

Libertarian Party of Florida, Inc

Bylaws

as amended at the Annual Meeting 2018-02-25

ARTICLE I County Affiliates¹

Section 1. The LPF shall not initiate any political action in a county affiliate's political domain. except get out the vote, voter registration drives, fundraising, or establishing new county affiliates.vetting and supporting multi-county or state wide candidates for office. The LPF may provide additional support to candidates seeking to serve a district fully contained in a county with the affiliate's permission, or if there is no affiliate in that county.²³

Section 2. A county affiliate may request political information and action from the LPF.

Section 3. The autonomy of an affiliated party shall not be abridged by the LPF Executive Committee, or other officer, committee or agent of the LPF - except as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 4. The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer positions of LPF county affiliates shall at all times be LPF members and LPF registered voters. No affiliate officer positions may be combined except those of Secretary and Treasurer, and all four officer positions must be filled prior to affiliation and in a timely manner when vacancies occur. Affiliates must report officer positions compliant with these provisions to the Secretary of LPF upon affiliation application, and upon subsequent requests from the Secretary of LPF for record-keeping and affiliation renewal purposes. No affiliate's rules shall restrict or abridge the rights of persons who are both LPF members and LPF voters to participate meaningfully in party business.

Section 5. The LPF Rules Committee shall be the final arbiter of any

¹ Title changed from Objects and Purposes to County Affiliates at Annual Meeting 2016

² affiliates, vetting and supporting multi-county or statewide candidates for office. The LPF may provide additional support to candidates seeking to serve a district fully contained in a county with the affiliate's permission. added at convention May 25, 2013

³ “,or if there is no affiliate in that county.” added Annual Meeting 2014

disputes or conflicts of Section 4.⁴

ARTICLE II Membership

Section 1. The privileges and duties of membership and delegate authority shall be prescribed in the Standing Rules.

Section 2. Membership classifications, privileges, duties and donation structures shall be provided in the Standing Rules.

Section 3. County affiliated parties shall be required to ratify the Constitution and Bylaws of the LPF along with a standard petition form adopted by the Executive Committee, subject to all specifications in the Standing Rules.

Section 4. Suspension of county affiliated parties shall be reserved to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend affiliate status from any organization by two-thirds vote. Such notification of suspension is subject to a written appeal within thirty (30) days of the notification of suspension. Failure to appeal shall be interpreted as an act of secession by the affiliate. The suspension shall not be made within a period of six (6) months subsequent to an Annual Business Meeting.

Section 5. The affiliate may appeal to the next Annual Business Meeting for reinstatement.

Section 6 Any member of the Libertarian Party of Florida, or member of the Executive Committee, may be suspended by two-third vote of the executive committee for violation of the Non-Aggression oath. Upon suspension of a member of the party or a member of the Executive Committee, the officer or member may appeal the suspension in writing within 30 days. If no appeal is made by the suspended officer or member, they shall be removed from office, and have their membership revoked, upon expiration of the 30 day appeal period. If an appeal is made, the executive committee shall review the appeal and vote upon removal at the next regularly scheduled executive committee meeting. A three-fourths vote will be required to remove the appealing suspended officer or member. Should the vote fail, the suspension will be lifted and membership and/or Executive Committee status shall be fully restored. Should the three-fourths vote pass, membership shall be revoked for a period of one year, at which time the member shall be eligible to reapply for membership as defined in Article 2 of the Constitution, or by majority vote of the delegation at the next annual meeting. After a member

⁴ Amended at Annual Business Meeting February 24, 2018 by adding new sections 4 and 5 to Article I.

has been reinstated, should that individual's membership be revoked as outlined above a second time, the revocation shall become permanent, and that individual will no longer be eligible for membership in the LPF.⁵

ARTICLE III Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees^{6 7}

Section 1. Standing Committees

A. Standing Committees of the LPF shall include the following:

Candidate Committee
Communications Committee
Membership Committee
Platform Committee
Rules Committee
Selection Committee ⁸
Fundraising Committee ⁹
Legislative Action Committee ¹⁰

B. Committees and Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Chair of the LPF with the approval of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution or Bylaws. Each Committee shall consist of at least three members of the party (disregarding ex-officio members) of which a majority must not be current Executive Committee members. Appointment terms shall last until the next Executive Committee election or until the committee member is removed or replaced, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution or Bylaws. Removal of persons on a committee shall need the approval of the Executive Committee. Actions of all Committees shall be reported monthly to the Executive Committee.¹¹ Special committees created by the Executive Committee shall also follow these

⁵ Suspension of officers or membership shall be conducted under the rules of suspension for affiliates as outlined in Sections Four (4) and Five (5) of this Article. Deleted and replaced at the annual meeting May 25, 2013

⁶ Title revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 5-25-97

⁷ Amended at Annual Business Meeting by moving Sections 3 through 9 from Article Ili of the Constitution in to the Bylaws and moving language from the Bylaws to the Constitution Article III..

