

The State of MMHCA - June 2024

Answers to Members' Questions:
regarding the situation with the "dba Michigan LPCs" group

MMHCA Board

Christopher DeBoer, President
Dr. Katherine James, Past President
Krystin Sankey, Treasurer
Carol Berger, Secretary
Dr. Joy Creel, Member at Large
Lauri Rowe, Bridging Committee Chair

Introduction

To be clear, we are the interim Board that you, the members, duly elected early November 2023. We sign every email with the names of all our Board members and go by the name Michigan Mental Health Counselors Association (MMHCA).

Throughout this report our organization will be referred to as exactly what it is, “MMHCA” or the “Elected Board of MMHCA.”

The so-called “organization” that Mr. Blundo and Dr. Sue Schaeffer started, after frivolously refusing to honor the results of the November 2023 election, is named “MMHCA, dba Michigan LPCs,” and we will refer to that group, simply as “dba Michigan LPCs.”

Everything we report here, including answers to your questions, is based on fact. By fact, we mean that answers are based on documented actions (bank withdrawals, recorded transcripts, government records, etc.) or direct statements made by individuals like Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer and others. In many cases the statements are from recorded meetings. Everything in this report has been reviewed by legal counsel.

We will not use ad hominem arguments, name calling or talk about “takeovers,” “coups” or “Big Lies” because that type of language and hyperbole only distracts from the facts and denigrates this discussion and our profession. We all deserve better.

Until now, we have refrained from publicly discussing many specifics about the situation involving the dba Michigan LPCs group. Our intention was to maintain a respectful and professional approach, even in the face of unexpected challenges. We had hoped to protect the reputations of our colleagues (Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer and the dba group), as well as preserve the integrity of our professional community. However, their refusal to accept the November 2023 election results—an election they were involved in planning and participated in—and their unwillingness to transfer the organization's property to the elected interim Board of MMHCA as required, have left us with no choice but to address these issues openly. We find ourselves compelled to respond formally to ensure transparency and uphold the democratic process within our organization.

Given the continued emails from the dba Michigan LPCs group (4 emails between 5/24 - 6/25/24 alone), we can no longer remain silent. Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's group has continuously made unfounded, disparaging statements via email about your elected **volunteer** Board members to the public, by sending their emails to MMHCA members and to all 10,000+ counselors in the state on multiple occasions. They have claimed repeatedly to be MMHCA, *which they are not*, and have tried to convince people to pay membership dues to them rather than to the elected MMHCA Board. Their behavior is unacceptable and egregious. Their behavior has harmed individuals, our organization and the counseling profession in Michigan.

We tried in good faith to negotiate with Mr. Blundo's group for months via attorneys. It was an odd and frustrating experience as they wouldn't acknowledge facts, and instead continued to distract from

and delay progress. It was also expensive and financed mostly by the elected Board members' personal funds.

The dba Michigan LPCs group had accessed the Board insurance, by claiming to be MMHCA, and was given an attorney at presumably no cost to them. The elected Board had no access to give the insurance carrier correct information because Mr. Blundo and Ms. Mike withheld and refused to transfer over documentation after the election.

On April 1, 2024 our attorney submitted a formal offer to the dba Michigan LPCs group suggesting a mutually agreed upon third party run an election (in May/June 2024 as the bylaws require); to resolve the situation without further conflict; with the stipulation that both sides would honor the election's outcome. Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano and Dr. Emde's group didn't just reject our offer, they sent an email (4/3/24) to Michigan counselors again disparaging our volunteer elected Board and claiming to be MMHCA. In the same email they also falsely claimed our dues collecting system (Neon) was not working properly and tried to fraudulently convince counselors to pay their dues instead to dba Michigan LPCs' Paypal account. For the record, Neon has always been operating correctly; the dba Michigan LPCs group just does not have any access to Neon - because they are not MMHCA.

Seeing there was no reasonable path forward by attempting to resolve our differences, we directed our attorney to end negotiations with their attorney, which he did on 4/18/24.

In addition to multiple emails soliciting payments via PayPal, on 6/24/24, the dba Michigan LPCs group sent emails to individuals (using an outdated membership list still in Mr. Blundo's possession) falsely claiming that memberships would expire on 6/30/24 and urging renewal via PayPal. This misinformation is egregious. MMHCA has never operated where there is one universal membership expiration date for all members. As you all know, memberships expire individually one year after payment of dues. This deceptive communication was clearly intended to mislead individuals into making payments to the dba Michigan LPC group via PayPal, and divert it from MMHCA.

The remainder of this document contains a great deal of information, so we have attempted to organize it in a way that makes it easier to understand and help you get the answers to your questions. The information is organized in the following way:

- Active Table of Contents ([Clicking on any item will take you to that item/page](#))
- Short History- What led up to the current situation
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A Short History

(A more complete history is available later in this document if you are interested in additional details and supporting evidence.)

- In August 2022, Mr. Blundo, MMHCA's Executive Director (ED) at the time, unilaterally increased his salary by approximately \$1,000 per month for two months before Board approval, which he later acknowledged. He did not reimburse the organization. The Board was unaware of these salary adjustments until a Board member discovered them sometime after they had been implemented. (During the same period, the bookkeeper also gave themselves a 25% raise without the Board's knowledge, and both individuals signed each other's checks.)
- One Board member, Carol Berger, thought it was wrong for two contracted workers to take a pay raise without MMHCA's Board approval, and attempted to discuss this with them further. She repeatedly requested budget and financial data about the organization from Mr. Blundo and the former bookkeeper, but was denied access each time. The reason this was a concern is because MMHCA, as a nonprofit organization, is required to maintain transparency regarding their finances and operations. This includes providing access to financial records and budgets to Board members.
- One year later, ahead of the August 2023 Board meeting, Carol Berger prepared a financial analysis and emailed it to the Board for review before the scheduled meeting. The Board was expected to vote to approve or revise the proposed budget at that meeting, but had not yet discussed it. During the preceding year, the organization had lost one third of its members and 25% of its savings. Carol sent three group emails to the other Board members collectively: one including her financial analysis and two addressing the funds that were taken by Mr. Blundo and Ms. Theresa Mike without the Board's knowledge and before Board approval.
- At the August 2023 Board meeting, while many points were raised, there are a few important ones to note:
 - o Robyn Emde made a motion to remove Carol Berger from the Board for "doing business outside Board meetings" because Carol sent 3 group emails (communicating sincere and urgent concerns) to the Board members before the August 2023 Board meeting. Links to the three emails Carol sent the board:
[Financial summary - 8.3.23 PDF.pdf](#)
[Financial summary - 8.3.23 additional documentation PDF.pdf](#)
[Emails re money taken without permission CB sent the Board - including KH's response - 8.16 - 17.2023](#)
 - o Robyn Emde claimed that Carol Berger somehow violated the ACA Code of Ethics. For the record, the ACA Code of Ethics does not pertain to or address actions when serving on a non-profit Board outside of the role of counseling.

- Discussion ensued regarding the legitimacy of Board members' voting rights after it was revealed that Mr. Blundo, as Executive Director, had not followed the Bylaws for over a decade. Therefore, it was argued that no one on the Board was considered "legitimate" or had standing to vote, because Mr. Blundo had personally appointed Board members without holding proper elections.
- After the August 2023 Board meeting, Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer contacted a respected consultant, counselor and long-time friend of theirs for advice and asked him to act as consultant to the board. The consultant agreed.
- Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer wanted to hold an emergency election to establish a legitimate Board capable of making organizational decisions - they said this multiple times to the consultant.
- The Board planned and conducted an "interim election" in October/November 2023, with all Board members participating in the planning process, and a majority of them running as candidates on the ballot.
- Both Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer attempted to interfere with the election while it was in progress.
- After the election, Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, and the rest of their group refused to accept the election results and the will of the members. They refused to give the newly elected Board of MMHCA members access to organization assets including: the bank accounts (\$80,000+), financial records, and the old website. Moreover, they repeatedly contacted counselors in Michigan claiming to be MMHCA, disparaging the newly elected Board, making false, misleading statements and attempting to divert dues to them versus the elected MMHCA Board.
- Mr. Blundo, joined by Dr. Sara Sue Schaeffer, Dr. Irene Ametrano, Dr. Robyn Emde, Joe Guajardo, Trisha Lothamer, and Dr. Don Amidon have since falsely claimed that they are the true organization and refuse to abide by the election results (an election half of them were involved in planning and all participated in.)
- Since their email on November 17, 2023 to over 11,000 counselors in Michigan, Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano, Dr. Emde, Joe Guajardo, Trisha Lothamer, and Dr. Amidon are now referring to their "organization" as MMHCA dba Michigan LPCs, asserting it to be the rightful/true MMHCA. They continue to withhold MMHCA's property and assets from the duly elected Board. Fortunately, Comerica Bank has frozen most of the accounts MMHCA knows about so neither party can access any of the \$79K in savings until they come to an agreement, or through a court order.

