Gutter politics is alive and well in Cascade County! This past week our "friends" in the Democrat party unleashed an all-out assault on Sheriff Jesse Slaughter. This political assignation attempt has to be one of the most underhanded efforts to sway an election in memory.

The following is a brief run down of what has transpired and why those of us that **AREN'T** Democrats should be concerned.

In early May an extreme left-wing group out of Helena called the Montana Human Rights Action Network started promoting a Facebook webinar with the headlined title:

EXTREMISM IN MONTANA

Militia Mouthpieces:

The Dangers of "Constitutional Sheriffs"

This Zoom call was billed as an educational event, 'a breakdown on national and local operatives in this area of extremism, such as Richard Mack and Cascade County's Sheriff Jesse Slaughter. (Richard Mack is a former AZ county Sheriff who committed the unpardonable sin of suing the Clinton administration to stop the gun control and destruction of state sovereignty, associated with the Brady bill. This suit was eventually heard by the Supreme Court in Mack/Printz v. USA, and on June 27, 1997 the Brady bill was ruled to be unconstitutional.) Learn how militia propaganda from national groups has made its way into local sheriff departments.' The Zoom 'event' was held on the evening of Tuesday, May 10. It proved to be the kickoff of a highly coordinated series of political dirty tricks.

On Wednesday, May 11, former Democrat Cascade County Commissioner and former federal bureaucrat, Jane Weber sent an email bast with an all caps headline;

VOTE YOUR REPUBLICAN BALLOT IN JUNE – VOTE JAY GROSKREUTZ FOR SHERIFF

The email went on to explain the primary voting process in Montana and encouraging people to vote their GOP primary ballot because, "...we want to deny Slaughter another four years as Cascade County Sheriff." The email continues, "...please consider voting the GOP ballot FOR JAY GROSKREUTZ to *rid ourselves of our extremist*Constitutional Sheriff." * underline added

The email hit piece goes on, "Please view the link to the Montana Human Rights Action Network and learn why Slaughter is so dangerous in our community."

Weber then lists 6 bullet points based on the MHRAN so called 'report' under the title, WHY IS SLAUGHTER A DANGER? I'm not going to dignify Weber's talking points by repeating them, they are full of exaggeration and innuendo. What it boils down to is that Sheriff Slaughter supports the Constitution and the freedoms it guarantees rather than bending the knee to the administrative state. The point of Weber's email is clear, that

any Sheriff that is loyal to the Constitution, should not be considered or elected as the chief law enforcement official of the county.

The third act of this gutter drama unfolded on Thursday, May 12th, with a front page article in the Great Falls Tribune under the headline. **Human rights group blasts**Cascade County's Jesse Slaughter for being a 'constitutional sheriff'. This article too was based on the 'report' put together by the MHRAN. The article quoted MHRAN Communications Manager Cherilyn DeVries who said, "the organization dove into the issue at the request of concerned citizens."

On Friday May 13th the mail out ballots were mailed.

So, is all this a coincidence? Is this the result of 'concerned citizens' speaking up or a well scripted political hit? Another possibility may be it's an effort to settle the score between the Democrats of Cascade County and the former Democrat now Republican Sheriff Jesse Slaughter. You'll have to judge that for yourself, but I think there is a larger question that also needs to be answered.

Sheriff candidate Groskreutz has said on several occasions that he too would be a Constitutional Sheriff. Granted he has not spelled that out in the detail that Sheriff Slaughter has, but he has stated that none the less. The point that was repeated over and over by Jane Weber, the MHRAN and the Tribune was the 'danger' of a Constitutional Sheriff.

The Democrat attack started on Tuesday of last week, as of Monday morning, 7 days later, there has been no word from candidate Groskreutz clarifying that he too will be a Constitutional Sheriff and thus nullifying the Democrat endorsement. How come? Has Groskreutz decided that he'd trade his Constitutional Sheriff pledge for Democrat cross over votes? If so is that the kind "Authentic Leadership" (Groskreutz's campaign slogan) that Groskreutz has based his campaign on?

It's time for candidate Groskreutz to take a stand! Is he going to declare that he is in fact going to be a Constitutional Sheriff and reject his Democrat backing? Or does he intend to 'go along to get along' and hope that his Republican backers don't notice that he has waffled on his Constitutional Sheriff pledge?

Someone needs to remind candidate Groskreutz of the old saying, "By your silence you give consent!"

Keith Duncan