⁸ A. Standing Committees of the LPF shall include the following:

1. Rules Committee
2. Nominating Committee
3. Platform Committee
4. Membership Committee
5. Communications Committee (added Annual Meeting 2011). Deleted and Revised at convention May 25, 2013

⁹ Fundraising Committee added at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

¹⁰ Legislative Action Committee added at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

¹¹ B. Committees and Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Chair of the LPF with the approval of the Executive Committee unless otherwise provided in the Constitution. Actions of all Committees shall be reported to the Executive Committee. Deleted and Replaced at convention May 25, 2013

requirements unless otherwise provided upon their creation.¹²

Section 2. Rules Committee

A. The Rules Committee will be composed of the LPF Chair, LPF Secretary, and three (3) other members of the party not on the Executive Committee, elected by the delegates at the Annual Business Meeting to serve a one-year term. The member elected with the highest vote total shall become Chair of the Rules Committee. Vacancies on this committee occurring after the Annual Business Meeting shall be appointed by the Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Rules Committee shall be responsible for interpreting the LPF Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules based on current Florida Statutes and may prepare and submit amendments to the Constitution, and Bylaws, and Standing Rules for a vote by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting.

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B. The Rules Committee may propose to the Executive Committee at a regular business meeting, to edit the Constitution and By-laws for grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors. Any edits done at a regular business meeting shall not change the current intention of the rule being edited.¹⁵

Appointments to fill Executive Committee vacancies shall take effect upon the close of the Executive Committee meeting wherein the appointment is confirmed.¹⁶

Section 3. Platform Committee¹⁷

The Platform Committee shall present a combined document of proposed changes and additions to the Party Platform at the Annual Business Meeting. It shall perform its duties to present a document as outlined in Article V.¹⁸ ¹⁹ ²⁰

¹² Language added to section at Annual Business meeting February 25, 2018

¹³ Struck upon order of the Executive Committee at convention April 9, 2016

¹⁴ Amended at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

¹⁵ The Rules Committee will be composed of the Chair, Secretary and three (3) other members of the party not on the Executive Committee, one of whom shall be appointed annually by the Chair to serve a three-year term. The appointed members with the longest tenure on the Committee shall chair the Committee. The Rules Committee shall be responsible for interpreting the Constitution based on current Florida Statutes (added at annual business meeting, 29 March 2008, Orlando) and upon order of the Executive Committee shall prepare and submit amendments to the Constitution and By-laws for a vote by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting. deleted and rewritten to include section B at convention May 25, 2013.

¹⁶ Amended at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

¹⁷ Section 3 Selection Committee stricken at Annual Business meeting February 25, 2018 and renumbered

¹⁸ The Platform Committee shall be nominated by the Chair of the LPF with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee and contain such members as can work together to present the document at the Annual Business Meeting. It shall perform its duties to present a document as outlined in Article V. deleted and rewritten May 25, 2013

Section 4. Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall ²¹include the LPF Secretary, who maintains the membership records, with assistance and guidance from this committee. The principal duties of the Membership Committee shall be responsible for increasing the membership in the LPF and for increasing the LPF voter registration. The Membership Committee is also responsible for recruiting members both for the Affiliate and for the LPF.²²

Section 5. Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is tasked with developing and implementing a plan or plans to facilitate two-way communications between the LPF and county affiliates, and the LPF and other interested parties.²³ Plan(s) should be particularly focused on effective implementation of social media technology, in addition to using conventional channels of communication. The Communications Committee shall also function as the distribution channel for LPF press releases, and perform other communications tasks as the Executive Committee may delegate from time to time.²⁴

Section 6. The Candidate Committee

The principal duties of the Candidate Committee shall include but not be limited to identifying potential Libertarian Party candidates, directing and preparing potential candidates for review by the Selection Committee, to train vetted and approved Libertarian Party candidates for their respective races, and to identify and train campaign staff members to serve on the campaign staff for vetted and

¹⁹ Section 7. Electoral Victory Committee. The Electoral Victory Committee is appointed to serve as the Nominating Committee for Candidates for Political Office. The Electoral Victory Committee is directed to implement Political Candidate Endorsement procedures as may be outlined in the Standing Rules. deleted at convention May 25, 2013

