

September 28, 2022

Pima County Republican Committee
1800 E Ft Lowell Road, Suite 126
Tucson, Arizona 85719

SUBJECT: Organization of Legislative Districts, Pima County

Dear Chairwoman Ward,

Following our discussion at the April Executive Board Meeting, you recommended that I organize the Pima LD 19 portion of Pima County. The Pima County Executive Committee was made aware in the many months prior to redistricting that I was working with Chairman Niland to organize a smooth process for redistricting. The process included an Election Facilitator to manage the first meeting of the new Legislative Districts until they elected their chairman at which point the gavel would be turned over for the remaining elections and business meeting. That process was operationalized for LDs 17, 18, 20, and 21. LDs 16 and 23 are meeting with LD 20.

Former LD 14 Chairman, Ray Ihly, organized a five-county meeting to stand up LD 19 on March 12, 2022, in Cochise County. Mr. Ihly had neither the authority nor the responsibility for standing up a new LD for Pima County. Even if Mr. Ihly believed he had the authority, he was not the Chairman with most PCs moving into the new LD—Chairman Wishnick of LD 2 was and he neither consulted with her or Pima County in his efforts. He has stated that the Pima County PCs who were meeting in the five-county LD 19 meeting caucused and formed their Pima LD 19 and recognizes himself as the LD 19 Chair for Pima County. This issue is in litigation in Arizona County Superior Court, Pima County, C20221370.

As Chairman of the Pima County Republican Committee, I do not recognize Mr. Ihly and the group of individuals who formed a Pima LD 19 committee in Cochise County.

As we prepare for Organization Meetings and the election of State Committeemen, I request you recognize the State Committeemen elected by the Pima LD 19 Committee under the leadership of:

Chairman Darren L. Venters
1st Vice Chairman Sergio Arellano
2nd Vice Chairman John Backer
Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Ware

V/R,



Shelley Kais
Chairman, Pima County Republican Committee