

**Chatham County Democratic Party Weekly News Digest
December 4, 2023**

URGENT CALL TO ACTION: TELL THE NC STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS YOU WANT SUNDAY PRIMARY ELECTION VOTING!

Recently, the Chatham County Board of Elections voted 3-2, along party lines, to have one day of Sunday voting for the March 2024 Primary Election. Because the vote wasn't unanimous, the final decision will be made by the NC State Board of Elections during a meeting on December 19, following oral arguments from members of the Chatham County Board of Elections.

We have an opportunity to help influence the final vote by making our voices heard. In previous election years, Chatham Democrats voiced their strong support for Sunday voting by sending letters to the NC State Board of Elections. **You can help by:**

a) Sending an email to the NC State Board of Elections expressing your support for Sunday voting; and

b) Assuming NCSBE rules in our favor, turn out to vote on the designated Sunday and encourage others to do the same. This will help build the case for Sunday voting in future election cycles.

Republicans on the Chatham County Board of Elections argue that Chatham voters haven't turned out in large numbers for Sunday voting in the past, and that eliminating Sunday voting would not create a hardship for those who have taken advantage of Sunday voting in the past.

To be clear, Sunday voting is NOT a budget issue. The Chatham County Board of Elections has available funding to cover the expense.

Please make your voices heard by emailing NCSBE before December 19 to express your support for a day of Sunday voting for the March 2024 Primary Election. Send your emails to: elections.sboe@ncsbe.gov. Please use the following subject line: "Chatham County Supports Sunday Voting!"

Thanks for helping ensure that ALL voters have full access to the polls in next year's critical elections.

Join the CCDP Canvassing Team!

Door-to-door canvassing is the most effective way of increasing voter turnout. We knock on the doors of registered Democrats and left-leaning Unaffiliated voters, providing information about upcoming elections and the importance of their vote.

We provide training and can pair you up with an experienced partner who does most (or all) of the talking.

It's fun!
It's easy!
It burns calories!

And, it is the best way to help elect Democrats!

Volunteer TODAY - So that we can hit the ground running (or at least walking) in January for this crucial election year.

Sign up at: [Join Our Canvassing Team](#)

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Upcoming CCDP-Sponsored Events

CANCELLED -- December 5, 6 - 9 p.m. – Volunteer at a CCDP Zoom Watch Party, CCDP Community Engagement Center, 628 East St, Pittsboro

We have just learned that our December 5th speaker, Dr. Charles Johnson, has been unable to make travel arrangements from an out-of-town meeting that would enable him to speak to the Club. So, we are sadly canceling the meeting.

The next Club meeting will be on Tuesday, January 23rd featuring local candidates for election in the 2024 Primary election.

December 12, 6:30 - 8 p.m., CCDP Community Engagement Center, 628 East St, Pittsboro (via Zoom) – Let's Get Ready for 2024

CCDP wants to do LOTS of events in 2024, and we're getting ready!
Sign up below for one of our Let's Get Ready sessions and also take our:
[Events Volunteer Survey](#).

At this event, we'll review the results of this survey, describe CCDP's SEVEN event types, and describe the plan for events for 2024.

Check your email confirmation for the Zoom link.

We're looking forward to working with you!

Sign up at: [Events Team - Let's Get Ready for 2024!](#)

December 17, 2 – 6 p.m., CCDP Holiday Open House, Community Engagement Center, 628 East Street, Pittsboro

Stop by any time!

Limited to 100 - RSVP to Reserve your spot [here](#) now.

Donations

- Food donations accepted for CORA

Refreshments

- Cookies - **if you bake, please bring a plate of home-made cookies and copies of the recipe to share. You can also bring a dozen cookies in a gift bag for the raffle.**
- Beverages - we'll have water, coffee, hot cocoa, and eggnog

Entertainment

- Holiday song sing-alongs
- Craft and games for kids of all ages
- Raffle

Name the Donkey!

CCDP just acquired our new four-foot-tall cardboard donkey to use at events around the County, and we're super-excited for the donkey to get a name! [Submit your nomination for a name here](#). We'll vote to choose a winner during the last hour of the party.

Sign up to help with set up, check in, games and crafts organization, managing the refreshments table, and clean up.

