

BATTLE CREEK CITY COMMISSION AT-LARGE CANDIDATE AUTUMN SMITH

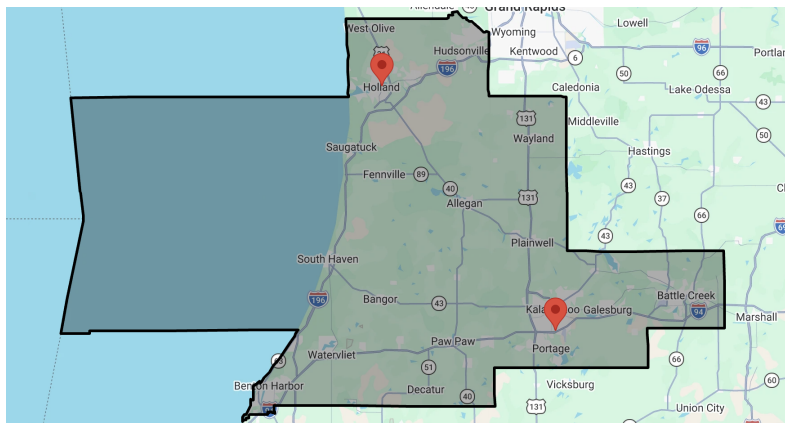
<u>POTENTIAL HITS FROM THE LEFT</u>	<u>POTENTIAL HITS FROM THE RIGHT</u>
● SEVERAL LAWSUITS FILED AGAINST CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS ● FAR-RIGHT CONSPIRACIST ● SUPPORTED RFK JR. AND DONALD TRUMP ● SPREADS HATEFUL RHETORIC AGAINST MINORITIES	● SUPPORTED RFK JR IN 2024 ● SEVERAL LAWSUITS FILED AGAINST CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

Key Findings Include:

- Smith has a long history of suing local government officials, with several cases escalating to higher courts.
- Smith promotes anti-vax conspiracies, homophobic/transphobic conspiracies, and hateful rhetoric.
- Smith threatened several local government officials and advocacy groups on social media, including a human trafficking advocacy group.
- On multiple occasions, Smith has reposted election conspiracies and questioned election integrity.

Jurisdiction Summary

Battle Creek is a city in West Michigan, represented by Rep. Bill Huizinga (R-MI-04). [[Rep. Huizinga](#), accessed 8/7/26]



Battle Creek is the largest city in Calhoun County with nearly 53,000 residents. [[Battle Creek City](#), accessed 8/7/26]

Battle Creek is a majority white city, with 63.2% of residents identifying as white, 15.8% as Black, 8.3% as Hispanic, and 4.9% as Asian. [[Census](#), accessed 8/7/26]

Calhoun County swung for Donald Trump (57.11%), Mike Rogers (56.37%), and Bill Huizinga (54.63%) in 2024. [[Calhoun County Elections 2024](#), accessed 8/7/26]

BACKGROUND

PERSONAL LIFE

No findings of note.

PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC, & PUBLIC SECTOR BACKGROUND

Autumn Smith runs FAFOJustice.com, a conspiracy website highlighting “cover ups” in Michigan and across the US. [FAFOJustice.com, accessed 8/6/26]

Smith published blogs with Paleo Radio. “Jeremiah Bannister, the founder of Paleo Radio, where Smith contributes her blogs, says he stands firm by all of her previous reports.” [[WWMT](https://www.wmt.com), 8/20/14]

INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY

In 2014, Smith was charged with filing a false police report, alleging the police chief Jim Blocker had assaulted her. “Autumn Rosanne Smith, 30, of Battle Creek is charged with the misdemeanor in a warrant issued Wednesday, Calhoun County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Dan Buscher said Thursday. The warrant was issued after investigators from the Michigan State Police said Smith called a 911 emergency dispatcher on June 17 and accused then-Interim Police Chief Jim Blocker of assault.” [[Battle Creek Enquirer](https://www.battlecreekenquirer.com), 8/21/14]

