



December 21, 2020

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Richmond County Board of Elections  
535 Telfair Street Suite 500  
Augusta, GA 30901  
[Openrecordelections@augustaga.gov](mailto:Openrecordelections@augustaga.gov)

**Re: Open Records Request**

Dear Public Records Custodian:

Pursuant to the Georgia Open Records Law (O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 et seq.), American Oversight makes the following request for records.

**Requested Records**

American Oversight requests that your office produce the following within three business days:

All email communications (including email messages, email attachments, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) between the county officials listed in Column A below and the external parties listed in Column B below.

| <b>Column A: Richmond County Elections and Registration &amp; Board of Elections Officials</b>   | <b>Column B: External Parties</b>  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Executive Director of the Board of Elections Lynn Bailey</li> <li>ii. Chairperson of the Board of Elections Tim McFalls</li> <li>iii. Vice Chair Sherry T. Barnes</li> <li>iv. Board Secretary Marcia Brown</li> <li>v. Board Member Terence Dicks</li> <li>vi. Board Member Bob Finnegan</li> </ul> | <p><u>GA State Republican Party Officials</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Chairman David Shafer (including <a href="mailto:david@gagop.org">david@gagop.org</a> and other known email addresses)</li> <li>b) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman, Carolyn Fisher (including <a href="mailto:carolynfishergop@gmail.com">carolynfishergop@gmail.com</a> and other known email addresses)</li> <li>c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman, Brant Frost (including <a href="mailto:bfrostv@gmail.com">bfrostv@gmail.com</a> and other known email addresses)</li> <li>d) Executive Director, Stewart Bragg (including <a href="mailto:stewart@gagop.org">stewart@gagop.org</a> and other known email addresses)</li> <li>e) Political Director, Joe Proenza (including <a href="mailto:joe@gagop.org">joe@gagop.org</a> and other known email addresses)</li> </ul> |



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|  | <p><u>Richmond County Republican Party Officials</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Chairman Sherry Barnes (including <a href="mailto:sherrytbarnes@wmconnect.com">sherrytbarnes@wmconnect.com</a> and other known email addresses)</li> <li>b) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Jeremy Coghlan</li> <li>c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Dr. Craig Albert</li> <li>d) Secretary, Barbara Shine</li> <li>e) Anyone communicating from an email address ending in <a href="mailto:@richmondcountygop.org">@richmondcountygop.org</a></li> </ul> |
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Please provide all responsive records from December 10, 2020, through the date the request is received.

Please notify American Oversight of any anticipated fees or costs in excess of \$100 prior to incurring such costs or fees.

American Oversight insists that your office use the most up-to-date technologies to search for responsive information and take steps to ensure that the most complete repositories of information are searched. American Oversight is available to work with you to craft appropriate search terms. **However, custodian searches are still required; your office may not have direct access to files stored in .PST files, outside of network drives, in paper format, or in personal email accounts.**

In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If it is your position that a document contains non-exempt segments, but that those non-exempt segments are so dispersed throughout the document as to make segregation impossible, please state what portion of the document is non-exempt, and how the material is dispersed throughout the document. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically that it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.

Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by your office before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

To ensure that this request is properly construed, that searches are conducted in an adequate but efficient manner, and that extraneous costs are not incurred, American Oversight welcomes an opportunity to discuss its request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, American Oversight and your office can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF or TIF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

### **Conclusion**

American Oversight is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the mission to promote transparency in government, to educate the public about government activities, and to ensure the accountability of government officials. American Oversight uses the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. American Oversight also makes materials it gathers available on its public website and promotes their availability on social media platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter.<sup>1</sup>

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with you on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Khahilia Shaw at [records@americanoversight.org](mailto:records@americanoversight.org) or 202.539.6507.

Sincerely,



Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

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<sup>1</sup> American Oversight currently has approximately 15,600 page likes on Facebook and 106,100 followers on Twitter. American Oversight, FACEBOOK, <https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight/> (last visited Dec. 18, 2020); American Oversight (@weareoversight), TWITTER, <https://twitter.com/weareoversight> (last visited Dec. 18, 2020).