The shifts are:

- 12:30 - 2:00 - Set Up
- 2:00 - 4:00 - Shift 1
- 4:00 - 6:00 - Shift 2
- 7:00 - 7:00 - Clean Up

Sign up at: [Help Organize the Holiday Party](#)

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Other Upcoming Events

CANCELLED -- December 5, 7 - 8:15 p.m. – Webinar on “The History of African Americans in Chatham County.”

We have just learned that our December 5th speaker, Dr. Charles Johnson, has been unable to make travel arrangements from an out-of-town meeting that would enable him to speak to the Club. So, we are sadly canceling the meeting.

The next Club meeting will be on Tuesday, January 23rd featuring local candidates for election in the 2024 Primary election.

December 5, 7:30 p.m. – Sweep Salon, Fighting for Civil Rights: Why Accurate History Matters (Virtual Event sponsored by Red Wine & Blue)

Join us to hear from Civil Rights activist Judy Richardson who was a student activist with Student Non-Violent Coordinating Community and participated in the Freedom Summer in 1964. Now a documentary filmmaker, she has continued to work for civil and human rights and will share her experiences and expertise with us.

Sign up at: [Fighting for Civil Rights: Why Accurate History Matters](#)

December 6, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. – County to County Volunteer Appreciation Event, Carolina Brewery, 460 W Franklin St, Chapel Hill

In appreciation for all you do, we hope you'll join us at the Carolina Brewery in Chapel Hill (460 W Franklin St, Chapel Hill, NC 27516) on Wednesday, December 6 from 5:30 - 7:30pm. Enjoy a beverage and light snacks on us as we review our accomplishments from 2023 and share our vision for 2024!

And bring a friend who is interested in joining our important work! (Please make sure they RSVP so we have enough).

County-to-County is an all-volunteer organization: C2C would simply not function without your time, energy, dedication, and passion. Thank you for all you do to further our mission to build county party infrastructure across NC and to elect Democratic legislators to the General Assembly.

Sign up at: [2023 Volunteer Appreciation Event · County to County Campaign, North Carolina](#)

December 6, 7:30 p.m., Little Banned Book Club: Born on the Water (Virtual Event), Sponsored by Red, Wine & Blue

Join us for Little Banned Book Club where we focus on children's books that are being targeted by extremists and being banned or challenged in communities across the country. Our discussion this month will be about The 1619 Project: Born on the Water. A book about a child who through a family tree assignment learns that her ancestors were brought to America as slaves. Together, we will read the book, talk about its impact and why some folks are up in arms about it.

Sign up at: [Little Banned Book Club: The 1619 Project: Born on the Water](#)

December 12, 2 - 4 p.m., Board of Elections Regular Scheduled Meeting, Board of Elections Office, 984 Thompson Street, Suite D, Pittsboro

The board meeting will be open to the public at the Board of Elections office; 984 Thompson Street, Suite D, Pittsboro, NC 27312 and online via GoToMeeting.

Meeting access information will be available to citizens prior to each meeting and available at the meeting.

To sign up to receive meeting notices click this link: <https://www.chathamnc.org/about-us/sign-up-for-e-notifier> .

Meeting Information:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/773064413>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code: 773-064-413

United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122)

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News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

Medicaid Expansion goes live, giving 600,000 North Carolinians Access to Healthcare NEW

- This is a huge win for North Carolina, especially since this comes after **the GOP delayed this for years and cost our state billions of dollars.**
- **North Carolina Republicans refused for more than 10 years to accept federal funding to help expand coverage to low-income people.**
- 600,000 North Carolinians now have access to healthcare, **and about half will automatically be enrolled in coverage.**
- North Carolina hospitals are getting \$2.6 billion, and the state legislature is investing \$835 million in behavioral health, including the first reimbursement rate increase for behavioral health services in more than a decade.

Statement from President Biden:

"Every American deserves high-quality affordable health care. Today, we are one step closer towards meeting that promise, as 600,000 North Carolinians can now access the affordable, quality coverage they need under Medicaid. Thanks to Governor Roy Cooper's years of leadership, in partnership with bipartisan elected officials, North Carolina is the 40th state to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. 300,000 North Carolinians will receive this coverage immediately and rural hospitals across the state will be able to keep their doors open to continue to care for their communities.

