**To:** Judicial Committee of the Libertarian Party of California **Subject:** Appeal Regarding Violation of Bylaw 20, Section 2

Date: November 28, 2024

Dear Members of the Judicial Committee,

We, the undersigned members of the Libertarian Party of California (LPCA), believe there has been a violation of members' rights, regarding the Bylaw 20, Section 2 notice requirement for the 2025 annual convention of LPCA.

## **Summary of the Issue**

Bylaw 20, Section 2 states:

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for setting the time, place, and schedule of events for the convention. The Executive Committee shall provide to the membership at least one hundred twenty days advance notice concerning these arrangements.

At their meeting on Oct. 21, 2024, the LPCA Executive Committee passed a motion which, in part, set the 2025 convention dates as February 22–23, 2025.

However, the first announcement of the convention was not provided to the membership until Nov. 13, 2024, affording members only 101 days to plan, thus falling short of the bylaws requirement by 19 days.

In the Nov. 13th e-mailed announcement, the Executive Committee (represented by the chair) implied that the mentioning of the motion's passage in an e-mail message posted on Oct. 22, 2024 on a "Public Business List." constituted official and sufficient notice.

However, the Oct. 22 meeting summary message was not directly provided to the entire membership, therefore it does not meet the requirements of Bylaw 20, Section 2.

## **Reasons for Appeal**

#### 1. Insufficient Notice Period

The convention announcement e-mailed on Nov. 13, 2024 (subject line: "Register for the 2025 LPCA Annual Convention Today!") was 101 days in advance of the scheduled convention dates of Feb. 22-23, failing to qualify as the 120-day advance notice stipulated in the bylaws (Appendix A).

To comply with the bylaws, notice of the convention date, time, and location would have had to have been provided to the membership on or before Oct. 25, 2024.

Members have been deprived of 19 days of their right to notice.

## 2. Improper Notification Process

The Executive Committee (represented by the chair) has cited an e-mail message (Appendix B) the secretary posted to a "Public Business List" on Oct. 22, 2024 (subject line: "10/21/24 Executive Committee Meeting Summary"), as an implied indication that the notice requirement had already been fulfilled.

(The business list is a Google Groups e-mail list not associated with the membership list. The membership list is currently managed in a third-party database application called Neon.)

### However:

- Messages sent to the business list are not directly sent to the entire membership, as would be required for proper notice.
- It is unclear how many Central Committee members or other members are subscribed to the business list.
- o The bylaws require the Executive Committee to provide notice "to the membership," implying direct, inclusive, and comprehensive communication to all members, not limited distribution through an e-mail list with uncertain population.

## **Request for Remedies**

We respectfully request that the Judicial Committee:

- 1. Determine that the Executive Committee has violated Bylaw 20, Section 2, by failing to provide the membership at least 120 days' advance notice of the 2025 convention arrangements.
- 2. Direct the Executive Committee to take corrective action, including:
  - A. Setting new convention dates that will allow for a practicable convention-notice process in compliance with the bylaws.
  - B. Providing at least 120 days' notice to the entire membership per the bylaws, being clear that this corrects and supersedes previous information.

### In Conclusion

Bylaws and parliamentary authority exist to ensure members' rights and transparency, fairness, and accountability within our organization. Adherence to Bylaw 20, Section 2 and to established notification principles is essential to maintaining our members' trust in and the integrity of the convention process.

Please acknowledge receipt of this appeal; notify us of your decision on whether to hear the case; and of course contact us if you need additional information or clarification.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

## Sincerely,

Aaron Bonn Elizabeth C. Brierly Mark W.A. Hinkle Chris Minoletti Jessica Tewksbury

# **APPENDIX A**

E-mail Message dated Nov. 13, 2024, "Register for the 2025 LPCA Annual Convention Today!" (abridged)





## Register for the 2025 LPCA Annual Convention Today!

2 messages

Libertarian Party of California <chair+ca.lp@neonemails.com> Reply-To: Libertarian Party of California <chair@ca.lp.org>

Wed, Nov 13 at 6:20 PM

If you're having trouble viewing this email, you can see it online.

















As previously noticed on the Public Business List, I'm thrilled to announce that the 2025 LPCA Annual Convention date and time are set and that the website is now officially live!

# **APPENDIX B**

E-mail message dated Oct. 21, 2024, "10/21/24 Executive Committee Meeting Summary"





### 10/21/24 Executive Committee Meeting Summary

Chris Edgar <secretary@ca.lp.org>
Reply-To: <LPCA-Business@googlegroups.com>
To: LPCA Business <LPCA-Business@googlegroups.com>

Tue, Oct 22 at 8:03 AM

Hello All,

Per Libertarian Party of California ("LPCA") Bylaw 11, Section 5, below please find a summary of the actions taken at the LPCA Executive Committee ("Excom") meeting that occurred on October 21, 2024:

1. The Excom set the 2025 LPCA Convention for the following location, dates and time:

Location: Embassy Suites, 1345 Treat Boulevard, Walnut Creek CA 94597

Dates: February 22-23, 2025

Time: 8:15 a.m.

- 2. The Excom approved the attached minutes of the September 21, 2024 meeting of the Excom.
- 3. The Excom appointed Loren Dean, Trendalyn Hallesy and Marybeth Yuskavage to the Awards Committee.
- 4. The Excom appointed Aaron Clark to the Budget Committee.
- 5. The Excom appointed Gary Alvstad, Trendalyn Hallesy and Mimi Robson to the Credentials Committee.

Best, Chris Edgar Secretary, Libertarian Party of California [Quoted text hidden] LPCA Excom Minutes 9.21-24 - final.pdf