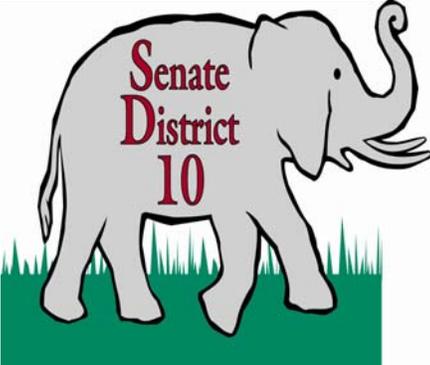


4th Quarter 2007

WWW.SenateDistrict10.com



Leslie Recine and Jim Borchert, State Republican Executive Committeewoman and Committeeman  
Contact Leslie at Leslie@LeslieRecine.com, 817-925-3420 or Jim Borchert at Peggy@Omegabiz.com

# Senate District 10



## We are Republicans

I became a Republican in 1989 while I was a sophomore in college. I was attracted to the Republican Party and conservative politics because I was convinced that the values that I grew up with were conservative and therefore Republican. We have been inundated with platitudes from the mainstream media elites, and from some Republicans about what it means to be a Conservative Republican. In my opinion, Republicans all around this great Nation can take a lesson from our grassroots activists here in the state of Texas, who clearly understand what it means to be conservative. We understand that life begins at conception, and that it is our responsibility to protect the most innocent and helpless in our society. We understand that government cannot and should not do, what free and able-bodied men and women can do for themselves. When government begins to “provide for the needs” of its citizens, it does so at a high cost of the loss of freedom and liberty. We understand that our Nation’s citizens, and therefore our Nation is strengthened when parent’s have the freedom to choose schools that are safe and academically strong for their children. We understand the importance of securing our border and protecting our sovereignty, because a Nation without a secure border, cannot remain a sovereign Nation. We understand the importance of strengthening and growing our military, because this fight against terrorism is a fight for our freedom and our way of life.

Our goal should be to communicate this conservative, common sense message to our coworkers, to our elected officials, and to our friends and neighbors at the precinct level. Grassroots organization and grassroots relationships will be our key to success this November 2008. Because of your faithfulness to our conservative cause, you are likely the most credible person to carry this message. You are the leader that is needed to achieve success. Together, we will reelect our US Senator. We will reelect our Supreme Court Justices and our Railroad Commissioner; and we will retain control of the State House and Senate.

Thank you for your help in this fight,

Robin Armstrong, MD

Vice Chairman Republican Party of Texas



# Political Information

## Campaign Training on November 17, 2007



Justice of the Peace Ralph Swearingin told Campaign Training Senate District 10 attendees what a difference their effort can make in a campaign. The training was hosted by Senate District 10 State Republican Executive Committeeman and Committeewoman Jim Borchert and Leslie Recine and presented by Mirand Zepeda, Central Texas Regional Director for the Republican Party of Texas.

## Candidate & Campaign Volunteer Training on January 5, 2008



Republican Party of Texas staff, Hans Klinger, Derek Ryan, Mirand Zepeda and Brian Carl taught candidates and campaign volunteers at training sponsored by the State Republican Executive Committeemen and Committeewomen from Senate Districts 9, 10 and 12.

## Discussing Border Security and Illegal Immigration on Nov. 29 and 30, 2007



State Republican Executive Committee members Jim Borchert & Leslie Recine, SD 10 and Mona Bailey & Tom Quinones, SD 12, spoke with David Cabrales, (center) General Counsel to Governor Perry about Border Security and Illegal Immigration November 29.



State Republican Executive Committee members from SDs 9, 10, and 12 spoke with Texas House Speaker Tom Craddick about Border Security & Illegal Immigration on November 30.

(Left to Right, Tom Quinones & Mona Bailey, SREC, SD12, Leslie Recine & Jim Borchert, SREC, SD10, Speaker Tom Craddick, Jane Burch & Tim Hoy, SREC, SD9).

Mona, Tom, Leslie and Jim also met with Lt. Governor Dewhurst's staff regarding border security and illegal immigration.

