The so-called Articles of Censure leaked on FB on election day are a fake document with no legitimacy. It is a crude political stunt intended to harm the reputation of the sitting county chair. This group has no authority to do this. They have been told by multiple officials of the Texas Republican Party to stand down. Yet they have continued this rogue action in hopes of defaming the county chair and enhancing their own political fortunes.

This anonymous document was placed on Facebook on election day with hopes there would be a run-off and the county chair's endorsement would be weakened going into the runoff.

The incoming county chair, Mr. Striegl who is leading this effort, has been advised by the Bandera County GOP Chair and the Texas State Republican Party and both SREC (Republican State Executive Committee members who represent this area) that his actions and those who joined with him are in violation of county and state party bylaws. This can be confirmed by anyone by contacting the state party. Further, there has been no tangible evidence provided that relates to any of these allegations.

The alleged actions are;

Use of the County Party website for her personal agenda and political gain.

FALSE

Attacked a commercial business that was perceived to have an injurious impact on her personal and financial interest.

FALSE. The effort we believe that may be referenced in this allegation was an effort to convince the Flying L PUD to not sell water to a developer outside the current boundaries of the Flying L PUD. It should be noted that both Mr. Striegl and Ms. Hasty participated in this effort.

The past use of GOP assets to encourage censure of two prior precinct chairs for using GOP assets to further their personal and political gain.

FALSE. It was Mr. Striegl who urged censure of the two precinct chairs along with the urging of additional precinct chairs. At their insistence, the County Chair formed an ad-hoc committee to investigate and report back on their findings. It was the committee who recommended censure, not the County Chair. It should be noted no formal censure was ever imposed. It should be further notated that no example of tangible personal or political gain was mentioned.

Use of the Bandera County Parties website to post articles written by her using her title to support and promote one Republican candidate over another.

FALSE. There were never any articles posted on the County Website by the County Chair supporting any candidate.

The County Chair has blocked the County Secretary from drafting articles for the local newspaper in order to assume the column to campaign for candidates of her choosing without providing equal access to all candidates.

PARTLY TRUE AND PARTLY FALSE. The County Chair did take over the responsibilities for the weekly Republican articles after first assigning responsibility for such to the Secretary. She did so

after numerous complaints regarding the articles and the impact it was having upon the County Party. It should also be noted the paper informed the County Chair that one article in particular, "Traitors in our County" resulted in individuals threatening to sue the paper for its publication and a threat of removing future articles from the paper. It should be noted that in the article, Mr. Striegl called all elected officials in the County traitors. It should be further noted that all elected officials in the county who note their political affiliation are Republicans. Mr. Striegl did not provide equal access to all he charged with being a traitor.

It also should be noted that the article by the county chair that Mr. Striegl is referencing did not mention the name of any candidate.

The County Chair published articles and videos in the paper and online, social media and the GOP website to malign and discredit the other endorsed candidate. Further alleged that the County Chair had a duty to remain impartial…no such duty exists.

FALSE

The County Chair did in fact post online and on social media information that promoted an endorsed Republican candidate. Nothing in any of those posts discredited or mentioned any other candidate, endorsed or otherwise. There were no published articles in the local paper or on the website other than the one previously mentioned article that ran in the paper but that did not malign or discredit any candidate.

The County Chair used her position and title to support only one of the endorsed Republican candidates.

CORRECT

As was her right.

The County Chair purchased FB ads, narrated videos, developed and published websites, and FB pages using her position and title as County Chair.

FALSE. The County Chair did not purchase any FB ads, develop or publish websites or FB pages. The County Chair did not narrate a video, she was interviewed for a video, which again is her right.

The number listed on a candidate's FB page was the County Chair's personal cell phone number. The allegation is the Chair expended her personal funds for campaign use.

CORRECT

As is her right. It should be noted that the Chair was not a paid campaign staffer on any campaign in the March primary.

The Chair was listed exclusively as an administrator on a candidate's FB Page.

Facebook requires a political page connected to a phone number in order to create a political page. Ms. Haueter volunteered the use of her phone number for this purpose and as such was listed as an administrator on the page. It should be noted there were additional administrators on the page. She was totally within her right to do so.

Ms. Haueter as administrator turned off negative comments.

