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Lisa Brown's Campaign Investigated for Alleged Violations of Michigan Campaign Finance Law

LANSING, August 7, 2014 – The Michigan Freedom Fund issued the following statement today in response to the Michigan Bureau of Elections announcement of a formal investigation into alleged campaign finance law violations committed by the campaign of Lisa Brown, gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer's running mate:

"Mark Schauer talks a big game about campaign finance transparency, but behind closed doors his campaigns hide records for his super-secret slush fund, get hit with record-breaking campaign finance penalties, and he picks a running mate with a campaign that allegedly refuses to properly file campaign finance paperwork," said Michigan Freedom Fund President Greg McNeilly. "Schauer is now running the least transparent gubernatorial campaign in Michigan political history."

The formal investigation into the Brown campaign's alleged violation of campaign finance law is just the latest example in the ticket's struggles with campaign finance law and transparency:

- **Schauer's campaign holds the record for the largest campaign finance penalty ever assessed** in Michigan—a staggering \$208,250—after a Bureau of Elections investigation found his campaign had illegally funneled nearly a half-million dollars into accounts for Democratic candidates; and
- **Schauer refuses to release records** detailing donor information and expenditures **covering 11 of the 12 years he operated the "Schauer Community Fund,"** denying voters the ability to gauge potential conflicts of interest.

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