

#### POLITICS

#### Michigan GOP lawyer: 'Crazy' to allow non-Christian voices in 'marketplace of ideas'



Craig Mauger The Detroit News

Published 6:20 p.m. ET May 9, 2023 Updated 6:26 p.m. ET May 9, 2023

*Lansing* — Daniel Hartman, the Michigan Republican Party's new lawyer, said during a recent interview that it was "crazy" Christians allowed non-Christian voices "into the marketplace of ideas," according to a video posted online last week.

Hartman made the remark during an appearance on "The Inside Track," an online show hosted by Mark Forton, chairman of Macomb County Republican Party, and Lisa Mankiewicz, Forton's vice chairwoman. The self-described conservative online magazine Blue Water Healthy Living released the interview.

About 50 minutes into the discussion, Mankiewicz said the Michigan Republican Party had places for people who love the country and "love the Lord." The party was "much more diverse" than the way it was portrayed, she said.

"It's crazy, as Christians, that we've allowed any other voice but a Christian voice into the marketplace of ideas," Hartman said moments later. "If they did to other faiths what they've done to the Christian faith, they would go crazy."

Hartman is a lawyer from Petoskey. He represented Kristina Karamo, the new Michigan Republican Party chairwoman, in an unsuccessful election lawsuit in 2022 that aimed to require residents of Detroit, the state's largest city and a Democratic stronghold, to vote in person or obtain their ballots in person at the clerk's office.

On Tuesday afternoon, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Timothy Kenny held a hearing on potentially sanctioning the individuals who brought the case, including Hartman.

In February, Michigan Republicans elected Karamo the leader of the state GOP. Karamo then apparently selected Hartman to be the party's lawyer. He was described as the "in-house counsel" for the party by Mankiewicz during the interview.

Hartman and a spokesman for the Michigan Republican Party didn't respond to multiple requests for comment this week.

Self-identified Christians make up 63% of the adult population in the U.S., according to a 2021 report from the Pew Research Center.

In response to the video of Hartman's remarks, Michigan Democrats accused him of pushing harmful rhetoric.

Andrew Feldman, spokesman for the Michigan Democratic Party, noted the state GOP drew opposition in March after trying to connect Democrat-backed gun proposals to the Holocaust.

At that time, the Michigan GOP shared a meme on social media that said, "Before they collected all these wedding rings ... They collected all the guns." The text was displayed on a 1945 photograph of wedding rings that were taken by Germans from Holocaust victims, according to the U.S. National Archives.

Karamo defended the posts, saying it wasn't wrong to point to history.

"While we don't expect more from them, we also cannot turn a blind eye to this kind of hateful speech," Feldman said of Hartman's remarks. "Make no mistake, every time we hear it, we will be here to call them out."

Michigan Sen. Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield, who is Jewish, labeled Hartman's comment "stunning."

Moss said the statement went against the Michigan and U.S. constitutions. The Michigan Constitution specifically says that the civil and political rights of a person cannot be "diminished or enlarged on account of his religious belief."

The Republican Party should be attempting to add voters instead of making remarks that demonize minority religions, Moss said.

"It just demonstrates how irrelevant and shrinking this current Republican Party is," Moss said.

In a phone interview, however, Rola Makki, the Michigan Republican Party's outreach chairwoman, defended Hartman.

Makki, who is Muslim, said she viewed the video as a group of Christians speaking out against secularism, the separation of government from religion.

"I am not offended by it," Makki said.

During his interview with Forton and Mankiewicz, Hartman said for him, if it's considered

wrong in the Bible, it's considered wrong in society.

Mankiewicz replied that there was a "spiritual war" going on.

"This is good versus evil," Mankiewicz said. "They want to chop up our sons and our daughters. They want to put pornography type stuff in the schools."

It wasn't clear what Mankiewicz was referring to.

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NEWS



# Karamo stands by Holocaust tweet issuing no apology despite outrage over its comparison to gun reform

The Michigan Chair of the GOP is issuing no apology following a contentious tweet that sparked outrage among many in Michigan. The tweet, sent out by the official Michigan Republican Party Twitter account, alluded that gun control legislation could lead to a repeat of the Holocaust. But, what made people more outraged was the second tweet defending the first one and then during a press conference tripling down. "We are a different Republican party. We are not the Republican party who apologized and runs away from our positions," Michigan GOP Chair Kristina Karamo said. Karamo was elected last month as the new chair for the Michigan GOP. She doubled down on a tweet she sent about gun control that referenced the Holocaust and it sparked outrage for some in the Jewish



By: Peter Maxwell

Posted at 6:03 AM, Mar 23, 2023 and last updated 4:13 PM, Mar 23, 2023

(WXYZ) — The Michigan Chair of the GOP is issuing no apology following a contentious tweet that sparked outrage among many in Michigan.