Police video showed no assault occurred. “Surveillance camera footage of a June 17 incident between a local blogger and Battle Creek Police Chief Jim Blocker does not show an assault as reported in a 911 emergency call.” [[Battle Creek Enquirer](https://www.battlecreekenquirer.com), 8/29/14]

Smith sued sitting Comstock Charter Township Trustees for allegedly violating the Michigan Open Meetings Act in January 2026. “Smith claims she saw the four officials leaving a law office together and then talking together outside of the office, without public notice.” [[WWMT](https://www.wmt.com), 1/15/26]

Smith sued the City of Battle Creek after they denied her requests to fly different flags on the city’s flagpole. “IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Amended Complaint (ECF No. 11) is DISMISSED pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2); specifically, Plaintiff’s federal claims are dismissed WITH PREJUDICE, and the Court declines to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over any state-law claims therein, see 28 U.S.C. § 1367(c)(3), which are dismissed WITHOUT PREJUDICE. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court certifies pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that an appeal of this decision would not be taken in good faith.” [[Justia Law](https://www.justia.com), accessed 8/7/26]

Smith also sued Wal-Mart in 2025 after being charged with retail fraud (charges which were dismissed without prejudice). “Smith says that Wal-Mart employees engaged in a “Conspiracy to deprive Plaintiff of Constitutional Rights.” (ECF No. 1, PageID.3.) Smith also sues for false imprisonment, malicious prosecution based upon lack of probable cause and entrapment, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and negligence.” [[Midpage](https://www.midpage.com), accessed 8/7/26]

CAMPAIGN BACKGROUND

Smith said she was running because she “believes citizens deserve leaders who listen, ask difficult questions, and put the public interest before politics.” “After nearly 20 years of standing with citizens at County, City, and Township meetings, Autumn is running to bring that same commitment to public office.” [[Autumn Smith Campaign Site](https://www.autumnsmithcampaign.com), accessed 8/13/26]

IDEOLOGY & POLITICS

Smith testified about alleged Chinese influence in the Battle Creek city government at a Michigan House Committee meeting. “I was a citizen journalist and I was retaliated for exposing um CCP influence in my local government. I was arrested and put in jail for simply writing an article about this.” [\[Editorial Staff Youtube\]](#), accessed 8/6/26]

In a 2012 opinion piece published in Al Jazeera, Smith appeared to support reproductive rights. “We have seen this smokescreen effect before – a telegenic right-wing figure plays all the “moderate” cards to reassure middle-of-the-road voters – especially that crucial women’s vote in those crucial battleground states – but in fact his real background and real former positions show that the pol’s agenda and constituency is far more extreme than these moderates want to support.” [\[Al Jazeera\]](#), 8/27/12]

AFFILIATION WITH POLITICAL FIGURES/ORGANIZATIONS:

Smith posted a photo of her hugging Robert F. Kennedy Jr. during his presidential campaign in 2024. [\[Autumn Smith Facebook\]](#), accessed 8/6/26]

Smith led recall petition efforts for State House Speaker Jase Bolger in 2011. “An effort to recall James Bolger, a member of the Republican Party, from his elected position representing District 63 in the Michigan House of Representatives took place in 2011. On May 10, Autumn Smith submitted language to the Calhoun County Clerk citing Bolger’s support for cutting school funding and legislation easing restrictions on voiding public employee contracts...Smith said she would continue to help if someone else led the campaign, but that she no longer had the time or resources to lead it herself.” [\[Ballotpedia\]](#), accessed 8/6/26]

Smith claims to be mentored by Naomi Wolf, a controversial political commentator. “Journalist and 9 time NYT bestselling author Dr. Naomi Wolf talks about ethical journalism. I was trained in journalism by Dr. Naomi Wolf.” [\[Autumn Smith Campaign Facebook\]](#), accessed 8/7/26]

Wolf was suspended from Twitter in 2021 after posting vaccine misinformation. “One tweet claimed that vaccines were a ‘software platform that can receive uploads’. She also compared Dr Anthony Fauci, the top Covid adviser in the US, to Satan to her more than 140,000 followers. Most recently, she tweeted that the urine and faeces of people who had received the jab needed to be separated from general sewage supplies while tests were done to measure its impact on non-vaccinated people through drinking water.” [BBC, 6/6/21]

