

RFK Jr. Destroys His Candidacy With VP Pick?



Nicole Shanahan

by Roger L. Simon

I interviewed Robert F. Kennedy Jr. for [Epoch TV's "Roller Coaster" series](#) and also attended one of his birthday parties. In both instances, I liked the man, found him to be intelligent and personable, and also unafraid to take stands against the über-conformist Democratic Party, notably on health care and, to some degree, on the dangers of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Although I have been an unabashed Donald Trump supporter since he came down the escalator and continue to be so, I would not have been disappointed, even pleased, had former President Trump chosen Mr. Kennedy as his vice-presidential candidate.

Unlikely as it may have been, it could have helped bring our fractured country together.

No longer.

If reports are true—and, in that regard, the website name www.kennedyshanahan.com was [reportedly](#) registered by one of his campaign operatives on March 13—Mr. Kennedy has chosen attorney Nicole Shanahan as his running mate.

I find this bizarre, to say the least, not to mention disappointing.

Whatever his intentions, such a ticket would drive this country even further apart because Ms. Shanahan is a self-described “progressive.” But that’s only the tip of a disturbing iceberg I will get to in a minute.

Let’s start with this. Mr. Kennedy, of all people, should know that the basic requirement for a vice presidential candidate, now more than ever, is that a person be qualified to assume the presidency at a moment’s notice.

We have had disasters in that regard, dodging several bullets, including vice presidents Spiro Agnew, Mike Pence, and (for now, holding one’s breath) Kamala Harris.

Mr. Trump has made clear that qualification for the presidency is now his first consideration, as it should be.

What do we know of Ms. Shanahan?

Not much, except that she is a philanthropist to largely progressive causes and that she is very rich.

She reportedly [helped pay](#) for Mr. Kennedy’s Super Bowl ad to the tune of \$4 million via a Super PAC. The ad got mixed reviews and ended up with the candidate [apologizing to his family](#).

How rich Ms. Shanahan really is is unclear, but it is clear the bulk of her money comes from her divorce from Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google and, depending on the source, the ninth

richest man on the planet.

RFK Jr.'s campaign had been luffing and needed a boost. He looked to the financial. It's hard to blame him, because that's the putrid state of American politics. But if you're trying to run an honest broker campaign against corrupt traditional parties, it's not the best approach. It's actually a turn-off.

This is rather sad because of the optimism and excitement he initially engendered.

It was said that much of RFK Jr.'s appeal was with the more libertarian right, not the increasingly leftist Democrats. I thought that was accurate. I would imagine that unfortunately those days are over if the nomination of the "progressive" Ms. Shanahan is real. Who will RFK Jr. appeal to now?

Of course the candidate is not confirming this nomination until March 26. We shall see.

First published in the [*Epoch Times*](#).