



## Does the Republican Party Have a Future?

By Star Parker, Townhall.com  
February 12, 2013



The United States, from day one, was a project about principles and ideals.

The super power that emerged and grew from the handful of colonists that began settling here was not the product of where those colonists happened to land, but the ideals and principles in their head and heart – applied in how they lived their lives.

The Republican Party was founded in 1854 to address one great blot on the nation's founding legacy – the existence of slavery in a nation founded under the ideal of freedom under God.

Runaway slave and self-educated abolitionist leader, Frederick Douglass said, "I am a Republican, a black, dyed in the wool Republican, and I never intend to belong to any other party than the party of freedom and progress."

Douglass called Abraham Lincoln, America's first Republican president, "emphatically the black man's president."

When some thirty years ago I told the welfare officer to not bother showing up again at my home – when I decided that my own future would be based on the values of scripture, work, and personal responsibility - there was no doubt in my mind what party would become my political home.

The party of "freedom and progress," the party of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. But, as longshoreman philosopher Eric Hoffer once observed, "Every great cause begins as a movement, becomes a business, and eventually degenerates into a racket."

It's no mystery why the Republican Party is having a hard time today. No matter how hard you squint and try to discern the values of Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, or any values for that matter, in those now wielding the money and power at the top of the party, they've disappeared.

These establishment Republican leaders and operatives are not about ideals and values but business – their own business.

The Wall Street Journal reports that the latest estimate from the Congressional Budget Office is that unemployment will "remain above 7.5 percent through next year. That would make 2014 the sixth consecutive year with a jobless rate that high, the longest stretch of such elevated unemployment in 70 years." Yet the Republican presidential candidate in 2012 could not defeat the current occupant of the White House.

In the party that is supposed to be about freedom and personal responsibility, party operatives want to blame everyone else for their own failures. Worse, they want to pin it on candidates who actually take seriously the traditional values of their party. Karl Rove would like to weed out candidates like former Missouri congressman Todd Akin.

Akin, who was defeated by Democrat incumbent, Claire McCaskill, in the Senate race in Missouri, was a six term Republican congressman with a flawless conservative record.

For most of 2012 he was ahead of McCaskill in the polls. Then, in August, he expressed himself poorly in an interview about abortion. Despite his apologies and efforts to clarify himself, his own party abandoned him.

McCaskill ran ads, over and over, showing the Republican's own candidate Mitt Romney questioning Akin's qualifications. This race could have been saved. But the party elite wasted not a second to dump Akin because they were not comfortable with his conservative values to begin with.

We're living in a deeply troubled country today. Americans are looking for answers, not a political class feathering its own nest.

There are tens of millions of conservative American patriots who seek an opposition party to represent their conviction that America will not get back on the path to strength and prosperity without restoration of freedom, limited government, free markets, and traditional values.

Today's big question is whether the Republican Party is going to be that opposition party.

If not, it is not conservative values and convictions that will be abandoned. It will be the Republican Party.

## Judges 1st to the legal guillotines

By Larry Klayman, wnd.com

February 12, 2013



When full-scale revolution finally breaks out, it will likely be the judges who will be the first taken to the legal guillotines.

As the third branch of government, our Founding Fathers gave to them the power to hold the other two branches accountable when they engaged in illegal, if not tyrannical, acts against We the People. However, over the last decade in particular, the nation's judiciary, at both the federal and state levels, have not only largely succumbed to the politicians and others who got them their jobs through appointment or by way of stuffing money into their campaign war chests (judges are elected in many states and localities), but have themselves grown so intellectually and otherwise corrupt as to be an even bigger threat to survival of our republic than the executive and legislative branches of government.

While judges have been known to take bribes and other perks from dishonest litigants and their attorneys to render dishonest decisions – crimes that are rarely unmasked since federal and state law enforcement investigating authorities are also frequently in the hip pocket of these felonious greasers – in recent years many judges have devised a far more opaque, sinister and "clever" way to get the job done for their masters. Simply put, in politically charged cases judges simply sit on complaints filed by public interest and other activist litigants, making use of the old adage that justice delayed is justice denied – a credo which frequently serves the same purpose as issuing biased and illegal decisions. Let me give you just a few examples from personal experience in cases that I have filed and been involved with in recent years.

