### **Petition to Recall Solomon Yue**

The undersigned hereby seek your support in recalling Solomon Yue as Oregon National Committee Man for the following reasons.

### Creating dissention within the ORP.

- 2008 Mr. Yue undermined National Committee Woman June Hartley with lies and half-truths that cost her the election.
- 2010 Former Chairman Bob Tiernan walked away from the Party after first-hand experience with Mr. Yue's smear campaigns against Hartley and Michael Steele.
- 2010 Mr. Yue employed repeated lies and deceitful tactics to undermine Michael Steele and the RNC Staff.
- 2015 Mr. Yue undermined Suzanne Gallagher ORP Chair (more detail?).
- 2016 Mr. Yue targets Rince Priebus and accuses RNC leadership of institutional tyranny.
- 2016 Mr. Yue works to undermine ORP Chair Art Robinson.
- 2019 Mr. Yue worked to oust National Committee Woman Marilyn Shannon.
- 2022 Mr. Yue undermined ORP Chair Dallas Heard causing Dallas Heard to resign.
- 2023 Mr. Yue undermined National Committee Woman Tracy Honl.

### **Benefiting Personally From His Position**

Mr. Yue's operates multiple Super PACs, multiple non-profit entities, and multiple closely held entities. His financial dealings have drawn widespread criticism as self-serving and being ineffective in supporting Oregon candidates.

According to Art Robinson, candidate for U.S. House in 2010 and 2012, Mr. Yue formed a Super PAC to support his campaign that turned out to benefit Mr. Yue and was counterproductive to Mr. Robinson's campaign. Mr. Yue is alleged to have taken \$130,000 from Art Robinson's campaign.

Mr. Yue used his access to RNC meetings, which exists solely by virtue of being Oregon's National Committee Man, to escort 42 guests to an RNC meeting. Mr. Yue apparently charged these "guests" for the special treatment and kept the money.

An ORP Ethics Committee identified Mr. Yue as benefiting personally from his position as Oregon National Committee Man.

### **Activities Counterproductive to the Oregon Republican Party**

Mr. Yue has spent Super PAC money on political campaigns in Indiana and Lousiana.

Mr. Yue's activities are primarily to support foreign engagement. He rarely visits County Central Committee meetings or supports Oregon candidates.

In response to Mr. Yue's escorting of 42 "guests" to an RNC meeting, the RNC instituted the "Solomon Rule" limiting the number of guests to 2 and bringing shame on the ORP.

An ORP Ethics Committee identified Mr. Yue as abusing his power in undermining other members of the ORP Central Committee.

### Condemnation of Mr. Yue from Multiple Oregon Republican Leaders

Holli Morton, Josephine County Chair, has several times formally called for Mr. Yue's resignation due to his history of self-dealing and activity counterproductive to the ORP.

Dallas Heard resigned as ORP Chairman in 2022 and wrote a letter singling out Mr. Yue's destructive influence as the primary reason.

Bob Tiernan, resigning as ORP Chairman in 2010, wrote a three-page letter exposing Mr. Yue's divisive and underhanded tactics.

Jared Black, a Deschutes County Alternate Delegate, investigated the organizations and Mr. Yue is affiliated with, concluding that Mr. Yue has done little to help the ORP, the PACs and non-profits that he is associated with provide no benefit for the ORP, he has been ineffective in attracting donors for Oregon candidates, he supported only one Oregon candidate in a way that was counterproductive, and Mr. Yue's activities are self-serving with unknown amounts of money flowing to himself.

Dr. Ames Curtwright, appointed as Chairman of an Oregon GOP Finance Committee and Budget Committee wrote a letter pointing to Mr. Yue as the culprit in the mismanagement of ORP funds and undermining the ORP Chair.

The circumstances cited here would not exist if Mr. Yue was an effective leader working cooperatively for the benefit of the Oregon Republican Party. Without doubt, Mr. Yue is responsible for spreading dissention and distrust within the ORP. There are reasons why so many Republican leaders in Oregon have singled out Mr. Yue for criticism.

Due to these facts, Solomon Yue should be recalled as as Oregon National Committee Man. Petitioners request your vote to remove Mr. Yue from his position of authority and influence in the ORP.

# Petition for a Recall Vote by the Oregon Republican Party Central Committee of National Committeeman Solomon Yue

Whereas a National Committeeman must be honest, honorable, above reproach and a man that unifies the party.

Whereas Rule 3(a) of the RNC states the term of the National Committeeman is from adjournment of the National Convention to the adjournment of the next National Convention. This means that regardless of when a new National Committeeman is elected, they will not take office until after the 2024 RNC National Convention. The undersigned petitioners further request that any additional officer vacancies be filled by an immediate special election.

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue has operated behind the scenes contemplating the next move to make rather than unifying the party and manipulated the party to his own end rather than using the normal Republican principles of joining us together.

Whereas Solomon Yue has consistently violated Ronald Reagan's 11th Commandment.

Whereas Solomon Yue's behavior during the last RNC Chair race has left the ORP without an effective National Committeeman.

Whereas Solomon Yue has created fractures and divisions in the RNC through multiple chairmanships to include Michael Steel, Reince Priebus, and Ronna McDaniel.

Whereas Solomon Yue has created fractures and divisions in the ORP through multiple chairmanships to include Bob Tiernan, Suzanne Gallagher, Art Robinson, and Dallas Heard.

Whereas Solomon Yue has created fractures and divisions in the ORP through multiple National Committeewomen to include June Hartley, Marilyn Shannon, and Tracy Honl.

Whereas Solomon Yue has fomented division throughout the Counties as demonstrated by his role in the Baker County reorganizational meeting and subsequent treatment of County PCPs during his recent fundraiser where he turned away the purchase of a table.

Whereas Solomon Yue's tactics were first described by Bob Tiernan in his memo dated May 10, 2010. These same tactics continued to be utilized in all the above statements with the most recent examples being Baker County, Tracy Honl and Ronna McDaniel. These tactics are not consistent with Republican values.

Whereas Solomon Yue's financial behavior has led to questions about his personal financial enrichment gained from the roles he has filled at the ORP and RNC, mismanagement of PAC's he took stewardship over and stealing of donor databases from candidates.

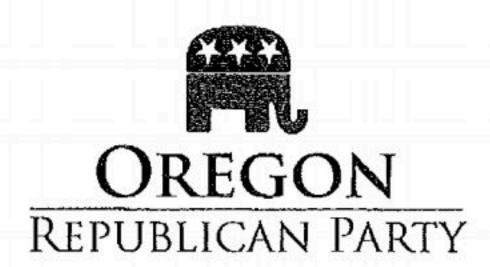
Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Oregon Republican Party Bylaws Article
XXIV Section C, the undersigned petition the Oregon Republican Party Secretary to
notify National Committeeman Solomon Yue and the Oregon Republican Party Central
Committee of the vote to recall National Committeeman Solomon Yue at the previously
duly called meeting of the Oregon Republican Party Central Committee meeting
inMadras, OR onJune 3rd, 2023. The undersigned petitioners also
request that if National Committeeman Solomon Yue is recalled, then an immediate
special election be held to fill the vacancy. The undersigned petitioners further request
that any additional officer vacancies be filled by an immediate special election.

Petitions must be <u>received</u> by the ORP Secretary, Jo Rae Perkins in person or by email <u>secretary@orgop.org</u>.

### Faxed or scanned signed petitions are acceptable.

County	
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TO: Members of the Republican National Committee

FROM: Bob Tiernan, Chairman of the Oregon Republican Party

SUBJECT: Creating dissention within the RNC by purposely spreading

misinformation and half truths: "A lie repeated enough times becomes the

truth" Solomon Yue (March 1, 2002 e mail)

DATE: May 10, 2010

During my tenure as Chairman, it has been both a pleasure and a thrill to have the honor of serving with dedicated, hardworking Republicans who are committed to making a difference. We are truly a team, working hard together, to get Republicans elected.

One of the bigger disappointments during these past 16 months is watching the dissention and attacks launched by some RNC members, toward Chairman Steele. Front and center of these "attacks" are the ones launched, mostly in "secret", by a few RNC members.

One of those members who launches these "secret attacks" is from the Oregon delegation. Solomon Yue has been stirring dissention within the RNC since the day I was elected. Watching Solomon Yue cause internal discourse and plant the seeds of dissent, using the anonymity of the press or surrogates to carry and spread misinformation, misrepresentations and half-truths has been quite disturbing. And I have had it.

The attacks against Michael Steele launched from "within the RNC committee" does nothing more than take away valuable energy from the RNC staff and communications teams, energy that needs to be directed toward the Democrats. Moreover, Solomon Yue's actions are undermining the leadership and staff of the RNC and taking the RNC away from its mission of spending all its resources, talents and time getting Republicans elected.

