

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF PITT

AFFIDAVIT OF DR. KENNETH ROBOL

Dr. Kenneth Robol, being duly sworn, deposes as says as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen (18) and competent to testify.
2. I am a United States citizen and resident of Pitt County, North Carolina.
3. I am registered to vote as a member of the Republican Party in North Carolina.
4. I have been generally interested in Republican Party politics.
5. I hold a Doctorate in Education and am currently teaching at Pitt Community College. I have taught website development in North Carolina community colleges for the last seven years. I have also provided IT assistance to several local Republican Party entities.
5. On March 7, 2016, I had seen a number of statements on Facebook indicating that the Chairman of the Party, Hasan Harnett and the vice chair had been cut off from their emails. As a result, I communicated with Daniel Ruffy to offer my assistance. He directed me to contact Michelle Nix.
6. I then contacted Ms. Nix, who sent me the contact information for Mr. Harnett. On the evening of March 7, 2016, I sent a text message to Mr. Harnett.
7. On the morning of March 8, 2016 I spoke with Mr. Harnett over the telephone. In that conversation I explained to him my background. I told him I have previously dealt with situations where one person locked another out of a website, and that I was familiar with

Word Press. I also informed him that I had reviewed the information on the website and had looked at the public security of the website. Mr. Harnett told me that he had been “locked out” of the North Carolina Republican Party website and that he was trying to gain access to it, and asked for my assistance.

8. Prior to our conversation, I was not familiar with the specifics of the organizational structure of the North Carolina Republican Party under the North Carolina Republican Party Plan of Organization. As a result, I assumed that the State Party Chairman had regular access to and control of the website by virtue of his office as State Party Chairman, and that I could be helpful to the Republican party by assisting him.

9. Mr. Harnett requested that I look at the security at the website; I informed him that I had done so. I advised him that the website was set up on Go-Daddy.com. I told him there were three ways to get in.

10. The first was through the password, which we did not have access to.

11. The second, was through the File Manager. My SQL open source database. I told Mr. Harnett that if he could get the Accounting Manager on the phone to designate me as authorized to deal with the website, I could get in and restore access. Mr. Harnett then told me that “Accounting is against me.” I then suggested we call the Executive Director. Mr. Harnett also said no because the Executive Director was also against him.

12. The third method possible that I told him about was a brute force attack. I told Mr. Harnett that, while I had never done one personally, this could crash or damage the website. It would destabilize the site and likely crash it.

13. Mr. Harnett then told me that he preferred to do a brute force attack. He then turned the conversation to his campaign promise that he would lower the \$90.00 fee and

asked me to help him set up an alternative website. The purpose of this website would be to sell tickets to the North Carolina State Party Convention directly from that website for \$45.00, raise the money from the sale of these tickets, and then go back to the Party.

14. At this point I told him to let me know what he wanted me to do, and the conversation concluded.

15. I was concerned by Mr. Harnett's statements because he had requested me to hack and potentially damage the North Carolina Republican Party website, that he did not want to go through Accounting, and that he was trying to raise money through an alternative website. As a result of my concerns, I called Harvey West later that morning, who gave me more information about the North Carolina Republican Party organizational structure.

16. On March 10, 2016, I was contacted by Harnett, who sent me a message asking me to speak again.

17. I am concerned that, if I do not assist Mr. Harnett in breaching the North Carolina Republican Party website and setting up an alternative website, that he will find another IT professional to assist him in doing so.

Further the affiant sayeth not.

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This the 14th day of March, 2016.



Kenneth Robol, D. Ed.

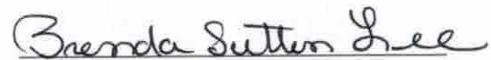
State of: North Carolina

County of: Beaufort

I, Brenda Sutton Lee, a Notary Public for Beaufort County, North Carolina, do hereby certify that Kenneth Robol personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument, Affidavit.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 14th day of March, 2016.

My commission expires: 8-30-2020



Notary Public

