Region 7 Report – 20th of September 2014

Region 7 is comprised of Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Reports are as follows:

**Alabama: (As reported by Mr. LaChine)**

Current number of statewide LP candidates. Zero, 14 local candidates

[http://www.ballot-access.org/2014/08/eleventh-circuit-will-hear-oral-arguments-in-alabama-ballot-access-case-in-mid-november/](http://www.ballot-access.org/2014/08/eleventh-circuit-will-hear-oral-arguments-in-alabama-ballot-access-case-in-mid-november/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**Arkansas:**

(No data submitted)

**Mississippi: (As reported by Mr. Barnes)**

Hey folks,

     I know we all have issues with funding and support.  I wouldn't
normally chime in here but I feel like I owe it to our candidates.
There is a major schism in Mississippi's Republican party.  It is so
bad, we beleive that if Thad Cochran does not pull out of the race
(after his questionable defeat of Chris McDaniel), the Republicans
are going to lose that senate seat.  The TEA Party is publicly
'supporting' both of our congressional candidates. The Secretary of
State has created a group of 51 to discuss changing primary
procedures in the state, which to me also means ballot access
restrictions for us.  They are already using the term 'fringe
candidates'.  We don't have to spend money and time collecting
signatures like many of you do.  I feel if I don't reach out now, I
may be wasting a golden opportunity.  Below is a link for Joey
Robinson speaking to a TEA Party group.  They are his largest donors
as well-which still isn't enough.  My point is, Joey is a golden
ticket for our Party.  He is a phenomenal candidate.  I could be
wrong, that's why I attached the video.  It's very short, but you can
see him interacting with the crowd.  People love him.  If we can't
find a way to support candidates like him, and I mean substantially,
we are only making it harder on ourselves to field this caliber of
candidate in the future.  I know we have members in our state that
donate to out of state candidates.  I'm asking you to share Joey with
your donors.  I've been having high quality potential LP candidates
asking for meetings trying to feel us out and see what type of
support we can offer.  This country is ready for us, I know many of
you feel it.  The opportunity in MS is a fleeting one given the new
panel of 51.  This state is at a tipping point.  The party lines have
been blurred and the voters are lost.  We have raised a few thousand
dollars for commercials-not much at all.  I feel that we are letting
Joey down with our young and inexperienced executive committee and
our lack of funds.  Sorry for the longe email, frustration has gotten
the better of me.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9ybdWtYNrQ&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9ybdWtYNrQ&feature=youtu.be" \t "_blank)

**Louisiana:**

(No data submitted)

**Oklahoma: (as reported by Mr. Long)**

In Oklahoma, as you probably already know, the ballot access laws do not allow candidates to run as Libertarians.

There are, however, a couple of libertarians running for offices here in Oklahoma as Independents.

Richard Prawdzienski is running for Governor. Here is his website where you can find out more about him:

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Richard-Prawdzienski-for-Governor-of-Oklahoma/721657864519266](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Richard-Prawdzienski-for-Governor-of-Oklahoma/721657864519266%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

Also, Robert T. Murphy is running for U.S. House of Representatives, District 5. Here is his website:

[https://www.facebook.com/roberttmurphyOklahomaUSRepDistrict5](https://www.facebook.com/roberttmurphyOklahomaUSRepDistrict5%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**Texas: (Reported by Mr. Hildebrand)**

Current number of Texas LP candidates: **135**

(Three net new candidates added since the national convention as we took advantage of redistricting in two counties to actually *add*candidates to the ballot. We have also lost a couple of candidates from the ballot that have withdrawn or been found ineligible)

Any news worth sharing with the LNC

Candidates that are excelling:

Texas has several extremely exciting candidates and races in play for 2014. These include:

* Kevin Ludlow for Texas House District 46

Kevin is in a one-on-one race with Democrat Dawnna Dukes and we believe the race may be competitive, although there are no reliable poll numbers at this time. Kevin has a campaign team of over 20 staff, has raised over $40,000 in mostly small donations, has engaged in an extremely creative and successful social media campaign, has placed full-size billboards on several major freeways in Austin, and has been gathering an impressive amount of local support – especially on his focus issues of LGBT rights, ending the drug war, and civil liberties.

* Rocky Palmquist for Texas Agriculture Commissioner polling at **46%**

Rocky has thrown himself into the campaign and took a creative but extremely savvy approach of funding an independent poll for his race after being excluded from early polls. When the privately funded independent results showed him polling at 30+% his campaign began to accelerate.

* Jamie Balagia for Texas Attorney General polling at **41%**

Jamie has been running an active campaign including creative print advertisements where he has cast himself as a cartoon superhero. Jamie is focusing on core issues of civil liberties, police militarization and ending the drug war which are resonating strongly in the state.

* Ben Sanders for Texas Comptroller polling at **35%**

Ben has been running a strong traditional campaign and leveraging media attention and standard campaigning techniques. Additionally he has been a leader in terms of coordination of efforts among candidates to accelerate all their efforts through mutual support.

* Mark Miller for Texas Railroad Commissioner polling at **35%**

Mark Miller has been running a very positive and active campaign and has been granted an unusual amount of credibility by the media, probably due to his extremely impressive resume in oil, gas, and science.

* Kathie Glass for Texas Governor

The Kathie Glass campaign has employed a creative approach of purchasing a custom painted tour bus (a “rolling billboard”) and taking it on a 254 county whole state bus tour. The bus tour has garnered some attention for the campaign and for the libertarian party.

* Dozens of other interesting races at the County or Local level