

Unfortunately, Chicago-style politics have come to McLean County.

It's unfortunate this early on, I feel it necessary to respond to these troubling accusations which have been perpetrated by County Board Member Carlo Robustelli and I'm thankful to have this opportunity here on WGLT. Recent emails sent by Mr. Robustelli were politics displayed at its worst. No one wants to have Chicago-style politics infesting our great county, and especially at our County Fair. But we are living in a whole new world as seen on the national stage, and now unfortunately, here in McLean County.

Those who follow local politics know that I have announced my intention to run for re-election as McLean County Clerk. This past week at the McLean County Fair, the County GOP had an exhibit, as did my office of County Clerk. Separate tents of course. If anyone knows to keep politics out of government, it's me, with over 20 years working with both. County Clerk staff and volunteers worked only at the County Clerk tent. There were plenty of people at both tents, who can attest to this. Plenty. At no time did County Clerk staff work at the GOP tent. In fact, three of my staff who worked at the County Clerk tent are strong Democrats.

The tent locations were assigned, "on a first come, first serve basis" per our signed contract from Fair Manager, Michael Swartz.

A supporter of a possible Democratic opponent came into the McLean County GOP tent and took a photo of my campaign hand-outs. I know she is a supporter because she has posted derogatory comments on my campaign Facebook page and has openly indicated her support to this opponent. I save all my campaign receipts and these hand-outs were paid for with my personal credit card. This person sent this photo to all McLean County Board members, asking for an investigation, indicating this photo was taken at the County Clerk's tent and that these handouts were displayed and passed out at the County Clerk tent. This is a blatant, intentional lie.

This is not a "mistake" by a "concerned citizen". This is a Chicago-style dirty tricks using false allegations attempting to smear my reputation. Shame on you young lady, and shame on Mr. Robustelli for asking for an investigation before even finding out the facts by simply asking people who were working at both tents.

One of those people included fellow County Board member and GOP Chairman Chuck Erickson who has helped reveal these intentional lies. All Mr. Robustelli had to do was ask.

Facts matter; and so do reputations. The fact that Mr. Robustelli made no attempt to find out the facts before demanding an investigation for political gain and wasting taxpayer dollars, is not what we should expect from a County Board member. McLean County is not Chicago.