

# Kari Lake vows to fight on

 [cnav.news/2023/05/24/editorial/talk/kari-lake-vows-fight/](https://cnav.news/2023/05/24/editorial/talk/kari-lake-vows-fight/)

By Terry A. Hurlbut

May 24, 2023



Kari Lake lost – again – before a judge who probably never intended to judge her case fairly. So yesterday (May 23) she held a press conference in which she vowed to fight on. But that fight will not include a Senate run, and probably not include a Vice-Presidential run, either. Instead she announced “the largest ballot chasing operation in history,” while teasing further appeals, the nature of which she refused to specify. But not because she has no channels of appeals – but because one does not usually announce such things in advance. More to the point, she comported herself well, and had the support of the attendees – though not of the media.

## Where Kari Lake stands

On Monday afternoon, shortly before the close of business, Judge Peter A. Thompson of the Superior Court of Arizona for Maricopa County ruled against Kari Lake. (See CNAV’s [earlier article](#).) In his six-page ruling he seemed to say that whatever a county recorder says, goes. Courts, he said, may not interfere, and to rule otherwise would violate separation of powers. Moreover he said the legislature set no minimum standard of time to review a signature for verification. In fact he officially found that “a casual glance” suffices for signature verification, according to law.

Rachel Alexander, reporter for the *Arizona Sun-Times*, took pointed exception to the ruling.

Here's what the judge said in his ruling throwing out Kari Lake's remand election contest, and why it is one of the most tortured, cherry-picking interpretations of law I have ever read, a travesty of justice. The AZ Supreme Court will not let all of it stand....

— Rachel Alexander (@Rach\_IC) [May 23, 2023](#)

Calling the ruling “a travesty of justice,” she expressed confidence that the Arizona Supreme Court would “not let all of it stand.” In a column she wrote yesterday, she explained that Judge Thompson set too high a bar for proof sufficient to invalidate the election. Neither statute nor case law requires one contesting an election to prove *actual and decisive* misconduct. Yet that is what Judge Thompson required. Nor is this the first time; he did this also in the first trial, shortly after the election. Every relevant precedent seems to say, “actual fraud is not a necessary element,” or words to that effect. But Judge Thompson demanded a showing of actual fraud.

Clearly he never intended to be The Judge Who Threw Out An Election.

The judge is protecting the guilty who got them elected. I fully expected this to happen. The County judge would never want to make history by overturning or contesting an election regardless of the rules.

— JMB (@JMBChihuahua) May 23, 2023

## The press conference

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Rachel Alexander did not know – at the time – whether Kari Lake would appeal further. But that was before the press conference, which occurred fifty-five minutes after her column appeared.

She declined to announce any Senate run next year, and said nothing at all about being Donald Trump’s running mate. Kari Lake did, however, promise to appeal. Along that line she said her lawyers were looking at “several” avenues of appeal. She declined to say which avenue she would pursue first. But she confirmed that she would go to the United States Supreme Court, if necessary.

Obviously she would exhaust any State remedy that remains open. Perhaps legacy media are not willing even to speculate on what remedies remain open at State level.

But the *other* big announcement drew all the attention. Kari Lake announced what she called “the largest, most extensive ballot chasing operation in history.”

The influencer Maximus Knight teased out further details:

FYI [@KariLake](#) commences first Republican "chasing ballots" operation for 2024.

This is a major GOTV campaign, which will use "anything goes" tactics to swing Arizona back to the Republicans.

Has thousands of "ballot chasers" for mass registrations and other left-wing tactics....

— 🦋 Maximus Knight 🦋 (@Maximus\_4EVR) [May 23, 2023](#)

CNAV can confirm this. Yes, she will register everyone eligible who is not already registered. Further, she will use the Permanent Mail-in Ballot List and track down every voter on it. But she did not say that she would take ballots from voters and hand-deliver them. Instead she will remind the voters involved to fill out their ballots, sign them, and mail them – or arrange hand-delivery. [Encouraging voters to do these things on their own](#), distinguishes ballot *chasing* from ballot *harvesting*.

These users shared video clips and other details.

WATCH: [@KariLake](#) announces largest ballot chasing operation in our nation's history  
[pic.twitter.com/zgZypM6zH2](#)

— Kari Lake (@KariLake) [May 23, 2023](#)

BREAKING 🚨

Kari Lake just announced that she is launching the LARGEST and MOST EXTENSIVE ballot chasing operation in Arizona history, with thousands of volunteers and millions of dollars raised already.

"Courts have ruled that anything goes. We can play by those same rules."  
[pic.twitter.com/7L54EsDDRC](#)

— Alex Sheppard 🇺🇸 (@NotAlexSheppard) [May 23, 2023](#)

[.@KariLake](#): "My paycheck, your paycheck, your 401k's, your pension, whatever. What does it matter when we lose our country?"

And we are dangerously close." [pic.twitter.com/bbOFHIPICD](#)

— Kari Lake War Room (@KariLakeWarRoom) [May 23, 2023](#)

Arizonans want us to fight hard to secure our elections.

Deal. We'll fight 10 times harder

Wc care about our elections and we're going to do everything we can to [#SaveArizona!](#)  
<https://t.co/28gLaYELWU> [pic.twitter.com/PZ8kVRMhc8](https://pic.twitter.com/PZ8kVRMhc8)

— Kari Lake War Room (@KariLakeWarRoom) [May 23, 2023](#)

During the election, 87% of news coverage on Republicans was negative. There was one candidate with 100% negative coverage.

