

2023 SPRING CONVENTION | HANOVER, MARYLAND



MARYLAND REPUBLICAN PARTY



JUNE 9—10, 2023

THE HOTEL AT ARUNDEL PREERVE



MARYLAND
REPUBLICAN
PARTY

Fellow Republicans and friends,

I want to thank you for joining us for the MDGOP's 2023 Spring Convention.

It is a new dawn in the Maryland Republican Party. Leadership is new, our staff is new, and our approach to winning elections is new.

Aside from the primary goal of connecting with Marylanders in new ways and winning elections, I would like the major themes of my tenure as Chairwoman to be transparency, responsiveness, and collaboration within the party. This isn't my party, and it isn't any one person's - it's *ours*.

I wanted to take this time to express that I actively want feedback from all of you. This is the first convention I have presided over, and I want each one to improve as we grow as a party.

We have lots of big plans in the works, and I'm glad you're here to be a part of them.

Thank you,

Nicole Beus Harris
Chairwoman
MDGOP

PO Box 631, Annapolis, MD 21404

Paid for by Maryland Republican Party | R. Christopher Rosenthal, Treasurer



2023 Spring Convention
Tentative Agenda – Subject to Change
June 9th - 10th, 2023

FRIDAY, JUNE 9TH

- 4:30 p.m. Registration Opens
- 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Registration Closes
- 7:30 p.m. VIP Reception with Governor Chris Christie
- 8:30 p.m. Hospitality Suites and General Reception

SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH

- 8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast with **TBA**
- 10:00 a.m. Registration Closes (you must be registered by 10:00 a.m.)
- 10:00 a.m. General Session, Part 1
- 12:00 p.m. Break for Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. General Session, Part 2
- 3:00 p.m. Convention Adjourns
- 4:00 p.m. Hall must be cleared

Maryland Republican Party
2022 Fall Convention Minutes
General Session – December 10, 2022
Maryland Live, 7002 Arundel Mills Cir, Hanover, MD 21076

The Convention is called to order at 10:01 am by Chairman Dirk Haire

- Invocation offered by Marquita Bushrod (Charles)
- Pledge of Allegiance led by – Julie Giordano (Wicomico County Executive)

Rules Committee Report – Luanne Ruddell (Garrett)

- On behalf of her Committee, Chairman Ruddell reports that they recommend adopting the same convention rules as have been previously used.
- A voice vote adopts the proposed convention rules.

Secretary's Report – Mark Uncapher -MDGOP Secretary

- The proposed minutes for the May 2022 convention, as circulated with the December 2022 convention call, are approved by a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report – Chris Rosenthal – MDGOP Treasurer

- The bank account currently has \$16,000 and no balance due on the line of credit. There are \$70,000 in account payables.
- The Party has primarily been within budget in the past year, although fundraising expenses have been higher because of fundraising costs associated with coordinated activities.
- Treasurer Rosenthal did not file for reelection. It has been an honor for him to serve as Treasurer.
 - o Treasurer Rosenthal outlines the requirements for the position, stressing that it is technical and requires a deep knowledge of the state and Federal campaign finance laws.
 - o In addition to the regular budgeted party operations, state law allows additional money to be raised and spent through coordinated accounts.

Republican National Committee Report – Phil Valenziano – RNC Regional Political Director

- Director Valenziano commends the three members from Maryland serving on the Republican National Committee – Dave Bossie, Nicolee Ambrose, and Dirk Haire. He says that Dirk is a highly respected Chairman among his peers.
- Nancy Pelosi has been retired by the voters as Speaker. Consequently, the Biden agenda is now dead in Congress because of the new Republican House majority. The Party almost picked up House seats in Maryland because of competitive races.
- As a result of the removal of a long-standing judicial consent decree, the RNC has been able to engage more actively in voter integrity efforts.
- The Party is looking for a new approach to win in Blue states. These initiatives include "Ballot chase" efforts to encourage mail-in ballots.

County Executive Bob Cassilly (Harford County)

- The past election results reflect the best of times and the worst of times. While Cassilly won, some great candidates lost.
- As a party, we must learn the lessons from defeat and lay the groundwork for 2024 and 2026. Republicans need to be more inclusive, not exclusive. They must treat an "80% Republican" as an ally, not a 20% traitor.
- Swing voters such as independents and moderate Democrats can be attracted with appeals using local issues, such as education.
- Republicans must stop complaining about elections and match the Democrats' system for getting ballots from low-propensity voters. He notes that 450,000 Democrats requested mail-in ballots.

