

# From the Desk of Chairman Shaun Golden

March 11, 2021

Dear Fellow Republicans:

I am writing to you with an important message about the upcoming county convention scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021. As you may know, there are three candidates seeking the Monmouth Republican endorsement for Assembly in Legislative District 13. Originally, I did not want to write to you about the candidates I am supporting, however, my photograph was used in a recent campaign mailer, without my permission, in a devious effort to confuse county committee members as to whom I am supporting.

Due to this unethical mailer, I wanted to reach out to you directly. Make no mistake, I am supporting Gerry Scharfenberger and Vicky Flynn for Assembly. Gerry and Vicky will make an excellent team in the legislature representing the residents of LD13.

Some of you might be confused as to why I am not supporting Serena DiMaso. And I know that sometimes it is difficult to have division amongst our strong Monmouth Republican Family. Therefore, I do not take this action lightly. I am taking this position because Serena has not, although given four years to do so, supported our Republican values and candidates, and is not electable in a General Election.

From her very first day as an Assemblywoman and continuing to this day, Serena has failed to appear in Trenton on multiple occasions to cast votes on very important matters that affect our families and businesses here in Monmouth County and in New Jersey. During this critical time Serena was seen on vacation. Even just last week, the day she announced her candidacy, Serena was on vacation and missed voting on critical legislation that not only impacted taxes in Monmouth County and allocated critical funding to our food banks, but also included 7 bills that would protect women from sexual assault.

Not only that, issues have been raised with respect to unethical behavior that exposes our party and all of our candidates in an already difficult election year. In 2019, she was investigated

by a state legislative ethics panel due to improper conduct, which exposed the New Jersey Republican Assembly Caucus, as well as our County Republican organization and our Treasurer, to legal jeopardy. In addition, she has voted on legislation that would give massive tax breaks to hospitals while sitting on a hospital board of trustees, a clear conflict of interest. And perhaps most egregiously, while the Republican party is fighting to hold the Murphy administration accountable for the deaths of our seniors in nursing homes, Serena sponsored legislation to shield those very nursing homes from any liability for COVID-19 related deaths, a move that would strip families from pursuing justice on behalf of their loved ones.

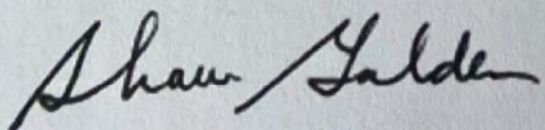
And while our Republican office holders are fighting the state-mandated C.O.A.H. high density housing regulations to keep Monmouth the beautiful place it is today, Serena, as Chair of the Holmdel planning board, has allowed for the construction of high-density housing on multiple occasions on the borders of Middletown and Hazlet, negatively impacting her own town as well as neighboring towns within the district in the process. Serena also voted for the NJ foreclosure act which allows the Murphy administration to take over foreclosed properties in our neighborhoods and turn them in C.O.A.H housing. In addition she has actively supported candidates against our Republican ticket, who have pursued left-wing progressive and anti-police policies. This is not what we stand for as a party.

Time and time again, Serena has failed us. Being an elected leader in the Monmouth County Republican party is a privilege and you serve at the pleasure of our great Monmouth County citizens. However, when you fail to uphold our Republican values, like failing to show up to vote on important matters to our citizens, you have broken your oath to our Republican Party and violated the trust that our Monmouth County citizens have placed in you.

I know Gerry and Vicky will do the hard work and support our Republican candidates AND our Republican values. I ask you to join me in supporting them on Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

In closing, it has been my greatest honor to serve as your Chairman. Together, we have won many victories up and down Monmouth County. And together, we will ensure that our Republican values keep Monmouth County a beautiful place to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shaun Golden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chairman Shaun Golden  
Monmouth County Republican Organization