

Sent Via Email to: [josh@gagop.org](mailto:josh@gagop.org), [carolinejeffords@hotmail.com](mailto:carolinejeffords@hotmail.com), [secretary@gagop.org](mailto:secretary@gagop.org)

Susan P. Opraseuth  
State Committee Member  
Fulton County Republican Party Member  
Alpharetta, GA 30005

August 7, 2023

Josh McKoon, Esq.  
Chairman Georgia Republican Party  
Chairman and CEO of Georgia Republican Party, INC  
P. O. Box 550008,  
Atlanta, GA, 30355, USA

Subject: Request for Four Directive Legal Compliance Actions

As a duly elected State Committee Member, representing approximately 16,000 electors, I address some continued concerns as well as an ongoing county breach and disregard for our Republican Party Rules and Georgia Election Laws.

Whereas we RESOLVED on June 8th as a State Committee to create a subcommittee to address the Proposed Party Governance Resolutions, which I presented on behalf of myself and others, the issue of *our Party being registered with the GA Secretary of State* is not one for subcommittee consideration but rather a directive given to you, our Chairman, **by GA Election Law.**

According to three recent record remittances from the GA-SOS, our Party did not meet the required 30-day registration amendments, including the updated State Committee list. This requirement of filing with the GA-SOS Elections Division must be met regardless of your like-named corporation. Our legal non-compliance under GA Election Law must be immediately corrected.

Whereas the Georgia Republican Party, Inc. (Corporation), acting like our political party, registered with our like name into the GA-SOS Corporations Division in 2014, this is *prohibited* by GA Election Code 21-2-110(c). **This Corporation is not our political party.** Corporate Republican “parties” have failed in Georgia as is evidenced by long-time *member* “county party corporations” in our largest cities (Atlanta, Savannah, Augusta, and Columbus), *which are*

*clearly blue.* We must return to the lawful political committee structure, which caused us to thrive in the days of the Grand Old Party. The lawful political committee structure seems to be adequately functional for the Democrat Party of Georgia and its integrated committees.

Our party's lack of compliance has significant implications to each member of our State Committee. I, for one, have made repeated attempts and sent a certified letter to you to obtain your executive response to this problem. I have received no reply.

**At this time, there are four direct chief executive actions that require your immediate attention, on behalf of our State Committee:**

1. **Register our Georgia Republican Party** with the GA Secretary of State *within five business days* of receipt of this directive, in order to protect:
  - our Georgia Republican Party name before the Georgia Republican Coalitions potentially infringe upon it,
  - our future candidates from conducting election certifications and qualifications with a non-compliant political party,
  - our elected party officers who must act with integrity and loyalty toward our electorates in all affairs, to include fundraising,
  - our federal right to vote, which is negatively impacted by any party non-compliance with the GA Election Code
  - our members themselves and their legal right to organizational lists
  
2. **Open a new member based account for the Party** under GA Election Code 21-2-111(a) *within 5 business days from receipt of this directive.* Immediately deposit any **new donation contributions** to this account. **To stabilize the party, cease and desist depositing any new contributions** into the at-risk, litigated Corporation seemingly full of potential liabilities. The FEC requires that any state political party committee possess an official structure consistent with state law.
  
3. **Amend our State Rules** *within 30 days from receipt of this directive* to properly designate The State Committee as our single governing body with all three statutory powers required by GA Code 21-2-111, as you, Chairman, properly stated in a May 2023 CD Media interview\*

Not surprisingly, legal non-compliance at the state level has resulted in legal non-compliance at the county level. Bulloch County is a case at point, among many others. I present this request for immediate directive action on behalf of Bulloch County's duly elected county and precinct

officers, because their prior attempts at resolution and direct written communication to several state officers in May/June/July has resulted in neither resources nor remedy.

**4. Immediately Correct Non-Compliance in Bulloch County:**

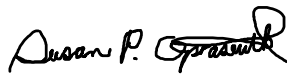
- Refuse to recognize any business of the Bulloch County Republican Committee based on voidable voting members from inconsistent Rules, as identified by multiple registered parliamentary professionals. This will address the deadlock.

The state party must end the suppression of the rights of the duly elected officers and members by firmly directing improved, professional interpretations of State Rules to maintain consistent Rules and compliant subsidiary committees, as required by GA Law.

**I submit the following attached GA Election Code sections for our State Committee Members' consideration in ensuring our Party compliance with GA Election Laws.**

I welcome substance-based discussions on this topic with anyone.

