# Peak Republicans



### Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold



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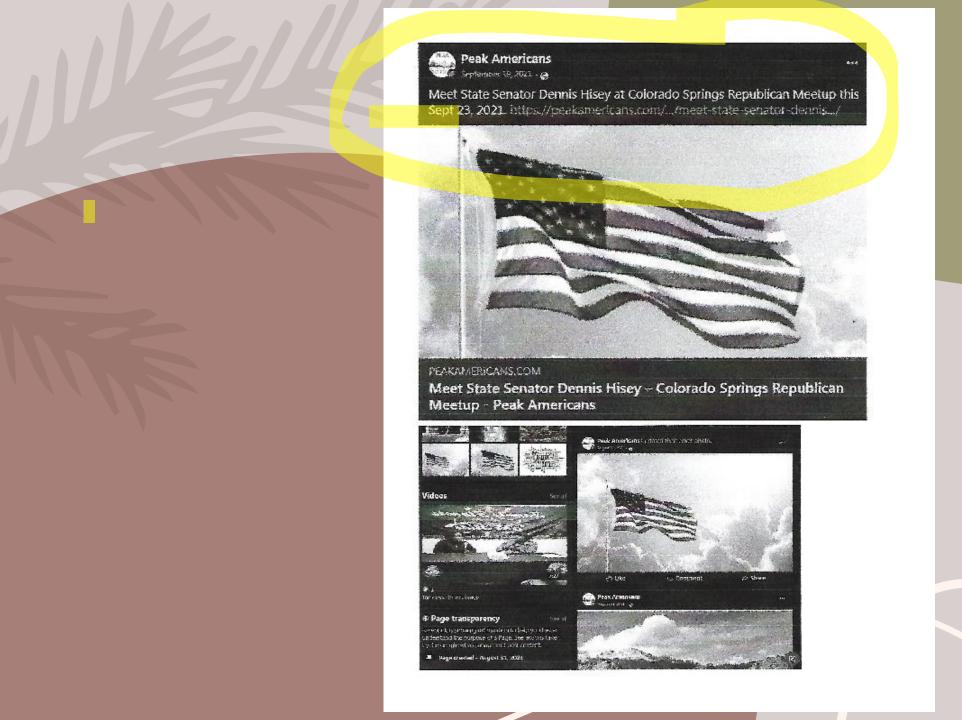
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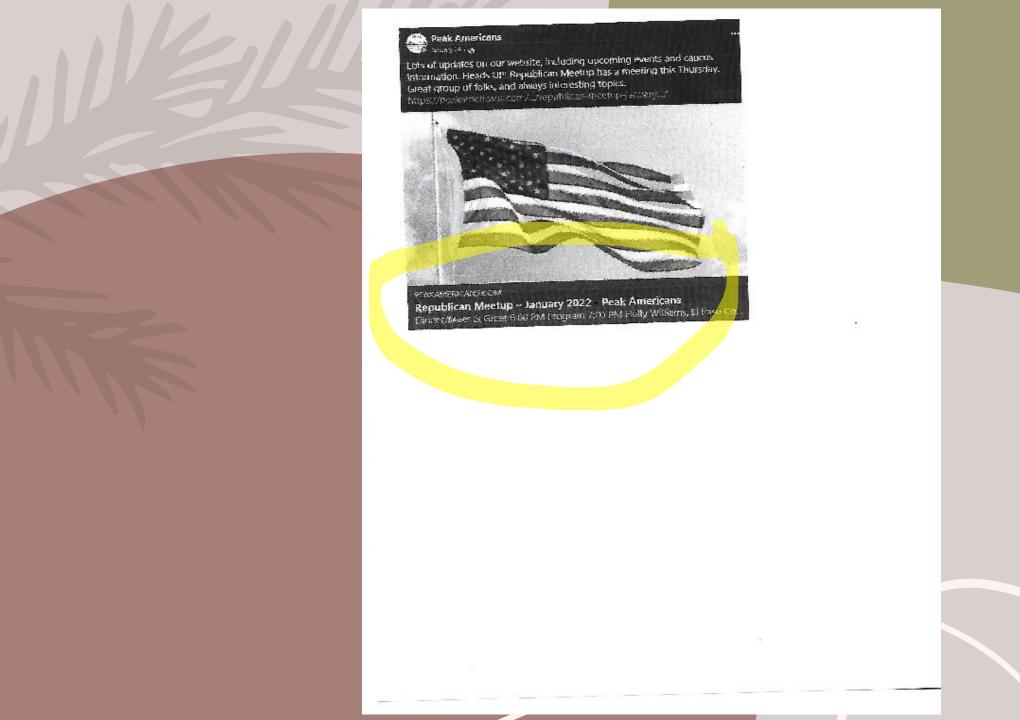
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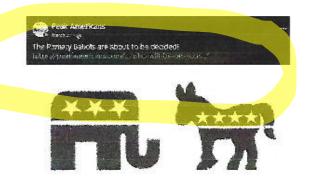
### Summary

