

September 9, 2024

Mr. Joseph Wood, CHAIRMAN
Republican Party of Arkansas

**RE: RULES REVIEW REQUEST
SALINE COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**

Mr. Chairman:

I bring this rules review request pursuant to Article II, § 11(A).

Please file this in accordance with the Party's rules and, with all haste, appoint and form the rules review committee.

MEMBERS AT ISSUE

There is evidence that the following members of the Saline County Republican Committee have violated the Party's rules:

1. John Newcomb;
2. Frank Curtis;
3. Scott Gray;
4. Allison Gray;
5. Angela Gray;
6. Rene Almond;
7. Thomas Harper; and
8. Stephanie Johnson

LIST OF RULES VIOLATED

I allege these individuals violated the following rules:

Article II, § 1(A)(B)(D);
Article II, § 3(B)(3);
Article II, § 6(A) (as to Frank Curtis only);
Article II, § 6(B) (as to Angela Gray only);
Article II, § 6(D) (as to Rene Almond only); and
Article II, § 6(E) (as to Thomas Harper only).

PROPOSED SANCTIONS

As a sanction for the violation of these rules, I request the committee take the following actions:

- A. Removal of these people from the SCRC;

- B. Removal of these people from county committee leadership positions;
- C. Removal of these people from all district committee positions;
- D. Removal of these people from all state committee positions;
- E. Ban these people from holding any positions, leadership or otherwise, in the Party for a period of twenty (20) years;
- F. Ban these individuals from membership to this, or any other, county committee for a period of ten (10) years; and
- G. Direct and order that the newly formed leadership of the county committee bring a motion to the body to consider issuing a public apology for the actions of the committee.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I allege that the individuals committed the following factual allegations that violated the above rules.

All members listed engaged in conduct that violated the Preamble in that they hindered the Party in its objectives of electing qualified candidates to every public office and fulfilling the needs of the citizens of Arkansas in a manner consistent with the beliefs and principles of the RPA.

More specifically:

1. John Newcomb

John Newcomb repeatedly violated Article 1, § 8's parliamentary procedures by continually yelling and screaming at committee members in a hostile or aggressive manner, using profanity, making profane gestures, demeaning committee members and guests, using his size as physical affront to members and guests, and physically attacking a respected guest and conservative radio talk show host.

Newcomb continually and repeatedly berated members who spoke out against his views. At the August 2024, meeting he screamed and called a committee member a "traitor" for making a motion he did not like. Also, at the August 2024, meeting, he tried to fight the elected county sheriff, Rodney Wright, a Republican, who was present and in full uniform.

Newcomb has colluded with the other members named as offenders in this document to hold secret executive committee meetings to avoid losing agenda items by excluding "nay" or adverse votes (Newcomb is the "third vice chair" and member of the executive committee).

Newcomb has colluded with the other members named as offenders in this document to undermine the orderly flow of committee business, sow discord and hate among members, and intentionally brought about an atmosphere of anger, frustration, confusion, and distrust among committee members to advance his personal agenda and those of the rest of the executive committee.

He initiated, colluded, and/or participated in a scheme of filing false ethics complaints against Republican officials in retaliation for perceived injustices. This includes coercing older, more vulnerable members of the committee to make false statements or allegations against JP Justin Rue because he was displeased with Rue's treatment of members of the committee. This also includes false statements and allegations filed with the Arkansas Ethics Commission against Doyle Webb after his organization legally terminated the committee's lease at its longtime headquarters after treasurer Thomas Harper failed to timely pay for the property insurance.

All these actions evince an intent to work against the interests of the party, stifle free conservative political speech, alienate members of the community from joining the committee, portraying Republican officials and candidates in a bad light, failing to uphold the values of the RPA, and acting in a manner inconsistent with the beliefs and principles of the RPA.

As if it could not get worse, it did. Newcomb recently attended a Hot Spring County Republican Committee meeting. At that meeting, a member of that committee made a motion that Newcomb did not like. Even though Newcomb has no membership or interest in the HSCRC, he voiced his displeasure with the movant and invited the movant to meet him outside in what is widely perceived as an invitation to resolve the matter with a physical altercation. It made no difference to Newcomb that the movant was a woman.

