

Date: April 8, 2008

To: State Credentials Committee or other governing body

RE: Challenge to 1. Zan (Statham) Prince

2200 Lake Country Drive, Weatherford, 76087 817-594-5029 Voter ID - Unknown

Madam Chairman,

Please deliver the following challenge to the Republican State Officials Committee (as constituted in the bylaws of the SREC) or in the alternative if appropriate to the Temporary Credentials Committee of the State Convention.

We, the undersigned, having voted in the 2008 Presidential Primary Elections held March 4, 2008 find it necessary, pursuant to Rule 11b(1) of the Texas Republican Party's General Rules For All Conventions and Meetings, to be charged with the duty of recognizing, identifying and rectifying any infraction of these rules to the integrity of the Republican Party; and following the procedures outlined in Rule 27 (2) for filing said challenge, please be advised that this letter serves as our Challenge to the above-listed individual.

This named person intentionally violated the Laws of Texas (TEC) and the RPT Rules and in accordance with the above-cited Rules we hereby specify the grounds for the challenge and detail the specific rule or rules we allege to have been violated:

Rule No. 29 - County/Senatorial Convention Committees

A. Prior to each County or Senatorial District Convention, the temporary chairman shall appoint the following committees, and name the chairmen thereof, provided that all members shall be delegates and if the convention has over twenty-five (25) delegates, each such committee shall be composed of at least five (5) and not more than fifteen (15) delegates. The committees and their duties shall be as follows:

1. Credentials: This committee shall hear any contest concerning delegates and shall recommend the permanent roll of the convention.
2. Rules: This committee shall recommend supplementary rules for the convention.
3. Permanent Organization: This committee shall recommend permanent officers of the convention from among the delegates present.
4. Resolutions: This committee shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Resolutions Committee.
5. Nominations: This committee shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Nominations Committee.

Infractions regarding Rule 29:

1. To our knowledge, at least 10 individual Republican County Convention Delegates made a request for the names of the Temporary Committee Chairs for the 5 mandatory committees outlined in the Republican Party Rules. The requests were made via telephone requests, e-mail requests and in person. Mrs. Prince responded to different delegates with different answers regarding the committees:

- a. Mrs. Prince informed more than one delegate that there are “**...only 2 committees...**”; to one delegate she said there was a nominations and resolutions committee; to another only a nominations and credentials committee.
- b. When another delegate first requested the information on approximately March 13th (9 days after the elections were held), the delegate was informed that, “**... those committees have not been finalized yet.**”
- c. A delegate, who was told by Mrs. Prince that the delegate was on a particular committee, went to Mrs. Prince's office and requested the e-mail and/or phone number of the committee chair on approximately March 24th. The delegate was told by Mrs. Prince that she did “**not have time for this.**” The delegate was told to “**look it up in the phone book.**” *Who are the 5 members of this committee and when did they meet?*
- d. On approximately March 21st, a delegate asked Mrs. Prince who chaired the Rules committee. Mrs. Prince's response was, “**I don't know.**” Since she has the responsibility to organize and appoint the committee chairs, she should have known who that person would be. When the same delegate asked to participate on that committee or one of the other committees, she was told by Mrs. Prince that **all the positions “were filled.”** These 2 statements are contradictory because if she does not know who chairs a committee, how does she know that the committee is “filled”?

e. In addition, another delegate had been informed that there was only a single member doing the work of one of the committees. According to the above-cited rules, there is to be a minimum of 5 members on a committee – not a single individual doing the work of the entire committee.

d. To a number of the requests made by delegates, Mrs. Prince responded, **“I will forward your information to that chair.”** No response from either Mrs. Prince or the committee chair(s) was received by any of these delegates. These delegates have been prohibited from exercising their right to be involved.

e. Mrs. Prince on some occasions told the delegates requesting information to **“go to the Parker County GOP website”** to retrieve the information. Upon consulting the website, it was found to be outdated and without all of the information. Not all of the committee chairs were listed. And there were NO meeting times/dates/places listed for any of the committees until after the challenge to the county convention was received. And, as noted above, when delegates contacted the chairs listed, none of them has ever responded to the requests from the delegates.

