

# [***Trump Makes Endorsement For RNC Chair***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B9Y-YBR1-DXXD-701F-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

[*Link to Image*](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/GettyImages-1526632903-scaled-e1707428946169.jpg)

Former President Donald Trump endorsed North Carolina Republican Party Chairman Michael Whatley to replace Republican National Committee (RNC) Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel on Monday.

The former president suggested McDaniel could be replaced in an [*interview*](https://dailycaller.com/2024/02/04/trump-hints-at-rnc-shake-up-when-asked-about-ronna-mcdaniel/) with Fox Business host Maria Bartiromo that aired Feb. 4, days after Federal Election Commission filings [*showed*](https://dailycaller.com/2024/02/01/rnc-cash-low-decade-fec-filings/) the RNC had only $8 million cash on hand, its lowest figure since 2014. Trump also [*announced*](https://djt.nucleusemail.com/amplify/v/aVKGzsXH4G) support for his daughter-in-law, Lara Trump, as co-chair in the statement. [***(RELATED: 'You Went Into Another Conversation': Laura Ingraham Confronts Ronna McDaniel For Dodging Question On 'Track Record')***](https://dailycaller.com/2023/11/10/you-went-into-another-conversation-laura-ingraham-confronts-ronna-mcdaniel-for-dodging-question-on-track-record/)

“I think my friend Michael Whatley should be the RNC's next leader,” Trump said in the statement. “Michael has been with me from the beginning, has done a great job in his home state of North Carolina, and is committed to election integrity, which we must have to keep fraud out of our election so it can't be stolen.”

[*Link to Image*](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/GettyImages-1783137543-scaled-e1701089438154.jpg)

MIAMI, FLORIDA - NOVEMBER 08: RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel speaks to members of the media in the spin room following the NBC News Republican Presidential Primary Debate at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County on November 8, 2023 in Miami, Florida. (Photo by Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images)

“My very talented daughter-in-law, Lara Trump, has agreed to run as the RNC Co-Chair,” Trump continued. “Lara is an extremely talented communicator and is dedicated to all that MAGA stands for. She has told me she wants to accept this challenge and would be GREAT!”

McDaniel reportedly told Trump she would [*step down*](https://dailycaller.com/2024/02/06/ronna-mcdaniel-resign-rnc-chair/) after the Feb. 24 Republican presidential primary in South Carolina, according to the New York Times. McDaniel [*pushed back*](https://dailycaller.com/2024/02/07/ronna-mcdaniel-rnc-resign-departure-republican-national-committee-chair/) against the report in a Wednesday memo obtained by the Daily Caller.

The chairwoman came under fire after Republicans [*underperformed*](https://dailycaller.com/2022/11/09/gop-hopes-dashed-on-the-rocks/) expectations during the 2022 midterm elections and had a disappointing 2023 election night, losing control of the [*Virginia General Assembly*](https://dailycaller.com/2023/11/08/virginia-democrats-regain-full-majority-in-general-assembly/) and [*failing*](https://dailycaller.com/2023/11/07/kentuckys-democratic-gov-andy-beshear-secures-reelection-daniel-cameron/) to unseat Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear of Kentucky.

McDaniel [*fended off*](https://dailycaller.com/2023/01/27/ronna-mcdaniel-beats-back-challenge-win-fourth-term-rnc/) a challenge for the chairmanship of the RNC by lawyer [*Harmeet Dhillon*](https://dailycaller.com/2022/12/05/dhillon-rnc-mcdaniel-carlson/) in January 2023.

“I have also asked Chris LaCivita, in whom I have full confidence, to assume the role of, in effect, Chief Operating Officer of the Committee,” Trump said in the statement. “Chris will manage the RNC's day-to-day operations so it will become a fighting machine for 2024 and use all the tools available to win for the American people.”

“This group of three is highly talented, battle-tested, and smart. They have my complete and total endorsement to lead the Republican National Committee,” Trump continued. “Every penny will be used properly.”

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**Graphic**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - JULY 08: Former U.S. President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump prepares to deliver remarks at a Nevada Republican volunteer recruiting event at Fervent: A Calvary Chapel on July 8, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Trump is the current frontrunner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination amid a growing field of candidates. (Photo by Mario Tama/Getty Images)

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