Solomon Yue has been spreading hate and discontent with in Republican Politics for sometime – both in Oregon and inside the RNC. The list is so long – former Congressman, Gubernatorial Candidates, big donors and Party officials. The list is almost endless. You may think I am kidding? Ask former Oregon National Committee woman June Hartley, yourself.

Bob Tiernan, Chairman • Russ Walker, Vice Chairman • Darlien France, Secretary • Dennis Morgan, Treasurer

Mailing Address: PO Box 25406, Portland, OR 97298 • Street Address: 11560 SW 67th Avenue, Suite 200E, Portland, OR 97223
Phone: (503) 595-8881 • Fax: (503) 595-8882 • Web: www.OregonRepublicanParty.org • Email: info@orgop.qrg
Authorized and paid for by the Oregon Republican Party. Not authorized by any any candidate or candidate committee.

From:

Tuesday, November 11, 2014 1:45 PM Sent:

To:

Subject:

Fwd: Ethics Committee Investigation

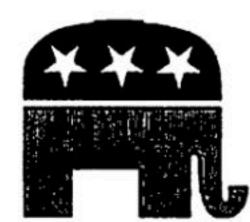
Attachments:

Margie Hughes **Executive Director** Oregon Republican Party 503-312-1111

----Original Message----

From: orpethicscomm <orpethicscomm@orpatriot.com> To: orpethicscomm <orpethicscomm@orpatriot.com> Sent: Tue, Nov 11, 2014 1:18 pm

Subject: Ethics Committee Investigation



### **ORP Ethics Committee** REPORT TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

November 10, 2014

Dear Members of the Central Committee:

Notice: The suggestions and thoughts are the personal opinions, thoughts and observations of the Ethics Committee and are political in nature. They are intended only for the members of the Oregon Republican Party Central Committee. If this is offensive to you, you may block this email at any point.

We have had a few suggestions that this committee does not exist and that it is not authorized by Chairman Art Robinson. This information is false. There are those who want to disrupt this Committee, especially those whom it investigates. THIS IS A TOUGH TASK. We need support, not attacks!

- The Ethics Committee is advisory to the Central Committee, not to the Executive Committee. That is my directive as Chairman.
- 2. Our job is to investigate and report to the Central Committee and the chairman and make recommendations to them as to suggested changes to the party.
- This committee consists of three past chairs of the party, one vice chair of the party, several 3. congressional district chairs, two past governor candidates, one past congressman, and one past state senator. This body will not communicate with anyone outside of it until its business is finished.

This type of action has never been attempted before but many feel it is long overdue. Certain members of the Executive Committee want to block communications within the party. We wish to substantially improve the communication for this party's efficiency and prosperity. There are those who do not want communications. Communication means power and controlling the vote. When communication is withheld, only a few have the power. All elected members are required to list their contact information. That is the duty of the officer. Otherwise, resign the office.

Censuring

Recently, certain members of the Executive Committee or CD chairs have been censuring other members. Nobody in this party has authority to censure a person or group, especially a chairman of a congressional district or organization. There is no authority in our bylaws for such an activity. We are seeing continual abuses under the guise of quoting bylaws and abuses or misuses of power. Thus, the Ethics Committee was created to help protect members of the party from those abuses. We intend to make suggestions to the Central Committee so that rogue members of the Executive Committee cannot misuse their power.

FACT: People come to the Oregon Republican Party and they do not stay.

All too often we have seen good people come into our party and then leave, only to join Tea Party groups, or seek other means of expressing their patriotism. As chairman of the Ames Gathering of Eagles Tea Party Organization, I host them every year.

As chairman of Eagles, I have come to know some very famous patriots. I can pick up the phone and call Michael Steele, Tom Delay, General Jerry Boykin, Todd Palin, Governor Jim Gilmore (past RNC chairman), and Washington Times Chairman of the Board, or Thomas McDevitt, my personal friend, just to mention a few. We are unified and when we work together, we can get things done. Why it is that Oregon cannot get things done? Why are we not unified? Who is there amongst us to disrupt us? What are you prepared to do about it? We need to support our Chairman, and those who cannot need to take a walk!

FINANCIAL AND UNETHICAL RECEPTS OF MONEY BY OFFICERS OF THE ORP

I believe that no officer on the Executive Committee should receive money from their position in the party. These positions are not and should not be paid. They should be ones of service not of profit.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY REQUESTED MY ASSISTANCE: I am here to serve him and the Party. I am Tea Party, but I am also Republican.

At the request of the chairman of the party, whose authority has been continually hijacked by certain members of the Executive Committee, I have taken this position to assist in those attacks on him and past chairman Susanne Gallaher, Bob Tierman and many past CD chairs who have witnessed these attacks. Immediately after my appointment, I formed and appointed a committee.

The party needs transparency and communication with one another.

The Ethics Committee consists of ten to twelve men and women whose appointments are confidential at this time. I am perfectly willing to sign an affidavit of the committee's presence and authority or to allow the chairman to testify before the committee and listen to the committee. When the Central Committee meets, we will be glad to give a report to the Central Committee.

We have been granted total authority by the chairman of the party to have access to all of the documents the party has. Direction has been given to the party to cooperate with this body. Immediately I observed resistance and lack of cooperation from the Executive Committee. They did not want to give my people a list of communications contacts. I have not tried, but I doubt very much that I could get financial records, even though I have been appointed chairman of the finance committee, and I am on the budget committee. I understand certain hard documents are missing. We have questions as to why and who took the documents.

The Ethics Committee did vote and resolve that all members of Central Committee have the ability to communicate with other members. As elected members, we have to be transparent, and as elected officers and representatives of the party, members need to acknowledge that it is required of those who run for office.

I am disappointed about the attacks on the chairman and this body. There are those in the Executive Committee that wish to destroy this body and deny that it exists.

There is an ongoing investigation on some members of the Executive Committee. I will not reveal the members of the Ethics Committee due to threats and intimidations against these committee members.

An investigative committee should not be subject to threats!

I have concerns for their personal safety until this committee completes its investigation and its objectives. At that time we will divulge these committee members who are willing to be identified.

One such threat is listed in a complaint filed against Solomon Yue included with this document.

When the investigation is concluded, the member's identities will be revealed if they no longer feel threatened. Certain members of the Executive Committee, who have always pushed for secrecy, want the Ethics Committee to become more transparent so its members might be grilled or attacked, whatever the reason. So I feel that I as chairman must respond. When we have finished our job and when the Oregon Republican Party's Executive Committee becomes more transparent, the Ethics Committee will become transparent as well.

The above letters are regarding National Committeeman Solomon Yue, which is the right of the Central Committee to review.

As you can see from these documents, we have questions as to these complaints. We have evidence that there is a problem with Mr. Yue and we feel the Central Committee has a right to ask questions and determine whether Mr. Yue is the one that best represents this state as an elected official. Mr. Yue has appeared to depend heavily on Mr. Jeff Grossman. We have questions in regard to what compensation Mr. Grossman receives from Mr. Yue or whether he has any super PAC money benefits that flow to him.

There is also some evidence that appears to suggest that Mr. Yue may have been receiving a fair amount of money for his personal gain by using his position as National Committeeman. This party is poor, and when a National

Committeeman appears to have been making large sums of money and the party is receiving virtually none of that, then we possibly have questions concerning the ethics and morality of such behavior. We have questions as to his Republican Party Super Pac, from which he has received tens of thousands of dollars.

We the majority of the committee feels that this is a conflict, and thus we are asking for his resignation, at least until this matter is cleared up.

We have questions as to possible money passing through a group called Mark it Red out of Indiana.

#### ACTION ITEM: UNETHICAL RECEPTS OF MONEY BY OFFICERS OF THE ORP

I personally believe that no officer on the Executive Committee should receive money from their position in the party. These positions are not paid and can lead to corruption within the party. They should be ones of service. If an executive officer receives political monies for services of any sort, they should be disclosed immediately to the chairman and the party and published to the whole body.

### The Ethics Committee has discussed the need for new rules to protect the Central Committee from the Executive Committee's potential misuse of power

We recommend that a person who is nominated and elected or appointed as chair of the rules committee should be of high moral stature, who selects persons who are also of high moral stature with experience and good reputation in the party. We are presently looking into articles of ethics that should be observed in the party.

As a past soldier, I have only one direction and that must be forward. Our job will be to help you understand what kind of problems we have been having over the years. We speak from experience and wisdom and we ask for God's blessings and assistance, because we are all prone to corruption. I ask you to have courage and ask for God's direction and pray for this body of men and women.

Thus the chairman wants disclosure from the members of the Executive Committee as does this Ethics Committee body. Any receipt of money needs to be disclosed to the Central Committee in writing. As chairman of the Ethics Committee I recommend it to the Central Committee.