Freedom Watch v. Hillary Clinton and U.S. Department of State, et. al, (Case No 12-cv-00314) – Given the potentially fatal nuclear threat the Islamic Republic of Iran poses to our nation, Israel and their Western allies, I filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the State Department to obtain documents uncovering how and why former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton decided, pursuant to the legal authority granted to her by Congress, which persons, interests or countries were granted "waivers" to do business with this neo-Nazi country. In this way, the economic sanctions that the United States and its allies have imposed on Iran – sanctions which are the centerpiece of the Obama administration's weak attempts to coerce the mullahs in Tehran to drop their nuclear bomb ambitions – do not apply for those persons, interests or countries. The rationale for the waivers is that these persons, interests or countries would be severely harmed if all of their trade with Iran were to be shut down.

Obviously, the issue of waivers is of crucial national importance, since Iran continues feverishly to build atomic weapons that it has said will help it carry out a new Holocaust against Jews and Christians worldwide. By allowing for this loophole in the Obama administration's sanctions regime, the "mullah in chief" and his equally corrupt and traitorous former secretary of state intentionally and deviously undercut their own sanctions, keeping Iran economically viable and eliminating any pressure for it to come to an agreement with the west over ceasing its dangerous nuclear

ambitions. Sure enough, just this week the New York Times wrote a front page story confirming that Obama's sanctions have had little to no effect in stemming Iran's march to acquire nuclear bombs.

When Hillary Clinton and the Obama administration predictably, stonewalled our FOIA document requests almost a year ago, I was forced to file suit in federal court in Washington, D.C. It was a "slam dunk" to win, particularly since the defendants had never responded to my FOIA requests – meaning that they had "waived" any defenses. But despite our motion for partial summary judgment, which sought to end the case and have the defendants immediately turn over the documents, the judge assigned to the case, the Honorable Rosemary M. Collyer, who has delayed ruling on our motion for now more than eight months – a crucial period in Iran's nuclear bomb building. When I sought to press her to make a decision and rule in our favor to order the release of these crucial documents, Judge Collyer threatened me with legal sanctions if we filed anymore requests. And, when I filed an ethics complaint against Judge Collyer for threatening me over her own failure to do her job and rule, the ethics committee of the federal court in Washington, D.C., conjured up absurd reasons to send my complaint back to me and refused to take any action "circling the wagon" for their fellow jurist.

Judge Collyer was appointed by President George W. Bush and is presumably a Republican. However, it is also likely that given the incestuous nature of the political and legal establishment in the nation's capital that she knows and has had contact with Hillary Clinton. Other more sinister reasons why Judge Collyer has sat on my case for more than eight months are also not ruled out. But whatever the cause, Judge Collyer and those who protect her on the ethics committee have sold out the interests of We the People. Through their inaction, they may be furthering the building of an Iranian atom bomb that could wipe us all out in the near future.

Then there is the latest example of judicial delay and injustice: the recent decision by the middle level appeals court in Florida, the First District Court of Appeal (Case No. No. ID12-3489), over Obama's eligibility to be president. My client, Michael Voeltz, a Florida voter and a Democrat, filed his initial challenge before the primary elections. The lower court ruled for the "usurper in chief," and we appealed. Despite our having previously asked the appeals court long ago to send the case immediately to the Florida Supreme Court, or itself rule quickly, as is required under the law of the Sunshine State for election cases, it sat on the case until after Obama was safely re-elected president. Conveniently, it issued a decision last Friday that the appeal is now moot and dismissed it. While we will now be able to appeal to the Florida Supreme Court and while Mr. Voeltz also has another case which I filed after the election to have Obama declared ineligible, this intentional delay by the Florida appellate court is also traitorous and worthy of ethics complaints against the three responsible judges.

These are just two examples among many of the judges who have in recent years intentionally failed to do their duty and sat on cases to feather the nests of the political elite.

## Challenge For Our Readers!

On your internet search engine enter "Sustainability and Marxism" and view the results. You decide.....



## Washington's Birthday



George Washington was born in Virginia on February 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and all its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar, which placed Washington's birth on February 22, 1732.

