

MESSAGE BACKUP

MESSAGE 1

Voters in North Carolina need to continue to see that Washington D.C. insider Michael Whatley is looking out for himself and his well-connected friends at the expense of North Carolinians.

VOTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA NEED TO SEE THAT WASHINGTON D.C. INSIDER MICHAEL WHATLEY IS LOOKING OUT FOR HIMSELF AND HIS WELL-CONNECTED FRIENDS AT THE EXPENSE OF NORTH CAROLINIANS

See backup below.

MESSAGE 2

The most important connection for voters to continue to learn about are Whatley's ties to Harvey Lee West and West's criminal background.

- Whatley elevated a convicted child sex offender - a man who served six years in prison for felony sex crimes against young girls - to a top role within the North Carolina Republican Party. He appointed West after West's crimes were widely known and after West raised money for Whatley's NC GOP.
- It is important to note that West spent six years in prison for his offenses and was on the sex offender registry for more than a decade.

THE MOST IMPORTANT CONNECTION FOR VOTERS TO CONTINUE TO LEARN ABOUT ARE WHATLEY'S TIES TO HARVEY LEE WEST AND WEST'S CRIMINAL BACKGROUND...

See backup below.

...WHATLEY ELEVATED A CONVICTED CHILD SEX OFFENDER...

WHATLEY REPEATEDLY APPOINTED A HARVEY LEE WEST TO ONE OF THE NC GOP'S "TOP RULE-MAKING BODIES"

WRAL: West Said He Was Appointed By The NCGOP State Party Chair "In 2021 And 2024 — When Whatley Appointed West To The Plan Of Organization Committee." "West told PolitiFact that he has been appointed to the party's Plan of Organization Committee at least 10 times dating back to 2011. Some years, such as 2018 and 2019, West said his district committee appointed him to the role. Other years, West said, the state party's chairman appointed him. West said that was the case from 2013 to 2017 — when Robin Hayes, Claude Pope and Hassan Harnett served as chairmen. It was also the case in 2021 and 2024 — when Whatley appointed West to the Plan of Organization Committee, West said." [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

Washington Examiner: Whatley Appointed Harvey L. West To One Of The North Carolina Republican Party's "Top Rule-Making Bodies" Twice. "For the past six years, conservatives in North Carolina have made the Down East Judicial Picnic a crucial stop on the fundraising circuit. Attendees pay up to \$1,500 to chow down on hors d'oeuvres and rub shoulders with state supreme court justices and officeholders. What some of the attendees knew was that the host, Harvey L. West, had a dark past. [...] Now, Michael Whatley, North Carolina's Republican candidate for Senate, who attended these fundraisers, finds himself embroiled in a scandal that couldn't have come at a worse time. He is under pressure to answer why he twice appointed West to one of the state party's top rule-making bodies and allowed him to hold such a central role." [Washington Examiner, [3/31/26](#)]

HARVEY LEE WEST WAS A CONVICTED CHILD SEX OFFENDER AND WAS ON THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY FOR MORE THAN A DECADE

WRAL: Harvey L. West Jr. Was A "Convicted Sex Offender." "U.S. Senate candidate Michael Whatley faces questions about whether he elevated a convicted sex offender to positions within the North Carolina Republican Party during his tenure as party chairman. [...] The person in question: Harvey L. West Jr., 55, pleaded guilty in 2000 to five counts of

taking indecent liberties with a child, including with a person who was younger than 16. He was released from state custody in 2006 and required to register as a sex offender.” [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

News & Observer: West Was Required To Register As A Sex Offender And Spend At Least A Decade On The Sex Offender Registry. “West pleaded guilty in 2000 to five counts of taking indecent liberties with children. When released from state custody in 2006, he was required to register as a sex offender and will spend at least a decade on North Carolina’s registry.” [News & Observer via Wayback Machine, [8/3/12](#)]

- **North Carolina Criminal Code § 14-208.7: North Carolina Sex Offender And Public Registration Programs Require Sex Offenders To Be Registered For 30 Years, Unless, After Ten Years, They Successfully Petition To Shorten Their Registration Period.** “(a) A person who is a State resident and who has a reportable conviction shall be required to maintain registration with the sheriff of the county where the person resides. If the person moves to North Carolina from outside this State, the person shall register within three business days of establishing residence in this State, or whenever the person has been present in the State for 15 days, whichever comes first. If the person is a current resident of North Carolina, the person shall register: (1) Within three business days of release from a penal institution or arrival in a county to live outside a penal institution; or (2) Immediately upon conviction for a reportable offense where an active term of imprisonment was not imposed. Registration shall be maintained for a period of at least 30 years following the date of initial county registration unless the person, after 10 years of registration, successfully petitions the superior court to shorten his or her registration time period under G.S. 14-208.12A.” [North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 14, Article 27A, Part 2, 14-208.8.7, accessed on [4/2/26](#)]

December 10, 2018: Judge Wayland Sermons Granted West’s Petition And Order For Termination Of Sex Offender Registration In Beaufort County, North Carolina.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
BEAUFORT County
In The General Court of Justice
Superior Court Division

File No. County Of Hearing
99CR006089

IN THE MATTER OF
HARVEY LEE WEST, JR.
2018 OCT 31 A 9:48
BEAUFORT CO. C.S.C.

PETITION AND ORDER FOR TERMINATION
OF SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION
G.S. 14-208.12A

Name And Address Of Petitioner's Attorney
LAURENE E. ARIZAGA-WOMBLE
252-338-4151

NOTE TO PETITIONER: If the conviction requiring your registration occurred in North Carolina, file this petition with the Clerk of Superior Court in a county that is located in the Superior Court District in which you were convicted. If the conviction requiring your registration occurred in another state or in any federal court, file this petition with the Clerk of Superior Court in a county that is located in the Superior Court District in which you currently reside. The petitioner named above hereby moves for termination of sex offender registration under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes and, in support of this petition, states the following:

1. I was required to register as a sex offender under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes for the offense(s) set out above.
2. I have been subject to the North Carolina registration requirements of Part 2 of Article 27A for at least ten (10) years beginning with the Date Of Initial NC Registration above.
3. Since the Date Of Conviction above, I have not been convicted of any subsequent offense requiring registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14.
4. Since the completion of my sentence for the offense(s) set out above, I have not been arrested for any offense that would require registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14.
5. If applicable, I filed a previous petition for termination under G.S. 14-208.12A, which was denied on (date) _____ in (name of county) _____ and one year or more has passed since the date of the denial.
6. If the conviction requiring my registration occurred in another state or in any federal court, (i) I have provided written notice to the sheriff of the county where I was convicted that I am petitioning the court to terminate the registration requirement and (ii) I am including with this petition an affidavit, signed by me, that verifies that I have notified the sheriff of the county where I was convicted of this petition and that provides the mailing address and contact information for that sheriff.

Date: 10/30/2018
Signature Of Petitioner: Harvey Lee West, Jr.

