



The bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Ohio (the “Party”), Ohio’s official affiliate of the national Libertarian Party, govern its operating guidelines and promote the cause of liberty. The Constitution of the Libertarian Party of Ohio authorizes the Central Committee and/or the State Convention to adopt, change, and repeal these Bylaws. These Bylaws are subordinate to the Constitution of the Libertarian Party of Ohio, the Constitution of the United States and its laws, and the Constitution of the State of Ohio and its laws, including the Ohio Revised Code. These Bylaws apply to the State Party and all County Development Groups.

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## Bylaw 100 - Membership

**Section 1 (with Ballot Access).** Membership in the Party shall consist of registered Ohio voters who participate in the Libertarian Primary or otherwise cause their voter affiliation in the state voter database to be "Libertarian".

**Section 2 (If no ballot access).** In the event the Secretary of State denies ballot access to the Libertarian Party of Ohio: membership in the Party shall consist of registered Ohio voters not affiliated with another political party who demonstrate an interest in the State or National Party, and have affirmed the pledge, "I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals", or who have participated in a Libertarian Primary within the past two calendar years or otherwise caused their voter affiliation in the State voter database to be "Libertarian".

## Bylaw 120 - Internal Election of Candidates for Central Committee and Executive Committee

**Section 1 (Candidate Options).** For all internal elections, the winning candidate shall be selected from among the several candidates and "None of the Above."

**Section 2 (Voting Procedures).** Elections will be held using instant runoff voting methods. The Central Committee may, with a 2/3rd majority, opt for a plurality voting method for any election.

**Section 3 (Restrictions).** Each member eligible to vote is permitted only one vote per open seat per election. No voting may be done by proxy, unit rule, or slate selection.

## Bylaw 200 - Central Committee

**Section 1. (Elections).** In even numbered years, two representatives shall be elected from each U.S. Congressional district in the State to serve on the Central Committee for a term of two years or until a new Central Committee is elected.

- A. All Committee members must be members of the Party as defined in Bylaw 100.
- B. All Committee members shall be a resident and qualified elector of the district from which they are elected.
- C. The top two vote-earners in each race shall be elected. The top vote earner shall be assigned to "Seat A," the other to "Seat B."
- D. Unless otherwise required by ORC 3517.03 due to the Party attaining major party status, any qualified elector who would otherwise qualify under the other parts of this section may be elected to the Central Committee, regardless of their sex or gender.

**Section 2. (If Ballot Access is denied).** In the event the Secretary of State denies ballot access as a recognized party, Central Committee elections shall take place for each U.S. Congressional District, at a time and place agreed upon by the outgoing representatives of the District and certified to the Central Committee within the district, or if jointly held with another district, within five miles of the border of that district.



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- A. Elections shall be held in even-numbered years in the same month as the official State Primary Election.
  - a. The date period in which elections may be held may be changed via a resolution passed by the Central Committee, provided such resolution is passed no later than 120 days prior to the official Primary Election of the State of Ohio.
- B. The date of the Election shall be chosen no later than 75 days prior to the official Primary Election of the State of Ohio. Announcement of each District election date, time, and location shall be communicated to the members of the Party in the respective Districts by reasonable and common methods no later than 60 days prior to the election.
  - a. In the event that provision A of this bylaw is changed by Central Committee Resolution, the date, time, and location of the Election for each district shall be set no later than 75 days prior to the first date on which such elections may be held.
- C. Nominations or declarations of intent to run for office shall be received by the Central Committee Secretary no later than 45 days prior to election; the candidates' names and addresses shall be communicated to the members of the Party by reasonable and common methods no later than 30 days prior to the election.
- D. Only members who live in the District shall be eligible to vote for Central Committee members for that District.
- E. Elections for Central Committee shall be conducted by secret ballot. The use of mail-in or absentee ballots shall not be denied, provided any such ballots are postmarked no later than five days prior to the election.
- F. Election results shall be communicated and forwarded to the Central Committee Secretary no later than five business days after the last day on which elections may be held. Included with the results shall be a list of members who voted at each election. The Central Committee Secretary shall certify and communicate the results to the members of the Party by reasonable and common methods no later than the 10th day following the last day on which elections may be held.
- G. If a district has no representation, the LPO State Central Committee Chair is permitted to manage or delegate the management of a district election for the LPO State Central Committee.
- H. If the outgoing representatives fail to meet the requirements of Section 2.B., the LPO State Central Committee Chair is permitted to manage or delegate the management of a district election for the LPO State Central Committee.