# TO LAW ENFORCEMENT



By Robert Dreyfus

This information may change you and the life of your family forever

**You swore an oath on the Bible to protect and defend the Constitution. Are you willing to do whatever you are told? Consider, if you elect to enforce an unconstitutional law or directive, then you are breaking your oath and forging the chains which you, your children and your loved ones will one day be bound. This makes you complicit in destroying America's freedoms, and placing you in a category worse than the thugs you encounter.**

If you are directed to confiscate weapons from law abiding citizens—would you do it? If your reply is, “*I would follow orders*” let me remind you the excuse, “*I was just following orders*” was the excuse Nazi leaders gave at the Nuremberg trials. The judges soundly rejected this excuse and said, there is a higher moral law to which people are required to follow. Principle IV under the Nuremberg Principles states: **“The fact that a person acted pursuant to order of his Government (or) a superior does not relieve him from responsibility, provided a moral choice was in fact possible to him.”**

It will be a tragedy if we lose the liberty for which so many Americans have given their lives to defend. What will you say to your children when they ask, “*Dad, what did you do when our liberties were being taken away?*” For More Info: [www.oathkeepers.org](http://www.oathkeepers.org)

The BILL OF RIGHTS are our fundamental, inalienable rights. They define what it means to be a free and independent people. They are the rights which must exist to restrain government. Our Forefathers knew that government, like fire had to be restrained. They refused to ratify the Constitution until the rights of citizens were protected by The Bill of Rights.

## THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE BILL OF RIGHTS

*"A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."*

The **Founders** believed that the right to keep and bear arms is a right so inherent to the individual that no government could legitimately curtail it. This right was so fundamental that it was a "natural" right," and the mere thought that government could infringe upon this right was unthinkable to the founders.

**James Madison, the father of the Second Amendment, said, "Americans have the right and advantage of being armed unlike citizens of other countries whose governments are afraid to trust the People with arms." George Mason, co-author of the Second Amendment, said, "To disarm the People is the most effectual way to enslave them."**

**The 2nd Amendment is a crucial safeguard against people being enslaved by their own rulers. The Founders of this nation who fought the War of Independence were fearful of a centralized government. They knew that civil rulers prefer a disarmed citizenry because they know that—a disarmed citizenry is helpless to resist the growth of centralized tyranny.**

### **Q. What is the Militia?**

A. It was best defined by George Mason, the co-author of the Second Amendment who said, *"Who are the Militia? They consist now of the whole People, except for a few public officers."*

### **Q. Isn't there a danger in having a Militia?**

A. Another Founder Alexander Hamilton stated, *"There is something so far fetched and so extravagant in the idea of danger to liberty from the militia, that one is at a loss whether to treat it with gravity; whether to consider as a disingenuous artifice to instill prejudices at any price. Where in the name of common-sense are our fears to end if we may not trust our sons, our brothers, our neighbors, our fellow-citizens? What shadow of danger can there be from men who are daily mingling with the rest of their countrymen and who participate with them in the same feelings, sentiments, habits and interests?"*

### **Q. What about the many laws restricting firearms?**

A. **It is impossible for a law, which violates the Constitution, to be valid. "All laws which are repugnant to the Constitution are null and void."** Marbury vs. Madison, 5 US (2 Cranch) 137, 174, 176,

(1803). **“When rights secured by the Constitution are involved, there can be no rule making or legislation which would abrogate them.”** Miranda vs. Arizona, 384 US 436 p. 491. **“An unconstitutional act is not law; it confers no rights; it imposes no duties; affords no protection; it creates no office; it is in legal contemplation, as inoperative as though it had never been passed.”** Norton vs. Shelby County 118 US 425 p. 442. **“No one is bound to obey an unconstitutional law and no courts are bound to enforce it.”** 16 AM Jur 2nd, Sec 177 late 2d, Sec 256.

What the Constitution says the government can do—is all it is authorized to do, nothing more. If it is not given to the government in the Constitution—it is retained by the people, and government cannot legally interfere with any of these retained rights.

