

Note from CCDP Chair Liz Guinan: Reminder About Thursday's Executive Committee Meeting

We're going to have a rather short Executive Committee meeting on Thursday, Dec. 15. I'll be sending the agenda later tonight. We're going to quickly cover what Sue Blalock has analyzed so far, which is mostly the historical voting data. The 2022 voting data didn't get uploaded to VoteBuilder until a couple of days after the Georgia election, so she hasn't had much of a chance to analyze how our efforts might have impacted voting.

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Events

Monday, December 12, 5:30 p.m.
Chatham County Schools Board of Education Meeting
George Moses Horton Middle School Multipurpose Room
Pittsboro

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News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

This week's news releases:

Attorney General Josh Stein Reaches \$50 Billion Milestone Holding Big Pharma Accountable for Opioid Crisis

Today, Attorney General Josh Stein announced that he has reached more than [\\$50 billion](#) in total national recoveries from the pharmaceutical industry for its role in the opioid crisis, including more than \$1 billion for North Carolina. Statistics show that nearly [8 North Carolinians](#) die every day from opioid overdose.

"North Carolinians deserve to live a healthy and fulfilling life, but for far too long the opioid crisis has taken and torn apart far too many lives," said NCDP Chair Bobbie Richardson. "I am thankful for the work that Attorney General Stein has accomplished leading these negotiations and securing more than \$50 billion to hold companies accountable for fueling and profiting off of this crisis. This is a monumental milestone that will provide critical treatment and recovery services for the people who are struggling with substance use disorder."

This announcement follows a historic [\\$26 billion](#) agreement reached in 2021, in which Attorney General Stein was a lead negotiator, that will bring desperately needed resources to communities harmed by the opioid epidemic.

Over the last several months, Attorney General Stein has been meeting with local county officials across the state to discuss allocation of settlement funds. Throughout these visits, Stein has emphasized the importance of providing money directly to counties so that they are able to make the best decisions about how to spend it at the local level, while prioritizing prevention, treatment, and recovery services that are proven to work.

ICYMI: As Moore v. Harper Arguments Begin, Floyd McKissick Pens Op-ed Highlighting Threat To Democracy

As oral arguments have begun in Moore v. Harper, NCDP First Vice Chair Floyd McKissick penned an [op-ed](#) for the News & Observer on the threat this case imposes on democracy and holding Republicans accountable for their "[alarming](#)" efforts to undermine democracy for their own political gain.

Read the highlights:

[News & Observer](#): High-stakes election case before the Supreme Court should alarm all in NC

- The U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments Wednesday on a case that poses an existential threat to our democracy — Moore v. Harper. With this case, Republicans have made clear that winning elections reigns above all else.
- As a senator in the N.C. General Assembly, I sat on redistricting committees and fought against the twisted tactics employed by my Republican colleagues to gerrymander our districts. With these partisan maps, Republicans split communities and neighborhoods down the middle to dilute the democratic process and disenfranchise voters — disproportionately impacting communities of color.
- Moore v. Harper seeks a radical misinterpretation of our U.S. Constitution that would have severe implications on future presidential and congressional elections, including empowering state legislators to overturn election results and subvert the will of N.C. voters.
- With Moore v. Harper, they are taking matters to the brink by appealing to a Republican-dominated Supreme Court in hopes it will put partisanship before people and support their fringe independent legislature doctrine.
- Republicans' willingness to cast aside decades of precedent and our very Constitution for partisan gain is alarming and North Carolinians should pay attention. Our democracy is fragile. We must fight to protect it.

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News from Neighbors on Call

Fair Representation

- **[Oral arguments in the gerrymandering case Moore v. Harper took place at the United States Supreme Court on Wednesday.](#)** Lawyers for Republicans in the NCGA argued for the so-called "independent state legislature theory," claiming that state courts should not be able to overturn election rules set by state legislatures for federal elections. Opposing lawyers emphasized that the Supreme Court's accepting the independent state legislature theory would represent a radical departure from precedent and could risk state guarantees of fair elections. With the three liberal justices certain to reject the Republicans' arguments and four conservative justices previously seeming open to the independent state legislature theory, the decision is likely to come down to Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Amy Coney Barrett, both of whom expressed skepticism about the theory during the oral arguments. You can find a full transcript of the oral arguments [here](#).

Voting Rights

- **["NC voter turnout in the midterms: What the data show for various groups"](#)** - analysis by Bob Hall in NC Policy Watch, 12/8/22

Selected News and Opinion Stories of Note

[WRAL.com](#): 'People Are Fed Up': As NC Democrats Reflect on Election Missteps, a Party Shake-up is Underway

[Carolina Public Press](#): Tips for Communities to Follow ARPA Funding

[Old North State Politics.com](#): With Turnout Data Finalized, a New Assessment of 2022's Mid-Term Election in NC

[Chapelboro.com](#): Pittsboro Commissioners Consider Funding Contribution Project for Chatham Park

[The Assembly NC](#): Changing a River's Course

[NY Times](#): 5 Georgia Takeaways: Scandals Still Matter, and Trump Faces Blowback

[Carolina Public Press](#): The Uncertain Future of Old-Growth Forests in North Carolina, Part One

[Carolina Public Press](#): The Uncertain Future of Old-Growth Forests in North Carolina, Part Two

[Ballotpedia.org](#): Conflicts in School Board Elections, 2021-2022

[Brennan Center.org](#): Moore v. Harper, Explained

[Chapelboro.com](#): National Justices Take Up Elections Case That Could Reshape Voting

[CNN](#): House Passes Bill To Protect Same-Sex Marriage in Landmark Vote Sending it to Biden

[Carolina Public Press](#): Moore v. Harper: What Is It? What's Happening Now and Why Is It Important?

[The Assembly NC](#): In the Dark

[Washington Post](#): Opinion: Values-Based Politics Are Winning Politics for Democrats

[NC Policy Watch](#): NC Voter Turnout in the Midterms: What the Data Show for Various Groups

[The Assembly NC](#): Before the Lights Went Out