National Committeewoman Report – Nicolee Ambrose

- **National Party**
 - o The Party snatched defeat from the jaws of victory – even though 72% said the country was headed in the wrong direction. The Party must master the different ways voters choose to vote.
 - o We need enhanced voter databases, including identifying lower propensity voters who might be encouraged to use mail-in ballots.
- **Grassroots Committee**
 - o Committeewoman Ambrose recognizes Committee Chair Faith Loudon and its members.
 - o During the lunch break, the Committee will meet to share voting and Get-Out the Vote experiences.
 - o The Committee has subgroups on School Board elections and election integrity.

National Committeeman's Report – Dave Bossie

- In a tough election cycle, the Party needs to bring the Florida model to Maryland. In that state, Republicans won within all voting methods – Early, on Election Day, and by Mail-in.
- Committeeman Bossie says that Republicans need to work with those election rules that are in effect. In Arizona, 43% of votes were cast before election day. Some Republicans who waited until election day may have become discouraged by long lines and other voting location issues.
- Committeeman Bossie is available to help identify speakers for fundraising events.

Nominating Committee - Tracy Mathews (Anne Arundel)

- The Committee met on November 20 and elected Tracy Mathews as Chair.
- By unanimous vote, the Committee concluded that six candidates failed to comply with the nomination deadline.
- The Committee reported the following candidates:

Chairman

Tim Fazenbaker, Baltimore City
Nicole Harris, Dorchester County

First Vice Chair

Nicole Bennett, Charles County
James Ashburn, Charles County

Second Vice Chair

Al Mendelsohn, Baltimore County

Heath Barnes, Frederick County

Third Vice Chair

Linda Flint, Harford County

Dwight Patel, Montgomery County

Secretary

Mark Uncapher, Montgomery County

Treasurer

No candidate

Credential Committee – Christina Trotta (Harford)

- The Committee's report is presented by Chairman Trotta, 260 of 305 members are present.
- A voice vote accepts the report.

First Point of Order by Peter Walters (Baltimore City)

- On the advice of the Parliamentarian, the Chair rules against the point of order challenging the adoption of the Nominating Committee's report because of their meeting timing.
- The Chair's ruling is appealed, and based on the results of the voice vote, a tallied vote using the LCD method is called for.
- The Chair's ruling is upheld by a vote of 281.3 (54%) to 239.7.

Motion to Open Election of Officers to Floor Nominations

- A motion is made from the floor to open the election of the Chairman to nominations from the floor.
- Discussion from the floor is made for and against. Clarification is made that a two-thirds vote is required under the convention rules to permit floor nominations.
- A recorded LCD method fails to obtain the necessary two-thirds vote, 328.7 for the motion (63%) to 191.2

Second Point of Order

- An additional Point of Order regarding the nomination process is made from the floor.
- On the advice of the Parliamentarian, the Chair rules against the point of order.
- The Chair's ruling is appealed, and based on the results of the voice vote, a tallied vote using the LCD method is called for.
- The Chair's ruling is upheld by a vote of 330.9 (63.4%) to 190.7.

The meeting is adjourned for lunch at 12:05 pm

Chair Haire reconvenes the Convention at 1:01 pm

Chairman's Election

- Tim Fazenbaker
 - o Alexandra Levine nominates.
 - o Chris Anderson (Baltimore City) seconds.
- Nicole Harris (Dorchester)
 - o Julie Giordano (Wicomico) nominates.
 - o Jeff McBride (Harford) seconds
 - o Luanne Ruddell (Garrett) seconds.

Nicole Harris is elected with 379 votes (77%) to 114.

First Vice Chair

- James Ashburn
 - o Nicolee Ambrose (Baltimore City) nominates
 - o Brandon Cooper (Prince George's) seconds
- Nicole Bennett
 - o Dan Cramer (Howard) nominates
 - o Julie Giordano (Wicomico) seconds

Nicole Bennett is elected with 342 votes (68%) to 163.