f. On approximately March 15th, even though Mrs. Prince would tell none of the requesting delegates the name of the nominations committee chair, at least 2 delegates were informed by Mrs. Prince that the list of nominations to the State Convention had already been completed. This information was confirmed when one of the delegates asked if Mrs. Prince specifically had “43 delegates and 43 alternates ready and willing to go to the state convention”; to which Mrs. Prince replied emphatically, “Oh, YES.” The intriguing thing about that, beyond her refusal to supply a nominations committee chair name or meeting time, was that when 2 of these same delegates were admitted to the meeting place just prior to the above conversation, 5 or more unopened precinct packets were on the floor just inside the door. How could the nominations be complete when some of the precinct packets had not even been opened yet? Those voters had already been eliminated from the opportunity to go to the state convention. At the nominations committee meeting on the day of the county convention, said committee only had a list of 68 names which was presented to the delegation for approval – not a full roster, as indicated by Mrs. Prince’s statement above, of 86 names.

There was no evidence that any of the above-listed committees were organized until after the challenge to the county convention was received by Mrs. Prince. There is evidence that some had been “formed” with a single member instead of the mandated 5 minimum. By not organizing the committees and withholding the requested information from the delegates, Mrs. Prince compromised the integrity of the work on all the “committees” once they were formed on Thursday, March 27th; just 37 hours prior to the county convention to be held on Saturday, March 29th. And even then, information regarding meetings was posted at our local courthouse (which is rarely visited by the citizenry) allowing only the 8 hour timeframe on Friday, March 28th for obtaining the requested information. There was NO notification that this would be the place to find the information. It was also posted on the website sometime between 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on March 27th, 2008, a scant 37 hours before the convention was scheduled to begin. And, the posted time (even after the convention had closed) for the credentials committee meeting was 8:00 a.m. Saturday, March 29th at the convention location (no specified room number or other identifying information) although the meeting was found to have been over at 7:58 when “attended” by 3 delegates (See video).

In Conclusion, a sizeable number of Parker County Republican Delegates have been prohibited from exercising their right to observe, testify and make recommendations to the committees because, according to Mrs. Prince, the person responsible for organizing and appointing those committees, those committees did not exist and there was no effort made to organize them until a short 37 hours prior to the convention. In addition, it was found that the committees that were in place were being operated by only one or two individuals. The checks and balances, which a committee of 5 to 15 people is meant to ensure, have been removed. If the credentials committee is one person and the nominations committee consists of one or two people, this does not meet the requirements of our party rules. The integrity of the work of the “committees” has been compromised by the fact that there are individuals – not committees - making all the decisions for each of the several committees. By not organizing the committees in a timely manner and not freely disseminating that information about them, also in a timely manner, Mrs. Prince has violated Rule 29 of the Texas Republican Party Rules.

We the undersigned do request that this Challenge be upheld by the Credentials Committee by executing the required consequences on Mrs. Zan (Statham) Prince as required in Rule #11 (b) “...shall be removed from serving as a delegate to any convention of the Party at any level throughout the year.”

We further assert that the Parker County Republican County Convention was not a work executed by the delegation via a diverse group of individuals checking and rechecking the information to be presented to said delegation, but rather a work of a few individuals at the behest of Mrs. Prince that excluded a high number of duly-elected delegates from participating

in the process. We would therefore request that the minutes which have been submitted be declared “null and void” since there is no true representation of the voting body of Parker County, TX.

Sincerely,

Jaime Hughes, 109 Lori Drive, Willow Park, TX 76087

Cecil Tooley, 306 E. Lee Avenue, Weatherford, TX 76086

Jay Graham, 458 Stoneridge, Weatherford, TX 76087

Gail Rezai, 709 Jones Road, Weatherford, TX 76088

Tonya Smith, 1112 Ross Lane, Springtown, TX 76082

Royce Knight, 609 W. Bridge, Weatherford, TX 76086

William Raburn, 123 Oak Hill Drive, Weatherford, TX 76087