### Unanimous Resolution on Censure

This committee did vote on and act on a motion that Secretary Barreto and certain members of the Executive Committee did act improperly in the censure of Wendy Frome and Becky Lemler. It was resolved unanimously that the body met without the authority of the chairman of the party to censure Becky Lemler and Wendy Frome. The committee of ten voted unanimously that Secretary Barreto and the committee had no authority to carry out such an action. In addition, for such a meeting to occur signatures would have to have been gathered, the chairman advised and with the Chairman's consent. This did not occur.

### On the subject of Censure of its members

Party members Wendy Frome and Becky Lemler have been attacked and censured by some members of the ORP Executive Committee, who have no right or authority to censure anyone. Ms. Frome and Ms. Lemler were exercising their rights of expression and free speech. That is a violation of the ORP rules. We therefore, as representatives with the authority granted by the chairman of the Oregon Republican Party, we do hereby apologize to them for the wrongful behavior of the ORP members of the Executive Committee who misused their powers. This act slandered and abused these people's rights to free speech and this body does acknowledge such that an apology is deserved. A similar action occurred against Chairman Suzanne Gallagher. We also apologize to her for wrongful accusations of her that were unproven and appeared to be more of a coup d'état.

"Who are we to have such rights where we at the top are here to serve those at the bottom?" MORTON BLACKWELL (LONG STANDING RNC COMMITTEEMAN)

Who do the officers of the Executive Committee think they are to ignore the chairman of the Party's direction, authority, and his appointments?

My pastor (Salem First Baptist Church) last week preached this message:

"God has criteria for the leaders He uses. One need not apologize for natural blessings. When seeking a leader God weighs the heart. From our heart we see the world and interpret reality." The heart deals with what you believe—get down to the level of your values and know what you believe!"

We are a Christian nation, a nation of free speech. You can count on us to continue to fight and stand firm.

I again ask for God's blessing and strength in this battle, that He guide me in my words and direction. I ASK THAT YOU FOLLOW ME AND SUPPORT ME IN WHAT I NEED TO DO. I ASK YOU TO SUPPORT OUR MEN AND WOMEN ON THIS COMMITTEE. I BELIEVE THEY OPERATE FROM THE HEART LIKE I DO. I ASK GOD'S WISDOM ON THE DIRECTIONS WE TAKE. AFTER ALL, THESE ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OUR COUNTRY WAS FOUNDED ON.

My Ancestor, who went to congress in 1789 and wrote the First Amendment, believed that we were a Christian nation. FISHER AMES said, "Why is it that we are six million Americans and only six hundred want freedom." Why is that? Why is it that we allow the enemy to occupy our ranks? Are we stupid? The Muslims tell of it in the Koran. They are to destroy us from within! You should recognize them by testing the fruit of their spirit."

Dr. W. AMES

Chairman of the ORP Ethics Committee

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE THIS EMAIL IN THE FUTURE, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BLOCK IT!



ARIZONA REPUBLICAN PARTY

3501 North 24TH STREET, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016 (602) 967-7770 • Fex (602) 224-0932 • 1-800-844-4065 WWW.AZGOP.ORG

Randy Pullen Chairman

November 24, 2008

Ms. June Hartley P.O. Box 2643 Nyssa, OR 97913

Dear June,

It was good to talk with you and catch up. Sorry you were unable to attend the convention, I missed seeing you. I was sorry to hear that you loss your election for National Committeewomen. You were one of the few who could be depended on to stand up and do what was right for the Party and not give into the establishment. Your support of my immigration resolution was a great example of your commitment to representing the views of republicans in Oregon.

I was shooked to hear you say Solomon Yue accused you of being soft on immigration. How ironio that someone who stood up and opposed my resolution in the RNC meeting would state to your follow Oregonians that you were the one who opposed it. Shame on him for being deceitfull

God bless you and your family and I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely, .

# Petition for a Recall Vote by the Oregon Republican Party Central Committee of National Committeeman Solomon Yue

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue has exhibited a condescending attitude toward county officers and PCPs, National Committeewoman June Hartley, and National GOP Chairman Michael Steele in the past.

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue operated behind the scenes contemplating the next move to make rather than unifying the party, manipulated the party to his own end rather than using the normal Republican principles of joining us together.

Whereas a National Committeeman must be honest, honorable, above reproach and a man that unifies the party. Solomon Yue has exhibited tactics that have been disrupting to the Republican Party. The tactics used are often used by communists and have been or are being used and give cause for grave concern by many.

Whereas Solomon Yue was a part of the RNC and lost this election, with tactics used to deprive delegates, and candidates from the convention including helped exclude those of Ron Paul who have been given an opportunity and equal voice might have joined the party.

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue, who was born in communist China, has had serious questions as to his loyalty asked by many including former Republican Party Chairman Bob Tiernan Intelligence Officer in the <u>United States Navy</u>.

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue is quoted in an email dated March 1, 2002, as stating "a lie repeated enough times become the truth." Bob Tiernan referenced this in his memo dated May 10, 2010, to members of the Republican National Committee.

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue is quoted in an email dated March 8, 2002, stating "I was taught by Chairman Mao the following: 'the best was to deny reality and to confuse the issue is to turn the facts upside down in order to cover up one's real intention'." Bob Tiernan referenced this in his memo dated May 10, 2010, to members of the Republican National Committee.

Whereas National Committeeman Solomon Yue is quoted on March 9, 2002, stating "One does not have to be a communist or democrat in order to practice Mao's theory: the best was to deny reality and to confuse the issue is to turn the facts upside (sic) down in

order to cover up one's real intention." Bob Tiernan referenced this in his memo dated May 10, 2010, to members of the Republican National Committee.

Whereas Bob Tiernan states in his memo dated May 10, 2010, to members of the Republican National Committee "Solomon Yue is employing the same tactics against Michael Steele and the RNC Staff, and in the same fashion he "went after" June Hartley: Lies, misrepresentations, and twisted facts. And then he repeats them enough, through third parties, surrogates and the media to stir controversy create doubt and undermine leadership. Which really all begs the question: Who is Solomon Yue working for? Whose team is he on??".

Whereas Bob Tiernan a "Commander in the United States Navy Reserve" states in his memo dated May 10, 2010, to members of the Republican National Committee that Solomon Yue has meddled in the country's internal affairs with undesirable results.

Whereas he has formed a Super Pac without the knowledge of the Oregon Republican Party from which he profited \$25,000 and \$30,000 on separate dates. While the Republican Party has been broken and without funds he has profited and has not provided any of that cash to the party funds.

Whereas he has planted seeds of discontent and lies about Michael Steele at a national level. He has lied and spread letters of discontent about June Hartley a servant of the ORP as national committeewoman who served this party as evidence in a letter.

Whereas he has participated in elections where our candidate for president has lost twice, McCain and Romney.

Whereas he has lost the election of Dennis Richardson, and many other elections, and has not contributed financially or politically to this party and has contributed to ghost campaigns;

Therefor	e, in accordance with the	ne provisions of Oregon Republican Party Bylaws Article
VII Section	on E, the undersigned p	etition the Oregon Republican Party Secretary to
notify Na	tional Committeeman S	Solomon Yue and the Oregon Republican Party Central
Committe	e of the vote to recall N	National Committeeman Solomon Yue at the previously
duly calle	d meeting of the Orego	n Republican Party Central Committee meeting
in	, OR on	, 2015. The undersigned petitioners also
request th	at if National Committe	eeman Solomon Yue is recalled, then an immediate
special ele	ection be held to fill the	vacancy. The undersigned petitioners further request
that any a	dditional officer vacano	cies be filled by an immediate special election.