²⁰ Language stricken at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

²¹ Language stricken at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

²² Struck The Membership Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of at least five (5) members of the LPF with the majority NOT being members of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall include the Membership LPF Secretary for the party, and shall oversee the activities of the Membership Secretary, giving assistance where needed. The principal duties of the Membership Committee shall be responsibility for increasing the membership in the LPF and for increasing the LPF voter registration. The Membership Committee is also responsible for recruiting members both for the Affiliate and for the LPF. The Membership Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining party membership records and/or sending out dues notices on a timely basis to those members whose dues are about to lapse and replaced with The Membership Committee shall be appointed by the Chair and confirmed by the Executive Committee. It shall consist of at least five (5) members of the LPF with the majority NOT being members of the Executive Committee. The Committee must include the LPF Secretary, who maintains the membership records, with assistance and guidance from this committee. The principal duties of the Membership Committee shall be responsibility for increasing the membership in the LPF and for increasing the LPF voter registration. The Membership Committee is also responsible for recruiting members both for the Affiliate and for the LPF, at convention April 9, 2016

²³ Language stricken at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

²⁴ Added at convention 2011

approved Libertarian Party Candidates.^{25 26}

Section 7. Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee shall be tasked with raising funds for the Libertarian Party of Florida. The committees duties shall include planning and conducting fundraising campaigns and growing the breadth and depth of the party's donor base."

Section 8. Legislative Action Committee

The Legislative Action Committee shall be tasked with evaluating legislation and proposing action from the perspective of the Libertarian Party of Florida Platform and goals. The committee shall review proposed Florida House and Senate bills and proposed Florida Constitutional amendments and recommend to the Executive Committee whether to support or oppose each reviewed measure. The committee shall also review existing the Florida Statutes and Constitution to recommend amendments or repeal of existing laws. Upon request from county affiliates or LPF political candidates, the committee may also review proposed and current local ordinances and charters and provide advisory opinions.²⁷

ARTICLE IV Meetings & Conventions, Objects of Action

Section 1. Annual Convention Dates

A. The Executive Committee shall set the date(s) of the Convention and Annual Business Meeting of the Libertarian Party of Florida.²⁸

B. The officers of the Party at the time of the commencement of the Annual Business Meeting shall be the officers of the Annual Business Meeting, and shall preside. Officers elected during the Annual Business Meeting shall take office immediately following the close of the Annual Business Meeting in which they were elected. To comply with Florida Statute 103.095(3), the Libertarian Party of Florida Executive Committee shall elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary at the Annual Business Meeting immediately following the

²⁵ Language stricken at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

²⁶ Added at convention May 25, 2013

²⁷ Section added at Annual Business Meeting February 25, 2018

²⁸ Section inserted and other sections renumbered at the Annual Business Meeting, 10-8-00, Section amended 2-6-05 and 3-29-08

election of the officers by the assembled delegation. The will of the delegation shall be of the highest regard when the Executive Committee conducts the election of the officers, and the election shall be taken as a single vote on the slate of prevailing candidates elected by the delegation.²⁹

Section 2. Agenda

A. The Executive Committee shall set the agenda and business of the LPF Annual Business Meetings and conventions.

B. The order of business must include the adoption of agenda. The meeting may amend the agenda by majority vote.

Section 3. Delegates

A. Any person who is both an LPF registered voter and an LPF member at least sixty (60) days before the start of the Annual Business Meeting and who maintains that membership and registration through the Annual Business Meeting shall be eligible to be a delegate to that meeting. Delegate status may be denied or revoked by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee if a potential delegate has been found to have violated the non-aggression pledge.³⁰

B. Each delegate must sign the Libertarian Party of Florida Affirmation of Qualifications for Delegate form or other equivalent form approved by the LPF EC.³¹

C. Credentials: The Secretary of the LPF, or his/her authorized representatives, shall be responsible for verifying the membership and voter registration requirements of each delegate.^{32 33}

²⁹ Added at the Annual Meeting 2013

³⁰ Article IV, Sect. 3 A Removed "Delegates shall be members as prescribed in ARTICLE II of the Constitution on the day of commencement of the annual business meeting and a delegate must be a verifiably registered Libertarian Party of Florida voter in the state of Florida prior to the start of the annual business meeting." and inserted "Any person who is both an LPF registered voter and an LPF member at least sixty (60) days before the start of the Annual Business Meeting and who maintains that membership and registration through the Annual Business Meeting shall be eligible to be a delegate to that meeting." and inserted "or revoked", removed "principle", and inserted "pledge" at the Annual Business Meeting May 7, 2017.

³¹ Article IV, Sect. 3 B Inserted "or other equivalent form approved by the LPF EC" at the Annual Business Meeting May 7, 2017.

