



June 22, 2020

I attended and graduated from the Delta College Corrections Academy, receiving the certification of a Corrections Officer. This academy is mandated and approved by the Michigan Sheriff's Coordinating and Training Council (MSCTC). This program has an excellent reputation and is part of the foundation of a successful career in law enforcement. Corrections Officers are a vital and respected division of law enforcement. I am very proud to have served as a trained, deputized Corrections Officer in the Midland County Jail along with the other great Corrections Officers of the Midland County Sheriff's Office. In addition, I have a degree in Criminal Justice from Delta College. This targeted attempt to taint my accurate law enforcement experience and education is despicable and is also disrespectful to any law enforcement officer that serves or has served as a Corrections Officer. I am honored to have the endorsements of so many well respected current and retired law enforcement officers in my campaign to be the next Midland County Sheriff.

Everyone within the Midland County Sheriff's office are law enforcement officers, who have sworn an oath and are deputized by the Sheriff of Midland County. Law enforcement officers authorized with arrest powers, such as our Road Patrol Deputies, are required to obtain MCOLES (Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards) certification. I have not at any time mislead or otherwise communicated that I have held the position of Road Patrol Deputy. Corrections Officers are not required to be MCOLES certified. The Sheriff is an elected position that answers directly to the constituents of their county and is not required to be a law enforcement officer to hold the position of Sheriff.

As stated on my website, my private sector background is derived from various positions in industries including strategic intelligence, healthcare, marketing and sales. These positions provided experience in project management, contracts, vendor procurement, client facilitation, utilizing various software applications and technology, human resources, media relations, accounts receivables and customer service. I am very grateful for the diverse skill set acquired when working for AIM, Central Michigan Neurosurgery and other companies in the above industries. In addition, I have a Bachelors in Business Administration in Management from Northwood University.

There have not been any voter comments or questions deleted from my campaign Facebook page. The information provided to you is incorrect. You are probably referring to a post on June 6 and if you click on "All Comments" you will find that nothing was deleted.

Social media can be a great communication tool for respectful dialogue, however it can also be abused by encouraging and inviting hate filled speech and opinions, cyber-bullying and fake profiles. We reserve the right to review and address in the manner of our choosing any of the following on the campaign Facebook page not limited to; appropriate content, inaccurate information, vulgar language, personal attacks, spam, clearly off topic, advocacy of illegal activity, and offensive comments that target or disparage any ethnic, racial or religious group.

P.O. Box 2431, Midland, MI 48641-2431 • Ph. (989) 600-5433 • [LauraLee4sheriff@gmail.com](mailto:LauraLee4sheriff@gmail.com)

{ Paid for by the Committee to Elect Laura Lee for Midland County Sheriff - P.O. Box 2431, Midland, MI 48641-2431 }



June 25, 2020

No, it is simply not true what my opponent is stating. My opponent has attempted to slander my character from the moment I announced my campaign. The opinion he has provided is the latest attempt to manipulate and distract voters from my education, experience and the fact that I am fully qualified to be the next modern Sheriff of Midland County. This type of divisive language and approach is not what is needed in the Sheriff's Office and law enforcement today. I will be the Sheriff that will be dedicated to bringing people together rather than dividing them. Please feel free to refer to the many well respected current and retired law enforcement in support of my experience, education, qualifications and campaign.

The term law enforcement career, law enforcement officer and trained, certified, deputized corrections officer are not misleading. It is a general and accepted term as most individuals working in a law enforcement agency are considered a law enforcement officer. As a sworn and deputized member of the Sheriff's Office, I am a law enforcement officer. I started my law enforcement career as a Corrections Officer in the Midland County Jail. I am fully qualified at any moment to be directed by the Sheriff, Road Patrol Captain, Jail Captain, Jail Lieutenant or any other member of the command staff to report to the Midland County Jail and assist our hard working Corrections Officers. The role, duties and authority of each law enforcement officer within the Midland County Sheriff's Office is defined by multiple factors. As indicated in my previous response, I have not at any time stated I have held the position of Road Patrol Deputy, Police Officer or that I have arrest powers.

As part of the curriculum for my completed Criminal Justice degree, areas of study and coursework included; management and supervision in law enforcement, criminal investigation law and practice, criminal law and procedure, the essentials of criminal justice and juvenile delinquency. A copy of my degree is on file with the Midland County Sheriff's office.

My opponents attempt to delegitimize and disrespect my work as a Corrections Officer and any other law enforcement officer that serves or has served as a Corrections Officer, is not the type of leadership that belongs in the role of the Sheriff. I respect every division and the role of each position within the Midland County Sheriff's Office in serving our citizens.

When describing my background, I state my current role with the Midland County Sheriff's Office is an Administrative Professional Deputy. This is an accurate and appropriate description. I am currently a sworn and deputized employee. The title and job description on file with Midland County as a Records Clerk/Typist is antiquated and does not reflect the work I do. It is extremely inappropriate and offensive for my opponent or anyone else to disregard, downplay or disrespect the contribution of myself or anyone else in an administrative professional role. Administrative Professionals according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics make up one of the largest segments of the workforce. Administrative professionals are well known and respected for being computer literate, organized, well-educated, customer service-savvy professionals with management skills.

I absolutely and without a doubt have the qualifications and experience necessary to be the next modern Midland County Sheriff. My opponent is entitled to his opinion, however the fact is that the Sheriff is an elected position and is not required to have law enforcement experience or education to successfully hold the position. My training, education and professional experience are well above any standard required.

P.O. Box 2431, Midland, MI 48641-2431 • Ph. (989) 600-5433 • [LauraLee4sheriff@gmail.com](mailto:LauraLee4sheriff@gmail.com)

{ Paid for by the Committee to Elect Laura Lee for Midland County Sheriff • P.O. Box 2431, Midland, MI 48641-2431 }