The following 2 tables provide further context when trying to understand MMHCA's situation.

| MMHCA Fiscal year | Mr. Blundo's annual pay ¹ | Net Income (after expenses) | Savings/checking account totals at the end of each fiscal year |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 2016-17 | \$12,000 | \$34,296 | --- |
| 2017-18 | \$18,000 | \$20,854 | \$66,666 |
| 2018-19 | \$23,500 | \$(24,234) | \$41,299 |
| 2019-20 | \$32,500 | \$16,172 | \$57,055 |
| 2020-21 | \$36,000 | \$(12,432) | \$47,092 |
| 2021-22 | \$36,000 | \$71,022 | \$118,773 |
| 2022-23 | \$46,800 | \$(23,031) | \$93,315 |

The fiscal year starts July 1 each year. By July 31, 2023, there was \$87,468 in savings/checking, and by November 2023 the amount was down to \$79,251 which is currently frozen by Comerica Bank. Mr. Blundo has falsely told Comerica Bank that his organization is the correct one, thus forcing the bank to freeze the account until the matter is resolved.

One more chart to convey the size of the organization:

| MMHCA Fiscal year | Membership dues | Dues/100 = # of members |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 2010-11 | \$8228 | 82 |
| 2011-12 | \$8733 | 87 |
| 2012-13 | \$13,355 | 134 |
| 2013-14 | \$13,936 | 139 |
| 2014-15 | \$17,767 | 178 |
| 2015-16 | \$19,233 | 192 |
| 2016-17 | \$23,570 | 236 |
| 2017-18 | \$30,124 | 301 |
| 2018-19 | \$28,120 | 281 |
| 2019-20 | \$75,065 | 751 |
| 2020-21 | \$54,991 | 550 |
| 2021-22 | \$92,595 | 926 |
| 2022-23 | \$61,945 | 619 |

¹ It should be noted that Mr. Blundo worked part-time as an independent contractor for MMHCA

Top 10 Questions people asked

Following are the questions most often asked by members.

Question 1 - Why should we not think that this is just a hostile takeover?

First and foremost, because the elected Board of MMHCA is the Board the membership, i.e. you, chose when they voted in November 2023. After submitting our candidacies, we had no power to decide who was going to be elected. We took on these responsibilities because the membership told us that is what they wanted. It was an election that one side that participated in the election refused to recognize, even though they were involved throughout the process.

Let's also look at what members have received from each group since November, 2023.

Since this trouble started the volunteer Elected Board of MMHCA has:

- Held **monthly public Board meetings** that are recorded and made available to members
- **Updated MMHCA's Bylaws** with member input and our attorney's guidance, and made the Bylaws public on mmhcaNow.org [4.19.24 Bylaws - MMHCA](#)
- Provided **multiple free workshops** for members (including 3 in the last two months)
- Conducted **training, free to members**, on the practical matters of Medicare for LPCs - ongoing training regarding Medicare will be offered by an expert in the field.
- Created an **online library of free educational video** resources (YouTube @mmhcalibrary)
- Created a **new, up to date website**: mmhcaNow.org
- **Surveyed members** several times to get input on organization direction
- Provided **monthly free clinical peer consultation** group sessions
- **Contracted with** and meet regularly with MMHCA's essential **lobbyist**, Acuitas (\$1,670/month)
- Gotten the organization on track with the just completed, first in a decade, public election (June 2024) [2024 Election Results MMHCA 6.15.24](#)
- Continued to work on studying the **Counseling Compact**
- Started work with our lobbyist on limiting number of years **Insurance Clawbacks** can occur
- Provided members **free access** to a national functional medicine psychiatry conference (value \$299)
- Created a cooperative relationship with another Michigan mental health organization
- Begun revitalizing MMHCA's LinkedIn group and Twitter (X) accounts: [linkedin.com/company/mmhca](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mmhca) and x.com/officialMMHCA
- And much more to come.

In that same time, as far as we know, Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano, and Dr. Emde's group, dba Michigan LPCs, has:

- Had **no public Board** meetings,
- Has changed their officer positions numerous times (i.e., S. Schaeffer has gone from being appointed president by Mr. Blundo, to mysteriously becoming past president in May 2024. The secretary became a University Liaison Chair and most recently is a member at large. Dr.

Schaeffer's husband, Don Amidon, recently appeared in signatures on their emails as the new Secretary, and Mr. Blundo is recently signing their emails as president and executive director simultaneously².)

- They have **not** funded a lobbyist (they falsely claim to have a lobbyist on their website)
- They have **not** offered workshops or ongoing services to members.
- Mr. Blundo's group **has** sent out numerous emails accusing officially elected volunteer MMHCA Board members of doing things they have not done, made malicious and defamatory public statements about other LPCs and he has done lots of unprofessional name calling.
- Mr. Blundo and others in dba Michigan LPCs have gone so far as to file a license complaint against the consultant, a longtime friend, whom they asked to assist with the board. This consultant dedicated hundreds of pro bono hours to help, but when they apparently didn't like their consultant's conclusions or recommendations, they accused him of violating professional ethics, a complete fabrication.

Question 2 - Mr. Blundo claims he was "authorized by membership" to ignore the election and start his group, please explain.

Mr. Blundo, on numerous occasions via email, has claimed that he was "authorized by the membership" to change the organization because he had an "election" in October 2023 in which he received "overwhelming support" to reorganize the organization.

This must be clarified. Mr. Blundo did NOT have an election. On October 9, 2023, he sent an unauthorized, one question poll to membership that contained false information and stated that he "had the responsibility to see that MMHCA survives." He sent a similar letter to former members on October 12, 2023 with the same false information asking them to join the organization so they could "vote" in his poll. Again, it should be reiterated that Mr. Blundo was a paid, part-time administrator who reported **to** the Board and had no authority to reach out to the membership in such a way. Mr. Blundo's email of October 9, 2023 was an attempt to undercut the election the Board had just approved in advance of the Board announcement of the election.

In fact, Mr. Blundo's position was not even accounted for in the Bylaws and his actions of reaching out to the membership to undermine the Board he was accountable to constitutes a blatant act of insubordination and undermined the Board's decisions (the Board had voted two days earlier to proceed with an already carefully planned election). Mr. Blundo had absolutely NO authority to take the action he did. Just because he claimed to be a founding member of the organization did not negate the fact that the organization was **legally bound** to abide by the 2012 Bylaws and the Board, not to the personal preferences of Mr. Blundo.

² This is problematic because these two roles typically have distinct responsibilities and checks and balances in non-profits. In most organizational structures, the president is responsible for overseeing the Board and ensuring that governance and strategic direction are maintained, while the executive director handles the day-to-day operations and reports to the board, including the president. By assuming both titles, Mr. Blundo creates a significant conflict of interest and undermines the accountability that should exist between these roles, leading to potential governance issues and a lack of transparency.

In response to Mr. Blundo's acts, the Board held a public town hall zoom meeting on October 12, 2023, which was attended by over 200 people, to clarify emphatically that Mr. Blundo had no authority to take the action he did. Mr. Blundo was also told, at the meeting, to cease all of his responsibilities as ED until further notice. That meeting was recorded and like most of our meetings is available on YouTube @mmhcalibrary.

In summary, Mr. Blundo was never, at any point given authorization by MMHCA members to ignore the election.

Question 3 - What are the most effective things for us to do to support the volunteer board?

Thank you for this question.

There are many ways to support the volunteer elected board.

1. Pay dues if you feel you are getting benefit from being a member and encourage others to join (dues are vital to paying ongoing expenses - mainly \$1670/month to our excellent and essential lobbyist to help protect our profession).
2. Volunteer to help.
3. Follow MMHCA on Facebook, LinkedIn, and/or Twitter/X. Links can be found on mmhcaNow.org
4. Interact with Board members - we appreciate you.
5. Attend/participate in MMHCA events, workshops, and special meetings.
6. Understand and share that the purpose of the organization is to protect, promote and uplift our profession.
7. Encourage dialogue that's sincere and respectful.
8. Ask questions if you have them - we will do our best to answer. Email Board members directly (locate email addresses on mmhcaNow.org website) or email our official Board email address mmhcabi@gmail.com)
9. Please remember we are 6 **volunteers** who all have full time jobs and families.

Just like most of you, we'd like a professional association that can represent us well, advocate for LPCs, and provide relevant support to counselors. We are working very hard to do right by our members, colleagues and profession. We are also working very hard to save and protect the organization.

If you would like to be more assertive and help MMHCA fend off the false accusations and constant attacks from dba Michigan LPCs, you can:

1. File formal complaints about the dba Michigan LPCs group and Mr. Blundo with AMHCA by sending an email to the following people collectively:

- Dr. Beverly Smith, AMHCA Interim Executive Director amhcaceo@gmail.com
- Dr. Dierdra Sanders Burnette, President of AMHCA deirdrasb@gmail.com
- Dr. Jeri Stevens, Chair of Regional Directors downhill@gwi.net

- Dr. Napoleon Harrington, Midwest Director nharrington@ambassadorcounseling.com

2. File a complaint about the dba Michigan LPCs's phishing attempts to divert your dues payments to their PayPal account. You can file those complaints directly with Constant Contact by sending the email and/or the email headers directly to reportphishing@constantcontact.com

3. Report to www.IC3.gov regarding Mr. Blundo and his Michigan LPCs group's attempts to fraudulently convince members through Phishing emails to send their dues to his unauthorized PayPal account. This is a clear attempt at deception and may be possible internet fraud and can be investigated by the authorities.

Question 4 - What is the legal basis for removing Mr. Blundo, who founded this organization?

Additional related questions: I have known James Blundo in the past and always respected his knowledge and leadership. I am confused about all of this and do not know what to trust. I would like to see the court or legal decision that Dr. Blundo was removed and what legal action was decided upon.

