



LCV/NRDC/EDF (MI-10)

LCV24-MI10-D201 "Trust" - OTT/Digital :30

| VISUAL  | AUDIO   | BACKUP  |
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| <p>Split screen</p> <p>James and Marlinga</p> <p><b>It Comes Down to Character</b></p> <p><b>John James Caught Ripping Off Taxpayers // Took Millions in Tax Breaks and Loans</b></p> <p>[Detroit Metro Times, <a href="#">8/26/20</a>]</p> <p><b>John James Didn't</b></p> | <p>[Male Narrator]</p> <p>In the race for Congress,</p> <p>It comes down to character.</p> <p>John James was caught ripping off taxpayers.</p> <p>James was CEO of a shipping company, that took millions in tax breaks on a pledge to create jobs -</p> <p>But they didn't create the jobs they promised, didn't repay</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p><b>2014-2023: James Was The President Of James Group International And CEO Of Renaissance Global Logistics</b></p> </div> <p><b>2014: James Became President Of The James International Group, His Family Business.</b> "James joined the family business in 2012 and became president of the James International Group in 2014. The company has added 100 jobs since 2012 and grown annual revenues from \$35 million to \$137 million, he said." [Detroit News, <a href="#">7/18/17</a>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>James Was President Of The Detroit-Based Logistics And Warehousing Firm, James Group International.</b> "Detroit businessman John E. James is pressing forward with a campaign for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate in 2018, highlighting his experience in the supply chain industry and the military. James, president of James Group International, a Detroit-based logistics and warehousing firm, planned to create a campaign committee Tuesday with the Federal Election Commission, allowing him to begin raising money for the campaign." [Crain's Detroit Business, <a href="#">7/18/17</a>]</p> </li> </ul> <p><b>2015: James Became CEO Of Renaissance Global Logistics, A James Group Subsidiary Which Handled Export Logistics For Ford, General Motors And Fiat Chrysler.</b> "James is president of JGI and CEO of its subsidiary Renaissance Global Logistics, which handles export logistics for Ford Motor Co., General Motors Co. and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles. His brother, Lorrone, is CEO of JGI, and their father remains chairman. James rejoined the family business in 2012. After earning a degree in supply chain management from Penn State University and an MBA from the University of Michigan in 2014, James became CEO of RGL in 2015." [Crain's Detroit Business, <a href="#">9/6/20</a>]</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>John James Promised To Create Jobs In Michigan But Actually "Lost More Than 30 Jobs Under His Leadership"</b></p> </div> |

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| <p><b>Create<br/>Jobs //<br/>Didn't<br/>Repay<br/>The<br/>Money //<br/>Paid<br/>Himself<br/>Millions</b></p> | <p>the money -<br/>and James<br/>paid <u>himself</u><br/>millions<br/>instead.</p> | <p><b>Under James' "tenure [his] company took nearly \$2 million in tax breaks from the state, a condition of which was that the company had to create 108 jobs. In fact, according to the documents, James's company actually lost more than 30 jobs under his leadership."</b> "Like Trump, James's company appears to be master dealmakers, at least for themselves. According to documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and reviewed by Metro Times, under his tenure James's company took nearly \$2 million in tax breaks from the state, a condition of which was that the company had to create 108 jobs. In fact, according to the documents, James's company actually lost more than 30 jobs under his leadership, and the MEDC revoked its tax-exempt status after it failed to create the jobs it promised [...] In 2006, a state law amended the Renaissance Zone Act to allow time extensions, and another amendment in 2008 implemented additional requirements for extensions, including a job creation requirement. In 2010, Renaissance Global Logistics applied for and was eventually awarded an extension of the tax break — on the condition it create 108 jobs and invest \$2 million in the Renaissance Zone by Dec. 31, 2015. According to the documents, those 108 jobs were to be added on top of a baseline of 119 jobs [...] But the promised jobs failed to materialize by the end of the year: according to the MEDC, the company lost 32 jobs. In February 2016, the state warned the company that they had 90 days to meet their end of the bargain, or else they would have their tax status revoked. The next month, the company tried to amend its Renaissance Zone status. 'We respectfully request an amendment in order to adjust our requirements to match those suitable of a business serving the automotive sector,' they wrote. 'Specifically, we request a modification which reflects our progress to date sufficient to take us to the end of 2017.' In its request, the company blamed the job losses on the austerity demanded by the struggling auto industry, noting it had 119 full-time employees at the site at the time of the Renaissance Zone designation, but only 87 by Dec. 31, 2015. 'This is due to the fact that RGL deals exclusively with manufacturers in the automotive industry who, under the auspices of 'Lean Manufacturing,' value processes over people,' the company wrote in its request. 'As such, our customers demand that we improve processes in order to decrease headcount.' In a Jan. 30, 2017 memorandum, the MEDC noted the company "failed to create one-hundred eight (108) new jobs by December 31, 2015 as required per the agreement." The MEDC recommended that the Michigan Strategic Fund revoke the company's Renaissance Zone designation, which went into effect on Dec. 31, 2017 for property tax purposes, and Jan. 1, 2018 for all other tax purposes." [<a href="#">Detroit Metro News, 08/26/20</a>]</p> |
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**James Faced Scrutiny After His Company Took A Tax Credit To Create Jobs, But Then After The State Of Michigan Revoked It After His Company Failed To Hit A Required Job Creation Target.** “James, meanwhile, has come under scrutiny for claiming to have created jobs at his company while the state of Michigan actually revoked a tax credit when the company failed to hit a required job creation target; James, however, said he created jobs elsewhere in the country and invested in the company's Detroit location all the same. He also said the company's employment numbers in Michigan fluctuated based on demand from the auto industry - its chief customer - in such a way that the reports to the state didn't always reflect.” [Detroit Free Press, [9/24/20](#)]

