

## Ex-WSU consultant now says he's owed \$2M in damages for canceled debate



Max Filby - Staff Writer

6:00 a.m. Thursday, July 6, 2017 Filed in [News](#)



[VIEW CAPTION](#)

A former Wright State University consultant has increased his claims against the school to \$2 million in a lawsuit alleging the Commission on Presidential Debates pulled the first 2016 presidential debate because of “epic gross buffoonery” at WSU.

John McCance filed a counterclaim on June 23 in Greene County Common Pleas Court in response to another lawsuit he’s a co-defendant in with WSU and the debate commission over cancelled hotel rooms at the Marriott at the University of Dayton.

The counterclaim is similar to a lawsuit McCance filed against Wright State in January, asking for \$1 million in damages. But, he has since doubled those claims.

**RELATED:** [Lawsuit claimed ‘infighting, buffoonery’ caused Wright State to lose debate](#)

McCance upped his claim because the damages he suffered from the cancelled debate have “bubbled up,” he said.

“It’s had a derogatory effect on my ability to find work or clients,” McCance said. “It’s had a defamatory effect on me...I may lose my house.”

Like in the original lawsuit, in his counterclaim McCance cited chest pains and that Wright State breached a consulting contract with him.



## Download the Dayton Daily News app

Get the latest Dayton news you want, when you want, in this free app from the Dayton Daily News. Click a link below to get the app.



## WSU facing presidential debate lawsuit



A consultant filed a \$1 million lawsuit against the university.

The lawsuit McCance filed in January against WSU in Greene County Common Pleas Court contradicted former president David Hopkins announcement on July 19 that WSU chose to withdraw from the Sept. 26 debate because of rising costs. Instead, McCance claimed that the Commission on Presidential Debates pulled the debate, telling WSU on July 18.

McCance's lawsuit and counterclaim both allege the commission pulled the debate because of the "incompetence of certain WSU staff, as well as the epic gross buffoonery and carnival type atmosphere on the main campus with all the infighting and lack of support and finger pointing."

**RELATED: [UD Marriott says its owed money for canceled WSU debate rooms](#)**

Wright State has filed a motion to dismiss McCance's earlier lawsuit and it was dismissed from Green County court on June 15, according to court records.

The lawsuit was dismissed because of a "lack of subject matter jurisdiction," meaning it may be better suited for a different court. McCance said he and his attorney will refile the lawsuit in the Court of Claims in Columbus.

Wright State has also filed a motion to dismiss the hotel room lawsuit filed on May 24 to which McCance replied with his \$2 million counterclaim.

**HAVE A TIP?** Contact this reporter at 937-225-7419, by [email](#) or on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Attorneys representing Concord Hospitality Enterprises Co., the management company that runs and is partial owner of the UD Marriott, filed that lawsuit seeking at least \$170,000 in damages for canceled rooms.

According to the lawsuit, 130 rooms were booked for the debate commission at the Marriott on Patterson Avenue in Dayton. Although the debate was cancelled, the hotel contract called for 75 percent of the hotel costs for the rooms to be paid, according to the lawsuit.

**RELATED: [Wright State's Schrader lays out agenda for first weeks as president](#)**

The attorneys representing Concord Hospitality have until July 10 to respond to WSU's motion for dismissal, according to Greene County court records.

Joshua Kin, the attorney representing Concord Hospitality could not be reached to comment. Wright State officials declined to comment on developments in both cases.

---

### B2B Headlines

A fresh look at local business news every weekday at noon. Beat your competition to the latest leads and breaking news.

[SIGN UP](#)

---

### FIVE FAST READS

- [Schrader speaks for first time as Wright State's new leader](#)
- [Plaintiff in \\$2 million legal battle says presidential debate axed over 'epic gross buffoonery'](#)
- [Taylor Healthcare lands print contract](#)
- [Ex-WSU consultant now says he's owed \\$2M in damages for canceled debate](#)
- [College president pay: Who are Ohio's highest paid?](#)



Max Filby  
156 likes

