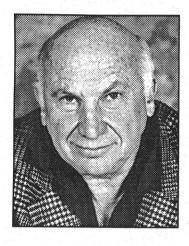


# LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL CONVENTION

# PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS



# **Irwin Schiff**

**Age:** 68

Residence: Las Vegas, Nevada

**Background:** "Since 1962, when he stopped a group of left wing Yale professors from raising money to buy medical supplies for North Vietnam, to the publication of his latest book, *The Federal Mafia: How It Illegally Imposes and Unlawfully Collects Income Taxes*, Irwin Schiff has been exposing and fighting — in the courts, before Congress, and in numerous books and publications — the destructive and unconstitutional practices of the federal government." Other books: *The Biggest Con: How the Government Is Fleecing You* (1976); *How Anyone Can Stop Paying Income Taxes* (1982).

### **Campaign Goal:**

"I am running to promote a more libertarian environment in America, regardless of who wins the election. I not only want to focus on why government doesn't work — but on its criminal and unconstitutional nature. The federal government has been able to extend its tentacles over us because it has been enabled (by a corrupt judiciary) to illegally expand its otherwise limited monetary and taxing power. For example, there is no law that requires Americans 'to pay' income taxes. Therefore, since there is no such law, how honest is it for the Libertarian Party to base a presidential campaign on a promise to abolish a tax that does not even exist? If the Libertarian Party would only focus on how the government illegally collects that 'tax,' it could bring 'voluntary compliance' to under 75% and essentially end the government's ability to extort this 'tax' from everybody."

### **Campaign issues:**

- "... To help expose the illegal, unconstitutional, and tyrannical nature by which the federal government has been extorting income taxes from the American public, and to help the public understand the voluntary nature of this tax so Americans who want to pay it may do so, but those who do not wish to pay it will not be illegally prosecuted or otherwise harassed for not having done so."
- "...To focus on the unconstitutional nature of all U.S. coin and currency and call for the abolishment of the Federal Reserve. Today the Fed performs none of the functions for which it was created and therefore has no legitimate reason for being. All it does is monetize government debt, which is what enables the government to create its outrageous and destructive deficits."
- "...[Also to] focus on the corruption of the courts and the unconstitutional control of those courts by an army of overcompensated and self-serving lawyers."

## **Primary results:**

New Hampshire: Second, 21%. North Dakota: Did Not Enter. South Dakota: Second, 35%. Massachusetts: Third, 7%. Illinois: Second, 27%. California: Third, 15%. Nebraska: Did Not Enter.

Background, campaign issues, and campaign goals taken from: "Irwin Schiff for President / Revive Constitutional Rights!" campaign brochure (1996), and "Irwin Schiff / Suggested Platform for the Libertarian Party" leaflet (1995).