Smith sued Battle Creek Mayor David Walters for alleged civil rights violations, but the case was dismissed in 2021. [\[Justia Law\]](#), accessed 8/6/26]

Smith claimed Battle Creek police officers had covered up a drunk driving incident involving an officer. “During the public comment portion of the meeting, Autumn Smith, a Battle Creek resident presented documents obtained by the Freedom of Information Act that she says is proof that police officers tried to cover-up a car crash involving Officer William Gensch on his way into work back in 2012...[another officer] and Gensch were involved in a drunk driving crash back in July.” [\[Fox17\]](#), 6/4/13]

PARTISAN POSTS

Smith asked Facebook followers to “threaten this group of people,” linking a story about a local human trafficking awareness group. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]



Autumn Smith ▸ Comstock Rez Refugees

February 1 · 🌐

...

Anyone bother to threaten this group of people and tell them to stay out of Comstock and Kalamazoo like myself and [Andre Belous](#) have been told to?

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1DQELNNXjZ/>



1

54



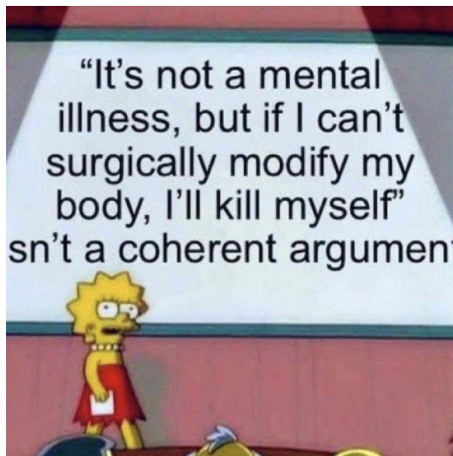
Smith posted transphobic memes on Facebook. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/7/26]



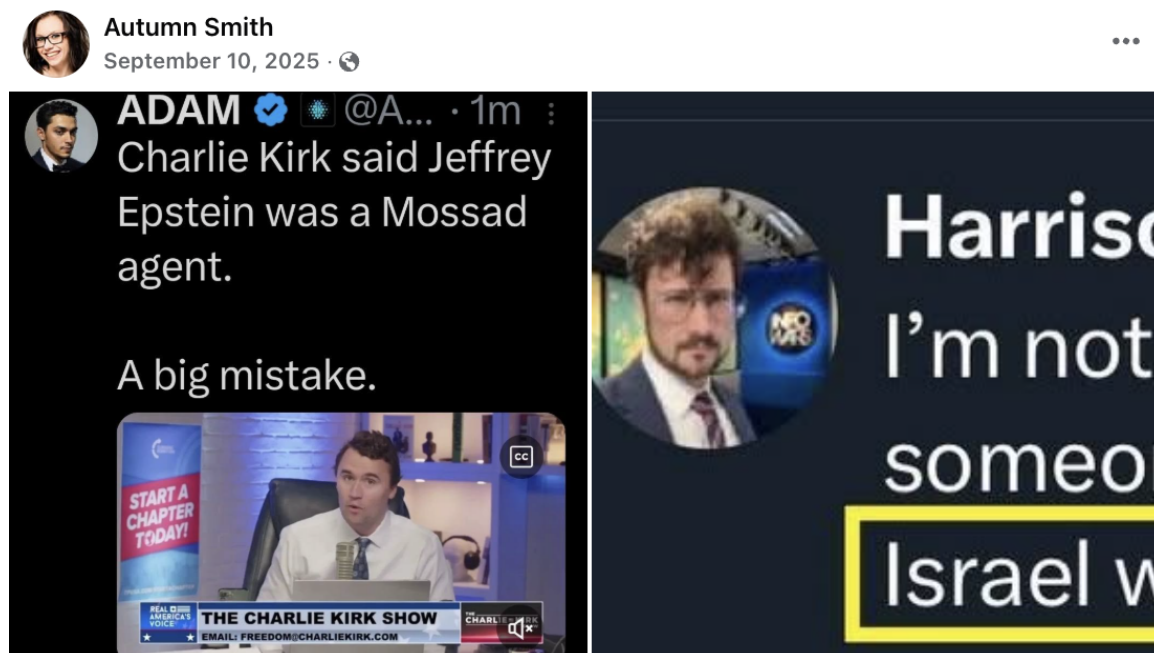
Autumn Smith

September 3, 2025 · 🌐

...



