



MN GOP Gov & CD 1 Special Election candidate bobagain calls for Trump Supreme Court criminal insurrection trial on OwatonnaLive.com "Straight Talk"; proposes Zoom discussions with Richard Painter: "Is GOP beyond

saving?" w/ David Kay Johnston as moderator

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Minneapolis, MN, 4/8/22 – Minnesota Republican "Candidate-Journalist" Bob "Again" Carney Jr. ("bobagain") renewed his call for a Supreme Court original jurisdiction criminal trial of Donald Trump for insurrection in an interview with Karen Hale, host of the OwatonnaLive.com "straight talk" show. The show will be up for viewing next Tuesday. Earlier, bobagain's March 26th speech at the at the Olmstead County Republican Convention ended abruptly when he also called for: "a Criminal original jurisdiction trial in the Supreme Court of Donald Trump for insurrection." Bobagain, who is running for both Governor and 1st District Congress in the May special election primary, is making Donald Trump his main issue for the Congressional race. He favors a plea bargain outcome -- a guilty plea that would keep Trump off the ballot in return for no jail time. A video of the Olmstead GOP convention speech is here.

One of bobagain's additional speech statements at the GOP Convention stood out in many of his post-speech chats with Delegates: "The fact is in 2024 we are either going to elect a Democrat President or we are going to elect a Republican who is not Donald Trump. This is reality. We need to deal with it." Bobagain commented: "a number of Delegates explicitly agreed with that statement; no one explicitly disagreed with it. And there wasn't a peep or a murmur at that point in the speech." In bobagain's view, this is a crucial foundational view among Republicans... and one that will support a campaign to move beyond Trump.

During the "Straight Talk" interview bobagain also suggested having broadcast discussions with another primary candidate in the CD1 special primary election: University of Minnesota Law Professor Richard Painter. Prof. Painter was the chief ethics lawyer in the George W. Bush Administration but ran as a Democrat in Minnesota's 2018 U.S. Senate primary, challenging appointed Sen. Tina Smith to complete the final two years of former Sen. Al Franken's term. He is running in the DFL special election primary.

"Given Professor Painter's unique background and political odyssey this is an unusual opportunity to have a moderated discussion on whether the Republican Party is beyond saving," bobagain said. By his actions, Professor Painter is saying that the Republican party is beyond saving. I respectfully disagree. But we are united in our view that former President Trump is a unique historical threat to American democracy and must be stopped. Our only disagreement is over how that can best be accomplished. Journalist and Pulitzer Prize winner David Kay Johnston is the obvious first choice for moderating this discussion – I call on Professor Painter to join with me in inviting him to do that. Mr. Johnson has written extensively on Trump for decades – no one is better qualified than he to both guide the dialogue and provide running factual commentary. Such a discussion – hopefully over multiple Zoom meetings – could serve as way to center America's political discourse squarely on the need to confront the danger of Trump. This is a time for choosing.

Republican office holders and candidates must confront and stop Trump. This has only become more obvious since the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and Putin," bobagain concluded.

Mr. Johnston's journalism also has both a Minnesota connection, and a personal connection for bobagain. "I first met Myer Shark, a prominent Minnesota attorney, through a <u>NY Times</u> article by Mr. Johnston. After reading the article, I called Mr. Shark, and we became friends while working together to oppose Xcel's ultimately successful effort to be allowed to include taxes as an element of rates charged to Minnesotans... while not actually ever paying that portion of the rate as taxes," bobagain said. Unfortunately, <u>Mr. Shark passed on</u> during a lawsuit he had brought challenging the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission permission to allow Xcel's scheme. "Although not a lawyer, I had the honor of drafting Mr. Shark's final appellate brief on that case, meeting with him at his hospital bedside to go over the final draft," bobagain concluded.

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Prepared and paid for by the Bobagain for Gov. Committee, 4232 Colfax Av S Mpls MN