Mr. Blundo was relieved of his duties as ED by the elected Board at the November 2023 Board meeting. The reason for his dismissal was partly due to the fact that he refused to accept the results of the election and was intentionally sabotaging the transition process to the new board. His actions also included his failure to give the elected Board the monthly financial report, and he instructed the bookkeeper to withhold the financial report from the elected Board as well. As stated earlier, these are significant issues, especially when it comes to a nonprofit organization.

Mr. Blundo's other acts of insubordination or undermining of the Board include, but are not limited to:

- Refusing to give MMHCA property, including access to bank accounts containing \$79,000+,
- Refusing to give the elected Board of MMHCA access to financial or other records,
- Actively undermining the election that was in progress with his October 9, 2023 and October 11, 2023 emails (see Question 2).
- Blatantly ignoring a Board decision on October 12, 2023 demanding at a public meeting that he not contact members directly, and
- Refusing to give the elected Board of MMHCA access/control of mmhca.org.

Finally, with respect to the assumption that Mr. Blundo "founded" MMHCA. We can find no clear record of who "founded" MMHCA. The names on the first registrations with the State of Michigan do not have Mr. Blundo on them. His name does not appear on LARA records until 2009, 26 years after Mr. Blundo claims to have "founded" it in 1983. It could be true, but we cannot confirm it. From 2004 - 2008 there are other people registered with LARA as running the organization and Mr. Blundo is not mentioned during those years of the earliest state records.

For clarification, an organization does not need a court order or legal decision to stop paying a contracted worker. MMHCA acted within and in accordance to the terms of the contract that Mr. Blundo was keeping from the organization. It is important to also know, Mr. Blundo was never an employee, but was contracted to perform the duties of an executive director, and reported to the Board. He worked at the will of the board. The Board has the authority to take action to end that relationship at any time, especially for cause.

[Link to 11/17/23 Board meeting starting at minute 18:44 re Mr. Blundo's dismissal with cause November 2023 Board Meeting](#)

Question 5 - Many people asked how to ascertain their membership status and to whom their dues went?

Additional related questions: I am concerned I joined the Blundo organization not realizing if it was the wrong one. How can we best verify that we are current members, and our funds are going to the proper account? I don't even know my membership status anymore due to the confusion between groups, where can I check that? As a lifetime member I would like to know the legal status of my membership as MMHCA moves through separation from Blundo. Am I a current member of MMHCA? MMHCA states, "You are a current member with us - your membership expires September 30, 2024." However, dba Michigan LPCs states membership expires July 1, 2024. Is membership set up as auto renewal and how were these two different expiration dates established?

You can check your membership status with MMHCA [here](#). Once you open the link click on "login" in the upper right corner.

If you are a current member, it should be clear in your account. If we have received your dues you should show up as a current active member. Your records in Neon/Neon Pay (our email and payment system) are not accessible by anyone outside of the elected Board. That being said, Mr. Blundo and his group still control the old email system (Constant Contact) and that system contains information about members who were members before December 1, 2023.

If you paid dues before 12/1/23, your money is currently frozen in the Comerica Bank account along with \$79K+ of MMHCA's money - frozen meaning no one can access the money until either both parties agree to unfreeze it or a court order is given to the bank regarding the rightful owner of the accounts.

If you paid dues through Neon from 12/1/23 forward, our elected MMHCA Board received your dues.

If you paid dues via PayPal, Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's dba Michigan LPCs group received your money, and our Board does NOT have your contact information to consider you a member. PayPal has been reversing the charges for individuals who dispute the payments to Mr. Blundo, if you would like to do so as well.

If you paid via PayPal thinking our Board was receiving your dues please contact us at mmhcabi@gmail.com.

Also, currently AMHCA is choosing to remain neutral about this situation - if you joined MMHCA via AMHCA, please email us at mmhcabi@gmail.com if you would like to be a MMHCA member. We do not have your contact information to consider you a member.

The way to join or renew with MMHCA at this time is via mmhcaNow.org where you can easily join/renew through Neon which is solely controlled by the elected MMHCA Board.

Please email us at mmhcabi@gmail.com if you have any questions at all about your membership status or dues.

A few more important points regarding membership:

- MMHCA has control of the current member record database (in Neon) and dba Michigan LPCs **does not**. Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's group do not know when memberships expire because they don't have any access to the current member records. They don't have an up-to-date list of members, just an old one, which is why some members get their emails and others don't.
- The dba Michigan LPCs arbitrary July 1, 2024, expiration/renewal date is an attempt on their part to deceive members and make them feel their membership is expiring, so they can get them to sign up with dba Michigan LPCs and get their dues. The July 1 "deadline" has absolutely no effect on MMHCA members.
- If you are a current member with MMHCA, you will receive notice just prior to your membership expiring one year after you last paid dues.
- Contrary to what Mr. Blundo has stated, both on video and in writing, there are no problems with the online membership payment system, Neon, which the elected MMHCA Board has sole control over. Mr. Blundo and his group are continuously trying to fraudulently deceive members into paying their dues to a PayPal account that Mr. Blundo controls. In other words, the dba Michigan LPCs group is trying to confuse people and convince them into diverting their dues to that group.
- If you want to discontinue your membership with us, you can do so by signing in to your account at the link provided above or just letting your membership lapse.

Question 6 - How can this profession be taken seriously in the State of Michigan with this amount of drama? Why is this conflict still going on?

It's understandable to feel concerned about the ongoing drama and conflict within our profession in Michigan. It's frustrating when these issues overshadow the important work we do. Finding resolution and moving forward in a constructive manner is crucial for maintaining the integrity and credibility of our profession. Working together, we can address these challenges and ensure that our focus remains on serving our community and advocating for our members' interests.

To the elected Board's surprise, Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer and the others in their group did not accept the November 2023 election results despite the fact that they were involved in planning the election and participated as candidates in the election. In a typical democratic environment, we accept

election results and move on. Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer, under the guise of their dba Michigan LPCs group unfortunately chose to do the opposite, which has led to the current state. In an interview with the organizational consultant brought in to work with MMHCA after the August 2023 Board meeting, when asked what she and Mr. Blundo were going to do after the election, Dr. Schaeffer replied, *"We will wait a little while and then Jim will just reorganize MMHCA and move ahead like he always has."* Thus, their actions were planned. We are trying to do what is best for MMHCA and continue to push forward, striving to offer our members a valuable organization that benefits everyone. While navigating the challenging politics within our organization, we recognize it is a reality. It is our mission to resolve these issues with minimal disruption to our members.

We understand your concerns regarding the public and professional perception of our organization. That's why we've chosen to prioritize our forward-looking efforts rather than engaging with every negative email and piece of misinformation circulated by Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Emde, Dr. Ametrano and their group. Our approach has consistently been one of professionalism and respect in all dealings with involved parties.

How do we trust any of you after this?

Rebuilding trust is a priority for us moving forward. We understand that recent events have caused concern and uncertainty. Our commitment is to demonstrate transparency, accountability, and a dedication to serving our members' best interests. We're actively working to address issues, improve communication, and ensure that our actions align with our members' expectations. Your trust is invaluable to us, and we are committed to earning it back through our ongoing efforts and commitment to integrity.

Moreover, the elected MMHCA Board has done everything on a voluntary, unpaid basis and is doing it because it is the right and ethical thing to do. They have all personally spent money from their own pockets to retain legal counsel, on behalf of MMHCA, to defend against the actions of Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's group and defend and protect MMHCA, and its members and their dues.

Rebuilding the trust MMHCA may have lost is our top priority, and we recognize that recent events have understandably raised doubts. To regain your trust, we are taking concrete actions such as enhancing transparency by providing clear and accurate information, ensuring accountability by adhering strictly to organizational policies and procedures, improving communication by actively engaging with our members, and demonstrating our commitment to serving their best interests. We are determined to learn from past challenges, make necessary improvements, and rebuild trust through consistent and ethical actions.

We will ensure any future contractor or employee of MMHCA will earn a salary that is approved by the Board and not be ~45% of the total MMHCA budget.

Question 7 - Which group does the state of Michigan recognize as the true MMHCA? Has anyone at the state recognized Jim Blundo's "dba Michigan LPCs" as the true MMHCA? If yes, who?

The State of Michigan, unfortunately, takes a passive role on matters like this. They only respond to a court order after a lawsuit is ruled on by the courts. That can literally take years. It can help if counselors voice their disagreement with the unethical actions of the dba Michigan LPCs. But ultimately, a court order or agreement between parties is what is required.

On LARA's Corporate Division site you can see that the dba Michigan LPCs group keeps re-submitting an annual report to LARA which might make it appear they are in charge of MMHCA. This is not true. Anyone, you and 5 of your neighbors could fill out the form, pay the \$20 fee and it automatically is approved and posted by the state. It is unethical and illegal if you know you are not in fact authorized to take such acts; dba Michigan LPCs are not concerned about the law. **Moreover, LARA requires a court order to prevent a party's form from being posted.**

Question 8 - Who is the ultimate authority in determining which organization represents the profession? Or will it always be factions competing?

The ultimate authority in determining which organization represents the profession lies with the membership. It is you who decide where to align yourself and where to invest your dues. Membership in a professional organization should be based on how well it serves the profession and meets your professional needs. If an organization fails to meet these expectations, members have the right to withhold support by not paying dues.

