



Louisiana Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee

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DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2018
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PUBLIC STATEMENT

Every candidate for judicial office in Louisiana must campaign in accordance with the precepts contained in Canon 7 of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct. The Louisiana Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee (“the Committee”) is authorized by the Louisiana Supreme Court to review and investigate complaints, which allege violations of certain provisions of Canon 7. Although Committee deliberations are and remain confidential, once a public statement has been issued or a complaint has been dismissed, the complaint and response are matters of public record and may be requested through the Court’s Community Relations division.

The Committee has received a complaint which alleges that Marie Williams, a candidate for Orleans Parish Civil Court, Division E violated Canon 7A(9) of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct. Canon 7A(9) provides that a judge or judicial candidate shall not “knowingly make, or cause to be made, a false statement concerning the identity, qualifications, present position, or other fact concerning the candidate or an opponent.”

The complaint concerns several statements posted by Marie Williams on Facebook, which claim that Voice of the Experienced (“VOTE”) and the Power Coalition for Equity and Justice held a public candidate forum and “purposefully” did not invite Ms. Williams, and instead invited only her opponent. A copy of Ms. Williams’ Facebook posting is attached. VOTE appears to have made several attempts to invite Ms. Williams. A copy of the email invitations are attached.

The Committee, therefore, believes that these statements posted by Ms. Williams on Facebook violate Canon 7A(9), that a or judicial candidate shall not “knowingly make, or cause to be made, a false statement concerning the identity, qualifications, present position, or other fact concerning the candidate or an opponent.”

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marta-Ann Schnabel".

Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee
Marta-Ann Schnabel, Chair

Candidate Survey for "Know Your Vote"



Bruce Reilly

Wed 10/10, 12:43 PM

MarieWilliamsforJudge@gmail.com

👍 ⌵ Reply all | ⌵



2019 Civil District Court ...

649 KB

Download Save to OneDrive - Vote-Nola

Hello Ms. Williams,

Congratulations on building your campaign for Civil District Court Judge. Voters Organized to Educate is a sister organization to VOTE, a grassroots organization created by Norris Henderson. We have a project called "Know Your Vote" and would like to post results of candidate surveys on our website www.KnowYourVoteLA.org

Welcome! Select your city below. - Know Your Vote LA

www.knowyourvotela.org

We do, at times, make an endorsement of a candidate and share that view widely.

Please respond to the survey so we can put your views out to the voters

3



el <electmariejudge@aol.com>

Tue 10/16, 1:46 PM

Bruce Reilly ✓



Reply all | v

You forwarded this message on 10/16/2018 2:05 PM

I did not receive a survey you can send it to this email this is my personal email address

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

From: el <electmariejudge@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2018 9:16:47 PM
To: Anna Sacks
Subject: Re: Voters Organized to Educate Candidate Survey

From Marie Williams

-----Original Message-----

From: Anna Sacks <Anna@vote-nola.org>
To: electmariejudge <electmariejudge@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Oct 16, 2018 3:12 pm
Subject: Voters Organized to Educate Candidate Survey

Hi Marie,

My name is Anna Sacks, I work at Voters Organized to Educate (VOTE). We have a project called "Know Your Vote Louisiana" to educate people about elections and relevant issues.

Enclosed is a survey we have sent to all the 2018 candidates. My boss, Bruce Reilly, forwarded me your email address and asked that I send the survey over to you. If you choose to complete our survey, it will be posted on our website, knowyourvotela.org and will be used to help us determine if we will endorse a candidate. Attached is a Microsoft Word version of the survey where you can type your responses in directly.

We hope to receive all completed surveys ASAP and results will be posted to our website as they are received. I will be following up with a phone call shortly to ensure you received this e-mail and the attached survey.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration in filling out our candidate survey. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best,

Anna Sacks

Anna Sacks
Tulane University, Class of 2017
Communications Associate | Voters Organized to Educate
anna@vote-nola.org | (267) 237-2823

(4)

1:01 ↖



5



Survey won't download



Bruce Reilly

Oct 19

To electmariejudge@aol.com and You ...

Hi Marie,

We are having a problem downloading your Pages file of the completed survey. I have a Mac (Anna doesn't), perhaps if you send it to me directly? Or save as PDF?

Thanks,

Bruce

Bruce Reilly, J.D.

