

repeat - the plaintiff who is currently suing me for slander is the ex- mother-in-law of my client, was never my client herself, and was the mother of the adverse party. The Family Court proceeding was a highly contested divorce involving child custody. It should not surprise anyone that child custody issues are among the most sensitive and emotional issues heard in any court.

The underlying divorce case was resolved by Agreement of the parties in July of 2020. Because children are involved and due to ethical rules to which every lawyer must adhere, I cannot comment on many of the details of the allegations. What I can say and will say in the Circuit Court proceedings filed against me is that I fully and completely deny all allegations of impropriety made against me as a result of my representation of my client. The statements which are complained of were made in the course of legal proceedings, and those statements were privileged and subject to many defenses which insulate them from constituting slander or libel. The thrust of the complaint against me concerns statements which were contained in a Consent Order approved by the Court and by the parties, who under oath asked that the Agreement be approved as written. In fact, the Agreement and Final Order in the case were drafted by the husband's lawyer and not me, and at no time did the opposing side raise any of the issues now complained of. The orders were never appealed or the subjects of motions for reconsideration, or modified in any subsequent court proceeding. I am confident that I will be exonerated on all issues in this pending matter.

I regret that neither Will Folks nor his team called me for comment before issuing their story. I gather that Folks may be a friend of Alan Wilson, and FITSNEWS may support Wilson's re-election. Even so, I have been a reader of Folks' website long enough to know that he and presumably the majority of his readers are as fed up with the "Republican Establishment" as I am. I am pledged to reform, and my campaign is about taking tough stands and fighting for my positions, which go far beyond the "pandemic-related rhetoric" by which the FITSNEWS articles categorized me. It is true that a centerpiece of my campaign is Medical Freedom, including the rights of doctors and their patients to receive the care and medications which they themselves determine to be best for them. But I am also deeply committed to reform in many other areas, including defending the South Carolina Heritage Act to protect our shared cultural values, protecting the rights of parents to know and have control over the education that is being provided to their children, striking back against multinational and high-tech corporations which are trying to censor our speech and restrict our political opinions, and verifying and ensuring that our elections are in fact being conducted with integrity and fairness.

FITSNEWS is trying to pigeonhole me as "affiliated with the mySCGOP movement" and seizing the mantle of the "Make America Great Again" movement founded by Donald Trump. It is true