At MMHCA, we operate under the principle that the organization is run by the members and for the members. The board's sole purpose is to serve the members, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs addressed. Members have the power to raise their voices, influence decisions, and shape the direction of the organization. We are committed to fostering a culture of openness and responsiveness, where member feedback guides our actions and decisions. Together, we strive to build a professional organization that truly represents and serves its membership.

We can confidently tell you that Mr. Blundo does not have the sole authority, or any authority at this point, in determining which organization represents the profession. His role was terminated pursuant to his contract. If he wants to create a brand-new organization, he can. However, he cannot take the MMHCA name and assets and attempt to deceive the public into thinking he still retains control over MMHCA.

If you look at what the elected MMHCA Board has done under these difficult circumstances, we believe you'll see we have made our focus addressing the membership's needs.

We have surveyed the membership and adapted our focus for lobbying to respond to what matters to members; the **counseling compact** and **insurance clawbacks** to name two areas.

Since the Elected Board of MMHCA has been in charge, we have:

- Held **monthly public Board meetings** that are recorded and made available to members
- **Updated MMHCA's Bylaws** with member input and our attorney's guidance, and made the Bylaws public on mmhcaNow.org [4.19.24 Bylaws - MMHCA](#)
- Provided **multiple free workshops** for members (including 3 in the last two months)
- Conducted **training, free to members**, on the practical matters of Medicare for LPCs - ongoing training regarding Medicare will be offered by an expert in the field.
- Created an **online library of free educational video** resources (YouTube @mmhcalibrary)
- Created a **new, up to date website**: mmhcaNow.org
- **Surveyed members** several times to get input on organization direction
- Provided **monthly free clinical peer consultation** group sessions
- **Contracted with** and meet regularly with MMHCA's essential **lobbyist**, Acuitas (\$1,670/month)
- Gotten the organization on track with the just completed, first in a decade, public election (June 2024) [2024 Election Results MMHCA 6.15.24](#)
- Continued to work on studying the **Counseling Compact**
- Started work with our lobbyist on limiting number of years **Insurance Clawbacks** can occur
- Provided members **free access** to a national functional medicine psychiatry conference (value \$299)
- Created a cooperative relationship with another Michigan mental health organization
- Begun revitalizing MMHCA's LinkedIn group and Twitter (X) accounts: [linkedin.com/company/mmhca](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mmhca) and x.com/officialMMHCA
- And much more to come.

We hope that you will decide to be part of MMHCA now and in the future. The elected volunteer Board of MMHCA needs the support of membership to serve both the profession and individual members.

Question 9 - Are elections legally sanctioned with the present legal situation with Blundo?

As explained fully elsewhere, Mr. Blundo was relieved of his duties as executive director on November 17, 2023, so he had no impact on the recently conducted election (May/June 2024) for the MMHCA Board. Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano and Dr. Emde's group, dba Michigan LPCs, is an entirely different group that they started after the November 2023 election when they refused to accept the election results. There is clear continuity of MMHCA under the current and just elected board. Mr. Blundo's group has no bearing on that.

How will voting work if we get emails from both groups asking us to vote?

The election just conducted by the Elected Board of MMHCA (which concluded in June 2024) is the official election of the Michigan Mental Health Counselors Association. We used a secure voting system (Election Buddy) that you were taken to through a link in an email you received which guaranteed one person, one vote and anonymous voting. Election Buddy is a highly regarded, online election system that is known for running elections with integrity (it is used by professional associations, unions, industry associations, etc.) We have detailed records of who actual members

are with their member status. When reporting our results you received total votes cast and the totals for each candidate. It was run under the guidelines outlined in MMHCA's 4.19.24 Bylaws. We are committed to transparency in all we do for members, but especially for elections. The 4.19.24 Bylaws can be viewed on our website mmhcaNow.org. [4.19.24 Bylaws - MMHCA](#)

The election run by dba Michigan LPCs was not a MMHCA approved election. First, the dba Michigan LPCs group does not even know who current members of MMHCA are, and are not. This is because they are not MMHCA and do not have access to our systems and data. They are welcome to start a completely new organization and run it however they choose. However, they are prohibited from using the MMHCA name, or any of our resources.

Question 10 - Please explain the following statement in a recent James Blundo email - "Katherine James appointed and chaired a nominations committee, though she was neither the immediate past president, nor the president as required by the bylaws. Yet she created a nominations committee in violation of the bylaws, and conducted an election that also violated the bylaws, was not approved by the membership, and was thus illegitimate."

Any claim or allegation that the October/November 2023 election violated the Bylaws is a result of them losing the election. The same individuals, who are accusing MMHCA of violating the Bylaws, and claiming they are the appropriate group, run their "organization" by hand-selecting who is on their "board".

What we can tell you is that Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano, and Dr. Emde were ALL included in every communication regarding the election leading up to the majority vote to proceed with an election as proposed by Dr. James and the Election Committee. **That majority vote of the acting Board validated the procedure that was planned and used.** Not one of those who are objecting now ever brought up anything about this during discussions about how to set up the election. **Mr. Blundo didn't have elections or follow the bylaws regarding voting for over a decade** and suddenly, *seven months after the election*, they came out with this statement about Dr. James.

Simply stated, the majority of the Board voted to proceed with the election as Dr. James and the Election Committee proposed. This majority vote authorized the Election Committee's actions.

The Bylaws do not in any way require the membership to approve the process the Board or Election Committee uses for an election.

We feel it is also important to mention this about Dr. James. Dr. James joined the Board in 2016, committing to a monthly commute of one hour each way to attend in-person monthly meetings until early 2020 when meetings shifted online. From July 2020 to June 2023, Dr. James served MMHCA diligently as President, dedicating significant volunteer hours to the organization. Her efforts created multiple firsts for MMHCA (creating and maintaining the Bridging Initiative program which received

national recognition from AMHCA, being part of establishing and offering some of Michigan's first Implicit Bias training and more). During the August 2023 Board meeting, Mr. Blundo praised Dr. James, stating, "...I don't want to brag about her but she was the best president and Napoleon were the best presidents that I ever had..." time stamp 37 minutes.

It is astonishing that they would criticize actions as being done "outside the bylaws" when they themselves have blatantly disregarded the Bylaws. As documented by MMHCA's consultant, these are the same behaviors Mr. Blundo engaged in, contrary to the Bylaws, for over a decade.

These statements made by Mr. Blundo in his 5/28/24 email are false for a number of reasons. Let us break them down piece by piece.

1. "...though she was neither the immediate past president, nor the president as required by the bylaws." Dr. James served on the Board since 2016. She served as President from July 2020 through June 2023, and became Past President (a voting office held for one year) July 1, 2023. If Mr. Blundo is referring to the fact that Dr. James was not elected, that was his doing, not hers. Dr. Katherine James was acting as the Past President during the tenure of President Kristi Hottenstein who resigned during the August 2023 Board meeting.
2. "Yet she created a nominations committee in violation of the bylaws" No, the majority of the Board voted to hold an emergency election with Dr. James as the Chair of the Election Committee. Dr. James did not create the committee solely by her own authority. Furthermore, the bylaws allow for the past president to create a nomination and election committee.
3. "...conducted an election that also violated the bylaws..." There is a partial truth here. There is nothing in the 2012 By-laws which states what to do in the case of an issue like MMHCA faced after Dr. Schaeffer suddenly declared (during the August 2023 Board meeting) that no one who had been operating as a Board member was actually a Board member because they had been appointed by Mr. Blundo. **We consulted legal counsel on this matter because of this, and were instructed that in extreme circumstances such as these the Board was able to vote to hold an emergency election. The majority of the Board voted to proceed with an emergency election, as Dr. James and the Election Committee proposed, in order to get voting Board members in place as soon as possible** - especially because the budget needed immediate revision.
4. ..."was not approved by the membership, and was thus illegitimate." There is no function in the by-laws for an election to be approved by the membership. While we are an organization here to be driven by and to serve our members, the legal structure of the organization is based on governance by the Board of Directors.

You may be referring to the 10/9/23 email "vote" that Mr. Blundo asked for to supposedly "authorize" him to name a slate of Board members. While he claims that 95% of people supported his idea to hand select a "slate" of names to be on the Board, this is a bit of a trick using statistics. 95% of the people **who replied** voted yes. 33% of members who received that email "voted". *That means 31% agreed with Mr. Blundo's proposal, not the 95% he claims.* And the 33% who voted, didn't really have any idea what they were agreeing to. Also, what Mr.