II. SERVICE ON DISTRICT ATTORNEY
The undersigned accepts service of this petition on behalf of the Office of the District Attorney.
Date: 10/31/18
Signature: Michael A. Hillman
Name (type or print): Michael A. Hillman
Title (type or print): Asst. Dist. Atty.
NOTE: No hearing may be held on this matter until at least three (3) weeks after notice to the District Attorney.
(Over)

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III. DISTRICT ATTORNEY PRESENT AT HEARING
The Office of the District Attorney was represented in this matter by (name) _____

IV. FINDINGS OF FACT
After a hearing on this petition, the Court finds the following:
☒ 1. The petitioner was required to register as a sex offender under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes for the offense(s) set out above.
☒ 2. The petitioner has been subject to the North Carolina registration requirements of Part 2 of Article 27A for at least ten (10) years beginning with the Date Of Initial NC Registration above.
☒ 3. Since the Date Of Conviction above, the petitioner has not been convicted of any subsequent offense requiring registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14.
☒ 4. Since the completion of his/her sentence for the offense(s) set out above, the petitioner has not been arrested for any offense that would require registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14.
☒ 5. The petitioner served this petition on the Office of the District Attorney at least three (3) weeks prior to the hearing held on this matter.
☒ 6. The petitioner is not a current or potential threat to public safety.
☒ 7. The relief requested by the petitioner complies with the provisions of the federal Jacob Wetterling Act, 42 U.S.C. § 14071, as amended, and any other federal standards applicable to the termination of a registration requirement or required to be met as a condition for the receipt of federal funds by the State.
☐ 8. If the petitioner filed a previous petition for termination under G.S. 14-208.12A that was denied, one year or more has passed since the date of the denial.
☐ 9. If the conviction requiring the petitioner's registration occurred in another state or in any federal court, the petitioner (i) provided written notice to the sheriff of the county where the petitioner was convicted that the petitioner is petitioning the court to terminate the registration requirement and (ii) included with the petition an affidavit, signed by the petitioner, that verifies that the petitioner notified the sheriff of the county where the petitioner was convicted of the petition and that provides the mailing address and contact information for that sheriff.

V. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
After a hearing on this petition, and based on the foregoing findings, the Court concludes as follows: (check one)
☒ 1. The petitioner is entitled to the relief requested. (All of the findings of fact above must be found.)
☐ 2. The petitioner is NOT entitled to the relief requested.

VI. ORDER
(check one)
☒ 1. The relief requested by the petitioner is granted and the petitioner's registration under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 is hereby ordered terminated. The Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this Order to the State Bureau of Investigation, Attn: Criminal Information and Identification Section, Sex Offender Coordination Unit, Building 16B, Post Office Box 29500, Raleigh, NC 27626-0500.
☐ 2. The relief requested by the petitioner is NOT granted and the petitioner shall continue to maintain registration under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14.

Date: 12/10/18
Name Of Judge (type or print): Wayland J. Sermons, Jr.
Signature Of Judge: [Signature]

NOTE TO CLERK: If the order is granted, mail a certified copy to State Bureau of Investigation, Attn: Criminal Information and Identification Section, Sex Offender Coordination Unit, Building 16B, Post Office Box 29500, Raleigh, NC 27626-0500.
Cert. Copy to SBIA BCSO 12-18-18 ags

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[Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006082, Legacy Case Scan, Petition and Order for Termination of Sex Offender Registration, [12/10/18](#); Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006087, Legacy Case Scan, Petition and Order for Termination of Sex Offender Registration, [12/10/18](#); Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006089, Legacy Case Scan, Petition and Order for Termination of Sex Offender Registration, [12/10/18](#)]

- **June 28, 2006: West Registered As A Sex Offender In North Carolina.**

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA		File No. In County Of Hearing 99CRS 6089	
BEAUFORT County		In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division	
IN THE MATTER OF FILED		PETITION AND ORDER FOR TERMINATION OF SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	
Name And Current Mailing Address Of Petitioner HARVEY LEE WEST, JR. [REDACTED]		G.S. 14-208.12A	
Petitioner's Telephone No. [REDACTED]		Name And Address Of Petitioner's Attorney LAUREN E. ARIZAGA-WOMBLE [REDACTED]	
Race W	Sex M	Date Of Birth 12/17/1970	[REDACTED]
Sex Offender And Public Protection Registry No. [REDACTED]		Attorney's Telephone No. 252-338-4151	
File No.(s) Of County Of Origin	Offense Description	Date Of Conviction	County And State Of Conviction
99CRS6089,6082 and 6087	INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILD	05/22/2000	Beaufort County, NC

[Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006082, Legacy Case Scan, Petition and Order for Termination of Sex Offender Registration, [12/10/18](#); Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006087, Legacy Case Scan, Petition and Order for Termination of Sex Offender Registration, [12/10/18](#); Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006089, Legacy Case Scan, Petition and Order for Termination of Sex Offender Registration, [12/10/18](#)]

- **September 25, 2006: West Took A Mugshot For His North Carolina Sex Offender Profile.**



[Mugshots.com, Harvey Lee West Jr., #013279S5, [4/26/12](#)]

...A MAN WHO SERVED SIX YEARS IN PRISON FOR FELONY SEX CRIMES AGAINST YOUNG GIRLS...

2000-2006: HARVEY LEE WEST SERVED SIX YEARS IN PRISON FOR TAKING INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH A CHILD

2000-2006: West Served Six Years In Prison After Pleading Guilty To Five Counts Of Taking Indecent Liberties With A Child. "Harvey L. West Jr., 55, pleaded guilty in 2000 to five counts of taking indecent liberties with a child, including with a person who was younger than 16. He was released from state custody in 2006 and required to register as

a sex offender. West said in 2012 that he didn't commit the crimes and that he pleaded guilty to avoid risking decades behind bars, the Associated Press reported." [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

May 2000-June 2006: West Was Incarcerated For Over Six Years While Serving Five Consecutive Sentences For Taking Indecent Liberties With A Child.

Offender Information	
	HARVEY L WEST JR
	Offender Number: 0688894
	Inmate Status: INACTIVE
	Probation/Parole/Post Release Status: INACTIVE
	Gender: MALE
	Race: WHITE
	Ethnic Group: EUROPEAN/N.AM./AUSTR
	Birth Date: 12/17/1970
	Age: 55
	Printable Version

Name(s) Of Record				
Last Name	Suffix	First Name	Middle Name	Name Type
WEST	JR	HARVEY	LEE	COMMITTED

Most Recent Incarceration Summary	
Incarceration Status: INACTIVE	Total Incarceration Term: 7 YEARS 2 MONTHS 20 DAYS
Conviction Date: 05/22/2000	Projected Release Date: 06/27/2006
Primary Crime: INDECENT LIBERTY W/CHILD (PRINCIPAL)	Primary Crime Type: FELON
Special Characteristics: REGULAR	Current Status: N/A
Admission Date: 05/23/2000	Admitting Location: CENTRAL PRISON
Control Status: REGULAR POPULATION	Next Control Review: UNKNOWN
Custody Classification: MINIMUM 3	Next Custody Review: UNKNOWN
Current Location: WASHINGTON COUNTY	Previous Location: TYRRELL WORK FARM
Last Movement : EXPIRATION	Last Movement Date: 06/27/2006
Escapes?: N	

[North Carolina Department Of Adult Correction, Offender Public Information, Harvey L West Jr., accessed on [2/3/26](#)]

• **June 27, 2006: West Was Released From Prison After Completing His Fifth Consecutive Sentence.**

Sentence Number: BA-005

Conviction Date: 05/22/2000

Service Status: EXPIRED

Punishment Type: ACTIVE SS

Sentence Type 1: DEPT OF CORR DIV OF PRISONS

Minimum Term: 1 YEAR 1 MONTH

Commitment Type: INMATE

County Of Conviction: BEAUFORT

Sentence Begin Date: 05/28/2005

Actual Release Date: 06/27/2006

Projected Release Date: 06/27/2006

Maximum Term: 1 YEAR 4 MONTHS

Commitment	Docket#	Offense (Qualifier)	Offense Date	Type	Sentencing Penalty Class Code
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CONSECUTIV TO SENTENCE NUMBER BA-004 99006089 INDECENT LIBERTY W/CHILD (PRINCIPAL) 07/01/1999 FELON CLASS F

[NC Department of Adult Correction, Offender Public Information, Offender # 0688894, accessed [4/8/26](#)]

• **May 22, 2000: West Began His First Prison Sentence For His Conviction For Indecent Liberties With A Child.**

Sentence Number: BA-001
Conviction Date: 05/22/2000
Service Status: EXPIRED

Punishment Type: ACTIVE SS
Sentence Type 1: DEPT OF CORR DIV OF PRISONS
Minimum Term: 1 YEAR 3 MONTHS

