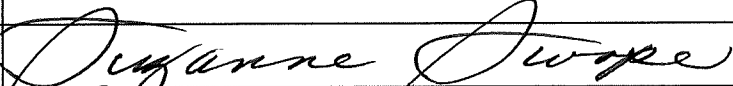
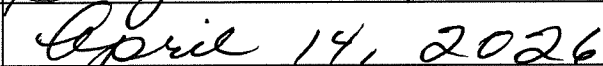


**DISCLOSURE OF APPEARANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST  
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 23(b)(3)**

<b>PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION</b>	
Name of public employee:	SUZANNE SWOPE
Title or Position:	VP Winthrop Town Council District 4 Counselor
Agency/Department:	Town of Winthrop
Agency address:	1 Metcalf Sq. WINTHROP MA 02152
Office Phone:	617-8461852
Office E-mail:	<a href="http://www.winthropma.gov">http://www.winthropma.gov</a>
	<p>In my capacity as a state, county or municipal employee, I am expected to take certain actions in the performance of my official duties. Under the circumstances, a reasonable person could conclude that a person or organization could unduly enjoy my favor or improperly influence me when I perform my official duties, or that I am likely to act or fail to act as a result of kinship, rank, position or undue influence of a party or person.</p> <p>I am filing this disclosure to disclose the facts about this relationship or affiliation and to dispel the appearance of a conflict of interest.</p>
<b>APPEARANCE OF FAVORITISM OR INFLUENCE</b>	
Describe the issue that is coming before you for action or decision.	please
What responsibility do you have for taking action or making a decision?	see attached
Explain your relationship or affiliation to the person or organization.	↓
How do your official actions or decision matter to the person or organization?	

<b>Optional:</b> Additional facts – e.g., why there is a low risk of undue favoritism or improper influence.	
<b>If you cannot confirm this statement, you should recuse yourself.</b>	<b>WRITE AN X TO CONFIRM THE STATEMENT BELOW.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taking into account the facts that I have disclosed above, I feel that I can perform my official duties objectively and fairly.
Employee signature:	
Date:	

Attach additional pages if necessary.

Not elected to your public position – file with your appointing authority.

Elected state or county employees – file with the State Ethics Commission.

Members of the General Court – file with the House or Senate clerk or the State Ethics Commission.

Elected municipal employee – file with the City Clerk or Town Clerk.

Elected regional school committee member – file with the clerk or secretary of the committee.

The Commonwealth has passed the **MBTA Communities Law**, which mandates multi-family zoning requirements for various municipalities, including Winthrop. I have consistently opposed this law. My daughter, Attorney Diana Viens (serving as lawyer or plaintiff) and Attorney Michael Walsh have obtained a stay order in a court case scheduled for a hearing on April 23rd. This stay asks that the case filed by Attorney Cipoletta be stayed until the other cases filed by Walsh and Viens (attorney or plaintiff) be heard. Additionally, an exemption case for Winthrop has been filed by Walsh and Viens (attorney or plaintiff) in the Massachusetts Superior Court; however, a hearing date for that case has not yet been scheduled

I am not unduly or improperly influenced in the performance of my official duties, nor am I likely to act or fail to act because of my daughter being either an attorney or plaintiff in these cases. Their work is being performed **pro bono**. She has a full-time job that has no relationship to these proceedings. Furthermore, I have no financial interest in these actions that differs from that of the general public in Winthrop. My concerns regarding this "one size fits all" mandate include the potential loss of home rule, overcrowding, lack of infrastructure support, and fire and safety risks, etc.

If Winthrop has active court cases seeking relief from the requirements of **Section 3A**, I will vote that the Town join the suit, regardless of who the party is that brings this issue to the court. This includes motions to intervene in plaintiff suits to advance the Town's interest in remaining free from excess state-mandated development, specifically under **G.L. c. 40A § 3A**.

The case filed by Attorney Cipoletta in response to the Attorney General's lawsuit against Winthrop shares many of these same arguments. (i.e. small size, extreme density, high traffic count, parking stress, lack of land available for development. An increased population means increased infrastructure and fire, safety and educational resources) If called upon, I would consider endorsing a plan with the Commonwealth that gives us assurances that we need not build or renovate existing structures to provide new units under this law and that restores our ability to receive grants as do other communities that have exemptions (such as Boston and East Boston).

Suzanne Swope  
VP Winthrop Town Council  
Counselor Precinct 4

