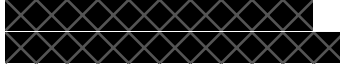


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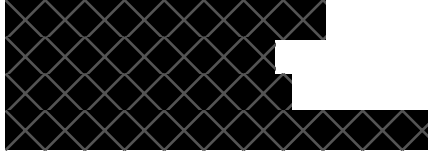
Post Office Box 3029
Cheyenne, WY 82003



March 17, 2025

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Mrs. Kari Drost, Chairman
Weston County Central Committee



Re: Constitution trumps statutes

Dear Chairman Drost:

I am writing to follow up about who may vote at your upcoming officer elections. I understand some have alleged county officers who are no longer precinct persons may not vote in your upcoming elections. They argue that, if there is a conflict between a GOP ByLaw and a state statute, the statute controls. I disagree. That argument relies heavily on the Uinta County case and their interpretation of a state statute. However, in the Uinta County case, the Wyoming Supreme Court expressly stated that their opinion **did not** decide whether the state statute was constitutional. My response to their argument is this: "I will see your statute and raise you a Constitution." The U.S. Constitution trumps a conflicting state statute every time. U.S. Supreme Court cases clearly hold that state statutes attempting to govern internal party functions, such as parties enacting ByLaws governing the election of their own officers, must be strictly construed under the First Amendment Right of Free Association. State statutes that must pass the strict scrutiny test are rarely upheld. There can be no dispute as to the interpretation of these U.S. Supreme Court cases and their application to internal party elections. I would have preferred that the Wyoming Supreme Court had decided the constitutional issue, as they would have had no choice but to decide in the Uinta County Central Committee's favor on that issue. However, the Wyoming court explicitly dodged the issue. Therefore, I recommend that you should, and in fact must, follow your ByLaws as to who may vote in those elections, as is your right under the First Amendment. I suspect some may disagree; however, I would encourage you strongly to never apologize for exercising your constitutional rights.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call. If anyone wishes to dispute the process outlined in your ByLaws, please let us know and they are welcome to initiate the Wyoming GOP's dispute resolution process.

Truly yours,
LAW OFFICE OF BRIAN C. SHUCK, P.C.:

Brian C. Shuck, General Counsel
Wyoming Republican Party