Blundo subsequently did was not what he promised in his 10/9/24 email - he never sent a "slate" to the membership for a vote - instead he hand-picked his new board, just like has always done. **But, just to be clear, all of that is a moot point because 1. Membership, per the Bylaws, doesn't approve elections in advance, and 2. Mr. Blundo had zero authority per the 2012 Bylaws to take this action, especially given it was in direct conflict with the decision made by the Board two days prior to proceed with an already carefully planned election.**

A More Complete History

This is a more comprehensive history of how we arrived at our current situation, though it is not exhaustive. For over a decade, Mr. Blundo ran MMHCA in violation of the organization's bylaws. Below are the details of what that means and the ramifications that ensued:

- Mr. Blundo was a paid executive director. He was dismissed with cause on 11/17/23 for refusing to give the elected Board, the very Board he reported to, the monthly financial report. This financial report was the Board's only access to the organization's financial information. Link to 11/17/23 Board meeting starting at minute 18:44 [November 2023 Board Meeting](#)
- For over a year prior to his termination, Mr. Blundo was being paid \$3,900/month while the organization had less than 600 members. The bookkeeper, Ms. Theresa Mike was being paid \$1000/month during the same time. Consequently, between 6/30/22 and 7/31/23, the organization spent \$31,305 more than it received due to their salaries. This small organization could not sustain the high salaries of both the ED and the bookkeeper, along with \$20,000 annually for a lobbyist and other business expenses.
- Mr. Blundo had a MMHCA business credit card seemingly in his own name. When the elected Board of MMHCA gained online viewing access to the organization's checking account in November 2023, they could see that between 11/2021 and 11/2023, \$17,000 spent on Mr. Blundo's credit card was paid off by the MMHCA checking account over those two years. The Board had never seen a credit card statement so didn't know what the charges were since Mr. Blundo never provided any documentation of those expenses.
- Mr. Blundo ran MMHCA and did NOT conduct annual elections as required by the 2012 Bylaws. According to past Board members the only "ballots" that were ever emailed to members were an unopposed slate of names that were chosen by Mr. Blundo. The last of these unopposed slates went to members for a "vote" on June 16, 2014, and since then members were not involved in selecting Board members until the competitive election held in Oct/Nov 2023. [2023 Election Results and Presidential Rerun 11.6.23](#) [2023 Emergency Election Presidential Results 11.13.23](#)
- Mr. Blundo admitted on multiple occasions that he personally chose and "appointed" members to the board. This action is in direct conflict with the Bylaws, which clearly outline the proper process for selecting Board members. The 2012 Bylaws did not allow a paid ED to appoint Board members. This wouldn't make sense either for the ED to appoint the Board, considering the Board is responsible for hiring and overseeing the ED, and the ED reports to the Board. Nevertheless, that is exactly what Mr. Blundo did. At the September 2022 Board meeting, Mr.

Blundo attempted to vote on his own 25% salary increase, until it was objected to by Board member, Carol Berger. Had that occurred, it would have been a blatant conflict of interest where the ED would have voted on his own salary increase. An ED who was not a member of the board, and had no voting right. The 2012 Bylaws specified who the voting members of the Board were, the ED was not one of them. In the fiscal year ending June 2023, Mr. Blundo's salary equaled approximately 100% of the member dues collected. This kind of spending shows a serious oversight in how the organization's finances were being managed. It was clear the Board needed to address this issue promptly because continuing to spend in such a manner would be negligent and was just not practical for the organization's financial well-being.

- Mr. Blundo's and the bookkeeper's name (Ms. Theresa Mike) were on the bank accounts, both of whom were paid contractors. Standard procedure is to have the Treasurer and President on the bank accounts. Treasurer Krystin Sankey was denied access to the bank accounts and accounting receipts/records by Mr. Blundo. It should be noted that the Treasurer's primary role is to oversee and manage the organization's finances.

Board members were denied access to financial documents by Mr. Blundo. Member at Large, at the time, Carol Berger, made multiple written and verbal requests for these documents to be provided to the Board before voting on Mr. Blundo's 25% salary increase September 15, 2022. Carol's primary concern was the lack of transparency in the financials and the disproportionate ratio between Mr. Blundo's salary and MMHCA's income. Carol's requests were not just ignored, but at the August 2022 Board meeting, Mr. Blundo chastised her for requesting the documents. During that meeting, Mr. Blundo informed Carol that he had instructed the bookkeeper not to send or share the previous five years' financial documents that Carol requested. Mr. Blundo also repeatedly dismissed Carol's requests by stating, "You wouldn't understand the (financial) documents."

To help put this in perspective: Mr. Blundo was withholding financial information for a public nonprofit organization, which raises significant concerns about transparency and accountability. Hiding financials undermines trust in the organization's governance. This lack of transparency can lead to misunderstandings about financial health, misuse of funds, and potential legal or regulatory issues. Mr. Blundo's actions were putting the entire organization at risk.

- At least from 2016 onward, Mr. Blundo never submitted an annual report of his performance as ED to the board, nor was he ever evaluated by the board. This was partly due to the fact that Mr. Blundo was the one who appointed the Board members. The Board had never seen his contract (which was signed by the Board January 24, 2014) until several months after he was relieved of his duties. The organization's secretary also had no record of this contract nor did the President from July 2020 forward have any record of this contract.

In addition, that original contract stated "The first contract year will be signed by all Board members. Subsequent year's contracts will be signed by the President." There is

no record of any subsequent year contracts approved or signed after the first year in 2014.

- In July 2022, Mr. Blundo initiated an approximately \$1,000 per month pay increase for himself nearly three months before it was approved by the Board. None of the Board members were aware when both the bookkeeper (who also took an approximately 25% increase in pay) and Mr. Blundo gave themselves this increase (they signed each other's checks since they were the sole authorized signers on the account, which went unnoticed because Board members lacked access to the account). In August 2022, Carol Berger noticed the significantly higher payments in the monthly financial report. She promptly sent two emails to Mr. Blundo and Theresa Mike (the bookkeeper) seeking clarification, but her emails went unanswered.
- On September 12, 2022, during a zoom meeting several Board members attended along with Mr. Blundo, Theresa Mike (bookkeeper) and Dr. Schaeffer (committee chair), to discuss the budget and who was permitted to vote on the proposed budget and salary increases, Carol again asked if Ms. Mike and Mr. Blundo had taken salary increases. Ms. Mike replied, "I put mine back." Mr. Blundo replied that he was holding onto his until the Board voted on the budget.

During this meeting Carol asked **for the 5th time** for financial records to be given to Board members before voting on the proposed two large salary increases (Mr. Blundo's and Ms. Mike's). The requested financial documents were given to the Board less than 48 hours before the vote on the budget.

The matter of the ED and the bookkeeper taking unauthorized money for themselves was not addressed again until Carol asked an attorney if what Mr. Blundo had done in taking money without the Board's knowledge and without Board approval was legal.

Carol then wrote to the Board about what she learned from the attorney and suggested an "emergency meeting", which would have been private, to discuss the issue. Instead, Mr. Blundo and several others (Dr. Robyn Emde, Dr. Sue Schaeffer, and Dr. Irene Ametrano) brought up the issue over and over at the recorded, very public August 2023 Board meeting. At the August 2023 Board meeting Mr. Blundo admitted to taking the money before it was approved by the Board. But him saying that he would have returned the difference if the Board didn't go through with the vote does not make the action taken acceptable. A contractor, who has access to the bank account of the organization they work for, who reports to a board, does not have the authority to unilaterally decide on their own pay raise, then at a later date see whether the Board will approve the raise. [MMHCA Board Meeting - August, 2023](#)

- Allegedly because of 3 emails Carol Berger sent the Board collectively before the August 2023 Board meeting, Dr. Robyn Emde motioned to have Carol removed from the Board. One email was a financial analysis to consider and discuss before voting on the budget on 8/18/23, and the other two emails were about the two paid staff taking money without Board knowledge or approval.

Robyn Emde claimed Carol's emails were "doing business outside of Board meetings" and thereby violating the ACA Code of Ethics. **As Carol had stated in her email to the Board (which Robyn Emde received), MMHCA is a nonprofit organization and therefore not held to the Open Meetings Act which means Board members can communicate with each other outside of formal Board meetings. Moreover, Carol was properly informing the entire Board of two situations via email.** Carol's emails were an attempt to communicate very serious concerns to the Board privately and execute her responsibility as a Board member to protect both the finances and processes of the organization. Furthermore, Carol did NOT violate the ACA code of ethics in any way. Carol was acting in her capacity as a Board member and conducting Board business as was her responsibility. The ACA Code of Ethics governs counselors doing counseling not their actions on a non-profit board.

Link to Dr. Robyn Emde's motion to remove Carol Berger after Chris DeBoer talks about addressing the issues addressed in Carol's emails:

[Chris DeBoer and Robyn Emde - MMHCA Board Meeting - August 2023](#)

Links to financial analysis Carol Berger prepared and emailed to the entire Board August 2023:

[Financial summary - 8.3.23 PDF.pdf](#)

[Financial summary - 8.3.23 additional documentation PDF.pdf](#)

Link to 2 emails regarding inappropriate taking of money Carol Berger sent the entire Board August 2023:

[Emails re money taken without permission CB sent the Board - including KH's response - 8.16 - 17.2023](#)

Many other disruptive things occurred during the August 2023 Board meeting.

- The new president resigned 38 minutes into the meeting after just taking office on July 1. She was dedicated and experienced and had served as Board Secretary for the previous 2 years, and as President Elect for one year. Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's group has claimed multiple times in public emails (including to all 10,000+ MI Counselors) and in a video they emailed to members recently that the new president resigned due to a Board member disrupting the meeting. **That is false, the president did not resign for that reason.** In the video recording of that August 2023 meeting, the new president resigned after saying, "Jim, when I took over as president, I called you for a touch base and one of the first things that you said to me was that you were going to call Carol and you were going to call Joy and you were going to wish them well and thank them for their service. You don't want people who are on this Board who disagree with you. And that has been evident. And that concerns me. I don't want to be part of an organization that behaves that way. I don't."