etails			
Trade name	Peak Republicans		
Registrant name	Catherine Marie Roupe		
Status	Effective	Formation Date	03/31/2022
ID number	20221339682	Form	General Partnership
Renewal month	January	Expiration Date	04/01/2023
Primary residence or usual place of business street address	522 Lakewood Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80910, El Paso County, United States		
Primary residence or usual place of business mailing address	PO Box 15856, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-5856, United States		

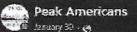
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WHO will be on Your Primary Ballot? Peak Americans
E Pass County, on March 10, product Positional decision WHO is no year.

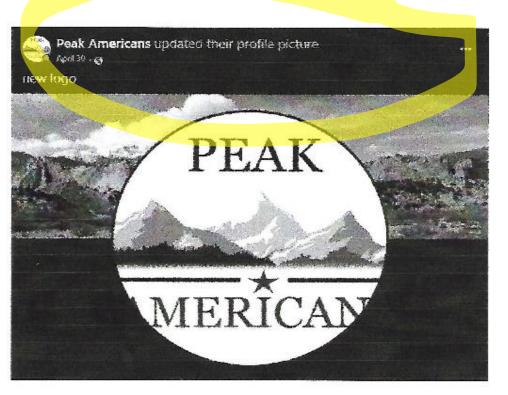


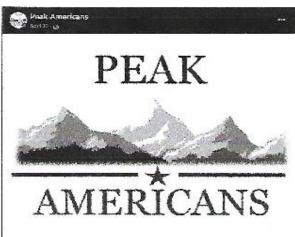
Caucus - a neighborhood meeting! That's it but lots is done at these meetings. They happen every two years. Want to learn more? Join Dr. Sandra Bankes for caucus training on Tuesday, February 1, 2022. Here's more info. https://peakamericans.com/\_\_/fountain-area-2022-caucus../

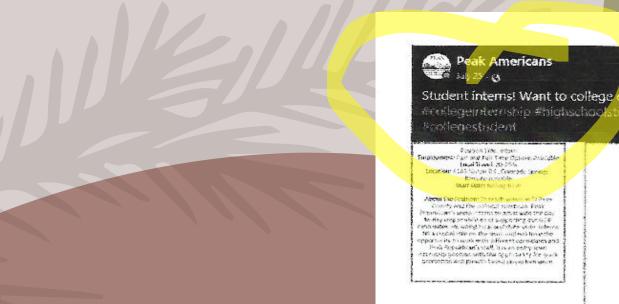


PEAKAMERICANS.COM

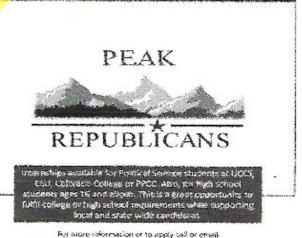
Fountain Area 2022 Caucus Training - Peak Americans
What is a Coscos? Join Republicans for a FREE evening of review and learns...