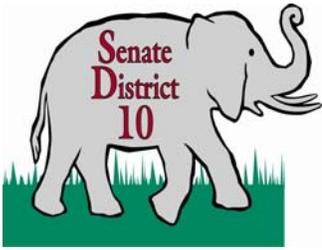
## State Republican Executive Committee Meeting December 1, 2007



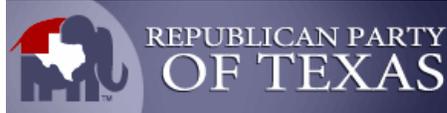
Republican Party of Texas Chairman Tina Benkiser presented Leslie a key pin for fundraising for the State Party.



Leslie and Jim at the SREC meeting in Austin.



# Political Action



## PARTICIPATING IN THE CONVENTION PROCESS The Precinct Convention Process

The Republican Party's primary election will be held on March 4, 2008. Those who vote in the Republican primary will choose the candidates who will represent our Party in the November general election. Less well-known, but just as important, are the decisions that will be made after the polls close at precinct conventions – a type of town hall meeting.

Anyone who votes in the Republican primary election (either in early voting, voting by mail, or at the polls on election day) is eligible to attend his or her precinct convention. Your convention will take place at your precinct's election day polling place within two hours after the polls close at 7:00 p.m. The time and place of your precinct convention must be posted at each poll during primary election day. Expect anywhere from one to well over 100 participants to attend.

The precinct convention is called to order by the Precinct Chairman or a person acting in his stead. This person is the Temporary Precinct Convention Chairman. A Permanent Precinct Convention Chairman and Secretary are then elected by majority vote. The Convention Chairman may appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms and/or a Parliamentarian. There are only two items of business for the precinct convention: election of delegates and alternates to county or senatorial district conventions, and the approval of resolutions to be sent to these conventions.

Each precinct is entitled to send to the county/senatorial district convention one delegate and one alternate for every 25 votes, or major fraction thereof, cast for Governor Rick Perry in that precinct in the 2006 general election. In districts where the size of a convention is a problem, the ratio may be set at one delegate and alternate for every 40 votes.

At the precinct convention, attendees decide by majority vote who gets to be delegates and alternates to the county/senatorial district convention. Often, everyone who attends becomes a delegate to the next level. However, if a large number attend, decisions will need to be made as to who will be a delegate and who will be an alternate.

The only requirement to be elected as a delegate or alternate to the county/senatorial district convention is to have voted in the 2008 Republican primary election. It is not required to attend the precinct convention in order to be elected to the next higher level. Longtime Republicans often perform tasks for the party or candidates during Election Day, which prevents them from being able to attend. However, for those who are new to the party, attending the precinct convention will definitely increase the likelihood of being one of those elected.

# The County / Senatorial District Convention Process

This convention is the next step up on the ladder of the party leadership and policy development. They must be held on March 29, 2008, at a time and place announced at the precinct convention. When your county is located completely within one state senate district, you will have a county convention. When your county is split into two or more senate districts, you must have senatorial district conventions. Both type conventions are identical in conduct of business.

At the county/senatorial district convention, the formal business is the same as at the precinct convention: elect delegates and alternates to the next higher-level convention and adopt resolutions for that convention's consideration. The informality of the small precinct convention is replaced by a more formal agenda and parliamentary rules necessary for an orderly meeting.

If your convention has over 25 delegates, as most will, the temporary chairman shall appoint between five and fifteen members to the following committees to run the convention:

Credentials: hears disputes about contested delegates as well as deciding who shall be seated.

Rules: recommends supplementary rules for the convention.

Permanent Organization: recommends permanent officers of the convention.

Resolutions: recommends which resolutions should be approved.

Nominations: recommends a slate of delegates and alternates to the state convention.

Because of the amount of work involved, the Temporary Nominations and Resolutions Committees usually meet at least once prior to the convention. Some committees may have several meetings and take testimony to help them make their reports. If you are interested in being a delegate or alternate to the state convention, call the temporary Nominations Committee Chairman, find out who is on the committee, when they will be meeting, and if you may appear to speak before the committee.

Most important decisions are made in committees. Committee reports may be amended on the floor, but it is usually easier to get what you want in committee. If you are new to this process, do not be overwhelmed by the formality of the structure. Ask others who have been to conventions before to help guide you in understanding what to do.

