



July 21, 2011

Paul R. Buikema, Esq.
Goldstine, Skrodzki, Russian, Nemecek and Hoff, Ltd.
835 McClintock Drive
Burr Ridge, IL 60527-0860

Dear Mr. Buikema:

The Republican National Hispanic Assembly received your appeal dated June 17, 2011 on behalf of your client, the former RNHA of Illinois Chapter on or about June 20, 2011. Although the Appeal is technically late and no previous Motion for Extension of Time was filed with the RNHA by the appellant, the appeal was nevertheless considered and it is denied for the following reasons.

Appellant's paragraph 3 is denied. The appellant misinterprets RNHA Rule 14 (d); one must be a member of the RNHA National Committee to invoke the rule. At the time Mr. Rivadeneira sought to invoke RNHA Rule 14(d), as noted in the RNHA Executive Committee Decision of June 3, 2011, there was a genuine controversy within the former RNHA of Illinois chapter not only whether Mr. Rivadeneira was reelected but whether he was an active member in good standing of the RNHA of Illinois at the time of the Illinois Convention and thus whether he was even an incumbent chairman.

Appellant's paragraph 4 is denied. The appellant misinterprets the June 3, 2011 RNHA Executive Committee Decision. Mr. Rivadeneira simply lacked standing to request the RNHA National Committee Meeting, *supra at 3*, and Rivadeneira's failure to follow instructions from the RNHA Executive Committee in its February 2011 letter included, *inter alia*, his repeated attempts to actively bypass the Executive Committee after the Executive Committee assumed jurisdiction over the matter and including but not limited to his making repeated *ex parte* and divisive public appeals to bypass the Executive Committee and to have the National Committee to address the matter despite the Executive Committee's specific request that the parties and their surrogates refrain from making public comments about the matter until the pending review of the case was completed. The fact that there were insufficient RNHA National Committee members who specifically supported Mr. Rivadeneira's RNHA National Committee meeting request is moot.

Appellant's paragraph 5 is denied. The appellant erroneously urges and publically misleads that the June 3, 2011 Decision to Withdraw Official Recognition of the former RNHA of Illinois Chapter was a unilateral decision by the National Chairman when in fact the RNHA National Executive Committee made the decision with the advice of the

General Counsel and the National Legal Team regarding the official interpretation of the RNHA Rules after consideration of the facts in the case and after giving the parties many opportunities to submit information to the Executive Committee. The process was exceedingly fair. The appellant's reliance on Rule 3 regarding an alleged decertification is misplaced; the National Rules empower the National Executive Committee to officially recognize state and county chapters and to withhold such recognition. The withdrawal of official recognition of the former RNHA of Illinois chapter is the manner by which the RNHA has chosen to resolve this case. The appellant seems to ignore the fact that the responsibility to certify active chapters is expressly given by Rule to the National Secretary. The appellant thus contends without merit that the Chairman or the Executive Committee decertified the former RNHA of Illinois Chapter. No Illinois Republicans, Hispanic or otherwise are disenfranchised by this decision. As the deciding body, the National Executive Committee's June 3, 2011 Decision does not make allegations, as the appellant urges. It outlines the decision it made in the case, which is now final. It is strongly recommended that Mr. Rivadeneira review Rule 4(g), and respect this decision and arrange his affairs accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Bunn", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Robert Bunn
National General Counsel, RNHA