



Robert S. Graham
Chairman

December 9, 2016

Jim O'Connor, former chairman
LD23 Republican Committee
8776 E Shea Blvd
Suite 106-341
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Dear Jim,

As Chairman of the Arizona Republican Party it is my responsibility to ensure our organization's operations at every level are conducted legally and fairly, without exception. Of special concern to me is the protection of the rights of each and every one of our party's precinct committeemen.

As you may know the state party has received dozens of credible complaints from precinct committeemen about the process of nomination and election of state committeemen in your legislative district.

I understand that you were the chairman for the election, but that a new chairman was elected, Nancy Ordowski. Nevertheless, the following still applies.

In the interest of fairness, accountability and having a legitimate and sound election outcome for members of the state committee, I am asking your district to call a new election for the purpose of nominating state committeemen.

1. Please ensure that all the 356 precinct committeemen in District 23 receive a call letter by USPS mail and that all are allowed to nominate themselves to be on the printed ballot. The fact that the top vote-getter in your district received only 154 votes indicates that participation in the election was far below what it should be, and gives ample evidence to support the claims of those asserting that many precinct committeemen were excluded from the nomination and election process. State law requires state and county party organizational meeting call letters to be sent by mail. While the law is silent on LD meetings, a reasonable person can assume the call letter for LD meetings should also be sent by mail as LD elections are an essential part of the county meeting.

2. Proxies are allowed in this election. That means precinct committeemen may participate in the election by providing a proxy to another Republican from his or her precinct. Proxy rights include voting, being nominated, and being elected, because proxy carriers have the full authority to act as attorney-in-fact for a precinct committeeman giving one's proxy.
3. Do not elect or select "alternates" or attempt to fill any vacancies that occur after the election. There is a separate statutory process for filling vacancies.

Please be aware that state law requires these district elections to occur at least ten days before the county organizational meeting, which is scheduled for January 14th in Maricopa County.

In the absence of conducting a legitimate election, the state party will consider these state committeeman positions vacant and will fill them according to state law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Graham". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Robert Graham, Chairman

Copy to Nancy Ordowski, LD 23 chairman
 Barbara Rothe, LD 23 Secretary