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National Committeewoman Vera Ortegón

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&lt;&lt;First Name&gt;&gt;,

The Republican National Committee (RNC) held our Spring Meeting in San Diego, CA from May 10-13, 2017. This meeting was less hectic than the previous ones (e.g., which surrounded the National Convention and Inauguration Week). As such, we focused more on the administration and business side of the RNC, versus politics. The tone was optimistic and hopeful, although the big news revolved around the firing of FBI Director James Comey by President Trump.

Here is my report of the Spring Meeting **(5/10/17-5/13/17)**:

#### STATE CHAIRMEN'S SESSION:

- Understanding the demographics of our state, and the unique characteristics and nuances thereof, will be key to future elections and how our party should approach them.
- We need to identify new leaders on the rise, and do a better job of grooming them for public service.
- Great emphasis was placed on the amount of RNC/GOP data available to us in the states, including the information coming from the White House, RNC and candidates.
  - This data is well maintained, extremely accurate, updated daily, and available to all State Chairmen.
  - Over 30 full-time RNC staffers are assigned to this department.
  - In the past five years, the RNC invested more than \$175 million in data and digital technology. And most importantly, 25% of the total

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**CANDIDATES.** If you are interested in running or are in the process of doing so, please contact Jeff Hays for more information.

#### BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING:

- Fundraising is extremely strong and better than expected. Kudos to Ronna Romney-McDaniel (Chairwoman), Steve Wynn (Finance Chair), Richard Walters (Finance Director) for their continued dedication and focus on this effort. Well done Team!
- In the 1st quarter of 2017, the RNC raised \$41 million with \$41 million cash on hand.
  - In the same period, the Democratic National Committee (DNC) raised \$23 million with \$10 million cash on hand.
- The RNC had 569,863 contributors, including “Major Donors” raising over 347% of its original goal.
- Credit to this incredible effort is due to the fact that the White House is occupied by a Republican and the President’s agenda.
- In summary, this quarter was the best fundraising quarter in the history of the RNC.

#### RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING:

Nine resolutions were approved during this session. One was tabled since it was received after the deadline date.

1. Resolution Honoring The Life And Memory Of Sharon Giese.
2. Resolution In Favor Of Banking Reform and Support For President Trump’s Economic Agenda.
3. Resolution Commending Oklahoma National Committeewoman Carolyn McLarty For Her Service To Republican National Committee As Chairman Of The Resolutions Committee.
4. Resolution Commending President Trump Rolling Back Burdensome Regulations.
5. Resolution Commending Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch’s Appointment To The Supreme Court.
6. Resolution Commending President Trump, Vice President Pence and Their Administration.
7. Resolution Condemning And Banning The Practice Of Female Genital Mutilation For All Girls And Women Living In The United States, Territories And The District Of Columbia.

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## 9. Resolution Suggesting FCC Deregulation Agenda Be Used As Template For Other Federal Agencies.

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES:

- This meeting was constituted as organizational and no decisions were taken on any Rules.
- The committee selected a new chair and new vice chair.
- Our Legal Counsel gave a very detailed overview of the Rules of the Republican Party that were adopted during the 2016 National Convention held in Cleveland, OH.
  - Specific emphasis were paid to certain Rules:
    - Rule 10- Committees of the RNC,
    - Rule 12- Amendments (e.g., making them between National Conventions), and
    - Rule 16- Election, Selection, Allocation, or Binding of Delegates and Alternate Delegates.

### GENERAL SESSION:

This was the first General Session meeting conducted by Chairwoman Ronna Romney-McDaniel.

- She spoke about how great the fundraising was so far in 2017.
- She emphasized the importance of the RNC data and digital technology, and how leveraging the data is our strength.
- She confirmed the RNC machinery is working hard on behalf of the President, and the RNC's role and duties have expanded to include the White House. For instance, 10% of the RNC budget is allocated to the political commitments and travel expenses of the White House.
- She reiterated how crucial the midterm elections are, and how they, in essence, are a dress rehearsal for 2020. Simply said, the RNC's top priority is to win elections.
- Regarding President Trump's first hundred days, she stated, "he has enacted 28 pieces of legislation, signed 25 executive orders, reenergized our economy, rolled back regulations and red tape, and advocated to strengthen our national defense."

### GUESTS WHO SPOKE AT THE MEETING:

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- [Kevin Faulconer, Mayor of San Diego](#)
- [Lara Trump, President Trump's daughter-in-law](#)
- [Ryan Zinke, Secretary of the Department of Interior](#)

Here are my take-home messages:

1. Our new Chairwoman, Ronna Romney-McDaniel, and her new Co-Chairman, Bob Paduchik, have started strong out of the gates and performed admirably for our party and nation; as exhibited by the strongest fundraising quarter the RNC has ever experienced. While it is certainly a team effort with a lot of staffers and supporters to thank, it is their leadership that has guided us thus far. So, “thank you” for your focus, hard-work and execution.
2. Leveraging the RNC’s “treasure trove” of data in our local and state races can make the difference between winning and losing. Here in Colorado, Republicans need to ensure we utilize these resources and put together targeted, strategic and deliberate campaign plans to energize our base and convince independents.
3. As a reminder, in November 2018, there will be a great opportunity for Colorado Republicans to win back the Governor’s mansion. And we cannot squander this opportunity. In the last 40 years, we have had only 1 Republican Governor in Colorado.... It is time to change that!

Last week was a busy, yet great week! It is clear the RNC is a great institution and I am very proud to be associated with the Republican Party, the White House and President Trump. Once again, I want to thank each of you for allowing me to represent you at the RNC. It is a great honor and privilege to represent Colorado at this body.

Respectfully submitted,



Vera Ortegón

Colorado RNC National Committeewoman

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