Petitions must be <u>received</u> by the ORP Secretary, Chris Barreto, by (Date) 2015 at:

62819 Lower Cove Rd Cove, OR 97824

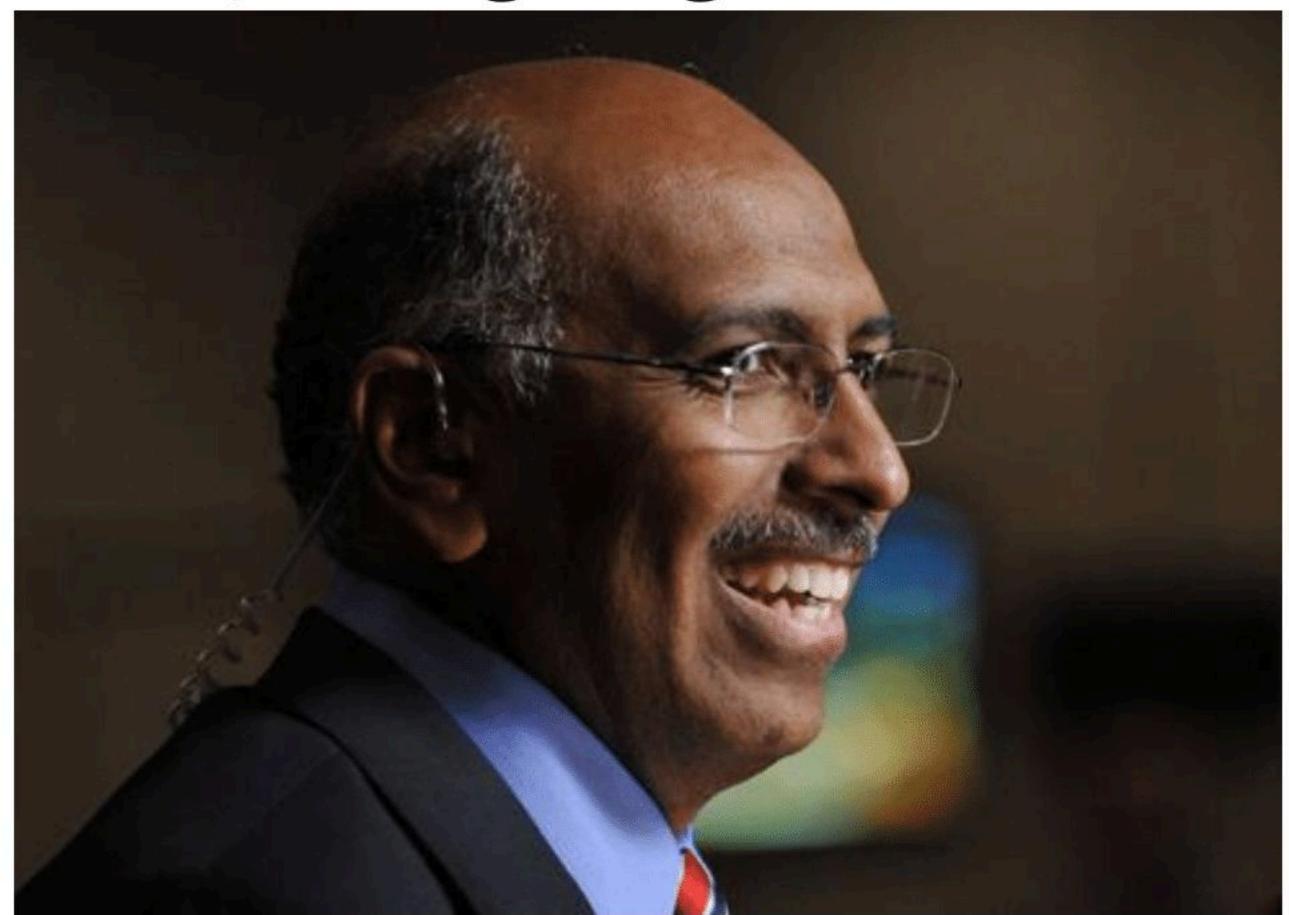
Or fax:

541-663-8068

Or e-mail:

secretary@orgop.org

# Michael Steele's Longtime Assistant, Her Family Living Large On RNC's Dime



By Ryan J. Reilly

November 30, 2010 7:04 a.m.

0

Start your day with TPM.

Sign up for the Morning Memo newsletter

The 2012 Republican Convention in Tampa, Fla. won't get underway for another 636 days. But that hasn't stopped the Republican National Committee from spending over \$636,800 on the convention more than a year and a half before it starts.

That's 18 times the amount spent that was spent in a comparable time frame four years ago, the *Washington Post* reported, causing more than a few raised eyebrows within the party.

Critics of RNC Chairman Michael Steele have also focused on a lucrative job given to his longtime aide, Belinda Cook, convention-related gigs given to her family and friends and a variety of large expenses footed by the RNC. The *Washington Times* first reported on Cook's salary — which is nearly three times what her predecessor made — earlier this month. Over two years ahead of the 2012 convention in Tampa, Steele signed a contract making Cook a "convention liaison" and paying her \$15,000 per month.

FEC records show that Cook was also paid \$25,000 for "Political Strategy Consulting" back in July. Records reflect thousands of dollars in additional reimbursements made to Cook for travel, food and beverages.

The Daily Caller <u>reported</u> that Cook's niece (Pamela Kesner), her son (Lee Cook), her son's college friend (Erik Rohrmann) her former assistant (Grace Cushing) are all on the RNC payroll. Cook's sister, Betina Barcus, has been paid over \$25,000 for hotel management consulting, according to Federal Elections Commission records.

The RNC is also renting for Cook a waterfront mansion that measures 3,200 square feet and comes with private pool and dock, the Daily Caller reported. All in all, "The extended Cook cabal took home a total of \$139,923 in the three month reporting period from July 1 to Sept. 30," the Daily Caller wrote.

Solomon Yue, an RNC member from Oregon, is calling on the RNC's executive committee to freeze both hiring and spending and conduct a review of all RNC contracts.

"My first reaction [to the press reports about convention spending] was 'how do we fix this?" Yue told TPM.

Yue told TPM he's sensitive to claims that an investigation into Steele's fiscal management of the RNC so close to the chair elections could appear unseemly to Steele supporters. He said he'll create a 16-member investigative panel he says will include more than a few members who have strongly supported Steele in the past.

He promised the process would be transparent and said he's open to criticism.

"If critics want to see a problem with the process, they can let me know and I'll fix it," Yue, a member of the executive committee member and a founder of the Republican National Conservative Caucus, told TPM. "We're taking an open approach."

Belinda Cook — who formerly <u>defended</u> the Tampa Bay Host Committee's minaret-featuring logo — did not return an e-mail seeking comment.

# RNC official escalates feud with Reince Priebus, accuses GOP bosses of 'institutional tyranny'



RNC Chairman Reince Priebus ruffled some feathers this year by floating the idea of a nomination calendar overhaul before 2020. (Associated Press) more >



By Ralph Z. Hallow - The Washington Times - Monday, April 18, 2016

Charging the Republican National Committee's top echelons with "institutional tyranny," Oregon RNC member Solomon Yue has accused Chairman Reince Priebus, a longtime ally, of organizing a covert campaign to discredit him, The Washington Times has learned.

RNC official escalates feud with Reince Priebus, accuses GOP bosses of 'institutional tyranny' - Washington Times

Furthering the false narrative of a potential Harmeet Dhillon victory, Solomon repeated accusations that had already been debunked by the RNC Budget Committee through the ORP SCC email system. At this point Ronna already had 101 of 167 members signed on to support her. Ronna went on to win 111 of the 167 votes cast.



## **Oregon Republican Party**

Dear ORP State Central Committee and Executive Committee members,

In 2010, as a member of the RNC Executive Committee, I led an investigation into Chairman Michael Steele's misuse of RNC money for five-star hotels, private jets, limousine service, and bodyguard service during his book tour and issued my findings to 168 members. As a result, Chairman Steele could only get 45 votes on the first ballot for his reelection. We elected Reince Priebus on the 7<sup>th</sup> ballot as RNC Chairman.

Based on this RedState article, Chairwoman's spending is far worse than Chairman Steele's spending. Not even Steele spent \$3.1 million on private jets, \$1.3 million on limousines, \$17.1 million on donor gifts, \$750,000 on floral arrangements and \$80,000 on alcohol while losing 2018, 2020, and 2022 election cycles.

EXCLUSIVE: Analysis of RNC Spending Since 2017 Shows Millions Were Spent on Private Jets, Limousines, Luxury Retreats, Broadway Shows, and More – RedState

EXCLUSIVE: Analysis of RNC
Spending Since 2017 Shows Millions
Were Spent on Private Jets,

## Limousines, Luxury Retreats, Broadway Shows, and More

redstate.com

Thank you.

Solomon Yue

Republican National Committeeman for Oregon

Vice Chairman and CEO

Republicans Overseas, Inc. and Republicans Overseas Action, Inc.

