

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
*ETHICS COMMISSION*

COMPLAINT FORM

Please provide the following information about yourself:

Name Wisconsin Democracy Campaign by its executive director, Matthew Rothschild

Address 203 S. Paterson St., Suite 100, Madison, WI 53703

Telephone Number 608-255-4260

E-mail rothschild@wisdc.org

Instructions:

- Clearly identify each person, committee, or group that is alleged to have committed a violation (called the respondent);
- Clearly recite the facts that show specific violations under the Commission's jurisdiction (citations to the law and administrative code are not necessary, but helpful);
  - Be as specific as possible as it relates to dates, times, and individuals involved.
- Differentiate between statements based on the complainant's (the person who files the complaint) personal knowledge and those based on information and belief. Statements not based on personal knowledge should identify the source of the information, if known;
- Include any and all documentation supporting the allegations, if available; and
- Use as many separate pages as needed and attach copies of any supporting documentation.

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**State of Wisconsin  
Before the Ethics Commission**

The Complaint of Wisconsin Democracy Campaign by its executive director, Matthew Rothschild

\_\_\_\_\_, Complainant(s) against

Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee, Respondent, whose

address is P.O. Box 814, Madison, WI 53701.

This complaint is under Chapter 11 (Insert the applicable sections of law in chs. 11, subchapter III of ch. 13, or subchapter III of ch. 19, if known)

I, Matthew Rothschild, allege that:  
The Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee violated contribution limits  
by accepting a total of \$97,340 in in-kind contributions  
between July 2016 and October 2016  
from Wisconsin Progress (supporting documentation  
attached).

I, Matthew Rothschild, being first duly sworn, on oath, state that I personally read the above complaint, and that the above allegations are true based on my personal knowledge and, as to those stated on information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Date: March 21, 2017

Matthew Rothschild  
Complainant's Signature

STATE OF WISCONSIN

County of Dane,  
(county of notarization)

Sworn to before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of  
March, 2017.



Kiayla Alston  
(Signature of person authorized to administer oaths [see s. 887.01])

My commission expires 12/18/2020 or is permanent.

Notary Public or \_\_\_\_\_  
(official title if not notary)

**Please send this completed form to:**

Mail: Wisconsin Ethics Commission (608) 264-9319 Email: ethics@wi.gov  
P.O. Box 7984  
Madison, WI 53707-7984

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
*ETHICS COMMISSION*

COMPLAINT FORM

**Please provide the following information about yourself:**

Name Wisconsin Democracy Campaign by its executive director, Matthew Rothschild

Address 203 S. Paterson St., Suite 100, Madison, WI 53703

Telephone Number 608-255-4260

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- Clearly recite the facts that show specific violations under the Commission's jurisdiction (citations to the law and administrative code are not necessary, but helpful);
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**State of Wisconsin  
Before the Ethics Commission**

The Complaint of Wisconsin Democracy Campaign by its executive director, Matthew Rothschild

\_\_\_\_\_, Complainant(s) against

**Wisconsin Progress**

\_\_\_\_\_, Respondent, whose

address is 211 Paterson St., Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703

This complaint is under Chapter 11 (Insert the applicable sections of law in chs. 11, subchapter III of ch. 13, or subchapter III of ch. 19, if known)

I, Matthew Rothschild, allege that:  
Wisconsin Progress violated contribution limits  
by contributing a total of \$97,340 in in-kind contributions  
between July 2016 and October 2016 to the  
Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee  
(supporting documentation attached).

I, Matthew Rothschild, being first duly sworn, on oath, state that I personally read the above complaint, and that the above allegations are true based on my personal knowledge and, as to those stated on information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Date: March 21, 2017

Matthew Rothschild  
Complainant's Signature

STATE OF WISCONSIN

County of Dane,  
(county of notarization)

Sworn to before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of  
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Kiayla Alston  
(Signature of person authorized to administer oaths [see s. 887.01])

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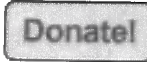
Notary Public or \_\_\_\_\_  
(official title if not notary)

**Please send this completed form to:**

**Mail:** Wisconsin Ethics Commission  
P.O. Box 7984  
Madison, WI 53707-7984

**Fax:** (608) 264-9319

**Email:** ethics@wi.gov



Pushing Democracy Since 1995

## What's Up with Wisconsin Progress and the ADCC?

March 21, 2017



**WISCONSIN  
PROGRESS**  
*step forward*

A group that recruits and trains Democratic candidates to run for state and local offices made more than \$97,000 in contributions to an Assembly Democratic fundraising committee during the latter half of 2016, according to a campaign finance report filed by the committee. This appears to exceed the legal contribution limit by a factor of eight.

