

# **Debbie Churchill**

# The Lawyer Who Allegedly Broke the Law **Yet Still Sits in MTGOP** Leadership

WRITTEN BY **Staff Writer** 

n any just and lawful organization, leaders are expected to embody integrity, fairness, and respect for the law. Yet within the Montana Republican Party, Debbie Churchill continues to wield influence despite her own blatant misconduct—including alleged illegal surveillance per court documents, selective enforcement, and the systematic betrayal of grassroots conservatives.

## The Illegal Recording at MTGOP **Headquarters**

As recently reported in the Montana Free Press, Churchill was disciplined for secretly installing an audio and video recording device inside MTGOP headquarters without permission. For a lawyer to engage in such conduct is shocking. Montana law is crystal clear: Montana Code Annotated (MCA) § 45-8-213 makes it a crime to record private communications without the consent of all parties. A violation carries a fine of up to \$10,000 and imprisonment of up to 5 years.

Churchill should have known this. She had a professional duty as an attorney to understand the law and uphold it. Instead, she allegedly broke it. And yet—no charges, no prosecution, no real accountability. Ordinary Montanans would face prison or crippling fines for this same offense, but Churchill gets a free pass and remains in MTGOP leadership. This double standard reeks of corruption.

#### **Selective Enforcement: Protecting Suzzann Nordwick**

Churchill also revealed her hypocrisy in Butte-Silverbow. Per Butte Silverbow Republican Committee Precinct people and witnesses, she aggressively targeted and removed conservative precinct people on the grounds that they no longer lived in their precincts. But when it came to allies of Chairwoman Suzzann Nordwick,

Churchill looked the other way. Nordwick's own parents had not lived in the rental property where they were registered to vote for over many years—rendering them ineligible as precinct people. Yet Churchill allegedly refused to remove them, knowing their votes were critical to keeping Nordwick in power as chair of the Butte-Silverbow Republican Central Committee. Churchill's alleged selective enforcement wasn't about following the law. It was about protecting her ally and preserving factional control.

# **Carbon County: Chaos by Design**

The dysfunction in Carbon County's Republican Central Committee wasn't organic—it was orchestrated. Churchill worked behind the scenes to sow division and render the committee ineffective.

- She allegedly encouraged precinct people not to attend meetings so that quorum would fail and no legal business could be conducted.
- She advised the Vice President to illegitimately declare herself Chair without any election or formal process, allowing her to then cancel meetings, withhold financial records, and obstruct operations.
- Churchill allegedly coordinated with factional allies to discredit conservatives like Lisa Bennett and derail any attempt at grassroots leadership. This wasn't leadership. It was sabotage.

## The Anderson Affair: Weaponizing the **Voter Rolls**

Perhaps the most brazen abuse of power was Churchill's alleged role in disenfranchising longtime Carbon County resident Thomas Anderson. For over a decade, Anderson was a registered voter in Carbon County, where he lived and intended to run for Chair of the local Republican Central Committee. Yet suddenly, and without his knowledge, he discovered he had been moved to the Yellowstone County voter rolls—making him ineligible to run in Carbon.

The facts are damning:

By law, a county election administrator cannot move a voter to another county without a direct request from the voter.

- Anderson made no such request.
- When Anderson contacted Yellowstone County, he was told that the Yellowstone GIS had "discovered" his property was in Yellowstone County and moved him automatically. But if this were truly the case, why did his wife remain registered in Carbon County? Why did every one of his neighbors remain in Carbon County? Only Thomas Anderson was singled out.
- Churchill allegedly coordinated directly with then-Yellowstone County Election Administrator Ginger Aldrich to engineer this move, and then denied involvement telling Anderson to "check with Carbon County" when she knew full well the order originated elsewhere.

The effect was devastating. Anderson was disqualified from seeking the Carbon County chairmanship, precisely as Churchill and her allies allegedly intended. His wife was then forced to self-move her registration to Yellowstone so they could vote together. This was not an accident. It was targeted political sabotage, allegedly carried out by a lawyer who knew better.

#### A Lawver Above the Law?

The most galling fact is that Churchill remains in leadership within the MTGOP despite being accused of breaking state law and undermining local governance. Ask yourself:

- Why has no one reported this to the Helena, MT Police Department and filed charges under MCA § 45-8-213?
- Why does the MTGOP tolerate weaponized behaviour from one of their own against fellow conservatives?
- What message does this send to grassroots Republicans across Montana who play by the rules, only to watch elites like Churchill skate free?

If the Republican Party in Montana is serious about restoring trust, the first step is obvious: suspend Debbie Churchill from leadership immediately and demand an independent investigation into these allegations.

Anything less is complicity.