Despite this progress, MAGA Republicans still want to get rid of the Affordable Care Act, just like my predecessor tried and failed to do repeatedly. There are 40 million people who get their health insurance through the Affordable Care Act and repealing the law would put their care at risk. Repealing the Affordable Care Act means that states, including North Carolina, wouldn't be able to offer care through Medicaid expansion.

NCDP Passes Vote to Officially Recognize Jewish Caucus with Overwhelming Support

North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton released the following statement:

“We held an important vote tonight to officially recognize the Jewish Caucus and to send a message that the Democratic Party will always be a big tent party. It was incredibly important to us to call this meeting to ensure the Jewish Caucus gets official recognition. In a time of divisiveness and heightened emotions and fear, I am proud that tonight we made sure to go into 2024 united. The North Carolina Democratic Party stands against Islamophobia, antisemitism, and any form of hatred against marginalized communities.”

2024 DNC Delegate Selection Process Opens

On December 1, The North Carolina Democratic Party announced the opening of the [2024 DNC Delegate Selection Process](#).

To become a delegate, **voters must be a registered Democrat, submit a notice of candidacy, and engage with the party to actively seek support for their candidacy.** Any registered Democrat is eligible to apply.

North Carolina has the 9th largest delegation in the nation, with 130 voting members. All but 14 of the delegates will be pledged to a candidate and the number allocated to each candidate is based upon the results of the “Super Tuesday” March 5, 2024, Presidential Primary Election.

Seventy-six (76) delegates representing each congressional district will be elected at District Conventions on April 27, 2024. Twenty-five (25) At-Large Delegates, 15 Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates, and 10 alternates will be elected at the State Convention on June 1, 2024. The remaining 14 delegates are Automatic Delegates, such as DNC members, Democratic members of Congress, and the Governor.

The Delegate Selection Plan outlines a process for electing an equal number of men and women, with language to include North Carolina’s gender non-binary community, and includes representation goals for African-American, Hispanic, Native American, AAPI, LGBTQ+, young (under 35), senior (over 65) and veteran delegates, as well as delegates with disabilities.

The complete North Carolina Delegate Selection Plan is available [here](#), along with information about upcoming online information sessions on the selection process.

Interested In Running for Office?

Politics doesn't get better until better people get involved in politics. [Candidate filing](#) opens December 4, 2023 and closes on December 15, 2023. Our goal is to contest every race and we need YOU to run for office! If you are interested in running for office, fill out our [form](#) to get connected.

NCDP Is Hiring

Check out our openings at [Work with Us](#) and share with anyone you think may be interested.

ARTICLES TO AMPLIFY

WRAL: In win for Cooper and Democrats, NC Judges block GOP-backed elections laws ahead of 2024

WUNC: Expansion adds hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians to Medicaid

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News from Neighbors on Call

December 14, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Party With a Purpose

Join Neighbors on Call and special guests NC Sens. Lisa Grafstein and Mary Wills Bode, NC Rep. Julie von Haefen, and a *surprise guest* for our annual Party with a Purpose!

Pick your party venue:

- Chapel Hill (Seymour Center)
- Durham (private home near Cornwallis Rd Park*)
- Holly Springs (private home in the Wescott neighborhood*) - Sen. Grafstein, Rep. von Haefen and our surprise guest will join from this location!
- Pittsboro (downtown location*)
- Wake Forest (private home in the Heritage neighborhood*) - Sen. Bode will join from this location!
- Zoom (brief program at 7pm, all venues will join)

Then, party with a purpose:

Over snacks and chit chat, we'll write thank-you notes to wonderful NC leaders who connected with NoC volunteers this year -- and who advocate for justice every day despite all obstacles.

Having fun together is part of our mission to stay engaged in the fight for democracy. So, please join us for fun, fellowship, and special guests! Over snacks and chit chat, we'll write thank-you notes to wonderful NC leaders who connected with NoC volunteers this year -- and who advocate for justice every day.

See party details, pick your location, and RSVP at neighborsoncall.org!