There should be no concern that law abiding Americans possess weapons. There should be great concern when the State is the only entity possessing weapons. The first thing all tyrants do, such as Hitler, Stalin, Mao, Castro, Pol Pot and countless others whose goal is to exercise dictatorial control, is confiscate weapons so that people are helpless to resist. An example is the Holocaust. If Jews had the means to defend themselves, it is unlikely the Holocaust would have taken place in Nazi Germany, or the purges in Russia, or the genocide in Cambodia. Consider, during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, over 262 million people were killed by their government after having first lost their means of self defense.

Tragically politicians have systematically undermined the right to keep and bear arms. There are hundreds of laws on the books which legally regulate the sale, carrying, and type of weapon to be owned. Is the Constitution the law of the land or it is only window dressing to ignore whenever it becomes inconvenient? Following hurricane Katrina, law enforcement in New Orleans confiscated weapons from law abiding citizens, thus effectually removing the citizen's ability to defend themselves. Tyrants and demagogues use any excuse to diminish our rights. **Do not follow the orders of anyone who asks you to confiscate firearms from law abiding citizens.**

## Are we as asleep as the Germans of the '30s?



By Bradlee Dean, wnd.com  
January 24, 2013

“Politicians brought the Nazis to power and started the war. They are the ones who brought about these disgusting crimes.”

– Karl Doenitz, German admiral and would-be fuehrer after Hitler

On Nov. 20, 1945, the Nuremberg Trials began, bringing Hitler's Nazi criminals to justice. By this time, several countries were destroyed, and 50 million people, 2.5 percent of the world's population, lost their lives – including 12 million Jews, German dissidents, political opposition, intellectuals and others who were exterminated in Nazi concentration camps.

The world watched in horror as in the courtroom filled with Nazi criminals was played video footage of famished men, women and children who were mercilessly shot, starved and/or tortured, and then thrown carelessly into mass graves, all because they did not fall in line with the ideology of Adolf Hitler.

During the opening of the court proceedings, it is important to note that the prosecutor said, “The laws of God and man have been violated, and the guilty must not go unpunished.”

Just imagine if the Nuremberg Trials, per se, would have taken place at the first unconstitutional acts of Hitler's wicked regime. Hitler could have easily been stopped in the 1920s with relative ease by the German people who still had the freedom to do the right thing, and did it not. Instead, they acted as if Hitler had nothing to do with their personal lives.

Friends, as no one took Mussolini, Mao or Stalin seriously at first, many fellow Germans thought Hitler was an average run-of-the-mill wacko who posed no threat.

Horrifically, they were dead wrong.

One of Hitler's first moves when he rose to power was to attack his own Reichstag, only to blame it on his political opposition. He then proceeded to eradicate the Constitution of Germany in only six years.

Hitler no longer abided by the law, but instead promulgated his agenda by force.

Where were the 80 million people in Germany to stand up against this monster?

As Karl Doenitz blurted out, it was the politicians (and the people) who were responsible for bringing the Nazis to power.

On a daily basis the crimes of Hitler and his regime were evident. So obvious were the atrocities that after church the Germans were wiping the ashes of the incinerated victims off their cars.

Their lack of action turned them from victims to accomplices.

What does this have to do with America today?  
Everything.

It is clear to see that over the last four administrations, America's government is emulating many similarities – likewise setting itself at war with God, abusing power and trampling on the Constitution.

Where are the 312 million Americans to stand up and magnify the laws of our republic?

Have Americans today forgotten the price of their blood-bought freedoms, paid for by hundreds of thousands of veterans who laid down their lives, fortunes and sacred honor?

In the 1800s, after much bloodshed through the Civil War, President Andrew Johnson made one wrong move, causing him to be tried for impeachment.

Johnson simply removed the secretary of war from office without the consent of Congress. Americans were so jealous over their liberties they would not tolerate the least offense.

It would do us well to follow in our forefathers' footsteps, lest we, like Germany, become accomplices to America's overthrow through our apathy and lack of repentance – to our own demise.

As it says on the Supreme Court Building, “Justice (is) the guardian of liberty,” right under Moses holding the Ten Commandments. We must follow the preamble of our Constitution and “establish justice” (Isaiah 51) in order to “secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.”

America: Simply put, prevention is better than cure.