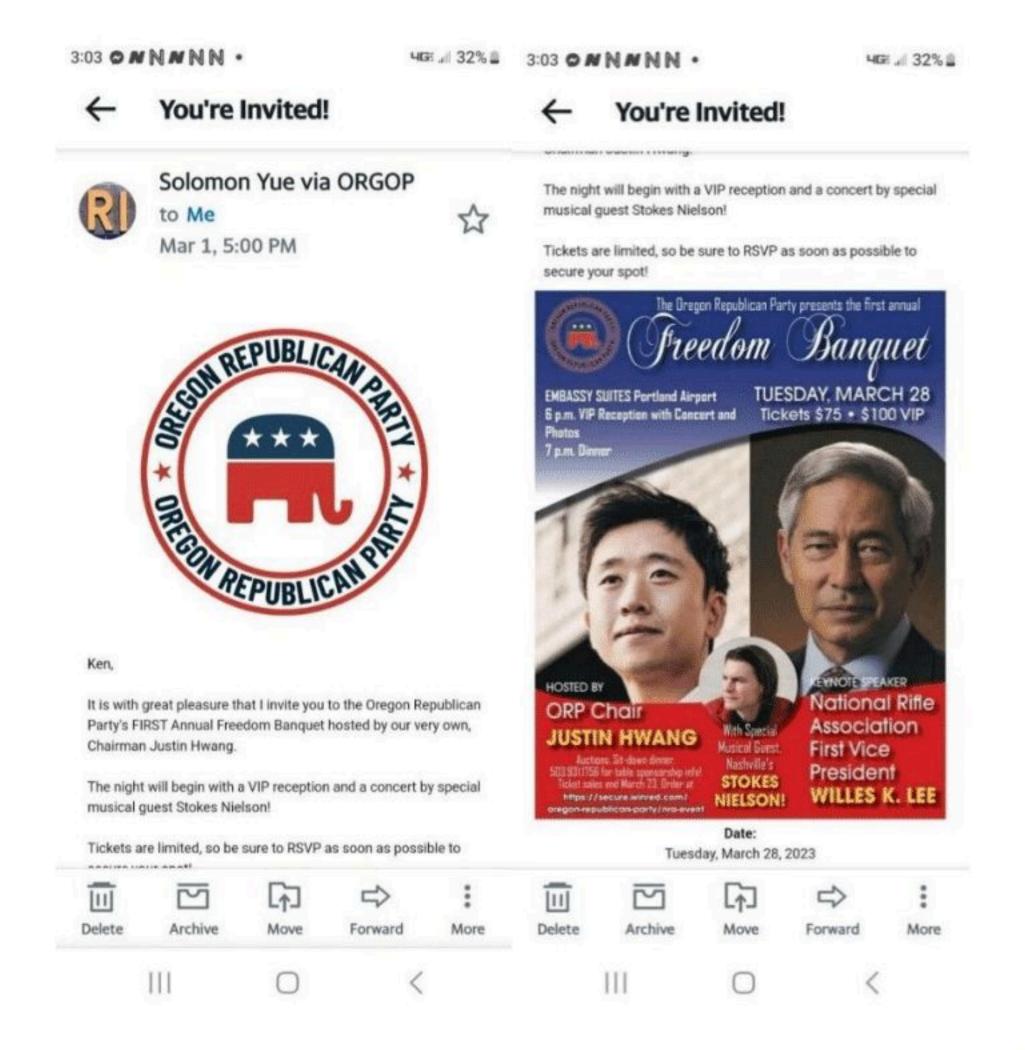
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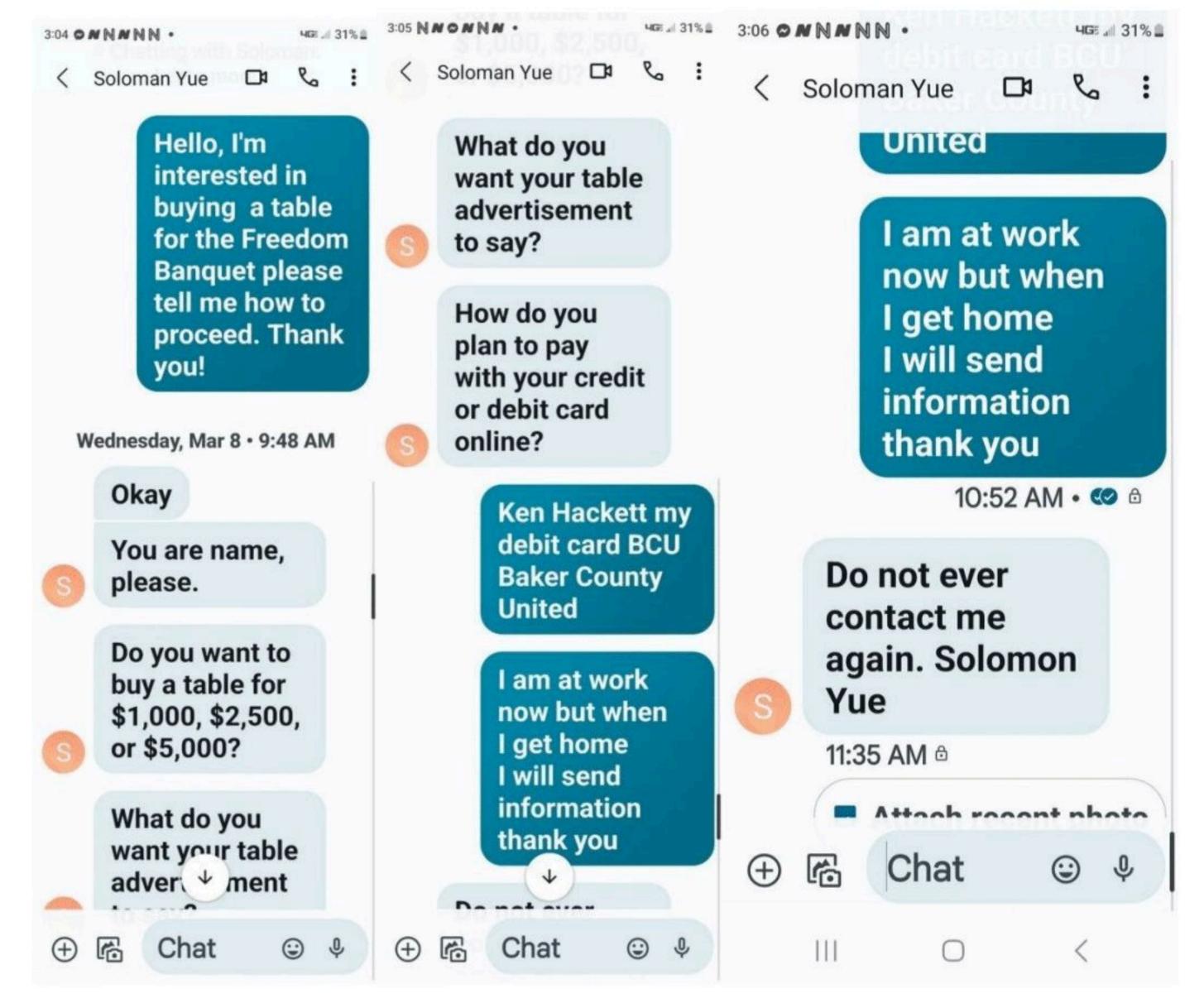
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My Best, Becky Mitts ORP Secretary 503-559-3885

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To: Chris Chenoweth, Yamhill County PCP

From: Jared Black, Deschutes County PCP.

### RE: UPDATE OF SOLOMON YUE'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

This is a brief update to the memorandum of May 2020 titled: Review of Solomon Yue's Financial Activities (see attachment). It reviews the recent filings related to the Political Action Committees (PACs) Mr. Yue has been involved with: Republican Super PAC and USA Super PAC. Also updated is the non-profit Republicans Overseas Foundation with which he is affiliated. Financial information on the PAC's and foundation was obtained from the Federal Election Commission website 2022 and IRS Forms 990 through 2020.

A financial summary of the two PACs is listed in the following tables:

USA Super PAC (c00518217)						
Date	Received	Spent	End Amt.			
2011-12	370,521	332,313	38,207			
2013-14	500,000	500,380	37,826			
2015-16	0	37,000	826			
2017-18	0	0	826			
2019-20	0	826	0			
2021-22		Did Not File				

Republican Super PAC (c00496349)							
Date	Received	Spent	End Amt.				
2011-12	669,439	574,868	94,571				
2013-14	159,544	147,300	106,815				
2015-16	100,000	98,827	107,988				
2017-18	0	15,000	92,988				
2019-20	0	0	92,988				
2021-22	0	0	92,988				

The

USA Super PAC was last active in 2019-20 when the remaining \$826 was withdrawn. It is still listed in Indiana as a political non-profit. The PAC administrator did not file in the 2021-22 interval. The Republican Super PAC has been inactive since the 2017-18 interval with an unspent balance of \$92,988 at the end of the 2021-22 interval. It is still listed as an Indiana non-profit. Surprisingly, funds remaining in the Republican Super PAC has not been used to support a Republican candidate (it could have been disbursed but not reported). It is noted that the Republican Super PAC dollar values were changed slightly from the values obtained in the 2020 review.

Mr. Yue is listed as the co-founder and CEO of the Republicans Overseas organization along with its associated non-profit, Republicans Overseas Foundation. The purpose of these organizations is to urge congress to repeal the recordkeeping and taxation obligations of U. S. citizens living and working overseas. The foundation, authorized as a Public Charity by the IRS on December 17, 2014. Foundation financial data was obtained from IRS Form 990 filings through the end of 2020 and summarized in the following table.