The contributions from Wisconsin Progress, which totaled \$97,340, were reported as "matching in-kind" donations for "Research - Survey" expenses by the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee's segregated fund in its 2016 year-end report. The committee is one of four legislative campaign committees used by Democratic and Republican Senate and Assembly leaders to raise

money from special interests to spend on elections.

Under state law, corporations, associations, labor unions and tribes can contribute up to \$12,000 in a calendar year to segregated funds created by legislative campaign committees and political parties. Unlimited contributions are allowed from one political action committee (PAC) to another; from one party committee to another; from a party committee to a PAC; and from an individual to a PAC or party committee. But, Wisconsin Progress doesn't appear to fit in any of those that can give unlimited contributions.

Reid Magney, a spokesman for Wisconsin's Ethics and Elections commissions, said Wisconsin Progress was an unregistered committee, and "we can't say if it's corporate or something else, but either way it appears to be contributions in excess of the limits," as reported by the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee.

### Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

203 South Paterson Street, Suite 100 • Madison, WI 53703  
Phone 608.255.4260 • Fax 608.255.4359 •  
wisdc@wisdc.org

### Download Our App



Website designed and developed by TallGuy Productions, Inc. and Clarity Technology Group, Inc. - System Information: 63ms - 6.28

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**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT  
STATE OF WISCONSIN  
ETHCF-50**

**COMMITTEE IDENTIFICATION**

|                                       |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Filing Period Name:</b>            | January Continuing 2017<br>Covers all activity from 07/01/2016 through 12/31/2016 | <b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b><br><br><b>GAB ID: 0400001</b> |
| <b>Name of Committee/Corporation:</b> | Assembly Democratic Camp Comm   |  |
| <b>Street Address:</b>                | P.O. Box 814  |  |
| <b>City, State and Zip:</b>           | Madison, WI 53701   |  |

| <i>SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS</i>           | Column A<br>This Period | Column B<br>Calendar Year-To-Date |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>1. RECEIPTS</b>                                     |                         |                                   |
| 1A. Contributions (Including Loans) from Individuals   | \$0.00                  | \$100.00                          |
| 1B. Contributions from Committees (Transfers-In)       | \$204,180.00            | \$204,180.00                      |
| 1C. Other Income and Commercial Loans                  | \$89,080.00             | \$102,080.00                      |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b> (Add totals from 1A, 1B and 1C)  | <b>\$293,260.00</b>     | <b>\$306,360.00</b>               |
| <b>2. DISBURSEMENTS</b>                                |                         |                                   |
| 2A. Gross Expenditures                                 | \$254,955.95            | \$254,955.95                      |
| 2B. Contributions to Committees (Transfers-Out)        | \$1,660.00              | \$1,660.00                        |
| <b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b> (Add totals from 2A and 2B) | <b>\$256,615.95</b>     | <b>\$256,615.95</b>               |

**CASH SUMMARY**

|   |                    |  |
|---|--------------------|--|
| Cash Balance Beginning of Report *                    | \$13,100.00        |  |
| Total Receipts  | \$293,260.00       |  |
| Subtotal  | \$306,360.00       |  |
| Total Disbursements                                   | \$256,615.95       |  |
| <b>CASH BALANCE END OF REPORT *</b>                   | <b>\$49,744.05</b> |  |
| <b>INCURRED OBLIGATIONS</b>                           |                    |  |
| (Balance at the Close of This Period-3A)              | \$0.00             |  |
| <b>LOANS</b> (Balance at the Close of This Period-3B) | <b>\$0.00</b>      |  |

\*Cash Balance as reported by committee

**I certify that I have examined this report and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct and complete.**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Type or Print Name of Candidate or Treasurer:<br>Zamarripa, JoCasta | Signature of Candidate or Treasurer Date: Daytime Phone:<br>Veronica Scofield Email: info@assemblydemocrats.com |
|---|---|

**NOTE:** The information on this form is required by 11.0204, 11.0304, 11.0404, 11.0504, 11.0604, 11.0804, 11.0904, Wis. Stats. Failure to provide the information may subject you to the penalties of ss. 11.1400, 11.1401, Wis. Stats.

ETHCF-2 (Rev. 04/16) This form is prescribed by the Wisconsin Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 7984, Madison, WI 53707-7984, 608-266-8005.

