



## **From the Chairman**



Fellow Members of Our Committee and Friends of Our Party,

Last month I spent some time in this section explaining my reaction to the 2020 election results and the subsequent protest/riot at the U.S. Capital. I concluded at the time, and I stand by my position, that the Republican Party had nothing to be ashamed of, and in fact the principles our Party stands for had been reaffirmed by the voters in our county and by others all across our country. Freedom and individual responsibility still win, and our voters proved that.

Now we have a new President and the opportunity to see just what Democrats will do when they have total control of the government. Most of what they've done so far was predicted. I make an effort to summarize some of the executive actions from the first day of the Biden administration in a later section, in an attempt to illustrate just how ruthless they've become in implementing their anti-American agenda. But, their shocking efficiency and speed in revoking much of the Trump administration's progress and replacing it with a menu of pay-offs to their cadre of special interest groups is not all we have discovered.

In a later section I will talk about an article that recently appeared in Time Magazine which outlines in shocking detail much of the "conspiracy" (the author's word, not mine) that led to Joe Biden being inaugurated on January 20. As I will explain, while there is a time for shock and outrage, that time has passed, and we are now in a time of action.

What you will learn about 2020 will no doubt disturb you, but as disturbing as it might be, paying close attention to those events reveals important lessons for us all that we must apply in our planning for 2022 if we hope to succeed.

It has been a difficult time to put together a newsletter because so many things are going on in politics that affect us here in Colbert County. I have not been able to cover everything that I intended, and I'm considering whether to publish more over the coming weeks. I do hope, however, that what I have been able to explain here is a good synopsis of the many reasons that our vigilance remains so important and necessary. Let us continue to do the things that build our Party into a robust and enduring ally of Republican voters who believe in our creed!

The next meeting of the CCREC will take place on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm in the back meeting room at Donna and Friends Restaurant, located at 1325 Avalon Ave, Muscle Shoals.

Watch Facebook and your email for more information about coming events and opportunities.

Phill Green, Chairman, CCREC

## **President Biden's Executive Orders Provide the Best Justification for Our Cause**

On the first day of the Biden administration, seventeen proclamations, memos, and executive orders were signed by the President. This is the same pattern we saw with Presidents Clinton and Obama, where Democrat Presidents are forced to stuff a pile



of unpopular, progressive and socialist agenda items into law in the very beginning of their administrations, hoping voters will forget about them by the next Election Day. It is our duty not to forget what happened here. These actions would never be approved by a majority of the American electorate, and they reveal the Democrat's desire to "fundamentally transform" our country.

*Executive order [13992](#)*, titled "Revocation of Certain Executive Orders Concerning Federal Regulation" will undo the efforts of the Trump administration to reform the federal regulatory process, which was the first attempt to reduce the number and complexity of federal regulations holding back free enterprise and economic growth. In case you thought that Biden was worried about proper regulation of important things like nuclear power plants, he's not. Instead, the order lists "racial justice, and climate change" as top priorities for the government executive departments to use "robust regulatory action to address."

*Presidential Proclamation [10142](#)* "Proclamation on the Termination Of Emergency With Respect To The Southern Border Of The United States And Redirection Of Funds Diverted To Border Wall Construction" As the title implies, President Biden is not interested in completing the barrier that President Trump was trying to build, and says that "It shall be the policy of my Administration that no more American taxpayer dollars be diverted to construct a border wall." He claims such a barrier is "not a serious policy solution." It is obvious when we read the other orders he's signed that will "provide a path to citizenship" for illegal immigrants, that

Biden wants as many new citizens from developing countries as possible, who can be relied on to join the Democrat voting base.

*Executive Order [13993](#)* will undo President Trump's expansion of immigration enforcement within the United States. It refers to "humanitarian challenges" at the Mexico border and promises to "reset the policies and practices for enforcing civil immigration laws" to focus on safeguarding the "dignity and well-being of all families." Keep in mind, he's talking about "families" who have flouted our laws and entered our country illegally.

*Presidential Proclamation [10141](#)* "Proclamation on Ending Discriminatory Bans on Entry to The United States" The best explanation of what this proclamation does is to list the Trump administration orders and proclamations that it revokes. Their titles clearly define how they were intended to enhance the safety of the American people:

**Executive Order 13780** Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States **REVOKED**

**Proclamation 9645** Enhancing Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry Into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats **REVOKED**

**Proclamation 9723** Maintaining Enhanced Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry Into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats **REVOKED**

**Proclamation 9983** Improving Enhanced Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry



Into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats **REVOKED**

*Presidential Memorandum January 20, 2020*  
[“Preserving and Fortifying Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\)”](#) This memorandum simply reminds the Secretary of Homeland Security to continue to defer “the removal of certain undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children, have obeyed the law, and stayed in school or enlisted in the military.”

