

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY**

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
FILE NO.: 23 CVS \_\_\_\_\_**

**MIKE URBEN; ANDRAE DEHAAN; and )  
ARYN SCHLOEMER, )**

**Plaintiffs, )**

**v. )**

**THE NORTH CAROLINA )  
REPUBLICAN PARTY )**

**Defendant. )**

**MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY  
INJUNCTION  
(NCRCP 65)**

Now come Plaintiffs, by and through counsel, and move the Court pursuant to Rule 65 of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure for a preliminary injunction. In support of this motion, Plaintiffs refer to, and incorporate by reference, Plaintiffs’ Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief and Plaintiffs’ Memorandum in Support of Motion for Preliminary Injunction, to be served in advance of a hearing on this matter. In further support, Plaintiffs show the following:

I. Plaintiffs will likely prevail in a final determination on the merits. In particular, Plaintiffs are likely to show that the election (and the failure to conduct the election of the Vice-Chairman) for Chairman of the North Carolina Republican Party (the “NCGOP or Party”), which occurred on or around June 10, 2023, failed to comport with the NCGOP’s own governing documents, was defective, and resulted in the improper and illegitimate election of the now purported Chairman, Michael Whatley.

2. Plaintiffs, members of the NCGOP, suffered immediate and irreparable harm in that the NCGOP, in the process of administering the NCGOP Convention and the election for the positions of NCGOP Chairman and NCGOP Vice-Chairman, failed to follow the NCGOP's Convention Rules and Plan of Organization, resulting in invalidity elected Party leadership. Absent injunctive relief, Plaintiffs will continue to suffer immediate and irreparable harm as an improperly elected Chairman, and improperly appointed Vice-Chairman, will purport to lead the Party for the next two years, including during a critical presidential primary election year.

3. Because administration of the 2023 NCGOP Convention, and the leadership elections conducted therein, included multiple, material violations of the NCGOP's Plan of Organization and Convention Rules, the balance of equities weighs in favor of granting Plaintiffs the injunctive relief sought and requiring the election for Party Chairman and Vice-Chairman be conducted in a manner which comports with the NCGOP Plan of Organization.

4. The NCGOP is a major political party in the State of North Carolina, representing the political interests of more than two million North Carolinians. Granting Plaintiffs the relief sought is in the public interest.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs move the Court for injunctive relief. In particular, the relief sought by Plaintiffs is found in the NCGOP's Plan of Organization which authorizes "[t]he State Central Committee, at any time, in the interests of the Republican Party, [may] direct the State Chairman or the Congressional District Chairmen to issue a call for Special Senatorial, Judicial or Legislative organizational meetings, and special County and Congressional District Conventions, in any or all of the counties and districts of the state." Plaintiffs seek an order from this Court enjoining the NCGOP until such time as a special election(s) may be held at the county or State level and the election of the Party Chairman and Vice-Chairman is conducted in

conformance with the Plan of Organization and any subsequent Convention Rules.

Respectfully submitted, this 17th day of July, 2023.

/s/ James R. Lawrence, III  
James R. Lawrence, III  
NC Bar No. 44,560  
Adam P. Banks  
NC Bar No. 47,559  
ENVISAGE LAW  
2601 Oberlin Rd, Ste 100  
Raleigh, NC 27608  
Telephone 919.755.1317  
Facsimile: 919.782.0452  
Email: [jlawrence@envisage.law](mailto:jlawrence@envisage.law)  
[abanks@envisage.law](mailto:abanks@envisage.law)

*Attorney for Plaintiff*