What is a Precinct Delegate and what do they do?

How can you help turn the Republican Party back to a party of conservative principles?

The first step is by running for and becoming a Precinct Delegate. It is only a small step, but it is absolutely crucial, to save the republic and the party, that we have good solid conservatives running for Precinct Delegates of the Republican Party.

What is a Precinct Delegate?

Precinct Delegates are perhaps one of the most important roles in politics. They are the first rung on the ladder of elected base members, for the two major political party organizations. They are closer to their community than any other elected official. If you want to help change the party, it is essential to change the mix of who are the Precinct Delegates. If we want a conservative Republican Party, we need to change the mix of Precinct Delegates away from the establishment delegates to principled delegates.

Precinct Delegates are elected in the August primary every two years. The numbers of delegates are allotted based on previous election history and by the Chair of the county party in each county in the state.

How do you become a Precinct Delegate?

Running for Precinct Delegate is a very simple process. Below are three simple steps. You only need to fill out a form and get it notarized. No signature gathering required!

- Find out what precinct you are in by visiting the Secretary of State website. [https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/](https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/)
- File your Affidavit of Identity with your county, city, or township clerk no later than 4:00PM, on the twelfth Tuesday prior to the August Primary; this makes the filing deadline May 6, 2014 at 4:00 PM EST. Be sure to have your Affidavit notarized. Without proper notarization your Affidavit will not be valid.
- If you have opposition, contact your neighbors and friends from your district and ask them to vote for you. If you need help, be sure to contact me at toddcourser@toddcourser.com.

What does a Precinct Delegate do?

Precinct Delegates have some very important responsibilities in state and local party politics.

Precinct Delegates attend county and state conventions once during non-President election years and twice during Presidential election years. At county conventions, county party officers are elected, along with selecting delegates to the state conventions. Delegates to the state
conventions have a great deal of power at the state conventions. Those delegates to the state conventions, select district officers, state party officers, nominees for Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Supreme Court, U of M Reagents, Wayne State Board of Governors, MSU Trustees, State Board of Education, District Officers, and also vote on resolutions for current issues.

**Why are they important?**

Precinct Delegates are extremely important to the conservative movement because they decide who will run the state party and who many of our nominees for statewide elections will be.

**How do I find out what precinct I am in?**

Go to [https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/](https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/) and input your information to find out what precinct you are in.

**Where do I find a notary public?**

You can find a notary public at you local post office, bank, or public library.

**Do I have to campaign to become one?**

If you are unopposed, you really only need one vote to be elected as a Precinct Delegate. If there are more people then open spots running, we recommend you do some simple work by contacting friends and neighbors and asking them to vote for you. If you really want to do it right, you can send a mailing fairly cheaply to the voters in your district. Contact [toddcourser@toddcourser.com](mailto:toddcourser@toddcourser.com) for help on campaigning for the Precinct Delegate position.

**What is a convention?**

A convention is a gathering of Precinct Delegates. There are two types of conventions. County conventions are once during non-Presidential election years and twice during Presidential election years. County Conventions choose county party officers and delegates to the state conventions. State Conventions happen after a County Convention and are attended by those delegates who are chosen during the County Convention. State conventions are especially important because they nominate many of our elected officials, all the way from party chair to Secretary of State and Lieutenant Governor.

**How do I know when a convention is?**
After being elected as Precinct Delegate, the county Republican Party leadership will send you a notification before each county convention. For a state convention the state party will notify you, if you have been chosen as a delegate or alternate.

**How do I go to a state convention?**

After being elected in the primary in August your county will hold a county convention. At the county convention, they will vote for delegates to go to the state convention. The process is different for each county but generally the county leadership will have a slate they would like to push through. In counties controlled by the party elite, these selected people will generally be establishment leaning delegates. There are two ways you can handle this. If you know that you have enough conservative precinct delegates to win, you can simply put up another slate and vote through your people. If you don’t have enough to do this, simply raise your hand and ask to be added to the list. Give a short speech about why you would like to go. DON’T say “I want to go and kick out all the RINO’S!” This may be true, but it is also a sure way to not go to the state convention. Instead, give a passionate speech about getting involved in politics etc… As a general rule, the whole convention or city caucus within a convention will vote yes or no for you to go.

**What happens at the state convention?**

Friday night, there are district caucuses. During these caucuses the district GOP leadership is elected and during presidential years, the presidential elector is selected. Also Friday night, all of the candidates that will be voted on Saturday will speak.

Saturday, there is voting for various positions, depending on which convention. Below is a list of all of the positions elected at all conventions.

- MIGOP Chair/ Co-Chair
- Lt. Governor Nominee
- Attorney General Nominee
- Grassroots Vice Chair
- Outreach Vice Chair
- Ethnic Vice Chair
- Administrative Vice Chair
- Coalitions Vice Chair
- Youth Vice Chair
- Secretary of State Nominee
- Supreme Court Nominees
- U of M Board of Regents Nominees
- MSU Trustee Nominees
- Wayne State Board Nominees
- Board of Education Nominees
- National Committeeman/ Woman