- **James Did Not Join The Family Business Until After The Tax Incentive Deal Was Signed, But Began Serving As President In 2014 And Was President When The Breaks Were Revoked in 2017.** “The James Group has also faced questions about tax breaks that were revoked by state officials in 2017 after the company missed a deadline to create 108 jobs at one of its properties in southwest Detroit. James, an executive at the company, did not join the family business until after the tax incentive deal was inked. But the premature end to the tax breaks raised the question of what happened that prompted the Michigan Economic Development Corp. to take action. [...] MEDC and the James Group worked on the terms of the Renaissance Zone extension before John James joined the company in 2012 after serving in the U.S. Army and deploying to Iraq. He became president of the company in 2014.” [Detroit News, [9/26/20](#)]

**Crain's Detroit, July 2017: James Said He Had Overseen The Creation Of 100 Jobs As President Of His Family Business, James Group International.** “James Group International is a warehousing and logistics firm with facilities in Michigan and Indiana as well as a manufacturing facility in Mississippi. As president of the family business since 2012, James said he's overseen growth in annual revenue from \$35 million to \$137 million and the creation of 100 jobs. The company's customers are primarily in the automotive industry, James said.” [Crain's Detroit Business, [7/18/17](#)]

- **Military Times, September 2017: James Said 100 Jobs Had Been Added To The James Group Since He Started Working As President In 2012.** “James' father co-founded James Group International, a group of companies offering global supply chain management services. James said since he started working as president at the family business in 2012 after eight years of

military service, 100 jobs have been added and revenue has more than tripled.” [MilitaryTimes, [9/21/17](#)]

- **October 2018: James Said He Was Able To Add “Over 100 Jobs In Michigan And Around The Country.”** “JAMES: [...] I decided to come back home to do what I could to create economic opportunity back here, create jobs. So I came back, joined a family business, an automotive logistics provider in Detroit, and was able to help grow the business from \$35 million to \$137 million, and added over 100 jobs in Michigan and around the country. I believe having a combat veteran on the floor of the U.S. Senate who understands national security from the strategic to a tactical standpoint, but somebody who also understands veterans issues as too many of us are fighting our toughest battles after we get off the battlefield, is essential.” [Hugh Hewitt Show, Transcript, [10/31/18](#)]
- **August 2020: James Claimed To Have Added 100 Jobs In Michigan And East Of The Mississippi, “A Line That Would Be Repeated Many More Times On The Campaign Trail, More Or Less Verbatim.”** “In the short segment, James touted the number of jobs his company created under his leadership — a line that would be repeated many more times on the campaign trail, more or less verbatim, in the following months. ‘I’m over there fighting for Iraqi freedom, and there are not enough people back here fighting for people here in the state of Michigan,’ James said. ‘So I got out of the military and I joined my family business, a small automotive logistics company in Detroit, and grew the company from \$35 million to \$137 million in revenue and added 100 jobs in Michigan and east of the Mississippi.’” [Detroit Metro Times, [8/26/20](#)]