Commitment Type: INMATE
County Of Conviction: BEAUFORT
Sentence Begin Date: 05/22/2000
Actual Release Date: 10/01/2001
Projected Release Date: 10/01/2001

Maximum Term: 1 YEAR 6 MONTHS

Commitment	Docket#	Offense (Qualifier)	Offense Date	Type	Sentencing Penalty Class Code
INITIAL	99006082	INDECENT LIBERTY W/CHILD (PRINCIPAL)	07/06/1999	FELON	CLASS F

[NC Department of Adult Correction, Offender Public Information, Offender # 0688894, accessed 4/8/26]

WEST SERVED TIME IN PRISON AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO FELONY SEX OFFENSES AGAINST THREE YOUNG GIRLS

WEST WAS IN PRISON FOR MULTIPLE COUNTS OF "TAKING INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILDREN," A FELONY OFFENSE

MAY 2000: WEST PLEADED GUILTY TO MULTIPLE COUNTS OF "TAKING INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILDREN"

May 22, 2000: West Signed A Plea Deal With Prosecutors In The Beaufort County Superior Court Division.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
Beaufort County
In The General Court Of Justice
District Superior Court Division

STATE VERSUS
Name Of Defendant: HARVEY LEE WEST, JR.
DOB: 12-17-70 Age: 29 Highest Level Of Education: COLLEGE

TRANSCRIPT OF PLEA
G.S. 15A-1022

The defendant, having offered a plea of GUilty and being first duly sworn, makes the following answers to the questions set out below:

1. Are you able to hear and understand me? (1) YES

2. Do you understand that you have the right to remain silent and that any statement you make may be used against you? (2) YES

3. At what grade level can you read and write? (3) COLLEGE

4. (a) Are you now under the influence of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, medicines, pills, or any other intoxicants? (4a) NO
(b) When was the last time you used or consumed any such substance? (4b) YEAR AGO

5. Have the charges been explained to you by your lawyer, and do you understand the nature of the charges, and do you understand every element of each charge? (5) YES

6. (a) Have you and your lawyer discussed the possible defenses, if any, to the charges? (6a) YES
(b) Are you satisfied with your lawyer's legal services? (6b) YES

7. (a) Do you understand that you have the right to plead not guilty and be tried by a jury? (7a) YES
(b) Do you understand that at such trial you have the right to confront and to cross examine witnesses against you? (7b) YES
(c) Do you understand that by your plea(s) you give up these and your other constitutional rights relating to a trial by jury? (7c) YES

8. Do you understand that, if you are not a citizen of the United States of America, your plea(s) of guilty or no contest may result in deportation, the exclusion from admission to this country, or the denial of naturalization under federal law? (8) N/A

9. (If applicable) Do you understand that upon conviction of a felony that you automatically forfeit any licensing privileges as defined by G.S. 15A-1331A for the full term:
☐ (a) IFSA cases only occurring on or after May 1, 1994 of the maximum sentence of imprisonment imposed at the time of conviction if: (1) you are offered a suspended sentence on condition that you accept probation and you refuse probation, or (2) your probation is revoked or suspended and the Court makes findings that you failed to make reasonable efforts to comply with the conditions of probation.
☐ (b) Structured Sentencing cases committed on or after October 1, 1994 of the period you are placed on probation if: (1) your probation is revoked or suspended, or (2) for offenses committed before 1/1/97 you are offered a suspended sentence on condition you accept probation and you refuse probation. G.S. 15A-1331A(b).

10. Do you understand that you are pleading (guilty) (no contest) to the charges shown on the attached sheet, which carry the total punishments listed.

11. Do you now personally plead (guilty) (no contest)?

12. (a) IF applicable Are you in fact guilty?
(b) IF applicable Do you understand that upon your plea of no contest you will be treated as being guilty whether or not you admit your guilt?
(c) IF applicable (Alford Plea)
(1) Do you now consider it to be in your best interest to plead guilty?
(2) Do you understand that upon your "Alford Plea" you will be treated as being guilty whether or not you admit that you are in fact guilty?

13. Have you agreed to plead as part of a plea arrangement? Before you answer, I advise you that the Courts have approved plea negotiating, and if there is such, you may advise me truthfully without fear of incurring any disapproval.

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14. (If applicable) The prosecutor and your lawyer have informed the Court that these are all the terms and conditions of your plea: (See attachment for additional plea arrangements, including voluntary dismissals.)
SEE ATTACHMENT A

Answers

(a) Is this correct as being your full plea arrangement? (14a) YES
(b) Do you now personally accept this arrangement? (14b) YES

15. (Other than the plea arrangement between you and the prosecutor) has anyone made any promises or threatened you in any way to cause you to enter this plea against your wishes? (15) NO

16. Do you enter this plea of your own free will, fully understanding what you are doing? (16) YES

17. Do you have any questions about what has just been said to you or about anything else connected with your case? (17) NO

I have read or have heard all of these questions and understand them. The answers shown are the ones I gave in open court and they are true and accurate. Neither my lawyer nor anyone else has told me to give false answers in order to have the Court accept my plea in this case. The conditions of the plea as stated above, if any, are accurate.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME
Date: 5-22-00 Signature: [Signature] Signature Of Defendant: [Signature]
Deputy CSC Assistant CSC Clerk Of Superior Court
Name Of Defendant (Type Or Print): HARVEY LEE WEST, JR.

CERTIFICATION BY LAWYER FOR DEFENDANT
Date: 5-22-00 Name Of Lawyer For Defendant (Type Or Print): JOE CHASANO Signature Of Lawyer For Defendant: [Signature]

CERTIFICATION BY PROSECUTOR
As prosecutor for this Prosecutorial District, I hereby certify that the conditions stated above, if any, are the terms agreed to by the defendant and his/her lawyer and myself for the entry of the plea by the defendant to the charge(s) in this case.
Date: 5-22-00 Name Of Prosecutor (Type Or Print): G. PATRICK MURPHY Signature Of Prosecutor: [Signature]
Name Of District Attorney: Spencer AG PLEA ADJUDICATION: Spencer AG

Upon consideration of the record proper, evidence presented, answers of defendant, and statements of the lawyer for the defendant and the District Attorney, the undersigned finds:
1. That there is a factual basis for the entry of the plea.
2. That the defendant is satisfied with his/her lawyer's advice.
3. That the defendant is competent to stand trial and that the plea is the informed choice of the defendant and is made freely, voluntarily and understandingly.

The defendant's plea is hereby accepted by the Court and is ordered recorded.
Date: 5-22-00 Name Of Presiding Judge (Type Or Print): CHARL L. TINGHAMMAN Signature Of Presiding Judge: [Signature]

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[Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006082, Legacy Case Scan, Transcript of Plea, 5/22/00; Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006087, Legacy Case Scan, Transcript of Plea, 5/22/00; Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006089, Legacy Case Scan, Transcript of Plea, 5/22/00]

- Attachment A Described The Terms And Conditions Of The Plea Deal And Outlined How West's Sixteen Initial Charges Were Consolidated Into Seven Charges Of Taking Indecent Liberties With A Child, Five Of Which Would Result In Prison Time And Two Supervised Probation.

ATTACHMENT "A"

1. In indictment 99 Crs 6082, the three (3) counts will be consolidated for judgment and the defendant will be imprisoned for a minimum term of 15 months and a maximum term of 18 months in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction.

2. In indictment 99 Crs 6087, the three (3) counts will be consolidated for judgment and the defendant will be imprisoned for a minimum term of 15 months and a maximum term of 18 months in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction. This sentence will begin at the expiration of the sentence imposed in 99 Crs 6082.