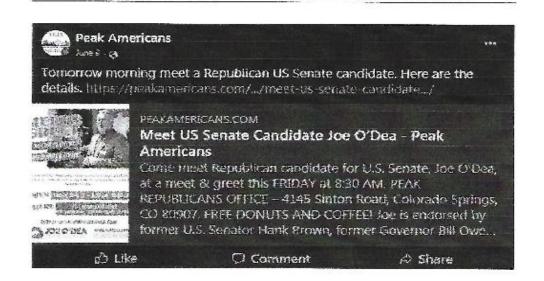
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# BYLAWS OF THE COLORADO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRALCOMMITTEE

**ARTICLE XV: CONTROVERSIES** 

Section C. Other Controversies.

If any controversy arises at the county, representative, senatorial, judicial, or congressional district level which cannot be resolved at that level, or at a CRC meeting, such controversy shall be determined by the CRC or the Executive Committee, in accordance with rules and procedures provided by the CRC or by the State Assembly and/or Convention, and Section D of Article XV. If the controversy is determined by the Executive Committee, any party to the controversy may appeal the decision to the CRC. The - 18 - 15983041.5 determination of the CRC shall be final.

Section D. Procedure.

A controversy must be submitted to the CRC Chairman within two weeks of the meeting in which the controversy arose, or if the controversy did not occur at a meeting, within two weeks of the reasonably determined state of the controversy. If no controversy is submitted by the two-week period deadline, any controversy or points of order regarding the controversy expire. In the event a controversy is appealed to the Executive Committee or CRC, the State Chairman may call a Special Meeting. The call may be made electronically and shall be sent no less than 3 days before the Special Meeting. The Special Meeting may be held electronically. Each party to the controversy may send materials to the Executive Committee or CRC members. The quorum for this Special Meeting shall be the members present. Proxies shall not be allowed. The only agenda item permitted at this Special Meeting shall be the determination of the controversy.



October 10, 2022

Via Electronic Mail

Catherine Marie Roupe 522 Lakewood Circle Colorado Springs, CO 80910

RE: Your Unauthorized use of the Republican Name

Dear Ms. Roupe,

Section 1-3-108 of the Colorado Revised Statutes provides that "No person, group of persons, or organization shall use the name or address of a political party, in any manner, unless the person, group of persons, or organization has received permission to use the name or address from the executive committee of the political party."

No other organization should be allowed to carry the word "Republican or Republicans" in their name. To date, neither you nor your Peak Republicans organization has contacted the El Paso County Republicans for use of the name Republican(s). Hence, your use of the Peak Republicans name in your communications – to include your website your URL, your emails, and the name of your organization – is in violation of state law.

The El Paso County Republicans hereby demands that you cease and desist from using the name "Peak Republicans" to identify yourself or your organization in your website, your URL, your emails, and the name of your organization in any form. We demand you cease and desist stating you are an alternative Republican Headquarters in El Paso County. You have 7 days to respond to this communication.

Sincerely,

Vickie Tonkins, El Paso County Chairwoman 1-3-108. Use of party name.
No person, group of persons, or organization shall use the name or address of a political party, in any manner, unless the person, group of persons, or organization has received permission to use the name or address from the executive committee of the political party.

# Roupe Reply on Oct 14, 2022

Thank you.

I have received your letter. I did some research. El Paso County GOP has no authority regarding the use of the word Republican in our organization's name.

C.R.S. 1-3-108 Use of Party Name states that the Political Party must give permission. The party referred to in statute in this instance is the Colorado Republican State Central Committee. The process to receive approval to use Republican in our organization's name is outlined in the State GOP's by-laws, Article XVII.

I will be in touch with the Colorado GOP to address this matter.

Respectfully,

Kit Catherine Roupé, MPA

c. 719-238-4656 kit roupe@yahoo.com

# BYLAWS OF THE COLORADO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

ARTICLE IX: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section B. Duties.

The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to: 1. Serve as an advisory committee to the Chairman, and to perform other functions prescribed in these bylaws or by the Chairman. 2. Approve the budget by July 15 of each odd-numbered year, and approve the hiring and salary of any officer and any director-level staff member. 3. Decide by majority vote if sufficient evidence exists to declare a vacancy in an office because of permanent absence or permanent disability. 4. Hear and determine party controversies, other than delegate contests, subject to review by the CRC. 5. Determine whether to recognize any affiliated organization or grant permission to any separate organization using the name Republican. The committee shall also hear all controversies concerning such organizations, subject to review by the CRC. (See Article XV and Article XVII.)

