



PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Eastpointe Mayor Takes Responsibility for her Crime and Pays Full Restitution

Mount Clemens, MI - Today, the Mayor of Eastpointe pled no contest for fraudulently applying for a grant under the "CARES ACT Small Business Fund" by falsely stating her business was 51% veteran owned and had between 100-249 employees.

Mayor Monique Owens fraudulently applied for the grant in November 2020. Owens received \$10,000 from the Macomb County grant. The Mayor was charged with False Pretenses \$1,000.00 or More but Less Than \$20,000.00.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office policy requires that every defendant pay restitution in advance of a plea to ensure that the victim is made financially whole. Monique Owens, like any other defendant, was held responsible for her actions and required to pay full restitution before today's plea.

"When a public figure acknowledges their guilt and takes responsibility for their actions and pays full restitution, it sends a powerful message that no one is above the law," said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido.

Monique Owens pled no contest to Making a False Statement, a one year misdemeanor, and paid \$10,000 in restitution to Macomb County. Owens will be sentenced on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 1:30 pm in the courtroom of Circuit Court Judge Jennifer Faunce.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's office represents the people. We are committed to achieving justice and following the laws of the State of Michigan. All that are accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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