**Economic Experts Cast Doubt On The Data The James Group Provided To Show That The Company Created 100 Jobs Between 2012 When James Joined The Business And 2017.** “Republican candidate John James has campaigned for the U.S. Senate in Michigan on his business acumen, saying on the campaign trail that his family’s Detroit-based company has created 100 jobs. But economic experts cast doubt on data the company provided to support the claim. James’ family company, James Group International, says it created 83 jobs in Metro Detroit in the five years between 2012 - when John James joined the family business - and 2017 when he started running for office the first time.” [Detroit News, [9/26/20](#)]

**HEADLINE: “Company Run By GOP Senate Candidate John James Lost Tax Exempt Status After Failing To Create Promised Jobs.”**  
[Detroit Metro Times, [8/26/20](#)]

**HEADLINE: “GOP Candidate John James’ Companies Hit With Tax Liens, Got Tax Breaks For Jobs They Didn't Create.”** [Salon, [8/28/20](#)]

**The James Group’s Tax Breaks Were Revoked By State Officials In 2017 After They Missed A Deadline To Create 108 Jobs At One Of Its Properties In Southwest Detroit.** “The James Group has also faced questions about tax breaks that were revoked by state officials in 2017 after the company missed a deadline to create 108 jobs at one of its properties in southwest Detroit. James, an executive at the company, did not join the family business until after the tax incentive deal was inked. But the premature end to the tax breaks raised the question of what happened that prompted the Michigan Economic Development Corp. to take action.” [Detroit News, [9/26/20](#)]

**Instead, He Paid Himself Millions Of Dollars While Failing To Create The Jobs He Promised.**

**2014-2023: James Earned Millions From His Family Businesses**

**2022-2023: James Earned Millions From His Family Businesses**

**2023: James Reported \$1,331,581.40 In Earned Income In The Preceding Year From The James Group Inc.**  
[John James 2022 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed [9/15/23](#)]

| 2022: James Earned Income In The Preceding Year From The James Group Inc. |        |
|---|--------|
| Source  | Type   |
| James Group Inc   | Salary |

[John James 2022 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed [9/15/23](#)]

**2022: James Reported \$721,984.67 In Earned Income In The Preceding Year From The James Group Inc.**

**2022: James Reported \$721,984.67 In Earned Income From The James Group Inc In The Preceding Year On His Personal Financial Disclosure Report.** [James 2022 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed [7/19/22](#)]

**2022 James Earned Income In The Preceding Year From The James Group Inc.**

| Source                          | Type          |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| James Group Inc.                | Salary        |
| Access Business Group Intl, LLC | Spouse Salary |
| GRLPWR, LLC                     | Spouse Salary |

[James 2022 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed [7/19/22](#)]

**When His Company Got Caught And Lost Tax Exemption Status, James Still Kept Over \$2 Million In Tax Breaks And Never Paid Back The Loan.**

**The James Group Kept Over The \$2 Million In Revoked Tax Breaks Because The Tax Breaks Had No Retroactive Claw Back Provisions**

**James Faced Scrutiny For Claiming To Create Jobs, After The State Of Michigan Revoked A Tax Credit When His Company Failed To Hit A Required Job Creation Target.** “James, meanwhile, has come under scrutiny for claiming to have created jobs at his company while the state of Michigan actually revoked a tax credit when the company failed to hit a required job creation target; James, however, said he created jobs elsewhere in the country and invested in the company's Detroit location all the same. He also said the company's employment numbers in Michigan fluctuated based on demand from the auto industry - its chief customer - in such a way that the reports to the state didn't always reflect.” [Detroit Free Press, [9/24/20](#)]

**After The Tax Breaks Were Revoked, The James Group Was Able To Keep The Over \$2 Million It Saved Because The Tax Break Had No Retroactive Claw Back Provisions.** “In a 2017 memo, MEDC said the James Group had invested \$7.1 million in the Fort Street site but the company had not met the job-creation terms of the deal. ‘The company failed to create 108 new jobs by December 31, 2015, as required per the agreement. The company size was reduced by 32 jobs at the site,’ Josh Hundt, vice president for MEDC's business development projects, wrote in the memo. ‘MEDC staff and the company have conducted ongoing conversations to resolve the event of default.’ The staff recommended that the Michigan Strategic Fund board revoke James Group's Renaissance Zone designation, which the board did on Jan. 30, 2017. The company had received more than \$2 million in tax breaks as a result of the arrangement, state records show. Lorrion told The News that the company did not have to pay back the money it saved on taxes because he made the case for jobs the company had created in the city and the suburbs, as well

