## Rouzer rewarded political violence

Letter to the editor, <u>Brunswick Beacon</u>, 08.01.24

Donald Trump's would-be assassin was a registered Republican wearing a T-shirt from Demolition Ranch, a YouTube channel that posts videos of people firing handguns and assault rifles at targets including human mannequins. The barrage of bullets from his AR-15 style weapon grazed Trump's ear, killed an innocent bystander, and seriously wounded two others.

The shooter belonged to a local gun club. He tried out for his school's rifle team but was rejected because he was a "comically bad shot." A classmate called him an "outcast" who wore hunting outfits to school and was "bullied almost every day." Another called him "definitely conservative."

Congressman David Rouzer's July 14 newsletter said, "Violence of any type, for any reason, is unacceptable and reprehensible and must be condemned." Rouzer's words ring hollow because, when he had the chance to do something about Jan. 6's deadly political violence, he chose instead to reward it and cover it up.

Rouzer promoted Trump's Big Lie that helped incite the insurrection by joining Texas' lawsuit to overturn elections in four states. The Supreme Court, with six conservative justices, threw the lawsuit out.

Rouzer encouraged the insurrection by pledging to vote against certifying the election, even after Attorney General Barr's investigation found no fraud "that could have effected a different outcome in the election," and after Trump's own election officials called it "the most secure in American history."

After insurrectionists were forced from the Capitol, Rouzer rewarded them by voting to overturn elections in Arizona and Pennsylvania. He still tries to justify his vote, saying "constitutionally, I was correct", even though every court has rejected his claim.

Rouzer covered up for the insurrectionists by voting against a Bipartisan Commission to investigate the insurrection, then voting against enforcing its subpoenas of witnesses including Steve Bannon and Peter Navarro, who were imprisoned for obstructing justice. Rouzer's record proves that when it counted, he rewarded political violence.

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