Your Fellow State Committee Member,



Susan P. Opraseuth  
Fulton County  
SusanUSA@protonmail.com  
513-284-4321

Attachments:

-Chairman McKoon properly declares State Committee as the one governing body - CDMedia interview 5/2023

<https://rumble.com/v35hl5g-mckoon-state-committee-assertion.html>

-Georgia Political Party Laws

cc: The Georgia Republican State Committee

## GEORGIA POLITICAL PARTY LAWS:

GA Election Law (21-2-110 (a)): The chief executive officer of each political party or body operating in this state shall, ...file with the Secretary of State a registration statement setting forth...#5 the names, home addresses, and titles of the persons composing its governing committee and..."

(c) No registration statement of a party, body, or municipal executive committee shall be filed if the name of such party, body, or municipal executive committee is identical with, or **deceptively similar to, the name of any other existing party**, body, or municipal executive committee which was organized earlier and is eligible at the time to file its registration statement with the Secretary of State.

GA Election Law 21-2-111 (a) Each political party shall establish and maintain a state executive committee exercising state-wide jurisdiction and control over party affairs and a county executive committee in each county in which it holds a primary, exercising county-wide jurisdiction and control over party affairs. A party may establish and maintain such *other committees* as it may from time to time deem advisable. The *membership* of such committees shall be selected in the manner determined by the state executive committee. Each committee shall be presided over by a chairperson and shall have a secretary and such other officers as deemed advisable, and *a list of all such committees shall be filed with the appropriate election official for the state or county*. The state executive committee shall have the same power over municipal party executive committees as it has over county party executive committees.

GA Election Law 21-2-111 (b) "The state executive committee of each political party shall formulate, adopt, and promulgate rules and regulations, consistent with law,.....No such rules and regulations *shall be effective until* copies thereof, certified by the chairperson, have been filed with the Secretary of State"

(c) The respective county executive committees of each political party shall formulate, adopt, and promulgate rules and regulations, consistent with law and the rules and regulations of the state executive committee, governing the conduct of conventions and other party affairs. *No such [consistent] rule and regulation shall be effective until copies thereof, certified by the chairperson, have been filed with the superintendent of the county.*

Sent Via Certified Mail & Email to josh@gagop.org

Sarah E. Thompson  
Secretary, Bulloch County Republican Committee  
Statesboro, GA 30461

August 7, 2023

Josh McKoon, Esq.  
Chairman Georgia Republican Party  
Chairman and CEO of Georgia Republican Party, INC  
P. O. Box 550008,  
Atlanta, GA, 30355, USA

RE: State Chairman Directive Action for Compliance in Bulloch County

Dear Chairman and CEO Josh McKoon, Esq.,

In a fully American and Republican way, in accordance with *The Call* of the State Committee, ten aligned individuals, several military, won fair representative seats as officers or members to the Bulloch County Republican Committee per State Rule (“SR”) 8.9. This is our one and only governing body per SR 8.7. Though our new County Chairman and your State Exec deny us remittance of the complete, certified party election records (7/2023 emails and certified letter), **WE, Chairman McKoon, are the fair and duly-elected majority.** This petition is the culmination of multiple others sent to State Exec Officers since you took office, warning of Bulloch non-compliance.

A few days after the March 11, 2023 Bulloch County Convention, the new Bulloch Chairman Lawton Sack, whom you recently honored with your personal appointment to the state subcommittee for “Accountability,” shocked Bulloch County Republicans. ***Despite SR 8.9, he appointed five of his own, personal appointees and the former chairman to voting positions on the County Committee*** using his amended Bulloch County Rules (“Bulloch Rules”). **However, SR 9.8A and GA Code 21-2-111 requires that such rules not be inconsistent with the “Rules of the Georgia Republican Party” [State Committee].** County Rules, by Law, shall include the state governing

political party committee in its governing authorities, however Bulloch Rules do not name the State Committee Rules in its 9.3 Rules of Order, along with more areas of non-compliance. (with emphasis)

By Chairman Sack allowing voting members outside the election determinations of the County Convention, he effectively and subsequently nullified elected representative votes on all future business of the County Committee. With this action, he also **granted himself the de facto 25% quorum** on the County Committee. This resulted in an instituted form of party authoritarianism at the county-level. It is also notable that he is a recently appointed public election official, the only over 80k GOP Chair, to the Bulloch County Board of Election and Registration, with an oath of state loyalty.

