to Respondent Ihle or to his campaign or both.

In accordance with W.Va. Code § 6B-2-4(f), the Commission staff is hereby **ORDERED** to prepare a Statement of Charges and to schedule this matter for a public hearing to determine the truth or falsity of the charges.

Entered: January 25, 2017


James E. Shepherd, II, Chairperson
Probable Cause Review Board


Michael A. Kawash, Member
Probable Cause Review Board


Daniel J. Guida, Member
Probable Cause Review Board

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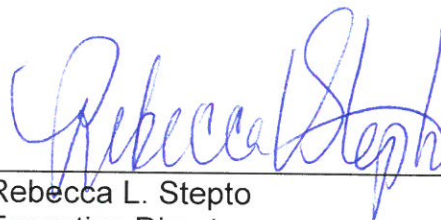
Complaint No. VCRB 2014-126

**Former Mayor of the City of Ravenswood,
Respondent.**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Rebecca L. Stepto, Executive Director for the West Virginia Ethics Commission, do certify that I have, this 26th day of January, 2017, served a true and complete copy of the foregoing **PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER** via certified U.S. mail to the following:

Michael Ihle
507 Sand Street, Apartment A
Ravenswood, WV 26164
Respondent



Rebecca L. Stepto
Executive Director
West Virginia Ethics Commission
210 Brooks St., Suite 300
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 558-0664
(304) 558-2169 (fax)