



College Republican Federation of Virginia

January 25, 2020
Richmond, Virginia

Good afternoon,

A number of allegations have been made against the College Republican Federation of Virginia and me. I hope to address them succinctly below and urge you to reach out with any further questions or concerns.

1. In regard to the accusation that this convention was illegitimately called:

The decisions of day and location were made by the executive committee reasonably and in good faith. The location is not only in our commonwealth's capital, but also central to most chapters being within a 2-hour drive of the overwhelming majority of chapters. The longstanding practice of the CRFV Executive Committee has been to manage the details of the annual convention without significant deliberation of the CRFV Executive Board. This practice avoids the need for numerous, lengthy in-person meetings while still providing a consistent and accessible location. If the date or location was a true concern, it should have been expressed at the time when something could have been done about it, well prior to a week before we convened.

2. In regard to rechartering and delegate allocation:

The CRFV administered chartering and consequent delegate allocation in accordance with the CRFV Constitution. The second vice chair recused himself at the request of Devan Coombes on behalf of her ticket. The rechartering application provides specific instructions, and I was personally available for questions throughout the process. The rules are the same each year, and all chapters were treated equally in the auditing process. Every chapter that failed to provide information to meet the minimum requirements to receive a charter, was dropped from the rolls per Article IV, Section 7. These groups were permitted to resubmit the application for charter, but because they did so after the December 15 deadline, the maximum number of delegates they could receive was 2. Every chapter that provided inadequate or incorrect information had its delegate count reallocated accordingly. Most chapters followed the instructions properly, so their delegate counts remained unchanged. Each chapter was provided an opportunity to appeal the decision, and each appeal was considered and voted on by the credentials committee.

3. In regard to fiscal responsibility:

The CRFV is pleased to provide all delegates traveling more than one hour to the convention with complimentary lodging Friday night. As one of the only state federations in the nation that routinely provide free lodging at all events, including our annual state convention. I want to make it clear that this is a privilege. Fiscal responsibility is a tenant of the Republican Party and expecting a free handout—which is exactly what expecting a free hotel room is—is frankly shameful and unreplican.

4. In regard to “lost” appeals:

No chapter's appeal was lost by the credentials committee. To file an appeal, chapters completed an online form stating the grounds for which they sought relief and could attach supporting evidence. Upon submission, the appeal was sent to each Credentials Committee member's email and to the CRFV email. Additionally, a confirmation email was sent to the submitter's email. The Credentials Committee members and CRFV never received two appeals, *James Madison University and Eastern Mennonite University*, through the constitutional protocol but were considered just as though they had been submitted properly and timely.

5. In regards to chapters left off the drop-down list:

No delegate or alternate was prohibited or delayed in registering at any point. The form to register delegates and alternates was created at the start of the delegate/alternate registration period. All chartered chapters were included in the list. There was simply a delay, due to the clerical workload, in issuing charters after the deadline and adding them to the delegate registration form.

I have no concern over the integrity of the annual convention. Everyone has been made aware of the location (Richmond) and date (February 1) with ample time to make their own accommodations should they so choose. However, I am concerned and disappointed by any public attempts to create divisions and smear the CRFV. Frustrations and concerns should be aired to the CRFV community, but not to the public at large. Ultimately, we all have the same goals: to grow the Party and get Republicans elected. Public disputes undermine that and strengthen our mutual opponent: Democrats.

Sincerely,



Courtney Britt
Chairwoman
College Republican Federation of Virginia