Your county/senatorial district convention is entitled to send one delegate and one alternate to the state convention for every 300 votes cast in your county/district for Governor Rick Perry in the 2006 general election. Each county in each senatorial district is guaranteed at least two delegates and two alternates. Alternates may only vote at the state convention when seated for an absent delegate. Each county/senatorial district convention determines the manner in which alternates are seated.

The Temporary Nominations Committee proposes a slate of delegates and alternates to the state convention. They usually select experienced Republicans who have worked hard for the local party plus a few new activists. Becoming a state delegate or alternate is a great honor and must be earned. If you don't make it this time, redouble your efforts: increase your local involvement, attend GOP meetings and volunteer to assist candidates.

# The State Convention Process

The 2008 Republican Party of Texas state convention will be a great experience with thousands of people in attendance. It is, in fact, the nation's largest political convention. The convention this year will be held in Houston on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

Delegates and alternates will be mailed packets containing full information from state party headquarters a few weeks after the county/senatorial district convention. A large number of hotel rooms in various price ranges will be reserved for convention attendees. The packet will include a reservation form for attendees who want to stay in those particular hotels. Attendees may also select other area accommodations on their own, stay with friends or relatives, or stay in nearby cities.

The business conducted at the state convention will be to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, elect one male and one female member from your senatorial district to the State Republican Executive Committee, and adopt a state party platform.

Given the large size of the convention, strict rules are in place to regulate its conduct. There is a considerable reliance on the committee process in conducting business. Temporary committee members are appointed by the State Chairman on recommendation by the State Republican Executive Committee. Each senate district is entitled to be represented by one member on the following committees: Credentials, Organization, Rules, and Platform and Resolutions. All of these temporary committees meet prior to the convening of the convention. All meetings are open to the public, and each will establish a time when interested persons like you may address the committee. Some committees will begin meeting a few days before the convention convenes.

More than participating in the formal convention business, though, you will come into contact with those who run Texas government. Statewide officeholders, senators, congressmen, legislators, county officials, party leaders, as well as candidates for those offices are among those you will have the opportunity to meet and speak to personally.

These are the people who are writing the future of Texas. By attending these conventions, you have the opportunity to be one of those leaders, too. We encourage you to take advantage of that opportunity!

In presidential election years, such as 2008, on the last day of the state convention, the delegates will caucus according to congressional district. At this meeting, the delegates will vote for the National Committeeman and Committeewoman, who along with the State Chairman, represent the Republican Party of Texas on the Republican National Committee. During the congressional caucus, a person will be selected as a Presidential elector who will be a member of the electoral college. The congressional caucus is also where the delegate selection process begins for the national convention.

# Becoming a Delegate to the National Convention

According to Republican National Committee rules, Texas will be allocated 140 delegates and 137 alternates to the 2008 convention in Minneapolis. 41 of these national convention delegates and alternates will be selected at-large at the state convention, according to how well presidential candidates do state-wide. 96 national convention delegates and alternates will be selected according to how well presidential candidates do within Texas' 32 congressional districts. According to Republican National Committee rules, the remaining three delegate spots are automatically assigned to the Party Chairman, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman.

Each congressional district in Texas is entitled to send three delegates and three alternates to the national convention. A presidential candidate receiving more than fifty percent of the votes in a congressional district shall receive all three delegates and alternates from that district.

If no presidential candidate receives a majority of the votes in a congressional district, and two or more candidates receive more than twenty percent of the votes, then the plurality winner is entitled to two delegates and two alternates from that district and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes receives one delegate and one alternate. If no candidate receives more than twenty percent of the votes from a district, each of the three candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes shall receive one delegate and one alternate.

A candidate receiving more than fifty percent of the votes cast in the Presidential Primary canvassed on a statewide basis shall be entitled to all at-large delegates and alternates.

If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast statewide, and two or more candidates receive more than twenty percent of the votes, then the plurality winner is entitled to two delegates and alternates and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes receives one delegate and alternate. If no candidate receives more than twenty percent of the votes cast statewide, each of the three candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes shall receive one delegate and one alternate.

## **How specific individuals are nominated and selected as delegates.**

Delegates to the state convention will caucus by congressional district. Each congressional caucus district shall meet and shall elect those district delegates and alternates to which a candidate is entitled. Any delegate may make a nomination as long as the person nominated agrees to the pledge in the RPT Rule 38, Section 10.