*Executive Order [13986](#)* “Executive Order on Ensuring a Lawful and Accurate Enumeration and Apportionment Pursuant to the Decennial Census” This order requires non-citizens to be included in the Census and apportionment of congressional representatives. This order is critical to the question of whether Alabama retains all seven of its congressmen. **If it stands, and illegal immigrants are counted, Alabama will likely lose a congressional district.** Representative Mo Brooks previously filed suit in federal court in May 2018, demanding that illegal immigrants not be counted in the census for purposes of apportionment. As of this past week, this lawsuit is still in federal court, where the judge is asking for an update. The Biden administration has asked that the suit [“should be dismissed or at least put on hold until we hear from census officials.”](#) As I get more information about the status of this order and its effects, I’ll be sure to pass them along to readers.

*Executive Order [13990](#)* “Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis” This is just another way of saying that the Keystone XL

pipeline and an estimated 11,000 jobs related to it are cancelled. In the order, Biden says he’s concerned that “the proposed pipeline would undermine U.S. climate leadership by undercutting the credibility and influence of the United States in urging other countries to take ambitious climate action.” Of course the rest of the order goes on to justify more environmental regulations because pollution “disproportionately harm” key Democrat constituencies. Besides Keystone, it reverses more than 100 actions taken by the Trump administration regarding the environment.

Of course, going through the entire body of executive actions from the Biden administration so far, and there are already 46 and counting, is too large a task for this newsletter. It is important to note, however, that Biden continues to sign orders that accomplish his liberal agenda, including letting transgenders in the military, making climate change a top priority of foreign policy, lifting the ban on funding abortions in foreign countries, and allowing illegal immigrants to receive federal assistance. The list goes on and on and will continue unabated I’m sure. I’ll try to expand more on this continuing effort in future issues.



## Time Magazine Article “The Secret History of the Shadow Campaign That Saved the 2020 Election”



If you are like me, you see numerous emails and social-media posts everyday telling you to read this or that and there just isn't enough time to get to them all. Much of the time you wonder if the content is backed up with reliable sources or even worth your time. This article is different.

The piece is written by a well-known liberal journalist named Molly Ball, who seems to have been very close to, and perhaps even involved with, a collection of very powerful people and groups who worked together to influence the 2020 election in favor of Joe Biden. Ms. Ball makes no attempt to hide the fact that this organization was conducted in secret, and even refers to it as a “conspiracy” in her own words. Any reader, no matter their political leanings, will be stunned at how openly she describes “non-profit” organizations, philanthropists, labor organizations, main-stream-media, and corporations “working together behind the scenes to influence perceptions, change rules and laws, steer media coverage and control the flow of information.”

Why is it important for us Republicans to read this article and learn more about what happened in 2020? It is essential for us to know how the rules have changed in order to know we can hope to remain competitive. Just imagine you are a candidate who asks friends and family to walk around knocking on doors and handing out campaign cards while at the same time a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, funded by Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, is paying people \$15 per hour to “get out the vote” in neighborhoods that will be friendly to your opponent. We saw this kind of activity in the Shoals area in 2020, and there is no doubt more will be on the way. This kind of threat needs to be the main topic of our conversation so that we are focused on effective solutions and a plan of action.

<https://time.com/5936036/secret-2020-election-campaign/>

### February Agenda

The Committee will approve minutes and treasurer's reports during the upcoming meeting, and continue discussing plans for 2021. I will request that the Committee approve a budget for regular expenses in order to allow the Chairman and Treasurer some flexibility in conducting Committee operations between monthly meetings. Proposed budget amounts are based on analysis of expenses over the last year and expected growth in scope and scale of operation in 2021.

### Upcoming Events

Following is the most current calendar of events for the Committee. The primary focus of activities will center around qualification of candidates for the important roles of



sheriff, district judge, coroner, district attorney, and members of the county board of education for districts 1&6.

Keep these dates in mind when planning your individual and campaign calendars.

Colbert County Committee Events Calendar	
Date	Event
February 22, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
March 22, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
April 26, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
May 24, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
June 28, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
July 26, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
August 23, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
September 17, 2021	Constitution Day Dinner
September 27, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
October 25, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
November 22, 2021	CCREC regular meeting
Jan-Feb 2022	Qualification for Sheriff, Colbert Board of Ed dist 1&6, Coroner, District Court Judge, District Attorney,
May 24, 2022	Primary Election
November 8, 2022	General Election

### CCREC Special Events for 2021

Look for more information in emails and on Facebook about special events coming up.

### CCREC Dues are Payable for 2021

We are making progress, but there are some members who still need to submit their dues payment for 2021.

