

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Jessamine County, KY Goes Republican

For the first time in the County's history, there are more registered Republican voters than Democrats in Jessamine County, Kentucky. The change was revealed by the Kentucky State Board of Elections, in the Voter Registration Statistics Report posted on January 23, 2014.

(PRWEB) January 23, 2014 -- The Republican Party of Jessamine County learned today that Jessamine County now has more registered Republican voters than Democrats. Sara Kauffman, chairman of the RPJC was elated. "This is something we have been working hard to change over the past year. We want to thank our dedicated volunteers who have made this possible."

The swing in voter registrations has been a gradual process. In December 2004, there were 15,026 registered Democrats in Jessamine County, versus 11,624 registered Republicans. As of January 2014, there are now 16,021 registered Democrats versus 16,137 registered Republicans. While the difference in registration totals has been shrinking over past decades, the RPJC implemented a targeted registration campaign in the last several months to accelerate this change. Many prominent Democrats in the County have now switched parties.

Kauffman said, "At one time the commonly held view in Jessamine County was you had to be a registered Democrat to have any say in local politics. Many people moving into the area were told when they registered to vote that they needed to be a Democrat in order to participate in local primaries. We heard that story many times as we were calling Democrats inviting them to make the party change." Kauffman went on to say, "even though the Republican Party has been gaining strength in Jessamine County, many continued to believe it was important to be a Democrat when it came to local political races. The reality is that the Republicans have had more exciting primaries in the last two elections, and we'll have an exciting primary in 2014 with multiple Republicans vying for the same local elected positions. It was time for us to change the voter perception, which is why we put on a full court press to change Democrats into Republicans."

Jessamine County tends to vote Republican in national races. In 2012 Republican Andy Barr received 8,541 votes versus 5,432 for the Democrat Ben Chandler. The Presidential race had an even wider gap with Mitt Romney getting 14,233 votes versus 6,001 for President Obama. Kauffman explained, Jessamine County, like many counties in Kentucky, is politically conservative. That means the voters are more naturally aligned with the Republican ideology, but the voter registration statistics didn't reflect that. Now, they do. By accomplishing this change, local conservatives will be more inclined to run for office as Republicans, and we can help our candidates win more races."

Jessamine County now becomes the 2nd Republican county in the 6th congressional district, which includes 19 total counties. The only other Republican county is Estill with 5,471 Republicans versus 4,297 Democrats. The change also makes Jessamine County the largest Republican county in the 6th district. Jessamine County is also partially in the 2nd congressional district, where it becomes the 5th and largest Republican County.

The local Republicans are eager to help neighboring counties implement the same re-registration campaign work. Statewide, Jessamine County becomes the 33rd Republican county and the 7th largest.

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