The tweet, sent out by the official Michigan Republican Party Twitter account, alluded that gun control legislation could lead to a repeat of the Holocaust.

But, what made people more outraged was the second tweet defending the first one and then during a press conference tripling down.

"We are a different Republican party. We are not the Republican party who apologized and runs away from our positions," Michigan GOP Chair Kristina Karamo said.

Karamo was elected last month as the new chair for the Michigan GOP. She doubled down on a tweet she sent about gun control that referenced the Holocaust and it sparked outrage for some in the Jewish community.

"Take it down. Talk to other people. To Jews. To other people who have suffered, to many other people, and really please don't offend our community," Rabbi Asher Lopatin said.

"Let me ask you this, do you speak for every Jewish person? Absolutely not. Ok, so you speak for yourself," Karamo responded.

Rabbi Asher Lopatin confronted Karamo about the tweet during the press conference, but Karamo did not back down standing firm on the tweets.

"The fact that it wasn't even taken down when I believe you had a lot of complaints shows a lack of sensitivity," the Rabbi said. "Almost a lack, I hate to say it, a lack of decency because it's exploiting the Holocaust."

"It's politically motivated and disingenuous to accuse us of trivializing the mass



Watch Now

Republican strategist Jamie Roe previously worked for the Michigan GOP and he agrees with the chair's views on gun control. The tweet, not so much.

"People made mistakes like this before. If you admit a mistake people are willing to forgive you and I hope she does admit she made a mistake here," he said.

"There are people who claim to be Republican that are also upset, so be it. They have other agendas that have nothing to do with what I stated," Karamo said. "Why are people offended? They chose to be offended in my opinion"

Karamo will lead the state's republican party through 2024.

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#### The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

# Michigan GOP condemned for comparing gun legislation to Nazi seizures



By <u>Amy B Wang</u>

Updated March 22, 2023 at 5:23 p.m. EDT | Published March 22, 2023 at 4:02 p.m. EDT

The Michigan Republican Party on Wednesday compared gun laws proposed in the state legislature to restrictions imposed in Nazi Germany, in a social media post that drew bipartisan condemnation.

"<u>#History</u> has shown us that the first thing a government does when it wants total control over its people is to disarm them," the Michigan GOP wrote in a <u>post</u> to its official Twitter account Wednesday morning. "President Reagan once stated, 'if we lose <u>#freedom</u> here, there is nowhere else to escape to. This is the last stand on Earth.' <u>#2A #GOP</u>"

The post included a 1945 <u>photo</u> of a soldier inspecting a bin of thousands of wedding bands that Nazis had taken from Jews murdered in the Holocaust, with these words superimposed on the image: "BEFORE THEY COLLECTED ALL THESE WEDDING RINGS ... THEY COLLECTED ALL THE GUNS."

Almost immediately, several Democratic and Republican officials and advocacy groups criticized the post, called for it to be taken down and demanded that the state GOP apologize. As of late Wednesday afternoon, the post remained public.

"This is HORRIFIC — do not utilize the trauma of those murdered in the Holocaust to push a political issue," the nonpartisan, nonprofit group Stop Antisemitism <u>tweeted</u> in reply. "Please remove and apologize."

"Comparing gun safety measures to the mass extermination of 6 million people is hateful & ignorant, and it comes from party leaders who are out of ideas & catering to the fringe of the fringe," Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-Mich.), who is running for U.S. Senate, <u>tweeted</u>. "Delete it, apologize, and figure out what kind of party you want to be."

The <u>gun-safety measures</u> introduced by Michigan Democrats center on universal background checks, safe-storage laws and extreme-risk protection orders, also known as "red-flag laws," which prevent a person who is deemed a threat to themselves or others from possessing a gun. The measures are likely to pass, given that Michigan voters flipped the legislature in November, giving Democrats complete control of state government for the first time in 40 years.

