

1 \* \* \* \* \*

2

3

4

5 \* \* \* \* \*

6 STATE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

7 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

8 OCTOBER 5, 2019

9 11:00 A.M.

10

11 \* \* \* \* \*

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22 COURT REPORTER: PATRICK R. MILLER, ACCR 631

23 \* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

1 MS. MARKS: Good morning to  
2 everyone.  
3

4 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Good  
5 morning.

6 MS. MARKS: I want the Democrats to  
7 say it louder. Good morning,  
8 Democrats.

9 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Good  
10 morning.

11 MS. MARKS: Very, very good. The  
12 meeting of the State Democratic  
13 Executive Committee is now called to  
14 order.

15 (An applause was heard.)

16 MS. MARKS: I am Carole Marks,  
17 Chair of the Shelby County Democratic  
18 Executive Committee. We would like to  
19 welcome everybody.

20 (An applause was heard.)

21 MS. MARKS: Thank you. We are so  
22 pleased to see so many of you here  
23 today, and we welcome you. Now, I

1 know it's a Saturday, and there are a  
2 lot of things you could have  
3 been

4 Doing, but you chose to do the  
5 right thing today by being present at  
6 the meeting, and we certainly  
7 appreciate it. We have an agenda, so  
8 right now, I would like you to stand  
9 and pledge allegiance to the flag.

10 (The Pledge of Allegiance was  
11 heard.)

12 MS. MARKS: Thank you. You may be  
13 seated. This meeting has been called  
14 at the request of a majority of the  
15 total membership of the State  
16 Committee as authorized under the  
17 current bylaws, Article 6, Section 1.  
18 Based on the sign-in sheets, we have  
19 declared that a quorum is present.

20 (An applause was heard.)

21 MS. MARKS: Now, I would like to  
22 introduce you to our parliamentarian  
23 and some other people, but so that we

1 don't expend a lot of time in the  
2 introductions, I'll just ask them to  
3 either stand or raise their hands.

4 First, we have the parliamentarian,  
5 Sarah Merkle.

6 (An applause was heard.)

7 MS. MARKS: We would like to  
8 acknowledge the presence of our court  
9 reporter, Patrick Miller.

10 (An applause was heard.)

11 MS. MARKS: This meeting will be  
12 videographed so that if you have  
13 questions later, we will have it.

14 We have representatives in our  
15 midst this morning from the DNC.

16 (An applause was heard.)

17 MS. MARKS: One who is definitely  
18 no stranger to us, Harold Ickes.

19 (An applause was heard.)

20 MS. MARKS: Thank you. Next, we  
21 have Miles Fernandez.

22 (An applause was heard.)

23 MS. MARKS: Milan Robinson.

1 (An applause was heard.)

2 MS. MARKS: And Andrea Young. So  
3 we mean business.

4 (An applause was heard.)

5 MS. MARKS: Thank you for joining  
6 us here today. Now, since neither our  
7 Chair Lady Nancy Worley nor Vice-Chair  
8 Randy Kelley are present, under the  
9 bylaws, we need to elect a chair pro  
10 tem of this meeting, and this is as  
11 authorized by the current bylaws,  
12 Article 4, Section 2. So the house is  
13 now open for nomination of a chair pro  
14 tem.

15 MS. DUNCAN: My name is Brandy  
16 Duncan, and I would like to nominate  
17 Representative Chris England to serve  
18 as chair pro tem.

19 (An applause was heard.)

20 MS. MARKS: Are there anymore  
21 nominations?

22 (No response was heard.)

23 MS. MARKS: One time. Are there

1 anymore nominations?

2 (No response was heard.)

3 MS. MARKS: Two times. Are there  
4 anymore nominations?

5 (No response was heard.)

6 MS. MARKS: The nominations are  
7 closed. Is there a second?

8 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

9 MS. MARKS: It has been moved and  
10 it has been seconded that Chris  
11 England serve as the chair pro tem.  
12 All in favor, let it be known by  
13 saying, Aye.

14 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

15 MS. MARKS: Are there any opposers?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

17 MS. MARKS: So now we are going to  
18 ask the -- it is carried, and  
19 Mr. England will serve as the chair  
20 pro tem for this meeting, and at this  
21 time, I'm going to ask him to come.  
22 Let us receive him.

23 (An applause was heard.)

1 CHAIR PRO TEM: Good morning.

2 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Good  
3 morning.

4 CHAIR PRO TEM: This is a long time  
5 coming. Y'all should be a little bit  
6 more excited.

7 (An applause was heard.)