# BYLAWS OF THE COLORADO REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRALCOMMITTEE

#### ARTICLE XVII: SEPARATE ORGANIZATIONS USING THE NAME REPUBLICAN

#### Section A.

No person, group of persons, or organization shall use the name or address of the CRC in any manner, unless the person, group of persons, or organization has received permission to use such name and address from the Executive Committee. Any separate organization, auxiliary, or allied organization desiring to use the Republican name or otherwise claiming affinity with the Republican Party shall fulfill the following requirements:

#### Section D.

No such separate organization, auxiliary, or allied organization shall endorse, support, or make any contributions to any candidate, candidate committee, small donor committee, political committee, or other committee or organization acting in said candidate's behalf for the purpose of influencing the outcome of a Republican primary election contest.

From: Betsy VanderWerf < rivadiva@comcast.net>

Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 12:37 PM

To: Victoria Saalberg < <a href="mailto:noblevictory@gmail.com">noblevictory@gmail.com</a>>

Cc: Cinnamon Bergeron < cinnamonbergeron@gmail.com >; shana.j.black@gmail.com; Betsy

VanderWerf < rivadiva@comcast.net >

**Subject:** Hello Victoria!

Hello Victoria! Betsy here. I hope you are well and having a nice day! I want to thank you for being a part of the Winning Republicans Team! This is such an exciting year for Republicans and I am glad to see you part of our 728 team! I want to let you know about some of the upcoming events and activities and you can share with your email friends and other social media. As you know, House District 18 is VERY winnable with Shana Black, so we are putting TONS of effort to get people to vote for her! There are only a little over 2 weeks before ballots drop, so we need to walk, call, share literature, and attend events. If you want to call me and we can make a time to meet, my phone number is 719-640-5014.

Also, here are some additional contacts for you:

Shana Black, HD18 -- 719-400-9789

Lois Landgraf, campaign manager for Shana 719-963-4773

Cinnamon Bergeron, HD18 Secy -- 719-639-1613

Thank you for your welcome and for all the info you have sent below, Betsy.

Yes, I would be happy to meet. Please feel free to call or text best days and times for you. I will be out of town on business a couple of days coming up, but will prioritize meeting up with you around that.

I am a little confused on what you refer to as some "new office." Why would there be a new office? Why would our Colorado Republican party not be working with people through our GOP office? From what I remember, that is how we did things in Texas, as staying unified was of greatest importance.

Realizing that I am new to all this, surely there is something I am missing. Please help me understand. Glad you sent this today to inform me about tomorrow.

Look forward to connecting!

Victoria

There is a new office that is providing support to the Republican candidates—it is called Peak Republicans. Office hours are 10am-2pm and, as needed. The address is 4145 Sinton Road, in the Sundance Plaza. This space provides daily support with information, literature, walking bags, sign storage, and meeting space for Republicans. Yard signs are there for us to pick-up and I have some at my house.

On Saturday, October 1st, there will be Statewide "Super Saturday Rallies for Republicans!" in every county. Heidi Ganahl will be at the Peak Republicans at 9:00 am. There will be donuts and coffee for all the volunteers! After the rally, walkers will be deployed to three areas for walking: HD18, HD21 and precincts common with SD11, HD17 and CCD5 candidates. These are our most competitive seats in El Paso County.

From: Cinnamon Bergeron < cinnamonbergeron@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 1:58 PM

To: noblevictory@gmail.com

**Subject:** Precinct Leader information

Victoria,

Did you request to be a precinct leader or did Vickie contact you about it? When did you submit the paperwork?

Just so you know, this really has nothing to do with you. It is just an honesty issue I am having with Vickie Tonkins. I am trying to find out the TRUTH of a situation. I have a feeling Vickie is not being honest with me and I just want to know the truth. So, I would love your honest answer.