That candidate was [@KariLake](#).

Why doesn't the Fake News want the world to see fair coverage of Kari and our fight in Arizona?

Turn. Them. Off. [pic.twitter.com/G2YtdBDlhJ](https://pic.twitter.com/G2YtdBDlhJ)

— Kari Lake War Room (@KariLakeWarRoom) [May 23, 2023](#)

## Other revelations.

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One of the first questions any reporter asked, concerned the security of electronic voting machines. At this, another member of the Kari Lake team, identified as “Marisa,” told her story. This “Marisa” was the official Republican Party of Arizona observer for voting machine certification. And the points she made were sobering:

- The name of the electronic voting machine vendor is Dominion Voting Systems. Yes, *that* Dominion, whose CEO is very much afraid of going out of business, eventually.
- “Marisa” called it “a vendor-driven, glorified sales demo[nstration].”
- The machines *failed* the tests before lunch. Then when everyone came *back* from lunch, someone had *changed the testing protocol*. So that now the machines passed.

Kari Lake also revealed that she has no income, and is living off her savings. She said this in response to a canard that someone was paying her. Lake also acknowledged that she had the funds to continue the campaign, and thanked small contributors nationwide for making that possible. Though she also made another point: that certain “powerful people” have offered her, in effect, blank checks to get lost. And she consistently refuses.

## Kari Lake tells a reporter: “You’re on the wrong side of history.”

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She also directly confronted Reporter Brahm Resnik of KPNX-TV (Channel 12, NBC, Phoenix, Arizona). Her tone, and that of Resnik, showed clearly that these two have a history. Resnik began first by asking whether she would stick with her legal team, after losing twice; Lake, undeterred, said yes. She spoke of a corrupt judicial system, so Resnik asked whether her lawyers were part of that corruption. Lake said, no. Then she recounted Resnik's coverage of a rally at Arizona State University, of mothers "wanting to get our students out of masks." Resnik, Lake charged, was "rooting" for masks to remain in place. "You're on the wrong side of history," she said. "And I remember you distinctly that day, because you refused to say the Pledge of Allegiance and put your hand over your heart."

That provoked angry murmurs, as Kari Lake went on, "So that's what we're dealing with." Then she held up a hand for silence, and the crowd quieted. That's when the argument began:

| Resnik: I remember, and...

| Lake: And I'm keeping ... let me answer the question...

| Resnik: No, I remember that day. And you keep making [stuff] up,...

Except that he didn't say, "stuff." At that, the crowd shouted at him, perhaps calling on him to mind his language in front of children. "I am not making anything up," Kari Lake continued. But she did not castigate him for his foul language, nor return to his refusal to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Instead she returned to why masks were unhealthy, and Resnik was "cheerleading" for masks. And similarly, he was "cheerleading" for a sloppy election, she said.

| [@brahmresnik](#) swore in front of a group of children because he couldn't control his temper during a press conference.

| Not very professional.

| — Kari Lake War Room (@KariLakeWarRoom) May 23, 2023

## Analysis

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Throughout her press conference she maintained her poise – and kept her head while a reporter clearly lost his. This should give the lie to the canards she draws (and that Trump draws, too), of being *non compos mentis*. In evaluating any reaction she or Trump gets, remember that one's philosophy of government – and feelings of nationalism on one hand, and internationalism on the other – will color that person's opinions.

Rachel Alexander is correct; the ruling by Judge Thompson makes zero sense. An official court finding that signatures need take only a casual glance to verify, demeans the court that makes it. Once again we're back to Actress Mae West saying that, far from endeavoring to *show* contempt for a court, she is in fact endeavoring to *conceal* it. Every lawyer worth the mahogany paneling in his office suite is familiar with that dialogue.

## Rise of the Machines

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Her proposed "ballot chasing" operation might be the only way to win. But it could also be the final true test of what crooked County Recorders are capable of, or how far they're willing to go. (Leopold and Loeb missed their calling; election fraud, not murder, is the True Test of the Superior Intellect.) Electronic voting machines remain a problem – and Dominion Voting Systems has the worst reputation. That explains why the Arizona Legislature tried to outlaw all such machines, except those built in America from American parts, and with properly verified software. Katie Hobbs vetoed that law. Now the Arizona solons hope to enforce it anyway, at the Federal level, using the "Time, Place and Manner" Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

### BREAKING

AZ Senate Majority Leader Sonny Borelli issues letter to every county election office notifying them no electronic voting machine can be used in '24 election

Katie Hobbs vetoed law, but Constitution gives plenary authority to state legislature so they're overriding her [pic.twitter.com/FPwtEDaU5T](https://pic.twitter.com/FPwtEDaU5T)

— DC\_Draino (@DC\_Draino) May 22, 2023

But they *can't* enforce it at State level. So much depends on how the State will process those ballots.

Then again, the repeated calls and follow-up visits that ballot chasing entails, might provoke the final confrontation. Surely the reception by voters of such visits should be more accurate than any poll. If that's not enough to decide an election, that will prove her right and Hobbs, Thompson, Resnik, *et al.*, wrong.