8 CHAIR PRO TEM: And, first, I'm  
9 honored and I'm humbled. You know,  
10 there are certain things in my  
11 lifetime that I don't -- I feel like I  
12 don't deserve, and that's one of them,  
13 but I thank you. So let's stick to  
14 the agenda, and let's get this thing  
15 moving.

16 I would like to recognize Brandy  
17 Duncan to make a motion to -- excuse  
18 me, I'm on the wrong page -- to  
19 nominate the secretary pro tem.

20 MS. DUNCAN: Brandy Duncan, and I  
21 would like to nominate Carl Carter to  
22 serve as secretary pro tem.

23 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. Carl

1 Carter has been nominated. Are there  
2 any other nominations?

3 (No response was heard.)

4 CHAIR PRO TEM: That's call  
5 number one. Any other nominations?

6 (No response was heard.)

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. Seeing  
8 none, it looks like Carl Carter is the  
9 nominee. Are there any objections?

10 (No response was heard.)

11 CHAIR PRO TEM: I don't see any  
12 objections. Is there a second?

13 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

14 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. I move  
15 that the -- I guess, somebody move the  
16 nominations be closed?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

18 CHAIR PRO TEM: Okay.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

20 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. All  
21 those in favor?

22 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

23 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any opposed?



1 (No response was heard.)

2 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. It  
3 looks like Carl Carter is our  
4 secretary pro tem.

5 (An applause was heard.)

6 CHAIR PRO TEM: Okay. All right.  
7 We will now adopt the proposed agenda  
8 for today's meeting. The main item of  
9 business will be the consideration of  
10 proposed bylaws that were prepared by  
11 a group of SDEC members in order to  
12 comply with the national party's  
13 charter and bylaws. Unless anyone  
14 wishes to add a matter to the agenda,  
15 the Chair will entertain a motion to  
16 adopt the agenda as printed.

17 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: So moved.

18 CHAIR PRO TEM: Is there a second?

19 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

20 CHAIR PRO TEM: All in favor?

21 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

22 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any opposed?

23 (No response was heard.)

1 CHAIR PRO TEM: The agenda is  
2 adopted. It's okay to be excited  
3 about that.

4 (An applause was heard.)

5 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. And so  
6 the next item on our agenda is a  
7 consideration of minutes from the last  
8 meeting. We -- I don't even remember  
9 when that meeting occurred, but we've  
10 reached out to the state party to  
11 obtain the minutes from the last  
12 meeting, but we were not able to  
13 secure a copy of those minutes. As  
14 such, we will not be able to approve  
15 minutes at this time. However, we do  
16 have a court reporter who is  
17 transcribing our meeting today, so in  
18 addition to the minutes to be made by  
19 our secretary, we will be able to have  
20 a full transcript of today's --  
21 today's deliberations. Generally  
22 speaking, in our normal meetings, we  
23 would -- we would fill vacancies, but

1 I propose that the filling of  
2 vacancies should be laid over to the  
3 next meeting of the -- the meeting of  
4 this committee, and I will entertain a  
5 motion to that effect.

6 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: So moved.

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: Is there a second?

8 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

9 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. So we  
10 will -- it sounds like -- excuse me.  
11 All those in favor?

12 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

13 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any opposed?

14 (No response was heard.)

15 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. That  
16 motion is adopted. So now we will  
17 move on to the adoption of our bylaws.  
18 The Chair will now entertain a motion.

19 MR. SPEARMAN: Mr. Chair, I am Jim  
20 Spearman, District 16. I move to  
21 adopt the proposed bylaws as approved  
22 by the Rules and Bylaws Committee of  
23 the DNC with the provision that they

1 are effective upon the adjournment of  
2 this meeting.

3 (An applause was heard.)

4 CHAIR PRO TEM: Is there a second?

5 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

6 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. Now,  
7 all in favor?

8 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

9 CHAIR PRO TEM: Are there any  
10 opposed?

11 (No response was heard.)

12 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. Well,  
13 before we move on, is there any  
14 discussion?

15 (No response was heard.)

16 CHAIR PRO TEM: Seeing none, now,  
17 all in favor?

18 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

19 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any opposed?

20 (No response was heard.)

21 CHAIR PRO TEM: Good deal. All  
22 right.

23 (An applause was heard.)

