STATE OF MICHIGAN

COURT OF CLAIMS

JOYCE GIPSON,

Plaintiff,

v

Case No. 26-000216-MZ

JESSICA BAREFIELD,

Hon. Michael F. Gadola

Defendant.
_____ /

ORDER OF DISMISSAL AFTER SHOW CAUSE

The Court ordered plaintiff to show cause why this case should not be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction under MCL 600.6419(1)(a). The Court dismisses the complaint because the Court does not have jurisdiction over plaintiff's cause of action.

The jurisdiction of the Court of Claims is limited to claims brought "against the state or any of its departments or officers." In response to the show-cause order, plaintiff filed a "consideration letter" in which she states that defendant is the "Director of the Michigan GOP debates." The Michigan GOP is a private political party organization. The Court lacks jurisdiction to consider claims against private entities. Accordingly, the Court DISMISSES plaintiff's complaint without prejudice and without limiting plaintiff's ability to file suit in the circuit court.

IT IS SO ORDERED. This is a final order resolving all issues in this case.

Date: October 30, 2026

Hon. Michael F. Gadola
Chief Judge, Court of Claims