

WWW.TRIPLEDIPPERS.ORG

**183 Retired Macomb County
Government Politicians and
Bureaucrats are taking Millions in
Salaries and pension payments at
the same time to do the same job!**



<https://TripleDippers.org/michigan/>

183 MACOMB COUNTY GOVERNMENT TRIPLE DIPPERS

Are taking **\$32.4 Million** in *interest bearing pension payments* and **\$13.4 Million** in **Salaries** plus huge benefits at the same time to do the same job! Triple Dippers are formally called Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP).



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For five years Triple Dippers collect a pension earning interest and continue collecting all COLA and promotion payments, then collect pension after retiring for the second time with increases every year. Some Triple Dippers continue with their same job, others can return as Contract Employees!



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EXPERT OPINION ON THE TRIPLE DIPPERS DROP PROGRAM:

“THIS IS A RICH RETIREMENT – THERE’S
NOTHING REMOTELY LIKE IT THAT
WE’VE SEEN IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY”

GLENN J. DOWNING, MBA, CFP

THE PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHOSE ONLY
RETIREMENT ACCOUNT IS A DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN IS NOW
4%, DOWN FROM 60% IN THE EARLY 1980’S



THE FIRST DIP

183 RETIRED MACOMB COUNTY
GOVERNMENT POLITICIANS AND
BUREAUCRATS ARE TAKING **\$13.4 MILLION**
IN SALARIES

PLUS, A HUGE BENEFITS PACKAGE!



The **SECOND** DIP

**183 RETIRED MACOMB COUNTY
GOVERNMENT POLITICIANS AND
BUREAUCRATS ARE TAKING:**

**\$13.4 MILLION IN SALARIES
WITH BENEFITS AND
\$32.4 MILLION IN PENSION PAYMENTS**

**AT THE SAME TIME TO DO THE SAME
JOB!**



THE THIRD DIP

“by collecting a paycheck and a pension at the same time, **Triple Dippers** can afford to delay Social Security which then increases 8% per year to age 70, a 40% increase in Social Security payments!”



<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/1943-delay.html>

The **CHERRY** on the top

UPON THE SECOND RETIREMENT, TRIPLE DIPPERS CASH OUT UNUSED VACATION, SICK AND PERSONAL DAYS AT THEIR FINAL HIGHEST PAY, NOT THE SALARY WITH DAYS OFF WERE EARNED, ARTIFICIALLY TAKING MORE TAXPAYER MONEY AND INCREASING THE FINAL YEARS SALARY UPON WHICH FUTURE PENSION PAYMENTS ARE MADE.



Macomb County **Triple Dippers** include Powerful Politicians

DON BROWN, CHAIRMAN OF THE MACOMB COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (SALARY OF \$91,800)



TOP MACOMB COUNTY **TRIPLE DIPPERS**

Last Name	First Name	Job Title	First Retirement Date	Cash Bonus Date	Pension Cash Bonus	Salary
GORNICKI	JEFFERY	LIEUTENANT	03/06/2021	03/05/2026	\$ 503,672	\$ 181,210
LOKAR	KEVIN	MEDICAL DIRECTOR	01/26/2019	01/25/2024	\$ 488,557	\$ 181,866
HARVEY	JORDAN	SARGENT	02/06/2021	02/05/2026	\$ 413,398	\$ 149,897
BRINEY	STEVEN	CAPTAIN	10/05/2019	10/04/2024	\$ 411,714	\$ 119,785
WILLIS	DANIEL	LIEUTENANT	06/01/2019	05/31/2024	\$ 378,164	\$ 123,441

Sort, view and download the full list:

<https://TripleDippers.org/michigan/>

CRIMINAL MACOMB COUNTY POLITICIANS ARE TRIPLE DIPPERS

Ex-Macomb County Prosecutor **Eric Smith** was a **Macomb County Triple Dipper**, **salary over \$152,821** and was on track to take approximately a **\$746,105 pension cash bonus**! Eric Smith was charged in state court with 10 felonies embezzling \$600,000 of taxpayer money from drug and forfeiture funds. Eric Smith agreed to plead **guilty to the obstruction of justice charge**, for trying to cover up stealing \$70,000 from his campaign account with the sentencing guidelines of 15 months to 21 months in prison, per a plea agreement with the federal government.