Several Republicans also slammed the tweet comparing gun-control legislation to one of history's greatest atrocities as offensive and vile. GOP strategist <u>Douglas Heye</u> called on the Michigan GOP to "fire the person/people who created and approved of this, then never do this again."

But the state party has doubled down on it instead, <u>calling the criticism</u> "bogus authoritarian frenzy over the legitimate comparison." Kristina Karamo, a far-right <u>election</u> denier who was <u>elected chair of the Michigan GOP</u> last month, <u>tweeted</u> that the party stood by its statement and that the Second Amendment "was put in place to protect us from aspiring tyrants."

"Speaking about the horrors of the Holocaust is no more offensive than speaking, about the horrors of the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade that impacted my ancestors," Karamo wrote in a text message to The Washington Post, when asked whether the party had privately offered an apology to any Jewish leaders or groups that had asked for one.

A defiant Karamo ignored the criticism at a news conference Wednesday afternoon, telling reporters, "I stand by that statement. I will not be intimidated or bullied for speaking the truth." She added that she was "troubled that so many now

#### want to make it taboo to look to history."

Former Michigan Republican congressman Dave Trott called the post "embarrassing and despicable," saying it underscored why he now identifies as an independent voter.

"This is a prime example as to why I left the party — or the party left me," said Trott, who endorsed Joe Biden in 2020 because he felt President Donald Trump was "unfit to serve."

Trott told The Post that he had supported gun-safety legislation when in Congress but felt others in his party were pressured to adhere strictly to the National Rifle Association's wishes. Trott has endorsed the gun measures moving through the state legislature, citing the mass shooting at southeast Michigan's <u>Oxford High School</u> in 2021 and another at <u>Michigan State</u> <u>University</u> in February.

"To do nothing is just insulting," Trott said. "If anyone who is motivated by that post would read the 11 bills, they would find it's very clear they're not coming for your guns. The bills are very well thought-out and are an effort to try and reduce the number of mass shootings."

Jeff Timmer, who formerly served as executive director of the Michigan GOP but who now also identifies as an independent voter, said he no longer feels the people leading the state GOP "speak the same language" as he does.

When he saw the Michigan GOP's tweet Wednesday morning, Timmer said, he was not surprised, though he might have considered it shocking or abnormal just a few years ago.

"I think it's wrong to chalk this up to ignorance or stupidity. This is deliberate. They're choosing to do this knowing full well the reaction that they're getting," he said. "They feast on chaos, they feast on fear, they feast on anger, and they feast on mean."

Timmer also said that the Michigan GOP did not represent a fringe of the party but rather was a "harbinger" of what was to come for the Republican Party nationwide.

"There's the gentry class of Republicans who are still in denial about the fact that Kristina Karamo and tweets like this represent what the voters of the Republican Party want to see," he said.

Mariana Alfaro, Colby Itkowitz and Patrick Marley contributed to this report.

#### IN 1859 A STATE LEGISLATURE DEFIED THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

# **ISITIME** FOR THEM AGAIN?



#### On March 11, 1854,

a runaway slave, Joshua Glover, was arrested by federal marshals in Racine Wisconsin. He was taken to the Milwaukee County jail. A crowd of about 5000 people who had learned of the arrest gathered – and they broke him out of jail! Glover made it out of Wisconsin and to Canada where he lived free until his natural death. The federal government decided to charge a ringleader of the people who broke Glover outa man named Sherman Booth. He was charged under the federal Fugitive Slave Act.



In a historic act of interposition, the Wisconsin Legislature and the Wisconsin Supreme Court defied the federal government and the U.S. Supreme Court by interposing for Booth and declaring the federal Fugitive Slave Act to be void and of no force!

#### RESOLVED:

That this assumption of jurisdiction by the federal judiciary, in the said case, and without process, is an act of undelegated power, and therefore without authority, void, and of no force. • THE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE, MARCH 14, 1859



State legislature and all state officials – including governors, mayors, attorneys general, city councils, and judges – need to interpose once again and defend the preborn from murder.

THE IDEA that lawless federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, must be obeyed- even when they write opinions that uphold injustice and murder - is a fiction.

The Supremacy Clause – Article 6, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution – nowhere declares that federal courts or the U.S. Supreme Court has supremacy for declaring what is constitutional. Rather, it states that the U.S. Constitution itself has supremacy and all government officials take an oath to uphold the Constitution. They do not take an oath of subservience to the federal judiciary.