Because of these numerous non-compliance violations and with professional basis, the duly elected voting member majority endeavored, under parliamentary order, to correct this action at the first County Committee meeting *on March 30*. **Because the State Rules are written so clearly, only granting the Chairman the ability to appoint individuals to nonvoting officer positions**, the voting majority made multiple motions to remove the ongoing breach, and directly challenged the unelected appointees. However, Chairman Sack insisted on including them in all voting. **Having nullified duly elected representatives, all subsequent motions and ongoing future business was and hereby continues to be out of order per RONR 10:26, 1:5, 23:6, and 56:68.**

The professional basis for the ongoing motions of the duly elected representatives to correct this action is the work of Professional Registered Parliamentarian (“PRP”), and former member of the RNC Rules Committee, Carrie Dickson, along with another report by PRP Kirby Glad regarding our non-compliant (flipped) County Committee and Executive Committee structure. Dickson asserted in her March 30, 2023 report that *“The Bulloch County Republican Party is subservient to the Georgia Republican Party and cannot adopt rules or policies that conflict with its partner organization. Therefore, [Bulloch] County Rule 2.2.G. is null and void and is no longer in effect. The County Chairman cannot appoint voting members to the County Committee.”*

On March 30, county delegate members, along with county/precinct officers, and Republican electors packed the small meeting room. Republicans offered commentary in solid opposition to anything that might damage our duly-elected party representative system. However, **all attempts fell flat because of Chairman Sack’s insistence that his illegitimate voting appointees be included**

**in all motions.** Throughout the meeting, he made constant appeals to the authority of an interpretation of State Parliamentarian John White.

Previous to the meeting, the legitimate voting members had checked with professional parliamentary associations for White's credentials, and they could not be located. Mr. White has a long-standing role as Chairman of the state "Subcommittee on Appeals," as improper decider on all matters of appeal, which is inconsistent with credentialed parliamentary assessments.

In April 2023, we requested an independent, professional opinion on the matter of the State Parliamentarian status and function from Kirby Glad, PRP. He wrote:

*Even if it was permitted by the bylaws of the organization, which is NOT the case, the parliamentarian should refuse to participate as a member of the committee [State Committee on Appeals]. Acting as a committee member or chair is such an egregious violation of Robert's Rules that, if the parliamentarian is certified by one of the recognized bodies in the parliamentary world, such a one could face disciplinary action for violating the basic ethics and professional standards of behavior. The Standards of Professional Responsibility of both the National Association of Parliamentarians and National Association of Parliamentarians includes an oath to: 4.5 Maintain a position of objectivity and impartiality, and avoid participating in substantive debate, to the extent required by the role in which the parliamentarian provides service. All certified members of these professional parliamentary bodies pledge to abide by this rule. The fact that the Parliamentarian is appointed by the State Party Chair has no bearing on this question.*

Under this problematic parliamentary order, several of us, after the State Convention, decided to seek additional review of our Bulloch ("BCRP") Rules. In particular, we desired inspection of four questionable categories of voting members listed in BCRP Rule 2.2: G - 1. no more than six (6) persons appointed by the County Chairman, 2. H - all members of the District Committee who reside in Bulloch County, and 3. I - all members of the State Committee who reside in Bulloch County, and 4. J - Immediate past county chairman, if he "asks" in writing.

**In early July, Chairman Sack began systematically leading the removal of member rights of duly elected officers with his voting appointees, using select provisions of the State Rules.** Duly elected voting members view this as a direct affront to representative government, and an attempt at deprivation of rights under "color" of rules and law.

With an objective to further review the professional opinion of duly certified Carrie Dickson and ensure our strict compliance with Rules of Order, Party Rules and GA Law, we secured a contract with the most skilled parliamentary experts from across the United States. All hold certifications at the highest levels by both the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) and the American Association of Parliamentarians (AIP), and some are responsible for the nationwide credentialing. This independent, professional guidance is to assist and inform our county Republican electors, and, by association, the entire Republican Party of Georgia. One of these experts is the RNC Parliamentarian and President of the American Institute of Parliamentarians, Mr. Al Gage.

Attached, you'll find the professional reports of these national experts, two of which are attorneys. One of them, C.J. Cavin, is Vice-President of the American College of Parliamentary Lawyers. The citations are directly relevant excerpts from their signed professional documents regarding voting members of the Bulloch County Republican Committee, and, by implication, voting members on any county-level committee of the Republican Party of Georgia.