2. Frank Curtis.

Frank Curtis is the chairman of this committee. During his tenure, he has fostered an environment and atmosphere in which the county committee has languished to its current state. He has neglected to take leadership actions to stop the actions of the other alleged offenders.

For example, at no time did Curtis use his authority to stop Jon Newcomb from acting against the interests of the Party and the committee. Instead, he actively encouraged it. How different would the August and September 2024 meetings be if he had directly admonished Newcomb to stop acting out? How different would those meetings be if he had removed Newcomb for his outbursts? After the September 2024, meeting, he intentionally spread false statements about the events that occurred in the meetings and made inaccurate public statements on behalf of the committee that were not authorized by the committee.

Curtis was an active participant in secret executive committee meetings. He was an active participant in the false ethics complaints that were filed. He was an active participant in creating division among the committee members. He was complacent when the named offenders took advantage of the more vulnerable members of the committee in the filing of the retaliatory ethics allegations.

Curtis was divisive to the local YR chapter. He called them names that indicated they were communists or a communist organization. He made derogatory comments about elected county officials to the entire body in a committee meeting in front of guests from the community. Additionally, Curtis has indicated that some members of the committee are more valuable than others and should be entitled to special treatment.

Finally, Curtis has failed to attend and lead meetings. A special meeting was called in August of 2024. Rather than attend the meeting and fulfill his duty under the rules, he declared the meeting cancelled and did not attend. This is a direct violation of the Party's rules.

3. Scott Gray

I incorporate all factual allegations previously made as against Scott Gray except that Gray did not physically attack anyone.

Absent actually attacking someone, Scott Gray, participated in encouraging all actions set out in this request for review. In fact, he was the unofficial mastermind of actions that alienated members, caused division, called secret executive committee meetings, and created websites that spread falsehoods and disparaged committee members.

At times, Gray would purchase digital billboard space and place public messages that purported or implied that the message was that of the SCRC. Gray actively silenced members in meetings whose statements he did not approve by overriding the mute feature of Zoom to literally silence the speaker.

Gray whipped up frenzy among members by pitting members against one another and actively excluding those whom he thought were weak or who would not do his bidding.

In 2022, Gray yelled and screamed at Senator Kim Hammer, berated him, and made outlandish demands in front of the entire body at a committee meeting—again one in which guests from the community were present. He was attempting to use his influence to minimize the work of Senator Hammer in the Senate. It was uncivil and clearly designed to turn the community against Senator Hammer because Gray did not like his bill.

At a meeting held by the committee and the SCRW about books in the library, a guest from the library was present, making himself willing and able to answer questions about library books in front of both bodies. When this guest spoke in response to a question, Gray yelled and screamed at him. He threatened to "mute" his microphone because he did not like what the guest was saying. Gray specifically used his position in the committee to stifle free speech that he disliked.

At another meeting, he screamed at, berated, and demeaned the Party's primary candidate for the House of Representatives, an elected official of the Benton School Board, and a prominent figure in the community, Paul Childress, because Childress was not doing something about library books that Gray thought he should be doing.

His actions have reflected poorly on the county committee, stifled participation, chilled membership, and actively worked against the Party to further his personal agenda.

4. Allison Gray.

All allegations against Scott Gray are incorporated against Allison Gray. In addition, Allison actively solicited older, more vulnerable members of the committee to file false ethics complaints against

Republican officials. Also, she physically assaulted another committee member who is also the president of the SCRW.

5. Angela Gray.

All allegations against Scott and Allison Gray are incorporated against Angela Gray with the exception that Angela did not physically assault anyone. In addition, Angela, as the second vice chair, failed to attend meetings and failed to lead meetings when Frank Curtis failed to appear.

6. Rene Almond

Rene Almond is the secretary. All allegations against Angela Gray are incorporated against Rene Almond. In addition, Rene failed to attend meetings and failed to accurately keep records of attendance causing some members, including those that vote against her and other named offenders' anti-RPA agenda. To be clear, Almond also solicited an older, vulnerable member of the committee to file false ethics complaints against an elected Republican Justice of the Peace.