3. In indictment 99 Crs 6089, Counts I, II, and III will be consolidated for judgment and the defendant will be imprisoned for a minimum term of 15 months and a maximum term of 18 months in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction. This sentence will begin at the expiration of the sentence imposed in 99 Crs 6087.

4. In indictment 99 Crs 6089, Counts IV, V, and VI will be consolidated for judgment and the defendant will be imprisoned for a minimum term of 14 months and a maximum term of 17 months in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction. This sentence will begin at the expiration of the sentence imposed in 99 Crs 6089, Counts I, II, and III.

5. In Bill of Information 99 Crs 6089, Counts VII and VIII, the State will proceed under N.C.G.S. §14-202.1, two counts of taking indecent liberties with a child. The two counts will be consolidated for judgment and the defendant will be imprisoned for a minimum term of 13 months and a maximum term of 16 months in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction. This sentence will begin at the expiration of the sentence imposed in indictment 99 Crs 6089, Counts IV, V, and VI.



ATTACHMENT "A" (continued)

6. In Bill of Information 99 Crs 6089, Counts IX and X, the State will proceed under N.C.G.S. §14-202.1, two counts of taking indecent liberties with a child. In each count the defendant will be sentenced to consecutive terms of imprisonment of a minimum term of 13 months and a maximum term of 16 months in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction. These sentences (Counts IX and X of Bill of Information 99 Crs 6089 only) will be suspended and the defendant placed on supervised probation for a period of four (4) years. The terms and conditions of probation will be in the discretion of the Court. This probationary sentence will begin at the expiration of the sentence imposed in Bill of Information 99 Crs 6089, Counts VII and VIII.

7. The defendant will pay to the Clerk as restitution for the victims at the time of the entry of this plea the following: \$385.00 for the victim in indictment 99 Crs 6082; and \$ 1,000.00 for the victim in indictment 99 Crs 6089 to be forwarded to the parents of the victims to reimburse them for medical expenses incurred to date which have not been covered by insurance. The defendant will also pay to the Clerk the sum of \$2000.00 to cover anticipated future medical expenses of the victim in indictment 99 Crs 6089. The Clerk will pay to the provider of medical services rendered to the victim in indictment 99 Crs 6089, upon presentation of a bill for services, reimbursement for medical expenses not covered by insurance up to the amount of \$2000.00. In the event the entire sum (\$2000.00) is not necessary to cover medical expenses, the remainder will be converted to a fine and disbursed by the Clerk as by law provided.

8. The defendant will execute, at the time of entry of his plea, a surrender of his law enforcement officer certification (PRA 245498733).



[Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006082, Legacy Case Scan, Transcript of Plea, [5/22/00](#); Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006087, Legacy Case Scan, Transcript of Plea, [5/22/00](#); Beaufort Superior Court, Case 99CR006089, Legacy Case Scan, Transcript of Plea, [5/22/00](#)]

WEST SERVED PRISON TIME FOR MULTIPLE COUNTS OF TAKING INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH A CHILD

2000-2006: West Served Six Years In Prison After Pleading Guilty To Five Counts Of Taking Indecent Liberties With A Child. "Harvey L. West Jr., 55, pleaded guilty in 2000 to five counts of taking indecent liberties with a child, including with a person who was younger than 16. He was released from state custody in 2006 and required to register as a sex offender. West said in 2012 that he didn't commit the crimes and that he pleaded guilty to avoid risking decades behind bars, the Associated Press reported." [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

NC Newsline: West Pled Guilty To Multiple Counts Of Taking Indecent Liberties With A Child In 2000. "In Dare County, the strife began in January, when longtime party fundraiser and 1st Congressional District Chair Harvey West moderated a Jan. 22 forum for Board of Education candidates. Republicans in the county complained about West's role, saying that West is a convicted sex offender, having pleaded guilty to multiple counts of taking indecent liberties with a child in 2000. Those charges stemmed from multiple incidents between West — then a 28-year-old police officer in the Outer Banks." [NC Newsline, [4/1/26](#)]

NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIFIED "TAKING INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILDREN" AS A CLASS F FELONY

North Carolina Criminal Code Classified "Taking Indecent Liberties With Children" As Punishable As A Class F Felony. "§ 14-202.1. Taking indecent liberties with children. (a) A person is guilty of taking indecent liberties with children if, being 16 years of age or more and at least five years older than the child in question, he either: (1) Willfully takes or attempts to take any immoral, improper, or indecent liberties with any child of either sex under the age of 16 years for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire; or (2) Willfully commits or attempts to commit any lewd or lascivious act upon or with the body or any part or member of the body of any child of either sex under the age of 16 years. (b) Taking indecent liberties with children is punishable as a Class F felony. (1955, c. 764; 1975, c. 779; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1, c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, s. 1201; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)" [North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 14, accessed [3/10/26](#)]

WEST SERVED TIME IN PRISON FOR CHILD SEX CRIMES AGAINST THREE YOUNG GIRLS

West Served Six Years In Prison After Pleading Guilty To Child Sex Crimes Involving Three Girls. "But a revolt is now brewing in the ranks of the state GOP after a report last week detailed Whatley's support for Harvey L. West Jr., 54, who secured leadership positions after serving a stint in prison. West, in a candid conversation with the Daily Beast, said he was open with the party's leadership about his past 'from day one.' That past includes charges [...] involving three girls, [...] when West was 28 years old and working as a police officer. [...] West served six years in prison." [Daily Beast, [3/17/26](#)]

December 6, 1999: West Was Indicted On Three Counts Of Indecent Liberties With A Victim, Who Was Under Sixteen-Years-Old At The Time, In Case 99 CRS 6082.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA In the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division		File No. 99-CRS-6082
Beaufort County		Film No.
STATE VERSUS		
DEPENDANT	INDICTMENT	
Harvey Lee West, Jr.	I., II., & III. 3 COUNTS INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILD	
OFFENSE IN VIOLATION OF G.S.14-202.1		
I. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant named above was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1. II. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant named above was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1. III. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant named above was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.		
		Signature of Prosecutor
WITNESSES		
☒ Inv. Dearl Roughton, BCSD	☐	
☐	☐	
☐	☐	
The witnesses marked "X" were sworn by the undersigned Foreman of the Grand Jury and, after hearing testimony, this bill was found to be:		
☒ A TRUE BILL by twelve or more grand jurors, and I the under-signed Foreman of the Grand Jury, attest the concurrence of twelve or more grand jurors in this Bill of indictment.		
☐ NOT A TRUE BILL		
Date 12-6-99	Signature of Grand Jury Foreman	

[Beaufort Superior Court, Case Number 99CR006082-060, Legacy Case Scan, Indictment, [12/6/99](#)]

December 6, 1999: West Was Indicted On Three Counts Of Indecent Liberties With A Victim, Who Was Under Sixteen-Years-Old At The Time, In Case 99 CRS 6087.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA In the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division <u>Beaufort County</u>	File No. 99-CRS-6087 Film No.
STATE VERSUS	
DEFENDANT Harvey Lee West, Jr.	INDICTMENT I, II, & III. 3 COUNTS INDECENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILD OFFENSE IN VIOLATION OF G.S.14-202.1

I. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the latter part of July 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant named above was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

II. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the latter part of July 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant named above was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

III. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the latter part of July 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant named above was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

Signature of Prosecutor

WITNESSES	
☒ Inv. Dearl Roughton, BCSD	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

The witnesses marked "X" were sworn by the undersigned Foreman of the Grand Jury and, after hearing testimony, this bill was found to be:

☒ A TRUE BILL by twelve or more grand jurors, and I the under-signed Foreman of the Grand Jury, attest the concurrence of twelve or more grand jurors in this Bill of indictment.

