Exhibit 4

Declaration of Carmella Sabaugh
September 22, 2008,
with attached Exhibit A,
September 22, 2008
Mount Clemens, MI

Declaration of Carmella Sabaugh

I, Carmella Sabaugh, a citizen of the United States, hereby declare under the penalty of perjury:

1. I am the Clerk / Register of Deeds for Macomb County, Michigan. I have served in this position since 1993.

2. On Thursday, September 11, 2008 and Friday, September 12, 2008 my office received approximately 15 phone calls from people who said they were voters concerned that they may be unable to vote because their homes have been foreclosed. My staff tried to reassure those voters that they do not need to own property in order to vote and that voters who lost their homes due to foreclosure could still vote as long as they live in the same city or township. However, voters who moved before September 4, 2008 to a different city or township after losing their home to foreclosure may be disenfranchised if they do not update their driver’s license or voter registration address and if they are challenged. My office issued a press release attempting to clarify that voters do not need to own property in order to vote and to clarify when a voter who lost his or her home to foreclosure could be disenfranchised if challenged. A true and correct copy of the press release is attached here as Exhibit A.
3. I am concerned that many other voters may be worried that they will not be eligible to vote because of foreclosure proceedings. Based on my experience, if my office receives phone calls about a particular issue, there are often many, many more citizens of Macomb County who are concerned about the issue that have not called. Further, I know that press releases on important election matters are not always publicized as much as they should be.

4. In order to ensure that no eligible voter is discouraged from voting, it is important that the message be clear: if a person is on a foreclosure list it does not necessarily mean a person no longer lives at the home.

5. Citizens whose homes are foreclosed still have the right to vote as long as they live in the same city or township; and, if they moved to a different city or township before September 4, 2008, then they must change their driver’s license or voter registration address by October 6, 2008 or they risk being disenfranchised if challenged.

6. A Michigan county clerk / register of deeds has no authority that I know of to stop partisan challengers from using foreclosure lists to challenge voters at the polls.
7. Although local clerks hire well-trained poll workers, the system is not designed to handle mass, foreclosure-based challenges. Given the fact that this will be the first Presidential Election seniors will not automatically get an absent voter application, it is also likely that fewer seniors will cast an absent voter ballot than would otherwise be the case, which may increase the number of seniors who will vote at the polls. In my experience, many voters only have a limited time in which they are able to vote on Election Day, and if there are long lines due to inappropriate challenges of voters whose homes were foreclosed, I am afraid that many voters will become discouraged and leave without voting.

I declare that the foregoing is true and correct.

September 22, 2008

Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds
Macomb County, Michigan
EXHIBIT A
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 12, 2008

You do not have to own property in order to vote, at least since 1850

Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh’s office received several phone calls from concerned citizens yesterday after the Republican Party disavowed a Web site article claiming the GOP will challenge voters whose homes have been foreclosed, potentially preventing some citizens from voting. (See “GOP denies Web report on vote blocking,” Macomb Daily, 9/11/08; “Foreclosures won’t hinder voters”, Detroit News, 9/12/08; “GOP won’t use foreclosure list to block voters,” Detroit Free Press, 9/12/08, “Macomb County GOP leader denies plan to block votes,” Lansing State Journal, 9/12/08.)

“The lists are public and if the alleged GOP plan is for real a county register of deeds would have no authority to stop Republicans from using foreclosure lists to challenge voters at the polls,” said Sabaugh. “Citizens whose homes are foreclosed still have the right to vote!”

Citizens have not had to own property to be able to vote since 1850. If the alleged plan is true, this would not be the first time the GOP tried to suppress votes. In a recent lawsuit argued by the Republican Party’s lawyer, the GOP successfully stopped clerks from mass mailing absent voter application forms to all senior citizens within a city or township. Thanks to the GOP this will be the first presidential election many Michigan seniors will not automatically receive absent voter application forms.

But citizens whose homes were foreclosed still have the right to vote! A registered voter who moves from one precinct to another within the same city or township may vote one last time in the precinct where registered. A registered voter who moves from one Michigan city or township to another can vote one last time in the precinct where registered if the move was made within 60 days of the election.

The deadline for an unregistered voter to register and be able to vote in the Presidential Election is October 6 and the registration form and AV application are on my web site.

“I hope all Macomb County citizens will exercise their right to vote regardless of party affiliation or where in the state a person lives,” said Sabaugh.