**SCHEDULE 1-B**

**RECEIPTS  
Contributions from Committees  
(Transfers-In)**

**Complete Committee Name:** Assembly Democratic Camp Comm

| Date            | Full Name                               | Address   | Amount       | YTD         |
|-----------------|---|---|--------------|-------------|
| <b>Monetary</b> |   |   |              |             |
| 07/13/2016      | WI Grocers Assn PAC                     | 33 East Main St., Suite 701, Madison, WI 53703      | \$500.00     | \$1,500.00  |
| 08/11/2016      | Assembly Democratic Camp Comm           | P.O. Box 814, Madison, WI 53701                     | \$10,340.00  | \$73,340.00 |
|                 | Comment(s): Purchase of Research Survey |   |              |             |
| 08/16/2016      | Assembly Democratic Camp Comm           | P.O. Box 814, Madison, WI 53701                     | \$36,000.00  | \$73,340.00 |
|                 | Comment(s): Research Survey purchase    |   |              |             |
| 08/23/2016      | Assembly Democratic Camp Comm           | P.O. Box 814, Madison, WI 53701                     | \$27,000.00  | \$73,340.00 |
|                 | Comment(s): Research Survey purchase    |   |              |             |
| 10/07/2016      | WEC Energy Group PAC (WEC PAC)          | 231 West Michigan Street, P346, Milwaukee, WI 53203 | \$6,000.00   | \$6,000.00  |
| 10/13/2016      | WI Teamsters Joint Council 39           | 6200 W Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee, WI 53213            | \$2,500.00   | \$2,500.00  |
| 10/28/2016      | WEAC PAC                                | P.O. Box 8003, Madison, WI 53708-8003               | \$12,000.00  | \$12,000.00 |
| 10/31/2016      | WI Grocers Assn PAC                     | 33 East Main St., Suite 701, Madison, WI 53703      | \$500.00     | \$1,500.00  |
| 11/02/2016      | WI Laborers District Council            | 4633 Liuna Way, Suite 101, DeForest, WI 53532       | \$6,000.00   | \$6,000.00  |
| 11/03/2016      | WI State Council of Carpenters          | 115 West Main Street, Madison, WI 53703             | \$6,000.00   | \$6,000.00  |
|                 | <b>Sub Total</b>                        |   | \$106,840.00 |             |
| <b>In-Kind</b>  |   |   |              |             |
| 07/22/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$10,340.00  | \$97,340.00 |
| 08/16/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$36,000.00  | \$97,340.00 |
| 08/19/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$27,000.00  | \$97,340.00 |
| 09/12/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$4,500.00   | \$97,340.00 |
| 10/07/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$4,500.00   | \$97,340.00 |
| 10/11/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$10,500.00  | \$97,340.00 |
| 10/19/2016      | Wisconsin Progress Action               | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703      | \$4,500.00   | \$97,340.00 |
|                 | <b>Sub Total</b>                        |   | \$97,340.00  |             |
|                 | <b>Grand Total</b>                      |   | \$204,180.00 |             |
|                 | <b>Non-Monetary (-):</b>                |   | \$0.00       |             |

**SCHEDULE 2-A**

**DISBURSEMENTS  
Gross Expenditures**

Complete Committee Name: Assembly Democratic Camp Comm

| Date             | Communication Date | Full Name                     | Address  | Vendor Name | Vendor Address | Expense Purpose   | Amount             |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>In-Kind</b>   |                    |                               |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 07/22/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$10,340.00        |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 08/16/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$36,000.00        |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 08/19/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$27,000.00        |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 09/12/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$4,500.00         |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 10/07/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$4,500.00         |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 10/11/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$10,500.00        |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 10/19/2016       |                    | Wisconsin Progress Action     | 211 Patterson St, Suite 210, Madison, WI 53703 |             |                | Research - Survey | \$4,500.00         |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Matching In-Kind  |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| <b>Sub Total</b> |                    |                               |  |             |                |                   | <b>\$97,340.00</b> |
| <b>Monetary</b>  |                    |                               |  |             |                |                   |                    |
| 07/27/2016       |                    | Assembly Democratic Camp Comm | P.O. Box 814, Madison, WI 53701                |             |                | Bank Charges      | \$15.00            |
|                  |                    | Comment(s): Fee               |  |             |                |                   |                    |



Here at the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, one of our main missions is to be a campaign finance watchdog, and when any group or individual appears to be exceeding the legal limits, we bark. That's what we're doing now, with these two complaints.

What's more, we've been looking closely at the legislative campaign committees because the Republican legislature and Gov. Scott Walker rewrote the campaign finance law in November 2015 to allow corporate donations to these committees. Corporate donations to campaigns were against the law for more than 100 years, and we vigorously opposed this change in the law. This is an area that is ripe for corruption on all sides.