From: News LivCo livconews@gmail.com @ Subject: Fwd: URGENT! IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION

Date: January 9, 2024 at 2:57 PM

To: stuart3@mac.com

From: Jessica Barefield < jessica.m.barefield@gmail.com >

Date: January 5, 2024 at 3:07:34 PM EST

To: Cc:

Subject: Re: URGENT! IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION

## Good afternoon,

I must correct an inaccuracy in Jennifer's email which further cements the legitimacy of what has been taking place. Yes, my name was on the bank accounts and yes, I was a signor, but I never was granted access to the actual accounts. When the treasurer, who was not a signor, came to me the evening of the Lincoln Day Dinner and instructed me to sign the checks that she had written out to Riley, John, and Crystal Gardens, I did as I was instructed. Upon learning that the checks had bounced, I demanded access to the accounts, as I had already been doing for months. I became extremely nervous that my name was on bank accounts that I had no access too where money was being mismanaged to the tune of overdraft fees and bounced checks. When my request fell on deaf ears, I requested I be removed immediately from the account. It then took me months of repeated attempts to even get Jennifer and Alisa to comply with my request. I am attaching many of the receipts of those interactions that will solidify what I have shared with you all.

I have documented every single action that can affirm my assertions. Should anyone reach out to me to request documented proof, I will comply as an Executive Committee member as required in the interest of transparency.

## **TIMELINE OF BANK ACCOUNT EVENTS:**

- 4/27 Jennifer texted that she received an overdraft fee in our account, and she was locked out of online banking and asked if Alisa or I could help. I made them both aware at this time, I did not have bank access/login and needed that access to the bank accounts.
- 5/3 a follow up text letting Alisa and Jennifer know I still did not have login access. Jennifer was still locked out. Later in the thread, I was told she got it fixed and was back into the account. Alisa said Jen would add me later.
- 5/11 I told Alisa and Jen in a text I still did not have an email to set up online banking access.
- · 7/22 I let Alisa know via text I still did not have access to online banking.
- 8/7 After bounced checks, I asked Jennifer and Alisa again for access to online banking. Jennifer responded she was driving and would have to do it later. The invite never came. None of them ever came. I checked spam each time as well.
- 9/1 I requested to be removed from the bank because for months I asked for online login access. Without it, I was unable to see what was happening in the accounts that my name was on. I spoke to the GM, Heatherly, at PNC and asked to be removed and she said a letter would have to be brought in by Jennifer and Alisa to remove me. I was unable to request my own removal.
- · 9/5 An email vote was sent to the finance committee to vote to approve my



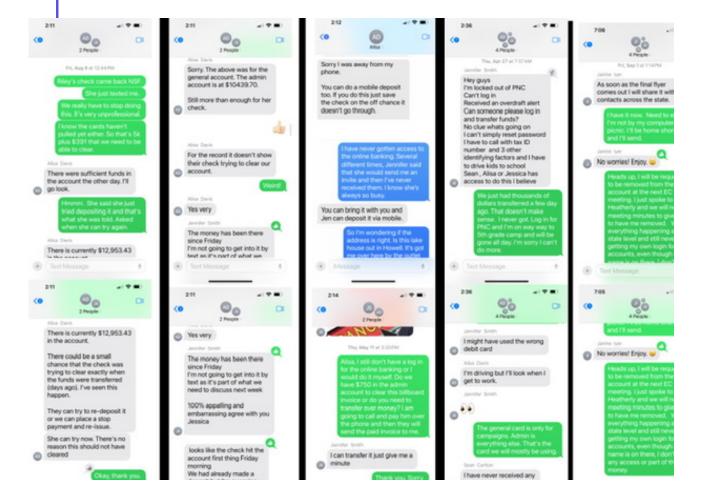
removal from the bank accounts. By 9/6 all committee members had unanimously agreed to my request to be removed.

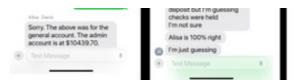
- 9/29 Almost a month had passed since the email vote, so I requested an update from Jen on my removal. Jen said due to a family emergency, it would not happen until Alisa was able to return.
- 10/26 After attempting to get Jennifer to take that vote to the bank to remove me for almost 2 months at this point, I sent Heatherly another email with the votes to show it was approved and asked if she would please remove me. This information was communicated with Jennifer.
- 10/27 Heatherly emailed to let me know Alisa and Jennifer were there to remove me. Jennifer never communicated to me they were going that day, even on 10/26 and the morning of 10/27 when I was communicating with Jennifer, Alisa, and Sean about this topic. She never told me they were going that day to handle it. After they left the bank, I then was scolded for pushing to be removed.

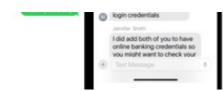
Due to the fact that I was on the bank accounts and never had access and the problematic history, I would urge all of you to request an audit of the accounts immediately.

I also would like to apologize that we are all in this space. I endured this for months hoping and praying that it would not have to come to this.

Jessica Barefield









On Fri, Jan 5, 2024 at 1:59 PM Jennifer Smith < jenradsmith@gmail.com > wrote: | Dear Executive Committee:

Whatever life experience each individual carries with them is entirely their own, from their own heart and their own lens. My experience is not yours, yours is not mine.

