



Jarryd Powell <[REDACTED]>

Seeking Clarification on WV Young Democrats

2 messages

Jarryd Powell <[REDACTED]> Fri, Jan 5, 2024 at 4:57 PM To: Mike Pushkin <[REDACTED]> Ryan Frankenberg <[REDACTED]>

Dear Chair Pushkin and Director Frankenberg,

I am writing to express my growing concern about the current state of affairs within the West Virginia Young Democrats (WVYD). The WVYD should be endeavoring to connect young Democrats to their party and ensure their voice is being heard at this critical moment in history. Unfortunately, the observations I've made thus far suggest a departure from the ideals of our Democratic party and the rights held by members within the WVYD.

I have requested information from Jacob Hively, who claims to be the current President of the WVYD, as well as the current YDA President and Regional Vice President. To date, I have not yet received a response.

I'm hoping that either of you could shed light on this situation for me. I would like the following information that should be readily available to a member, but unfortunately, is not:

When was the last WVYD convention held?

Is the WVYD chartered with the YDA?

Are there chartered county chapters in WV?

Who are the most recent and allegedly current officers of the WVYD?

The 2018 WVYD Constitution requires that the State Executive Committee approve certain things, such as, convention date, officer appointments, etc. Has the State Executive Committee been requested to do any of those things?

Do you have any minutes or records of the WVYD for the past 2 years?

Thank you for your time on this issue.

Respectfully,
Jarryd Powell

Ryan Frankenberg <[REDACTED]> Sat, Jan 6, 2024 at 3:08 PM To: Jarryd Powell <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Mike Pushkin <[REDACTED]>

Jarryd,
Please see below for responses to your request for information.

1. When was the last WVYD convention held?

To our knowledge the most recent WVYD State Convention was held August 6-7, 2021, in Huntington, WV. WVDP has on file a [graphic](#) used for the event as well as a [pdf of registrants](#).

2. Is the WVYD chartered with the YDA?

According to [an email from YDA President Quentin Wathum-Ocama](#):

"West Virginia is not currently chartered with YDA. Their last charter was done in 2021 which expired in July (2023).

Sophia Mills completed that paperwork and the last President we had on file before losing contact was Lora Walker."

3. Are there chartered county chapters in WV?

WVDP has no knowledge of any currently chartered county WVYD chapters.

WVDP requested information regarding local chapters in [an email offering WVDP support of WVYD on April 12,](#)

2023 but received no response.

4. Who are the most recent and allegedly current officers of the WVYD?

The only record WVDP has on file is from 2021 indicating the following officers:

Sophia Mills - President

Adam Strider - NCR

Alisa Clements - NCR

Chase Jarrell - Treasurer

Ariana Velasquez - Exec Director

Jacob Hively communicated via email on November 19, 2022, and again on November 30, 2022: "Lora Walker recently resigned as President of the WV Young Democrats. I will be filling out the remainder of her term."

5. The 2018 WVYD Constitution requires that the State Executive Committee approve certain things, such as, convention date, officer appointments, etc. Has the State Executive Committee been requested to do any of those things? WVSDEC has not received any requests for approval of any kind.

6. Do you have any minutes or records of the WVYD for the past 2 years?

WVDP has requested documentation regarding minutes, meeting notifications, officer elections.

Requested information has not been provided.

In an email exchange sent at 10:38 AM on November 7, 2023, the following information was requested of Mr. Hively:

1. Current WVYD Charter
2. Minutes and Public Notice of the West Virginia Young Democrats state convention in which you were elected President of WVYD.
3. Any correspondence with Young Democrats of America regarding officer updates.
4. List of current WVYD office holders with titles, contact information and minutes of when they were elected.

Mr. Hively responded minutes later at 10:42 AM:

"I will compile all information and send it to the WVDP as soon as possible."

A followup email was sent to Mr. Hively on November 9, 2023, with no response.

Another followup email was sent on November 21, 2023 at 10:44 AM requesting a meeting at WVDP HQ on December 1, 2023.

Mr. Hively replied at 10:55 AM that he had "asked our treasurer, Chase Jarrell to compile the documents," and declined to meet.

On December 9, 2023, Chair Pushkin sent Jacob Hively an email requesting the video recording of a WVYD Meeting held on December 9.

Chair Pushkin received no response.

All linked documents can be found in this folder:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/██>

Ryan Frankenberry
Executive Director - WVDP



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