1 CHAIR PRO TEM: It's a long time  
2 coming. Now, the Chair will recognize  
3 Dawn DuPree Kelley for a motion.

4 MS. KELLEY: I am Dawn DuPree  
5 Kelley, House District 45. I move to  
6 call a meeting of the SDEC on  
7 Saturday, November the 2nd, 2019, at  
8 11:00 a.m., in Montgomery, Alabama, to  
9 conduct: A, the election of  
10 diversity-at-large members to the SDEC  
11 and to the executive board; B, the  
12 elections of the Chair and  
13 Vice-Chair -- first Vice-Chair -- of  
14 the SDEC pursuant to the amended  
15 bylaw; and, C, the consideration of  
16 such other business as shall come  
17 before the SDEC.

18 CHAIR PRO TEM: Ms. Kelley has made  
19 a motion. Is there a second?

20 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

21 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any discussion?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You need to  
23 come to the microphone.

1 CHAIR PRO TEM: And I'm going to  
2 make sure -- I don't have to remind  
3 you of this, but make sure you speak  
4 to the motion and -- so we can --

5 MS. THOMPSON: Do I need to  
6 identify myself too?

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: Would you like me  
8 to do that for you?

9 MS. THOMPSON: No, I'll do it. I  
10 am Sue Thompson, representing House  
11 District 61.

12 Mr. Chair, I have a question about  
13 the date, November 2nd. It's my  
14 understanding that the DNC gave us an  
15 October 19 deadline to have the  
16 Chairperson and -- have new elections  
17 for the Chairperson, the new -- the  
18 new Chairperson and the new first  
19 Vice-Chair. And if we -- and we have  
20 a meeting on November 2nd, then that's  
21 going to miss that October 19  
22 deadline, and I've just got a question  
23 about -- about what we might want to

1 do.

2 CHAIR PRO TEM: Okay. If there is  
3 any person a lot smarter than I am  
4 that has a great answer to that  
5 question, I would love to hear it.

6 MS. DUNCAN: I would like to --

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: Yes. The Chair  
8 recognizes Brandy Duncan.

9 MS. DUNCAN: Brandy Duncan. I  
10 believe that to act according to our  
11 newly-passed bylaws and within the  
12 spirit of those bylaws, we have to  
13 take the time to find our Diversity  
14 Caucus members, get notice out, and  
15 find the people to fill these seats.  
16 And I believe doing that and taking  
17 the time to do it is within the spirit  
18 of our new bylaws, and I would like us  
19 to take the time to do that properly,  
20 and I believe that this motion allows  
21 for that.

22 MS. WYNN: I'm Gayla Wynn, SDEC  
23 House District 27, Executive Board

1 Member for CD4. Without explicit  
2 allowance by the DNC to extend that  
3 date, I think we need to adhere to  
4 their instructions. But additionally,  
5 efforts to recruit those Diversity  
6 Caucus members are already underway.

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: Thank you.

8 MR. ICKES: Mr. Chairman,  
9 Mr. Chairman.

10 CHAIR PRO TEM: Hold on one second.

11 MR. ICKES: Hi, I'm Harold Ickes.  
12 I'm a member of the Rules and Bylaws  
13 Committee. My standing here does not  
14 signify that I'm smarter than you.

15 CHAIR PRO TEM: Well, you're here,  
16 so you may not be.

17 MR. ICKES: Touche. The -- on  
18 behalf of the Rules and Bylaws  
19 Committee and the DNC, we have no  
20 problem with having the meeting on the  
21 2nd of November. One, I think that  
22 the point made by the woman who  
23 preceded me that -- needs time to get



1           these Diversity Caucuses organized in  
2           a real way is a valid one, but two,  
3           we -- we were told that there were  
4           complications having it earlier. So  
5           taking those factors into account, we  
6           have no objection to holding it on the  
7           2nd, and there will be no prejudice.

8           CHAIR PRO TEM: Duly noted. Thank  
9           you.

10                         (An applause was heard.)

11           CHAIR PRO TEM: The Chair  
12           recognizes Curtis Travis.

13           MR. TRAVIS: Yes, good morning,  
14           everyone. Curtis Travis, House  
15           District 62, Male. I was standing in  
16           support of the November 2nd date. I  
17           am one of the people that helped  
18           petition the party and agreed to make  
19           sure we get this right so there is no  
20           rush, and I think given November 2nd,  
21           that allows us to properly identify  
22           the new caucus -- new caucus  
23           members and then come back to conduct

1 a vote and allow the formation of the  
2 new Alabama Democratic Party. Thank  
3 you.

4 CHAIR PRO TEM: That sounds like a  
5 second to me.

6 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. So we  
8 move that the motion has been -- are  
9 there any -- any other discussions?  
10 The move -- the motion has been made  
11 and properly seconded. All those in  
12 favor?

13 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

14 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any opposed?

15 (No response was heard.)

