Illegal Use of Taxpayer Dollars Alleged in Lawsuit Against Sitting Democrat Judge

A lawsuit alleging public taxpayer funds were used by a Lucas County judge to illegally influence an election was filed August 26 in the Lucas County Clerk of Courts office.

The suit alleges Jack Puffenberger, Lucas County Probate Court judge, used more than $50,000 of public funds to promote the candidacy of his son, Tom. Tom Puffenberger is running to replace his father who is term limited because of age. The suit was filed by David Karmol, a former state representative seeking a seat back in the Ohio House of Representatives.

“This is exactly what a taxpayer lawsuit was created to do,” said Karmol, “allow a taxpayer to hold a public official accountable for illegal spending of public funds. It is a direct violation of Ohio Revised Code Sec. 9.03(D)(8).”

Karmol added that the taxpayer money used for the commercials was the first time such an advertising placement was ever made in the 30-plus years of Puffenberger’s tenure. Karmol said the money should have been used to avoid cuts to the Victims of Domestic Violence program.

For real fiscal management and an end to the “good ‘ol boys” network, elect Jaime Agnew as probate judge. She would be the first woman to ever serve from the bench in the history of the probate court.