

**THE CONSTITUTION PARTY MOTTO IS
"Principle Over Politics".
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?**

"Principle Over Politics" means that we are calling on our fellow Americans to vote on the basis of the principles espoused and practiced by a candidate, rather than mere party affiliation or supposed political expediency.

Americans, for a great part, have unconsciously fallen into the trap of casting their vote on the basis of party affiliation without giving sufficient consideration to a candidate's ideologies or their commitment to those principles as demonstrated by their voting record. We are calling on our fellow Americans to rediscover the philosophical principles of America's Founding Fathers and to then invest the virtue of their vote in only those candidates who demonstrate an understanding of, and commitment to, those principles regardless of party affiliation.

Putting *"Principle Over Politics"* also means holding fast to our espoused principles and refusing to compromise those values for supposed political expediency. Too often, voters who espouse the Constitutional principles of liberty and limited government, have been told that they have to compromise those values in order to support the candidate who supposedly can win, or who can defeat an even less principled candidate. However, following this philosophy always results in the further erosion of the foundational principles of our Constitutional republic. When people compromise their principles for political expediency, i.e. to win, the principles they espouse will always lose.

The only hope for restoring America's founding ideals is to place our commitment to principle ahead of party affiliation or political expediency.

**WHY DOES THE CONSTITUTION PARTY
RUN A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE? WHY
NOT SUPPORT A CONSTITUTIONAL
REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE? DOESN'T THIS
VIOLATE THE PARTY'S MOTTO OF
"Principle Over Politics"?**

First – There isn't always a constitutionally sound candidate seeking the Republican Party's nomination, or any other party's nomination for that matter.

Second – The Republican Party's establishment leadership has already demonstrated that they will do anything they have to, to prevent a constitutionally sound candidate from advancing from the primary election and becoming their party's nominee.

Third – When constitutionally sound Republican candidates for any high office have managed to make it to the general election, the party's establishment leadership typically withholds funding or otherwise undermines such candidates. Barry Goldwater's 1964 Presidential campaign being a classic example. It is apparent that the Republican Party leadership would rather see a Democrat win than a Republican who strictly adheres to the Constitution and refuses to 'play ball' with the establishment powers that be.

Fourth – If all the well-meaning, constitutionally minded people, spend all their time and money trying to get a constitutionally sound Republican nominated, then once that party's

convention is over and the establishment powers that control the party have pushed through one of their own, constitutionally committed Americans would have nowhere else to turn. There would be insufficient time to mount a campaign for a third party or independent candidate. Besides, the people who would support such a candidate would have exhausted all of their resources on a failed primary campaign and have nothing left with which to raise up and support a last minute third party or independent candidate.

If we want a committed Constitutionist to appear on the November ballot, we cannot sit around waiting and hoping against hope that an establishment controlled party will provide us with one. We must start early and place our support squarely behind a constitutionally sound candidate running on the ticket of a constitutionally committed party.

Putting *"Principle Over Politics"* does not mean backing off and not fielding a Constitution Party candidate whenever there is some sort of outside hope that maybe one of the establishment controlled parties might possibly let a Constitutionist slip through and accidentally become their nominee. The Republican Party, as evidenced by its leadership and the preponderance of those candidates who receive its support, has become the enemy of constitutionally limited government. Therefore, placing *"Principle Over Politics"* requires that we abandon partisan loyalties when a party has become destructive to the fundamental purpose of civil government, i.e. the protection of our God given rights to life, liberty and property.

Your Constitution Party state affiliate is:



PO Box 141015
Spokane Valley, Washington 99214
1-360-339-4767
www.constitutionpartyofwa.com
contactus@constitutionpartyofwa.com

The Constitution Party of Washington is an all-volunteer force of citizens dedicated to the proposition that the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land (Article VI). All like-minded persons are invited to join with us in the battle to restore the Constitutional Republic guaranteed to us by our Founders. We are committed to fiscal responsibility, not only in our government, but in our organization as well. Your contributions will be spent frugally and wisely to further the cause of Liberty. We have no paid staff or other personnel, nor do we take any compensation for our time, travel expenses, or other personal costs associated with serving as leaders in the Constitution Party of Washington.

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