I know that you know how much God values honesty and I am confident that you will be honest with me.

Please let me know.

Sincerely,
Cinnamon Bergeron

From: <a href="mailto:noblevictory@gmail.com">noblevictory@gmail.com</a>>

Sent: Sunday, October 2, 2022 10:17 PM

To: 'Cinnamon Bergeron' < <a href="mailto:cinnamonbergeron@gmail.com">cinnamonbergeron@gmail.com</a>>

Subject: RE: Precinct Leader information

Hi Cinnamon,

Actions speak loudly, and God judges the hearts of men.

Feel free to let me know what "honesty issue" you suggest you are having?
Sounds like divisive and catty, gossipy talk to me... with an edge of close to threat toward me as if I answer to you and God does not see all.
I answer only to Him.

Your email has bothered me for days, as the spirit behind it is not one of goodness and the light of Jesus Christ. I have taken it and whatever is behind it to God, given it to Him, asked Him to deal with things and reveal the TRUTH.

## Email cont.

From: <a href="mailto:noblevictory@gmail.com">noblevictory@gmail.com</a>>

**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 10:17 PM

To: 'Cinnamon Bergeron' < <a href="mailto:cinnamonbergeron@gmail.com">cinnamonbergeron@gmail.com</a>>

Subject: RE: Precinct Leader information

I stand with many who have found Vickie to be not only honest, but very hard-working DESPITE how some RINOs have done their (evil) darndest to take her down (for absolutely NO GODLY REASON)... Like our faithful yet constantly attacked President Trump, she has stayed true, loyal, hard-working, integrous, up front about everything as far as I have known her and heard from others <who have integrity>, ETC., ETC.

For your information, I put my hat in ages ago and talked with people several times after I saw how things went at Caucus and was disgusted with the manipulation by people who somehow seem to think they are above others and above being transparent. It is sad that this kind of crap/ harassment/ meddling God says he hates is what people are wasting precious time on when we have REAL problems to address in the USA and Colorado.

Wouldn't you agree?

Victoria

#### **Maddie Fenlason**

We would've loved to get literature and a walking list for Joe O'Dea from EPGOP HQ and we were turned away. So we turned to Peak Republicans who are actually working hard to get Republicans elected to get info and resources. A true Democrat tactic is to put a false name to your organization and work to not get Republicans elected, maybe you should take note:)

Madi

My Reply:

Madi,

Lists were sent to all candidates and their campaigns. If the shadow party had the list then it is obvious they received the list from our office.

#### **Additional Reply:**

I was just now able to read your email.

Please give me the name, date, as well as time you were turned away from this office? I will deal with this once I get the information from you.

We have NEVER turned anyone away from this office. We have plenty of O'Dea campaign information.

# Peak Republicans Location





An assembly line of Republican volunteers put together packets of Republican candidate campaign literature for distribution. They were working at an alternative campaign headquarters for the local Republicans on Sinton Road on Wednesday.

Jerilee Bennett, The Gazette

# Gazzette Newspaper

Campaign headquarters amid intense infighting



Volunteers lugged campaign signs and stuffed bags with fliers awash in red this past week at what has become the alternative hive of Republican campaign activity this season.

The Peak Republicans office near Interstate 25 and Garden of the Gods Road was set up during intense Republican primary election battles locally and is now functioning as a campaign headquarters for many candidates that have not received dollars, volunteers, or other support from the official local party.

"I have gotten absolutely no assistance or support from the party," said attorney Shana Black, who is challenging Democratic state Rep. Marc Snyder for House District 18. The House district was recently redrawn and is far more competitive than in previous years.

In one case, Todd Watkins, a primary candidate for El Paso County sheriff who didn't make the general election, is encouraging voters through social media to "leave the bubble blank" and not to vote for establishment Republicans, which he refers to as Republicans in name only or RINOS.

"The current breed of RINOs have done nothing more than provide a façade behind which Democrat policies are advanced," he wrote on Facebook. If establishment Republicans aren't elected to countywide office they won't automatically hold committee seats within the party and more "truly" Republican representatives can lead the party, he wrote.

