



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2020

Fresno Democrats Address Public Comment on a Member Removal Issue

FRESNO—The Fresno County Democratic Party is currently involved in a "Removal for Cause" issue involving one of its members. After some members expressed concern regarding public comment, the Party reached out to all members with this statement:

Members of the Fresno County Democratic Central Committee:

As you know, the Fresno County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) is currently involved in a "Removal for Cause" situation involving an elected Member from District 2. You will have seen and read the statement sent by our secretary on August 21, 2020 regarding this situation.

Out of respect for our rules and the member's privacy, the Executive Board has refrained, and will continue to refrain from naming names.

Unfortunately, the member in question has made the matter public via social media.

You all may have read a statement from the member this week making claims of libel, slander, defamation, invasion of privacy, and other claims of wrongdoing. The member also created a GoFundMe page making similar claims.

These claims are false. The Executive Board has not libeled, slandered, or defamed the member, nor has it disseminated private information regarding the member. *Nothing* has been done that creates any legal or moral liability for the FCDCC or the members of its Executive Board. We have followed, and will continue to follow, our usual Rules and procedures as set out in our Bylaws. We have treated the member the same way we would want to be treated if the situation was reversed.

Some members have also expressed concern that their vote on the removal item might subject them to personal liability or personal attack by the member in question. While we can't speak to any attacks by the member in question, you should all know that your vote, in favor or against removal, does not create any legal or moral liability. Vote your conscience!

Finally, we've seen some members of the FCDCC commenting on this situation online. Although everyone has the *right* to public comment, there is a risk that doing so will further inflame the situation. We urge all Members of the FCDCC to exercise restraint. There will be sufficient opportunity to address the relevant issues in the proper forum.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to resolve this situation.

Fresno County Democratic Party Executive Board

The Fresno County Democratic Party will vote on the Removal for Cause issue at its next regular meeting on September 2, 2020. For more information, contact [559-495-0606](tel:559-495-0606) or dems@fresnocountydemocrats.org.