

# Firm charged with aiding recall

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(O&E)

A state investigator is probing charges by an area Democratic leader that a Sterling Heights company illegally helped the committee trying to recall Gov. James J. Blanchard.

Charges were filed by Donald F. Tucker, chairman of the 18th Congressional District Democratic Committee. He is a Birmingham resident with law offices in Southfield.

He named Detroit Plastic Molding Co. of Sterling Heights in the complaint. James A. Green, company attorney, said, "We have not seen a copy of it, nor has anyone here in our offices. Until we have an opportunity to see it and review it, we wouldn't want to comment on it."

Tucker charged the company illegally solicited funds for a political committee from impermissible sources, failed to register under the campaign finance act, coerced employees and made illegal "in-kind" contributions through use of its payroll records.

WEBSTER BUELL, director of the compliance division in the Michigan Department of State, said staff investigator Ann Corgan had been assigned the complaint.

"This is the only one that has arisen out of the recall movement," said Buell, who said his office has largely cleaned up its backlog

of cases from the 1982 election.

First step will be to determine if there is evidence of a violation of the act. If there appears to be a violation, he said, conciliation is attempted. If conciliation is impossible, the case would go to an informal hearing before a departmental hearing officer.

Finally, Secretary of State Richard Austin would determine whether the case should be referred to Attorney General Frank Kelley for prosecution. Punishments could range from jail and a \$1,000 fine to civil penalties, but Buell declined to classify the Tucker charges until an investigation is complete.

TUCKER'S CHARGES arose from a letter the company sent to employees saying that Blanchard recall petitions, which "you should be interested in signing," would be circulated in the plants. It cited Blanchard's successful effort to raise the personal income tax to 6.35 from 4.6 percent.

The letter said the company was "enclosing a pledge for those of you who can make this pledge of \$250" to the Recall Blanchard Committee. The pledge card was on stationery of Detroit Plastic Molding Co.

Tucker's statement charged: "The language, its format and method of presentation tends to be coercive, creative."

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at least the allusion (sic) and fear that contribution and support is a condition of employment or the fear of financial reprisal or job discrimination for failure to contribute, especially since the employee knows that his or her employer will know who and how much each contributed or did not contribute."

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## Get a job by using 'old boy network'

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

"I've had 11 or 12 jobs, and I got all but one through word of mouth," counselor Judy Hopkin tells job hunters at Oakland University's Continuum Center.

The old method of sending out 100 resumes isn't doing it. The same with job placement agencies, says the Birmingham resident who has a private personal and career counseling service besides teaching at OU.

Here is the kind of advice one would expect in a small town, where "it's not what you know but who you know" that counts. But in a decentralized megapolopolis, with big corporations, giant institutions and affirmative action programs?

"Eighty percent of jobs are found by personal contacts," answers Hopkin, who will conduct a workshop in how to create an "old-boy network" to get job leads.

HER WORKSHOP is one of a Job Hunting Series beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9, in 208 O'Dowd Hall on the Oakland University campus near Rochester. The five workshops may be taken individu-

dually (\$15 each) or as a group (\$55). They meet Tuesdays and Thursdays. Registration information is available from the Continuum Center at 377-3033.

The other four workshops:

- Job hunting rules and tactics — what to expect, how to get started, "hidden rules," identifying personal strengths.
- Resumes — their necessity, how to catch an employer's eye, format, content and style.
- Packaging yourself — appearance, projecting the right image.
- Job interviewing techniques — what to say and not to say, leading from strength, anticipating difficult questions, negotiating salary and benefits; also an opportunity for video-taped practice with professional critiques.

HOPKIN FINDS her groups are almost equally divided between men and women. She admits women who have been out of the work force raising families have a slight disadvantage in developing job hunting contacts. But only a slight disadvantage.

"It's a matter of attitude. Your attitude has to be that it's OK to ask other people to help you," she says.

She uses herself as an example. She once listed several relatives who might have leads — an uncle at Chrysler, a brother at Gulf + Western, a mother in advertising, a husband in business. Just asking them, she found 50 sources.

"It's amazing who other people know that you didn't know about," she says, a tone of amazement in her voice.

Over the years, she has had jobs in a foundry office, an insurance agency, as a teacher aide (while raising her own children), and as a tester for vocational rehabilitation operation in Detroit. She now has a master's degree in counseling from OU.

OTHER TECHNIQUES are to ask for contacts during job interviews and join professional associations. "Almost every occupational group you can think of as an association," she said.

As a workshop exercise, she sometimes asks, "Who wants information on a particular job or company?" When a participant names a job or company, she asks the class, "Can anyone help?" "Do you know that in a group of 20, five hands will go up?"

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