

Rogers Campaign Catches Fire as Texas Dems Are Caught with Their Pants Down

by Harley Schlanger

HOUSTON, May 12—A story in the May 8 [Houston Chronicle](#) about allegations that David Alameel, the candidate annointed by the Texas Democratic Party leadership for the party's nomination for Senate, had covered up sexual harassment of employees at his Jefferson Dental Clinics, raises an important question: Why is the Obama-controlled leadership of the Texas party backing a candidate with such baggage, in a year when it claims it is trying to win a statewide election for the first time in 16 years, by mobilizing women and minorities?

With this latest revelation, it is fair to ask, further: What kind of losers nominate a loser like that, who is also virtually incapable of putting together a coherent sentence, much less a program, to defend those continuing to suffer from the Wall Street crash of September 2008, as the nominee for the U.S. Senate, to run against Republican incumbent John Cornyn? And why is the Democratic Party throwing its support to a candidate who made millions through sale of his company to a hedge fund tied to convicted junk bond swindler Michael Milken, when it is supposedly fighting to address the problem of "income inequality"?

The answer is that the Texas Democratic Party, like President Obama, is fully embracing the Wall Street agenda, and thus is consigning itself to extinction, as Lyndon LaRouche warned in his address to its state convention back in 1980. It is this Wall Street stranglehold which LaRouche Democrat Keshia Rogers is determined to break with her campaign to become the Democratic Party nominee for Senate, in her May 27 runoff election against Alameel. A two-time winner in Congressional primaries, Rogers is moralizing Democrats, many of whom had left the party and politics in disgust, in an unwavering drive for victory.

This Is a Democratic Candidate?

Rogers' opponent Alameel was already in trouble before the *Chronicle* article appeared, given his his-

tory of providing some of his millions to the Republican Party, and the lack of any relevant message to Texas voters, who, among other problems, are suffering from an historic drought which threatens not only agriculture, but the ability of parts of the state to even survive.

The *Chronicle* details how Alameel, the founder of Jefferson Dental Clinics (JDC), was confronted in 2003 by four women employees who alleged that they were sexually harassed by the CFO of the company. In response to their charges, they were fired. The women filed charges against Alameel and JDC with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and shortly thereafter, sought damages in state court, against JDC and the CFO, under Texas tort law. The Texas court ruled against the women on the two limited claims tried in state court. Alameel's lawyers then turned around and stated that the state court judgment barred any action by the EEOC on the sexual discrimination and retaliatory firing claims against Alameel pending with the Commission, but which were not even before the Texas court. The EEOC won against this argument in the Federal District Court, but lost on appeal to the Fifth Circuit.

The conduct at issue is summarized in both the *Chronicle* article and the EEOC's filings in the case, and includes repeated, overt, physical sexual-harassment of the four female employees in the workplace by the CFO, Kadri Cumer. According to the EEOC's filings, based on discovery in the case, "Alameel acknowledged that his wife and son previously had expressed concerns to him about Cumer's behavior." Alameel initially fired Cumer, but almost immediately changed his mind and rehired him.

A few days later, Alameel announced new workplace rules: Female employees had to conform with a new dress code that prohibited sleeveless shirts and dresses, and female employees were not permitted "to talk out of turn." Three days later, Alameel fired three of



Rogers for Senate

Kesha Rogers campaigns in Houston, April 24. Her opponent, Wall Street's candidate for Senate David Alameel, is running into trouble, even as she finds growing support from voters, like those shown here.

the complaining employees; the fourth employee resigned after Alameel told her that JDC was an “at will” company, and she was welcome to leave if she did not like his decision to rehire Cumer.

Following the Fifth Circuit’s decision, the case was closed with a consent decree in May 2008, requiring that JDC establish a new, anti-harassment policy.

The settling of the case was convenient for Alameel, who was in the process of selling JDC to the Black Canyon Capital hedge fund, for tens of millions, in 2009.

Rogers: ‘Break the Hold of Wall Street’

Kesha Rogers said that this history of Alameel speaks for itself. What ought to be of concern for Texas Democrats, she added, is why is the party leadership fighting so hard against me, in defense of this guy? Rogers has said that Alameel is nothing but a placeholder, who would lose in November to Cornyn, but who will spend his own millions—to defeat her! Alameel has already spent over \$4 million of his own money, while refusing demands of many constituency groups that he debate Rogers.

While it has been clear that Alameel will not debate Rogers, for fear that he would be exposed as just another Wall Street-controlled Democrat with a Bush League profile, the reporting of his role in covering up sexual harassment shows that there is more that he is hiding.