Former Macomb County
Prosecutor Eric Smith, Triple
Dipper



CRIMINAL MACOMB COUNTY BUREAUCRATS ARE TRIPLE DIPPERS

Ex-Macomb Chief Assistant Prosecutor Ben Liston entered the Macomb County Government Triple Dipper (DROP) program in 2013 and retired in 2018 with a **salary over \$122,427** and took a **pension cash bonus of approximately \$612,135**. Ben Liston was charged with four Felony charges and plead guilty to three misdemeanor charges of stealing Taxpayer money to pay for personal laptops, travel expenses to his Arizona residence and sound equipment. Ben Liston may be able to avoid having his approximately \$48,720 annual Macomb County pension forfeited because misdemeanor convictions make forfeiture County Pension an optional pursuit of the Macomb County Retirement Board.



Former Macomb Chief
Assistant Prosecutor Ben
Liston, Triple Dipper

MANY MACOMB COUNTY TRIPLE DIPPERS ARE **NON-CORE MISSION EMPLOYEES**

Examples: **warehouse services, cooks, janitors, medical billing specialists, carpenters, security guards, cashiers, therapists and others.** These non-core positions should be contracted out to private businesses to save millions in taxpayers money.



MANY MACOMB COUNTY GOVERNMENT SECRETARIES ARE TAKING APPROXIMATELY \$1.7 MILLION IN SALARIES AND \$3.8 MILLION IN PENSION CASH BONUSES AT THE SAME TIME TO DO THE SAME JOB!



Joanna Strizic is a Macomb County Government Triple Dipping Queen. She “retired” 1/14/17 yet is still being paid a salary to do the same job and will collect a **pension cash bonus of \$219,095** in a few months on 1/13/22. That’s \$3,651.58 per month. Happy New Year!



TWO CASHIERS ARE TRIPLE DIPPERS CASHING IN BIG BUCKS! THEY ARE **NOT** CORE EMPLOYEES

Macomb County Cashier Brenda Musialowski makes **\$42,433 salary** plus a **cash pension bonus of \$82,943** and Cashier Lori Ferdig makes **\$49,410 salary** plus a **cash pension bonus of \$105,992**.

Kroger Cashiers make an average \$10.40 per hour or \$22,713 a year.



THE UNKNOWN TRIPLE DIPPER

Macomb Government employee Kelly Rhymes is another Triple Dipper. In a few years, she will collect a **pension cash bonus of \$94,541** on 7/26/2024. In the meantime, she is still working after “retiring” 7/27/2019 and getting a salary, vacation days and possibly lots more.

We use the term unknown since this employee’s salary and category (job title) were missing from the county provided report. Again, why?



TRIPLE DIPPING **WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT** HAULING IN BIG BUCKS!

Macomb County Government Warehouse Services Assistant Angela Stempnik makes a **\$48,276 salary** plus a **pension cash bonus of \$106,349**.

A UPS Warehouse Assistant makes an average of \$14 an hour or \$29,120 a year.



TRIPLE DIPPING CARPENTER NAILING DOWN BIG BUCKS!

Macomb County Government carpenter James Schilkey makes a **\$75,186 salary** plus a **cash pension bonus of \$118,061**. He'll get that on 1/11/24.

Do Macomb County Politicians really need a highly paid carpenter to make frames for political tributes?

A carpenter in Warren, Michigan makes an average salary of \$58,904 *with no pension cash bonus*.

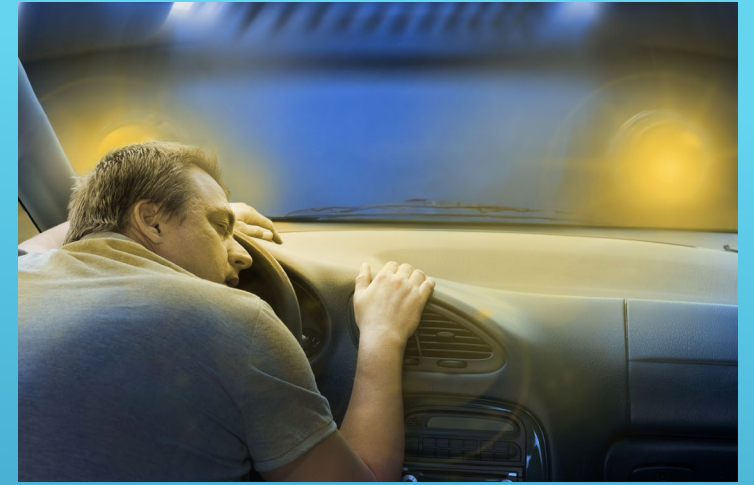
Another Triple Dipper, Larry Ball, has a **cash pension bonus of \$214, 240** scheduled for collection 8/21/2025. For all too many Macomb County residents, the word collection means something else entirely.