In a letter shared with The Gazette, he went on to explain if establishment Republicans are not in power, the party can be rebuilt as an "America First Party."

The move to suppress the Republican vote is really unprecedented, said Jody Richie, a campaign manager for about seven local Republican candidates. The failure for the party leadership to support general-election Republican candidates is also unusual. Despite the infighting, though, she says campaign efforts are going well and she has assembled a list with more than 1,000 volunteers.

"We are just not letting that get in our way," Richie said of the infighting.

Republican Party Chairwoman Vickie Tonkins pushed back on statements she has failed to support candidates in an email to The Gazette, saying that everyday people are stopping by the party offices for signs and literature.

Earlier this fall, Tonkins seemed to relay a different state of affairs to Richard Randall on his KVOR radio show, saying she was having trouble getting people to volunteer for the Republicans running in the general election.

"People are not responding to those requests," she said.

Tonkins also stopped short of endorsing Republicans in the general election, encouraging people to vote their conscience instead.

"I cannot and will not ever again vote for the lesser of two evils because it is still evil, so I am telling people vote, vote for the guy you are for," she said, saying she was speaking for herself and not the GOP.

Randall called her out for not endorsing Republican candidates for statewide office during the radio show.

"You're helping send Bennet and you're helping send Griswold and you're helping send Polis right back for four more years," Randall said. In November's election, Sen. Michael Bennet is running against Republican Joe O'Dea, Secretary of State Jenna Griswold is facing Republican Pam Anderson, and Gov. Jared Polis is facing Republican Heidi Ganahl.

El Paso County is critical for statewide Republican candidates to have a chance.

For example, for O'Dea to win Bennet's seat, he needs to win El Paso and Weld counties by a big margin to help counter the strong Democratic support Bennet is likely to receive in Denver and Boulder counties, said state Sen. Paul Lundeen.

Campaigns for O'Dea, Anderson, Ganahl and others are working with the alternative Republican Party headquarters to get their message out, said Lois Landgraf, a former state representative who helped organize the office.

Landgraf is managing Black's campaign and has organized door-knocking campaigns that have reached 1,500 people in a weekend, despite not receiving lists of local precinct leaders from the party. Precinct leaders typically help with neighborhood-level campaigning like door-knocking.

Tonkins said via email she had given out precinct leader information to campaigns.

While organizing is going well, Landgraf noted that fundraising for campaigns has been harder this year, likely because high inflation is hitting everyone hard. To comply with campaign finance law, the candidate campaigns have hired Richie Marketing Strategies, Richie's Company, to fund Peak Republicans activities.

The official party has not donated to any tight legislative races, such as Black's. Giving to campaigns and spending money on their behalf is one of the key functions of county parties, said Eli Bremer, a former party chairman.

Some of the other local competitive legislative races are expected to be House District 17, where political newcomers Regina English, a Democrat, and Rachel Stovall, a Republican, are facing off, and Senate District 11, where Democrat state Rep. Tony Exum is facing Republican state Rep. Dennis Hisey.

Tonkins said the party's executive committee agreed to raise the funds for campaigns and to date has not raised any money.

The Republican Central Committee's latest filing report showed it had \$68,530 on hand.

Black's campaign had \$6,000 on hand, while Snyder's had \$71,925.76, according to the latest filings with the Secretary of State's Office.

While Black is not receiving party support, she said she has worked on campaigns since she was 18 and so she knows how to reach voters without help. Still, the internal hostility has been striking. She has never received even a congratulations on her victory in the primary.

A split in the local party has been growing for at least the past two years.

In summer 2020, candidates and party officials confirmed that the El Paso County Republican Party, once the difference-maker in favor of Republican candidates statewide, was playing no discernible role in the run-up to the general election.

Some GOP elected officials have blamed Tonkins and her allies for the divisions. Last November, Karl Schneider, the vice chairman of the El Paso GOP and others called for Tonkins to "resign or be removed" after she sent a scathing email to county Republicans that began with an encouragement to vote in Tuesday's election, but quickly veered into an extended attack on some of the organization top officers.