[33:02 August Board Meeting - President Resigning](#)

- As mentioned above, Dr. Robyn Emde tried to make a claim that the Board member who had questioned Mr. Blundo taking his pay increase before it was approved should be removed from the board. (Dr. Emde is currently on Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's dba Michigan LPCs "board.") This motion contains a false interpretation of the ACA Code, Robert's Rules of Order and emails exchanged. [Link to August 2023 Meeting Dr. Emde Motion](#).
- After the President resigned, Mr. Blundo attempted to appoint himself as president saying, "So since Kristi's stepping down I'll be the president for right now." Past President, Dr. James intervened.
- Throughout the meeting there was disagreement about who on the Board could vote and who could not (certain members wanting to vote per the Bylaws which others objected to).
- It was openly discussed that Mr. Blundo had run MMHCA in violation of the bylaws.
- Mr. Blundo claimed he was publicly being accused of fraud. In fact, he is the one who made those claims public.
- It would later become known that the motion to remove Carol Berger from the Board was an organized effort by several Board members coordinated outside of the Board meeting and involved at least Dr. Sue Schaeffer and Dr. Robyn Emde.
- Dr. Schaeffer claimed and insisted NO ONE in the meeting had "standing" to vote because none of them had been elected by the membership to the Board. Dr. Schaeffer was speaking to Board members who had been serving in good faith for years and whose "votes" up until then had counted/been considered valid enough to give the ED raises and make other decisions. Dr. Schaeffer was partially correct though - none of the Board members (including her) had been elected by the membership which is what the Bylaws dictated and what led the majority of the Board to vote to hold an emergency election.
- **Dr. Schaeffer also made a claim that was completely false. She claimed Mr. Blundo was the last elected president and therefore he was the only one who had "standing" to vote and authority to make decisions.** This is false for two reasons. 1. He was not the last person elected president; three people served in good faith as president after Mr. Blundo was president. 2. He had to resign from the role of president in order to be paid as the ED. He was last president in 2013. He had been the paid ED of the organization since January 2014. **He had given up the position of president nine years earlier.** (There is evidence of an unopposed slate being sent to members for a "vote" in 2009/2010 and in 2014/2015 - Mr. Blundo was not a candidate for President on either of these ballots so **we have no evidence of Mr. Blundo being "elected" by members.**) Aug 2023 Board meeting 4:25 [Dr. Sue Schaeffer claiming no Board members had standing to vote - August 2023 Board meeting](#)
- Until the election was completed the Board was prevented from voting on revising the budget that was quickly draining MMHCA's hard earned savings account to pay the ED and bookkeeper.
- The day after the August 18, 2023 Board meeting, Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer sought the advice of a long trusted organizational consultant, friend and LPC they had known for decades and they stated that an election needed to be held as soon as possible to get back on track and begin to follow the bylaws. In that meeting they again reiterated that Mr. Blundo had run the organization in violation of the bylaws for many years. Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer asked the consultant to help the Board and the consultant agreed to help the MMHCA Board on a pro

bono basis to try to resolve the issues. The consultant initially put in over 100 hours of work, speaking to Board members and analyzing the situation and developing recommendations that were presented to the board.

An emergency election was approved by the appointed board. But, October 9, 2024, the evening before the Board's election announcement was scheduled to be sent to members, Mr. Blundo sent an unauthorized email to all members (and then to all former members on October 11, 2024) making false claims about what was happening in an attempt to undercut the election (this is explained further in Question #2.) After the election Mr. Blundo declared that the people elected by the membership were somehow not legitimately elected in spite of the fact that the only candidates in that election who did things in violation of the election procedures were Dr. Irene Ametrano, Dr. Don Amidon, and Dr. Sue Schaeffer who are now part of Mr. Blundo's dba Michigan LPCs group. Dr. Schaeffer even used MMHCA resources to send out an additional, unauthorized election mailing to members to promote her own candidacy which resulted in the presidential election being rerun so her opponent in the presidential race could have equal opportunity to communicate with membership regarding his candidacy.

Recently, Mr. Blundo and others in dba Michigan LPCs have gone so far as to file a license complaint against the consultant, a longtime friend, whom they chose and asked to help the board. This consultant dedicated hundreds of pro bono hours to help MMHCA, but they apparently didn't like their consultant's conclusions or recommendations that were presented to the MMHCA board.

Before the first Board meeting of the elected Board of MMHCA in November 2023, Mr. Blundo refused to give the elected Board members the monthly financial report. Mr. Blundo also instructed the bookkeeper not to cooperate with the board. It was after those actions that the elected Board dismissed Mr. Blundo with cause.

Mr. Blundo and Ms. Mike (the bookkeeper) controlled the bank accounts with approximately \$80,000 in them. After the election, Treasurer Krystin Sankey was able to get her name on the bank accounts and remove the two former paid staff from the accounts. Mr. Blundo disagreed with this action and as a result the bank froze the accounts - meaning no money could leave the accounts until there was agreement between the two parties or there was a court order. This action stopped Mr. Blundo from unilaterally spending MMHCA funds.

Additionally, the elected Board of MMHCA have and still maintain control of the official member records system (Neon) and money collection system (Neon Pay).

It also should be repeated how the two groups, the Elected Board of MMHCA and dba Michigan LPCs (Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano and Dr. Emde's group) differ with respect to the actions each have taken since November 2023.

Since this trouble started the **Elected Board of MMHCA** has:

- Held **monthly public Board meetings** that are recorded and made available to members

- **Updated MMHCA's Bylaws** with member input and our attorney's guidance, and made the Bylaws public on mmhcaNow.org [4.19.24 Bylaws - MMHCA](#)
- Provided **multiple free workshops** for members (including 3 in the last two months)
- Conducted **training, free to members**, on the practical matters of Medicare for LPCs - ongoing training regarding Medicare will be offered by an expert in the field.
- Created an **online library of free educational video** resources (YouTube @mmhcalibrary)
- Created a **new, up to date website**: mmhcaNow.org
- Surveyed members several times to get input on organization direction
- Provided **monthly free clinical peer consultation** group sessions
- **Contracted with** and meet regularly with MMHCA's essential **lobbyist**, Acuitas (\$1,670/month)
- Gotten the organization on track with the just completed, first in a decade, public election (June 2024) [2024 Election Results MMHCA 6.15.24](#)
- Continued to work on studying the **Counseling Compact**
- Started work with our lobbyist on limiting number of years **Insurance Clawbacks** can occur
- Provided members **free access** to a national functional medicine psychiatry conference (value \$299)
- Created a cooperative relationship with another Michigan mental health organization
- Begun revitalizing MMHCA's LinkedIn group and Twitter (X) accounts: [linkedin.com/company/mmhca](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mmhca) and x.com/officialMMHCA
- And much more to come.

In that same time, as far as we know, **Mr. Blundo** and Dr. Schaeffer's group, **dba Michigan LPCs** has:

- Had **no** public Board meetings,
- Has changed their officer positions numerous times between 11/17/23 and 6/25/24 i.e., S. Schaeffer has gone from being appointed president by Mr. Blundo, to mysteriously becoming past president in May 2024. Their first secretary, Tricia Lothamer, became a University Liaison Chair for a while and is now a member at large per their emails. S. Schaeffer's husband, Don Amidon, recently appeared in signatures on their emails as the new Secretary, and Mr. Blundo is recently signing their emails as both president and executive director simultaneously. This is problematic because these two roles typically have distinct responsibilities and checks and balances in non-profits. In most organizational structures, the president is responsible for overseeing the Board and ensuring that governance and strategic direction are maintained, while the executive director handles the day-to-day operations and reports to the board, including the president. **By assuming both titles, Mr. Blundo creates a significant conflict of interest and undermines the accountability that should exist between these roles, leading to potential governance issues and a lack of transparency.**
- They have **not funded** a lobbyist.
- They have **not offered** workshops or ongoing services to members.
- Mr. Blundo **has** sent out numerous emails accusing officially elected volunteer MMHCA Board members of doing things they have not done, made malicious and defamatory public statements about other LPCs and he has done lots of unprofessional name calling.

- As mentioned above, Mr. Blundo and others in dba Michigan LPCs have even filed a license complaint against the consultant they asked to help - the consultant who devoted 100s of hours pro-bono trying to help - when they apparently didn't like their consultant's conclusions.

Finally, Mr. Blundo, on numerous occasions, has claimed that he was "authorized by the membership" to change the organization because he had an "election" in October 2023 in which he received "overwhelming support" to do whatever he wanted. This must be clarified. Mr. Blundo did NOT have an election. On October 9, 2023 he sent an unauthorized, one question poll to membership that contained false information and stated that he "had the responsibility to see that MMHCA survives."

In fact, Mr. Blundo's ED position was not even accounted for in the Bylaws and his reaching out to the membership to undercut the Board he worked for was a blatant act of insubordination and undermined the will of the Board (which had voted two days prior to proceed with an election). Mr. Blundo had NO authority to reach out to the membership as he did on October 9, 2023. Just because he claimed to be a founding member of the organization, the organization was legally bound to abide by the 2012 Bylaws, not the preferences of Mr. Blundo.

Subsequent to that action by Mr. Blundo, the Board held a public town hall meeting on October 12, 2023 with over 200 attendees and clarified that Mr. Blundo had no authority to take the action he did. He was told by the Board at that meeting to cease all of his responsibilities until further notice. Members who responded to his 10/9/23 poll were given false information by Mr. Blundo. In addition, as you can read in the answer to one of the questions raised below - "How will voting work if we get emails from both groups asking us to vote?" - Mr. Blundo's use of Constant Contact to gather information was not a secure voting system. Incredibly, to this day, Mr. Blundo and his group continue to use his illegitimate poll of members as justification for the unethical actions they have taken since then while calling themselves MMHCA "dba Michigan LPCs".

