

CITY OF TOLEDO

D. MICHAEL COLLINS
COUNCILMAN – DISTRICT 2



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October 15, 2008

Carleton S. Finkbeiner, Mayor
One Government Center, Suite 2200
Toledo, Ohio 43604

RE: October 15, 2008 Commercial Advertisement in the Toledo Blade

Dear Mayor Finkbeiner:


I am directing this correspondence to you as it relates to a full-page advertisement found in the Toledo Blade, on October 15, 2008. This advertisement has caused me great concern from a variety of standpoints, and I would respectfully request your expeditious response to the following questions:

1. How much did this advertisement cost, and under what conditions, as it relates to the Blade's fee schedules, did it fall into?
2. Was this advertisement cleared by the Secretary of State, The Ohio Ethics Commission, The State Auditor's Office, The City of Toledo Law Department, or The Lucas County Prosecutor's office to determine that it was not a partisan political advertisement?
3. Given the current financial status of the City of Toledo, specifically the General Fund, what is your justification for the placement of this advertisement in the Toledo Blade?
4. In the event that your action by the placement of this advertisement is defined by a regulatory or legal body in the State of Ohio to be an inappropriate use of tax dollars, will you personally hold yourself responsible for all financial obligations incurred?

In closing, I sincerely hope that you will accept this letter in the spirit in which it was directed. I personally find expenditures such as this, on the heels of your Administration's request to City Council to support mandatory furloughs of City of Toledo employees, not only to be unacceptable, but also more specifically – unconscionable!

I remain, and respectfully await your response.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Michael Collins". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

D. Michael Collins, Councilman

CC: Bob Reinbolt, Chief of Staff
Adam Loukx, Law Director
Mark Sobczak, President of Council
All Members of Council