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Ron Vogel, Republican candidate for the 6th Congressional District.

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PUBLISHED: April 22, 2022 at 5:02 p.m. | UPDATED: April 23, 2022 at 1:50 p.m.

Video and text messages attributed to a candidate for the Republican nomination for the 6th Congressional District have drawn fire from GOP sources for their elements of anti-Semitism, sexism and racially tinged language.

The posts were apparently shared on social media in the past by Ron Vogel, one of the four candidates running in May's primary election, according to information viewed by MediaNews Group.

The posts have been a center of talk in Chester County GOP political circles for the past several days, with those who have seen them calling them disgusting, offensive and reprehensible in interviews with MediaNews Group.

Vogel, 36, a Realtor making his first bid for elected office running as a conservative alternative to incumbent Democratic U.S. Rep. Chrissy Houlahan, apparently shared the messages and videos on his personal Facebook page years before he decided to enter the race in the congressional district that covers Chester County and southern Berks County.

In a statement issued Thursday, Vogel denied he was responsible for the posts, and instead blamed "cancel culture" and "fake news" for paying attention to them. He suggested one of his opponents in the race, whom he did not identify, was using them to attack his stance on transgender men in female athletics — although those matters do not enter into the social media posts.

“Let me be clear: these images are doctored, fake, or wildly out of context, and they will not stop my campaign or stop me from speaking out in defense of our daughters, sisters, and mothers,” his statement read.

Through a representative of his campaign, Vogel declined to answer questions about the posts beyond the statement.....MediaNews Group has not been able to independently verify the source of the posts, but in viewing them they appear to have Vogel’s signature profile picture on them.

In interviews, sources in the Chester County Republican Party say the posts have been the subject of speculation for some time, but they only recently were found and shared. They were roundly criticized by GOP officials and Vogels’ opponents in the primary. “It has been brought to my attention that several offensive social media posts have been attributed to one of our candidates,” Dr. Gordon Eck, Chester County Republican Party chairman, said after he was alerted to their existence by a reporter. “If true, this is reprehensible, and we condemn it in the strongest terms possible.

“The Republican Party recognizes the inherent dignity and value of all human beings, having been created in the image of God. Our policies are based on this principle, and we denounce any and all departures from this inviolable standard.”

After being told of the posts, Eck reportedly confronted Vogel about them at a campaign event on Wednesday, asking if he believed his candidacy “could survive this,” according to a source who asked to remain anonymous because he had not been authorized to speak about the matter.

In response, Vogel is said to have vowed to “fight through this.”

Eck did not respond to questions about what he might have said to Vogel.