

**Republican  
National  
Committee**

Counsel's Office

November 3, 2015

Mr. Tito Montes  
President  
Hawaii Republican Assembly  
P.O. Box 2567  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL


Dear Mr. Montes:

I received your email concerning a letter sent to your organization by the Hawaii Republican Party ("HRP"). In that letter, the HRP demanded that your organization cease and desist from using several names and marks, including a mark owned by the Republican National Committee ("RNC") and licensed to the HRP – the "Official Elephant Logo."

However, contrary to what you stated in your email, counsel to the HRP does not make any representations regarding the RNC's legal rights. This is because the HRP does not represent the RNC and is not a subsidiary of the RNC. While it does represent the Republican Party at the state level as a political party under state law, the HRP is a wholly separate entity from the RNC. In fact, state parties are governed by their own rules and bylaws separate from *The Rules of the Republican Party* which govern the RNC, and file as separate, individual political committees with the Federal Election Commission. Quite simply, there is no contractual, or principal/agent relationship between the RNC and the HRP.

The RNC does not control state parties and therefore, is not in a position to dictate to the HRP any particular course of conduct. Without passing judgment on any claims made by the HRP, the RNC does not intend to bring any legal action against the Hawaii Republican Assembly. I urge you to work amicably with the HRP to find some resolution to your differences without putting the Republican Party's chances for electoral success in Hawaii in jeopardy.

Sincerely,



John L. Ryder  
General Counsel