RNC Parliamentarian, Al Gage:

***After thorough review of the applicable rules of the GRP, Bulloch County Republican Party, the written opinion [of PRP Carrie Dickson] and the parliamentary authority, the author can find no viable alternative opinion than those stated in the conclusions reached and therefore concurs with the opinion as drafted with one exception. In that opinion it states that rule 2.2.G of the Bulloch County rules is null and void. By the same argument 2.2.H, 2.2.I and 2.2.J should fall under the same conclusion...***

- AL GAGE, CPP-T, PRP, PAP Certified Professional Parliamentarian with Teacher Designation-AIP, Professional Registered Parliamentarian-NAP & Professional Accredited Parliamentarian-SAEP. Avondale, AZ. Currently serving as the RNC Parliamentarian and as President of the American Institute of Parliamentarians.

Notably, we asked no party committee to raise any funds for this project, however party members in more than seven counties supported it. As you know, the Republican Party of Georgia in any county can ill-afford the public optics of allowing false voters, fake electors, and “committee



packing” activities whatsoever. These practices are soundly detrimental to Republican interest, its platform, aims and purposes. It is deceptive practice.

The Chairman of the Republican Party of Georgia, at this time, has an excellent opportunity and obligation. According to party governances, the responsibility for compliance rests squarely with State, District, and County Party Chairmen, as administrative check on existing and proposed Rules is essential for those holding a duty as “chief executive officer” (RONR 4:20). This is to ensure the party is fully-advised, with due diligence, prior to filing Rules. Each chairperson must comply by submitting certified, consistent Rules to the State GRP, the Georgia Secretary of State, and County Election Superintendent, respectively, and as required by GA Code 21-2-110 & 111 and State Rules. Compliance is also part of the party’s “general direction” in their area of jurisdiction, duty at both State and Bulloch Rules. It is critically important for the party to maintain its public reputation and protect its member Republicans and electors through its diligent and loyal administrative duties.

Since political parties in Georgia only have the authority to act in our elections under the GA Election Code, compliance must also respect the GA Constitution and supporting GA Laws in a manner which directly aligns with the National Republican Party Platform, including “*protecting constitutionally - guaranteed freedoms, ensuring the integrity of our elections, and maintaining our national security.*” However, this is not occurring. The “non-member” Georgia Republican Party, Inc. of Feb 7, 2014 and the new “copycat” Bulloch County Republican Party, Inc. of Mar 6, 2023 and its corporate agents have wrongly interfered. Additionally, both of these “non-member” corporations have all of the funds for the respective statutory committees in their corporate bank accounts.

With respect to Bulloch County and all counties, we ask that the State Chairman move with immediate directive action to deny your recognition of any of the actions of the Bulloch County Republican Committee that occurred after the March 11, 2023 adjournment. Every motion and vote has been entirely void. As evidence of the stance of Chairman Sack and Bulloch Treasurer/State Committeeman Cassandra Mikell, they both voted “NO” to the following Bulloch Executive Committee resolution on June 27, 2023: “*Resolution: We must protect the rights of the members to parliamentary order. And, adding more members is critical to our election success.*” This negative stance is strongly detrimental to Republican interest, and may be compatible with their non-member corporate aims.

Additionally, we learned on 8/1/23, by means of an Open Records Request for correspondence to the Bulloch County attorney, that Chairman Sack has not filed our Bulloch Rules with the Election Supervisor, who is the legal designee of the Election Superintendent (Board) per GA Code 21-2-2 and 21-2-70. Because of this, **the Bulloch Rules are entirely ineffective at this time**. According to GA Code 21-2-111(c) only **such** County Rules that are consistent with GA Law and the rules and regulations of the state executive committee [State Committee], are legally allowed to be in effect. And, our Bulloch Rules **must have been certified by the chairperson**. State Rule 9.8, *The Call*, and *The Convention Planning Manual* all concur that County Rules must be filed with the Election Superintendent of each organized county within 30 days of the adjournment of the County Convention. It appears that our Chairman has failed to comply with this lawful directive. He also holds a conflicted role, serving through the Office of Secretary of State Raffensperger as an appointed public election official, according to Bulloch citizens across the political spectrum.