☐ NOT A TRUE BILL

Date 12-6-99

Signature of Grand Jury Foreman

[Beaufort Superior Court, Case Number 99CR006087-060, Legacy Case Scan, Indictment, [12/6/99](#)]

December 6, 1999: West Was Indicted On Six Counts Of Indecent Liberties And Four Counts Of Statutory Sexual Offense Of A Victim, Who Was 13, 14, Or 15 Years Old, In Case 99 CRS 6089.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA In the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division Beaufort County STATE VERSUS Harvey Lee West, Jr. OFFENSE IN VIOLATION OF G.S. 14-202.1, 14-27.7A	File No. 99-CRS-6089 Film No.	INDICTMENT I, II, III, IV, V, & VI 6 COUNTS INDICENT LIBERTIES WITH CHILD VII, VIII, IX, X, & XI 4 COUNTS STATUTORY SEXUAL OFFENSE OF PERSON WHO IS 13, 14, OR 15 YEARS OLD
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I. The jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the early part of June 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than that child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

II. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than that child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

III. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than that child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

IV. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the latter part of July 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than that child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

V. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the latter part of July 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than that child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

VI. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present that on or about the latter part of July 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did take and attempt to take immoral, improper, and indecent liberties with [REDACTED] who was under the age of 16 years at the time, for the purpose of arousing and gratifying sexual desire. At the time, the defendant was over 16 years of age and at least five years older than that child. This act was in violation of G. S. 14-202.1.

VII. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present on or about the early part of June 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did engage in a sexual act with [REDACTED] a person of the age of 14 years. At the time of the offense, the defendant was at least six years older than the victim and was not lawfully married to the victim. This act was in violation of G.S. 14-27.7A.

VIII. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present on or about July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did engage in a sexual act with [REDACTED] a person of the age of 14 years. At the time of the offense, the defendant was at least six years older than the victim and was not lawfully married to the victim. This act was in violation of G.S. 14-27.7A.

IX. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present on or about the latter part of July 5, 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did engage in a sexual act with [REDACTED] a person of the age of 14 years. At the time of the offense, the defendant was at least six years older than the victim and was not lawfully married to the victim. This act was in violation of G.S. 14-27.7A.

X. And the jurors for the State upon their oath present on or about the early part of August 1999, and in the county named above the defendant named above unlawfully, willfully and feloniously did engage in a sexual act with [REDACTED] a person of the age of 14 years. At the time of the offense, the defendant was at least six years older than the victim and was not lawfully married to the victim. This act was in violation of G.S. 14-27.7A.

Signature of Prosecutor

[Signature]

WITNESSES	
☒ Inv. Dearl Roughton, BCSD	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

The witnesses marked "X" were sworn by the undersigned Foreman of the Grand Jury and, after hearing testimony, this bill was found to be:

☒ TRUE BILL by twelve or more grand jurors, and I the under-signed Foreman of the Grand Jury, attest the concurrence of twelve or more grand jurors in this Bill of indictment.

☐ NOT A TRUE BILL

Date 12-6-99 Signature of Grand Jury Foreman *[Signature]*

[Beaufort Superior Court, Case Number 99CR006089-060, Legacy Case Scan, Indictment, [12/6/99](#)]

...TO A TOP ROLE WITHIN THE NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY...

WHATLEY REPEATEDLY APPOINTED A HARVEY LEE WEST TO ONE OF THE NC GOP'S "TOP RULE-MAKING BODIES"

WRAL: West Said He Was Appointed By The NCGOP State Party Chair "In 2021 And 2024 — When Whatley Appointed West To The Plan Of Organization Committee." "West told PolitiFact that he has been appointed to the party's Plan of Organization Committee at least 10 times dating back to 2011. Some years, such as 2018 and 2019, West said his district committee appointed him to the role. Other years, West said, the state party's chairman appointed him. West said that was the case from 2013 to 2017 — when Robin Hayes, Claude Pope and Hassan Harnett served as chairmen. It was also the case in 2021 and 2024 — when Whatley appointed West to the Plan of Organization Committee, West said." [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

Washington Examiner: Whatley Appointed Harvey L. West To One Of The North Carolina Republican Party's "Top Rule-Making Bodies" Twice. "For the past six years, conservatives in North Carolina have made the Down East Judicial Picnic a crucial stop on the fundraising circuit. Attendees pay up to \$1,500 to chow down on hors d'oeuvres and rub shoulders with state supreme court justices and officeholders. What some of the attendees knew was that the host, Harvey L. West, had a dark past. [...] Now, Michael Whatley, North Carolina's Republican candidate for Senate, who attended these fundraisers, finds himself embroiled in a scandal that couldn't have come at a worse time. He is under pressure to answer why he twice appointed West to one of the state party's top rule-making bodies and allowed him to hold such a central role." [Washington Examiner, [3/31/26](#)]

...WHATLEY APPOINTED WEST AFTER WEST'S CRIMES WERE WIDELY KNOWN...

WHATLEY APPOINTED WEST TO THE NC GOP PLAN OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE IN 2021 AND 2024

WRAL: West Said He Was Appointed By The NC GOP State Party Chair “In 2021 And 2024 — When Whatley Appointed West To The Plan Of Organization Committee.” “West told PolitiFact that he has been appointed to the party’s Plan of Organization Committee at least 10 times dating back to 2011. Some years, such as 2018 and 2019, West said his district committee appointed him to the role. Other years, West said, the state party’s chairman appointed him. West said that was the case from 2013 to 2017 — when Robin Hayes, Claude Pope and Hassan Harnett served as chairmen. It was also the case in 2021 and 2024 — when Whatley appointed West to the Plan of Organization Committee, West said.” [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

Harvey West Was An At Large Member Of The 2024 Plan Of Organization Committee.

2024 Plan of Organization Committee
Secretary Ed Stiles, District 1, Wilson County
Vice Chair Mike Phillips, District 2, Wake County
Bob Pruett, District 3, Carteret County
Bob Castona, District 4, Orange County
Benjamin Parnell, District 5, Rockingham County
Robert Watkins, District 6, Forsyth County
Trey Martin, District 7, Brunswick County
Chair Daniel Barry, District 8, Union County
Bill Scholtes, District 9, Moore County
Michael Owens, District 10, Forsyth County
Hunter Clark, District 11, McDowell County
Tommy Fuller, District 12, Mecklenburg County
Michael Magnanti, District 13, Granville County
Rick Austin, District 14, Rutherford County
Harvey West, At Large, Washington County
Jerol Kivett, At Large, Sampson County
Marshall Conrad, At Large, Johnston County

[North Carolina Republican Party, 2024 Plan of Organization, pg. 45, adopted [5/25/24](#)]

Harvey West Was An At Large Member Of The 2021 Plan Of Organization Committee.

2020 Plan of Organization Committee

Scott Cumbie, Chairman (6th District)
Thomas Hill (1st District)
Ed Gavin (2nd District)
Bob Pruett (3rd District)
Robert "Bob" Randall (4th District)
Jonathan Fletcher (5th District)
Jerold Kivett (7th District)
Roger Farina (8th District)
Daniel Barry (9th District)
Charles Newman (10th District)
Dick McCallum (11th District)
Anne Clifford (12th District)
Rick Smith (13th District)
Brad Overcash (At-Large)
Clark Reimer (At-Large)
Harvey West (At-Large)

[North Carolina Republican Party, 2021 Plan of Organization, pg. 42, adopted [6/5/21](#)]

NOTE: The header “2020 Plan of Organization Committee” appears to be a typo and should instead read “2021.” The document file is titled, “2021 Plan of Organization Final.”