TRIPLE DIPPER ANDREW WOZNIAK IS **HAULING IN BIG BUCKS!**

Andrew Wozniak (wage and title information omitted by the County) will collect a **cash pension bonus of \$155,155** on 12/27/23. Merry Christmas!

Macomb Government Officials need to provide an explanation of why so many on the DROP list are not on the wage list, including this Triple Dipper.



3 MORE TRIPLE DIPPERS HIGHLIGHTED

Michael Bucholtz: **\$276,420 cash pension bonus** 1/12/23

Mark Nummer: **\$212,987 cash pension bonus** 11/27/25

Ralph Impemba: **\$124,726 cash pension bonus** 12/27/24

Note: Salary and category information for these individuals was missing from the Macomb County provided data. Why?



TRIPLE DIPPING JANITOR CLEANING UP WITH YOUR TAX MONEY

Triple Dipping Janitor Byron Simmons is taking a **\$43,676 salary** and will collect a **\$118,768 cash pension bonus** on 1/12/23.

The Average Macomb County Janitor makes \$33,072 with no bonus. Contract out Janitorial Services.



IS TRIPLE DIPPING LEGAL?

Unfortunately, Yes. Until we pressure the County Commissioners and Executive to change Macomb County Rules.

<https://boc.macombgov.org/boc-Commissioners>

<https://executive.macombgov.org/executive-home>



IS TRIPLE DIPPING ETHICAL?

No. Enriching yourself with a paycheck and pension at the same time to do the same job using taxpayer money is **not Ethical.**



IS TRIPLE DIPPING MORAL?

No. Triple Dippers are committing one of the Seven Deadly sins: **Gluttony** is the overindulgence and over consumption of anything to the point of waste. Gorging on taxpayer money by rich politicians and bureaucrats leaves the needy hungry.



DO **TRIPLE DIPPERS** MEET MACOMB COUNTY'S HARDWORKING CONSERVATIVE COMMUNITY STANDARDS ?

No. The percentage of workers in the private sector whose only retirement account is a defined benefit pension plan is now 4%, down from 60% in the early 1980's.



ENDING TRIPLE DIPPERS WOULD SAVE OVER **\$38 MILLION**

Replacing these 183 over-the-hill, retired **Triple Dippers** with freshly educated and trained employees **would create 183 jobs—without cutting a single position.** Hiring entry level employees to replace Triple Dippers would **save approximately 40%, \$38 Million** which could be spent on roads, Seniors, Veterans and tax cuts.

Give 183 young people a chance to start a new career, a family and buy a house instead of enriching retired bureaucrats with more money!



Contact your County Commissioners, and County Executive to

STOP future

Triple Dipping

DROP employees

- ▶ <https://boc.macombgov.org/boc-Commissioners>
- ▶ <https://executive.macombgov.org/executive-home>



CALL TO ACTION

Pressure your County Commissioners, and County Executive to **Require** that Macomb politicians and bureaucrats **convicted of misdemeanors** stealing taxpayer dollars or using their public office to enrich themselves **shall lose their County pension.**

- ▶ <https://boc.macombgov.org/boc-Commissioners>
- ▶ <https://executive.macombgov.org/executive-home>



Former Macomb County
Prosecutor Eric Smith, Triple
Dipper



Former Macomb Chief Assistant
Prosecutor Ben Liston, Triple Dipper

CALL TO ACTION

Pressure Macomb County Commissioners and the Executive to require Macomb County Government politicians' and bureaucrats' unused days off must be cashed out at the salary the unused days were earned, not highest final salary and not artificially inflate pensions as a result of not doing so.

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