Deputy Director

Voters Organized to Educate

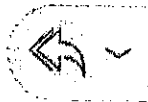
2022 St. Bernard Ave., Suite 307

New Orleans, LA 70116

504.758.9420 | vote-nola.org

Bruce@vote-nola.org

SUPPORT CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM



Reply to All



1:00 ↗



69



Candidate Forum



You

Nov 2

To electmariejudge@aol.com



Dear Marie,

I hope this email finds you well! My name is Anna Sacks, and I work at Voters Organized to Educate, also known as Voice of the Experienced, or VOTE. I'm writing to invite you to our Civil District Court Judge and Secretary of State candidate forum. We, at VOTE, along with other social justice organizations (Step Up Louisiana, the Power Coalition, Jeremiah Group and the League of Women Voters), will be hosting the forum on November 14 at 6 pm at our office, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans LA.

We hope you will be able to make it! Please let me know whether or not you will be able to come at your soonest convenience.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to hearing

 Reply to All



1:01 ↗



66



We hope you will be able to make it! Please let me know whether or not you will be able to come at your soonest convenience.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,
Anna Sacks

Anna Sacks

Tulane University, Class of 2017
Communications Associate | Voters Organized to Educate
anna@vote-nola.org | (267) 237-2823

Support Criminal Justice Reform



Reply to All



From: Norris Henderson
Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 3:49 PM
To: electmariejudge@aol.com
Subject: Candidate Forum

Marie,

Please accept this email as an invitation to participate in VOTE's candidate forum on November 14, 2018 at 6:00 pm. The location is 2022 St. Bernard Ave, 2nd floor

Norris Henderson
Executive Director

VOTE ~~FOR REFORM~~

2022 St. Bernard Ave., Suite 307
New Orleans, LA 70116
504.453.4819 | vote-nola.org
Norris@vote-nola.org

SUPPORT CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Social Activism is not a hobby: it's a Lifelong Commitment
-s. e. anderson

7

From: Norris Henderson
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2018 10:58 AM
To: electmariefudge@aol.com
Subject: Second attempt

Marie,

This is our second attempt to invite you to our candidate forum on Wednesday, 6:00 pm @ 2022 St. Bernard Ave. The other candidate has already confirmed his participation. Please reply.

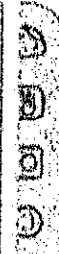
Norris Henderson
Executive Director

VOTE ~~FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM~~
2022 St. Bernard Ave., Suite 307
New Orleans, LA 70116
504.453.4819 | vote-nola.org
Norris@vote-nola.org

SUPPORT CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Social Activism is not a hobby: it's a Lifelong Commitment
-s. e. anderson

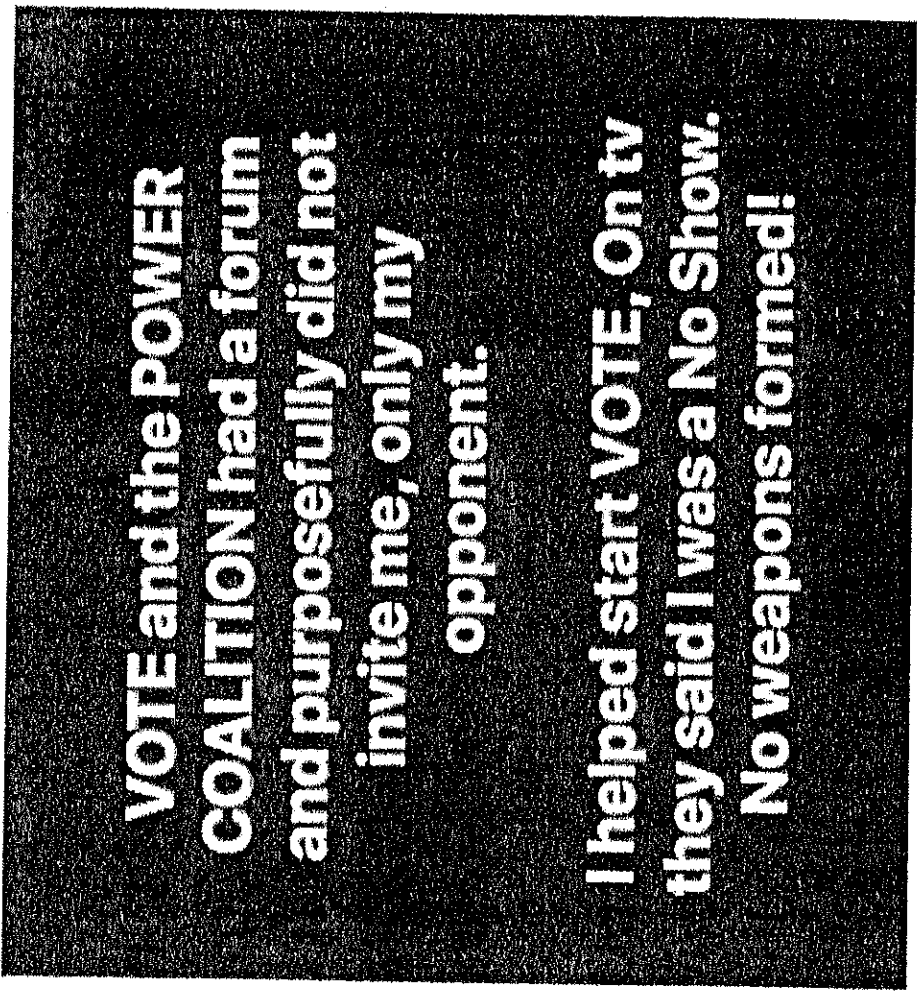
Add Friend Follow



Write a comment...

