

MICHELLE FISCHBACH LOBBYING MEMO

**Drafted by Capitol City Research
July 16, 2020 in response to the
Michelle Fischbach's Cease and
Desist letter dated on July 15, 2020**

July 16, 2020

This memo was drafted in response to the Cease and Desist Order from the Fischbach for Congress campaign. This memo lays out the documentation we used to back up the charge we made that she broke the law by failing to register as a lobbyist last year. Some of this information can be cited with a weblink, others through screenshots:

1. Fischbach had been announced in July of 2019 as being the new Government Affairs Director for the Central Minnesota Builders Association “working part time at the CMBA office to maintain a working relationship with elected officials and agencies in the CMBA service territory.”
(<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2019/07/28/business-cmba-announces-new-government-affairs-director/1843167001/>, 7/28/2019)
2. In the year 2019, Fischbach was paid \$8,000.00 for her work for the Central Minnesota Builders Association, according to the Congressional financial disclosure she filed with the Clerk of the US House of Representatives.
(http://clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2020/10035973.pdf)
3. People in Minnesota are required to register as a lobbyist if they are paid more than \$3,000.00/year for their work as a lobbyist, according to the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board
(https://cfb.mn.gov/pdf/publications/handbooks/lobbyist_handbook.pdf, page 4)
4. Fischbach, however, has NEVER registered as a lobbyist with the MN Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board, as of 6/19/2020.
(<https://cfb.mn.gov/reports-and-data/viewers/lobbying/lobbyists/>, search done on 6/19/2020)
5. Steve Gottwalt, another former legislator, filled her spot in December 2019. and his job description was almost exactly as was the job described by Fischbach when she took the same job earlier in 2019.
(<https://www.sctimes.com/story/money/2019/12/15/business-kustelski-inducted-into-youth-intervention-hall-fame/4398557002/>, 12/15/2019)

6. Below is a screenshot of a pamphlet that talks about Michelle being hired by the Central Minnesota Builders Association:



CMBA President Ron Euteneuer, Great Northern Environmental Solutions

Michelle Fischbach Joins CMBA Team

CMBA is excited to announce that Michelle Fischbach will be joining the CMBA as the Government Affairs Director.

Michelle will step into the role that Jane DeAustin has served for the past 17 years. Jane retired from the position in 2018, and this May took a break to step back into the GA Director role until her replacement could be found.

"I feel the Board of Directors has made an excellent choice to hire Michelle to serve the association in this position," stated Bonnie Moeller, CMBA Executive Director. "She is an accomplished attorney with 22 years of state legislative experience and will lend superior government affairs service through her proven skills in creating, promoting and passing legislation."

Michelle served as the Lieutenant Governor in 2018, served as the President of the Minnesota State Senate in 2017/18 & 2011/12; and as State Senator since 1996.

State Representative Tama Theis stated, "I have been working with Michelle for several years on many topics. Her knowledge of the law and our State Agencies is great. Michelle is very focused and organized. Her contacts and connections are many. She will be a wonderful asset to the CMBA."

"Michelle is very well respected by both political parties in MN", stated John Pederson, former State Senator, "and has well established relationships with elected officials in the communities where CMBA members do business – as well as the State Capitol. In my view, the Government Affairs Committee for

the CMBA and its association members could not have a better candidate to consider."

Michelle will be working part time at the CMBA office to maintain a working relationship with elected officials and agencies in the CMBA service territory, specifically the St. Cloud area region, as well as with counterparts at the city, county, state and national levels on such matters that affect the industry and members of the CMBA.

Michelle will officially start on July 2nd. Please be sure to call or stop by to welcome her to the CMBA team!

Respectfully, *Ron Euteneuer*



CMBA announces Michelle Fischbach, CMBA Government Affairs Director

CMBA 2019 Board of Directors

OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

 President Ron Euteneuer Great Northern Environmental Solutions LLC	 1st V/P Tony Steinemann ADS Designs LLC	 2nd V/P/Treas. Nate Moeller Paramount Construction
 Secretary Sue Lenner TriCounty Abstract and Title Company	 Associate V/P Robin Gohman Liberty Bank MN	 Past President Chris Froelke RetiroGreen Energy
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 David Werschay Werschay Homes Inc.		

NAHB DIRECTORS 2019
 Tony Steinemann, ADS Designs
 David Werschay, Werschay Homes
 Ron Euteneuer, Great Northern Environmental Solutions LLC

BAM DIRECTORS 2019
 Steve Noble, Noble Custom Homes
 Tony Steinemann, ADS Designs
 Ron Euteneuer, Great Northern Environmental Solutions LLC
 Marty Czech, Premier Real Estate Services
 Mike Gohman, W. Gohman Const. Co.

7. This is a snippet from an article talking about her being hired as CMBA government affairs director where it talks about her maintaining a working relationship with elected officials, what a lobbyist does.
[\(https://www.sctimes.com/story/money/2019/07/28/business-cmba-announces-new-government-affairs-director/1843167001/\)](https://www.sctimes.com/story/money/2019/07/28/business-cmba-announces-new-government-affairs-director/1843167001/)

In Business: CMBA announces new government affairs director

From Staff Reports Published 5:38 p.m. CT July 28, 2019 | Updated 10:37 a.m. CT July 31, 2019

     
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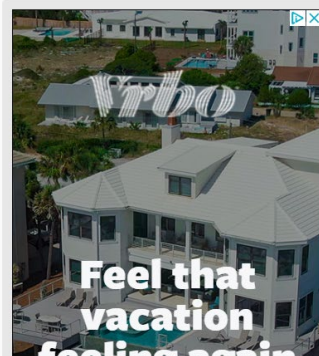


Michelle Fischbach (Photo: Central Minnesota Builders Association)

The Central Minnesota Builders Association announced Michelle Fischbach as the organization's new government affairs director.

Fischbach served as lieutenant governor in 2018, served as the president of the state Senate in 2017-18 and 2011-12; and as a state senator since 1996.

Fischbach will be working part time at the CMBA office to maintain a working relationship with elected officials and agencies in the CMBA service territory, specifically the St. Cloud region, as well as with counterparts at the city, county, state and national levels on matters that affect the industry and members of the CMBA.



8. Below is a screenshot from the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, which shows her predecessor at her position with the CMBA, Jane DeAustin, who registered as a lobbyist for the same position:

DeAustin, Jane

Lobbyist information
Lobbyist reports
Subjects of lobbying
Complete client list

DeAustin, Jane
 Reg num: 1277
 CMBA
 1124 W St Germain
 St Cloud, MN 56301
 Phone: (320) 251-4382
 Email: jane@cmbaonline.org

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Associations represented				
Association	Registered	Terminated	Designated	Disbursements
Central MN Builders Assn	12/23/2003	5/31/2018	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	View reports

9. Below is a screenshot of an online advertisement for the position Fischbach took, which clearly lays out that she needs to lobby elected officials in the position:

CMBA Government Affairs Director

[SAVE](#) 

 Central Minnesota Builders Association
St Cloud, MN

Apply on GREATER ST. Clou...

 Over 1 month ago  2 hr  Full-time

The CMBA is seeking to hire a part time Government Affairs Director. Anticipated 25-35 hours per week. Job Description Summary: Work with the Government Affairs Committee to provide research on issues, lobby elected officials, develop community and press relationships, and provide coordination to the organization on all government affairs issues at the local and regional level. Works as a liaison to the Builders Association of Minnesota and the National Association of Home Builders. Must be able to work flexible hours. Please send your cover letter with resume to Bonnie Moeller, CMBA Executive Director. bonnie@cmbaonline.org | [Government Affairs Director Position Description](#)