NCGOP CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRS SERVING ON THE PLAN OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE HAD TO BE APPOINTED BY THE STATE PARTY CHAIR

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRMEN COULD NOT APPOINT THEMSELVES OR THEIR SPOUSES TO THE NCGOP PLAN OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Each Congressional District Chairman Appointed One Person, Other Than Himself Or His Spouse, From Their District To Each Of The Standing Committees. “The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Credentials, Plan of Organization, Platform, Resolutions and Rules. These Committees will be appointed no later than September 1 following the odd-numbered year State Convention elections. The Committees will remain in effect for 2 years until the next cycle of appointments. The State Chairman shall appoint three members to each of the Standing Committees for the Convention. Each Congressional District Chairman will appoint one person, other than himself or his spouse, from their district to each of the Standing Committees. The State Party Chair will name the Committee Chair for each of the Standing Committees from within the membership of the respective Committees. Twenty-five percent of the

members of a Standing Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.” [North Carolina Republican Party, 2022 – 2023 Plan of Organization, pg. 26, adopted 5/21/22, archived [8/15/23](#)]

- **The Plan Of Organization Committee Was A Standing Committee.** “The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Credentials, Plan of Organization, Platform, Resolutions and Rules.” [North Carolina Republican Party, 2022 – 2023 Plan of Organization, pg. 26, adopted 5/21/22, archived [8/15/23](#)]

MEMBERS OF THE NCGOP PLAN OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE WERE EITHER APPOINTED BY THEIR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIR OR BY THE STATE PARTY CHAIRMAN

The NCGOP Chair And The Congressional District Chairs Appointed The Members Of Standing Committees For Each Party Convention. “The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Credentials, Plan of Organization, Platform, Resolutions and Rules. These Committees will be appointed no later than September 1 following the odd-numbered year State Convention elections. The Committees will remain in effect for 2 years until the next cycle of appointments. The State Chairman shall appoint three members to each of the Standing Committees for the Convention. Each Congressional District Chairman will appoint one person, other than himself or his spouse, from their district to each of the Standing Committees. The State Party Chair will name the Committee Chair for each of the Standing Committees from within the membership of the respective Committees. Twenty-five percent of the members of a Standing Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.” [North Carolina Republican Party, 2022 – 2023 Plan of Organization, pg. 26, adopted 5/21/22, archived [8/15/23](#)]

- **The Plan Of Organization Committee Was A Standing Committee.** “The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Credentials, Plan of Organization, Platform, Resolutions and Rules.” [North Carolina Republican Party, 2022 – 2023 Plan of Organization, pg. 26, adopted 5/21/22, archived [8/15/23](#)]

The State Party Chair Appointed Three Members To Each Standing Committees. “The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Credentials, Plan of Organization, Platform, Resolutions and Rules. These Committees will be appointed no later than September 1 following the odd-numbered year State Convention elections. The Committees will remain in effect for 2 years until the next cycle of appointments. The State Chairman shall appoint three members to each of the Standing Committees for the Convention. Each Congressional District Chairman will appoint one person, other than himself or his spouse, from their district to each of the Standing Committees. The State Party Chair will name the Committee Chair for each of the Standing Committees from within the membership of the respective Committees.” [North Carolina Republican Party, 2022 – 2023 Plan of Organization, pg. 26, adopted 5/21/22, archived [8/15/23](#)]

JUNE 2019 – MARCH 2024: WHATLEY SERVED AS THE CHAIR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY

June 2019: Whatley Was Elected As The New Chair Of The North Carolina Republican Party. “North Carolina Republicans elected Michael Whatley their new chairman Saturday, marking what he called a ‘reset’ for a party tarnished by legal problems.” [Charlotte Observer, [6/9/19](#)]

March 2024: Michael Whatley Resigned As NC GOP Chairman. “As expected, the North Carolina Republican Party’s executive committee selected current Executive Director Jason Simmons as the new chair at an official meeting in Selma on Tuesday. [...] Following Whatley’s election as RNC chair in early March, along with Trump daughter-in-law Lara Trump as co-chair, the former president endorsed Jason Simmons to lead the NCGOP. Whatley formally resigned as NCGOP Chairman earlier in the evening.” [Carolina Journal, [3/27/24](#)]

2012-2024: WEST’S HISTORY OF CHILD SEX CRIMES WAS WELL KNOWN AMONGST THE NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY AND EVEN RECEIVED NATIONAL NEWS COVERAGE

WEST SAID HE WAS OPEN WITH PARTY LEADERSHIP LIKE WHATLEY ABOUT HIS HISTORY AS A CHILD SEX OFFENDER “FROM DAY ONE” AND THAT HE HAD “NEVER HIDDEN THE FACT THAT I HAVE A PAST”

WEST SAID HE WAS OPEN WITH PARTY LEADERSHIP ABOUT HIS CRIMINAL HISTORY “FROM DAY ONE,” INCLUDING HIS TIME IN PRISON AND STATUTORY RAPE CHARGE

Daily Beast: West Said He Was Open With Party Leadership About His Past “From Day One,” Including His Time In Prison And Charges, Which Included Statutory Rape. “West, in a candid conversation with the Daily Beast, said he

was open with the party's leadership about his past 'from day one.' That past includes charges [...] involving three girls, [...] in 1999, when West was 28 years old and working as a police officer. 'I openly discussed what happened. I openly discussed my time in prison. I openly discussed the charges. And I would tell people, 'If you want me around, I will work and be glad to do so. If you don't want me, I'll go on down the road,' he said.'" [Daily Beast, [3/17/26](#)]

- **West: "I Openly Discussed What Happened. I Openly Discussed My Time In Prison. I Openly Discussed The Charges."** "West, in a candid conversation with the Daily Beast, said he was open with the party's leadership about his past 'from day one.' That past includes charges [...] involving three girls, [...] in 1999, when West was 28 years old and working as a police officer. 'I openly discussed what happened. I openly discussed my time in prison. I openly discussed the charges. And I would tell people, 'If you want me around, I will work and be glad to do so. If you don't want me, I'll go on down the road,' he said.'" [Daily Beast, [3/17/26](#)]

WEST SAID HE DISCLOSED HIS CRIMINAL HISTORY TO THE NC GOP AND THAT HE HAD "NEVER HIDDEN THE FACT THAT I HAVE A PAST"

West Said His Criminal History Had Been Disclosed To Members Of The North Carolina Republican Party. "In 2019, West was the 1st Congressional District committee vice chairman. Then, after the chair of the committee resigned, the district's executive committee elected West to fill the role as chairman, Mercer said. Since 2020, committee members themselves re-elected West to the position. And West said his criminal history had been disclosed. 'I've never hidden the fact that I have a past,' West said in a telephone interview Thursday. 'I was elected (by) people being upfront and honest and saying, 'Hey, this happened. I did six years in prison.''" [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

- **West: "I've Never Hidden The Fact That I Have A Past."** "In 2019, West was the 1st Congressional District committee vice chairman. Then, after the chair of the committee resigned, the district's executive committee elected West to fill the role as chairman, Mercer said. Since 2020, committee members themselves re-elected West to the position. And West said his criminal history had been disclosed. 'I've never hidden the fact that I have a past,' West said in a telephone interview Thursday. 'I was elected (by) people being upfront and honest and saying, 'Hey, this happened. I did six years in prison.''" [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]
- **West: "I Was Elected (By) People Being Upfront And Honest And Saying, 'Hey, This Happened. I Did Six Years In Prison.'"** "I've never hidden the fact that I have a past,' West said in a telephone interview Thursday. 'I was elected (by) people being upfront and honest and saying, 'Hey, this happened. I did six years in prison.''" [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

WHATLEY SERVED AS THE NC GOP CHAIRMAN WHILE WEST WAS THE PARTY'S FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

2019-2024: Whatley Served As The Chairman Of The North Carolina Republican Party While West Served As Chairman Of The First Congressional District. "Just days after Whatley won the GOP nomination, an Asheville, North Carolina-based media outlet reported that Whatley appointed a convicted sex offender to state party leadership positions. Whatley was the state party chairman from June 2019 to March 2024 before becoming chairman of the Republican National Convention. [...] West served as chairman of the 1st Congressional District committee from 2019 until earlier this month." [WRAL, [3/27/26](#)]