NC Policy Update for 11/27/23

Fair Representation

- [Two Black voters from northeastern North Carolina counties are suing the state to invalidate new state Senate maps.](#) The plaintiffs [argue that Republicans redistricted counties](#) in the “Black Belt” of rural northeastern North Carolina in a way that “cracks” Black voters across districts, diluting Black voting power. [They have also asked federal judge James Dever to hear the case and make a quick decision before filing opens for 2024 races on December 4.](#)

Voting Rights

- [On Tuesday parties in a case about North Carolina's voter ID law argued in Federal District Court about when to hold a trial in the case.](#) The NAACP, which is challenging the law, wants the trial to take place in February to leave enough time before the 2024 elections for voter ID to be blocked if the challenge is successful. Republican leaders would rather put off the trial to delay long enough that voter ID will be required in the 2024 elections even if it is ultimately overturned.

NC Policy Update for 12/4/23

Governance

- **Governor Cooper appointed attorney Jessica Holmes to take over the rest of State Auditor Beth Wood's term when she steps down on December 15.** Holmes, who is the former chair of the Wake County Commissioners and currently serves as Deputy Industrial Commissioner, will be the first Black woman on the NC Council of State. [Wood is stepping down after being indicted on a misdemeanor charge of misusing a state vehicle;](#) she was also involved in a hit-and-run with a parked car last December.

- **On Thursday a three-judge panel unanimously ruled to block a law stripping Governor Cooper of appointment power to the State Board of Elections from going into effect.** In October, Cooper sued over SB 749, which expands the State Board of Elections and assigns appointment power to the state legislature rather than the governor. [The judges – two Republicans and one Democrat – found that the law is likely unconstitutional.](#) The ruling is a preliminary injunction, and there will be a full trial in early 2024.
- **On Tuesday a federal judge ruled the ethics investigation of NC Supreme Court Justice Anita Earls could move ahead.** Earls is under investigation by the Judicial Standards Commission for comments she made about racial, gender, and political biases on the North Carolina Supreme Court. Earls is suing to stop the investigation on First Amendment grounds. She appealed Tuesday’s decision and asked that the investigation be blocked at least until an appeal can be heard, but [Judge William Osteen denied that request on Thursday.](#)
- **Dozens of new laws in North Carolina started Dec. 1. Here’s what they do –** Dawn Baumgartner Vaughan, The News & Observer

Fair Representation

- **On Monday a federal judge denied a request by plaintiffs challenging new NC Senate maps to speed up their case given approaching filing deadlines for the 2024 election.** U.S. District Court Judge James C. Dever, a conservative Republican, called the emergency motion for an expedited review “meritless,” questioning why plaintiffs took 26 days to file their action if they thought it was urgent. The decision is a victory for Republicans, as every delay on this case and others challenging Republican gerrymanders makes it more likely the new maps will stay in place for the 2024 elections.

Health Care Policy

- **After 14 years, billions to flow as 600,000 qualify for Medicaid insurance in NC: Medicaid expansion means North Carolina’s working poor can go to the doctor for free. It also means billions in new federal funding for hospitals.** – Travis Fain, WRAL News
- The **Department of Health and Human Services has a new website** that shares Medicaid program eligibility requirements and how to apply.

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Updates from NC House Democratic Leader Robert Reives, November 29

Reflection on the 2023 Session

As 2023 comes to an end, it’s an appropriate moment to reflect on the year.

I’ve supported several bills during this session to create a better North Carolina, including codifying Roe v. Wade, fully funding our public schools, passing paid leave and a higher minimum wage, and supporting fair political district maps. The bills

represent a range of ways that we can get better as a state and do better for the families who live here.

However, Republicans had a different policy agenda. The laws passed in the 2023 session were out of step with what North Carolinians want: common sense laws that help people. Instead, the Republican supermajority chose to pass a 12-week abortion ban, send over \$3.5 billion to private schools for even wealthy students' tuition, give corporations tax breaks, and enact gerrymandered maps that they drew themselves.

My wish for 2024 is that instead of enacting extreme laws, we can pass bills to make life easier for North Carolina's families.

Medicaid Expansion Goes Live December 1

There is a bright spot as we wrap up the year! NC Medicaid will soon cover people ages 19 through 64 with higher incomes. Starting December 1, 2023, most people will be able to get health care coverage through NC Medicaid. NC Medicaid covers most health services. It includes doctor visits, check-ups, emergency care, hospital services, maternity and postpartum care, vision and hearing services, prescription drugs, behavioral health, preventive and wellness services, dental/oral health care, devices, and more. There is no monthly fee and copays are never more than \$4.