When the Supreme Court acts outside the limits of the Constitution, it is incumbent on the lesser magistrates, within their spheres of authority, to maintain allegiance to the U.S. Constitution and not blithely obey federal lawlessness. Nowhere are states compelled to a suicide pact with a lawless federal government.

#### WHEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MAKES UNJUST OR IMMORAL LAWS OR COURT OPINIONS ...

"...the states who are parties thereto [parties to the U.S. Constitution], have the right, and are in duty bound, to interpose for arresting the progress of evil." -JAMES MADISON, ARCHITECT OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ALL CIVIL AUTHORITIES HAVE THE DUTY TO: -DEFY LAWLESS FEDERAL JUDGES--UPHOLD THE LAW--DEFEND THE PREBORN--END THIS FEDERAL INJUSTICE-

> IT NEVER HAS AND IT NEVER WILL. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them." -Frederick Douglass, abolitionist of slavery

CONCEDES NOTHING WITHOUT A

IESUS CHRIST BRINGS TRUE LIBERTY TO INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS. WWW.MERCYSEAT.NET

TRIDIRICK DOUGLASS

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Wisconsin's defiance of the federal government in the Joshua Glover incident was the practical application of



#### THE LESSER MAGISTRATE DOCTRINE:

The doctrine of the lesser magistrates declares that when the higherranking civil authority makes unjust or immoral laws, policies, or court opinions – the lower or lesser-ranking civil authority has a God-given right and duty to refuse obedience to the higher authority. If necessary, the lesser authority may even actively resist the higher authority.

A QUOTE WHICH SUCCINCTLY SUMS UP THE DOCTRINE was made by Roman Emperor Trajan. Once, while appointing a subordinate authority, Trajan handed him a sword and said,

"Use this sword against my enemies, if I give righteous commands; but if I give unrighteous commands, use it against me."

Well-known Christian leader from the Reformation – John Knox – wrote his Appellation to the Nobles of Scotland in 1558. This is a treatise on the lesser magistrate doctrine wherein Knox cites over 70 passages of Scripture to establish the doctrine.

The standard upon which Christian men built this doctrine is "DIVINE LAW TRUMPS HUMAN LAWS."

This was understood by Western Man for nearly 1500 years – God's law is the objective standard to which all men and all governments of men are accountable.

For example, William Blackstone (1723-1780) is the most cited legal scholar in the writings of America's founding fathers. His Commentaries on the Laws of England are the bedrock of American jurisprudence. Blackstone referred to God's law as

"those superior laws," and stated that "upon these two foundations, the law of nature and the law of revelation [God's written law], depend all human laws; that is to say, no buman laws should be suffered to contradict these."

Hence, when the higher authority makes unjust or immoral decrees – those which clearly contradict the law of God the lesser authority should not blindly obey, rather, they have the duty to interpose against their actions in order to rein in their tyranny.

WWW.DEFYTYRANTS.COM WWW.MISSIONARIESTOTHEPREBORN.COM



#### Lauren Turner

Stephanie, what mechanism would there be fo...

1. Grand Jurors are selected at random from a list of citizens that volunteer at the first of the year therefore a vendetta would be difficult.

2. Grand Jury's have no prosecuting attorney nor a defense attorney to lead or mislead the jury,

3. The sole goal of a grand jury is to discover the truth. They only have two choices, to indict or not indict.

Under these conditions it would be difficult, if not impossible to organize and engage in a " witch hunt ". 6:50 PM

#### MiRR ▲ 560 members, 33 online

#### Pinned Message #10

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### Loretta

Μ

### Silverfoxxx

John's number. 🖕 🖕 🦕 🦕 🦕 No, please a... Thank you. I did get an answer on a different TG source.

For everyone's consideration each district could vote as a whole, voting for each others county candidates. This would work if the counties communicate, have the total numbers needed and agree to vote for AF candidates.

What may happen, the counties will be split up, only voting for the candidates in their own counties. I believe this is called a county caucus... correct me if I'm wrong.

For counties that have AF people in control county caucus works great, but if you have 5 counties and 4 have AF people in control; 1 county still under hard core establishment...the 1 county wouldn't have a chance of getting AF candidates elected for district EC or state EC with out the votes of the other 4 AF counties in the district. So that district may want the county caucus rule removed from the rules before the rules are accepted in state convention.



edited 9:03 PM

### MiRR N 560 members, 31 online

#### Pinned Message #10

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MiRR-Study can be accessed three ways: · Scan thi...

