



January 27, 2021

Representative Tim Moore  
Speaker, North Carolina House of Representatives

\*\*\* VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY \*\*\*

SUBJECT: North Carolina Election Integrity

Dear Representative Moore:

Thank you for attending Orange County's January meeting and sharing your thoughts on the 2020 General Election. We greatly appreciate your time and willingness to answer our questions. This letter is to follow up on our original correspondence of 10 November 2020 and the question raised at the 14 January meeting to request that the legislature complete a full forensic audit of the 2020 election process in North Carolina to expose deficiencies and strengthen election laws to gain people's trust and provide transparency for fair elections in the future.

As we previously communicated, many of our members believe that to restore faith in the outcome of our elections, transparency and integrity need to be put back into the election process. At our January meeting, you stated that a forensic audit of the 2020 election would not be conducted, and that the legislature's Elections Committees will instead do a "deep dive" on the data and report their findings.

As you know, reports on election results conducted by committee members and their staffs, while valuable, are not the same as forensic audits. Analyses of election data are performed after every election by many entities; these are not substitutes for an audit conducted by a neutral third party with particular experience in the field. And with all due respect, reassurances by politicians are no longer sufficient to garner trust in voters after such a highly contentious election cycle. Frankly put, voters are "done" putting their faith in elected officials.

There are several reasons to follow through with an audit at this time. While President Trump and Senator Tillis won North Carolina, many other down-ballot GOP candidates lost their races. Were these electoral losses for Dan Forest, E.C. Sykes, and Jim O'Neill truly legitimate? And while we succeeded in getting the conservative slate of judges elected, Paul Newby's win was too close for comfort. Irregularities may be happening in North Carolina as in other states, but are perhaps not yet of a magnitude large enough to be detected by simple data analysis.

Second, the interference of activist groups in North Carolina is accelerating. One example we witnessed in the 2020 election was the influence of the Center for Technology and Civic Life; the Orange County Board of Elections was one of CTCL's grant recipients. If the Democrats had been successful in getting drop boxes allowed for this election, we feel certain that Orange County would have seen many boxes sprinkled throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro, but not in outlying "red" areas of the county like Cedar Grove. Now is the time to put safeguards into place

in our election statutes to stave off the efforts of these groups to corrupt the outcome of a close election in the future.

Finally, we continue to observe the effects of demographic changes on our state's electorate. Coupled with the large influx of people moving in from other states<sup>1</sup> and with the Biden administration's lax immigration policies, one can expect that these demographic changes will accelerate, turning North Carolina more blue every year. If Republicans hope to retain legislative authority in this state, the GOP needs to push reforms now that will ensure free and fair elections going forward, and not allow Democrats to unfairly capitalize on these demographic shifts.

In summary, given the highly emotional and contested nature of the 2020 election, it seems reasonable to reassure voters who feel they have been disenfranchised and who no longer have faith in election outcomes that the Republican Party is doing everything within its power to ensure that the transparency and integrity of future elections is intact. An audit – followed by a wholesale review of the election law vulnerabilities exposed therein and enactment of corresponding legislative fixes – is the only viable way we envision this restoration of faith could occur.

We also believe that our nation exists first and foremost for American citizens, and that the state legislature exists first and foremost to serve the needs and protect the rights of the citizens of North Carolina. It is the government's duty to act in the interest of its citizens. It follows, therefore, that the actions of the legislature should redound above all to secure the interests of its citizens and not those of the party establishment or any other special interests.

In light of the above arguments, we look forward to your support for an election audit and, toward that end, the Orange County Republican Party would like to hear back from you on establishing a Task Force at the NC Legislature to ensure that no stone is left unturned on irregularities from the 2020 elections. Thank you for your consideration and for all you do to ensure fair elections in North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Waddy Davis, Chairman, Orange County Republican Party  
Members of the Orange County Republican Party

cc: Senator Phil Berger, President Pro Tempore, North Carolina Senate  
Senator Ralph Hise, Co-Chair, Senate Committee on Redistricting and Elections  
Senator Warren Daniel, Co-Chair, Senate Committee on Redistricting and Elections  
Senator Paul Newton, Co-Chair, Senate Committee on Redistricting and Elections  
Representative Destin Hall, Co-Chair, Joint Elections Oversight Committee  
Representative Grey Mills, Chair, House Committee on Election Law  
Michael Whatley, Chairman, North Carolina Republican Party  
Philip Thomas, Political Director & Chief Counsel, North Carolina Republican Party

<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.uhaul.com/Articles/About/22746/2020-Migration-Trends-U-Haul-Ranks-50-States-By-Migration-Growth/>, retrieved Jan. 24, 2021.