Interestingly, Time magazine merited the murderous dictator Adolf Hitler “Man of the Year” in 1938. Josef Stalin was also declared Time's “Man of the Year” in 1939 and 1942, who, like Hitler, was responsible for committing heinous crimes against his own people. This brings one to ask what other criminals have been labeled “Man of the Year” by Time magazine. You may be surprised.

## DHS Purchases 21.6 Million More Rounds of Ammunition



Paul Joseph Watson with infowars.com wrote an article about the Department of Homeland Security posted a bid solicitation #HSFLAR-13-Q-00014 for 21.6 million rounds of ammunition on top 1.6 billion round already purchased during the past 10 months. The bid was posted on February 5, 2013 and a response date of February 11, 2013. In his article Mr. Watson said:

*“Such massive quantities of ammo purchases have stoked fears that the agency is preparing for some kind of domestic unrest. In 2011, Department of Homeland Security chief Janet Napolitano directed Immigration and Customs Enforcement to prepare for a mass influx of immigrants into the United States, calling for the plan to deal with the “shelter” and “processing” of large numbers of people.*

*The federal agency's primary concern is now centered around thwarting “homegrown terrorism,” but information produced and used by the DHS to train its personnel routinely equates conservative political ideology with domestic extremism.”*

# American Patriot News Local Taylor County



## How Ironic is This?



The Taylor County Board of County Commissioners was asked to drop their membership in the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) because of their affiliation with ICLEI, an arm of the United Nations. There were three board members (Commissioners Page, Patterson and Feagle) who defended FAC and saying that they saved the county so much money by lobbying against the septic tank inspection bill and other matters last year in the legislature. All this sounds great but, there is more to the story.

It is important to note that the largest impact on the partial repeal of the septic tank bill was because of the grassroots citizens' demands. Thousands of individual citizens called and wrote their legislators demanding repeal. Yes, FAC may have played a small part in the process, but certainly not the major role as depicted by our commissioners.

In a 2013 draft report in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, chapter 5 (page 7) it states: "Florida Parks in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century 2008, a report released by The Florida Recreation and Park Association, The Trust for Public Land, the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties, documented a combined need of \$10.5 billion identified in recreation and open space elements of local government comprehensive plans, based on current levels of service. This figure represents funds needed for acquiring new and expanded parks, repairing and renovating existing parks and constructing new park facilities. It can be assumed that, given the economic realities of the past four years, this figure has continued to rise."

**Apparently FAC working with others identifies \$10.5 billion needed from the taxpayers?** Does FAC sound like an organization that will save the county money? Much if not most of this money would go toward land acquisition. When the state or federal government purchases land it is eliminated from the tax roles, which makes the remaining property owners pay more. **Are you ready for more taxes?**

## Code Enforcement = Agenda 21



Sherry Smart, February 11, 2013

Code Enforcement ensures that the **public** observes city codes and ordinances, meanwhile the city can violate these same codes.

So who decides what should be a code? Who enforces the code and who decides the punishment for a violation of the code? Fifty years ago you could pick fruit from the fruit trees in your yard, make cider from the apples on your property and set up a stand by the roadside to sell off your extras. That was considered normal and gave people a sense of community. You remember the corner market where you could have a pumpkin carving contest, buy fresh cider and share news with your neighbors.

What happened to those days? Do you think your local codes have anything to do with changing the face of our communities? You bet they do.

Codes are established under the premise of making communities a cleaner, nicer place to live. But what happens when Code Enforcement goes from being a friend of the community to a bully? Isn't this just another way to control **your private property?**

Employment in the field of code enforcing is available for individuals who complete the proper training and receive their certification through the AACE (American

Association of Code Enforcement). Cities and counties may have their own training courses and certification requirements in addition to those provided through the AACE. When did running a city involve trained certified "enforcers" for code violators? Do I have your attention? Why are we allowing bullies to dictate to us what size the numbers on our house should be, that we can't put up a child's tent in the backyard for a sleep over unless you have a permit, how many cars can park in your driveway? Seriously, what happens when you have a neighbor who dies and people are coming to pay condolences...? Code Enforcement will show up and put you on notice for your violation. Welcome to Agenda 21... which takes the power out of your hands, puts it in the hands of non elected bureaucrats, and removes your private property rights.

