

From: Joe Gruters, Sarasota County Republican chairman
Date: Fri, 13 Aug 2010 17:02:21 -0400
Subject: Re: Letter from State Executive Committee members

State Committee members, I have read your email and understand the points you are attempting to make.

As the head official of your county party organizations within your respected counties, I ask that you remember your responsibility as a party is to serve all Republican candidates running in the primary election.

Let us not forget what happened just one year ago when the State Party (under Jim Greer's direction) attempted to decide who our candidate for U.S. Senate should be. Chairmen across the state were rightfully upset, members of our respect REC's complained, and many Republican donors questioned the party's credibility.

Reflecting on last year's example, we must ensure that our Republican Party organizations not take sides and stay out what has turned into a very divisive campaign for Governor. We are all on the same team and if we plan on ensuring Republican victory in November, we must all unite after the primary. No matter whom our nominee is.

No one office or candidate should be above our Republican organization, thus we must not allow ourselves to risk alienating our members (both current and potential) by using our organization to promote one candidate's agenda over another. I believe that an action like the one being proposed does just that and further promotes divisiveness within the party. I ask that you reconsider.

Respectfully,
Joe Gruters

Chairman
Republican Party of Sarasota