**Section 3.** Each newly elected Central Committee shall, within fifteen days of certification of the elections, meet and organize itself by the election of a Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary in accordance with section 3517.04 of the Ohio Revised Code.



- A. The Treasurer of the Central Committee may not have served as Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, or Assistant Treasurer of the Executive Committee for at least 4 years prior to being elected.

**Section 4 (Executive Committee Elections).** The Central Committee shall elect an Executive Committee as provided for in Article V of the Constitution of the Party. Such elections shall take place during the 2018 Organizational Meeting of the Central Committee, and thereafter during odd-numbered years, and shall be held at the Central Committee's first meeting, but no later than March 15th.

- A. Nominations for the first ballot of officers of the Executive Committee, along with all supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Chair of the Central Committee no later than 7 days prior to the Central Committee Organizational Meeting or any subsequent Executive Committee elections.
  - 1. This rule may be overturned for any election with a two-thirds majority of the Central Committee.
- B. The Central Committee shall confer upon the Executive Committee all its duties and responsibilities except those powers it retains in accordance of the Party Constitution. The Executive Committee shall have responsibility for and shall be authorized to act for the Central Committee in all things pertaining to the operation, organization, business, and well-being of the Party.
- C. The term of any At-Large member of the Executive Committee who fails to retain their Central Committee seat shall end and the At-Large seat be vacant at the call-to-order of the Organizational Meeting of the newly-elected Central Committee. The Central Committee shall fill the vacated seat via election during their Organizational Meeting.

**Section 5 (Central Committee Vacancies).** In the event of a vacancy on the Central Committee caused by death, resignation, failure to elect, abdication, or removal from the district from which a committee member was chosen, the vacancy may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Central Committee without regard to gender. (3517.05 of the Ohio Revised Code)

**Section 6 (Central Committee Abdication).** Central Committee members are expected to attend all meetings as a representative for their district, and can be removed from his or her position due to excessive meeting absences or district residency changes.

- A. Any Central Committee member who does not participate in two (2) out of three (3) consecutive meetings, without an excused absence, shall be considered to have abdicated their seat. His or her seat shall be considered vacant and will not count towards quorum. His or her seat may be filled in the regular manner after the conclusion of the second meeting the member has missed. The Chair of the Central Committee shall be responsible for communicating the abdication ruling to the member in question. A Central Committee member who notifies the Chair of the Central Committee of their inability to participate in the meeting prior to the meeting and will be considered excused and their absence shall not counted as an unexcused absence. A member may only use two (2) unexcused absences per term.



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- B. Members of the Central Committee are responsible for updating their contact information, including, but not limited to, their residence, mailing address, phone and email address, with the Chair and Secretary of the Central Committee.
- C. Any member of the Central Committee who is removed through part A of this section shall be ineligible to sit on the Central Committee through the remainder of their term. Removal by abdication shall be valid grounds for the Party to have an individual removed from the ballot for Central Committee by filing an appropriate protest as provided in the Ohio Revised Code 3501.39.
- D. In compliance with ORC 3517.02, a Central Committee member who changes residence outside of their Congressional District must notify the Central Committee Chair and Central Committee Secretary, and surrender their seat within thirty (30) days. Any such member would be immediately eligible for consideration to fill any open seat in their new district of residence.