7. Thomas Harper

Thomas Harper is the treasurer. All allegations against Angela Gray are incorporated against Thomas Harper. In addition to failing to attend meetings, Harper failed to timely pay the financial obligations of the committee, causing the committee to become evicted from their longtime headquarters. Thomas Harper also publicly and privately spread false statements about other Republicans in the state.

8. Stephanie Johnson.

Stephanie Johnson is a Republican county JP elect. Including engaging in the same conduct as the Grays and Ms. Almond, she has directly attacked other members of the committee whose actions she does not like. Her speech is vitriolic, hateful, divisive, and designed to chill speech and participation in the Party.

In addition, she has filed false police reports alleging that county committee members attempted to bribe her when, instead, they offered to help her get desperately needed mental health treatment.

CONCLUSION

At the first signs of an illness, the body begins working to cure itself. Often, the body completely self-heals. At times, the illness is stronger than the body can repair on its own and more drastic measures are taken to help the body cope and heal.

That is what has happened here. A few members of this county committee have begun to attack the body. Quiet and hushed conversations were had. Gentle guidance was given. Informal admonishments occurred. Wise counsel was administered.

And it was all ignored. The offensive conduct not only continued but worsened into a cancer. Stronger measures were taken. Treatment from esteemed members of the committee failed to cure this problem. Complaints were filed. Votes were had to temporarily remove the cancerous members. A bold and direct

attempt was made to resolve this matter in-house. That attempt failed when the third vice chair of the SCRC attacked a guest at the September 2024, SCRC meeting.

The cancer is still present, and it is now at a critical stage. It must be extricated from the body, or the body will wither and die a slow and painful death. We have a constitutional right to associate with those whom we want to associate. We have a constitutional right to not be forced to associate with those whom we do not want to associate.

Forced association with these members is slowly killing the largest county committee in the state. Just in the past few days, the SCRC executive committee, the same named offenders in this review request, have taken no responsibility for their actions. Instead, they published an unapproved and inaccurate statement on behalf the entire committee validating and affirming the actions of the third vice chair and projecting blame onto others.

These individuals are the most radical of the committee and the Party. They have indicated a desire to take over leadership of the RPA. If the rules review committee does not find a way to remove this cancer from the committee, it is likely to spread to the entire party. If that happens, it will not be long before we are no longer a dominating political force because we will have lost our Republican values.

Prepared By: Clinton W. Lancaster

Signed By:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1.  | 13. /s/ Roger Adams | 25. /s/ Brad Ewald |
| 2. /s/ Amanda Barnard | 14. /s/ Jan Morse | 26. /s/ Amanda Ewald |
| 3. /s/ Mary Lancaster | 15. /s/ Kandi Cox | 27. /s/ Marla Sams |
| 4. /s/ Carol Tessier | 16. /s/ Chris Cox | 28. /s/ Crayton Sams |
| 5. /s/ Monica Kendrick | 17. /s/ Keith Kellum | 29. /s/ Kelly McElhaney |
| 6. /s/ Ty Johnston | 18. /s/ Terry Kellum | 30. /s/ Eugene Jamison |
| 7. /s/ Amber Johnston | 19. /s/ Drew Martin | 31. /s/ Rebecca Clark |
| 8. /s/ Randy Sams | 20. /s/ Sam Marsh | 32. /s/ Keith Moore |
| 9. /s/ Pam Vidt | 21. /s/ Linda Marsh | 33. /s/ Mary Lewis |
| 10. /s/ Bob Vidt | 22. /s/ Elene Murray | 34. /s/ Phillip Lewis |
| 11. /s/ Kevan Bradshaw | 23. /s/ Jeff Morse | 35. /s/ Ken Yang |
| 12. /s/ Marcey Adams | 24. /s/ Kimberly Baker | 36. /s/ Ken Covington |

37. /s/ Codie Crumpton

38. /s/ Bonnie Stephens

39. /s/ Alice Hogsett Carter

40. /s/ Sydney Colson

41. /s/ Gabriell Mills*

42. /s/ Richard Mills*

43. /s/ Janna Jennings

44. /s/ Leon Coulson

45.

Mark A. Clark
Mark A. Clark (Sep 9, 2024 08:55 CDT)

***Approved with a heavy heart.**

EXHIBIT 1

**EVIDENCE OF FALSE
ETHICS COMPLAINTS**

4:10

69



Susan >

Thu, Sep 5 at 10:09 PM

Hey! Did you file an ethics complaint against Justin Rue?

