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**From:** "Nelson, Chad"  
**Date:** May 27, 2010 3:44:25 PM CDT  
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### **Mechler Calls Out Cathie Adams for Misrepresenting Party Finances**

**West Texas** -- Everyone knows that the RPT has a major debt problem, but the specifics of the problem aren't always easy to find. The RPT has three different bank accounts: federal, state and corporate. And because the three accounts have different reporting schedules, it's rare that all of the information is available at once. But due to Steve Munisteri's claim that interim Chairman, Cathie Adams, was using funds raised for the state convention to pay down the debt, several SREC members went to Austin to take a long hard look at what was happening with the Party finances.

The SREC members aren't allowed to report on details, but they generally reported that it does not appear that convention money is being used to pay down debt. However, what is just as bad or worse, is that debt has been paid down by cutting headquarters staff. The RPT is already running on a skeleton crew, and we can't afford to cut operatives. The Democrats have over 20 field agents to our 0, and they are running a full headquarters; now Adams' is cutting staff before the convention to make her debt problem look better.

Tom Mechler, when informed of the news, responded, "I've said the whole time that the debt wasn't the problem, but a symptom of a larger problem. This is just the sort of thing I'm talking about. Even if Cathie had raised \$200,000, that won't fix anything while the Party is still broken. Until this Party is unified, our financial problems will continue. You can't fix one problem by creating another."

Moreover, it appeared that Adams has been misrepresenting the Party's cash on hand by treating money raised for the convention as though it were operating money. Of the \$230,000 the Party has raised for the convention, only \$110,000 has been paid out; the rest is already obligated, but Adams' is acting like it isn't. Furthermore, the convention is expected to cost nearly \$600,000, and Adams has raised only \$230,000. If she can't raise the rest in a matter of weeks, the RPT will not be less in debt, but more in debt than ever before. And it doesn't look like she will, as she's already had to cancel major fundraises due to lack of support from big

dollar donors.

When asked for comment, Tom Mechler replied, “It’s a shame, but Cathie Adams is doing everything she can to hide the fact that she can’t bring the major donors back to the Party. The Party needs to know that, because we can’t beat the Democrats without the donors' support. We need to elect a Chairman whom the donors trust, who can put the Party back on track.”