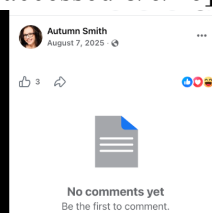
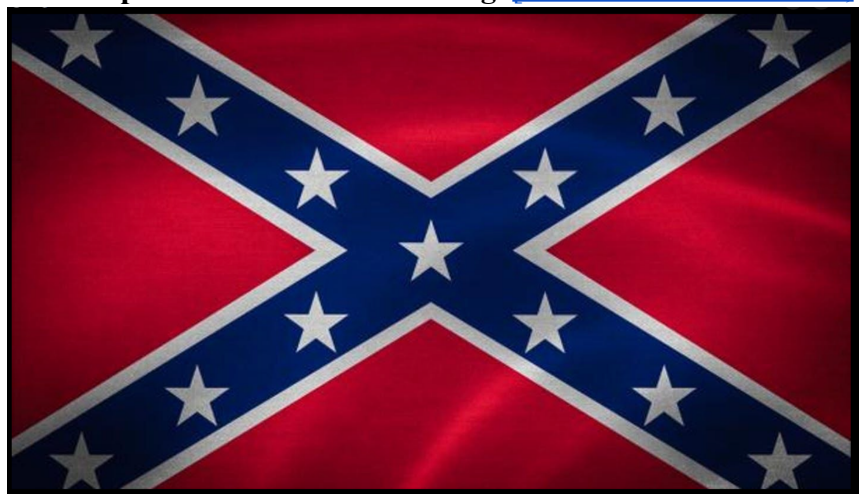
Smith reposted conspiracy theories claiming Charlie Kirk was killed by Israel. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]



Smith reposted anti-vaccine rhetoric. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]



Smith reposted the Confederate flag. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]



CAMPAIGN INFRASTRUCTURE

No findings of note.

ENDORSEMENTS

Smith posted that she was endorsed by the Southwest Michigan Libertarian Party. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]

Smith was endorsed by Donna Brandenburg, the Taxpayers Party candidate for Michigan governor. “Here it is!! 1st and only formal endorsement from Donna Brandenburg 2026 Michigan Gubernatorial Candidate US Taxpayers Party of Michigan -Constitution Party” [[Autumn Smith Campaign Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]

John Ludtke, Taxpayers Party Attorney General nominee, also endorsed Smith. [[Autumn Smith Campaign Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]

Niles City Council Member Michael Thompson endorsed Smith. [[Autumn Smith Campaign Facebook](#), accessed 8/13/26]

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

No findings of note.

PERSONAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Smith donated \$51.80 to Probate Judge Michael Jaconette’s reelection efforts in 2010. [[Michigan Transparency Network](#), accessed 8/7/26]

Contributor	Recipient	Date	Amount	Type
Autumn Smith	COMMITTEE TO REELECT PROBATE JUDGE MICHAEL JACONETTE	10/10/10	\$20	Monetary

Autumn Smith	COMMITTEE TO REELECT PROBATE JUDGE MICHAEL JACONETTE	10/10/10	\$15.90	In-Kind
Autumn Smith	COMMITTEE TO REELECT PROBATE JUDGE MICHAEL JACONETTE	10/10/10	\$15.90	In-Kind

ISSUES

Taxes / Controversial Budget Cuts

No findings of note.