Remainder of Your Questions

Legal Action and Status:

11. What update can be provided about the legal aspects of this?

Additional related questions: What legal action has been done to halt the behavior of the dba organization? Is there legal action being conducted against this (dba) group, and what is the progress on having James Blundo investigated? Will you prosecute to the full extent? If so, how will legal council be compensated? What can be done to shut Mr. Blundo's group down?

We have an attorney (Mr. Adil Daudi of Daudi and Kroll, PC) and have clearly, in written communication from our attorney, spelled out the issues and demanded that Mr. Blundo and the dba Michigan LPCs group cease and desist in their actions. In good faith, we tried to keep the matter private and out of court out of respect for the parties involved. That has not gone well as the dba Michigan LPCs group has continued to ignore facts and honest communication.

We are pursuing several avenues that we can't make public at this time, but will make public as soon as possible.

At this time the elected Board of MMHCA members are personally funding most of MMHCA's legal counsel. MMHCA has also paid some of the attorney expenses.

Since the elected Board of MMHCA only has viewing access (which was gained 12/2023) to some of the organization's bank accounts, and the viewing access is limited (limited and only available from 11/2021 forward), we haven't been able to fully investigate what has taken place financially. There are some obvious irregularities we can see that are alarming e.g. from 11/2021 to 8/2023 money was withdrawn from the main MMHCA checking account monthly and went to "MERCHANT BNK CD DEPOSIT" - the Board was unaware of any CDs being contributed to, doesn't know how much is in the CDs or whose name the CDs are in. Also, each month a credit card in Mr. Blundo's name was simply paid off - the Board does not know what this credit card was used to purchase, but can see that \$17,000 was paid toward the card between 11/2021 and 11/2023 from MMHCA's checking account.

12. Has the legal involvement concluded? Where do we go from here?

Legal involvement has not concluded. The Board is pursuing several avenues that as soon as possible the Board will discuss with membership. Given the nature of this situation we can't make all the information public yet. Legal involvement is definitely costly, but we believe in this cause and intend to continue fighting/standing up for what is right.

13. Are there any legal processes ongoing between this organization and Mr. Blundo? Is he still trying to regain control through legal means?

Mr. Blundo believes he has a right to do the actions he is undertaking, and that is to refuse accepting the results of the election and attempt to maintain control over MMHCA by appointing his own board. At this time, Mr. Blundo has not initiated any legal action; he is refusing to turn over control of a non-profit organization. Mr. Blundo continues to send defamatory emails about our elected volunteer Board to counselors around the State of Michigan. He has repeatedly tried to fraudulently convince members to pay their dues to him and his group via PayPal.

14. Are there any actual legal grounds for Mr. Blundo to stop? Or is this just a 'pissing match' with two parties making threats via lawyers?

Yes, there are several actions Mr. Blundo has taken that may be legally actionable. That is all we can say at this time. We appreciate your patience.

15. Is James Blundo still President or Executive Director of MMHCA?

Mr. Blundo has not been president of MMHCA since 2013, and he was relieved of his duties as Executive Director in November 2023 with cause for reasons stated throughout this document.

[Link to 11/17/23 Board meeting starting at minute 18:44 re Mr. Blundo's dismissal with cause November 2023 Board Meeting](#)

Membership Status and Dues:

16. Were my annual dues paid to your organization or James Blundo? What venue were they paid through? If through you guys was the bank account changed to a new one and if so why?

You can check if you are a current member by logging into your account at this link:

<https://michiganmentalhealthcounselorsassociation.app.neoncrm.com/forms/newmembership>

If you paid your dues through Neon at that link then your dues went toward member services. The bank account those funds go to is monitored by the elected MMHCA Board with proper financial procedures for a non-profit in place. If you paid that way, your dues are safe and being used ethically.

17. I'm confused as to what really is going on, what is right/correct??

Getting emails from two different "organizations" is very confusing!

We hear you, and we completely understand how confusing this situation can be. It's frustrating to receive conflicting information from different sources. Rest assured, we're working hard to clarify the situation and provide accurate information.

As stated in some earlier questions:

- MMHCA has the current member records and dba Michigan LPCs does not. As mentioned elsewhere, that's why they are trying to confuse people because they don't know when memberships expire (or even who is a current member) because they do NOT have access to the current member records.
- Contrary to what Mr. Blundo has said both on video and in writing, there are no problems with the online membership management and payment receiving system (Neon) that the elected Board of MMHCA uses. Mr. Blundo is trying to convince members to pay their dues to a PayPal account that he controls rather than to MMHCA. People have been confused by his emails. You are always welcome to email the elected Board anytime at mmhcabi@gmail.com if you have any questions.
- The rest of this document should answer these questions fully.

18. What is happening with MMHCA funds while this is going on?

If you are a paid member with MMHCA your dues are safe and are only being used for MMHCA expenses which are detailed in the monthly financial report treasurer, Krystin Sankey, gives to the Board. The dues that are paid to MMHCA are secure and we have proper financial controls in place.

All dues are solely used for official MMHCA purposes - the mission of supporting, educating, advocating, representing and protecting Licensed Professional Counselors. Maintaining a paid lobbyist is essential to stay informed of legal or licensure issues that can impact our profession, and to advocate for LPCs at the state level. The elected Board has a contract with our lobbyist, Acuitas, which costs \$1670 each month and is the main expense member dues are used to fund at this time.

Mr. Blundo refused to relinquish the MMHCA Bank accounts that have over \$79,000 in them. He and the bookkeeper, Ms. Mike, had sole access to the bank accounts until we showed the bank that there was an elected Board and the bank subsequently froze the account. Luckily he cannot spend that money.

James Blundo's Actions and Motives:

19. Mr. Blundo is sending emails to another email account. How is he obtaining this information?

If Mr. Blundo is sending information to other emails he is perhaps getting those addresses from the State of Michigan since your license information is public. The easiest thing to do is to unsubscribe from his emails if you don't wish to receive them. If you want to do more than that, you have several options:

1. File formal complaints about the dba Michigan LPCs group and Mr. Blundo with AMHCA by sending an email to the following people collectively:

- Dr. Beverly Smith, AMHCA Interim Executive Director amhcaceo@gmail.com
- Dr. Dierdra Sanders Burnette, President of AMHCA deirdrasb@gmail.com
- Dr. Jeri Stevens, Chair of Regional Directors downhill@gwi.net
- Dr. Napoleon Harrington, Midwest Director nharrington@ambassadorcounseling.com

2. File a complaint about phishing to Constant Contact by sending the email and/or the email headers directly to reportphishing@constantcontact.com

3. Report to IC3.gov especially regarding Mr. Blundo and his group's attempts to fraudulently convince members through phishing emails to send their dues to his unauthorized PayPal account. This is a clear attempt at deception and may be possible internet fraud and can be investigated by the authorities.

20. What does Mr. Blundo hope to gain by intruding on our privacy?

It is unclear what Mr. Blundo hopes to gain by intruding on members' privacy. He has created confusion and distrust throughout the state. It appears he hopes to convince counselors to join his group and send him their dues.

21. Why didn't the "new" team just start their own group instead of co-opting the original MMHCA?

We are not sure who you mean by the “new” team and who co-opted the original MMHCA.

The elected MMHCA Board took part in an election that was decided on by the entire Board that was in place in the fall of 2023 (and most of those on Mr. Blundo’s current Board participated in the planning of the election and as candidates in the election.) When the election concluded we had no idea that Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano, Dr. Emde and their group would act in such ways and refuse to accept the election results and refuse to turn over the organization’s property. The elected Board was elected through a thoughtful, legitimate process authorized by a vote of the majority of the Board - a process which Mr. Blundo was included in. Mr. Blundo was in favor of the election until the candidates that he favored didn’t win the election. Therefore the elected Board is the rightful governing body of MMHCA.

Our opening statement gives the broad details and history of what happened last fall. The elected Board of MMHCA never imagined that Mr. Blundo, Sue Schaeffer, Irene Ametrano and Robyn Emde would refuse to follow the will of the Board and the will of the membership who elected the Board. But **they have ignored the bylaws of MMHCA, and the wishes of the membership, and the results of the election.** It is a very troubling thing to witness.

We have no way of knowing their motivation. Anyone can start a new organization, but the dba Michigan LPCs group does not have the right to say they are MMHCA just using another name. Nor do they have the right to declare that MMHCA members are somehow automatically part of their new organization without members’ consent. Additionally, the dba Michigan LPCs group is trying to keep MMHCA assets including bank accounts, website, logins/passwords, financial records and access which is not acceptable.

The election was initiated to address crucial flaws in the operation of the organization by holding a fair and open election that was decided by a vote of the Board; which included those individuals. Elections are how Board membership for most positions are decided in most non-profit organizations. The current elected Board of MMHCA is composed of dedicated volunteer members who have been involved serving on MMHCA’s Board for several if not many years.

Organizational Legitimacy and Recognition:

22. What members are responsible for getting the LPC licensure situation sorted out with the state several years ago?

This is a main reason I became a MMHCA member. I'm trying to sort out who is who?! I've appreciated the advocacy.