Each congressional caucus will also elect one person to serve on the National Nominations Committee. This committee nominates a slate of statewide at-large delegates and alternates. Committee members may nominate themselves. The slate approved by the committee is to be presented to the full convention and must be accepted or rejected as a whole. No amendments may be offered from the floor.

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Suite 300 \* Austin \* Texas \* 78701 \* [www.texasgop.org](http://www.texasgop.org)



# Political Understanding

## Liberty and Power

by Jim Borchert, State Republican Executive Committeeman SD 10

It is essential for Texas Republican voters to be kept informed of the ongoing events and mechanics of our political process. It is important to learn how one may participate as an activist at all levels of our government, locally, statewide and nationally. That is one way to further our conservative Republican principles, to articulate our issues, to elect good conservative candidates, and to maintain our Republican majority.

But there is another. It is also essential for Texas Republican activists to be given a clear understanding of the fundamentals of our political system of civil governance. Political education is required in order that our Republic of laws may stand and our original Constitutional vision may be safeguarded and implemented, as intended.

It is easy to be confused and to lose sight of what we are about and why we are doing what we are doing. Political rhetoric is often superficial; deceiving some to suppose the speaker is “one of us”. It may appear at first that candidates and office holders are committed to our conservative Republican vision and platform. But upon closer inspection, we may discover a completely different reality.

This common experience has led many voters and activists to become apathetic and/or cynical, losing all hope that anything good can be accomplished in the political arena. In any election we can see that many registered voters simply do not show up for the ballot. I do not think the reason is because good conservatives simply forget to do their civil duty, or that they become too busy to make the effort. I believe the real reason is that the issues are not always set forth as clearly as they should be and the political understanding of the electorate is not sufficiently grounded.

Superficial “sound-bites”, and summary “bullets” on political “mail outs” are hardly adequate to serious political education. It is too easy for demagogues and deceivers to employ clever emotional slogans and slick brochures for the voting public in order to avoid serious discussion about the people’s true business.

If we are to promote political justice and protect the people’s liberty from erosion, we cannot rely on such casual methods and procedures. It is essential that we deepen the political discourse and broaden our civic understanding.

As conservative Republicans we believe in limited government

and natural liberty. But why is it that government power continues to expand and the people’s natural liberty to contract, whether it is under a Democratic or a Republican administration?

Political rhetoric continues to speak about the necessity of limited government and natural liberty, but political reality declares an entirely different and opposite vision of expanded government and contracted liberty.

The founders of our Nation (and later of this State) wrestled long and hard to sort out these fundamental ideas of power and liberty. They certainly did not wish to substitute one form of political tyranny for another.

It was their determined will to restrain the power and force of civil government by strong constitutional limitations and provisions, in favor of the people’s natural capacity and desire for self-government under Nature and Nature’s God. The form of civil governance that they designed was for the better safety and happiness of the People, which they subsequently accepted and ratified in the aggregate. The founders valued the people’s natural duties, rights, and liberties as belonging to their first and highest interest as self-governing

## Liberty and Power by Jim Borchert

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individuals. Civil government was therefore made subservient by the sovereign people to a higher and prior non-political reality.

Having learned by hard experience under British colonial rule, and later by the folly of their own Articles of Confederation, (even as Texans learned from their fickle dealing with Spanish and, later, Mexican authorities and, later yet, from the weakness of their own Republic), it was obvious that both our National and State governments had to be supplied with sufficient power or energy necessary to carry out their assigned tasks, without falling into anarchy on the one hand or tyranny on the other.

The People's Constitution would supply sufficient energy to their republican forms of government, by granting certain portions of their power, revocably in trust, to the various branches of their general government, reserving the residuum outside the trust. Not at the expense of the People's natural rights and liberties, but, rather, in or to secure them even more perfectly.

The government's political power was measured and limited by the people's higher and prior natural duties rights and liberty. Power did not make

“exception” and “allowances” for Liberty. Rather, the opposite. It was the people's self-governing liberty which restricted and restrained the civil, legal and political power. For the founders and their generation, the natural order preceded the civil order. The Moral arena stands above and rules over the political. These were self-evident truths for those who ratified our fundamental laws. The Nation's political felicity was firmly constructed upon the pre-existing foundation of the people's natural Religious and Moral predispositions.