Code Enforcement has destroyed lives, families and driven people out of town. I went to a code enforcement meeting here in my city and could not believe the fines that were being levied at home owners. Fines that added up to over \$60,000 for one home owner and the home itself wasn't worth that amount. What is the purpose of that? To take possession of your property. (you can't pay the fines, you give up and the city takes possession of your property). My city has done it and I know this overreach is happening all across the country.

What do we do? Go to your city meetings, find out who is on the Board of Code Enforcement, write to your local elected officials asking for an explanation and get these codes off your books. Here in my city the board is comprised of 7 members with 2 alternates. The Code Enforcement Board was created by Resolution No. 77 R-19 Section 17 C 1. The job of any city code should be for public safety. I'm trying find the total number of our codes and there is not a source for the count. To give you an idea, there are 21 Chapters in our Code Book which was designed to restrict your private property rights and ultimately take your rights and property away. Our codes come from the "Municipal Code Corporation" out of Tallahassee. They give the guidelines for most municipalities in the state of Florida. OK, so take our city codes of 21 chapters and we still have to abide by county codes and states codes. Now we have layer upon layer of ordinances to regulate and control your use of your private property. Property owners must get engaged and take control of our rights and get the codes changed in your local government. The only way to build personal wealth is through ownership of personal property and the only way to protect your property is with the elimination of over reaching codes.

## Economic Development or Corporate Welfare?



Karen Schoen  
February 13, 2013  
Agenda21today.com

In a report from integrityfl.org an analysis was done on Enterprise Florida: Economic Development or

Corporate Welfare?

Floridians have entrusted Enterprise Florida, a public-private partnership focused on economic development, with significant public resources to deliver high quality job creation results, yet the organization has failed to accomplish its goals. In addition to illustrating the failure to meet legislative expectations, this report documents Enterprise Florida's apparent conflicts of interest, the appearance of a pay-to-play scheme for winning favorable treatment and its repeated practice of picking winners and losers in the marketplace through targeted business, favoritism, and selective incentive deals.

The real questions in Florida is: WHY ARE WE Subsidizing anything?

Why is the government picking winners and losers? Subsidizing eliminates competition. Competition is the basic core principle of Free Market. The government DOES NOT belong in any business. That is why we are

broke.

Maybe a better idea would be to stop the phony job killing regulations and let the farmers and fisherman do what they do best, WORK. Florida was #2 in Agriculture, yet now we get Florida fish, fruit and veggies from uninspected third world countries. Increasing Natural Gas output is also a good idea. Florida has huge untapped natural gas reserves.

A state that has no income tax, inexpensive food and energy will attract plenty of businesses without giving our money away.

Doing the same things over and over is like a useless individual who will continue to repeat the same mistakes by ignoring history.

How about if we try something different like using the real Florida resources we have. Stop giving away our dollars to companies who fail just so legislators can get additional donations.

## Strawberry Time



If you like strawberries the season is in. Priscilla's U-Pick in Sirmans has lots of them. Because of the expected cold, if you miss this

picking you can get the next batch expected in four weeks. We recommend you call first (850) 948-4816. Their address is 607 SW Debarry in Sirmans just off Route 221.



## Ryan's

Ryan's Barber Shop reopened at its old location, near downtown. 203 E. Drew Street. The shop is open Monday thru Friday, 9am to 6pm.

## Shady Grove Post Office Hours Reduction

The U. S. Postal Service announced a reduction in the Shady Grove post office hours to two hours per day. A meeting was held in Shady Grove at the community playground pavilion, where a large group of residents expressed their concern about the reduced hours. A Milton, Florida, Postmaster represented the U. S. Postal service in announcing the decision.

The Postal Service has faced serious deficit problems in the past several years. According to the Postmaster the main problem is the loss of business to email and online business transactions. Additionally, the requirement by Congress for long term employee retirement funding is a major problem for the Service.