as investments at the Fort Street site, including purchasing the property from Ford - a sign of commitment to the city. 'We have to pay 24-hour security and much higher insurance. But instead of leaving the city, going somewhere else and paying less in overhead costs, we actually chose to purchase the building from Ford Land,' Lorrion said. 'We created jobs in that area, as well.' If MEDC had any issues with the way James Group handled the situation, he said, the agency would have triggered a 'clawback' provision allowing the government to recoup its investment. But there are no provisions in place as part of Renaissance Zone agreements that require retroactive clawbacks in the case of a revocation, MEDC spokesman Otie McKinley said. The agreement had been set to expire at the end of 2020. 'We would have loved to have had a lot more years than we had, but we felt that it was fair to cut the years short of the abatement because of the amount of jobs created and the capital investment,' Lorrion said." [Detroit News, [9/26/20](#)]

**James' Companies Also Received Over \$2.7 Million In PPP Funding Which They Never Repaid**

**Macomb Daily: Renaissance Global Logistics Received A \$1.3 Million PPP Loan In April 2020 And A \$1.4 Million PPP Loan In April 2021, Both Times To Account For 100 Jobs.** "Renaissance Global Logistics, a tier 1 logistics services company, received a \$1.3 million PPP loan in April 2020 and a \$1.4 million PPP loan in April 2021, both times to save 100 jobs, according to federal records and propublica.org. Both loans were forgiven in September 2021, according to ProPublica." [Macomb Daily, [8/26/22](#)]

- **Macomb Daily: Both Of Renaissance Global Logistics' PPP Loans Were Forgiven In September 2021.** "Renaissance Global Logistics, a tier 1 logistics services company, received a \$1.3 million PPP loan in April 2020 and a \$1.4 million PPP loan in April 2021, both times to save 100 jobs, according to federal records and propublica.org. Both loans were forgiven in September 2021, according to ProPublica." [Macomb Daily, [8/26/22](#)]

**Detroit News: Renaissance Global Logistics, James' Family Business Subsidiary, Received \$2.7 Million In Loans Through the Paycheck Protection Program That Were Forgiven.** "Borrowers were eligible for loan forgiveness through the PPP if the funds were used for eligible payroll costs, payments on business mortgage interest payments, rent, or utilities, according to the U.S. Treasury. About 10.2 million in