John's number. 🛛 🖕 🖕 🖕 🦕

No, please ask John Smith, I don't completely understand your question.. John will except any call, welcomes anyone who has questions, if he can help he will, if he can't he will say he cant..

John is very knowledgeable, very involved It will be all counties together, as a district doing the elections. Each district, it's counties in that district separate rooms So yes other counties delegates can be on board with AF, or vice versa, Communication will be essential Friday I'm hearing before the caucus as well as during caucus before vote takes place. All new to me. If you would like, you, or anyone with questions could talk with a guy

name John Smith, he has a better understanding of Fri caucus.past, present, what didn't happen, new proposal that could happen etc. He could help with more the questions than I can He has been very helpful in helping with understanding. Number is



← 1 edited 6:54 PM

# MiRR 🕷

560 members, 31 online

# Pinned Message #10

MiRR-Study can be accessed three ways: · Scan thi...

# Loretta

Μ

# Silverfoxxx

This is what I am trying to do . Bring everyone... I just learned the candidates our AF people are promoting will be out if our district is broken up into individual counties to be voted on. Our cou ty will not vote for our people, but if our district is able to vote together we have the votes from other counties ...voting together...to get our people in. I'm talking about State EC and District EC which will be voted on Friday night.



2:48 PM



February 27, 2023

To: Kristina Karamo, MiGOP Chairwoman

From: Kelly Sackett, KGOP Chairwoman

Given your whole-hearted adherence to the concept of election integrity, I hereby request as the Chairwoman of the KGOP that you, as Chairwoman of MIGOP, conduct a review and investigation of the events of Friday, February 17, 2023 in Lansing, Michigan pertaining to the Caucus of the 4th Congressional District.

Prior to the convention, the Chairs of the six (6) county committees in the District met and unanimously agreed to rules governing the procedures to be used at the District Caucus. These rules (attached herewith) were published and promulgated to all district delegates before the Convention.

On the night of the Caucus, a motion was made and was passed to set aside Rule #9, as applied to Kalamazoo County only. The ultimate effect of this change was to enable ALL of the delegates in the District to cast a vote for Kalamazoo nominees. Kalamazoo delegates were not allowed to caucus and distinctly select their nominees.

Having also voted for their own county's nominees, delegates from the other five counties; Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Ottawa and Van Buren were essentially allowed two votes for the slate of nominees. Kalamazoo delegates had only one vote.

I believe this process was a clear violation of the Equal Protection clause of the U.S. Constitution and the civil rights of the Kalamazoo delegates and delegation.

In addition, some of the votes taken that were supposed to be by ballot were not, voice votes may have been miscalled by the Chair, and calls for division may have been ignored.

To remedy this situation, the following relief is sought:

- 1. The Officers and Executive Committee members of the 4th District should be temporarily removed from office and be restrained from conducting any business in the name of the District until you have completed your work of investigation and have chosen a course of action.
- 2. Should you concur that the Caucus was held improperly, our county caucus should be reconvened to hold a legitimate election and replace those positions with whomever is elected.
- 3. In the event it is discovered that any person(s) are found to have been engaged or involved in any form of conspiracy to deprive delegates of their Constitutional rights, and to the extent that involvement amounts to a violation of any U.S. or State of Michigan code, those individuals will be referred to the appropriate legal or law enforcement entity.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kelly Sackett, Chair



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#### KAZOONEWS

#### <u>Three Kalamazoo Executive Committee</u> <u>Members And One Ex-Officio Member</u> <u>Censured For Actions At District Caucus.</u>



PRESS RELEASE:

The Kalamazoo County Executive Committee met on March 1st at 7:00 for a special meeting that was called by the Chair. A special meeting was called due to events that took place at the district caucus in Lansing on February 17th, 2023 that involved precinct delegates from Kalamazoo County.

Before the meeting was called to order the police had to be called to remove an individual who was not on the executive committee and refused to leave. Around 7:30 a Portage police officer arrived on scene and after a dispute the individual was escorted out of the KGOP office.

At the Executive Committee meeting three individuals(Harris, Pero, Bennett), and one ex-officio (Pritchett-Evans) were "censured" and had their "KGOP Membership" revoked. They were also refunded their membership dues. "Further actions are forthcoming", stated Chairwoman Kelly Sackett after the meeting.

