



April 20, 2018

Mr. Jim Beckert
Auditor Beaufort County
100 Ribaut Road, Suite 160
Beaufort, SC 29902

Mr. Beckert – You are receiving this letter from the Chairman’s Board (elected officers and committee chairman) of the Beaufort County Republican Party. An urgent matter has been brought to our attention that requires your immediate attention and action. In recent weeks you sent several emails to elected officials of the Beaufort County Republican Party, including the Chairman and Vice Chairman (see attached).

In the first email dated March 19 you requested a document and listed the name of “Arbeit” Zedd as the only recipient. This email was sent to BCRP Chairman Sherri Zedd at her AOL email account, sherriz366@aol.com. The term Arbeit is not part of Chairman Zedd’s name, in fact this term is considered a degrading, insulting religious slur to most. The term is most offensive to persons of the Jewish faith whose ancestors suffered the horrors of the holocaust. As you know, Chairman Zedd is Jewish. On March 19 Chairman Zedd responded to your email by fulfilling your request and also asking you to explain the use of the term Arbeit; you never responded to her question. On April 4th, you sent another email to BCRP Chairman Sherri Zedd and BCRP Vice Chairman Richard Geraghty, again referring to Chairman Zedd as Arbeit.

The Anti-Defamation League and many others consider the term “Arbeit” to be a religious slur against Jewish people as it is a reference to the “*Arbeit macht frei*”(translated as "work sets you free") on the gates of Auschwitz and other concentration camps. As pointed out above, you were given an opportunity by Chairman Zedd to provide an explanation and make correction in a return email dated March 19, 2018. Your failure to avail yourself of this opportunity to explain is distressing to the BCRP Chairman’s Board.

The members of BCRP Chairman’s Board have reviewed this correspondence and find it extremely offensive that a Beaufort County Elected official would use this term to refer to Chairman Zedd.

I believe that you owe the BCRP Chairman’s Board an explanation of your conduct. This letter communicates our serious concerns and gives you an opportunity to respond and explain why you used this term.

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The use of any words, terms or language intended to offend people based on race or religious association is against everything our Republican Party stands for.

This is a very serious matter and I request that you respond within 48 hours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard P. Geraghty". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Beaufort County Republican Party Officers
Richard Geraghty, Vice Chairman
Beaufort County Republican Party
843-290-9224
rgeraghty@hargray.com / geraghty rp@gmail.com

Sherri Zedd, Chairman
Beaufort County Republican Party
843-705-6440/843-368-6775

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Beckert <beckertforauditor@gmail.com>
To: Arbeit Zedd <sherriz366@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2018 12:08 pm
Subject: Effective campaigns

Please, provide the list of ten things a candidate should do. I understand you send that to all those running for office.

Would you make sure my email address is updated. The me email is beckertforauditor@gmail.com
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

 **2018 Candidate Filing Memo.pdf**
58K



Richard Geraghty <geraghtyrp@gmail.com>

Fwd: Effective campaigns

2 messages

Sherri Zedd <sherriz366@aol.com>
To: rgeraghty@hargray.com, geraghtyrp@gmail.com

Thu, Apr 19, 2018 at 6:11 PM

Sherri Zedd
843-705-6440/843-368-6775

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Beckert <beckertforauditor@gmail.com>
To: Arbeit Zedd <sherriz366@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2018 12:08 pm
Subject: Effective campaigns

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Would you make sure my email address is updated. The me email is beckertforauditor@gmail.com
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Sherri Zedd <sherriz366@aol.com>
To: rgeraghty@hargray.com, geraghtyrp@gmail.com

Thu, Apr 19, 2018 at 6:13 PM

Sherri Zedd
843-705-6440/843-368-6775

-----Original Message-----

From: Sherri Zedd <sherriz366@aol.com>
To: beckerforauditor <beckertforauditor@gmail.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2018 9:04 pm
Subject: Re: Effective campaigns

Thanks for your new email -- I updated my contact lists.

Attached is the Memo on Candidate Filing from the South Carolina Republican Party, which I sent to the Beaufort County Council candidates, who will be participating in the panel that is the program for the BCRP meeting on March 21, 2018.

In the memo, the link to Statement of Economic Interest and Campaign Disclosure is wrong: The link should be: <http://ethics.sc.gov> NOT <http://exthics.sc.gov>

I'm confused about the first name that you used for my email address -- Arbeit-- as my first name is Sherri or Sharon.