Good Government/Ethics

Smith wants to repeal the city’s ethics ordinance. “The ethics ordinance was rewritten to allow just TWO COMMISSIONERS and the MAYOR to initiate an ethics violation hearing against another commissioner out of a 9-member commission.” [\[Autumn Smith Campaign Website\]](#), accessed 8/13/26]

Public Safety

Smith wants to repeal the “hindering and opposing” ordinance. “The “Hindering or Opposing Police Officers” ordinance is UNCONSTITUTIONAL and gives some officers a license to misuse power and abuse citizens.” [\[Autumn Smith Campaign Website\]](#), accessed 8/13/26]

Smith wants to ban Flock Cameras in Battle Creek. “Battle Creek has spent tax dollars on Flock / ALPR cameras — part of a nationwide network of unaccountable mass surveillance.” [\[Autumn Smith Campaign Website\]](#), accessed 8/13/26]

Smith posted support for a peaceful rally for justice after a teen was racially profiled in Battle Creek. [\[Autumn Smith Facebook\]](#), accessed 8/13/26]

Healthcare

No findings of notes.

Economic development

No findings of notes.

Housing & Development (affordable housing, zoning, data centers)

Smith said the city needed to stop weaponizing code enforcement. “If the city stopped using citizens to generate revenue via extortion in property taxes, fee & Bond schedule, and Weaponized code enforcement-especially in lower income and minority neighborhoods, the citizens would have more money in their pocket to spend on housing instead of paying the local municipal government to be an HOA.”

Environment / Land Management

No findings of note.

Infrastructure (roads, parks, water and utilities, bike paths)

No findings of note.

Education

No findings of note.

Elections/Voting Access

Smith reposted claims that Michigan’s voting machines were “completely corrupted.” [\[Autumn Smith Facebook, accessed 8/6/26\]](#)

Autumn Smith
July 26 at 12:51 PM · 🌐

Sheriff Dar Leaf
@SheriffLeaf

Barry County Sheriff's Office
1212 West State Street • Holland, Michigan 49424
Sheriff Dar Leaf

July 25, 2024

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Honorable President Trump:

I am writing to inform you that there is evidence of an ongoing security threat. Liberty State has conducted its employment of Venezuelans, and the fact that past Dominion Voting Machines (Voting Machines) and computers are currently being used by the company. I believe that the evidence is as follows: The Voting Machines are used for Dominion Voting, Electronic Polling, and there were several other votes across the US election system for "Voting Machines" and the evidence was not properly handled across the country. The evidence is not related to Dominion Voting. I have evidence that other critical Dominion Voting Machines and related systems have been compromised by security.

Attached you will find a report of Dominion and EDC's current email relating that his computer was compromised with information relating to an EDC computer system and the information was not properly handled. The current computer system is not being handled by the 2020 Election with a network that included Donald Trump's and Donald Trump's network.

"I hope you are providing a "Voting" and other related information to the "Voting Machines". The President, please have an insider threat problem that is a patch course system."

Signature
Sheriff Dar Leaf
Barry County Sheriff

Business (202) 940-4025 • Cell (202) 940-4024 • Fax (202) 940-4021

5:41 PM · 7/24/26 · 184K Views

Gen Mike Flynn
July 25 at 7:31 PM · 🌐

Our election machinery is completely corrupted and remains corruptible. We have an insider threat and it cannot be fixed by applying another bandaid.

Smith reposted claims that China interfered in the 2020 election. [[Autumn Smith Facebook](#), accessed 8/6/26]



Smith reposted election conspiracies. [[Autumn Smith X](#), accessed 8/7/26]



Affordability / Cost of Living

No findings of note.

Ideology, Rhetoric & Extremism Signals

Compared the County Commission to Adolf Eichmann, the Nazi leader who planned and coordinated the Holocaust. "City Commission Platform: No More Eichmann Excuses... 'I was just following city protocol' or 'I was just carrying out Commission policy' is never an acceptable excuse

when municipal actions harm our residents.” [\[Autumn Smith Campaign Facebook\]](#), accessed 8/6/26]
[\[History.com\]](#), accessed 8/6/26]

FOIA

Smith wants to end the City Attorney’s Office’s handling of FOIA requests. “This will also end the inappropriate abuse, overcharging, and illegal revenue generating that the city and city attorney’s office has been using to weaponize public information against the citizens.” [\[Autumn Smith Campaign Website\]](#), accessed 8/13/26]

Social Media Links:

[LinkedIn](#)
[Personal Facebook](#)
[Campaign Facebook](#)
[Personal X Account](#)
[Campaign Website](#)
[Personal YouTube](#)