Fri, Sep 6 at 6:26 AM

A long time ago yes

When?

During the Primary

Fri, Sep 6 at 8:24 AM

Why did you file it?

He was developing a pattern of verbally abusing women and I wanted to stop it

Can you give me examples of what you heard?

I got statements from Rena

+ iMessage



4:10

69



Susan >

I got statements from Rena and Allison. Plus I heard from a couple of men that he was not remorseful when they spoke to him about his behavior. I asked Sarah Dunklin what I could do and she said I could file an ethics complaint

So you didn't actually hear it?

No

Mon, Sep 9 at 10:26 PM

Saline County Republican Committee Members,

The below named members of the Saline County Republican Committee issue this call to a special meeting to occur



iMessage



EXHIBIT 2

VITRIOL FROM THE SECRETARY

2:56

75%

< 84



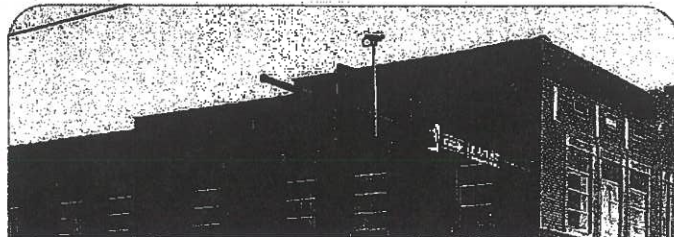
5 People >

iMessage

Tue, Jul 2 at 4:09 PM

Rena Allmond

Stephanie and Jennifer, I want to thank you ladies for the division among the Patriots in the SCRC because of your text, Stephanie, and your rally to vote against the Executive Committee last night, Jennifer. Now we will never be able to pass things that require a 2/3rds vote, AND we've been kicked out of the building. We also lost a donation of &500,000 to buy a building for us to use permanently. You two did a bang up job. I can't believe it. Thanks a lot.



+

iMessage



3

EXHIBIT _____

**LIST OF ELECTED OFFICIALS
WHOSE IMPROPER REMOVAL
WAS THWARTED.**

Members labeled by the executive committee members.

Sheet 1

1	Edward	Albares	Albares, Edward current JP District 8 <i>Albares</i>
2	Carlton	Billingsley	Billingsley, Carlton current JP District 3 <i>Carlton</i>
3	Pat	Bisbee	Bisbee, Pat current JP District 2 <i>Pat</i>
4	Thomas	Bragg	Bragg, Thomas filed for constable
5	Gil	Carpenter	Carpenter, Gil - filed for JP District 4 <i>Rita</i>
6	Jennifer	Carter	Carter, Jennifer current collector / 4 yr
7	Lance	Carter	Carter, Lance collector husband
8	Clint	Chism	Chism, Clint current JP District 11
9	Kevin	Cleghorn	Cleghorn, Kevin - current collector earner
12	Karen	Crowson	Crowson, Karen - filed for JP District 13
13	Doug	Curtis	Curtis, Doug current county clerk / 4 yr
14	Josh	Curtis	Curtis, Josh current JP District 7
15	C.J.	Engel	Engel, C.J. current JP District 9
16	Steven	Fay	Fay, Steven Tammy Schmidt's husband
17	Kelley	Ferguson	Ferguson, Kelley <i>Roger Rogers bestie (RING)</i>
18	Everette	Hatcher, III	Hatcher, III, Everette current JP District 2
19	Barbara	Howell	Howell, Barbara current JP District 4
20	Rustin	Jackson	Jackson, Rustin State VR Chairman
21	Reagan	Jones	Jones, Reagan - filed for JP District 4
22	Michael	McClain	McClain, Michael Not sure who he is but we think he was born against it
23	Clint	Newcomb	Newcomb, Clint - filed for current constable
24	Holly	Payne	Payne, Holly current county treasurer
25	Lonny	Payne	Payne, Lonny county treasurer's husband
26	Lana	Prosen	Prosen, Lana HSV RIND (Luy friend)
27	Bob	Ramsey	Ramsey, Bob current county assessor / 4 yr
28	Justin	Rue	Rue, Justin current JP District 5
29	Billy	Sample	Sample, Billy > Don't know them
30	Jeanie	Sample	Sample, Jeanie
32	Tammy	Schmidt	Schmidt, Tammy outgoing state treasurer
33	Devon	Waite	Waite, Devon - filed for JP District 12