Second Vice Chair

- Heath Barnes
 - o Dylan Diggs (Frederick) nominates.
 - o Jason Miller (Frederick) seconds
- Al Mendelsohn
 - o Del. Barrie Celberti (Frederick) nominates.
 - o Bradley Lang (Baltimore) seconds

Heath Barnes is elected 284 (57%) votes to 210.

Third Vice Chair

- Linda Stine Flint
 - o Dennis Beitzel (Baltimore City) nominates.
 - o Matt Beers (Cecil) seconds
- Dwight Patel
 - o Bradley Lang (Baltimore County) nominates.
 - o Jim Wass (Prince George's) seconds

Patel is elected 312 (65%) votes to 165

Secretary

On a voice vote, the rules are suspended to elect the only candidate for Secretary, Mark Uncapher

Treasurer

The Executive Committee will fill the Treasurer with an election at the Spring Convention

Resolutions Committee Report

No resolutions are offered for consideration at the Convention by the Committee.

By a two-thirds voice vote, a motion was passed to permit a motion from the floor.

On a voice vote, a motion by **Katherine** Adelaide (Carroll) to adopt a "PRO-LIFE Resolution "was adopted.

PRO-LIFE RESOLUTION FALL 2022 MDGOP CONVENTION

WHEREAS, the Republican National Committee (RNC) Platform states "that the fourteenth amendments' protections apply to children before birth." (Section 3, Fifth Amendment: Protecting Human Life);

WHEREAS, on December 12th, 2020 at the MD GOP Fall Convention the duly elected members of the MDGOP unanimously adopted a "Resolution Against Any Maryland Constitutional Amendment Supporting Abortion or Infanticide"

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v Wade in a landmark decision that the Constitution of the United States does not confer a right to abortion.

THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Central Committees of the Maryland Republican Party (MDGOP) strongly affirm and RE-ADOPT the 2020 unanimously adopted "Resolution Against Any Maryland Constitutional Amendment Supporting Abortion or Infanticide, However Titled, Including the Right to Privacy, Bodily Integrity and/or Healthcare;"

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the MDGOP shall transmit a copy of this duly executed RESOLUTION to the Governor, to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Delegates of the Maryland General Assembly;

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have executed my name as Secretary this 10th Day of December 2022.

A motion to adjourn is passed at 3:08 pm on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Uncapher, Secretary
Maryland Republican Party



PLEASE JOIN US IN CHAMPIONING
AMERICAN VALUES AT THE

**MARYLAND REPUBLICAN PARTY'S
32ND ANNUAL
RED, WHITE AND BLUE DINNER
WITH SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR
KRISTI NOEM**

.....
SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 2023

BWI Airport Marriott
1743 West Nursery Road | Linthicum Heights 21090

\$25,000 Chairman's Circle Sponsor
\$10,000 Capitol Sponsor
\$6,000 Chesapeake Sponsor
\$2,000 Table for Ten Host

\$1,000 per guest for the Private Reception & Dinner
\$225 per guest for General Reception & Dinner
\$175 per Central Committee Member

6:00 P.M. Private Reception & Photo Opportunity
6:30 P.M. General Cocktail Reception
7:30 P.M. Dinner

PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 2ND:

BY MAIL TO: MDGOP | P.O. BOX 631 | ANNAPOLIS, MD 21404

ONLINE AT: secure.anedot.com/maryland-republican-party/rwb2023

Questions? Contact RWB@mdgop.org

Authority: Maryland Republican Party, R. Christopher Rosenthal, Treasurer. All funds solicited in connection with this event are by the Maryland Republican Party and not by Governor Kristi Noem.

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We are extremely excited to announce that Governor Kristi Noem will be headlining our Red, White, & Blue Dinner this year!

We will be having this year's dinner on Saturday, June 17th at 6:00pm and it will be held at the

BWI Marriott
1743 W Nursery Rd
Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090

IF YOU PREFER TO PAY BY CHECK, PLEASE MAIL TO:
MDGOP | P.O. BOX 631 | Annapolis, MD 21404

Questions? Contact RWB@mdgop.org

**Get your Red, White and Blue Dinner Tickets w/Gov. Kristi Noem
at <https://secure.anedot.com/maryland-republican-party/rwb2023>**