

Presidential Candidate De La Fuente Calls for Third Party Strategy

ORLANDO, Florida, October 20, 2016 – De La Fuente publishes blog posing scenario for a third party candidate to become President of the United States.

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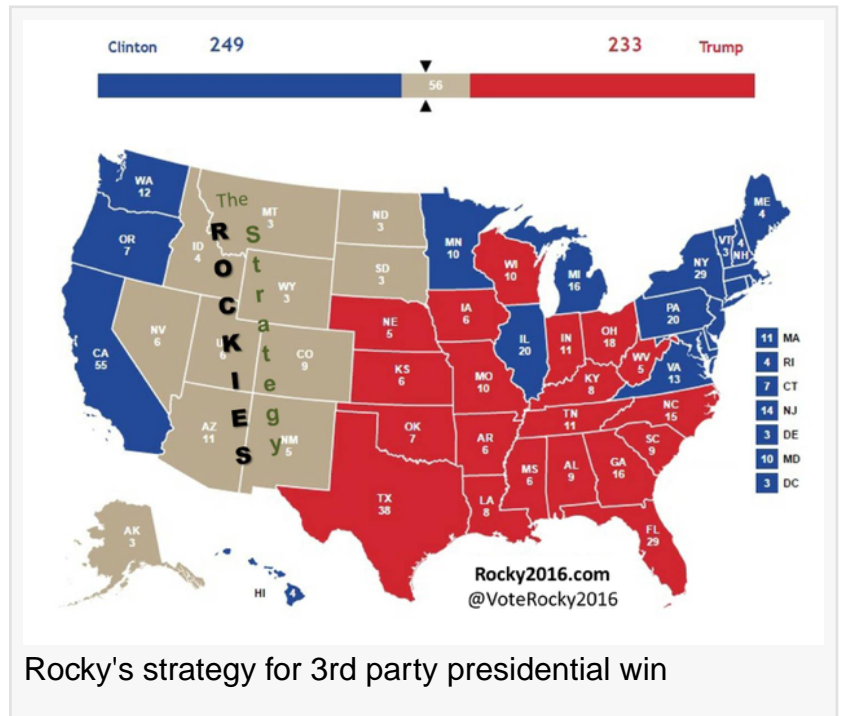
Presidential Candidate De La Fuente Calls for Third Party Strategy

ORLANDO, Florida, October 22, 2016 – A few days ago, “Rocky” Roque De La Fuente, the presidential nominee of the Reform Party and the American Delta Party, published a blog on his website. In it, he posed an interesting scenario in which a third party candidate might become President of the United States.

De La Fuente assaults the media for “pretend(ing) that only Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump can be the next President of the United States.” He then expresses a common frustration: “As the two major party candidates stoop to new lows in personal attacks and set records for being negatively viewed, there are a few candidates who prefer to focus on the issues we’re going to have to live with after the name calling has subsided; issues like the economy, trade, immigration, education and foreign policy. Gary Johnson, Jill Stein, Darrell Castle, Evan McMullin and I (Rocky De La Fuente) are still running for President, and we’re still talking about those issues.”

Almost mockingly, he states, “There aren’t any tabloid videos that demonstrate our flawed character, and we don’t have to blame the Russians for hacking emails that contain content that shows what we actually believe and condone in private, so it’s difficult to get any media attention. However, there’s a chance that one of us could become President.”

De La Fuente bases his claim on what happens under the Twelfth Amendment if neither of the major



candidates gets the necessary 270 electoral votes. In that case, the House decides the presidency in a runoff between the top three candidates who received electoral votes.

If that were to happen, De La Fuente believes that neither of the major parties is likely to support the other party's candidate, and coupled with the divide among Republicans, the House may favor a third party candidate. He is calling upon third party candidates to work together so that one of them has a chance to be that candidate.

To prevent Clinton or Trump from getting to 270, De La Fuente points out, "Evan McMullin recently surprised the press by polling within 4% of Clinton and Trump in Utah. While this is a unique situation because of the demographics of Utah (which is heavily conservative and features a dominant Mormon population that aligns with McMullin, a BYU grad and former Mormon missionary), it provides an example of what could happen."

He builds upon that in what he cleverly names his "Rockies Strategy," which subtly implies his name but is actually based on the fact that most of the states he cites contain or are adjacent to the Rocky Mountains.

De La Fuente offers the following: "Let's assume for a moment that Trump squeaks out victories in Florida, Iowa, North Carolina and Ohio and that Clinton sweeps the east and west coasts. If the Rocky Mountain States of Idaho, Montana, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico came into play along with the adjacent states Arizona, Nevada, North and South Dakota with Alaska thrown in for good measure, Clinton would receive 249 electoral votes, Trump would receive 233, and 'the House wins,' as they say in Las Vegas."

Then, he describes how this might work.

"None of 'the Fabulous Five,' Johnson, Stein, Castle, McMullin or me (Rocky De La Fuente), have the resources to sweep the states I mentioned, but we could agree to use our best efforts to each win a few of them," says De La Fuente. "Just as importantly, we could agree to throw our support to our designated candidate in each state to improve the probability of breaking up the duopoly's hold on the presidency."

He gives Utah to McMullin since he is already positioned to compete there.

He gives Gary Johnson, the former Governor of New Mexico, that state and thinks Johnson could also do well in Arizona and Alaska.

De La Fuente gives "environmentally aware" Colorado to Jill Stein and thinks her recent arrest North Dakota for participating in the pipeline protest could actually help her there and in South Dakota.

According to De La Fuente, "Darrell Castle could conceivably win Wyoming (as could McMullin) given its conservative history and potential disappointment with Trump."

Then, he suggests that he could potentially win Nevada because he actually "received more signature petition support than Clinton and Sanders received caucus votes in (Nevada's) primary" and because "that state also has a significant Hispanic American population," which might favor him. He also notes that he "attracted attention during the Democratic primary in Idaho and (has) been working to capture attention in Montana."

De La Fuente notes that if this were to occur, “Gary Johnson would become the third alternative for the House of Representatives to consider.” Then, he adds a twist.

He says he built a following in Alaska during the Democratic primary” and if he were to take Alaska away from Johnson, the two would end up tied. Interestingly enough, the Twelfth Amendment is silent as to what the House must do under that scenario.

De La Fuente realizes that this strategy represents an extreme longshot. First, because it would require the cooperation of the other third party candidates, and secondly, because it would require the voters in these states to actually consider someone other than a Democrat or Republican in the presidential election. However, every third party candidate is used to facing long odds, so maybe they would be willing to pull together to do something that De La Fuente says might “save democracy.”

De La Fuente’s original blog, “A Third Party Strategy to Trump Hillary and ‘The Donald’,” can be found at <https://www.rocky2016.com/rockys-blog/third-party-strategy-trump-hillary-donald>.

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