From the very beginning I promised transparency and I meant it, if I am NOT being 'transparent' I'd encourage you to really think about who I am, what I'm all about, what you've seen me do and ask yourself- why did she deny that person that information? Or was she trying to protect someone or something?

It is true, since Dec 12th when I would NOT agree to join a multi county petition to denounce Chair Karamo I have been ruthlessly attacked, harassed and sabotaged from the very INSIDE of our local Republican party. It began with my response to Barefield wanting me to become vocal at the State Party problems.

The State Party is just that.

The state Party is not LCRP.

Rob Rodriguez-Pelizzari has been working with Officers of the LCRP as well as people close to some electeds DEMANDING I resign as Chair from LCRP.

As you can see by now, the narrative being painted here is not the true reflection of what is actually happening, from the Barefield or Rodriguez-Pelizzari perspective, there is a much more sinister slight of hand taking place.

Before removing herself from the bank accounts, Jessica Barefield was the writer of the bounced checks. It was an error and was forgiven and easily corrected. If many of you remember our financial plan never gave access to the Treasurer except for viewing the bank accounts. Barefied and the Vice Chair had online access for months, the bank at some point did reneg their access, because neither of them ever logged into it.

Secondly, I have attached part of the text message sent by Barefield to me Dec 12th, after I sent an internal message to all officers advising the following stance the LCRP would be taking on the State Party problems:

We have a massive unity problem.

We do not have adequate volunteers or support. We barely pulled a profit from the Christmas party, Jessica has pointed out to multiple people on multiple occasions: 'many people I've spoken to don't want to come around LCRP because of the drama' So throwing gasoline on a fire is the answer?

No it is not

Making a statement publicly against the state Party is not in the best interest of THIS party. As the Chair, I solely make those decisions and that is where we will stand, at this time.

Not only was this message shared OUTSIDE of the party it was then used against me to encourage Rodriguez-Pelizzari to begin his attack and extortion routine.

This coup is the exact methodology they are using to run Karamo out. The allegations are filled with conjecture and lies, rumors that cannot be unspun and underhanded threats to myself and my family.

By FELLOW REPUBLICANS.

Because I REFUSED to COMPLY or as Rob stated 'listen to his advice', I've now been canceled and they will stop at nothing to destroy me.

He said 'its not personal'.

Just extortion and a hand grenade to our Party!

My holidays were interrupted by a bully who thought destroying me, harassing me and attacking me was more important than allowing my family some peace on 2 holiday weekends in a row, after the year we have had.

Is nothing sacred?

Have we fallen so low we are worried more about destroying each other than we are sitting down and talking out our differences?

I will honor the wishes of the Executive Committee. I will not honor bullying and middle school tactics to destroy good people or myself.

God help us all.

If you need me, you know how to find me.

On Fri, Jan 5, 2024, 12:08 PM Jessica Barefield < jessica.m.barefield@gmail.com > wrote:

Dear Livingston County Republican Party Executive Committee Members,

It is with a heavy heart that I submit my resignation as the Executive Director of The Livingston County Republican Party, effectively immediately. During my time with the LCRP, I have strived to contribute positively to our shared goals as Republicans. Regrettably, my dedication to making a meaningful impact has been tested, in my opinion, by the improprieties, unethical behavior, and personal threats that have persisted under the leadership of Chairwoman Jennifer Smith. Additionally, it has been my observation, Chairwoman Smith has created an environment of deception, character assassination, and lies that has hindered my ability to utilize my skills in a healthy and productive manner and has created obstacles where I can no longer operate in my position effectively.

Sadly, there is a narrative being spun that this is directly related to the State Party leader,

Kristina Karamo. I want to put it on the record that this narrative is unequivocally false and

further proof of the deception created under this leadership. Furthermore, the betrayal of principles I hold dear, has shaken my confidence in the inherent integrity of organizational leadership, and quite honestly, has left me profoundly disillusioned, saddened, and frustrated as this is not how I believe a leader should behave, and it is not what I signed up for.

Despite these challenging working conditions and the turmoil, I have faced due to the problematic actions of Chairwoman Smith, I have tried to maintain my professionalism and dedication to the Party's mission to the best of my abilities, and to this day, I remain committed to the values and goals that initially drew me to this cause.

The attached letter from Chairwoman Smith that I received this morning, was the final straw in continuing to be subjected to her lies, deception, and attacks. Furthermore, it validates what I have witnessed and my decision to resign from my officer position.

While I will no longer be the Livingston County Republican Party Executive

Member, as I do look forward to working alongside many of you as we fight to keep our little red county in a sea of blue, red in 2024. I also want to thank each of you for your support during my time as the LCRP Executive Director and if there comes a time when new leadership is in place and should there be a desire for me to do so, I would be open to discussing a return to my former role as Executive Director.

Lastly, I want to emphasize that this decision is not a reflection of my respect for The Livingston County Republican Party or its members at large but is driven by the need for a healthier and more conducive working environment that I do not feel Jennifer Smith has been or will be able to provide.

Respectfully,
Jessica Barefield
Former LCRP Executive Director
LCRP Executive Committee Member
MRP State Committee Woman