AN NC GOP INSIDER REPORTED WHATLEY PUSHED BACK ON OPPOSITION TO CHILD SEX OFFENDER WEST'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PARTY WHILE SERVING AS PARTY CHAIRMAN

FORMER CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE MICHELE WOODHOUSE CLAIMED CONSERVATIVES IN THE NC GOP RAISED CONCERNS ABOUT WEST BUT WERE MET WITH RESISTANCE FROM WHATLEY

Washington Examiner: Former Congressional Candidate Michele Woodhouse Said Some Members Of The North Carolina Republican Party Had Been "Ringing The Bell" On Harvey West For Years But Were Met With 'The Good Old Boys Network' Resistance. "What some of the attendees knew was that the host, Harvey L. West, had a dark past. In 1999, West was a police officer in a small town near the Outer Banks when he was arrested and charged with [...] statutory rape [...] He eventually took a deal, pleading guilty to a string of lesser charges of 'taking indecent liberties with a child.' After six years in prison, his name went on to the state's sex-offender register, where it stayed until 2018. [...] But it's not just Democrats who are asking questions. It is infuriating to people such as Michele Woodhouse, a GOP stalwart in the state's 11th District, where she ran for Congress in 2021. 'There have been quite a few of us who have been ringing the bell on this for years,' she told Secrets. 'We were just met with kind of 'the good old boys network' resistance and told it was no big deal. 'Nothing to see here.'" The result, she added, was that any official or candidate who attended the picnic is facing 'blowback.' 'And you know, Michael Whatley has not denounced this at all,' she added." [Washington Examiner, [3/31/26](#)]

- **Michele Woodhouse: “We Were Just Met With Kind Of ‘The Good Old Boys Network’ Resistance And Told It Was No Big Deal. ‘Nothing To See Here.’”** “But it’s not just Democrats who are asking questions. It is infuriating to people such as Michele Woodhouse, a GOP stalwart in the state’s 11th District, where she ran for Congress in 2021. ‘There have been quite a few of us who have been ringing the bell on this for years,’ she told Secrets. ‘We were just met with kind of ‘the good old boys network’ resistance and told it was no big deal. ‘Nothing to see here.’” [Washington Examiner, [3/31/26](#)]

NC Newsline: Michele Woodhouse Said Whatley “Rebuffed” Her Request To Discuss Concerns About Hosting NCGOP Fundraising Events At West’s Home. “Whatley has come under fire for his ties to 1st Congressional District Chair Harvey West, a convicted sex offender whom he appointed to a key rulemaking body for the state GOP multiple times — a connection that first came to light when it was raised by conservative activists, before it was seized on by Democrats as a key attack against a candidate who remains unknown to many voters in the state. [...] At the Buncombe County GOP Convention March 28, a similar resolution was tabled, according to conservative activist Michele Woodhouse. [...] Woodhouse said six years ago, she requested a closed session of the NCGOP Central Committee to discuss concerns over the fundraisers at West’s house, but was rebuffed by Whatley and his leadership team. ‘Many of us within Republican ranks that would identify as conservatives first and Republicans second are not supporting Michael Whatley,’ Woodhouse said. ‘He did not protect those candidates that attended the Judicial Victory Picnic at Harvey’s house.’” [NC Newsline, [4/1/26](#)]

- **Woodhouse: “Many Of Us Within Republican Ranks That Would Identify As Conservatives First And Republicans Second Are Not Supporting Michael Whatley, [...] He Did Not Protect Those Candidates That Attended The Judicial Victory Picnic At Harvey’s House.”** “Woodhouse was more blunt. ‘There’s really nothing Michael Whatley could do that would get me to vote for him,’ she said. Woodhouse said six years ago, she requested a closed session of the NCGOP Central Committee to discuss concerns over the fundraisers at West’s house, but was rebuffed by Whatley and his leadership team. ‘Many of us within Republican ranks that would identify as conservatives first and Republicans second are not supporting Michael Whatley,’ Woodhouse said. ‘He did not protect those candidates that attended the Judicial Victory Picnic at Harvey’s house.’” [NC Newsline, [4/1/26](#)]

GOP Activist Michele Woodhouse: Whatley Killed A NCGOP Resolution That Would Have Barred The Party From Holding Events At A Venue Owned By A Convicted Felon. “Still, its fate is uncertain. Previous attempts to sideline West and others alleged to have committed sex crimes have failed, stymied inside closed committee rooms. A resolution backed by Henderson County GOP activist Michele Woodhouse barring the party from holding events at a ‘venue owned by a convicted felon,’ was killed at Whatley’s direction when he led the state party, Woodhouse told me.” [Asheville Watchdog, [3/11/26](#)]

JUNE 2019 – MARCH 2024: WHATLEY SERVED AS THE CHAIR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY

June 2019: Whatley Was Elected As The New Chair Of The North Carolina Republican Party. “North Carolina Republicans elected Michael Whatley their new chairman Saturday, marking what he called a ‘reset’ for a party tarnished by legal problems.” [Charlotte Observer, [6/9/19](#)]

March 2024: Michael Whatley Resigned As NC GOP Chairman. “As expected, the North Carolina Republican Party’s executive committee selected current Executive Director Jason Simmons as the new chair at an official meeting in Selma on Tuesday. [...] Following Whatley’s election as RNC chair in early March, along with Trump daughter-in-law Lara Trump as co-chair, the former president endorsed Jason Simmons to lead the NCGOP. Whatley formally resigned as NCGOP Chairman earlier in the evening.” [Carolina Journal, [3/27/24](#)]

2012: NATIONAL AND NORTH CAROLINA PRESS OUTLETS REPORTED THAT WEST RECEIVED POLITICAL BACKLASH FOR HIS PAST CHILD SEX CRIMES

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND NEWS & OBSERVER REPORTED THAT WEST RECEIVED POLITICAL BACKLASH OVER PAST SEXUAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RESURFACING

News & Observer HEADLINE: “N.C. Sex Offender Resigns As Alternate Delegate To GOP Convention.” [News & Observer via Wayback Machine, [8/3/12](#)]

Associated Press HEADLINE: “Sex Offender Resigns As NC Alternate GOP Delegate.” [Associated Press via North Carolina Lawyers Weekly, [8/3/12](#)]

AUGUST 2012: WEST RESIGNED AS AN ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE RNC CONVENTION WITHIN HOURS OF THE NEWS & OBSERVER REPORT ON HIS CRIMINAL RECORD

August 2012: Registered Sex Offender Harvey West Resigned As Alternate Delegate To The Republican National Convention An Hour After The News & Observer Reported On His Criminal Record. “A registered sex offender in North Carolina who was elected as an alternate delegate to the Republican National Convention has resigned from the position. The move came an hour after The News & Observer noted his criminal record in an online post Thursday morning. Harvey L. West Jr., 41, a longtime resident of Plymouth in Eastern North Carolina, was nominated by Republicans in the 3rd Congressional District to serve as an alternate. He would have gone to the national convention in Tampa, Fla., to formally choose Mitt Romney as the party’s nominee if another delegate was unable to attend. In an email Thursday to N.C. GOP Chairman Robin Hayes, West said he was honored and surprised at being selected as a delegate but was resigning the position due to recent attempts by political opponents to ‘us(e) him as a weapon.’ Party spokesman Rob Lockwood said West’s resignation was accepted.” [News & Observer via Wayback Machine, [8/3/12](#)]