Redistricting Lawsuits Unlikely to Affect 2024

A federal judge denied to hear a request for a speedy trial regarding North Carolina's newly redrawn State Senate maps. Black voters from Eastern North Carolina filed a lawsuit arguing that some of the State Senate districts in that part of the state were racial gerrymanders that disenfranchised voters of color. They wanted the courts to block the maps so that they could potentially be redrawn before candidate filing which begins on December 4th. Barring anything unforeseen, the recently approved districts for the US House of Representatives, NC House and NC Senate will be the maps used in the 2024 elections.

So far, only the State Senate maps have been challenged by a lawsuit. Still, experts anticipate that the other maps will be challenged eventually, although the results of those cases will not have any impact until the 2026 election cycle at the earliest. Voting rights advocates have argued that the districts drawn by Republican legislators are racial gerrymanders that disenfranchise voters of color. That is especially apparent in Eastern North Carolina where large populations of Black voters are split between districts in an effort to dilute their ability to elect the representatives of their choice. In the State Senate lawsuit, the plaintiffs argued that the districts violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. Section 2 prohibits voting practices or procedures that discriminate on the basis of race or color.

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News from County-to-County

November 29 — By Janie Benson

Janie Benson is Co-Chair, C2C Latino Engagement Team. She is joined for this article by contributors Eliazar Posada, Jennifer Bremer, and Bill Morrisett.

In 2020, County-to County (C2C) launched the Latino Engagement Team (LET) to reach out to North Carolina's [fastest-growing ethnic group](#). Since then, LET has worked extensively with partner counties and candidates through canvassing, phone banking, post carding, and tabling events. The low Latino turnout in the 2022 midterms shows we have our work cut out for us in the coming year. Here's why this work is vital for Democratic success in 2024 and how C2C can make a difference in motivating Latino voters to support Democrats.

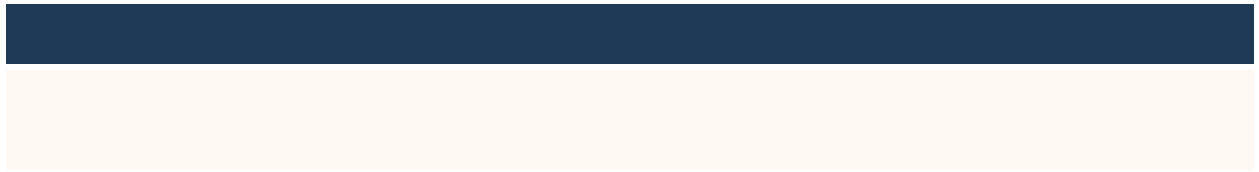
Who are Latino voters in North Carolina and what is their voting history?

North Carolina is currently home to [1.1 million Latinos](#), a 40% increase between 2010 and 2020. While Latinos constitute 20% or more of the population in some rural counties, [over one-quarter of all NC Latinos](#) live in Mecklenburg and Wake Counties. NC Latinos are diverse in their educational levels, family country of origin, religious affiliation, and residence, and [trend younger in age](#) than the overall US population. The [majority \(61%\) are US born](#).

As of 2020, about [342,000 Latino citizens of voting age lived in NC](#), more than double the number in 2010, yet [just 66%](#) were registered to vote. As of November 2022, 40% of registered Latinos were Democrats and 44% were Unaffiliated. Statewide, [turnout among registered Latino voters was almost 60% in the 2020](#) presidential election but dropped to 25% in the [2022 midterms](#). NC Latinos registered as Republicans turned out at a higher rate in 2022 than did Latino Democrats and Unaffiliated voters.

Latino voters can make a difference in the 2024 elections

With their rapid growth, NC Latino voters are critical to Democratic wins. A number of state legislative candidates supported by C2C won or lost by narrow margins in 2022. 2024 is unlikely to be different. Gabe Esparza, a Democratic candidate for state treasurer, summarized the [potential for Latino voters to make a difference](#). "The reality is in North Carolina that we don't need hundreds of thousands...of Latinos to vote to



WHAT DEMOCRATS HAVE DONE FOR US: A REPORT CARD (VOL. II)

November 29 — By Sondra Stein

In Part I of this [Report Card](#), we looked at how Democrats put in place important pieces of legislation that:

- helped families and students and businesses stay afloat during the pandemic
- allowed Americans to get back to work and
- lowered living costs for families.