**Section 7 (Quorum).** Quorum shall consist of a majority of the filled positions of the Central Committee.

**Section 8 (Central Committee Meetings).** The Central Committee shall meet at least twice each year.

- A. "Special Meetings" as defined in Robert's Rules may be called by the Committee Chair or upon petition of one-third of seated Central Committee members. Petition by Central Committee members must be made within a 14-day period and communicated to both the Committee Chair and Secretary by writing or email.
- B. All members of the Central Committee must be given no less than a two week notice of each meeting, its agenda of business, and location.
- C. The two week notice requirement may be waived in an emergency as defined by the Chair, and the reasons for the emergency shall be included in the meeting minutes. The emergency status is subject to a between-meeting vote using procedures defined by Section E of this Bylaw, or as the first order of business at the emergency meeting.
  - 1. No bylaw change may be considered as an emergency unless that change is needed to comply with a court order, or render moot a filed legal challenge.
- D. Save in an emergency, meetings of the Central Committee must be held within the State of Ohio.
  - 1. Failure or inability to attend a meeting held outside the State of Ohio, regardless of available alternate methods of attendance, will not be counted against a member with regards to abdication (Bylaw 200, Section 6).
- E. The Central Committee may conduct business between meetings provided that established notice and secret ballot requirements are still met.
  - 1. The details of the voting process are defined in the Standard Operating Procedures.
    - a. Details of the voting process must be made available to members of the Party, the public, or the media upon request.
    - b. Changes to the process will be announced to members of the Committee through reasonable and common methods within 2 days. Such changes will be subject to challenge and amendment for a period of 10 days following the announcement of such changes. Any change not challenged will be considered accepted and in effect thereafter.



- c. Challenges shall be completed using the pre-existing voting process.
    - d. The Chair may establish a different process for different types of voting held between meetings including, but not limited to, mail voting, email voting, teleconference voting, and web conference voting.
  2. All business conducted between meetings will be included in the minutes of the next scheduled, emergency, or "Special Meeting."
    - a. For votes cast between meetings that do not require a secret ballot, the minutes will reflect a roll call vote listing to allow for full review of actions taken.
    - b. Votes requiring a secret ballot appear in the minutes with a logically ordered list of those voting, a separate list of those not voting ordered using the same logical arrangement, and the total of all votes cast.
  3. Quorum for votes cast between meetings will be 60% of the Central Committee seats filled on the final day of voting. Votes that fail to meet quorum will automatically be added to the next meeting agenda, regardless of any other notification requirements.
- F. The Secretary of the Central Committee will make the meeting minutes available to all members within fourteen days of all meetings.

**Section 9.(Electronic Attendance).** A member of any Committee may, at the discretion of the committee, fully participate in the proceedings of a meeting via telephone conference call, video conference, or other means of remote participation. A member so participating shall be counted as part of quorum and shall have all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities as if present, with the exception of elections for officers and replacement of statewide candidates after a primary election as required by section 3513.31 of the Ohio Revised Code.

## Bylaw 300 – Executive Committee

**Section 1 (Paid Staff).** The Executive Committee may hire paid staff (W2 employees and contractors), subject to a roll-call vote that will be included in the Executive Committee's meeting minutes.

- A. The Executive Committee shall set job descriptions and oversee any staff.
- B. Officers shall retain their vote on the Executive Committee and be counted towards quorum, regardless of compensation.
- C. Paid LPO employees shall not run for public political office or hold public political office while employed by the LPO.
- D. If a paid staff member or candidate for staff membership is a member of the Party Executive Committee, he or she must recuse him or herself from any vote relating to his or her employment.

**Section 2 (Quorum).** Quorum shall consist of 60% of the Executive Committee.



**Section 3 (Access to Standard Operating Procedures).** Each member of the Executive Committee must commit to reading and understanding the Standard Operating Procedures as set in these bylaws. An electronic copy of the Standard Operating Procedure shall be made available to each member of and candidate for the Executive Committee.

**Section 4 (Party Headquarters).** A party headquarters shall be maintained within 50 miles of the State capitol building.

## Bylaw 310 - Executive Committee Officers

**Section 1 (Chair).** The Chair of the Executive Committee will have the following duties, responsibilities, and restrictions:

- A. Maintain and direct the operation of the party headquarters.
- B. At the discretion of the Chair, business may be conducted between meetings using a methodology to be defined in the Standard Operating Procedures.
- C. Create committees and appoint individuals as may be necessary.
  1. The Executive Committee Chair shall appoint, nominate for hiring, or direct that a volunteer/employee/contractor search be conducted for individuals to be Directors of Divisions, whose titles, descriptions, and duties will be included within the Standard Operating Procedures.
    - a. The Executive Committee Chair may create a new Division with consent of the Executive Committee, after presenting a vision and demonstrating that the new structure is necessary.
    - b. The Executive Committee Chair may, with consent of the Executive Committee, eliminate a Division if it proves to be unnecessary.
- D. Establishing the date, time, location, and agenda of all Executive Committee meetings. The agenda must be distributed to the members of the Executive Committee and Divisional leadership at least seven days prior to the meeting date.
- E. Issue directives clarifying the operations or policies affecting general party operations or procedures, including guidelines for divisions and committees under the supervision of the Executive Committee.
  1. Such directives may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the Executive or Central Committee.
  2. If a directive is acted upon (amended or repealed) by both the Executive and Central Committees, the actions of the Central Committee shall override any taken by the Executive Committee.
  3. Any directive amended by the Executive or Central Committees may not be altered by the issuing officer alone for the duration of their current term of office.
  4. Unless stated otherwise within a directive, or amended or repealed by further directive(s) or Committee action, the effects of directives shall be perpetual and will be included in the Standard Operating Procedures.



