



LIBERTARIAN PARTY of ILLINOIS

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Minimum Government - Maximum Freedom

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Libertarians win federal case regarding campaign contributions

CHICAGO - Two Libertarians have won a federal court case challenging an Illinois ban of campaign contributions from medical marijuana cultivation centers and dispensaries.

Claire Ball, Libertarian nominee for Illinois Comptroller in 2016, and Scott Schluter, Libertarian nominee for Illinois House, 117th district, in 2016 filed the lawsuit in November 2015 in preparation for the 2016 election cycle.

Ball and Schluter argued that the ban on campaign contributions restricted the First Amendment rights of individuals in Illinois' growing marijuana industry. U.S. District Court Judge John Z. Lee agreed.

[According to Lee's decision](#), although previous court cases have ruled states have some regulatory power over campaign contributions, the First Amendment does not give the government free rein to selectively impose contribution restrictions in a manner that discriminates based on content or viewpoint.

Claire Ball was the only certified accountant on the ticket for Illinois Comptroller in 2016 and plans to run again in 2018. The decision will likely help her campaign.

"In Illinois the two major parties have created a monopoly in the political arena, making it as difficult as possible for anyone outside their influence, Libertarian or otherwise, to participate," said Ball. "With this win I can now reach out to an major emerging industry that Libertarians have been supporting for decades, which will only help in my upcoming race for Illinois Comptroller."

For more information, please contact Lex Green, Libertarian Party of Illinois Chair.

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