

Hi Donna,

Yesterday, on Saturday morning, 19 August, you requested that I submit a specific grievance, as per the by-laws, that I had concerning unethical campaign conduct that I felt was used in the Aboud "hit piece" mailer being sent out. I explained that the mailer contained lies and was influencing VBM voters each day. I responded at 11:19 am via email with a copy to Vince Robago. You had informed me that Pima County Executive Committee would be convened to hear my complaint on the 22nd of August at 6 PM. I was also told that Senator Aboud and I would be interviewed separately. I so informed my supporters.

This morning, Sunday 20 August, you informed me that David Waid, Arizona Democratic Party Chair, felt that the process needed to slow down. This decision, in effect, gives more time for the hit piece to misinform the voters. Uncorrected, the damage is not being mitigated nor can it be reversed. There are approximately 200-400 voters requesting VBM per day. You had to cancel the 22nd grievance hearing and postponed it until the following week, on the 29th, when the procedure for grievances would be developed. You anticipate that a hearing could be held on 5 September, a week before the election and too late to prepare mailers to influence the 12 September election. To my mind, due process delayed is due process denied. The Pima County Party's decision is, in effect, an endorsement of Senator Aboud's negative campaign tactics, if not her campaign. I would hope that election integrity includes the Party process for handing grievances in a fair and prompt manner to avoid tilting the playing field. Certainly, the Clean Election's Commission tries to set an example in this regard. I would hope for an earlier date.

In the meantime, I will focus my time on my positive message. Thank you for your dedication and service to Democratic values.

Ted Downing

State Representative
LD28 and
Candidate for State Senate in LD28