



Presidential Commission on Election Administration Florida Independent activists attend University of Miami hearing

IndependentVoting.org is organizing a national campaign to lobby the [Commission on Election Administration](#), established by President Obama to fix defects in the election process. Independents have been circulating a letter to the



Commission urging them to broaden their mandate beyond technical issues. Over 700 people from all 50 states have signed the letter. The Commission held a public hearing at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, FL last week, and **John Quinn**, the Broward County, Fla. spokesperson for [Florida Independent Voting.org](#) (FIV), and **Gigi Wenz**, who represents West Palm, were on hand to testify on behalf of independents. You can read John's full statement [here](#) and Tyler Taylor's article about it [here](#) on the IVN news site.

[Sign on to the Letter to the Presidential Commission on Election Administration.](#)

"We, the undersigned, are independent voters from all 50 states. We are deeply concerned that America's political process is in a crisis and that serious attention must be paid to it..." >>

"Independent voters are repeatedly given second class status."

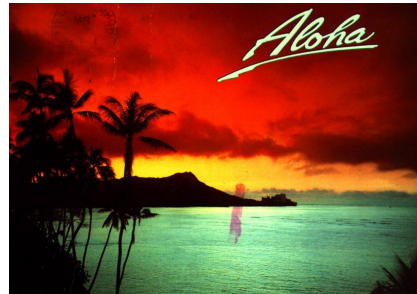
[If you already signed, make sure to get others to sign.](#)

A committee of independent leaders led by Steve Richardson (VA), Rick Robol (OH), and Catana Barnes (NV) met by conference call this week to monitor the Commission and develop strategy for upcoming hearings in Denver, Philadelphia and Ohio. [Here are the minutes and a mission statement](#) provided by Rick Robol. The Independents Election Reform Committee will be meeting by phone every other Sunday through the hearings. If you would like to participate, contact Steve at stevenrichardson@verizon.net.

Democratic Party of Hawaii Wants to Bar Independents IndependentVoting.org mobilizing opposition

This Sunday, July 14th, IndependentVoting.org will be running an ad in the *Honolulu Star Advertiser* to challenge the Democratic Party of Hawaii to withdraw their lawsuit to enact closed primaries. The ad is sure to stir up a controversy - not to mention grassroots support to keep Hawaii's primaries open to all. If you live in Hawaii, make sure to pick up a copy of the

paper....and stay tuned for more information on this emerging effort in the Aloha State.



Spokesperson Training Call

with Sarah Lyons, IndependentVoting.org's Director of Communications

This Sunday, July 14 at 7pm Eastern Time, Sarah Lyons will be hosting a spokesperson training call for independent leaders and activists who are interested in developing their communication / media skills. Sarah is a great teacher, and the call is open to everyone who wants to learn, regardless of skill level. These calls are a great way to develop as a spokesperson and learn how to effectively project yourself and your message.

[Register here to join the call](#)

The Problem with the FEC

The Boston Globe's Christopher Rowland has written a [detailed expose](#) on the structural partisanship built into the Federal Election Commission. While Rowland agrees that the FEC was designed to fail and acknowledges its paralysis, he comes up short in his analysis. Rowland steers away from the tougher issues of why the parties were put in charge of our elections in the first place. He also fails to mention [IndependentVoting.org efforts](#) to pressure the President to appoint an independent to the FEC. The article is worth reading if only to appreciate the challenge we face in ending the parties' control of our political process!

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