16 CHAIR PRO TEM: So we'll see you on  
17 November 2nd to elect new leadership.

18 (An applause was heard.)

19 CHAIR PRO TEM: I thought that  
20 would get a lot more applause. So a  
21 motion to adjourn is already in  
22 order -- is always in order.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

1 CHAIR PRO TEM: So it has been  
2 moved and seconded, so --

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You need to  
4 come to the microphone.

5 MS. VAUGHN: Toni Kornegay Vaughn,  
6 House District 41 representative.  
7 This meeting next week, there's  
8 been -- Nancy Worley's called a  
9 meeting for next week, and I just want  
10 to know how that's affected and should  
11 we go to that.

12 CHAIR PRO TEM: The SDEC met today.  
13 We've already adopted our bylaws, so I  
14 don't see any -- any need to go to  
15 another meeting.

16 (An applause was heard.)

17 MS. VAUGHN: So the SDEC will --  
18 will support us in that if there is no  
19 meeting next week?

20 CHAIR PRO TEM: I think a motion  
21 has been made and seconded that we are  
22 meeting again on November the 2nd.

23 MS. VAUGHN: Okay.

1 MS. DUNCAN: Brandy Duncan. I move  
2 to adjourn this meeting.

3 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

4 MR. BROWN: Point of personal  
5 privilege.

6 CHAIR PRO TEM: We've got a motion  
7 on the floor for adjournment, and it's  
8 been seconded.

9 MR. BROWN: A point of personal  
10 privilege takes precedence.

11 CHAIR PRO TEM: Okay. Identify  
12 yourself and --

13 MR. BROWN: My name is Matthew  
14 Brown. I represent District 21.  
15 There was discussion on the SDEC  
16 meeting next week, and there was a  
17 suggestion that we should not attend.  
18 As elected SDEC members, we've been  
19 entrusted by the people who voted for  
20 us to show up at meetings. I drove  
21 1,000 miles to be here. I think  
22 everybody should attend the SDEC  
23 meetings, and if we're not there next

1 week, there's nothing stopping the  
2 Committee from overturning these new  
3 bylaws. It's very important that we  
4 all show up next week.

5 CHAIR PRO TEM: All right. Well,  
6 thank you. All right. And we have --  
7 now we have a motion to adjourn.

8 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

9 MS. DOUGHTY: No, I have a --

10 CHAIR PRO TEM: Yes, ma'am?

11 MS. DOUGHTY: -- point of personal  
12 privilege. Thank you. My name is  
13 Demetria Young Doughty, and I'm from  
14 District 59. That's who elected me,  
15 not anyone in here, not anyone that  
16 will meet on the 12th. I only want --  
17 I am here because I believe that no  
18 two -- no two wrongs make a right.  
19 I -- I -- I'm sorry I got here late  
20 because of traffic. I had to come out  
21 of Birmingham. But I just want to  
22 make sure -- I will -- I drove over  
23 here, even though I was told not to,

1 because I believe in right.

2 (An applause was heard.)

3 MS. DOUGHTY: I only want to know  
4 if what we're doing today is not a  
5 doubt -- is not along racial lines, it  
6 is -- we are Democrats. We all are  
7 Democrats.

8 (An applause was heard.)

9 MS. DOUGHTY: Now, do we need to be  
10 here? You -- you say -- I think  
11 you -- judging from -- I don't --

12 CHAIR PRO TEM: That's why --  
13 that's why the name is familiar.

14 MS. DOUGHTY: Oh, okay. I know who  
15 you are. I know who your daddy is  
16 anyway.

17 Do we need to be here? I -- I  
18 think that we should be there next  
19 Tuesday -- I mean, next Saturday. I  
20 am. I drove today, and I really have  
21 a lot more things on my schedule than  
22 to keep riding up and down the road,  
23 because I'm not so sure, based on the

1 bylaws, what I've read, and with my  
2 legal expertise and background, I'm  
3 not so sure that there is some -- and  
4 please understand, I do know that we  
5 need new leadership. I am not opposed  
6 to that. I am not opposed to that,  
7 but let's do things as the -- as the  
8 Word of God says, decent and in order,  
9 okay?

10 CHAIR PRO TEM: Yes, ma'am.

11 MS. DOUGHTY: So I just want to  
12 know, I'm going next to -- next  
13 Saturday. But does that mean what  
14 we've done here today is null and  
15 void, or is it moot, or -- because, I  
16 mean, I understand that the Chair and  
17 the Vice-Chair has been stripped of  
18 their credentials. My  
19 understanding -- because I am a  
20 newbie. I -- last year was my first  
21 year. I was elected last year, and I  
22 went along with the get-along. But  
23 I -- no one tells me what to do, not

1 even the man I'm going to marry --

2 (An applause was heard.)