The Rules of the Georgia Republican Party require members to affirm the party aims, purposes, and principles. At this time, you, as State Chairman, have a chance to act responsibly on behalf of the Republican Party of Georgia and its members. In your position, the members, who are mentioned over 100 times in the State Rules, expect that you will act with obligation to assert that all County Chairmen follow the State Rules, starting with Bulloch County. You owe your loyalty, diligence, and care to the members. Delay or omission is not in keeping with our interest.

There are core principles in the Republican Party and all political parties in Georgia: the right to vote, membership, debate, and hold office, all under legal and parliamentary authority. Therefore, any attempts to infringe on membership rights and the elective will of the County Convention is serious. **All members must be protected.** Processes such as filing of Rules in accordance with State Rules and GA Law, due diligence, fair process, and proper venue for review of facts are all part of protecting those who engage political party committees. The state party has the opportunity to uphold membership rights. You must directly deter law-breaking at every opportunity.

In Georgia, citizens have a right to equal protection under the Law, a right to a lawful elective franchise, and the right to hold office. The Georgia Assembly has directed the “county executive committee,” (the County Committee) to act within thirty code sections of the GA Election Code. Party

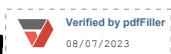
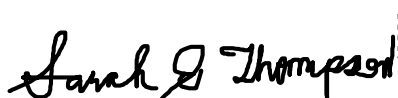
executives must not recognize rules and actions that do not comply with State Rules and GA Law and are, thereby, null and void. Our party rules and actions must not devolve to rogue conduct.

At this time, you have an opportunity to reinforce a strong member political party committee structure in Bulloch County and instill confidence in a pivotal county. Bulloch is the smallest over 80K county, but with deep rural conservative heartland roots. You can immediately assist us in preventing our representative government from further disintegrating.

Act Now to protect Bulloch Republicans. We ask that you, our State Chairman, remove your recognition of any of the actions of the Bulloch County Republican Committee that occurred after the March 11, 2023 adjournment, because of these chronically inconsistent Rules and non-compliant actions. Every motion and vote has been entirely void, and the committee is in deadlock, unable to conduct business for the upcoming elections. To prevent further injury to our electors, we ask that required compliance with State Rules and the GA Election Code be extricated from all corporate legal interests, and be exclusively on behalf of your commitment as Chairman of the State Committee, acting as the chief executive officer of the Republican Party of Georgia.

This is the culmination of nearly a dozen written petitions, of varying length to other State Exec Officers, that have gone without any apparent action to our relief. What we have asked of you is essential and necessary at this moment to prevent further harmful actions within our county and no later than Wednesday, August 9th at 5pm.

Very respectfully,



Sarah E. Thompson

*In Collaboration with Numerous SR 1.1. Members of the Georgia Republican Party, Inc. in Bulloch County, Georgia, USA*  
Secretary, Bulloch County Republican Committee (Title 21)

U.S. Veteran Military Personnel Officer

150 Timber Cove, Statesboro, GA 30461, [freedomwinsusa@protonmail.com](mailto:freedomwinsusa@protonmail.com), 856-866-6881

Attached: Professional Parliamentary Report Excerpts, 2023 (6 pages)

CC: State Committee

## PROFESSIONAL PARLIAMENTARY REPORT EXCERPTS, 2023:

### 1 - Carrie Dickson, Professional Registered Parliamentarian (“PRP”), Green River, WY

\* RNC Rules Committee in 2016, Parliamentarian to the Utah State Republican Party 2006 to 2018, Treasurer of the National Association of Parliamentarians 2019-2021

*Question: Can Bulloch County Republican Party Rules (“County Rules”) contain provisions for additional appointments of voting members of the County Committee, made by the County Chairman or any party body / person, after the adjournment of the County Convention (you do not need to include the issue of Precinct Committee vacancies)...*

Rules of the Georgia Republican Party, Inc. (“State Rules”), 9.8, Adoption and Filing of County and District Rules, states:

A. Each County Convention and each District Convention may amend their respective rules or may adopt new rules for each respective County and District, provided such rules shall not be inconsistent with the Rules of the GRP. *(emphasis added)*

In support of the State Rules provision that no County Rules shall be inconsistent with the State Rules, RONR § 2:2 states,

... Within this framework under the general parliamentary law, an assembly or society is free to adopt any rules it may wish (even rules deviating from parliamentary law) provided that, in the procedure of adopting them, it conforms to parliamentary law or its own existing rules. The only limitations upon the rules that such a body can thus adopt might arise from the rules of a parent body (as those of a national society restricting its state or local branches), or from national, state, or local law affecting the particular type of organization. *(emphasis added)*