EXHIBIT 5

RETALITORY FOIA REQUEST

Kolton Jones <kolton.jones@salinecounty.org>
To: Angie Drummond <angie.drummond@salinecounty.org>

Mon, May 6, 2024 at 8:

From: Alison Gray <alison@salinerepublicans.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 5, 2024 2:25 PM
To: matt_brumley@salinecounty.org; Kolton Jones <kolton.jones@salinecounty.org>
Cc: restenbuch@gmail.com
Subject: FOIA Request

Pursuant to the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following:

1. Any and all submissions of applicants for Saline County Library Director (2023-2024);
2. The Saline County marketing budget for 2023 and 2024;
3. The 2024 budget for the veterans' office;
4. The 2024 YTD County Clerk employee payroll;
5. Any and all 2024 YTD email and text correspondence of any county elected official or employee with the AAC;
6. Each and every county judge expense for 2024 YTD (whether reimbursed or paid directly by the county), including individual receipts, invoices, statements documenting all transactions;
7. All 2024 YTD email correspondence and text messages to or from the county judge;
8. All 2024 YTD email correspondence and text messages to or from JP's Bishop, Billingsley, Howell, Roe, Albares, Chism, Engle;
9. All 2024 YTD expenses related to courthouse security;
10. The 2024 budget related to courthouse security.

To the extent anything is redacted, please provide the reason for the redaction pursuant to ACT 879 of 2023.

Please piecemeal as information is produced and submit electronically to alison@salinerepublicans.com

Please acknowledge receipt.