Please recall that dues are also payable for Associate Members. The amount for 2021 was set by the CCREC in the January meeting at \$25.

Either CCREC or Associate Members may pay their dues with cash or check by bringing it directly to the next CCREC meeting, or mailing it to:

CCREC  
P.O. Box 4201  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35662

### ALGOP Winter Meeting Will Be Held in Montgomery

The Alabama Republican Party will hold the 2021 Winter Meeting on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel. Elections will be held for officers to serve on the ALGOP Steering committee. The Steering Committee is the group of state Committee members who meet monthly and make most decisions about the supervision and general affairs of the Party.

The Executive Committee delegation members from Colbert County will vote for the following offices:

Chairman of the Alabama Republican Party (Current Senior Vice-Chairman John Wahl is currently the only person who has declared to run for Chairman)

Senior Vice-Chairman (State Rep., and CCREC member, Andrew Sorrell and former Mobile County Chair John Skipper are running for this office)

Vice Chairman for Districts 4 and 5, (Currently only Lauderdale County Chairman and ALGOP Secretary Josh Dodd has declared to run for this office)

Secretary (Cindy Holcomb of Dekalb County, Angela Broyles of Lauderdale County, and Cindy Douglas of Jefferson



County are all running for ALGOP Secretary)

## **Congressional and State Legislature Redistricting is Coming**

We all know that after the U.S. Census there comes the process of re-drawing the lines of districts where our state representatives, senators, and U.S. Congressmen are chosen. I think it is important for us to know as much as possible about this process and its expected outcomes, especially as they affect races in 2022, because much of our preparation for the next election cycle depends on where these lines are drawn.

For several weeks I have searched the Alabama Constitution, the Alabama Code, and various websites and information outlets for some insight, but the process has been slow. It turns out that there is a good reason it's hard to find information about how districts are drawn. I was told by someone who wished to remain anonymous, that government officials and legislators have learned over the years of many lawsuits that speaking out about the process often provides a record that can be brought back up in court when district lines are challenged. As you will see in the timeline I've copied below, Alabama districts, passed in 2012 were challenged and struck down in 2017, requiring them to be redrawn and approved for the 2018 elections.

This makes the process seem secretive, which is offensive to our sensibilities as conservative Republicans. The fact is that a private consulting firm has been contracted to take the census data and do the work of actually drawing the maps. It is only after the maps are drawn that the legislature will have

an opportunity to review them and decide if they are to be approved. Ultimately the legislature makes the decision to approve, so as I heard this it did occur to me that it could be better for an outside party to initially draw the lines. After all, can you imagine 140 different representatives and senators all arguing over how to configure their districts to give them the best chance of getting reelected? Chaos would probably ensue.

The big problem now is that the Census data is late. It is supposed to be available to the states by April 1<sup>st</sup>, but it has been delayed until likely September. That means that the district lines will not be ready to consider before October. A special session of the legislature in late October or November 2021 will be required to approve the districts. Qualification for Republican candidates will take place in January of 2022, so the timetable will be very tight. I don't know if ALGOP will make any adjustment to planned qualification dates in consideration of the late census data.

A further complicating factor is one that is mentioned in the article about the Biden administration's executive actions, and it is the order requiring the enumeration of illegal immigrants in the Census. I am told that if this happens, Alabama will almost certainly lose one of its 7 congressional districts. Will we know that during qualification in January 2022? Will the question still be in the federal courts? We'll have to wait and see.

The explanation of the timeline that was followed in 2010 below comes from a website called "[All About Redistricting](#)" which is maintained by Loyola Law School in California.



*Alabama's congressional and state legislative lines are drawn by the legislature, as normal legislation, subject to gubernatorial veto.*

*In the 2010 cycle, the legislature passed a congressional plan (SB 484) on June 2, 2011; the plan was signed by the Governor on June 8, 2011, and precleared on Nov. 21, 2011. The legislature passed a state legislative plan (HB 19 for state House districts, SB 25 for state Senate districts) on May 24, 2012; the plan was signed by the Governor on May 31, 2012 and precleared on Oct. 5, 2012. The state legislative maps were challenged in court, and on Jan. 20, 2017, a three-judge federal trial court struck several state House and Senate districts on grounds that they were drawn with an unjustified use of race. On May 19, 2017, the legislature passed remedial state legislative plans (HB 571 for state House districts, SB 403 for state Senate districts); the plans were signed by the Governor on May 23, 2017, and accepted by the court for use in the 2018 elections and beyond.*

It is important to note that Supreme Court case *Shelby County v. Holder* in 2013 eliminated the requirement for pre-clearance by a federal court for any changes to voting laws. I am not sure how or if this will affect redistricting in 2021.

