

REPUBLICAN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

December 13, 2022

Idaho Republican Party
c/o Dorothy Moon, Chairman
Damond Watkins, National Committeeman
Cindy Siddoway, National Committeewoman

To the Idaho Republican Party:

As Chairman, General Counsel, and Chief Counsel of the Republican National Committee (“RNC”), we write to express our concern regarding current efforts to remove Damond Watkins from his elected position as RNC National Committeeman (“NCM”), upon the allegation that he moved to a different state. The RNC and its staff have received several inquiries in this matter, including from Chairman Dorothy Moon and First Vice Chair Daniel Silver. Given the seriousness of this issue, we wish to make our position clear.

First, we see no truth to the allegation that NCM Watkins ever stopped being an Idaho resident. As we understand it, he spent a few months out of state for family business reasons, while maintaining his residency in Idaho throughout. NCM Watkins has provided documentation that the Bonneville County Elections Clerk has confirmed he remains a qualified voter in Idaho and that his voter registration at no point was interrupted. It therefore appears there is no credible factual basis for removing him at this time.

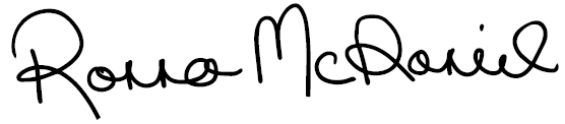
Second, we are deeply concerned that efforts to remove him might not be done in accordance with IDGOP rules. As the RNC’s Chief Counsel informed Chairman Moon, any removal would need to be done in accordance with IDGOP rules following Robert’s Rules of Order. These rules simply do not grant the state central committee the authority to remove NCM Watkins under these circumstances. First Vice Chair Silver had earlier received similar guidance from us, as well as from Jeff Kent, NCM for Washington State and Chairman of the RNC’s Rules Committee; and from Henry Barbour, NCM for Mississippi and a member of the RNC’s Executive Committee.

Third, while the RNC’s own rules do not govern removal of an NCM, RNC rules do provide that the existing RNC Membership must ratify the appointment of any new member. It is very difficult to imagine that the RNC would recognize the removal and replacement of NCM Watkins unless done in accordance with IDGOP rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue. We trust that the IDGOP will act in accordance with its own rules in this matter, and we look forward to continuing our important work together as we build our Party and help Republican candidates win in 2024.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronna McDaniel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ronna" and last name "McDaniel" clearly legible.

Ronna McDaniel
Chairman, Republican National Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Hupfer". The signature is cursive and stylized, with the first name "Kyle" and last name "Hupfer" clearly legible.

Kyle Hupfer
Chairman, Indiana Republican Party
General Counsel, Republican National Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Raymer". The signature is cursive and stylized, with the first name "Matthew" and last name "Raymer" clearly legible.

Matthew Raymer
Chief Counsel, Republican National Committee