

A Republic, if You can keep It

Benjamin Franklin answered Ms Powell with, “a Republic if you can keep it.” A Republic is what The Constitution of The United States of America created, a “Constitutional Republic.” I ran for sheriff this year with my campaign based on defending The Constitution, truth, honesty and liberty and justice for ALL. Getting the truth communicated was where we came up short. Although we were a great campaign team we had to deal with the deplorable state of our education system, the almost total lack of real journalism, and a political process that is devoid of scruples and moral turpitude. The main goal of the political process was character assassination to insure there are no leaders but rather that elected officials serve the system and not the people. Every once in awhile a good leader slips through then the process begins of unrelenting distortion, misrepresentations, lawsuits and when those do not work out right lies to prevent re-election.

It is difficult to focus on all the factors and symptoms at once. So let's start with a couple fundamental education concepts in this article. Getting the truth about a subject such as what is a sheriff, and reading skills, or connecting the dots. Background documents that are the source of the following discussion can be found at my website link <http://sheriffbill.com/index.php?p=gallery>

As you read through this and do your own research, consider the concepts of asking WHY and WHAT DO WE DO. So, what is a sheriff and what did you just get from this election?

The sheriff is the “Conservator of the Peace” as stated in the Texas statutes. The sheriff is the Chief Law Enforcement Officer in the county which includes insuring federal and other law enforcement groups and individuals behave within their Constitutional boundaries. The sheriff has authority and responsibilities that go beyond just law enforcement. (Read the documents on my website link referenced above.) The sheriff is NOT a police chief or police administrator. The sheriff works for the people, not the Commissioner's Court or the Governor, only the people. Police chiefs are hired employees of a city. Sheriffs are elected by the citizens.

Truth. Now let's look at the perceived winner of the most votes in the primary for sheriff, Robert Chody. One of the first ad cards said, “For over 30 years, Robert has served our community at nearly every level of law enforcement and public safety”. Thirty years ago he was 15 years old and was probably living in Virginia or Kentucky. His first police job was at APD, not Williamson, in 1996 (20 years ago) which after three years working patrol he was served a lawsuit and then required to leave APD two years later when Austin lost the legal battle. He spent a couple of years as an entry level jailer and the remainder of his experience is in the constable office. The constable job is primarily that of serving court papers for JP court and providing bailiffs (guards) for the courtroom. Constable staff at Precinct 1 is eight deputies and two admin people. His first newspaper ad claimed a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice. Wrong. The first newspaper article claimed a BS degree in Criminal Justice but his *linkedin* account says a BA that was completed 2011-2013 from an internet degree program. The *linkedin* also claims seven years with APD not five. In one ad he claims to have been an NCO in the Army, which is true but comes clean in a later ad that he was a corporal. Corporal is the first step in NCO and is mostly automatic with in the first three years of duty if you behave. The remaining five years of his claimed military service show no promotions.

Another area to delve into is the endorsements, Austin American Statesman, AFL-CIO, CLEAT etc. There is a whole other story here. When the so-called candidate forum was held by Cedar Park police association it was done secretly behind closed doors. When I asked Lt. Cowie the following week what he thought of the forum his response was “it was a setup.” During the forum we were asked if we would support collective bargaining. While I was block walking I asked one home owner why a Chody for sheriff sign was in their yard. The response was because that candidate had promised the Corrections Officers collective bargaining. When I first met this candidate, I asked him what he thought of the Obama Executive Order granting immunity to INTERPOL agents. He asked, “What is INTERPOL?” Yes I could write a whole book from this one campaign.

Now for some of you who are becoming disturbed by this and may be wondering what can be done, you can contemplate several things. One area to consider is the time Chody has been pursuing this office. Some people say he has been running a stealth campaign for two years. When you combine the signs he displayed in the 2015 Poppy Parade and Rattan Fest, the July *WilCo Sun* article, the handouts distributed in neighborhoods in October last year and

the Brown Santa trickery in November, one could reasonably conclude a public announcement had been made. If so, this violates state law and you can file with the TEC. If true he should have resigned his position as constable. His wife won the biggest ever Texas lotto in 2001 and with tens of millions in the bank WHY not be open and honest and just resign and run full time? With the money he has spent (different estimates range between 3/4 and 1.5 million) pursuing this position he will have to get reelected 3 times just to break even. Another avenue to consider is you have until June to find a "write in candidate" to run against him in November. Primary contestants are not eligible. If "we the people," YOU, mobilize it is not too late to change the outcome that has been created by money, media and moguls.

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