Earlier this year, tensions reemerged when Colorado Springs Republican U.S. Rep. Doug Lamborn accused Tonkins and her allies of rigging the 2022 party nomination process. Tonkins responded with an email denouncing Lamborn as dishonest and corrupt that was sent to more than 1,200 delegates and alternates who were set to attend the 5th Congressional District assembly.

# Gazzette Newspaper...end

In this summer's primary election, El Paso County GOP challengers, most of whom deny the outcome of the 2020 election, were defeated by double-digit margins by establishment candidates. But the winners succeeded largely without support from the local GOP leadership.

Black, Richie, Landgraf and others said the only way for the party to move forward would be change in leadership, but don't see resolution to the infighting anytime soon and so they expect to maintain the alternative headquarters.

However, a united party is what many volunteers said they would prefer.

"We could be twice as effective," said Kay Rendleman, a longtime party member.

#### **5 DAYS TO ELECTION DAY**

El Paso County Central Committee member:



You have received a call to a County Central Committee meeting to be held during the crucial 96-hour GOTV effort to address the issue of the "Peak Republicans" and members of the Central Committee involved with the group. I wanted to make sure you were informed about the relevant facts prior to this meeting.

First "Peak Republicans" is the campaign headquarters for multiple Republican candidates. There is nothing unusual in campaigns having a headquarters separate from the County Republican Headquarters. The Trump campaign had their own Trump Headquarters. The State Party "Victory" operations almost always have had their own Republican Victory Headquarters every two years. It has never been inappropriate for a Republican volunteer or precinct leader to go to a Republican candidate headquarters that is separate from the County Republican Headquarters to volunteer or help run the office. It makes no sense to me why this should suddenly be controversial and require a central committee meeting to discuss.

Also, if you actually check the references that are used in the call to this meeting and in the agenda, you'll discover that the El Paso County Central Committee has no authority or control over the use of the name "Republican" or even "Republican Headquarters". That authority belongs to the State Republican Party.

A more detailed explanation is below. \*\* Any action, other than filing a complaint with the State Party, regarding this will be null and void. Chairman Tonkins can file a complaint without requiring a meeting.

Also, any disciplinary action regarding members due to the use of the name "Peak Republicans" cannot properly be addressed until such time as the State Executive Committee addresses any complaint regarding the use of the name "Republican". If the State Executive Committee finds no issues with "Peak Republicans" then there are no grounds to take action regarding those members.

Finally, our bylaws provide a process for removal of members, which must be followed. Except for the case of the three county party officers, the process does not include a meeting of the County Central Committee. Therefore, any action to remove members or deprive them of their right to vote will be null and void.

The last 96 hours before the election is critical. We have some very close races, including Heidi Ganahl and some critical races in El Paso County – Dennis Hisey, Shana Black and Rachel Stovall. These races can make the difference between continued Democrat dominance versus at least blocking, if not reversing their liberal agenda.

Since the Central Committee is limited in the actions it can take, nothing on the agenda is so urgent that it cannot wait a week or two, and it is being called at a critical time – taking people away from getting Republicans out to vote – please contact Chairwoman Tonkins and request that it be canceled, or at the very least, postponed until some of the above-mentioned issues have been resolved.

Also, I encourage every precinct leader and central committee member to spend time this weekend helping to Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV). If you need lists or help getting plugged in, contact the County Party, your favorite candidate's campaign, the State GOP Headquarters at 303-758-3333 or contact Heidi Ganahl's campaign contact in El Paso County – Ana Konduras at 719-440-0548.

Sincerely, Kit Roupe

\*The call sites the <u>Colorado Republican Bylaws Article XV: Controversies, Section C.</u>, Other Controversies as the authority for the meeting. Here is the actual text of the referenced section:

Section C. Other Controversies. If any controversy arises at the county, representative, senatorial, judicial, or congressional district level which cannot be resolved at that level, or at a CRC meeting, such controversy shall be determined by the CRC or the Executive Committee, in accordance with rules and procedures provided by the CRC or by the State Assembly and/or Convention, and Section D of Article XV. If the controversy is determined by the Executive Committee, any party to the controversy may appeal the decision to the CRC. The determination of the CRC shall be final.