3 MS. DOUGHTY: -- I follow the  
4 Jewish Kabbalah, and I don't think  
5 anybody in here is a Jew Kabbalah.  
6 That means that One upstairs, okay?  
7 So what I want to say is this:  
8 What -- what is -- I just want -- I --  
9 I -- I'm confused. This week, I got  
10 twenty e-mails. I got five envelopes.

11 CHAIR PRO TEM: So -- but I'm  
12 assuming your question is about  
13 whether or not you should go or not?

14 MS. DOUGHTY: I'm going.

15 CHAIR PRO TEM: Okay.

16 MS. DOUGHTY: -- my question --

17 CHAIR PRO TEM: So what's your --  
18 what's your -- what's your --

19 MS. DOUGHTY: -- my question to you  
20 is -- my question to you is, is this  
21 null and void, or is that? Because,  
22 supposedly, I know that they were  
23 stripped of their credentials, but



1 that was only, from my understanding,  
2 to go to meetings. Is she not the  
3 Chairperson? Is she the Chair -- are  
4 they the Vice-Chair person? Is what  
5 we have done here today is going to be  
6 overruled, or what?

7 CHAIR PRO TEM: Actually, I was  
8 saying that it's a two-part question.

9 MS. DOUGHTY: Yeah. And it's  
10 probably about four parts.

11 CHAIR PRO TEM: Regardless of  
12 whether or not -- Chair or not, the  
13 rules authorize us to be here today  
14 to --

15 MS. DOUGHTY: I read the rules.

16 CHAIR PRO TEM: -- yeah, so they  
17 authorize us to --

18 MS. DOUGHTY: I read well.

19 CHAIR PRO TEM: Yes, ma'am, and I'm  
20 going to try to answer your question.

21 MS. DOUGHTY: Okay, okay.

22 CHAIR PRO TEM: The rules authorize  
23 what we're doing here today, so

1 everything that we've done here is  
2 valid.

3 MS. DOUGHTY: And I did sign the  
4 petition, so I just wanted to make  
5 sure I --

6 CHAIR PRO TEM: Yes, ma'am. So,  
7 no, whatever they do in the next  
8 meeting does not render what we did  
9 today null and void.

10 MS. DOUGHTY: Okay. Thank you.

11 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chairman?

12 CHAIR PRO TEM: What's your  
13 request?

14 MR. BROWN: My name is Matthew  
15 Brown, District 21.

16 CHAIR PRO TEM: Yes.

17 MR. BROWN: I think if we do not  
18 show up, it could be rendered null and  
19 void. If they vote against what we  
20 have done and overturn these bylaws,  
21 it could be null and void. That's why  
22 I think it's very important for  
23 everyone to show up.

1 CHAIR PRO TEM: Point is duly noted.  
2 Now, we have a -- we have a motion to  
3 adjourn.

4 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Second.

5 CHAIR PRO TEM: And there's a second?  
6 You are -- you are not a member of the  
7 Committee?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No --

9 CHAIR PRO TEM: Okay.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- and I was  
11 just going to ask if I --

12 CHAIR PRO TEM: No, ma'am, we got to  
13 conduct business. We've got to see to  
14 an agenda --

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, I just  
16 want to say thank you to all of you.

17 CHAIR PRO TEM: Thank you. All those  
18 in favor?

19 SIMULTANEOUS SPEAKERS: Aye.

20 CHAIR PRO TEM: Any opposed?

21 (No response was heard.)

22 CHAIR PRO TEM: This meeting is  
23 adjourned. Thank you.

(Whereupon, the meeting  
concluded at 11:27 a.m.)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23

\* \* \* \* \*

## 1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF ALABAMA

3 MONTGOMERY COUNTY

4 I, Patrick Miller, Alabama Certified  
5 Court Reporter No. 631, and Commissioner for the  
6 State of Alabama at Large, hereby certify that on  
7 Saturday, October 5th, 2019, I reported the  
8 PROCEEDINGS in the matter of the foregoing cause,  
9 and that the pages herein contain a true and  
10 accurate transcription of said proceedings.

11 I further certify that I am neither kin  
12 nor of counsel to the parties to said cause, nor in  
13 any manner interested in the results thereof.

14 This 8th day of October, 2019.  
15  
16  
17  
18

---

19 PATRICK MILLER, ACCR-631

Commissioner for the

State of Alabama at Large

20 MY LICENSE EXPIRES: 9/30/2020

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 2/08/23  
21  
22  
23