



DEAR ERIE CHINESE JOURNAL READER,

"Truth serum" is a psychoactive drug that can be used therapeutically to learn vital information for a functional respite from catatonia or mania. Why talk about truth serum?

Because we now have our own form of it in Ohio to deal with the unprecedented "Citizens United" U.S. Supreme Court decision.

This year's mid-term elections saw a listless Democratic base and more money mania than I have witnessed in decades. Corporations gained the status of flesh-and-blood persons and made independent expenditures for and against candidates in state and federal campaigns.

This fall it was like living in the "Wild, Wild West" of campaign advertising. But, one good thing about looking to the "West" is seeing the sun set on the horizon.

As I leave my office at the end of next week, I am pleased to share with you that permanent rules we offered to address the "Citizens United" case in Ohio were approved by the Ohio Joint Committee on Agency Rule last week. They will take effect before I leave office to be in place for future elections.

Here's how these new rules will empower Ohioans:

We'll be able to know that a campaign ad has been paid for by a corporation, non-profit corporation or labor organization, how much has been spent and whom they paid for the ad for or against a candidate or committee. They'll have to disclose it.

We'll know in a campaign ad, itself, that it has not been authorized by a candidate or committee, and we can go to the website of the corporation, nonprofit corporation or labor organization to learn more about who is issuing the message. It must be in the ad, or a media outlet can't run it.

We'll be assured that corporations and businesses owned 20% or more by foreign citizens are not trying to influence Ohio elections, because under the rules, they can't.

We'll be assured that corporations, individuals and businesses that have been awarded state or federal money through our state within the last year, are not influencing Ohio elections with independent expenditures, because they can't.

We'll have teeth in the law to go after corporations, nonprofit corporations and labor organizations and the candidates and committees they support who break the rules and coordinate their efforts.

Even though we can't change Citizens United in Ohio, we can apply "truth serum" to make sure citizens' voices remain strong despite its effects.

We have more tools available for us to speak and fight for what we believe in as citizens in the most unique democracy in the world. We can read and learn-and we can advocate.

A new year dawns, and Ohio needs you. I hope you'll stay involved. I'm wishing you the best in the new year ahead.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brunner
Ohio Secretary of State
PS-If you want to take an in depth look
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Dear Friends,

We all know that the metropolitan area of Greater Cleveland has become home to more than 100 different nations.

New Generation Media (NGM), the only Multicultural Marketing Agency in Ohio, has come up with an initiative to connect the Greater Cleveland Business community with multicultural markets that are not reachable by traditional media.



Multicultural Businesses and Consumers

This diversified business resource book will allow multicultural businesses of Greater Cleveland to expand their reach to other cultures and gain extra exposure in their own communities.

Business Diversity Guide Support and Endorsements

The Business Diversity Guide project is supported by the following organizations: "Immigrant Welcome Center", International Services Center, ClevelandPeople.com, Strategic Urban Solutions, Emeritus Multicultural & International Relations, State of Ohio, Team NEO/Cleveland Plus Business, Cleveland Foundation and Law offices of Richard Herman & Associates, Dick Clough, CEO, Custom Media Partners, and Board Chair, NOCA, Marketing Communications Industry Trade Council for NEO.



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For more information call:

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