## Upcoming Meetings

**County Commission**  
201 East Green Street, Perry

Feb 19, 2013 At 5:30 PM Board Meeting  
Feb 26, 2013 At 5:30 PM Board Workshop  
Mar 4, 2013 At 5:30 PM Board Meeting

**City Meetings**  
224 S. Jefferson Street

Feb 26, 2013 At 5:30 PM Council Meeting  
Mar 4, 2013 At 6:15 PM Code Enforcement Meeting

## How to avoid sacrificing liberty for security



By Paul Henry, retiredpublicsafety.com, February 14, 2013

*What was a great idea in 1787 is no longer worthwhile to many Americans.*

This morning I had the chance to speak at a House legislative hearing on HB 4011, which would repeal the 2010 red light camera law. The bill was sponsored by Rep. Daphne Campbell. She has drawn flack recently once it got out that her husband had amassed several tickets from an automated for-profit device. I'll write about that in a while.

What struck me today were several things. First and foremost was that many Americans have given up on the fundamental concepts of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in exchange for existence, regulation, and the pursuit of safety. The committee vote today was 10 in favor of repeal, and 8 in favor of keeping automated for-profit law enforcement. Here are the 8. Under each name I will list the amount of money American Traffic Solutions (ATS) has given them; **STR** means State Representative and **CHE** means paid by check:

Clelland, Michael Philip "Mike" [D]  
No ATS donations

Danish, Mark [D]  
No ATS donations

Fullwood, Reggie [D]  
No ATS donations

Gibbons, Joseph A. "Joe" [D]  
07/18/2011 \$500.00 ATS

Goodson, Tom [R]  
Goodson, Tom (REP)(STR)  
12/19/2011 \$500.00 ATS

Goodson, Tom (REP)(STR)  
10/29/2012 \$500.00 ATS

Hooper, Ed [R]  
11/08/2011 \$500.00 ATS  
10/29/2012 \$500.00 ATS

Pritchett, Sharon [D]  
No ATS donations

Williams, Alan B. [D]  
Williams, Alan (DEM)(STR)  
11/03/2011 \$500.00 ATS

We are in the twilight zone politically: Every Democrat (plus 2 Republicans) voted against their Democrat colleague Daphne Campbell's bill. The original camera bill in 2010 came to us from Republicans. Who would have ever thought it would be so popular with Democrats? Forget red vs. blue, this is red, white, and blue vs. green (\$\$\$). I've decided these folks are actually part of the new "green" party, and it has nothing to do with the environment.

Incidentally, what is wrong with a legislator taking action when they are affected by something they passed? SO WHAT if her husband got tickets? The only reason my REAL ID bill got traction last year was after a legislator found out how difficult it is to renew your license here.

During my presentation this morning (which if you read the Orlando Sentinel and AP reports you would not know I was ever there even though I was the first speaker), I spoke about many things. I'll focus here on the guilty until proven innocent aspect of this law.

The law (FS 316.0083) holds the owner of a vehicle liable for violations of this section. The law only allows certain excuses to let the owner off, such as a stolen car,

an officer directed them through, etc. Of course, the owner can identify who had custody of the vehicle at the time by providing their personal info to the government. The owner's options are simple- either pay the fine or finger another as the defendant.

I made note of this, and a subsequent speaker (and he was wearing green, pretty applicable), Orange County Sheriff's Captain Michael Fewless (who is the same guy that wants to fly drones over football games and other events-"The only thing we can do is take a picture."), told the legislators that contrary to what I said ALL tickets made people guilty until proven innocent. Since he mentioned me in this statement, I was able to rebut him and told the committee that every person I ticketed as a trooper I as the government had to prove they broke the law. They neither had to prove their innocence, nor prove my case against them, and that was not how the automated for-profit law worked.

This is a fundamental concept of American justice. It has been lost upon all of the above, and many comments I see in news articles- although several of these are no doubt for-profit company employees following in the footsteps of ATS VP Bill Kroske are likewise unaware of what this means.

If you cede that "for safety" (you can also substitute "national security" here for other things) we no longer need the government to prove wrongdoing or cause, this is not a slippery slope- it is the express lane to tyranny. The America of our founders continues to die a little more with each passing day.

## 10 Reasons to Avoid Regional Plans



By John Anthony  
February 6, 2013  
sustainablefreedomlab.com

Planning is not a one-size-fits-all exercise. Yet, that is exactly what regional plans attempt, while gradually silencing

local officials and the public.