Thank you,
Alison Gray

3

EXHIBIT _____

**IMAGE OF 3D VICE CHAIR BEING HIS
NORMALLY CHARMING SELF TOWARD
THE SCRW PRESIDENT AT SCRC
MEETING**

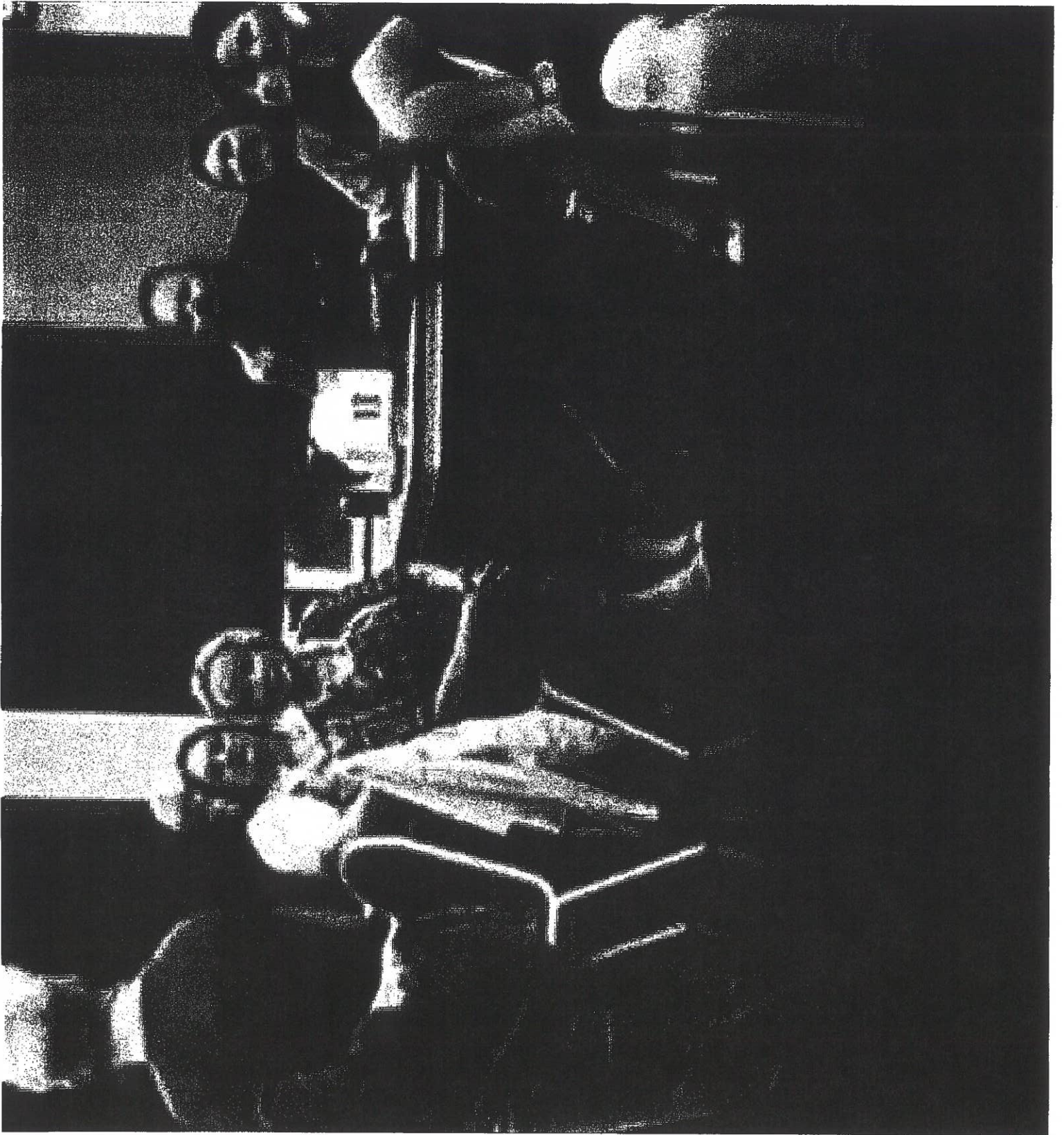


EXHIBIT 3

VERBAL ATTACKS BY STEPHANIE
JOHNSON

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Stephanie Johnson <janmarmund1@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 18, 2024 at 6:42 AM
Subject: August 28th meeting
To: Jennifer Lencaster <jennifer@thelancasterlawfirm.com>

Dear power-hungry narcissist,

I'm not coming to your shit show of a meeting on the 28th. Your sole purpose is make a power grab and how at the altar of Doyle Webb. Just what kind of deal did the two of you work out when you took the two pictures back to him? All of us that are actual thinking people know some kind of deal was worked out. I'm sure he told you that. If you burned down the committee he'd get you into the RPA Chair position. That is what you're going to be running for, right? Yeah, we all know it is. Right now there's no difference between you and Joseph Wood. You talk a good game on Esauick's show and Facebook but we all know that you have zero interest in actually fighting the RPA EC. You know if you did you wouldn't get the power you so crave. The farmings and the sheep blindly following you and buying your and Stephanie Duke's lies are nothing more than zombies. They have no brain to think for themselves and clearly no spine. They buy your load of bullshit and are too stupid to realize you are just using them to gain power. Because you're a power hungry narcissist.

I'll actually be glad to be rid of the SCRC. It's nothing more than a social gathering for 99% of the members anyway. Who was out at the farmer's market every weekend countering the pro-aborts? ME. Me and a handful of others. I was always the one to go set up and take down the tent every weekend. Where were the rest of you? Where was Kendi? Nowhere to be found that's where. I don't care what happens to the SCRC and I sure don't care what happens to the county. Clearly you and Stephanie Duke want to cozy up to the electors who have done absolutely NOTHING to make the county better. The only reason she wants to is because she's paid off most of the electors to get her criminal son out of trouble.

You, Duke, and Kendi are all takes and frauds. Kendi is a power hungry narcissist; just like you are. But I guess birds off a feather.... It's really odd. You refuse to fight the RPA EC over their breaking of the rules and overruling the people at the state convention. Yet you are willing to do the exact same thing to the county committee. You have ZERO authority under the party rules to do what you are planning on doing at the meeting on August 28. Doyle has taught you well. You both know the rules well enough to twist them in your favor. You're a manipulator and a hypocrite. Also a liar. So burn the committee down. I hope you and Lillie Doyle Webb will be very happy together. The rest of the true patriots will continue to work against you from the outside.

Stephanie Johnson