Literally 100s of individuals over many years helped get PA96 codified into law in 2019; it was not the work of any one small group of people. MMHCA however, did play a vital role, in that member dues and revenue from human trafficking training, funded the lobbyist who played a big part in getting HB4325 codified into law. There were many who actively worked on getting the law passed, including:

MMHCA, numerous mental health partners, MCA, 1000s of LPCs, the HB4325 sponsor State Representative Aaron Miller, and strong supporter Representative Isaac Robinson. The volunteer MMHCA Board members at the time included Dr. Napoleon Harrington, Dr. Katherine James, Cindy Goldman, Dr. Joy Creel, Amy Romano, Raeleen Davis, and Dr. Sue Schaeffer to name just a few. Andrea Cascarilla was MMHCA's Acuitas lobbyist at the time. Mr. Blundo was the paid executive director and the only paid person at MMHCA besides the bookkeeper, Theresa Mike - all others were volunteering their time. Those are just some of the people - there are many more people from around Michigan who helped make it possible who are not named here.

The MMHCA continues advocacy today. Acuitas (lobbyist) is contracted with MMHCA and we meet regularly with our lobbyist. We are in discussion about the unlimited number of years insurance companies can clawback payments from providers and also about the Counseling Compact to name just two things. (The dba Michigan LPCs group does not have a contract with a lobbyist though they falsely claim Acuitas is their lobbyist on the website they are using.)

23. What is the status of Michigan and the Counseling Compact?

The current status is that we are following the current developments in the Compact. There are several complications to the Compact including learning how disciplinary matters will be resolved with member states. There are also several key politicians in the Michigan State Government who are wary of allowing any organization's rules to supersede Michigan law, which is part of what membership in the Compact requires.

The current elected Board of MMHCA is studying the Counseling Compact and in discussion with our lobbyist about it.

The elected Board also surveyed membership about the Counseling Compact and learned membership needed more information about it. Our Board is planning to educate Michigan counselors about the Counseling Compact and listen to the needs and wishes of our Michigan colleagues. All of that is currently in process.

24. Has the true MMHCA retained access to all our contacts at the state government and national connections? Who does AMHCA recognize as the true MMHCA?

We assume that by "true MMHCA" you mean our elected Board of MMHCA. Yes, MMHCA has access to the important contacts in government as does our lobbyist. We are receiving the dues paid through the membership registration portal on mmhcaNow.org and we are using the funds to support members and the counseling profession. We are not spending the funds to pay individuals or an ED.

AMHCA is choosing to remain neutral at this point regarding our situation. Individuals who are also AMHCA members may want to contact them to voice your support for MMHCA and your displeasure for what Mr. Blundo and the dba Michigan LPCs group are doing. You can contact AMHCA by sending an email to the following people individually or collectively:

- Dr. Beverly Smith, AMHCA Interim Executive Director amhcaceo@gmail.com

- Dr. Dierdra Sanders Burnette, President of AMHCA deirdrasb@gmail.com
- Dr. Jeri Stevens, Chair of Regional Directors downhill@gwi.net
- Dr. Napoleon Harrington, Midwest Director nharrington@ambassadorcounseling.com

25. What stance does the ACA or NBCC have on this issue, if any?

Since MMHCA is not a chapter of ACA, they will not get involved. NBCC is an accreditation/credentialing body and has no say in this matter.

Concerns about Professionalism and Advocacy:

26. Please try to find a way to stop all this fighting and just get Michigan on the counseling compact...how close are we to this?

There are two different parts of this question that are important to address. We agree with you about finding a way to stop this conflict. However, there is not a lot of room for compromise because there is a fundamental disagreement that is irreconcilable. This isn't simply about "infighting," it is about unethical and potentially illegal behavior or misuse of member dues that appears to have been uncovered. Our view is that this organization's purpose is to serve the membership and advocate for our profession (members) and our clients. Mr. Blundo and his associates appear to believe that they own MMHCA and it should be there for their personal benefit.

The second part of the question involves the Compact. As mentioned elsewhere, we are following the development of the Compact and actively analyzing and discussing the benefits and costs of joining it. There are also political realities in which some politicians (including the Governor) are not comfortable with putting the authority of the Compact rules above the laws of the State of Michigan, which is part of joining the Compact.

27. Are LPCs in jeopardy of losing diagnostic abilities? I'm concerned our advocacy efforts are hindered due to internal conflict.

I will support whoever supports or is at least looking into the Counseling Compact! Where do you stand on the Compact?

At this time, there are no threats on the horizon to the capacity of counselors to diagnose. PA96, which was signed into law in 2019 and governs Counselors, leaves no room for interpretation, but instead solidifies our scope of practice legally.

We, the elected MMHCA Board, continue to regularly engage with our lobbyist, Acuitas, throughout each month and they are working at the same capacity and funding levels they have previously. Legislative advocacy is one of our Board's and members' highest priorities. We are also monitoring the development of the Compact. We do have some concerns about how disciplinary matters would be handled among other things. For instance, is the Board of Counseling in other states going to treat issues differently if they happen to citizens of other states? As we get more specific details and make significant progress, we will keep LPCs informed.

Requests for Information and Clarification:

28. Emails are getting confusing as to which organization is sending them. Please continue to put all of your names.

Thank you for letting us know that this is helpful in differentiating emails. The elected Board will continue to list all Board members as part of its emails.

29. Can you make an itemized inventory of which accounts (banking, social media, email, etc.) the true MMHCA has access to versus the ones that "dba Michigan LPCs" has access to?

Can you explain why or how "dba Michigan LPCs" has retained access to those MMHCA accounts? Which accounts are frozen?

Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's group control/possess:

1. The organization's old website mmhca.org i.e. they have the login and password information and have refused to give it to the elected Board.
2. At least one bank account that had \$10,000 in it last we knew, and seemingly other bank accounts the Board was unaware existed.
3. They are using a PayPal account they control to accept money from people.
4. All MMHCA's past financial and other records.
5. MMHCA's old email system, Constant Contact, which was supposed to be discontinued the summer of 2023, which contains a member list that is several years outdated as well as email records going back over 10 years.

The bank, Comerica, chose to freeze the bank accounts that have just over \$79,000 in them when Mr. Blundo disputed the elected Board taking over the accounts. Those accounts will remain frozen until the parties both agree who owns the accounts or there is a court order.

The elected MMHCA Board controls/possesses:

1. Neon/Neon Pay - our emailing, membership management and payment receiving program.
2. A bank account which has proper legal checks and balances in place to authorized, multiple officers of the organization.
3. The elected Board's official email address is mmhcabi@gmail.com
4. A FaceBook page, a YouTube channel, a LinkedIn group, and a Twitter (X) account which can all be accessed via mmhcaNow.org
5. Our new website mmhcaNow.org (the only way to join MMHCA is via mmhcaNow.org)
6. Updated Bylaws created in collaboration with our attorney and members

[4.19.24 Bylaws - MMHCA](#)

Dbas Michigan LPCs does not have access to the current member records or know when memberships expire. That is why they keep saying and writing they will honor people's memberships, because they don't know when those memberships started or when they end.

If you pay your dues through the Neon Pay system: [Link to Neon Pay](#). Your dues are safe, received by the elected Board, and being used only for member services, resources and lobbying, not for executive director pay. Furthermore, instead of paying \$1000 per month for bookkeeping services (as was happening previously), the elected Board's Treasurer, Krystin Sankey, is handling the organization's finances at no charge.

Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer's dba Michigan LPCs group has a member mailing list that is several years out of date and older member records on the Constant Contact email system which was supposed to be eliminated summer of 2023. That is also part of why you are getting confusing messages from Mr. Blundo - he and his group don't know when memberships expire and he is trying to convince people to pay their dues to a PayPal account he has control of.

Questions about Support and Moving Forward:

30. Is MCA involved in this process at all, given that they apparently went through something similar with Mr. Blundo prior to him starting MMHCA?

The facts are unclear, but it does appear that Mr. Blundo and Dr. Schaeffer did have a falling out with MCA many years ago which led them to taking over leadership of MMHCA. Dr. Schaeffer did describe Mr. Blundo to the Board consultant in the following way, "Jim can be a bull in a china shop sometimes. I have had to get him out of trouble many times in the past." This statement highlights a long-standing problem with Mr. Blundo's leadership.

31. Are you all going to be lobbying on our behalf with regard to the clawbacks?

Absolutely! As mentioned elsewhere, the MMHCA elected Board is already meeting with our lobbyist and beginning work on clawbacks and the Compact. We have never stopped working for the members and all counselors in Michigan.

32. Is this Board employing a lobbyist to represent LPCs at the state level?

If so, is she the same lobbyist who has represented us in the past? Is she also in contact with Mr. Blundo?

We, the elected MMHCA board, have a contract with Acuitas, the same lobbying firm MMHCA has contracted with since at least 2018. Andrea Cascarilla was the Acuitas lobbyist who represented MMHCA in the past. She is no longer with Acuitas. We have been grateful to work with Lobbyist Carson Gatt from Acuitas for several years now. Mr. Blundo and his group do not have access to our lobbyist. We depend on membership dues to cover the monthly cost of this essential piece (currently \$1670/month.)

Mr. Blundo, Dr. Schaeffer, Dr. Ametrano and Dr. Emde's group, dba Michigan LPCs, is currently claiming on their website that Acuitas is their lobbyist but that is not true.