

PARKER ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION

It is with sadness that I accept the resignation of Jay Parmley as Executive Director of the North Carolina Democratic Party.

As an attorney who has successfully prosecuted harassment and discrimination cases, I have seen the devastating consequences of hostile environments on harassed workers and also on those inappropriately accused of creating them. I am strongly committed to the principals of a harassment, hostility and discrimination free environment, both at work and in general society and to justice fairly and impartially rendered. My commitment applies equally to same gender relationships and harassment as to any other form of harassment or discrimination.

After consulting legal counsel, and based on my own experience in harassment cases and my own personal philosophy, it became my opinion that there have not been grounds for termination for cause of Jay Parmley.

In this political world of rushing to judgment and the presumption of guilt, however, my legal and personal opinion has been outweighed by this having become a political distraction and issue.

Leadership calls for resisting the expedient tendencies of all too many in our society to throw others under the bus at the first opportunity and whose moral philosophy can be changed as easily as shaking an Etch-a-Sketch.

But leadership also includes recognizing when the goals of an organization are being jeopardized. Such has happened here and Jay Parmley will not sacrifice the mission of our Party in this critically important year.

I cannot comment on any specifics of the allegations or matter at hand upon advice of counsel other than to reiterate my earlier statement: **"Over the last several months, several employees left their employment with the NCDP for business or professional reasons unrelated to their job performance, by mutual agreement of the parties involved."**

I can state that to my knowledge and after considerable vetting, there have never been any complaints or allegations concerning Jay Parmley before or since the matter, which has our attention now in his long and productive career of service in four different States for the Democratic Party.

David Parker
Chair, North Carolina Democratic Party