Marie Williams shared a post. November 16 at 7:46 AM · 3

Marie Williams Atty November 15 at 2:32 AM

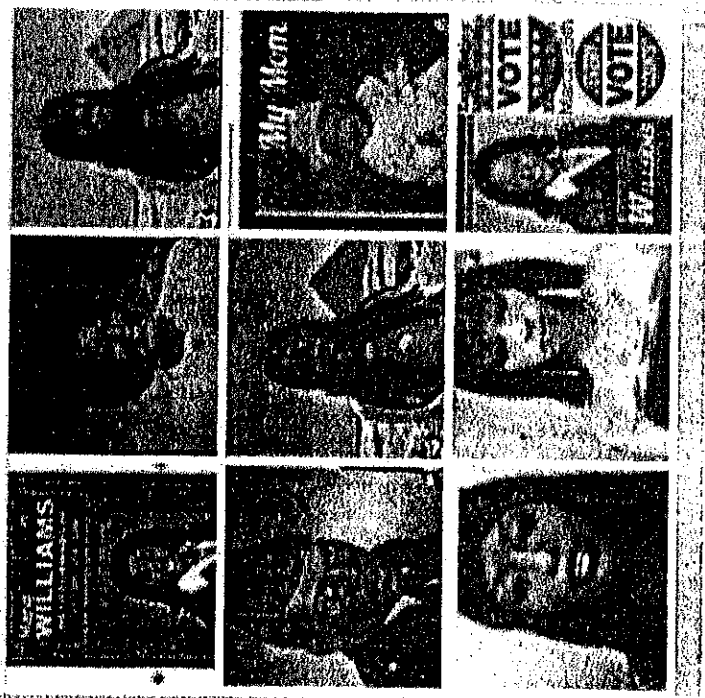


Like Comment Share



Write a comment...

Marie Williams Timeline Recent



Friends · 9 Mutual Friends



96



69 Likes • 10 Comments

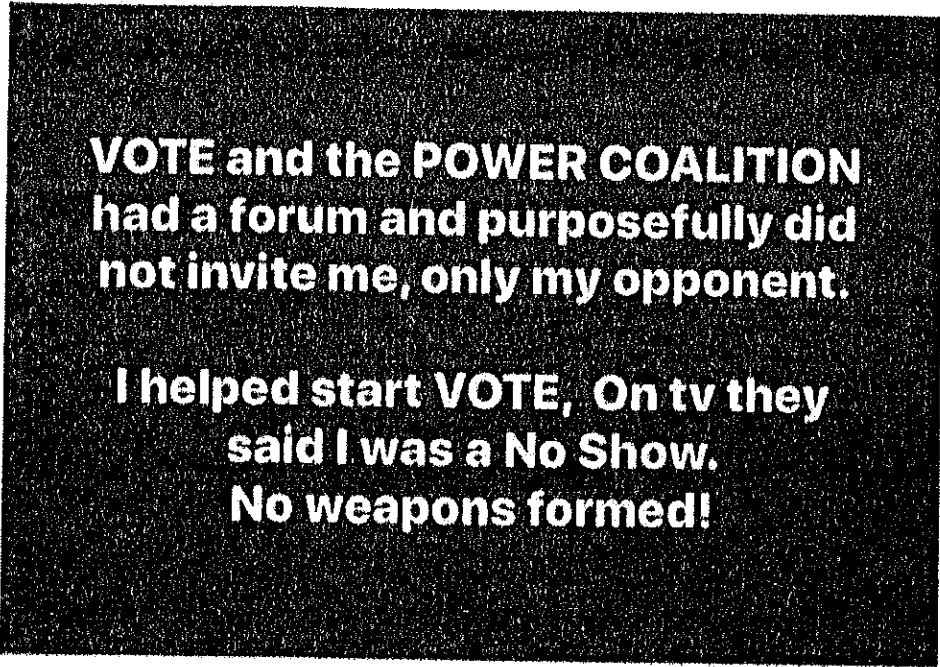
Like Comment Share



Marie Williams • 2nd Attorney/Lawyer at Self-Priva... 4d

+ Follow

#howto #import #donations #racing #adoption #campaigns #rights #localization #attorneys #commonsense



26 Likes • 12 Comments

Like Comment Share





Our one and only public statement regarding the accusations made against us and our partners at VOTE by judicial candidate Attorney Marie Williams.