KGOP Chairwoman Kelly Sackett said, "We need to ensure all delegates have a voice and they deserve to be heard and that the credibility of the KGOP has been diminished and discredited, we won't let this disenfranchisement of our delegates go un-answered, even if the MiGOP Chair does nothing."

The reason stated for these necessary actions to protect the organization, were these individuals were actively working against the interest of the KGOP organization, and its members and delegates.

When asked what Chair Sackett meant by further actions she replied, "We are done playing games with delegates who think winning a seat by disenfranchising our voters is the end game (<u>see previous press release</u>), they just don't understand. We need to come together as a fierce protector of individuals rights, and win back the hearts and minds of all like minded voters. We are Republicans, we represent the individual spirit in everyone, and we need to change the hearts and minds of the disillusioned and disheartened Independents and educate them on conservative principles. We need to embrace Liberty again."

The individuals who had their membership revoked, censured, and payment refunded/or will be refunded through the mail.

Kim Harris

Veronica Pero

William Bennett

Sabrina Pritchett-Evans

The KGOP looks forward to moving forward with a clear and precise message to bring to the people of Kalamazoo to defeat Democrats in 2024.

for more information or to contact us visit https://kgop.org

#### STATEMENT OF KALAMAZOO COUNTY CHAIR, KELLY SACKETT

We are here tonight because our delegates voices were disenfranchised on Friday, February 17th during our District Caucus. We need to ensure that all delegates have a voice and they deserve to be heard! Some of you participated in events that stole their voices and their vote. The credibility and the integrity of the Kalamazoo GOP has been diminished and discredited. A substantial number of delegates and alternates have reached out to me since that night to express their shock and dismay. More than two-thirds of the KGOP Executive Committee expressed their shock and outrage. The whole nights events were perpetuated on a lie that was told about me and a vote that was taken at the KGOP. William Bennett stood on the stage and announced to the whole room that they wanted Rule 9 removed because they didn't feel that a vote within our own caucus would be fair since I broke the law and illegally filled 3 statutory seats on our Executive Committee on February 13th. There were many people in the room who said that KGOP EC business was not germaine to the motion and that matter had nothing to do with our D4 caucus. One of those individuals is the Calhoun County Prosecutor and he said that this should not involve the caucus as a court had not determined that there was a constitutional violation, nor was the court or any other finding that there were any rules violations and our body was not in a position to set aside something done in Kalamazoo County. He also stated that other counties do not have the right or the ability to pick our nominations based on what was presented. He then said they were out of line to bring such a motion because no court had made a finding of a rules violation or constitutional violation. The caucus did no investigation to determine if there was a violation they could deal with and they never claimed that I violated a rule or form of procedure. Bill claimed it was a constitutional violation. You can't just on a whim, make your own finding as an individual or a group that there's a constitutional violation requiring changes. Even if there is a violation of a rule or procedure drafted by a political party, it is not a state action and not a constitutional issue unless there is a law that makes it one. William Bennett violated my due process and slandered me and other members of the Kalamazoo GOP Executive Committee, which is not acceptable. Veronica Pero also stood up and basically echoed the same message that William Bennett did. There were many people who were involved in the apparent "coup de etat." They had this preplanned and were even overheard later that night saying, "It was a long night, but our strategy worked perfectly." I know these individuals say that they did nothing wrong, but they circumvented the rules and likely violated the equal protection clause which ensures the principle of one person, one vote and stripped our delegates ability to choose their own county representation. Their strategy as it played out, ensured that Ottawa would pick our Kalamazoo County district and state representatives. Thus they stole our votes. The individuals who took part in this activity are William Bennett, Kim Harris, Veronica Pero, Sabrina Pritchett-Evans, Christine Augustine, and Sandra VanderLugt. We are censuring William, Kim and Veronica tonight and also revoking their Kalamazoo GOP membership with the organization.



#### WHAT HAPPENED?

On February 17<sup>th</sup> the KGOP Delegation of 39 delegates and 39 alternates traveled to the Lansing Center to participate in the MIGOP State Convention. On that Friday night the 4<sup>th</sup> congressional district met in conference room #7 to elect the District Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as each County's State and District representatives.

The rules had previously been unanimously agreed upon and adopted by the six County chairs. Each County would have time to caucus and elect their nominees, if they hadn't done so at the time of the Convention, this time would take place after the election of the District Officers. The County's also had agreed (Rule #6) to number of State and District County seats were allocated per unanimous agreement.