<b>Republicans Overseas Foundation 990</b>	90 Years					
Item	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Revenue	106,250	191,900	65,000	536	2500	0
Total Expenses (Fees and Payments)	154,715	83,850	166,503	8,472	1257	135
Balance End of Prior Year	1,472	1,472	109,522	8,018	82	1326
End of Year Balance	(46,993)	109,522	8,019	82	1326	1191

However, that table contains an error. The entry for Balance End of Prior Year in 2016 is the same as the 2015 entry, \$1,472; the correct value is a negative \$46,993. A corrected entry revises the remaining

<b>Republicans Overseas Foundation 990</b>	Years					
Item	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Revenue	106,250	191,900	65,000	536	2500	0
Total Expenses (Fees and Payments)	154,715	83,850	166,503	8,472	1257	135
Balance End of Prior Year	1,472	(46,993)	61,057	(40,446)	(48,382)	(47,139)
End of Year Balance	(46,993)	61,057	(40,446)	(48,382)	(47,139)	(47,274)

years to the values shown in the following table.

Only in one of the six years did the Foundation revenue exceed expenditure, indicating a poorly functioning entity. In 2015, the Foundation listed its address as a law office in Terre Haute, Indiana. The Foundation treasurer was a lawyer affiliated with that office. In subsequent years, the foundation address was listed as various commercial addresses in Scottsdale Arizona. With the 2020 filing, the foundation address again changed to a private residence. The owner of that residence is also a director of the Republicans Overseas organization and is the treasurer of the non-profit foundation. The foundation appears to have been inactive since 2017; as is true of Mr. Yue's Political Action Committees.

Mr. Yue's principal activity seems to be with the Republicans Overseas organization. He uses his role as Republican National Committeeman to support his personal interests rather than supporting Oregon Republican rank and file voters. While supporting repeal of unfair taxation of US citizens overseas is admirable, Mr. Yue's efforts appear ineffective. A recent Wall Street Journal article (U.S. Expats Face Taxation Without Representation, April 2, 2023) by James Lieber and Peter Shapiro, shows what needs to be done and how to accomplish it. These authors ignore Mr. Yue's effort.

The organization's website (republicansoverseas.com) lists the eight director's Curriculum Vitae. The directors all mention in their CVs that they been a national party chairman or chairwoman for their respective states. Mr. Yue fails to mention the state he represents.

On a personal level, Mr. Yue registered an Oregon Corporation in 1990 called the U. S. Global Enterprising Corporation and stated that it was Medical Glove Wholesaler and Rental Property Operator. Mr. Yue appeared to be the single employee; the company was delisted in September 2015. The place of business was the Yue personal residence at 265 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Salem Oregon. The residence is a 4722 square feet two story structure with basement valued at \$1.9 (Zillow estimate).

Mr. Yue has represented Oregon Republicans at the national level since 2000. His lifestyle and interests are not aligned with Oregon's rank and file Republican voters. It is time for a change.

### ATTCHMENT COVER PAGE

### REVIEW OF SOLOMON YUE'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

From: Jared L. Black, Deschutes County Third Alternate Delegate.

To: Deschutes County Republican Executive Committee

### RE: REVIEW OF SOLOMON YUE'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Oregon GOP county parties recently reelected Solomon Yue to continue as Oregon's National Committee representative. He has held the position since 2000. Despite that time in office, he seems to have little connection with the state's rank and file GOP.

In order to learn more about Mr. Yue, I have reviewed some of the organizations he is affiliated with. He is involved in two Super PACs, the USA Super PAC and the Republican Super PAC. These PACs support candidates for federal office. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) web site lists the financial transactions of these entities. Mr. Yue also lists involvement in the Grassfire Strategic Planning and Management Group (Grassfire Group), the Grassroots Conservative Coalition and the U. S. Global Enterprising Corporation. These are closely held entities and no public information is available.

Mr. Yue is involved with the Republicans Overseas, Inc and Republicans Overseas Action, Inc. These Indiana registered non-profit organizations are exempt from income tax. The financial activities of the Republicans Overseas Action entity are filed (Form 990) with the IRS as the Republicans Overseas Foundation. The other entity does not appear to have IRS filings.

This table, summarized from FEC web site data, lists income, disbursements and closing amounts for the Republican Super PAC; it was initiated by Solomon Yue to support Art Robinson's congressional campaign against Democrat incumbent DeFazio.

Republican Super PAC (c00496349)						
Date	Received	Spent	End Amt.			
2011-12	669,654	574,281	95,373			
2013-14	151,250	147,101	99,522			
2015-16	100,000	98,826	100,696			
2017-18	0	15,000	85,696			
2019-20	0	0	85,696			

This PAC received donations totaling \$669,654 in the 2011-2012 years; \$120,000 was from Yue's Grassroots Conservative Coalition. Art Robinson claims that the donations were mostly from supporters of his 2010 campaign against DeFazio. Here is Art Robinson's statement:

"Solomon approached me after my first campaign, during which I received no help from the Republican party and lost to DeFazio by 9 points. Solomon said that he was a high official of the Republican Party and that the Republican Party thought I could win next time, so they wanted to help me. The help later turned out to be the formation of this \$600,000 "super pac" funded by my previous supporters, controlled by Solomon, and operated counterproductively. You see, Solomon, during my 2012 campaign, had paid himself \$80,000 and paid additional amounts to his political associates. He handled television work and printing work, arranged outside of Oregon and near his friends."

Art's claim that his 2010 campaign donors were the primary 2012 PAC donors appears to be true. Records show that the Robert Mercer family were significant donors to Art's 2010 campaign. In 2012, Mr. Mercer alone contributed \$439,354 to the PAC. The PAC gave \$438,445 to Art's 2012 campaign,

another \$55,130 went directly to Solomon Yue and \$65,130 went to the Grassfire Group, which was controlled by Yue. It should be noted that with Yue's help Art lost the 2012 election against DeFazio not by 9 points but by 20.

This PAC's activity in 2013-14 was for a Louisiana congressional campaign, with \$15,125 going to Yue's Grassfire Group. Another \$10,000 went to the Grassfire Group in 2016. Overall, the Grassfire Group netted \$90,255 from this PAC. A 2018 \$15,000 disbursement went to the Yue controlled Republican Overseas Action, Inc. It will be noted later that the Republicans Overseas Foundation filings listed just \$536 as 2018 income.

This table shows data from the USA Super PAC's FEC web page. It lists the income, disbursements and the closing amount for two-year intervals. The income came from donors in many states, no donations were from Oregonians nor did any Oregon candidates receive campaign support.

USA Super PAC (c00518217)						
Date	Received	Spent	End Amt.			
2011-12	370,521	332,313	38,207			
2013-14	500,000	500,380	37,826			
2015-16	0	37,000	826			
2017-18	0	0	826			
2019-20	0	826	0			

In 2011-12, the PAC spent \$190,000 supporting a primary challenger that defeated Indiana incumbent Senator Richard Lugar. The challenger then lost the general election turning a safe Republican senate seat Democratic.

From 2011 to 2014, Mr. Yue's Grassfire Group received \$88,847 from the PAC. In 2014, \$450,000 was disbursed, noted as support, with no description of the recipient or its use. The \$37,000 disbursement in 2015-16 went to the Republicans Overseas Action as did the remaining \$826 disbursed in 2019. Republican Overseas Action is not involved in federal elections, which is a requirement of Super PAC disbursements. The PAC has been inactive since 2016.

Solomon Yue's is involved in the two non-profit corporations, Republican Overseas and Republican Overseas Action. Both non-profits are registered with the Indiana Secretary of State and one, Republicans Overseas Action is combined with the Republicans Overseas Foundation; its financial activities are reported to the IRS via Form 990s. Republican Overseas does not appear to be filing Form 990s with the IRS meaning donations to this entity are not subject to federal oversight. It is noted that the website for these entities includes options for making donations of up to \$10,000. It would be interesting to see the bank accounts for these non-profits.

The stated purpose of this non-profit foundation is "to defend the U. S. Constitutional rights of U. S. citizens overseas by bringing a lawsuit against FACTA and FBAR" (FACTA and FBAR are IRS reporting requirements for citizens living and working overseas). The foundation address was in Terre Haute, IN for the years 2015 to 2017. In 2018 the foundation address was changed to Scottsdale AZ while still being registered as an Indiana non-profit; no explanation is given for the address change or why it was not moved to an Oregon location. The rules for non-profits prevent the release of donor names, thus little is known of the funding sources or recipients.

The following table lists the revenue and expenses for the foundation based on its Form 990 filings. At the end of 2018, a small positive balance of \$82 is shown. Over the four years revenue totaled \$363,686 while the expenses totaled \$413,540. Professional fees and contractor payments total \$401,255 over those years and represents 97% of the foundation's disbursements; recipients are not disclosed. As mentioned earlier, the Republican Super PAC records indicate a 2018 \$15,000 distribution to the Foundation. The Foundation's 2018 Total Revenue entry lists only \$536. Where did the rest of the \$15,000 go?