³² Sections B and C passed at the Annual Business Meeting, 6-5-94; revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 5-24-97

³³ Removed "Each affiliate chair shall be responsible for submitting a list of delegates from his/her county to the Secretary of the LPF at least 45 days prior to the start of the general business meeting of the convention. Each Regional Representative of the LPF shall be responsible for submitting a list of delegates from each unaffiliated county in his/her region, to the Secretary of the LPF at least 45 days prior to the start of the general business meeting of the convention. Individual members may submit their own names to the Secretary of the LPF." at Annual Business Meeting April 10, 2016

Section 4. Parliamentary Authority Robert's Rules of Order as most recently revised shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters not covered by the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Section 5. Annual Conventions

A. The Chairperson shall appoint members to the Convention Committee with the approval of the Executive Committee.³⁴ The Executive Committee shall also notify the state party members at least ninety (90) days before the Annual Business Meeting. The Executive Committee shall assume all responsibility for the Annual Business Meeting, including but not limited to: the annual business of the Libertarian Party of Florida, hosting events, the rental of accommodations to hold the annual business meeting and all other events surrounding said meeting.³⁵

B. The committees shall report recommendations to the floor of the convention at the Annual Business Meeting in accordance with the Standing Rules.

C. The Selection Committee shall compile the nomination applications for delegates to the National Convention and state officers and Executive Committee. It shall present these candidates to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting without recommendation. Nominations from the floor may be made to amend this report.

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D. The Platform Committee shall make recommendations for the platform and Statement of Principles.

E. The Rules Committee shall be the deliberative body in matters of dispute and its decisions may be appealed to the Executive Committee or the members at the Annual Business Meeting in assembly according to the Standing Rules.

F. The Chairperson or the Executive Committee may appoint such committees as are deemed necessary to conduct the business of the LPF and its meetings.³⁷

³⁴ Amended February 24, 2018.

³⁵ Amended at Annual Business Meeting February 24, 2018 by removing some language.

³⁶ Name changed from Nominating Committee at Annual Meeting 2014

³⁷ Removed "The host affiliate shall serve as the Convention Committee and make all arrangements for the physical needs of the convention. Party meetings may also be hosted by Affiliates." at Annual Meeting April 10, 2016

Section 6. Finance and Accounting

A. The fiscal year of the LPF shall begin on January 1 of each year.

B. The Treasurer shall be the chief finance officer.

C. The Executive Committee shall cause an efficient system of accounting and budgeting to be installed and maintained, including audit and legal necessities.³⁸

D. The party checking account must be established to require two signatures per check on all checks in excess of \$2500. The Treasurer shall be responsible for signing checks in the normal course of business. There must be, at least, three (3) authorized signatures on the checking account. The signers shall be the Treasurer, Chair and other delegate elected director of the LPF-EF. When a check is issued to a signer, other authorized signer(s) must sign and/or co-sign this check.

E. The Executive Committee shall have the power to delegate the handling of funds.

F. It is essential for any growing organization to have good accounting practices. The following items shall be established as requirements for expenditure of Party funds.³⁹

1. Each Executive Committee member or Committee Chair, requesting, reimbursement for expenses, shall submit an expense report each month to the Chair for approval prior to being reimbursed by the Treasurer. Such a report shall list dates, items purchased, reasons, and shall be accompanied by receipts. These reports shall include only minor operating expenses unless the Executive Committee gave prior authorization.

2. No purchase shall be made or authorized by the LPF unless there are sufficient funds to recompense.\

3. No one shall have the authority to contract for goods or

³⁸ Deleted at Annual Meeting 2014 All expenditures exceeding \$25.00 shall be made by check.

³⁹ Amended at the Annual Business Meeting (3-3-01)

services on behalf of the LPF without prior written approval of the Executive Committee.

4. It shall be the intent of the LPF to conduct its business affairs in a fair and honorable fashion.

G. The Libertarian Party of Florida recognizes FS 99.092 regarding qualifying fees and the provision that no qualifying fee shall be returned to the candidate unless the candidate withdraws his or her candidacy before the last date to qualify; with the exception that the Libertarian Party of Florida will reimburse to each candidate for political office the party assessment fee paid to the LPF by the state from that candidate's qualifying fees.⁴⁰

ARTICLE V Adoption & Amendments

Section 1. Adoption of the Bylaws will be consistent with the adoption of the Constitution.

Section 2. Amendments may be made in the following manner:

A. When a proposed amendment is accepted by the Rules Committee and approved by majority of the voting members of greater than 50% of the county affiliates; or⁴¹

B. When a proposed amendment is presented by the Rules Committee or from the floor at the Annual Business Meeting and is approved by a majority vote of the delegates.

⁴⁰ Added at the annual meeting 2013

⁴¹ A. When a proposed amendment is accepted by the Rules Committee and ratified by more than 50% of the affiliated Parties, or.
Deleted at the annual meeting 2013