

October 23, 2019

Roger Randolph  
City Clerk  
City of Tucson  
City Hall  
255 W. Alameda  
PO Box 27210  
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

Dear Roger,

I am writing you today in reference to a phone call, of which you may already be aware, between your assistant, Suzanne Mesich, and me on Tuesday, October 15 of this year. Said phone call was about the City Election ballots received by most city residents that day, the proceeding day being the Columbus Day federal holiday.

The ballot received by Pima GOP's Executive Director, Bobbie Jo King displayed on the affidavit envelope not only her name, but, incredibly, **her party registration!** I objected to this for two reasons: 1) When verifying signatures, the person doing so could have his/her judgment prejudiced as to the validity of the ballot based on personal party preference. For instance, a Democrat might be inclined to find fault with a Republican signature, making the logical assumption that the votes contained therein were for Republicans. 2) It is also possible that entire batches of Republican ballots could go "missing" or uncounted in the proceeding scenario. A third problem with the ballots has been brought to my attention after my telephone conversation with Ms. Mesich: The mail out window envelope used to deliver the ballot package to voters has an opening cut in it so the voter's name, precinct, ward and **party** are visible to anyone handling the ballot package during the mail out process. I have no doubt of the honesty of our letter carriers and postal workers, but what possible reason is there for revealing this personal information to anyone coming into contact with the ballot package while it is in the custody of the USPS, other than to create lack of confidence on the part of voters in the sanctity of the secret ballot in Tucson? I'm not making any accusations that any of these errors by your office have actually resulted in vote fraud or suppression. Nonetheless, the opportunities are there and the appearances of impropriety are abundant.

When confronted with my objections, Ms. Mesich agreed **THERE IS NO GOOD REASON** for party affiliation to appear on the affidavit envelope in a general election.

This letter, then, memorializes my conversation with Suzanne Mesich Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> and demands that such a practice of identifying party preference cease and never occur again in future Tucson General Elections. Secondly, Pima GOP demands that an investigation be undertaken to understand how these egregious errors occurred and who is responsible. Thirdly, we demand to know what

extraordinary measures will be put in place to prevent vote suppression and fraud that could result from the mistakes made by the City Clerk's office when designing the ballot package for the 2019 general election. Lastly, if evidence is brought to light post election that these errors resulted in vote suppression or fraud, the Pima GOP reserves the right to seek every legal remedy available to nullify the results of the November 5, 2019 General Election, including any and all propositions or other measures voted on at that time.

Regards,

David Eppihimer  
Chairman  
Pima County Republican Party

cc:

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild  
City Manager Michael Ortega  
Chief Deputy City Clerk Deborah Rainone  
Assistant City Clerk Suzanne Mesich  
John F. Munger, Esq.  
Zachary L. Cohen, Esq.