Rule #9 of the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District established this process for each County to caucus and select their nominees as follows:

9. Nomination Process for State (6) and District (15) Committee openings.

*Each County will caucus and its voting delegates shall elect the nominees for each State & District position assigned to said county, as available (per schedule – section 5).* 

County chairs will announce their nominees to the District delegation at large. The District delegation shall accept as final, each counties nominees.

If a County does not fill all of their allotted nominees for State and or District seats, those empty seats (lacking a county nominated representative) shall be filled by the District Delegation.

This rule ensured that individual County's got to choose and elect their own representatives to the number of allotted seats for their County. This rule was later modified to take out the following sentence, "*The District delegation shall accept as final, each counties nominees.*"

Within minutes of the meeting being called to order at 7pm, a delegate from Kalamazoo County proposed a motion to set aside rule #9 and exclude Kalamazoo County from this process. The motion was seconded by another delegate from Kalamazoo County. The rule change would allow the entire district, which included 5 other County's, to vote on the Kalamazoo County seats.

The rule change silenced the voices and diluted the votes of the duly elected Kalamazoo County Delegation. Instead of the 39 Kalamazoo County delegates choosing and electing their own representatives to the 4th District, 135 delegates from other counties were able to vote on Kalamazoo County seats.



All of the other counties in the district got to choose who their own representatives to the District Executive Committee and State Committee would be...except Kalamazoo County.

#### WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The KGOP organization is committed to protecting its members and stakeholders from nefarious actions and actors. Due to what happened at the District Caucus, the KGOP Chair called a special closed executive committee meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

At the meeting, the individuals that orchestrated and perpetrated the actions that took place at the District Caucus were censured, their KGOP membership revoked, and their dues refunded.

We take seriously the many complaints which were brought forth after the Convention. As the leader of the KGOP it is my duty to insure that the overall safety and health of the organization and its members it protected, as such there will be appropriate measures taken to protect our organization and its members.

#### WHERE ARE WE HEADING?

As an organization we are committed to protecting our members interest and creating a positive environment moving forward. The KGOP will be laser focused on spreading the Republican platform and message to the citizens of Kalamazoo County.

The KGOP has 21 working groups and committees made up of delegates and members who are actively working to better the organization and help make a stronger and growing Republican Party in Kalamazoo. We plan to move forward, growing the party and work vigorously this Fall to assist candidates in the Fall Municipal Elections.

Additionally, the KGOP delegate training committee is ready to prepare our delegates for the upcoming election and for the Presidential cycle in 2024. We will be hosting monthly delegate meetings for training and bringing forth speakers who will make Kalamazoo County the model of the State, with our new delegate data tools and walk apps. Designed by delegates for delegates.

One final thing, we would like everyone to welcome Karen Williams, who has been appointed as the Chair of the KGOP Precinct Delegate Committee.

Most Grateful to Serve,





#### Kalamazoo County Republican Party Resolution to Censure William Bennett

**Whereas**, on February 17, 2023, KGOP Executive Committee member, William Bennett, stood on stage before the MIGOP Convention – District 4 and falsely stated the KGOP Executive Committee took an illegal vote on February 13, 2023,

**Whereas,** on February 17, 2023, KGOP Executive Committee member William Bennett, based on his false statement put forth a hostile motion to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates and allow all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegate nominees,

**Whereas,** against the interest of Kalamazoo County voters, William Bennett voted yes on setting aside Rule 9 and for all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegates,

Whereas, setting aside Rule 9 blocked Kalamazoo County delegates from exercising their right to caucus, nominate, and select its nominees in the same manner as all other counties,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 greatly reduced the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 took away the right of Kalamazoo County delegates to select its nominees in the manner as previously agreed with other counties,



**Whereas,** with the support of William Bennett, setting aside Rule 9 was passed by District 4,

**Whereas,** we believe William Bennett's false statement, support to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates, and vote are a betrayal of his KGOP Executive Committee oath and the core values of the KGOP. We believe his false statement, support to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates, and vote were against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

Now may it be resolved, that the Kalamazoo County Republican Party, hereby censures William Bennett and condemns his false statement, his support to diminish the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates, and his vote against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

