

August 26, 2008

To:

Reuben Watkins, Chair; Dustin Dunbar, Vice-chair TYRF
TYRF county organizational chairmen
Cecile Testerman, Vice-Chair HCGOP
Members of HCYR

It is with the deepest regret that I submit to you my resignation as the Chairman of The Hawkins County Young Republicans. My ability to perform my job in leading this organization has been tainted due to my inappropriate, extra-marital relationship with State Senate Candidate Mike Faulk. It has been brought to my attention that knowledge of my former relationship with Mr. Faulk will be made public knowledge in an effort to discredit him during this election season. Therefore, I wanted to openly discuss these claims with you in an effort to avoid any of you hearing it second hand or through other media outlets.

I believe that God's punishment is swift and just when we willfully disobey his Word. The consequences of my behavior have been just that. It has cost me my marriage, my children's security in the family unit I promised to provide for them, my reputation in the small town I have called home for 18 years, and my credibility as an educational professional in my community.

For those of you who have asked if the allegations were true and told they were only rumor or dismissed altogether, I ask for your forgiveness in my inability to come forward with the truth. Please understand that my family's protection and privacy were of the utmost importance in the last few months. To those of you who stood and defended my name publicly as never being capable of doing such a thing, I ask too for your forgiveness. I am human and made a very poor judgment choice in response to the strains my marriage was already under. My biggest regret is that I didn't feel I could be honest about what was happening in my home and turned instead to someone else. Many lessons have been learned through this whole ordeal.

Again, I apologize to each and every one of you and hope that you will forgive me. Please accept my resignation. I cannot lead this group in an unbiased manner, nor can I ask my group to openly support a candidate who has repeatedly denied these claims and refuses to take responsibility for his part in the tragedy I now find myself. Good luck to each of you and to the organization of Young Republicans as a whole.

Respectfully,

Kelli Walker