Republicans Overseas Foundation 990	Years				
Item	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Total Revenue	106,250	191,900	65,000	536	
Total Expenses (Fees and Payments)	154,715	83,850	166,503	8,472	
Balance End of Prior Year	1,472	1,472	109,522	8,018	
End of Year Balance	-46,993	109,522	8,019	82	

The 2016 990 Form also contains an error: it lists the Balance End of Prior Year (Form line 19) as \$1,472; the correct value is -\$46,993. When corrected the last line of the table is as follows:

Item	2015	2016	2017	2018
End of Year Balance	-46,993	61,057	-40,446	-48,382

The correction then gives 2018 Year End Balance of -\$48,382, and a four year deficit of \$74,764. It is unlikely that the Form 990 filings are a true representation of the foundation's finances.

In summary, it is apparent that Solomon Yue's activities have done little to improve the party's position in Oregon politics. His role as a national party member should have enabled him to attract donors that would support Oregon candidates, but party donations have declined during his tenure. He has lent his support to only one Oregon congressional election; that candidate rightly believes Yue's involvement was counterproductive. Yue's political activities seem self-serving, a mixture of party activities and personal business; disclosed and undisclosed disbursements appear to flow to Mr. Yue. The PACs and non-profits discussed here provide no support for the Oregon party. Further, both the PACs and the Form 990 contains false entries. During his long tenure, the influence of the party in Oregon state politics has diminished and his role in that is not insignificant.

For the betterment of the state party, it is recommended that the Deschutes County Executive Committee advocate for Mr. Yue's removal from the post of National Committee

I got a lot of inquiries as to what happened at the Reawaken America Event last year in Keizer when I was escorted out of the event by security. Here's the series of events.

I arrived and received my media credential. I was supposed to get my speaker credential but my friend Joe Oltmann had not arrived yet so I was waiting for him.

At one point I saw Solomon Yue walk into the green room (tent) so after about 1/2 hour I went over to say hello. As I entered the tent I saw he was sitting at a table with Kerry McQuisten. I walked over and said hello. Solomon introduced me to Kerry, I found her very awkward. Solomon and I stepped outside for a brief maybe 3min talk where I explained to him my concerns for the direction of the ORP. I told him my ideas about how I believe you hire for character and train for skills. I also talked to him about my time in sports both playing and coaching and how I've always observed how a team takes on the character of the coach. To make my point more specific I told him I was concerned the "team" propping up and pushing Kerry McQuisten was engaging is pretty dirty politics but I guess that's just politics. Solomon told me how he did not get involved in campaigns, that when his friends asked him to introduce Kerry to other friends he did so. I replied that I was concerned he was putting his thumb on the scale in the primary, which from my understanding was not acceptable practice. He explained that he does not tell individual campaigns how to conduct their campaign and is not putting his thumb on the scale. I told him of course he is. And that he's doing it right now.

(reminded me of that saying: You gonna believe me or your lying eyes?)

We ended cordially with me telling him for the first time in decades we have a good chance to win this state back and we need to put good candidates forward at all levels.

I walked away back over to the public areas, then into the tent to watch and listen. Marc Theilman came over and stood next to me. After about 15 minutes security came over and asked me to step outside the tent where I was instructed they were given orders to remove me from the premises.

I called Joe Oltman who was en route from PDX to let him know what was going on. He happened to be in his rental car at the security gate at that exact moment. His reaction was kind of funny... "What? What for? Bullshit, stay right there I'll fix this."

Joe went and talked to Clay then Clay's people came over to me. I expressed that while I don't know what or why this is happening, I suspected it was Solomon's doing. This entire time Marc Theilman was at my side lending moral support. I saw security bring McQuisten and Solomon out to talk to them. Then I was informed I was being allowed back in and received my Speakers credential.

So again, while I cannot prove why I was being removed... those are the events which led up to it. Now combine and compare that with the fabricated account of story telling in Kerry's book and things become more clear. She lies.

After Joe spoke he wanted to get away immediately so we stopped by my barn (er ah... I mean my wife's barn ha haa haa) then to a pub, had some grub and bourbon before he headed back to the airport. In the war for the soul of our country, the battles are fought on many fronts. Stand with me and fight.

-Don Powers

Members of the Republican Party of Oregon,

I regret to inform you that as of March 11, 2022, I will no longer be able to serve you as your chairman. My physical and spiritual health can no longer survive exposure to the toxicity that can be found in this community. There are dozens of you men and women that I truly love and admire. I greatly appreciate who you are, and I am extremely grieved that I will no longer serve and help you save Oregon from the everadvancing Democrats. I must warn you good people in our party that we truly have an equal if not greater evil than the Democrats, walking among us.

Communist psychological warfare tactics are being used daily within the party. These tactics are being used to destroy anyone of true character who would oppose the man who introduced them into our community for the last 20 years. The endless slander, gossip, conspiracies, sabotage, lies, hatred, pointless criticism, blocking of ideas, and mutiny brought against my administration has done what I once never thought possible.

They have broken my spirit. I can face the Democrats with courage and conviction, but I can't fight my own people too.

It is clear, no amount of political success, hard work, honesty, and self-sacrifice will ever be enough to garner the lasting support of a strong and consistent majority of people who currently represent this party across the state. I can say I have given my best to save the state I love, but when a true servant leader recognizes that his people would rather attack and question him rather than follow, it is time to say goodbye. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to all of you amazing men and women that gave your all to help me save this party and move Oregon forward. I bitterly regret that my body and soul were not able to withstand the endless assault.

I hope you will guard your hearts against the wickedness in our party and keep fighting the good fight for our children and those who truly love this state. Those who

have worked to destroy me are so determined to dominate/control the party, that they are seemingly willing to sink the ship if that is what is required for them to take back control. I don't have the will left at this point to fight and resist such reckless hate while also being crushed by the Democrats in Salem as I fight for our freedom. We must be absolute in our focus on winning this 2022 election cycle in Oregon. If we don't beat the godless Left this November, we will be exposing our children to a future that is not worth living in Oregon.

I will say that ignoring the wickedness within our organization would be a mistake. it must be exposed and removed if this party is to be relevant in supporting Republican candidates in a meaningful way that leads to actual election victories. I hope you find a way to purge this darkness from the ORP and I will be praying for your success and protection.

I believe God will give me health and inspiration to return to the battle for Oregon in the years to come, but I desperately need a long season of rest so I can fully invest in my wife and children. May GOD, Christ, and the Holy Spirit bless all of you who truly live to love others!

Sincerely,

Dallas Heard

March 19, 2022

### Dear National Committeeman Yue:

As I wrote to you in my letter of February 7<sup>th</sup>, I am deeply concerned about the downward trajectory of the ORP and your role in that disintegration. Having never heard back from you, I believe further steps to protect the ORP are necessary.

Given what has transpired over the past week, further changes in our Party leadership are obviously needed. For the future of our Party, I respectfully ask for your resignation. It is the only way to detoxify a Party which has become increasingly factionalized and dysfunctional on your 22-year watch.

I was extremely disappointed by Chair Heard's resignation -- he has done an excellent job of moving the Party forward -- but I was also deeply saddened by the inescapable truth of his stated reason: The toxic environment within the Executive Committee. This toxicity seems to have dramatically intensified under your influence.

All of us know that the underlying factionalism and dysfunction within the ORP predated Chair Heard by many years and certainly will not subside following the obstruction, harassment and disrespect, for himself and the office, that caused him to resign. It is clear that the faction within our Party that is under your influence will never accept officers other than those whom you control. Since the rest of us will never accept an Oregon Republican Party which serves as a vehicle for anyone's self-interest, we are at a stalemate.

Members, like me, see an alarming trend at all levels of government: Officials using their positions for personal gain. Cronyism, self-service, and abuse of trust undermine the Common Good; and doublespeak and lack of transparency always accompany them.

As a perfect example, there continues to be very little transparency on your source(s) of income, but the tangled web of entities<sup>1</sup> with which you claim association – "Vice Chairman for three PACs: the USA Super PAC, the Republican Super PAC, and the Grassroots Conservative Coalition"; "President of Grassfire Strategic Planning and Management Group L.L.C."; and "founder of Republicans Overseas Inc....Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer" – all appear to revolve around nothing more than old-fashioned influence peddling:

 "Grassfire" is a for-profit business registered in Wyoming in 2020, a state with legendarily lax reporting requirements. While its activities are as opaque as its

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> According to your entry at <a href="https://republicansoverseas.com/leadership/#toggle-id-2">https://republicansoverseas.com/leadership/#toggle-id-2</a>, last checked 14 March 2022.

website, what is clear is that "Grassfire" has never done anything to assist Republicans in Oregon in any way whatsoever.