In Part II, we'll examine how, with the support of Dems in Congress, the Biden-Harris administration:

- made quality health care accessible to more of us
 - improved safety in our communities and
 - removed barriers for citizens of all ages to get ahead.
-

Making Health Care more affordable for all of us

- **670,000 North Carolinians saved an average of \$762 on their health care** in 2022 as a result of subsidies provided through the [American Rescue Plan](#). The Inflation Reduction Act extended these savings through 2025, enabling a record 801,000 throughout the state to sign up for quality, affordable care in the 2023 ACA open enrollment period.
- What's more, **these subsidies enabled 106,000 North Carolina small businesses to afford health care for their employees.**
- The American Rescue Plan also **enabled 135,000 NC residents in the Medicaid coverage gap to gain access to healthcare** during the pandemic.
- Now that the NC legislature has finally expanded Medicaid, taking delayed advantage of sweeteners that the Biden Administration offered all states, **approximately 600,000 North Carolinians will have access to permanent, quality health care** starting in December of this year.
- **Prescription costs are coming down, too. Over 1.9 million North Carolina residents with Medicare will benefit from the \$2,000 yearly cap** on out-of-

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News from NC Congressman Jeff Jackson, November 27

Predictions about December and Stopping by The Daily Show

Congress went home for Thanksgiving, but we're headed back to D.C. tomorrow. Normally, we'd be trying to finish a budget right now, but that was punted until January. We'll be in session for the next three weeks. There's a lot that *could* happen... but then again, there's a distinct chance that *nothing* happens.

That said, here are my predictions:

I think it is very likely that we'll kick Rep. George Santos out of Congress, maybe even this week. It will be the first time in 20 years that's happened, but the ethics report was absolutely damning and the latest attempt to expel him is being led by the Chairman of the Ethics Committee. That's a clear sign that this is a leadership-approved expulsion. My only curiosity here is, will anyone (other than Santos...) vote against it?

Next on the list of probable occurrences is the long-awaited defeat of Sen. Tuberville's hold on roughly 400 military nominations. I think it's reasonably likely that he either caves or the Senate votes to change the rule and end his blockade. Call it a 60% chance.

Now for the big 50/50. There's an aid package that combines Ukraine/Israel/Taiwan/southern border. It can't pass the House right now because of the Ukraine piece. In the Senate, the stumbling block appears to be the southern border piece. The sense I'm getting is that the Senate will pass some version of this package - maybe by next week. Then it will come to the House where the first question will be whether the Speaker will let it come to a vote. He certainly *wants* to do something on all of those issues, but his political concern is whether he is willing to upset his right-flank again so soon after he upset them by passing the budget extension two weeks ago. My general feeling is that the chance of that package passing both chambers before the end of the year is probably a coin flip.

Those are my predictions - but then again, nothing invites the unexpected more than writing down a list of probabilities and emailing them to everyone you know, so now that I've done that we can all be assured that something truly wild will occur.

Stopping by The Daily Show

Two weeks ago, I got an email asking if I'd like to be a guest on *The Daily Show*. I grew up watching Jon Stewart and enjoyed Trevor Noah so the show has a warm place in my heart. Then they told me the date they wanted me for: the day before Thanksgiving. In

other words, the question was whether I was willing to travel to and from NYC on *the busiest travel day of the year*. So, I said sure, let's go for it.

The show usually tapes at 6pm in front of a live audience. It was a bit of an ordeal, but I got there at 4pm. The producer met me when I arrived and made sure to tell me, "You don't have to be funny. That's what the hosts are for." It felt like she had seen politicians swing and miss before.

It went well (you can see a shortened version of the interview [here](#)). We talked about gerrymandering, fake outrage in Congress, using social media to keep my constituents posted, George Santos, and running for Attorney General. The hosts were throwing in jokes where they could, but the wild part was the audience. They were definitely there to have a good time. It almost felt like a town hall.

And naturally I missed my plane heading home, so I didn't get in until the next afternoon... on Thanksgiving day. But I made it home just in time. Worked out perfectly.

Best,
Jeff

###

Notes from the Executive Director of Community Organizing for Racial Equity (CORE)

Friends,

December 1st is upon us. This year has had many ups and downs for us at CORE, and we continue to thrive. We will always continue our work despite the barriers put up around us. Today marks the first day a [state law](#) will go into effect, and it is bound to have a significant impact on CORE. Why? This new state law restricts the training of state employees on the following:

§ 126-14.6. Ensuring dignity and nondiscrimination in State government workplaces.

