



Republican National Lawyers Association

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The Republican National Lawyers Association Calls Upon Clinton Campaign to Condemn and Stop Recounts

Washington, D.C. — The Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA) calls upon the campaign of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton to stand down and condemn the recount effort in Wisconsin and possibly other states. We are extremely disappointed by the change of heart of Secretary Clinton in deciding to participate. This is an unprecedented effort to divide our country.

RNLA President Larry Levy said: “The alleged concerns that the recount is to ensure every vote is properly counted is ludicrous. If that were true, why aren’t they seeking recounts in every state or at least include New Hampshire where Secretary Clinton won by a scant 2,736 votes or other states with narrow Democrat wins? This effort diverts attention from the critical work of President-elect Trump and his team to form a new Administration and to be prepared to lead America forward on day one.”

The recount is pointless, a waste of resources, a squandering of taxpayer funds, and flies in the face of the long tradition of accepting results. Do not take our word for it. Look at the past statements of Secretary Clinton and her lawyer. Further, RNLA agrees with the Obama Administration in its opposition to the recount.

1. Previously, Secretary Hillary Clinton called the very thought of not accepting the election results “horrible.” She added: “We are a country based on laws. And we’ve had hot, contested elections going back to the very beginning, but one of our hallmarks has always been that we accept the outcomes of our elections.”¹
2. To be clear, there is no doubt about the election results. This is why the Clinton campaign decided previously not to pursue the recount. In the words of the Clinton campaign lawyer Marc Elias: “Because we had not uncovered any actionable evidence of hacking or outside attempts to alter the voting technology, we had not planned to exercise this option ourselves.”² Elias also attacked North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory for seeking a recount in a statewide race with a margin lower than Wisconsin and actual irregularities alleged.³

¹ <http://time.com/4538117/presidential-debate-hillary-clinton-gaggle/>

² <https://medium.com/@marceelias/listening-and-responding-to-calls-for-an-audit-and-recount-2a904717ea39#.mq84q1479>

³ <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article115729818.html>

3. The Obama Administration also agrees that there is no basis for a recount:

The Obama administration said it has seen no evidence of hackers tampering with the 2016 presidential election, even as recount proceedings began in Wisconsin.

“We stand behind our election results, which accurately reflect the will of the American people,” a senior administration official told POLITICO late Friday.

“The federal government did not observe any increased level of malicious cyber activity aimed at disrupting our electoral process on election day,” the official added. “We believe our elections were free and fair from a cybersecurity perspective.”⁴

The Clinton campaign should not only not join in this folly but should immediately condemn it. Prominent Democrat lawyers such as Marc Elias should refuse to participate or be forever tarnished for damaging the rule of law and the election law bar.

As far as the Green Party is concerned, we are not aware of another time in history when a candidate with less than 2% of the vote in a state called for a recount. The Green Party’s effort is not an effort to win or fix the election process, but rather it is a naked effort to fundraise, to build its donor list and disrupt the newly elected Administration and our democratic process.

RNLA is the national organization of Republican attorneys. The mission of RNLA is to advance professionalism; open, fair and honest elections; career opportunity; and Republican ideals. RNLA will now devote our resources to defending the just completed election. For more information, please visit <http://www.rnla.org>.

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⁴ <http://www.politico.com/story/2016/11/white-house-hackers-election-recount-231849>