



Media Contact:

Name: Robert Paquin III, Executive Director

Phone: 401-732-8282

Email address: robert@rigop.org

RIGOP Calls for Rep. Palumbo to step out of race.

Warwick, RI - Rhode Island Republicans called for State Representative Peter Palumbo to step down and aside from his race for re-election while he is investigated by the RI State Police.

Mark Smiley, Chairman of the RIGOP spoke on Wednesday morning, saying: "While we wait for the facts to be uncovered by the State Police investigation, Representative Peter Palumbo should withdraw his name and candidacy for re-election. There are a number of allegations surrounding this investigation, and while everyone deserves their day in court, the reputation, dealings, and integrity of our elected officials should be beyond repute."

WJAR I-Team's Parker Gavigan broke the news on Monday that a state contract awarded to former Democrat State Chairman David Caprio was being investigated by the RI State Police. It was additionally reported that State Representative Peter Palumbo had bid on the same contract, won, subsequently backed out of the bid, and then took a job from Caprio after his company was awarded the contract. Palumbo is also being investigated.

Executive Director Robert Paquin III weighed in as well, stating: "It is simply the right thing to do. Any representative of the people who acts against the interests of his or her constituents should step aside while being investigated by the top law enforcement organization in the state. The investigation isn't about a speeding ticket or seat belt violation - this investigation is about insider dealing, with the concept of 'quid pro quo' being considered 'business as usual' by our elected officials."

Chairman Smiley observed: "This really transcends politics or political posturing. This is an issue of public trust and doing the right thing by the citizens of Rhode Island. I once again call on the voters of Rhode Island to take a look at our Republican candidates this year - they all unequivocally support open and honest government. It is time to finally break the cycle of corruption"

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