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- F. Perform all other duties prescribed by statute or usually exercised by the Chair and not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.
- G. The Chair of the LPO State Executive Committee will not be an officer of the LPO State Central Committee.
  - 1. An acting Chair may hold an officer position until such time as the Central Committee elects a new Chair.
- H. The Chair shall provide an annual report with the assistance of the Division Directors and other members of the Executive Committee, preferably to be done at the LPO State Convention or annual meeting. The Central Committee may determine what form must be followed in making this report.

**Section 2 (Vice Chair).** The Vice Chair of the Executive Committee shall have the following duties, responsibilities, and restrictions:

- A. Perform the duties of the Chair in the event of Chair's absence, death, removal from office, resignation, removal from the State of Ohio, or inability to act, until a new Chair is elected.
- B. Learn the duties of and assist the Chair as designated by the Chair.

**Section 3 (Secretary).** The Secretary of the Executive Committee shall have the following duties, responsibilities, and restrictions:

- A. Be in charge of maintaining all official documents of the Executive Committee.
- B. Prepare all necessary notes, minutes, and other documents.
- C. Make available to all members the minutes of all meetings within ten days of the meeting.
- D. Keep and be the custodian of the permanent books and records of the Party, except financial records.
- E. Keep and maintain official copies of the Party's Standard Operating Procedures, Directives, and any other Standing Rules of the Party, as adopted by a majority of the Executive Committee.
- F. File with the Ohio Secretary of State a copy of the Party Constitution and Bylaws within thirty days of adoption or amendment as required by section 3517.02 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- G. File the Party logos with the Ohio Secretary of State to protect the party brand.
- H. File with the Ohio Secretary of State a list of members of the Central Committee and Executive Committee within thirty days of their election or appointment as required by section 3517.02 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- I. Perform all other duties prescribed by statute or usually exercised by the Secretary and not inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standard Operating Procedures of the Party.
- J. Ensure that the latest version of the Party Constitution and Bylaws are publicly available via reasonable and common methods.
- K. The Secretary may appoint a deputy Secretary and assistant Secretaries who shall assist with such duties as assigned by the Secretary.
  - 1. In the event of the Secretary's absence, the deputy Secretary shall perform the duties of the Secretary, except he or she shall not have a vote on the Executive Committee.
- L. Issue directives clarifying the operations or policies affecting operations or procedures directly pertaining to the duties of the Secretary.





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1. Such directives may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the Executive or Central Committee.
2. If a directive is acted upon (amended or repealed) by both the Executive and Central Committees, the actions of the Central Committee shall override any taken by the Executive Committee.
3. Any directive amended by the Executive or Central Committees may not be altered by the issuing officer alone for the duration of their current term of office

**Section 4 (Treasurer).** The Treasurer of the Executive Committee shall have the following duties, responsibilities, and restrictions:

- A. Receive all funds belonging to the Party and keep proper books of account on all monies.
- B. Expend such funds belonging to the Party as have been approved in accordance with Party Constitution, Bylaws, and Standard Operating Procedures.
- C. Establish such funds as may be necessary to ensure proper accounting and treatment of all monies, based upon the laws of the United States of America and the State of Ohio.
- D. Maintain proper financial reporting status and frequency as determined by applicable regulatory agencies at the federal and state level.
- E. File the proper forms to all applicable regulatory agencies at the federal and state level within two weeks of succeeding a previous Treasurer to be identified as the new Treasurer.
- F. Expend funds only through check, electronic transfer, or other common methods which allow for a detailed audit trail. Cash is not an acceptable method of expenditure.
- G. Provide all financial records as requested by the Audit Committee within 21 days of any such request.
- H. Perform all other duties prescribed by statute or usually exercised by the Treasurer and not inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standard Operating Procedures of the Party.
- I. The Treasurer may appoint a Deputy Treasurer and assistant Treasurers to assist with such duties as assigned by the Treasurer.
  1. In the event of the Treasurer's absence, the deputy Treasurer shall perform the duties of the Treasurer, except he or she shall not have a vote on the Executive Committee.
- J. File the proper forms to all applicable regulatory agencies at the federal and state level within two weeks of appointing a Deputy Treasurer to allow the Deputy Treasurer to be identified as an authorized person of account.
- K. The Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer shall not be permitted to serve on the Audit Committee during their terms of office or appointment.
- L. Issue directives clarifying the operations or policies affecting operations or procedures directly pertaining to the duties of the Treasurer.
  1. Such directives may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the Executive or Central Committee.
  2. If a directive is acted upon (amended or repealed) by both the Executive and Central Committees, the actions of the Central Committee shall override any taken by the Executive Committee.
  3. Any directive amended by the Executive or Central Committees may not be altered by the issuing officer alone for the duration of their current term of office.



## Bylaw 315 - Censure/Punitive Action of Internal Management

**Section 1 (Applicability).** Members of Internal Management, which includes members and officers of the Executive Committee and Central Committee, or appointees of either committee, may be formally accused by the Central Committee of misconduct or neglect of duty.

- A. In order for a member of Internal Management to be indicted, three members of the Central Committee must state their reasons and recommend in writing, or in electronic form, to begin a proceeding. These recommendations must be received within a reasonable time frame from one another; no complaint older than thirty days shall count towards this number.
- B. A member of Internal Management shall be notified in writing or electronically with at least two weeks' notice that the action by the Central Committee is being contemplated and shall be provided the reasons for the proceeding. Said member shall be given a reasonable opportunity to make an appearance and produce evidence and witnesses in his or her own favor prior to any vote being taken.
- C. A "Special Meeting" (as defined by Robert's Rules) of the Central Committee may be called to initiate a proceeding provided that all members of the Central Committee are made aware of the meeting no less than two weeks in advance by normal written or electronic means.
- D. Conviction shall require a two-thirds vote of the filled Central Committee positions and may include punitive actions including but not limited to censure, removal from office.
- E. The period of any punitive action taken shall be determined by the Central Committee.
- F. The majority of delegates at a State Convention may reduce the time period of punitive action.
- G. Nothing in this Bylaw shall prevent a member of the Central Committee from being removed pursuant to Bylaw 200 Section 6, or any other Bylaw.

## Bylaw 320 - Budgets and Expenses

**Section 1 (Budget).** The Party shall have an annual budget, fixed to the calendar year, which shall be approved by the Executive Committee and available to any Party member upon request.

**Section 2 (Expenses).** All expenses must be approved by the Executive Committee.

- A. Expenses outlined in an annual budget and approved by the Executive Committee shall be considered approved expenses, provided that actual costs are at or lower than the budgeted amount.
- B. All expenses not outlined in the budget or expenses in excess of the budgeted amount shall require a majority vote of the Executive Committee for approval.

**Section 3 (Debt).** The Executive Committee may incur debt with term of no more than 4 years pursuant to Article V, Section 5A of the Party Constitution.

- A. Exception can be made for debt incurred for the purchase of real property or capital expenditures.
- B. Any debt incurred must have a pre-defined rate of interest and terms of payment.



- C. The total non-mortgage debt for the Party may not exceed \$5,000 at any one time, including interest and past salary obligations.

**Section 4 (Fund Disbursement).** Funds from the Treasury of the Libertarian Party of Ohio shall not be used to take action in the name of any person or entity, without their prior knowledge and expressed consent.

### Bylaw 330 – Party Logo and Brand

**Section 1 (Approval).** The Executive Committee of the Party shall approve and enforce the use of any Party logo and brand. The official logo and its variations will be kept by the Executive Committee Secretary as pursuant to Bylaw 310, Section 3D of these Bylaws and the Party Standard Operating Procedures.

### Bylaw 340 – Standard Operating Procedures

**Section 1 (Manual).** The Executive Committee must create and maintain the Standard Operating Procedure Manual for the Party. The Standard Operating Procedure Manual may be organized and maintained in any format deemed reasonable by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee must transmit to the Executive Committee Secretary a complete and current copy, to be maintained in the State Office. The Standard Operating Procedure Manual shall define the operating parameters and responsibilities of the various units of the Party's operations.