(a) The General Assembly finds that Article I, Section 1 of the Constitution of this State recognizes the equality and rights of all persons. Therefore, it is the intent of the General

Assembly that State employees respect the dignity of others, acknowledge the right of others to

express differing opinions, and the right to freedom of speech and association and that State

agencies employ training methods and procedures to further that intent.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "promote" shall mean compelling State employees to affirm or profess belief in the concepts described in subsection (c) of this section.

(c) The concepts listed in this subsection shall not be promoted in State government workplaces or included as part of any State employee training program:

- (1) One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex.*
- (2) An individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive.*
- (3) An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex.*
- (4) An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex.*
- (5) An individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex.*
- (6) Any individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress.*
- (7) A meritocracy is inherently racist or sexist.*
- (8) The United States was created by members of a particular race or sex for the purpose of oppressing members of another race or sex.*
- (9) The United States government should be violently overthrown.*
- (10) Particular character traits, values, moral or ethical codes, privileges, or beliefs should be ascribed to a race or sex or to an individual because of the individual's race or sex.*
- (11) The rule of law does not exist, but instead is a series of power relationships and struggles among racial or other groups.*
- (12) All Americans are not created equal and are not endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*
- (13) Governments should deny to any person within the government's jurisdiction the equal protection of the law.*

(d) Nothing in this section prevents a private contractor who provides training to State employees from responding to questions that are raised by participants in the training and which pertain to the concepts in subsection (c) of this section. However, the private contractor must make it clear that the State government employer does not endorse those concepts.

(e) This section does not apply to speech protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution."

Our main revenue stream comes from contracts where we are invited to provide racial equity workshops and consulting services across the state. This work directly funds our programming at CORE. We have been speaking to experts in nonprofit policy and law about the implications this law will have on us.

We remain hopeful that we will stay the course in 2024, because our vision of stronger communities begins with you - you have invested and continue to invest in community by helping us grow and train more and more community organizers, provide free workshops to educators, hosts community dinners, and throw one banging Juneteenth

Festival year after year. You are building a stronger community alongside us and proving there is abundance even when we are told there is only scarcity.

So, again, how will this impact our work? We will remain despite the storm because we have you as our co-conspirators.

I appreciate each and every one of you. You are enough just as you are.

-Karinda

###

Selected News and Opinion Stories of Note

ABC 11: [North Carolina Gov. Cooper appoints Jessica Holmes as new State Auditor following Beth Wood's resignation](#)

Anderson Alerts: [As lawmakers chip away at open records laws, NC voters call for transparency](#)

Anderson Alerts: [Medicaid expansion has launched today. Who can enroll and how?](#)

Anderson Alerts: [5 things to know about how NC lawmakers voted this year and who didn't show up for work](#)

Anderson Alerts: [A small perk for ditching Congress](#)

AP News: [North Carolina trial judges block election board changes made by Republican legislature](#)

AP News: [Black voters file federal lawsuit challenging North Carolina Senate map](#)

Asheville Citizen-Times: [Opinion: NC Gerrymandering is Unfair and Has Statewide Consequences](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [How Biden's American Rescue Plan helped NC finally expand Medicaid](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [Mold and classes in trailers: Inadequate funding for schools is hurting NC communities](#)

Cardinal & Pine: ['You Can't Win for Losing': Inside Sampson County, NC's Environmental Nightmare](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [How To Apply for Health Insurance Under North Carolina's Medicaid Expansion](#)

Carolina Forward: [What lies ahead for the NCGA](#)

Carolina Public Press: [A double-edged sword: North Carolina expands the fight against fentanyl](#)

CBS 17: [North Carolina election districts lawsuits expected](#)

Chapelboro: [Ethics Probe Into North Carolina Justice's Comments Continues After Federal Court Refuses to Halt It](#)

County-to-County NC: [Latino voters forward and up](#)

County-to-County NC: [WHAT DEMOCRATS HAVE DONE FOR US: A REPORT CARD \(PART II\)](#)

Democracy Docket: [Court Cases - North Carolina S.B. 749 Challenge](#)

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