As you can see, this reference gives the Colorado Republican Party or the Colorado Republican Party's Executive Committee power to resolve disputes. It does not give any power or authority to the County Party to do anything except refer issues to the State Party, which Chairman Tonkins can do without requiring a meeting.

Regarding "Peak Republicans", State Statute gives the right to control the name "Republican" with the State of Colorado to the State Republican Party and, more particularly, to the State Party Executive Committee.

#### C.R.S. 1-3-106 Control of party controversies

The state central committee of any political party in this state has full power to pass upon and determine all controversies concerning the regularity of the organization of that party within any congressional, judicial, senatorial, representative, or county commissioner district or within any county and also concerning the right to the use of the party name.

#### C.R.S. 1-3-108 Use of party name.

No person, group of persons, or organization shall use the name or address of a political party, in any manner, unless the person, group of persons, or organization has received permission to use the name or address from the executive committee of the political party.

Therefore, any actions regarding the use of the name "Republican" needs to be brought to the State Executive Committee, and not addressed through the County Central Committee. Any action, other than filing a complaint with the State Party, regarding this will be null and void. Again, Chairman Tonkins can file a complaint without requiring a meeting.

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#### Our mailing address is:

HD 17

P.O. Box 15856

Colorado Springs, CO 80935

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# Radio Audio Clips:

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# Members of the Central Committee who have disparaged The El Paso County Republican Party Headquarters:

Sandra Bankes

**Cinnamon Bergeron** 

Candi Boyer

**Mary Bradfield** 

Cami Bremer

**Duncan Bremer** 

Eli Bremer

**Jarvis Caldwell** 

**Brenda Conrad** 

**Dave Donelson** 

**Mary Elizabeth Fabian** 

**Daniel Fenlason** 

**Madeline Fenlason** 

Sarah Jack

**Lyman Kaiser** 

**Lois Landgraf** 

**Larry Liston** 

**Austin Luke** 

**Mason Luke** 

Julianne McPadden

**Russel McPadden** 

**Matt Moeller** 

**Andres Pico** 

**Douglas Randall** 

**Kay Randleman** 

**Jody Richie** 

Catherine "Kit" Roupe

**Steve Schleiker** 

Karl Schneider

Joel Sorensen

**Elizabeth VanderWerf** 

**Holly Williams** 

**Wayne Williams** 

## What is next?

# What is the obligation of the El Paso County Central Committee?

If any controversy arises at the county, representative, senatorial, judicial, or congressional district level which cannot be resolved at that level, or at a CRC meeting, such controversy shall be determined by the CRC or the Executive Committee, in accordance with rules and procedures provided by the CRC or by the State Assembly and/or Convention, and Section D of Article XV. If the controversy is determined by the Executive Committee, any party to the controversy may appeal the decision to the CRC. The - 18 -15983041.5 determination of the CRC shall be final.

### **Motion:**

"Based on the information presented to the Central Committee I move that this Committee censure and condemn in the strongest possible terms the actions of the named individuals <u>AND THE COUNTY AND REGIONAL GOP NOMINEES WHO KNOWINGLY FUNDED THE PEAK REPUBLICANS</u> (this is the added amendment that was approved by the El Paso County Central Committee on November 5, 2022).and that these individuals be immediately ordered by this Committee to cease and desist the offending actions; of using the name Republican and presenting themselves as the Republican Headquarters in El Paso County Colorado. With what the Chair has presented to this body as well as other proof that has been presented here today, Republican(s) should not be allowed to be used in Peak Republicans.

In addition, the Central Committee demands that a public apology be issued through all the means they have presented their false information including all media outlets. If they should fail to cease and desist, we demand that the Colorado State Republican Party, and Chairwoman Kristi Burton Brown, use any and all lawful means to compel the Peak Republicans to stop portraying themselves as the official county party of El Paso County, and creating confusion and division among registered Republicans within El