- A. The Standard Operating Procedure Manual shall include a section for each standing committee as appointed by the Central Committee Chair, and a section for any other operations of the Central Committee as deemed appropriate by the Central Committee Chair.
  - 1. The Central Committee Chair is authorized to update these sections of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual as needed.
  - 2. The Central Committee may update these sections of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual with a majority vote. Such votes may be done in executive session.
- B. The Standard Operating Procedure Manual shall include a section for each standing committee outside of any division as appointed by the Executive Committee Chair.
  - 1. The Executive Committee Chair is authorized to update the section of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual pertaining to each such standing committee.
  - 2. The Executive Committee Chair is authorized to add or remove the section of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual pertaining to a standing committee upon the creation or elimination of such a committee.
- C. The Standard Operating Procedure Manual shall include a section for each Division appointed by the Executive Committee.
  - 1. The Executive Committee Chair is responsible for setting the scope of each division, the responsibilities of the Director(s) of each division, and is



- responsible for updating the Standard Operating Procedure Manual and notifying the Director of each division of any changes thereto in a timely and reasonable manner.
2. The Director of each Division is authorized to update the section of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual pertaining to their Division as needed, except the scope of their division and the responsibilities of the Director. Directors may delegate their responsibilities, but remain ultimately accountable for these responsibilities
- D. The Standard Operating Procedure Manual must include a section listing the directives of the various Central and Executive Committee officers, as issued in the legal pursuance of their duties.
1. Officers who have the power to add, remove, or amend directives specifically related to their office shall keep these directives current within the Standard Operating Procedures Manual.
- E. The Executive Committee retains the privilege to add, remove, and amend the Standard Operating Procedure Manual.
1. The Executive Committee may amend any section of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual that is not controlled by the Central Committee Officers or the Central Committee with a majority vote. Such votes may be done in executive session.
- F. The Executive Committee Secretary (or outgoing Secretary in the event of a newly-elected Secretary) shall provide the most current copy of the Standard Operating Procedure Manual to each member of the Central and Executive Committees at the start of each member's term, and upon the request of any member of the Executive or Central Committees in the manner specified in the Standard Operating Procedure Manual.

### Bylaw 500 - National Conventions

**Section 1 (Delegation Priority).** The Party will be represented by delegates and alternates at the National Libertarian Convention by members of the State Party or by certified candidates for partisan office under the Libertarian label (LP). Delegates and alternates must have signed the LP pledge.

Preference will be given in the following order:

- A. The Delegation Chair
- B. Members of the State Central Committee
- C. Members of the State Executive Committee
- D. LP Incumbents, in order as found in sections G-L
- E. Appointed Directors, Deputy Directors, and Deputy positions of the State Executive Committee
- F. Chairs of the affiliated County Central Committees



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- G. Chairs of the affiliated County Executive Committees
- H. County Development Coordinators
- I. LP candidates for statewide office, including Ohio Supreme Court
- J. LP candidates for Federal office
- K. LP candidates for Ohio House, Senate, and Appeals Court
- L. LP candidates for state level non-partisan office
- M. LP candidates for any local partisan and judicial office
- N. LP candidates for any local non-partisan office
- O. Members of the management or committees of the Party or affiliated counties
- P. Other LP members in Ohio, as approved by the State Executive Committee

**Section 2 (Cutoff).** Delegate priority for the State of Ohio will be finalized 40 days prior to the start of the National Convention. Any requests received after the cutoff will receive the lowest priority, and will be subject to the approval of the Delegation Chair.

**Section 3 (Delegation Chair.)** A Delegation Chair shall be appointed by a vote of the Executive Committee no later than 60 days prior to the start of the Convention.

- A. The Delegation Chair shall act as a representative of the State Party during the National Convention.
- B. The Delegation Chair shall have the authority and responsibility to manage the affairs of the Delegation for the National Convention. The Chair may delegate this authority.

**Section 4 (Vacancies).** After the start of the convention, the Party may consider LP pledge-signing citizens of voting age from other states to join their delegation if Ohio delegate positions remain or become open. The Delegation Chair will approve each addition.

- A. An out-of-state member of the Ohio delegation may be removed from the delegation with a petition signed by  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the present, Ohio-residing delegates.