Only the Creator possessed unbounded authority and power. All human authority and power must be limited and bounded. Constitutional authority itself stands under the sovereign authority of the People, who themselves stand under the supreme authority of the Creator. The founding generation well understood human accountability to higher authority. The people's Constitution operated to bind the general powers of government in order to prevent tyranny and injustice.

The founders solution was to grant sufficient and necessary powers to the government, such as are enumerated and implied by construction when not clearly expressed, by careful constitu-

tional language, in order to vest power in their republican institutions under the limits of the public trust. In this manner, the sovereign people restrained the government from reaching beyond its constitutional metes and bounds, leaving the people thereby free to enjoy their pre-existing natural rights and immunities, without fear of government interference or jurisdictional cognizance in respect of either their persons or their properties.

It was this remarkable design which the Nation's framers and the founding generation pursued, in the interest of the people's will. Political power was made to follow the dictates of natural liberty in the construction of their fundamental constitutions, deliberately restricting the general powers of government and limiting the various branches thereof from every attempt to encroach upon the people's natural and unrestricted rights and liberties.

The later addition of a Bill of Rights further called attention to this restricted power of government by expressly listing some specific enumerated rights of the people, whether derived from natural or common law, reserving the residuum of their “not specified” similar rights and liberties, to the States or to the peo-

ple, in order to forbid absolutely the National government from trespassing where it had no authority or power or right to go. What the Constitution specifically granted to the government, according to its limited, enumerated, allocated powers, was further limited by the Bill of Rights amendments, denying to the general powers of government any powers or capacity to act in those proscribed arenas.

There were of course obvious dangers to enumerating areas forbidden to the government, limiting its energy and power by strong “higher law” Constitutional prohibitions. The founders discussed these dangers carefully and deliberately. But, in the end, the decision was made, and the government was restrained, first by lack of empowerment from the People’s Constitutionally enumerated grant, and second, by express prohibitions from the People’s Amendments, expressly enumerated and unenumerated by express reservation.

The fact that the government has often transgressed its lawful Constitutional bounds and that it has often violated its just Constitutional prohibitions, gaining to itself unwarranted expansions of power at the expense of the People’s sacred rights and liberties, does not alter the fact that the original intent of the founders was entirely otherwise.

The founders did not intend for government power to encroach upon the People’s liberty. The Constitution is the law of the land and clearly impermits this usurpation and injustice. Government power can never be permitted to

destroy the People’s natural rights and liberties. According to the fundamental and organic law of our free Republic, government power can only be justly employed to secure the people in such rights and liberties. The Constitution was intended to operate in favor of their liberty. The “more perfect union” was formed under our written Constitution to better make justice occur and better secure the People’s freedom.

It is the duty of the People themselves to check their wayward government. If the several branches have breached their lawful boundaries and prohibitions, and if one branch refuses to check the other, then the people themselves must gather their power and discipline their rebellious creatures. Neither apathy nor cynicism can remedy the breach or make the Nation (or the State) whole. Ours is a government of the people, by the people, for the people. It is the duty of a self-governing people to do what needs to be done. We will have the kind of government we permit. If the “servant” breaches his civil trust and violates his oath, the sovereign is responsible to alter matters or remove those lawless and evil servants, until the political house is restored to its original vision and glory.

Power need not be a servant of lawlessness. The Constitution still stands. It is up to the sovereign to inform himself of any possible injustice, and to discover the best and most judicious way to set things right again. Justice requires that Power be ordered in favor of Liberty until lawlessness be driven from the land. Political power is

that necessary, sufficient, and just force, placed in the hand of the people’s magistrate, under the limits of a public trust, by a positive constitutional grant for the purpose of protecting liberty and punishing civil disobedience. It is not too late to return to the correct balance between the people’s unrestricted liberty and the government’s restricted power. The Constitution still stands. We are one Nation under God with liberty and justice for all.

*Note: Pol. Ad. Paid for by State Republican Executive Committee-woman, Senate District 10, Leslie Recine. Not Authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.*

**Early Voting:  
February 19-29, 2008**

**Please visit  
[www.TarrantCounty.com/evote](http://www.TarrantCounty.com/evote) for an early voting schedule and location.**

**Primary Election  
March 4, 7a.m-7 p.m.**

**Attend your precinct convention at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, at your election day voting location.**