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| <p><b>Carl Marlinga Prosecutor For Congress // Fights Corporate Greed // Protects Tax Dollars</b></p> <p>B-Roll: Marlinga with the community <b>We Can Trust Carl Marlinga</b></p> <p>Paid for by LCV Victory Fund, <a href="http://lcvictoryfund.org">lcvictoryfund.org</a>, NRDC Action Fund, NRDCactionfund.org, and EDF Action Votes, edfactionvotes.org.. Not authorized by any</p> | <p>Carl Marlinga is a prosecutor who <u>fights</u> this type of corporate greed.</p> <p>He'll always protect our tax dollars.</p> <p>And be a Congressman <u>we can trust</u>.</p> | <p>PPP loans to employers totaling nearly \$400 billion were forgiven, according to government data. James' family supply chain business, Renaissance Global Logistics, received a \$2.7 million loan through the PPP that was forgiven, according to U.S. Small Business Administration data. 'The difference is when people went out to have a school loan, there was no plan that would be forgiven,' McCarthy said." [Detroit News, <a href="#">8/31/22</a>]</p> <p><b>Carl Marlinga Is A Proven Champion For Working And Middle Class Families In Macomb And Oakland County.</b></p> <p><b>Marlinga's Experience Has Shown He Will "Work Tirelessly To Ensure Families, Small Businesses, Entrepreneurs And Manufacturers Have The Resources To Thrive."</b> "As his experience shows, Carl will work tirelessly to ensure families, small businesses, entrepreneurs and manufacturers have the resources to thrive and succeed in a 21st-century economy. We need a proven leader with Carl's level of experience, integrity, compassion, and justice in our district. He will fight in Congress for a stronger future and will leave no one behind." [Carl Marlinga for Congress, accessed <a href="#">9/24/24</a>]</p> <p><b>With Nearly 40 Years As Macomb County Prosecutor, An Assistant U.S. Attorney, And Judge Of The 16th Judicial Circuit Court And Probate Court.</b></p> <p><b>Marlinga Served For Almost 40 Years As An Assistant US Attorney, And Most Recently As A Judge On The 16th Judicial Circuit Court And Probate Court.</b> "Carl has deep roots in our community, having served for almost 40 years as the Macomb County Prosecutor, an Assistant US attorney, and most recently as a judge on the 16th Judicial Circuit Court and Probate Court." [Carl Marlinga for Congress, accessed <a href="#">9/24/24</a>]</p> <p><b>Marlinga Spent Nearly 40 Years As A Prosecutor, Attorney And Judge.</b> "After spending nearly 40 years as a prosecutor, attorney and judge, Democrat Carl Marlinga is making a run for Congress. He's facing a fellow newcomer who is a familiar face in the Republican party, John</p> |
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| <p>candidate<br/>or<br/>candidate's<br/>committee</p> | <p>James, a businessman and a veteran who has run for the U.S. Senate twice." [WXYZ Detroit, <a href="#">11/2/22</a>]</p> <p><b>Protecting Families And Seniors From Would-Be Criminals, Predators And Scammers.</b></p> <p><b>Marlinga Cracked Down On White-Collar Crime, Stood Up For Seniors And Protected Our National Treasures During His Legal Career.</b> "I am proud to have served our community for 40 years as a tough on crime prosecutor and as a fair and commended judge who has cracked down on white-collar crime, stood up for seniors and protected our natural treasures. I dedicated my service to fighting for fairness, justice and protecting the rights of victims. I will continue to bring that FIGHT to Congress to ensure our justice system works equally for everyone." [Carl for Congress, accessed <a href="#">9/24/24</a>]</p> <p><b>As A Prosecutor, Marlinga Helped Seniors Recover Millions After They Were Fleeced By Unscrupulous Individuals.</b> "As a prosecutor, he helped seniors recover millions after they were fleeced by unscrupulous individuals" [Carl Marlinga for Congress, accessed <a href="#">9/24/24</a>]</p> <p><b>Marlinga Served As A "Tough On Crime Prosecutor" And A "Fair And Commended Judge."</b> "I am proud to have served our community for 40 years as a tough on crime prosecutor and as a fair and commended judge who has cracked down on white-collar crime, stood up for seniors and protected our natural treasures. I dedicated my service to fighting for fairness, justice and protecting the rights of victims. I will continue to bring that FIGHT to Congress to ensure our justice system works equally for everyone." [Carl Marlinga for Congress, accessed <a href="#">9/24/24</a>]</p> <p><b>Carl Marlinga Will Fight Corporate Greed, Protect The Right Of Workers To Collectively Bargain Wages And Benefits.</b></p> <p><b>Marlinga Said He Would "Fight Hard Every Day For Michigan's Hardworking Families And Their Right To Collectively Bargain For Good Wages And Benefits."</b> "The @Teamsters are a driving force of our state's economy and in Congress, I will fight hard every day for Michigan's hardworking families and their right to collectively bargain</p> |
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for good wages and benefits. Every family deserves their American Dream. Thank you for the support.” [Marlinga for Congress, [7/12/22](#)]



Marlinga For Congress  
@MarlingaForMI10



The @Teamsters are a driving force of our state’s economy and in Congress, I will fight hard every day for Michigan’s hardworking families and their right to collectively bargain for good wages and benefits. Every family deserves their American Dream. Thank you for the support.



11:12 AM · Jul 12, 2022 from Harrison, MI

[Marlinga for Congress, [7/12/22](#)]

**Marlinga Stood With Unions And Said Unions “Literally Built The Middle Class In This Country And Deserve Celebration.”** “Happy Labor Day! Union workers literally built the middle class in this country and deserve celebration! We must stand with our unions. #LaborDay” [Marlinga for Congress, [9/4/23](#)]



Marlinga For Congress  
@MarlingaForMI10



Happy Labor Day! Union workers literally built the middle class in this country and deserve celebration!

We must stand with our unions. #LaborDay

12:47 PM · Sep 4, 2023 · 919 Views

[Marlinga for Congress, [9/4/23](#)]

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|  |  | <p><b>Marlinga Highlighted Concerns About “Corporate Greed.”</b> “Messages at the rally, which included speeches by U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens, D-Birmingham, and Democratic House candidate and former judge Carl Marlinga, highlighted concerns about ‘corporate greed’ and the importance of solidarity but also demands that Stellantis reward a plant that builds quality vehicles with a new product, one that average Americans can afford.” [Detroit Free Press, <a href="#">9/12/24</a>]</p> <p><b>Marlinga Held Corporate Polluters Accountable.</b> “I’ve spent my life serving Michiganders. First, I served Michigan as a prosecutor, holding corporate polluters and criminals accountable. I then served as a judge.” [Marlinga for Congress, <a href="#">8/25/24</a>]</p> |
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