

**TRIAL IN IDAHO GOP CASE SEEKING TO OVERTURN
OPEN PRIMARY SYSTEM CONCLUDES:**

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The trial in the Idaho Republican Party case seeking to overturn Idaho's open primary system concluded yesterday after two days of expert testimony. U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill reserved decision.

Attorney Harry Kresky, representing the concerns of independent voters in the lawsuit, stated, "This case raises important questions about the extent to which the Republican Party organization can dictate the nature of Idaho's primary electoral system. The testimony over the last two days gave clarity to what is at stake here."

Kresky is general counsel to IndependentVoting.org, a national association of independents with organization in 40 states, and is considered the country's leading legal advocate for independent voters. Gary Allen, Esq. of Boise served as local counsel to the independents.

Mitch Campbell of Twin Falls, who instigated the intervention of independents into the case, remarked "the voters of Idaho aren't clamoring to abandon the nonpartisan voter registration system. In fact, voters in Idaho and across America are tired of party politics and no one knows that more than the independents. Getting involved in this case was important to us. We can see things about the process of governing that insiders can't see and we brought that to the table." Campbell is founder of the [American Independent Movement](http://AmericanIndependentMovement.org) of Idaho.

The trial raises fundamental questions about the proper role of political parties in the election process, and the extent to which the Constitution accords political party organizations the right to control the nomination of candidates. At stake is the validity of nonpartisan voter registration systems such as Idaho's which 19 other states in the nation currently use.

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