State Rules, 8.7, County Committees and Their Officers and Members, states in part:

...The County Committee shall be composed of a County Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such additional officers and members as may be determined by the County Convention, with not less than one member from each Precinct in said County having any Precinct officers.... *(emphasis added)*

Rules of the Bulloch County Republican Party (“County Rules”), 2.2 Members, states:

2.2 Members The County Committee shall be composed of the following members who shall be voting members unless otherwise specified, and no person may simultaneously hold more than one voting position:

- A. County Chairman
- B. First Vice-Chairman
- C. Second Vice-Chairman
- D. Secretary

- E. Treasurer
- F. Precinct Chairmen from each Precinct in Bulloch County
- G. No more than six (6) persons appointed by the County Chairman
- H. All members of the State Committee who reside in Bulloch County
- I. All members of the District Committee who reside in Bulloch County
- J. The immediate past Chairman of the BCRP, if they are a current resident of Bulloch County and request in writing to the County Chairman to be added to the County Committee.

The State Rules 8.7 require County Parties to have at a minimum:

- County Chairman
- First Vice-Chairman
- Second Vice-Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Precinct Chairmen from each Precinct in Bulloch County

The State Rules 8.7 also allows for

...such additional officers and members as may be determined by the County Convention...

Thus, the County Rules continue with 2.2.G. through K. Which appear to be authorized under State Rules 8.7.

**However**, State Rules 8.10 Duties of County Chairman, states in part:

The County Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the County Committee. The County Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the County Committee and the County Executive Committee. He shall appoint such additional officers (nonvoting) and committees as he deems advisable....  
*(emphasis added)*

**The effect of which gives the County Chairman the authority to appoint non-voting additional officers and committees as he deems advisable.**

Under RONR, § 56:68 which discusses principles of interpreting bylaws, it states:

**4) If the bylaws authorize certain things specifically, other things of the same class are thereby prohibited.** There is a presumption that nothing has been placed in the bylaws without some reason for it. There can be no valid reason for authorizing certain things to be done that can clearly be done without the authorization of the bylaws, unless the intent is to specify the things of the same class that may be done, all others being prohibited. *(emphasis added)*

**2 - AL GAGE, CPP-T, PRP, PAP Certified Professional Parliamentarian with Teacher Designation-AIP, Professional Registered Parliamentarian-NAP & Professional Accredited Parliamentarian-SAEP. Avondale, AZ**

**\*MR. GAGE IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE RNC PARLIAMENTARIAN and is President of the American Institute of Parliamentarians**

*Are County Rules in compliance with State Rules if they enumerate additional voting members to the County Committee or County Executive Committee that may be added or emplaced AFTER the County Convention?*

After thorough review of the applicable rules of the GRP, Bulloch County Republican Party, the written opinion and the parliamentary authority, the author can find no viable alternative opinion than those stated in the conclusions reached and therefore concurs with the opinion as drafted with one exception. In that opinion it states that rule 2.2.G of the Bulloch County rules is null and void. By the same argument 2.2.H, 2.2.I and 2.2.J should fall under the same conclusion contrary to the written opinion. If there is another legal or other rule that authorizes these members as ex-officio members of their respective county committee it was either not provided or does not exist within the existing rules and is likely a custom that is contrary to a written rule. If the interpretation is that only the County Convention can elect or appoint County Committee members or officers, then 2.2.G through 2.2.J should be invalid. The only disagreement with the entire opinion [of Carrie Dickson] is the statement that “Any of those representatives who also live in Bulloch County will then be seated on the County Committee” which this author believes to be incorrect. [This is related to 2.2 H & I.]

**3 - Kay Allison Crews, CPP-T, PRP Certified Professional Parliamentarian-Teacher Professional Registered Parliamentarian. Dallas, TX**

**\*Past President and current Accrediting Director of the American Institute of Parliamentarians**

*Are County Rules in compliance with State Rules if they enumerate additional voting members to the County Committee or County Executive Committee that may be added or emplaced AFTER the County Convention?*

This Parliamentarian concurs with the Opinion of Carrie Dickson, PRP, in response to Question #1, as it relates to item 2-2.G. (Conclusion, paragraph #1.) However, she does not concur with the 2nd paragraph, as it relates to items 2-2.H-J. **None of these individuals (members of the State Committee who reside in Bulloch County, members of the District Committee who reside in Bulloch County, and the immediate past Chairman of the BCRP) would be eligible to serve as a voting member of the BCRP unless they were elected by the members of the County Convention, during the County Convention itself.** Since election of state and district committee members takes place after the conclusion of the County Convention, membership on those committees would not make an individual eligible to serve as a voting member of the BCRP under the clear reading of GRP Rule 8.9.