- "USA Super Pac," "Republican Super PAC," and "Grassroots Conservative Coalition" are nonprofits with no record of existence with the Oregon Secretary of State's Charitable Activities Section or with the website Charity Navigator. The IRS's <u>Tax Exempt Charity Section</u> does list an Indiana Nonprofit existing from 2013-2015 which never generated enough money to require even an IRS Form 990EZ (similar to a 1040, but for non-profits). The other two "PACs" appear to have never existed.
- "Republican Overseas" offers as your sole qualification being the ORP's National Committeeman and the access that that position offers its clients. The IRS Form 990 for "Republican Overseas" lists your involvement as "1 hour per week" over the 2017-2019 time frame. In 2019, you received \$15,000 as compensation from "Republicans Abroad Action, Inc," a subsidiary of the larger organization that claimed \$10,095 of total income and has only filed tax returns in two of the past 6 years.

To put it simply, every organization with which you are publicly associated is shrouded behind a veil of secrecy, not registered in Oregon, and doesn't offer any clarity of what you are offering for sale other than your position as the ORP's National Committeeman.

The Base is tired of the serial grifting of people who claim to be speaking for us. You are listed online as having a net worth of \$1M-\$5M and appear to have gotten rich the same way that Kate Brown and Nancy Pelosi did. How can we claim to oppose the doublespeak and lack of transparency of the Democrats if we tolerate them within our own Party?

### Some questions:

- You are alleged to have taken possession of \$130,000 from Art Robinson's campaign, which was never returned. Has that allegation ever been independently investigated?
- In a blatant example of the influence peddling of which you are widely suspected, you escorted *forty-two* "guests" to an RNC meeting, which caused the RNC to adopt the so-called "Solomon Rule," which now limits guests to two per National Committeeman or woman. Although these "guests" were invited by you in your capacity as the ORP's National Committeeman, the ORP never saw a penny. How much did each guest pay you, and why has that income never appeared in any tax returns?
- During the two "Kate Brown Recalls," your close ally and Former ORP Chair Bill Currier used the name and resources of the ORP to travel throughout the State and "sell" the Recalls (which both failed). Unbeknowst to the rank-and-file of our Party, after he was removed from his position Chair Currier retained all of the proprietary data which was collected and refused to hand it over, claiming it was his personal property. He offered to "trade" Chair Heard the data which had been collected in the name of the ORP "in exchange for" renewing former Chair Currier's access to the ORP's data. Because of the stalemate in the Executive Committee and your

stonewalling, this matter has never been publicly aired, even though it perfectly demonstrates the self-serving nature of some members of the faction you control. Why have you refused to investigate this matter?

- Apropos of nothing, you made a pitch at the February 5<sup>th</sup> SCC Meeting, claiming to have "arranged" a visit from President Trump to the Pendleton Roundup which would "only" cost us \$250,000.
  - At the moment, President Trump is using a Cessna Citation X private jet, which costs less than \$5,000/hour to fly. That's 50 hours of flying to get President Trump less than five hours from West Palm Beach to Pendleton and then less than five hours back—not even \$50,000. What was the other \$200,000 for? Through whose hands was the money you were soliciting going to pass? How much, if any, would be earmarked to yourself and your cronies?
  - o If I understood you correctly, you also indicated at the February 5<sup>th</sup> SCC meeting that Umatilla County Chair Suni Danforth accompanied you on that trip. Can you please clarify who paid for that trip and who authorized you or her to enter into specific negotiations concerning President Trump being invited to Oregon on behalf of the ORP?<sup>2</sup>

For professional political "operators," nothing is ever their fault. You are the longest-serving member of the State Executive Committee. Everyone else who could possibly be responsible for the chronic dysfunction of our Party has been fired or quit...and yet we are still dysfunctional and riven into factions. That was why we voted out former Chair Currier and that was why you treated former Chair Heard with hostility. For the good of the Party, you must go.

As a County Chair, I feel a responsibility to fight for more transparency, more team play, and a stronger Oregon Republican Party. We County Chairs have reached the limits of our patience. Factions within the ORP pursuing their own agendas – whether it be a former Chair or you – are, once again, threatening our ability to win. That is unacceptable.

Our country will never move beyond the culture of self-service amongst career politicians until We, the People, decide we've had enough. Influence peddling, self-dealing, and cronyism are, sadly, not restricted to Democrat political operatives. The Oregon Republican Party is the natural majority party of Oregon; but, until the cancer of self-service is cut out of the ORP, we will never resume our dominant position.

We must place our principles ahead of your self-interest. As such, I would respectfully ask that you resign your position in the interest of allowing our Party to move forward. It is the only way to detoxify the ORP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> According to our Bylaws, Article XX, Section D:

No out-of-state expense shall be paid for any person other than the State Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the National Committeeman and the National Committeewoman unless prior approval for the person's travel was given by the Executive Committee, the ORP State Central Committee or the State Chairman.

Sincerely yours,

Holli Morton Josephine County Chair

Cc: Tyler Smith, Esquire and County Chairs

### Dear National Committeeman Yue:

Given what has transpired over the past week, and as I have not heard back from you since my letter of February 9<sup>th</sup>, I repeat my recommendation: With all due respect, I ask that you resign. It is the only way to detoxify a Party which has become consistently factionalized and dysfunctional on your watch during the last 22 years.

I was saddened and disappointed by Chair Heard's resignation – particularly because of his stated reasons: a toxic environment within the Executive Committee. All of us know that the underlying dysfunction within the ORP predated Chair Heard by many years and will not go away with him leaving.

It is clear that the faction within our Party that is under your influence will never accept leaders other than those you bring forth. Since the rest of us will never accept an Oregon Republican Party which serves as a vehicle for anyone's self-interest, we are at a stalemate.

Members, like me, see an alarming trend: Officials regularly use their positions for personal gain. There continues to be very little transparency on your source(s) of income, but your overseas activities look to most of us like old-fashioned influence peddling. Cronyism, self-service, and abuse of trust undermine the Common Good; doublespeak and lack of transparency always accompany them. How can we claim to oppose the doublespeak and lack of transparency of the Democrats if we tolerate them within our own Party?

### Some questions:

- You took \$130,000 from Art Robinson's campaign. Why?
- What is "Republicans Abroad"? It appears to be a pay-for-influence operation.
- Forty-two guests accompanied you to an RNC meeting, which caused such a stir that a rule was made that only two guests were allowed. I hear it is called "the Solomon rule". Can you explain how any why that came about?
- You made a pitch at the February 5<sup>th</sup> SCC Meeting, claiming to have "arranged" a visit from President Trump to the Pendleton Roundup which would "only" cost us \$250,000. At the moment, President Trump is using a Cessna Citation X private jet, which costs, at the absolute most, \$5,000/hour to fly. That's 50 hours of flying to get President Trump less than five hours from West Palm Beach to Pendleton and then less than five hours back—not even \$50,000. We need a detailed description of what the other \$200,000 is for. Through whose hands was the money you were soliciting going to pass? How much, if any, would go to individuals, such as yourself.
- Additionally, can you please clarify who paid for that trip, and who authorized you to enter into specific negotiations concerning President Trump being invited to Oregon on behalf of the ORP?
- If I understood you correctly, you also indicated at the February 5<sup>th</sup> SCC meeting that Umatilla County Chair Suni Danforth accompanied you on that trip. According to our Bylaws, Article XX, Section D:

No out-of-state expense shall be paid for any person other than the State Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the National Committeeman and the National

Committeewoman unless prior approval for the person's travel was given by the Executive Committee, the ORP State Central Committee or the State Chairman.

 If County Chair Danforth did accompany you, under what authority and were her expenses reimbursed?

As a County Chair, I feel a responsibility to fight for more transparency, more team play, and a stronger Oregon Republican Party. We County Chairs have reached the limits of our patience. Factions within the ORP pursuing their own agendas – whether it be a former Chair or you – is, once again, jeopardizing our ability to win.

For self-serving politicians, nothing is ever their fault. You are the longest-serving member of the State Executive Committee. Everyone else who could possibly be responsible for the chronic dysfunction of our Party has been removed...and yet we are still dysfunctional and driven into factions. That was why we voted out former Chair Currier and that was how and why you ran off former Chair Heard. It appears certain that the undermining of our Party during your entire time in power will remain as long as you remain. For the good of the Party, we have concluded you must go.

Though it would presumably disrupt your only apparent source(s) of income, I would respectfully ask that you resign your position in the interest of allowing our Party to move forward. If you truly care about our Party as much as we do, you must admit that it is the only way to detoxify.

Sincerely yours,

Holli Morton Josephine County Chair

Cc: County Chairs