Here are 10 reasons to avoid implementing regional plans and councils. Cleaner Greener NY [1], also called the Capital Region Sustainability Plan [2], is a model of why community members and local public officials must work together and say "NO" to regionalization and regional planning.

See how many apply to your region's proposal.

### 1. Planners gain miniscule community participation when forming the regions, the plans or the councils

There are over 1 million residents in the proposed Capital Region Sustainability Plan (CRSP). Despite claims of "stakeholder engagement" (CRSP p26), less than 300 participated in planners' workshops. In CRSP surveys, only 96 people, or less than .0001 percent of residents participated. (CRSP Appendix 16, p11)

### 2. Plans are prepackaged and do not represent unique community needs.

In spite of claims to the contrary, most plans encompass the same government sponsored top-down "livability" control features. CRSP includes the same "livable communities" (p99), fewer vehicle miles traveled (p128), and increased compact living (p105) as most regional plans. Cleaner Greener NY (CGNY) further promises the government and non-governmental organization pushed (NGO) standbys of virtually every plan: confiscation of open spaces (p75), forced environmental justice (p58), hi-speed rails (p63), and dilution of privately controlled farmland interests through conservation easements (p90).

### 3. Plans do not protect individual property rights.

Few regional plans mention the potential individual property rights infringements, tax increases or loss of potential wealth accumulation inherent in most proposals. None offers any method for protection against such losses. The CRSP contains no enforceable landowner protections.

### 4. Plans fail to protect communities against onerous regulations passed by regional councils.

Once installed, regional councils or consortiums, have immense power to pass regulations with minimal or no local input. The CRSP offers a seat for council representatives. However, having a community representative sitting on a larger multi-county consortium is not the same as making planning decisions with local citizens and local public officials working together in your hometown. (CRSP p8)

### 5. Plans rely on questionable "experts" for critical advice.

The CRSP relies on the Apollo Alliance for assurances there will be green jobs, which are fundamental to the plan's success. Yet, Apollo advised on the 'stimulus program' assuring there would be shovel ready and green jobs if passed. A year later, we learned Apollo exaggerated the job potential. (CGNY p40, p44)

### 6. Plans release questionable or incomplete statistics, which create false impressions.

In the case of Cleaner, Greener NY, the plan optimistically depends on green jobs, stating the US had a 9.1% increase in these between 1998 and 2007. The authors omitted that NY actually lost 1.9% of their green jobs during that same period. They also failed to notify community members that Congressional hearings cast serious doubt on the permanency, quality or even existence of the green jobs claimed. (CGNY p37)

### 7. Promotes community solutions without explaining the potential negative effects.

The CRSP promotes conservation easements to protect farmland from development without addressing the loss of dominant estate status, potential for plan changes, the downsides of 'best practices' and a host of ways in which landowners can lose their property and its value while still technically being the owner. (CGNY p90, p100)

### 8. Councils open the door for government grants, which often contain restrictive policies to reduce vehicle use while forcing low-income housing and social justice.

The CRSP states that future grant monies will be necessary, but not their source nor stipulations that will be attached. (CRSP p8)

### 9. Regional councils confiscate much of local officials' power, leaving the community with less representation.

In the CRSP, 25 local leaders have already diminished their oversight by agreeing to allow Albany to take the lead in all grant processing. To protect constituents, public officials must carefully study all grants and report the implications to their constituents before approval. Grants are the doorway to regulatory control of community members' lifestyles, activities and residential opportunities. (CRSP p8) In NY, communities are already beginning to pay the price for regionalization before the plan is even approved.

### 10. Once formed, regional councils are virtually irreversible.

Once officials agree to form a region and council, if community members discover they dislike its regulations, how can they disband the entity and roll back the dictates? There is no provision in the CRSP for its break up or regulatory rollback.

## Pork Chops and Gravy

*Courtesy of Seasoned With Love*

6 to 8 boneless pork chops  
1 can cream of mushroom soup  
1 can water  
1 pkg. pork gravy mix



Brown pork chops. Mix soup, water and pork gravy mix. Pour over pork chops and simmer on low for 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Recipe will make lots of gravy. Serve over rice or noodles. Boneless chicken may also be used; just decrease cooking time.

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