

*“But neither the wisest constitution nor the wisest laws will secure the liberty and happiness of a people whose manners are universally corrupt. Here therefore is the truest friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtue, and who, so far as his power and influence extend, will not suffer a man to be chosen into any office of power and trust who is not a wise and virtuous man.” -Samuel Adams*

July 12, 2022

Greetings,

This morning, the Colorado SoS office called to advise me that they are dismissing the complaints against El Paso County Undersheriff Joe Roybal for bribing voters to sign his primary ballot petition. They advised me that since this is a criminal matter, it needs to be handled by either the DA or the AG. It should be noted that the SoS does not handle criminal cases, but there is still an administrative responsibility as to whether a candidate who offers bribes to sign a petition is legitimately on the ballot. Apparently, that doesn't matter to the CO SoS. They are exercising their own discretion to benefit a candidate whom they favor.

Yesterday, campaign finance complaints against two El Paso County Commissioners, Holly Williams and Cami Bremer, for accepting excessive donations from a dark money source were similarly dismissed by the CO SoS. These are the career public officials who are the “Sensible Republicans”. Our State GOP strongly advocates we unite with them so we can fight the Democrats. It should be patently obvious that these self-proclaimed “Sensible Republicans” are favored by, and in league with, the Democrats.

Our local government is wholly compromised and corrupt. Our public officials represent themselves, their own interests, and cover for one another when their corruption slips out. Our local government here is insular and recalcitrant to public inquiry, criticism, and genuine concern. We aren't complaining about trivial or sundry matters. We are complaining about outright criminal conduct committed for the express purpose of retaining power. They have investigated themselves and found that their offenses are not worthy of our concern no matter how legitimate our concern is. The machinery will always protect the machine; this is what we are bearing witness to now.

This is not unique to our time. As with the corrupt, despotic regimes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there is a single party that controls our government. They assign themselves different labels for appearances but trust your own eyes. There is no difference between "Republican" and "Democrat" anymore. They are all one organism. History teaches us how this plays out.

Inasmuch as history teaches us that corrupt systems will continue to act corruptly at the expense of their people, our own history teaches us what is possible when a people recognize and act against corrupt systems. It is time for us to act, lest we be relegated to the dustbin of history. Call out these corrupt despots. Bring light and truth. Freedom isn't free and action is the price we owe to keep it.

In Liberty,

Todd Watkins