

DNC Challenge Claims Systemic Discrimination in West Virginia Democratic Party Amid Manchin Exit

Advocates spotlight deep-seated procedural abuses in WVDP, demand urgent DNC response amid political upheaval.

CHARLESTON, WV, UNITED STATES, April 5, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Civil rights advocates in



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Seth Sturm, founding chair of the WVDP Indigenous Caucus

West Virginia have filed a challenge with the Democratic National Committee (DNC). The challenge accuses the West Virginia Democratic Party (WVDP) of systemic discrimination and misconduct. This comes at a time of uncertainty for the WVDP following Sen. Joe Manchin's decision not to run for reelection.

The challenge, filed on March 28, 2024, says the WVDP did not follow affirmative action rules. It also claims that party leaders discriminated against minority groups. The challenge points to harassment in diversity caucuses and the misuse of procedures to silence marginalized voices.

These concerns come up as the country gets ready for the 2024 presidential election.

The actions mentioned in the challenge have hurt trust and made it harder to engage with minority voters who are already frustrated with the party. This could make it difficult for the Democratic Party to connect with minority voters across the nation. Advocates are asking the DNC for a strong response.

The challenge is part of an ongoing effort to address diversity issues in the WVDP since the DNC's diversity initiatives started three years ago. Fifteen people have signed the challenge, including Mary Ann Roebuck Claytor. Claytor is the first African American to win a statewide contested primary in West Virginia and is the 2024 Democratic nominee for State Auditor.

Seth Sturm, the founding chair of the WVDP Indigenous Caucus (the 14th Democratic Indigenous Caucus in the nation), said, "This challenge is important for dealing with systemic abuse and making sure the WVDP is held accountable. This isn't just a West Virginia issue anymore. The national Democratic Party must show inclusivity and fairness in its actions."

The DNC's response to this challenge will be watched closely. It could greatly affect the party's relationship with minority communities and its plans for the 2024 elections.

About the Challengers:

The challenge was filed by a diverse group of concerned individuals committed to addressing systemic discrimination and promoting inclusivity within the Democratic Party. Key figures include Mary Ann Roebuck Claytor, the first African American to win a statewide contested primary in West Virginia and the 2024 Democratic nominee for State Auditor, and Seth Sturm, an activist and founding chair of the West Virginia Democratic Party's Indigenous Caucus.

For more information or interviews, contact Seth Sturm, Founding Chair, WVDP Indigenous Caucus, at (681) 404-7415 or press@wvindigenouscaucus.com

(2 Attachements)

<u>Challenge Filed with DNC</u> <u>Evidence Folder for Challenge Documents</u>

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