

Roger:

I appreciate that you want to defend your friend. It's a pretty cruddy situation for all involved but you've got a lot wrong here that needs to be corrected. It would have been nice for you to reach out and get a complete picture before throwing me, and members of the Oregon Republican Party State Central Committee, under the bus. But here we are...

Since my time as Oregon's NCW, I have reached out to Chairwoman McDaniel on several occasions to invite her to come to Oregon. I was thrilled that she was willing to come to Oregon and back in February we had narrowed down a visit in May. May 12th was the date that her staff determined she would be available. Neither Chairwoman McDaniel, her staff, or even I was aware that it was the "deadline" to get signatures for Solomon's recall petition. (In fact, there was no real deadline, apparently that was the day it was due to hold the recall on the same day as an already scheduled meeting.)

Let's talk about the event....

Our RPD had put together several meetings, including one in Oklahoma City, to talk about the Chairwoman's visit. Solomon was invited to every meeting and didn't show up to one. With no input from Solomon, I scheduled a Grassroots Event with Chairwoman McDaniel that every county chair was invited to. We also invited volunteers and key grassroots leaders who have actively participated in what the ORP is doing. Solomon wasn't involved in inviting people to this event because he never showed up.

This event was held in Hillsboro, Oregon, which resides in Washington County. This is a larger county in Oregon, a short drive from the Portland Airport, and a county where Republicans have held many events over the years because of some of its Republican friendly vendors. Gabriel Buehler, a veteran and a rising star in county party leadership, volunteered to put a team together to host this grassroots event with the Chairwoman and they did a great job – I was so grateful for their help! (I reached out to Gabriel after reading your message – neither of us know who this Melissa is, we can't find her anywhere on Facebook, there was no Friday night meeting that he spoke at, and Gabriel denies that conversation took place – knowing what I know, I believe him.)

This grassroots event and dinner was a wonderful day and evening and we are so grateful that Chairwoman McDaniel was able to spend time in Oregon and hope she comes back soon!

The Recall....

First of all, let's be clear. You keep insinuating that I am involved with this recall, some even claim that I'm leading it! This is simply not true.

Over the last 23 years, long before I was involved in the Party, Solomon has been the subject of a great deal of controversy. This is not new. When I became NCW almost 2 years ago, I was asked by a handful of people to support a recall effort against him. I said no and asked them to wait until his election and they could replace him then if they still felt that way. Out of respect for me, they didn't pursue it.

Come the RNC elections – wow! Like in most states, it got ugly... really ugly. Solomon and his associates – particularly his girlfriend, publicly attacked anyone who stood up for me or Chairwoman McDaniel. During the election in Dana Point, Solomon's girlfriend took unflattering pictures of me and had them posted online in an attempt to intimidate and harass me, she attacked our fellow RNC members from Washington State in some of her public posts, and mocked and spread a bunch of lies about me. Some of

their friends joined in as well (and still do – it’s weird!) Solomon authored resolutions to censure me and call for my resignation (for voting for Chairwoman McDaniel) and sent it to county chairs (there is an email trail,) he was a part of an attempted vote of no confidence against me (that was thwarted thanks to the huge support I had from our State Central Committee members and a little video from a friend who shed some light on the election.) There were many whispers about Solomon’s allies planning a recall against me. Solomon’s own Twitter account had him calling for me to be removed!

(For the record, the censure was only successful in 2 counties, it either failed or never made it to a vote in every other county that it was attempted. While this whole experience had some really difficult, even painful moments, in the end, I was so incredibly blessed and thankful for the overwhelming support I received, friends who had my back, and all of the new friends I made. I’m going to have fun this spring and summer visiting all of the counties - Yahoo!)

As a large number of our State Central Committee Members started seeing what was happening, I was asked once again if I would support their recall. They reasoned that the division Solomon continued to create would not end until he was gone (again starting long before me – I was just the latest person in his way of regaining control of the Oregon Republican Party.) Those asking me to support the recall argued that they weren’t the ones creating the division, it’s been there for decades and getting worse - they were working to finally end the division. The 2024 elections were too important to allow this to continue. After what I had just experienced, and knowing some of the relevant history, I couldn’t disagree anymore – they were right and this time the recall group was bigger, louder, and now even included some of our state legislators and donors.

So while, contrary to the rumors, I’m not leading this recall, actively promoting this recall, building or serving on any team regarding this recall, I support the 20+ counties who have brought this recall forward (there are 34 active counties, and it’s my understanding that there is at least 3 other counties who either didn’t get their paperwork in on time or were scared of repercussions from signing, but supported the effort.) When asked, I am, and will continue to be, straightforward and will tell people how I intend to vote and why (just like I was when I told everyone I was voting for Chairwoman McDaniel.) And just as an FYI.. this recall has nothing to do with how Solomon voted – for me, it has everything to do with the way he has treated so many people over the years. This isn’t the first time I’ve been on his bad side and I’ve been around long enough and witnessed enough to know that I’m making the right decision.

More about the recall...

Roger.. were you upset when Solomon’s allies recalled our NCW Marilyn Shannon in 2019? Coincidentally, this also happened in the 3rd year of Marilyn’s term, the year before a presidential election (even in the same spring season!) ... (BTW, there were no RNC resources sent to defend Marilyn... AND Marilyn was NEVER allowed to view the petition signers. Our chairman at the time, Solomon’s close ally Bill Currier, ruled that the Secretary’s verification of signatures was adequate... Marilyn fought it, but wasn’t successful. The SAME PEOPLE who fought to keep Marilyn from seeing the list are the SAME PEOPLE demanding to see this list now. If it was adequate then, why isn’t it now? And this time, not only did our secretary verify each and every signature, but ORP’s legal counsel reviewed it all as well!)

Were you upset when Solomon’s allies attempted to recall our ORP Chairwoman Suzanne Gallagher? She was treated so horribly that she resigned rather than continue to be humiliated by this group... (and

now has become a wonderful and successful partner in the parents' rights in education movement!) – BTW – there were no RNC resources sent to defend Suzanne either...

Are you upset when you look at ORP history? – Any idea how many Chairs and NCW have been pushed out/recalled over the last 2 decades? It's a pretty stunning number.

Just throwing this in because I'm not sure the best place to put this, but it's important...

Let me be VERY clear. Chairwoman McDaniel, or any of her staff, have not had ANY role in this whatsoever in this recall. To insinuate otherwise is at best disappointing, at worst inappropriate and disgusting.

In addition, the claims that petition signers are pressuring people and are saying the RNC supported the recall is one that, quite frankly, I believe is an outright lie.

Finally...

I'm not asking you, or anyone else to take sides. I know you are friends with Solomon – that's great! I never intended to make my thoughts public and I hoped I wouldn't have to, it's for the Oregon State Central Committee Members to decide. There is no reason create any more division with RNC members with this on either/any side (we've all had enough of that.) I'm sorry that it's gotten to where it has, but it wasn't my actions that brought us to this place. I'm sorry that you got brought into it...but you were, and I will defend the insinuations against Chairwoman McDaniel regarding this recall, the accusations against members of the ORP, and while I'm at it, defend myself against the lies you've been told.

Roger, you have no knowledge of what's happening here, only what Solomon and/or his allies want you to believe. You didn't ask any questions, get any context, or history. You completely disregarded me and what I went through and what some of our committee members have gone through. I've got no issue with you – we disagree sometimes and that's okay! I hope you will consider that there are a whole bunch more sides to this story and that moving forward, you'll reach out to me if you have any concerns about what I do.

This is so long it's almost a book! I can't think of a better closing than to say THE END..

Tracy Honl

Oregon Republican NCW

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