

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**KADEN NELMS OF PEKIN WITHDRAWS  
FROM TAZEWELL COUNTY CLERK CAMPAIGN**

**FORMER LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATE OFFICIALLY ENDORSES  
REPUBLICAN NOMINEE JOHN C. ACKERMAN**

**PEKIN, IL:** Kaden Nelms of Pekin, Illinois, announced today his withdraw as a Libertarian Candidate for Tazewell County Clerk in the November 2018 General Election. Mr. Nelms had announced his candidacy on Social Media on September 5, 2017. The candidate stated “a recent reevaluation of the candidates campaigning for Tazewell County Clerk” as a reason for his withdraw.

Kaden Nelms, a 2017 Pekin High School graduate and current Business Law student at Bradley University, had previously campaigned for one of four seats on the Pekin School District 303 on April 4, 2017, falling just 11.8% short of winning a seat in a five person campaign.

Kaden Nelms is officially endorsing Republican Nominee John C. Ackerman of Washington, Illinois, for the upcoming election for Tazewell County Clerk. Asked about his reason for endorsing Ackerman, Kaden Nelms said “I am endorsing John C. Ackerman for Tazewell County Clerk because Tazewell County needs a dedicated leader who will expand the office and return the voice of the voter to the County Government.” Kaden Nelms continued “the County needs a leader who can focus solely on the job and that is exactly what I believe Mr. Ackerman can accomplish.”

John C. Ackerman said of Kaden Nelms endorsement “I appreciate the endorsement of Mr. Kaden Nelms. I had been introduced to him in my 2014 campaign for Tazewell County Clerk and encouraged him in his bid for the Pekin School Board 303. I sincerely hope I will have the opportunity to support him in a campaign for Public Office in the future as I have found him to be active caring community servant.”

Ackerman continued "I have always and will always support young individuals interested in becoming public servants as I believe we need fresh perspectives in local government, just as countless individuals had supported me in my youthful years as a public servant."

John C. Ackerman had previously announced the endorsement by the Illinois Policy Institute of his Strategic Plan for improving transparency in the Tazewell County Clerk's office.

John C. Ackerman, the 2014 Republican Candidate for Tazewell County Clerk, is facing a challenge from Tazewell County Auditor Shelly Hranka of Groveland and Tazewell County Board Member Brett Grimm of Morton for the Republican Nomination in the upcoming March 20, 2018, Republican Primary Election. The winner of Republican Primary will then challenge Democrat Brittany Miller of Washington in the November 2018 General Election to replace retiring current County Clerk Christy Webb. Ackerman narrowly lost by less than 5% to the long term Democrat incumbent in the 2014 General Election.

John C. Ackerman had previously served nine years on the Tazewell County Board and three and half years on the Washington City Council. The Washington, Illinois, married father of three is the owner of Ackerman Consulting, a media relations company.