The Power Coalition for Equity and Justice is a non partisan organization committed to amplifying the voices of the underserved in Louisiana and supporting public policies that uplift and empower Louisiana families. Our mission is to inform voters by providing opportunities for them to meet candidates, ask questions, and decide for themselves who should best serve our community. As a non partisan organization, it is our duty to offer invitations to all candidates, regardless of affiliation. Attorney Marie Williams, a candidate for Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge, was invited on two occasions by email, followed by multiple phone calls to participate in a candidate forum hosted by us in partnership with VOTE held on Wednesday, November 14th. After twice sending an invitation to the email she personally provided in response to a candidate survey conducted by VOTE, no response was received from Attorney Williams or her camp. The emails were followed up with several phone calls made by VOTE and StepUp Louisiana to Attorney Williams. Again, no response was ever received from Attorney Williams or her camp. It is unfortunate that Attorney Williams was unresponsive to our attempts to have her attend. It is also unfortunate that Attorney Williams chose to express her displeasure on multiple social media platforms without contacting either organization directly. However, we hope that when offered the opportunity in the future, she participates. We are committed to creating open spaces for the community to engage with all candidates. We gain nothing by silencing anyone's voice.



**WE GAIN NOTHING
BY SILENCING
ANYONE'S VOICE**

11a

KNOWYOURVOTELA.ORG

Know Your Vote Endorses: Omar Mason for Judge - New Orleans

13,314

People Reached

552

Engagements

Boost Post

Margie Dumas, Lloyd Thomas and 186 others

10 Comments 33 Shares

Like

Comment

Share



Oldest ▾



Sheila Dennis I NEED TOO KNOW HIS PLATFORM.

Like · Reply · Message · 2d

2



Marie Williams Atty They did not invite me candidate, Marie Williams, this was not an open forum and this is his church giving this endorsement.

Like · Reply · Message · 1d · Edited

1



Sheila Dennis Marie Williams Atty THANK YOU SO MUCH ATTORNEY MARIE WILLIAMS.

Like · Reply · Message · 12h



Write a reply...



Marie Williams Atty I have a proven track record for standing up against injustice, my opponent does not.

Like · Message · 2d

1



Know Your Vote Louisiana Ms. Williams, please refrain from publicly claiming to have helped start VOTE. Also, please cease claiming you were not invited to the forum sponsored by Power.



Marie Williams Atty I have a proven track record for standing up against injustice, my opponent does not.

Like · Reply · Message · 1h



Marie Williams Atty

VOTE and the POWER COALITION had a forum and purposefully did not invite me, only my opponent.
I helped start VOTE, On tv they said I was a No Show.
No weapons formed!

Like · Reply · Message · 1h



Know Your Vote Louisiana Ms. Williams, please refrain from publicly claiming to have helped start VOTE. Also, please cease claiming you were not invited to the forum sponsored by Power Coalition, VOTE, and Step Up Louisiana. We should not need to remind you that your behavior is guided by the Louisiana Code of Judicial Canons. <https://www.lasc.org/rules/supreme/cjc.asp>

LASC.ORG
cjc.asp

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · Commented on by Bruce Scottus Reilly [?] · 40m



Know Your Vote Louisiana Canon 7B. "B. A Judge or Judicial Candidate Shall:
(1) maintain the dignity appropriate to judicial office and act in a manner consistent with the impartiality, integrity and independence of the judiciary;" Marie Williams Atty any statements you make ... See More

Like · Reply · Commented on by Bruce Scottus Reilly [?] · 37m

11

Know Your Vote

Know Your Vote

Louisiana

@knowyourvotela

Home

Posts

Jobs

Reviews

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Photos

Events

About

Community

Groups

Info and Ads

Promote

Manage Promotions



Patric Drscill Lol wtf is up with this thread

Like · Reply · Message · 2d



Kristine Breithaupt Patric Drscill Marie Williams (Omar's opponent) spent thanksgiving on the thread claiming she started this organization but also that she wasn't invited to their forum. None of which is true. Then she deleted most her comments.

Like · Reply · Message · 2d

2



Patric Drscill Kristine Breithaupt wow that's really weird lol

Like · Reply · Message · 2d



Know Your Vote



Know Your Vote Louisiana For people confused by candidate Marie Williams' repeated allegations that she was not invited to the forum, she deleted many of her comments after we posted this: one of the invitations, this one 12 days prior to the forum. (the deleted comments make for a strange thread. We deleted none of them).

Like · Reply · Commented on by Bruce Sottus Feily [?] · 2d

1