FALSE, allegation assumes that there were negative comments and further assumes that Ms. Haueter turned them off. As mentioned above there were additional administrators on the FB page anyone of which could have turned off comments.

County Chair Clearly acted as campaign staff and as an integral part of only one candidates' campaign.

FALSE assumed without any basis of fact.

Ms. Haueter was not listed on required campaign finance reports for any expenditure of funds for cell phone usage or any other in-kind contribution.

INCORRECT. Assumes Ms. Haueter expended funds in excess of required reporting requirements.

Has seriously injured the credibility and reputation of the Bandera County GOP and the CEC by speaking with a voter and maliciously slandered the other candidate

FALSE. While Ms. Haueter may have spoken with individual voters, she only stated facts that she knows to be true of any candidate with no malicious intent.

Ms. Haueter compared the candidate she is alleged to have slandered to an individual, comparing that candidate to individuals that the County had censured and not endorsed.

FALSE. Ms. Haueter again reiterates her stating of facts and any comparison to individuals the County censured is incorrect as the County has not officially and properly censured any previous members.

When a candidate emailed and asked for her endorsement by the County GOP, Ms. Haueter refused.

FALSE. The County Chair reiterated the GOP's endorsement to any and all endorsed GOP candidates and encouraged each candidate to use the GOP endorsement freely.

The candidate asked for a copy of the voter roll, which she assumed was provided to other endorsed candidates.

TRUE. The county chair promptly provided the voter role to every endorsed candidate who requested it.

The County Chair has clearly campaigned against a candidate that was endorsed by the Bandera County GOP and openly campaigned for the other endorsed candidate.

PARTIALLY TRUE. Ms. Haueter did openly campaign for an endorsed candidate, which is her right. She did not openly campaign against any endorsed candidate.

The County Chair verbally threatened the County Executive Committee and misrepresented facts attempting to keep a special meeting from being convened to look into her actions as authorized by the Bandera County Republican Party bylaws.

FALSE. The County Chair did advise the County Executive Committee that they were in violation of the Bandera County Republican Bylaws and the Republican Party of Texas' bylaws in calling a meeting for which they had no authority to call.

The County Chair sent at least five emails pointing out the above stated position.

TRUE. Also as a noted fact- the County Chair as well as the State Party and members of the State Republican Executive Committee also informed Mr. Striegl that he had no authority to convene the special meeting.

The County Chair contacted the RPT and SREC and misrepresented the true nature of the meeting to subvert or hide her actions.

FALSE. The County Chair did contact the RPT and the SREC relaying exactly the facts pertaining to the action proposed by Mr. Striegl. She even included tangible evidence with email trails.

The County Chair contacted members of the Bandera County CEC in an attempt to stop the proposed meeting.

PARTIALY TRUE. The County Chair did contact members of the CEC to inform them of the opinions of both the RPT and the SREC that they had no authority to convene the proposed meeting.

The County Chair violated both the Bandera County Republican Party bylaws and the Republican Party of Texas bylaws which allow the precinct chairs to convene a special meeting.

FALSE Point of fact, it was some members of the County CEC, without the Chairs involvement, who violated County and State bylaws by convening an improperly called special meeting.

After attempts to stop the CEC from holding an improperly called meeting, the Chair fulfilled her threat of recruiting individuals to run in opposition to the incumbent precinct chairs.

FALSE. The County Chair issued no such threat to any precinct chair.

Candidates running for various Bandera County Precinct positions were never discussed with the CEC or vetted as required by the Candidate Recruitment Committee.

There is no provision in State law that prohibits any individual from seeking office. Further, there are no requirements governing the process of individuals seeking a candidacy for precinct chair.

Candidates, allegedly, recruited by the County Chair have never been to a Bandera County GOP meeting, or have contributed to the Republican Party, have spotty voting records, have not been poll workers or election judges or in any way supported the GOP.

While the County Chair denies having recruited all the candidates running for Precinct Chair, it should be noted that one of the primary responsibilities of a County Chair is to recruit candidates to fill all Precinct Chair positions. It should be further noted that there is no provision in State law that requires a candidate for Precinct Chair to have fulfilled any of the responsibilities outlined in the allegation against the County Chair. Thank goodness or we'd have an abundance of vacant positions.

One candidate, allegedly recruited, only voted five times in the last ten elections. Another candidate is a feeble, 85 plus year old, that was removed as a poll worker for failure to understand instructions.

