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Alameda County Central Committee Chairman Files Lawsuit Against Registrar of Voters and Ten Republican Party Volunteers

Livermore, CA (August 18, 2008) – Mr. Paul Cummings, who serves as the Alameda County Republican Central Committee (ACRCC) Chairman, has gone forward with his threatened lawsuit against the Alameda County Registrar of Voters (ROV) and ten Republican candidates for the Central Committee. Seven of these unpaid volunteers were elected by the voters of Alameda County in the June 3, 2008 Primary, certified by the ROV on 27 June and their election approved by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on July 8.

In this lawsuit, Mr. Cummings alleges that the ROV and the ten candidates violated an obscure section of election law relating to prior party registration, even though their registration papers were reviewed and approved by the ROV prior to their names being placed on the June Primary ballot. In addition, Mr. Cummings is now seeking unlimited court costs greater than \$25,000 from the ROV and the candidates personally, regardless of whether they voluntarily withdraw from the ACRCC.

We believe that this lawsuit is incompatible with the earlier stated position of the ACRCC Chairman that he wants to "build the Republican Party." In recent times, the ACRCC had shown a real difficulty in even reaching a quorum at its meetings, let alone being a relevant force in local politics. Because only the Democrats will benefit from this odd, newly found interest on the part of the ACRCC Chairman in how the ROV certifies candidates, we commit ourselves to an active defense against this frivolous and costly lawsuit.

As background, Mr. Cummings is the same individual who told reporter Matthew Artz, in an article published in the Fremont Argus Newspaper just before the June Primary, that the Central Committee in an effort to build cohesion was prepared to seat the newly elected members ahead of time. It now appears that at the time Mr. Cummings was making this statement, he was already in the process of planning a lawsuit.

Is this truly how Chairman Cummings plans to establish trust and go about "Building the Republican Party," as claimed on the Alameda County GOP web site? Or perhaps Chairman Cummings, who has stated that he was a former registered Democrat, but now is a self-proclaimed "liberal Republican," has not appreciably changed his views on conservative Republicans?

Mr. Cummings is said to have told several of the candidates that he had looked at the content of the Constitutional Republicans web site (www.ConstitutionalRepublicans.org) and wouldn't vote for them. We invite everyone to visit our web site, and review the "Our Platform" section. After reviewing this section, ask yourself if Alameda County Republicans are being well represented by a Chairman that would not support this platform.

Indeed, as was stated in a recent post on the Republicans for the National Interest website, "The antics of the ACRCC Chairman demonstrates why we need more courageous and principled conservatives to take back their county and state Republican Party organizations from insular, do-nothing types who appear more determined to go after conservative Republicans than Democrats."

The filing of the lawsuit raises a number of questions. Why is the Republican Party wasting scarce resources during a critical campaign on this effort to punish unpaid, badly needed volunteers rather than uniting to elect Republicans? --- Is this merely poor judgment by Mr. Cummings or a deliberate effort by a desperate Chairman to detract from his failures and ineffective leadership? Or perhaps the Chairman indeed is being pushed into filing this lawsuit? If so, who is doing the pushing? And who is providing the financial resources and other support for this expensive lawsuit?