

STATEMENT FROM SHELLY HEADEN, CANDIDATE FOR NC HOUSE DISTRICT 62

(9/3/2026)

I want to address recent reporting regarding an incident from my past that I did not share.

In 2024, during a high-stress time in my marriage, my husband and I had a couple of arguments that escalated. During one argument, my husband grabbed me, and I fell backward and hit my head. In my fear and confusion, I sought support and protection from those I trusted—I called 911.

And now, what should have been a private issue for my family has been used against me.

I want to be clear about why I chose not to share this initially. What happened is deeply personal and painful, and the abuse I experienced is still hard to discuss. I did not want to make that part of our story public or relive an experience that has been difficult for me and those close to me.

Like many women who have experienced similar situations, I felt ashamed and isolated. But that stops today. I'm taking back my power, and I will not allow others to manipulate the truth for their political gain.

It's interesting that Republicans would rather create lies about my private experience than talk about the real issues facing Guilford County residents. As a CPA, I believe in transparency and accountability—it's a cornerstone of how I live my life. It's rich now that Republicans are spending all of this money on an attack ad, one based on lies

and distortion, when Guilford County teachers are forced to pay out of their own pockets for materials for their classrooms.

It's clear that crafting this false narrative was never about what happened to me, but about hiding from the shameful results of their failed policies.

That's why I'm running for the NC General Assembly—to fight for affordability, accountability, and everyone's right to feel safe and secure.

I also believe that people should be able to move forward from difficult and deeply personal experiences without being defined by them. I will answer questions about this matter honestly and respectfully, while protecting the privacy of those involved.

I understand that trust must be earned. I hope that voters will consider the full context of this experience, including why I chose to keep it private, as they make their own judgment about my candidacy. And I believe that this campaign is, at its core, about the issues. That's where I'll be focused in the remaining weeks.

~Shelly

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