8.9 ELECTION OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE  
The officers and members of the County Committee shall be elected in odd-numbered years by the respective County Conventions. They shall begin office at the adjournment of the County Convention and shall hold office for two years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified, unless sooner removed in accordance with these Rules or the County Party Rules.  
[Emphasis added]

The Georgia Republican Party Rules clearly indicate in 8.10 “He [the County Chairman] shall appoint such additional officers (nonvoting) and committees as he deems advisable.” **Therefore, the County Chairman can appoint some or all of these individuals as nonvoting officers or committees. Finally readers may believe that the adoption of rules such as those in BCRP 2.2 H-J are in order because of language in GRP 9.8.A:**

9.8 ADOPTION AND FILING OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT RULES A. Each County Convention and each District Convention may amend their respective rules or may adopt new rules for each respective County and District, provided such rules shall not be inconsistent with the Rules of the GRP.

**However, since the BCRP rules explicitly violate the provisions of GRP 8.9 noted above, these provisions cannot be given force and effect.**

#### **4 - C.J. Cavin, JD, CP-T, PRP, Parli.Pro Parliamentary Services, Guthrie, Oklahoma**

**\*Full-time Parliamentarian for the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Appointed Parliamentarian for the American Institute of Parliamentarians**

*Dickson's assertions relating to allowing additional appointments of voting members to the County Committee once the county convention adjourns:*

Upon review of the opinion, I concur with some of the assertions; however, the outcome must be further reviewed. Rule 8.9 of the GRP Rules requires that "officers and members of the County Committee shall be elected in odd-numbered years by the respective County Conventions. They shall begin office at the adjournment of the County Convention..." Here, State Committee members (BCRP 2.2(H)) and District Committee members (BCRP 2.2(I)) are selected by different bodies after the County Convention. **Since the GRP Rules require that the County Convention elect members, any person who is not elected by the County Convention cannot serve on the County Committee, except they could be appointed as non-voting members by the County Chair pursuant to GRP 8.10.**

Conclusion: The complex issues presented in the two parliamentary opinions attempt to answer complex questions related to processes in place in the county party that have likely been in place for years. **It is a fundamental principle of parliamentary law that subsidiary entities must comply with higher authorities, and the issues presented here, particularly in the case of county committee members, run afoul of the higher authorities. Prompt action should be taken to rectify any known violations of these governing documents so that all future actions taken by the county committee are not challenged on procedural issues.**



## **5 - Shawn W. Paine, JD, PRP Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Luther, OK**

### **\*Deputy Parliamentarian for the Oklahoma House of Representatives**

*Does the author concur with or dissent from the opinion of Carrie Dickson, PRP dated March 30, 2023, regarding the provisions in the Bulloch County Republican Party rules allowing “additional appointment of voting members of the County Committee...after the adjournment of the County Convention?”*

Upon review of the applicable rules in the Georgia Republican Party, Inc. (GRP) rules, the Bulloch County Republican Party (BCRP) rules, Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised 12th edition (RONR), and the written opinion of Carrie Dickson, PRP dated March 30, 2023, the author concurs with the aforementioned written opinion regarding the first paragraph of her conclusion which deals with BCRP Rule 2.2(G) and dissents from the opinion as to the second paragraph of the conclusion which deals with BCRP Rules 2.2(H) & (I).

The second paragraph of the conclusion states that since delegates for the State and District Conventions are elected at the County Convention, if those delegates are elected to State or District office at the respective Conventions, they are allowed to hold a voting seat on the County Committee. However, GRP Rule 8.9 states, “officers and members of the County Committee shall be elected in odd-numbered years by the respective County Conventions. They shall begin office at the adjournment of the County Convention...” (Emphasis added). Since the delegates are not elected to the positions stated in BCRP Rules 2.2(H) & (I) by the County Convention before it adjourns, they are not eligible to hold a voting position on the County Committee. The president is still authorized under GRP Rule 8.10 to “appoint such additional officers (nonvoting)...” and as such can appoint any of the delegates that are eventually elected to State or District office as nonvoting members of the County Committee.