This allegation is again not germane to the qualifications necessary to seek a Precinct Chair position and unnecessarily maligns Republican precinct chair candidates for office. Something that should be subject to censure of those making these uncalled for and hurtful charges against fellow Republicans. Something the County Chair finds deplorable.

The County Chair failed to recruit several Precinct positions during her tenure and to do so now clearly shows a vindicative intent to unseat incumbent Precinct Chairs who have called out her injurious behavior and to destroy the Bandera County GOP.

FALSE The County Chair has filled a number of vacant positions recruiting not only the instigator(s) of this action against her (regrettably) but also others. To assume vindicative intent and allege a desire to destroy the Bandera County GOP flies in the face of the actions of the Chair who has demonstrated over her tenure a strong desire to not only grow the Bandera County GOP but strengthen it as well. If anyone should be accused of attempting to destroy the Bandera County Republican Party, it is the Chairs belief this accumulation of false and misleading charges against her are doing more to destroy the credibility of the Bandera County Party than any other action.

As the current Precinct Chairs are contested, in accordance with Secretary of State rules the incumbent Precinct Chairs are ineligible to serve as poll workers or election judges.

FALSE. The allegation wrongfully alleges that this action unnecessarily harms the Bandera County GOP. While incumbent Precinct Chairs may not serve as poll workers or election judges in the Precinct in which they are seeking election, they may serve in that capacity in any of the other nine precincts in Bandera County in which they are not seeking election. This is clearly outlined in Section 32 of the Texas Election Code.

The County Chair knowingly recruited and accepted an application for Precinct Chair from a candidate who was ineligible.

PARTLY TRUE. The allegation that the County Chair recruited the candidate knowing he was ineligible is false. When it was learned that the candidate was ineligible he was not allowed to proceed.

The County Chair accepted the application of the candidate deemed ineligible to harm the County GOP and further her own political gains.

FALSE. As the County Chair did not seek reelection, any belief that she had political gains to achieve is incomprehensible. As previously stated, the County Chair has only acted to benefit and grow the Bandera County GOP, anything other than that belief is ridiculous.

After the County Chair was directed by the Secretary of State to remove the ineligible applicant, she lashed out at a CEC member accusing him of lying in an email.

FALSE. The Secretary of State was not involved in the ineligible candidate being removed from the process. As for accusing a CEC member of lying, that is true and is evidenced many times in this response.

The County Chair violated rules of ethics and morality to further her own personal and financial gains and to destroy the effectiveness of Bandera County which voted 83% Republican in the last general election.

FALSE. For the authors of this action to invoke charges of unethical behavior and morality is beyond comprehension. The County Chair has done nothing unethical or immoral. Nor has she gained financially or personally from her service as County Chair, in fact she has spent her own personal finances to a great extent in service to the Republican Party. To state that she has gained financially or politically without tangible evidence, is just a further example of the lies, distortion of facts and unethical behavior of those who bring forward this action.

The final charge in this action is that; The County Chair has displayed no remorse, nor shame or concern for the Republican Party or the voters of Texas and has brought disgrace and profound damage to Bandera County and the State of Texas by her blatant disregard and violation of numerous Secretary of State and Republican Party of Texas rules and Bandera County GOP bylaws.

PATENTLY AND UNDENIALBY FALSE. It is correct that the County Chair has shown no remorse, nor should she for accusations that are lies and a distortion of facts, she does display contempt for those who seek to bring forward these actions for their own political gain as they all supported and campaigned on behalf of the candidate who opposed Ms. Haueter's individual choice for County Judge. They have allowed their own desire to seek vengeance on Ms. Haueter to cloud their obligations as elected members of the Bandera Republican Party as their candidate was defeated in her attempt to become County Judge. They have ignored other examples of where the County Chair endorsed another local Republican candidate who was opposed. Again, there is no provision in the County Parties bylaws that prohibit the County Chair or any Precinct Chair from endorsing one Republican candidate over another, but this fact is ignored because it didn't fit their narrative. Their insistence in continuing this action only causes disruption and brings on a public display of pettiness and vindictiveness that is injurious to the Republican Party.

Were this group of malcontents more interested in stating fact, as opposed to rushing to judgement against someone they hold personal animosity towards, a lot of this response would have been unnecessary.