March 1, 2023



#### Kalamazoo County Republican Party Resolution to Censure Kim Harris

**Whereas**, on February 17, 2023, KGOP Executive Committee member, Kim Harris, at the MIGOP Convention – District 4 falsely stated the KGOP Executive Committee took an illegal vote on February 13, 2023,

**Whereas,** on February 17, 2023, KGOP Executive Committee member Kim Harris, against the interest of Kalamazoo County voters, voiced her support of a hostile motion to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates and to allow all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegate nominees,

**Whereas,** against the interest of Kalamazoo County voters, Kim Harris voted yes on setting aside Rule 9 and for all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegates,

Whereas, setting aside Rule 9 blocked Kalamazoo County delegates from exercising their right to caucus, nominate, and select its nominees in the same manner as all other counties,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 greatly reduced the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 took away the right of Kalamazoo County delegates to select its nominees in the manner as previously agreed with other counties,



**Whereas,** with the support of Kim Harris, setting aside Rule 9 was passed by District 4,

Whereas, we believe Kim Harris' false statement, support to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County, and vote are a betrayal of her KGOP Executive Committee oath and the core values of the KGOP. We believe her false statement, support to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates, and her vote were against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

Now may it be resolved, that the Kalamazoo County Republican Party, hereby censures Kim Harris and condemns her false statement, her support to diminish the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates, and her vote against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

March 1, 2023



#### Kalamazoo County Republican Party Resolution to Censure Veronica Pero

Whereas, on February 17, 2023, KGOP Executive Committee member, Veronica Pero, stood before the MIGOP Convention – District 4 and falsely stated the KGOP Executive Committee took an illegal vote on February 13, 2023,

**Whereas,** on February 17, 2023, KGOP Executive Committee member, Veronica Pero, based on her false statement put forth a hostile amendment for a hostile motion to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates and allow all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegate nominees,

Whereas, against the interest of Kalamazoo County voters, Veronica Pero voted yes on setting aside Rule 9 and for all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegates,

Whereas, setting aside Rule 9 blocked Kalamazoo County delegates from exercising their right to caucus, nominate, and select its nominees in the same manner as all other counties,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 greatly reduced the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 took away the right of Kalamazoo County delegates to select its nominees in the manner as previously agreed with all other counties,



Whereas, with the support of Veronica Pero, setting aside Rule 9 was passed by District 4,

Whereas, we believe Veronica Pero's false statement, hostile amendment, and vote are a betrayal of her KGOP Executive Committee oath and the core values of the KGOP. We believe her false statement and vote were against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

Now may it be resolved, that the Kalamazoo County Republican Party, hereby censures Veronica Pero and condemns her false statement, hostile amendment, her support to diminish the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates and vote against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

March 1, 2023



#### Kalamazoo County Republican Party Resolution to Censure Sabrina Pritchett-Evans

**Whereas**, on February 17, 2023, KGOP member, Sabrina Pritchett-Evans, stood before the MIGOP Convention – District 4 and falsely stated the KGOP Executive Committee took an illegal vote on February 13, 2023,

**Whereas,** on February 17, 2023, KGOP member, Sabrina Pritchett-Evans, based on her false statement put forth a hostile amendment for a hostile motion to set aside Rule 9 for Kalamazoo County delegates and allow all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegate nominees,

**Whereas,** against the interest of Kalamazoo County voters, Sabrina Pritchett-Evans voted yes on setting aside Rule 9 and for all 4<sup>th</sup> District counties to vote on and select Kalamazoo County delegates,

Whereas, setting aside Rule 9 blocked Kalamazoo County delegates from exercising their right to caucus, nominate, and select its nominees in the same manner as all other counties,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 greatly reduced the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates,

**Whereas,** setting aside Rule 9 took away the right of Kalamazoo County delegates to select its nominees in the manner as previously agreed with all other counties,



Whereas, with the support of Sabrina Pritchett-Evans, setting aside Rule 9 was passed by District 4,

Whereas, we believe Sabrina Pritchett-Evans's false statement, hostile amendment, and vote are a betrayal of her fellow delegates and the core values of the KGOP. We believe her false statement and vote were against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

Now may it be resolved, that the Kalamazoo County Republican Party, hereby censures Sabrina Pritchett-Evans and condemns her false statement, hostile amendment, her support to diminish the voting power of Kalamazoo County delegates and vote against the interest of voters in Kalamazoo County.

March 1, 2023

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