WXII 12: West Was Nominated As An Alternate To The 2012 Presidential Convention In Tampa, Florida, But Resigned Due “Attempts By Political Opponents To Use Him As A Weapon.” “A registered sex offender has resigned as an alternate delegate to the Republican National Convention from North Carolina. The News & Observer of Raleigh reported that the resignation of 41-year-old Harvey L. West Jr. of Plymouth came about an hour after the newspaper reported his status Thursday. West had been nominated by Republicans in the 3rd Congressional District as an alternate to the convention in Tampa, Fla. West sent an email to North Carolina Republican Party Chairman Robin Hayes saying he was honored and surprised at being chosen as an alternate. West said he was resigning because of attempts by political opponents to use him as a weapon. West pleaded guilty in 2000 to taking indecent liberties with children and was required to register as a sex offender.” [WXII 12, [8/3/12](#)]

...AND AFTER WEST RAISED MONEY FOR WHATLEY’S NC GOP

REPUBLICAN PARTY INSIDER JOHN CARLETON NIX SAID WEST RAISED ALMOST \$200,000 FOR NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICANS

2025: JOHN CARLETON NIX SAID WEST’S JUDICIAL PICNIC FUNDRAISER RAISED ALMOST \$200,000 FOR NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICANS

2025: JOHN CARLETON NIX CLAIMED THAT THE NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL PICNIC RAISED ALMOST \$200,000 OVER THE LAST SIX YEARS

September 2025: John Carleton Nix Claimed The NC Judicial Picnic Raised Close To \$200,000 Over The Last Six Years. “Judges matter! A truly great evening in Plymouth at the home of Harvey West and Kim Cotten-West for the 6th annual NC Judicial Picnic! Al-Pam Republican Club and the NC Federation of Republican Men have raised close to \$200K over the last 6 years.”



John Carleton Nix is with Billy Strickland II and 7 others.

September 20, 2025 · 🌐



Judges matter! A truly great evening in Plymouth at the home of [Harvey West](#) and [Kim Cotten-West](#) for the 6th annual NC Judicial Picnic! Al-Pam Republican Club and the NC Federation of Republican Men have raised close to \$200K over the last 6 years. Just 6 years ago NC did not have the majority in the NC Supreme Court. Now it's a 5-2 majority. The Court of Appeals is now Republican majority, as well. We can't let our guard down as things can change each cycle. Thanks to all these Judicial candidates as they travel the great State of NC! Also thank you to all the sponsors, contributors, and attendees. And kudos to those that did the hard work in putting this on!

If you want to contribute and don't know how just message me! Thank you!

John Nix
President
NCFRM



[Facebook, John Carleton Nix, [9/20/25](#)]

September 2025: John Carleton Nix Said The Judicial Picnic Raised Over \$160,000 To Support Conservative Judges Over The Past Six Years. “Fellow Conservatives! (Please Share) Please support the NC Judicial Picnic this Saturday, September 20th. If you can't attend, please consider buying a reverse raffle ticket for the chance to win \$5000! Over the last 6 years, Al-Pam Republican Club and the North Carolina Federation of Republican Men have raised over \$160,000 to support conservative Republican judges across the State of NC. Judicial races may not be as sexy as other races, but all political races require money to win. We know your contributions to this cause have and will be crucial in winning upcoming races. Please check this site out, buy a ticket, and help these judges WIN!”



John Carleton Nix is with Marianne Waldrop and 16 others.

September 16, 2025 · 🌐

...

Fellow Conservatives! (Please Share)

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John Nix

President

North Carolina Federation of Republican Men

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NC Judicial Picnic



[Facebook, John Carleton Nix, [9/16/25](#)]

WEST FOUNDED AND RAN THE ANNUAL NC DOWN EAST JUDICIAL PICNIC FUNDRAISER FOR CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES

Washington Examiner: Harvey West Launched The Down East Judicial Picnic, A Fundraising Event For Conservative Candidates, In 2020. “For the past six years, conservatives in North Carolina have made the Down East Judicial Picnic a crucial stop on the fundraising circuit. Attendees pay up to \$1,500 to chow down on hors d’oeuvres and rub shoulders with state supreme court justices and officeholders. What some of the attendees knew was that the host, Harvey L. West, had a dark past. [...] West launched his picnic in 2020, two years after coming off the sex offenders’ register. At the time, he was Chairman of the 1st Congressional District Committee. His status only grew as the picnic went from strength to strength.” [Washington Examiner, [3/31/26](#)]

Asheville Watchdog: West’s Annual Down East Judicial Picnic Fundraiser Was A “Featured Campaign Stop And Major Source Of Judicial Campaign Money.” “Whatley, former chairman of the state and national Republican Party, is at the center of the spreading revolt after championing the rise to power of Harvey L. West Jr. [...] In 2018, North Carolina initiated partisan elections for all judicial offices, including for positions on the appellate and state Supreme courts. Seizing an opportunity to influence judicial candidates who are unaccustomed to raising money to campaign, West and his wife created an annual fundraising picnic they called the Down East Judicial Picnic. With support from Whatley; current state GOP chairman Jason Simmons; and such high-ranking incumbents as Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby, Associate Justices Trey Allen and Philip Berger Jr., the event has emerged as a featured campaign stop and major source of judicial campaign money.” [Asheville Watchdog, [3/11/26](#)]

JOHN CARLETON NIX WAS A NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY OPERATIVE

John Nix Was The President Of The North Carolina Federation Of Republican Men. “The North Carolina Federation of Republican Men president, John Nix, said Whatley does not need a learning curve to adapt to working in the U.S. Senate. ‘He’s quite qualified,’ Nix said. ‘He can hit the ground running and in the position if he wins, when he wins, and he’ll do well for North Carolina.’” [Daily Tar Heel, [3/10/26](#)]

September 2025: John Carleton Nix Wrote That He Was The President Of The North Carolina Federation Of Republican Men. “Fellow Conservatives! (Please Share) Please support the NC Judicial Picnic this Saturday, September 20th. If you can't attend, please consider buying a reverse raffle ticket for the chance to win \$5000! Over the last 6 years, Al-Pam Republican Club and the North Carolina Federation of Republican Men have raised over \$160,000 to support conservative Republican judges across the State of NC. Judicial races may not be as sexy as other races, but all political races require money to win. We know your contributions to this cause have and will be crucial in winning upcoming races. Please check this site out, buy a ticket, and help these judges WIN!”



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September 16, 2025 · 🌐

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NC Judicial Picnic



[Facebook, John Carleton Nix, [9/16/25](#)]

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September 2020: Whatley Attended The Judicial Picnic In Washington County With Harvey West To “Support Republican Efforts To Elect Conservative Judges In NC.” “Judges! It was great to attend the Judicial Picnic in Washington County and support Republican efforts to elect Conservative Judges in NC. We have to win these critical judicial races and restore NC values to our courts!”

Michael Whatley for Senate 
 September 13, 2020 ·  ...

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[Facebook, Michael Whatley For Senate, [9/13/20](#)]

- September 2020: Harvey And Kim West Hosted The Down East Judicial Picnic, Which Raised Money For Statewide Judicial Candidates.** "The Judicial Picnic was quite a success! 100's showed up to support our Statewide Judicial Candidates in Plymouth. Thanks to Kim & Harvey West for hosting! Thanks to Don Cox for entertaining us! The money earned today will help these candidates get across the finish line in November!"

 **John Carleton Nix** is with Dana MC and 12 others. ...
 September 12, 2020 · 

The Judicial Picnic was quite a success! 100's showed up to support our Statewide Judicial Candidates in Plymouth. Thanks to Kim & [Harvey West](#) for hosting! Thanks to Don Cox for entertaining us! The money earned today will help these candidates get across the finish line in November! 🇺🇸 🍷 🍷 [#JudgesMatter](#) [#LeadRight](#) [#ncpol](#) [#ncfrm](#)



[Facebook, John Carleton Nix, [9/12/20](#)]

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT WEST SPENT SIX YEARS IN PRISON FOR HIS OFFENSES AND WAS ON THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY FOR MORE THAN A DECADE

See backup above.