### **District 3 State Representative Andrew Sorrell Recognized by Club for Growth**

The Club for Growth is a 501(c)(4) organization that supports many of the policy positions of lower taxes and less regulation that have become pillars of Republican politics. As part of their mission, they produce ratings of state legislators that

measure how closely their votes align with these principles. Some of the policy objectives that are rated are:

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates
- Limited government through limited spending
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing term limits

Overall, the Alabama legislature was not rated very well at all. When discussing Alabama's score, Club for Growth president David McIntosh made the following statement.

*Alabama is widely considered a 'one-party' state, but people would be mistaken if they thought the 'one party' was the conservative, limited government GOP. Instead, the Republicans in Montgomery have been advancing big government, anti-growth policies over the last several months. Worst, these abysmal 2020 ratings are just part of the story. The politicians in the state capitol routinely avoid casting votes. It's borderline fraudulent for these lawmakers to take a paycheck only to skip out on doing the one thing taxpayers expect them to do – vote!*

As I recall my dismay when Republican legislators and Governor Kay Ivey worked together to raise our fuel taxes, this description of the state of Republican politics in our state rings true. I am very proud that the delegation of legislators who represent Colbert County in Montgomery, Sen Stutts,



Rep Kiel, and Rep Sorrell, all voted against raising taxes.

Now we have even more reason to be proud and feel assured that our conservative principles are being represented. This is because despite the poor overall ratings for the state, Rep Sorrell of the 4<sup>th</sup> district has been recognized with the Club for Growth's top rating over all the other representatives. We extend our congratulations to Rep Sorrell for this recognition, and our thanks for his steadfast loyalty to the principles and values that we voted for.

Click below to read about this rating and the Club for Growth and its mission.

**YELLOWHAMMER** About · More

Jeff Poor · 5 days ago

Shelnutt, Sorrell top Alabama Legislature on Club for Growth 2020 Economic Scorecard; Livingston, Faust lead on vote participation



<https://yellowhammernews.com/shelnutt-sorrell-top-alabama-legislature-on-club-for-growth-2020-economic-scorecard-livingston-faust-lead-on-vote-participation/>

## Farewell to Rush Limbaugh



Of course, by now most of you have heard that Rush Limbaugh died of lung cancer on February 17<sup>th</sup>. I will not attempt to explain all of the major accomplishments this man achieved or the ways that he shaped Republican politics for the better, but I will tell you a few things about how he influenced me.

I first heard Rush on WGOW AM 1150 in Chattanooga, TN. I was just out of high school and had moved into a camper trailer. I had just started a landscaping business, and money was very tight. I couldn't afford to get cable TV, but the camper had a small AM/FM radio.

I had grown up watching TV at home, like most kids in my generation, and only listened to the radio while riding in the car or on Sundays to hear the races. Now that I only had a radio for entertainment, and since the FM band was almost entirely just music, I started to explore the AM band and found some interesting programs.





*The radio I first heard Rush Limbaugh on in 1990*

I still remember hearing Rush for the first time and realizing that someone out there was thinking the same things that I was and expressing the same frustrations as well as aspirations.

Before long I was a regular listener and tuned in whenever I could. Like many people, I found ways to listen while I worked.

This was when George H. W. Bush was President, and things seemed to be going great for Republicans. I had grown up under President Reagan, and I had figured that since he had picked Bush as vice-president, that meant he must be a reliable conservative. But Rush called things like he saw them, and when the President raised our taxes, he made his objections known.

I joined the army in 1991 and couldn't listen to Rush for several months. I lost touch with politics and in the fall I thought that President Bush, having just won a war, would be a lock to win reelection. Of course, I was in for a big surprise on election night (back then we just had election night, not election week or election month). Over the ensuing weeks of head-scratching, Rush's warnings came back to me. We had left our roots and the principles of limited government that Reagan had taught us. Reagan had taught me those lessons, Rush had explained their utility and emphasized how important they were to Republican success, and over the ensuing eight years, Bill Clinton showed me how

important it is for Republicans to stand up and fight for them.

I continued to follow Rush for the next 30 years. Through my various deployments overseas, my dad often mailed me copies of the Limbaugh Letter, and VHS tapes of Rush's television show. I still have some



copies of the Letter my dad sent me in Iraq in 2008. I don't know why I kept them all these years, but I know now that I'll never get rid of them.

Speaking for myself, Rush was a major influence on me, and he helped me to understand what being a conservative Republican really meant. I give a lot of credit to him for the 1994 Republican takeover of Congress, the first in 40 years, and the Tea Party Movement that eventually led to the election of President Donald Trump. There were voices for the conservative movement before, and there will no doubt be more to come, but there will never be another like his. Farewell Rush, and God bless!