## Bylaw 510 - State Conventions

**Section 1 (Timing).** The Party should hold a Regular Convention in even-numbered years, the date and site to be selected by the Central Committee.

- A. A Regular Convention shall be held after the primary election and before July 1<sup>st</sup>, unless the ORC requires a different timeframe for the purpose of nominating a slate of candidates.
- B. A Regular Convention may consider such business as the delegates or Central Committee may deem appropriate.
- C. The Central Committee shall appoint the Convention Chair from the Party membership.
  - 1. The Convention Chair shall appoint the various Convention committees as necessary from the national or state Party membership, provided they are not affiliated with any other political party; these may include, but are not limited to



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Credentials, Platform, and National Convention Committees. These Committees shall have such functions and duties as prescribed by the Standing Rules of the Party and by the Convention Chair.

- D. A Special Convention may be called as defined in Article VII of the Party Constitution and should be held at least 75 days prior to the General Election. Section C of this Bylaw shall apply to Special Conventions.

**Section 2 (Delegation Priority).** Delegates to the regular State Convention will be as follows, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 3513.11 (until major party status is attained).

- A. Candidates for election to state offices, except judicial offices
- B. Candidate for election to the United States Senate
- C. Candidates for election to the United States House of Representatives
- D. Candidates to the Ohio General Assembly
- E. Incumbent Libertarians for any of the above offices in years when there is no election for a successor to be held.
- F. Members of the State Central Committee
- G. Members of the State Executive Committee
- H. Chairs of affiliated County Central Committees
- I. Chairs of affiliated County Executive Committees
- J. Up to 500 additional delegates, apportioned to each county by the State Central Committee in proportion to the most recent vote for the Party's governor candidate.
  1. In the event that the Party is not recognized as a Major party, priority will be given by the State Central Committee to County Development Groups.

**Section 3 (County Notification).** The Central Committee shall inform the Executive Committee and the several County Central Committees of the number of delegates apportioned to each county, pursuant to section 3513.11 of the Ohio Revised Code and Article VII, Section 3 of the Party Constitution, no later than 3 months prior to a regular Convention.

- A. County committees must certify their apportioned delegates to the State Central Committee Secretary no later than 20 days prior to the Convention.

**Section 4 (Public Notice).** Public notice of no less than thirty days shall be given for all conventions by reasonable and common methods.

**Section 5 (Fees).** The Central Committee Chair and the Convention Chair may establish, with guidance from the Executive Committee, such registration and attendance fees as may be required. These fees shall be established no later than 90 days prior to a Regular Convention and no later than 30 days prior to a Special Convention.

## Bylaw 600 - Endorsements

**Section 1 (Opposition Endorsements).** No committee, officer, or appointee of the Party shall endorse any candidate running in opposition to a candidate endorsed or nominated by the Party or the National Libertarian Party.



**Section 2 (Presidential Endorsements).** The Party, at the state or county development level, shall not endorse a nominee for the Libertarian Party Presidential race prior to the State Convention held in Presidential years.

- A. The delegates to a State Convention may endorse a nominee for the Libertarian Party Presidential primary race before the National Convention.
- B. In the event the Secretary of State denies the Party ballot access, the Executive Committee may collect petition signatures for a “favorite son” independent ticket of one Presidential and one Vice Presidential candidate who have pledged in writing to withdraw from the race at an appropriate time for the National Libertarian Party nominees to be substituted in accordance with ORC 3513.31(F).

**Section 3 (Party Endorsements).** The Party shall not endorse or oppose any candidate for State or County Affiliate Central Committee.

## Bylaw 610 - Campaign Funding

**Section 1 (Funding).** The Party may provide funding to a candidate it has endorsed or to the Libertarian Party Presidential nominee.

**Section 2 (Restrictions).** The Party shall not provide funding to any candidate for State or County Affiliate Central Committee

## Bylaw 620 – Presidential Primary Election

While there is currently no Presidential Primary Election in Ohio for minor parties per the Ohio Revised Code, the Libertarian Party of Ohio defers the nomination for President of the United States to the National Libertarian Party convention. At such time that the Libertarian Party of Ohio is defined as a “major” party or assumes responsibility for Presidential Primary Elections, the Central Committee of the party is responsible for organizing rules governing primary elections and allocation of delegates in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code.