“As usual,” Rogers said, “The good ol’ boy leadership of the Texas Democratic Party is rallying behind a Bush Democrat, who would lose to Cornyn, despite his willingness to spend the millions he made from a deal with Wall Street swindlers. I am running to represent the interests of those who have been hurt by Wall Street, those whom Franklin Roosevelt called the ‘forgotten man,’ who face unemploy-

ment and low-wage jobs, foreclosures, killer Obamacare, and a devastating drought; those whose future has been stolen by the Bush and Obama presidencies, which bail out Wall Street, while turning their backs on those who have been victims of rapacious, predatory greed.

“It’s time to break the hold of Wall Street on both parties,” Rogers concluded.

Party Apparatus Losing Control?

As Rogers campaigns aggressively around the state, the Texas Democratic Party is exhibiting signs of cracking. This has been particularly evident in the San Antonio area and the Rio Grande Valley, where Rogers has been campaigning over the last few days. The Valley is heavily Mexican-American, and one of the poorer sections of the state. It also suffers from the devastating water crisis, caused by the failure of the nation to implement the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA) plan, of the 1960s, which was backed by President Kennedy.

Rogers took the Rio Grande Valley by storm. She did at least five radio interviews, was interviewed by

both major newspapers, intervened at the Hidalgo County Commission with a sharp and well-received attack on Obamacare, held a Meet & Greet attended by ten activists, spoke at a local Tea Party event, and received the endorsement of the head of the Valley Vets, Edward Saldivar, which he posted on his Facebook page, calling on Democrats to vote for Rogers. The former mayor of Brownsville endorsed her, after she addressed a church service.

Henry Rodriguez, the chairman of the “Zapatista” Council of LULAC (League of United Latin American Councils) in San Antonio, has also gone public with an endorsement of Rogers, to be played, in Spanish, on KEDA radio in San Antonio for the next two weeks. Rodriguez is a well-known activist, who opposes the present leadership of the Democratic Party, and also has been campaigning against the corruption within LULAC, typified by Alameel’s attempts to determine the leadership of LULAC by paying to set up dummy councils.

Rogers’ supporters are saturating the area with her literature, speaking with many residents who are happy to find a campaign that cares enough about solving their problems to come out and speak with them. The candidate is finding that many people in the Valley who have become Republicans and Independents, are really former life-long Democrats, who feel abandoned by their party. They are responding to her campaign with enthusiasm. There is no love for Obama, except from the party hacks, whom most people revile for their blatant corruption.

The state party chairman Gilberto Hinojosa, who is from Brownsville and is under criminal investigation, has been trying to stir things up against Rogers. When spotted filming a Rogers campaign team, he scurried off when recognized. At a Brownsville Democratic Central Committee meeting several days later, attended by fewer than 20 people, an attack against Rogers’ campaign was presented, and the party website for Cameron County (Brownsville) ran an attack on her supporters, which it reported are “everywhere” with their Obama mustache sign.

Indicative of the positive response is today’s article in the *McAllen Monitor*, “In RGV [Rio Grande Valley], Democratic U.S. Senate Hopeful Says Obama ‘Has Earned His Hitler Mustache.’” The article opens, “When statewide Democratic primary candidates visit the Rio Grande Valley, they often talk about immigra-

tion, education, health care and other issues the state party largely agrees on. They don’t usually promote impeaching the sitting Democratic president.

“But Kesha Rogers, who advocates just that, brought her unusual campaign for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate to the RGV this week, speaking against Obamacare ... addressing a Tea Party group Wednesday, and meeting with voters at a couple of events Thursday, including addressing a group of 10 people at Don Pepe’s in McAllen. The group of 10 listened to her speech and voiced their approval when Rogers called ‘Western media’ clueless.”

The article noted that she is addressing national issues, as she has always campaigned for “a federal solution, a national solution, that there’s no local solution to the current crisis.... Rogers’ website features an image of President Barack Obama with a Hitler mustache and the candidate calls for his impeachment for crimes committed ‘in service of Wall Street fascism.’”

Also today, the *Brownsville Herald* ran an article titled “Anti-Obama Democrat Eyes Senate Seat.” It summarized her program: returning the Democratic Party to the values of Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy; restoring the Glass-Steagall Law; prioritizing space exploration; and ... impeaching Obama. “Every moment the president remains in office, we get closer to thermonuclear war, she said, explaining that she thinks her chances of winning are very strong.”

Back Up North

Rogers is heading to Houston and the Dallas-Fort Worth area this week, an area where Alameel is stronger. But other than having support of the party hacks, what does that mean?

On May 7, Alameel, at an event in an upscale Dallas neighborhood, complained to the 20 or so mostly white, wealthy Democrats, that Kesha is “running around all over the state with her poster, with Obama wearing a Hitler mustache.” While his presentation overall was greeted with yawns and tepid applause, he lost the crowd completely when he defended fracking and the current “oil and gas boom,” as the participants were largely Greenies.

Rogers has made the end of fracking a major point of her campaign to stop the genocidal Wall Street policy that is robbing Texas, and the West overall, of dwindling water supplies.