## Bylaw 700 - County Development

**Section 1. (Charter)** In each non-affiliated County, the Executive Committee may charter a County Development Group (CDG).

- A. The Chair of the Executive Committee of the Party shall accept nominations to serve as the County Development Coordinator (CDC) and primary contact for a County Development Group in each non-affiliated county. Each CDC should be a registered member of the Party as defined in Bylaw 100 and shall be approved by the State Party Executive Committee.
  1. County Development Coordinators must become members of the Party at their earliest opportunity. Failure to do so will automatically void their appointment.
  2. In the event the Secretary of State denies ballot access as a recognized party, the County Development Coordinator must not vote in another party’s partisan



primary. County Development Coordinators may vote in primary elections using an “issues only” ballot, where available.

3. Nominees for County Development Coordinator (CDC) must provide their contact information, voter registration status, and Party registration status to the State Party Executive Committee.
  - B. The County Coordinator must work with direction from the Executive Committee and Division leadership and must provide an update to that body as reasonably requested.
  - C. The members of each County Development Group must work to connect with other Libertarians within their county through outreach events, membership development, and election activities. Each County Development Group should work towards developing into an affiliated county.
  - D. To meet campaign finance requirements, all fundraising must be channelled through the State Party Executive Committee or its designee.

**Section 2 (Renewal).** The CDG is responsible for submitting an annual report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee must hold a vote to renew the CDG for another year after each evaluation.

- A. The evaluation of the report must be based on a series of objective criteria provided in a format as defined by the State Party Executive Committee or its designee.

**Section 3 (Revocation).** Repeated failure of a CDC to provide requested information to the Party or to hold regular events may result in the loss of recognition of a CDG.

- A. Any CDG so disbanded may be reinstated through the regular process in Section 1 of this Bylaw.

**Section 4 (Transition to Affiliate).** All County Development Group and County Coordinator appointments in a county are automatically ended when a County Affiliate is recognized for the county by the County Board of Elections.

### Bylaw 710 - County Affiliates

**Section 1. (Requisites)** Each County Affiliate of the Party shall meet the following criteria:

- A. Membership-elected Central Committee.
- B. Executive Committee elected by the Central Committee.
- C. Regularly file campaign finance reports to the appropriate government agencies.
- D. Report leadership information, Bylaws, and any necessary information to their local Board of Elections.
- E. Provide the Party with a copy of updated Bylaws within 30 days of adoption or amendment.
- F. Provide the Party with a copy of the Central or Executive Committee membership rosters within 30 days of any change.
- G. File an annual report with the Executive Committee or its designee on the Affiliate’s activities.





## Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Ohio

- H. Communicate to the Executive Committee or its designee a list of all Libertarian and Affiliate-endorsed candidates on the ballot in the Affiliate's county within 7 days of the filing date, and maintain the currency of that list through the General Election.
- I. Communicate to the Executive Committee or its designee the withdrawal of any filed candidate in the Affiliate's county for any reason.
- J. Communicate to the Executive Committee or its designee the endorsements of candidates within 7 days.

**Section 2 (County Affiliate Loss of State Party Recognition).** The Party, with a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee, may choose not to recognize a County Affiliate. The reasons for any such vote, and the result of that-vote shall be communicated to the Central Committee within 2 business days.

### Amendments

Adopted on April 05, 2008 at the annual state convention.

Amended 9/18/11

Amended 5/12/12 – See CentCom Meeting minutes dated 5/12/12

Amended 7/14/12 – See CentCom Meeting minutes dated 7/14/12

Amended 3/8/14 – See 2014 Convention Meeting Minutes

Amended 4/5/14 – See CentCom Meeting minutes dated 4/5/14

Amended 10/10/14 (Bylaw 340) See CentCom minutes same date

Amended 01/17/15 (Bylaw 320, Section 4 added) See CentCom minutes same date

Amended 09/19/15 (Bylaw 200, Section 9) See CentCom minutes same date

Amended 03/25/17 (Bylaws 100,120,200 (Section 4),300,310,315,320,330,620. See Central Committee Minutes same date.

Amended 07/22/17 (Bylaws 200 (except Sections 3 & 4), 340, 500, 510, 600, 610, 700, and 710. See Central Committee Minutes same date.

Amended 11/11/17 Bylaw 200, Section 2A, 2B, and 2F. See Central Committee Minutes same date.