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## Bylaws

Libertarian Party of Florida  
Bylaws  
as amended at the Annual Meeting 2014

### ARTICLE I Objects and Purposes

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 multicounty 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.<sup>1 2</sup>

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.

### 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 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.<sup>3</sup>

### ARTICLE III Executive Committee<sup>4</sup>

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END CORRUPTION IN FLORIDA

Section 1. The Officers and Directors-at-large. of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting by the delegate assembly majority vote for a period of two (2) years.

#### Section 2 Executive Committee

Election of Executive Committee Officers. The Chair, Vice-Chair and odd numbered Directors-at-large shall be elected in odd numbered years. The Secretary, Treasurer, and even numbered Directors-at-large shall be elected in even numbered years and in 2001. Regional Representatives shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting and shall serve for a period of one (1) year. These Executive Committee members shall take office upon the close of the Annual Business Meeting and serve thereafter until the final adjournment of the Annual Business Meeting at which their terms expire. <sup>5</sup>

A. No offices shall be combined.

B. The Executive Committee shall fill vacancies by appointment.

C. The LPF Executive Committee should be notified by a resigning member of the Executive Committee within seven (7) days of their resignation. If the member does not submit a resignation, their unexcused absence from three monthly Executive Committee meetings or six bi-weekly Executive Committee meetings shall be considered a resignation effective immediately. <sup>6</sup>

D. Any member elected or appointed to serve on the Executive Committee or other LPF committee shall be a member of the Libertarian Party of Florida, and shall, upon request, show proof of registration as a Libertarian voter in the State of Florida. <sup>7</sup>

#### Section 3. Duties

A. The Chair shall be the head of the LPF, presiding over all meetings of the party, convention, and Executive Committee. The Chairperson is the official spokesperson for the LPF, subject to the dictates of the constituted authorities of the Executive Committee and Convention.

B. The Vice-Chair shall serve as presiding officer in the absence of the Chair; shall be responsible for the committee work of the LPF; shall represent the committees at executive sessions; and shall serve as ex officio member of all committees.

C. The Secretary shall serve as recorder for all meetings of the party, conventions, and Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the minutes of all meetings, correspondence, committee reports, and the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and shall make provision for legal service to the LPF. The Secretary of The Libertarian Party of Florida shall also serve as the Secretary of the Membership Committee, and shall be responsible for maintaining party membership records. <sup>8</sup>

D. The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds, receiving and disposing of the funds at the discretion of the Executive Committee and subject to the Standing Rules. The Treasurer shall keep the deputy treasurer apprised in all aspects of the position to act in his or her absence or incapacity and may delegate responsibilities thereto. In so much as there is personal liability to the governing bodies, any time the deputy Treasurer acts on behalf of the Treasurer they shall be considered 'acting treasurer' and subject to the bookkeeping standards of the organization and state and federal Bureaus that govern the party <sup>9</sup>

E. The regional representatives shall be responsible for forming lawful county affiliates in their defined region and their county of residence, communicating and coordinating between the affiliates in their defined region and the LPF, and reporting monthly to the LPF Executive Committee. All regional representatives shall include in their written monthly reports to the LPF Executive committee an update on the individual affiliation status of each unaffiliated county in their region, including a status report of all efforts, per County, made in the prior month (e.g. phone calls made, emails sent, visits to the county) to achieve affiliation. <sup>10</sup>

F. (a) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for creating a committee to maintain a current contact list of experts in fields related to election issues or interest in Libertarian candidates for use as data and advisory sources.

(b) The Executive Committee shall establish a legislative review committee for the purpose of identifying Florida laws for change or repeal, and for making specific wording recommendations for use by Libertarian candidates and officers. <sup>11</sup>

(c) LPF established committees may use Facebook as a forum for its meetings, providing notice of the domain address and manner in which non-committee LPF members may enter credentials to view, but not participate, in committee discussions and business

#### Section 4. Meetings of the Executive Committee

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If you are, then [join the LPF!](#)

A. The powers and duties of the Executive Committee are prescribed by the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and by the direction of the party at the Annual Business Meeting.

B. The Executive Committee shall meet as prescribed in the Standing Rules.

C. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be eight (8) members of the Committee. <sup>12</sup>

D. Notice of all Executive Committee Meetings including location and call-in or webinar information will be sent to all County Chairs at least 14 days in advance to allow general membership attendance.

E. The EC shall make readily available, through the county chairs, all records of the EC including constitution, bylaws, standing rules, meeting minutes, agendas and financial reports. Making the EC Yahoo group (or its successor) available in a read only fashion to county chairs shall be deemed to satisfy this requirement.

F. The EC shall make readily available, through the county chairs, all motions being considered by extra-meeting vote as in Standing Rules Article V, Section 2

#### **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 with proper notice while coordinating with the host county affiliate. The date(s) shall be within six (6) months prior to due date of Libertarian National Convention delegate list submission. <sup>13</sup>

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 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. <sup>14</sup>

##### 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

Section A. 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 have been a registered Libertarian voter in the state of Florida for the immediate 60 days prior to the start of the annual business meeting. Delegate status may be denied by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee if a potential delegate has been found to have violated the non-aggression principle <sup>15</sup>

<sup>16</sup>

B. Each delegate must sign the Libertarian Party of Florida Affirmation of Qualifications for Delegate form <sup>17</sup>

C. Credentials: 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. The Secretary of the LPF, or his/her authorized representatives, shall be responsible for verifying the membership and voter registration requirements of each delegate. <sup>18</sup>

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 Executive Committee shall appoint the committees and host affiliate at least one hundred eighty (180) days before the date of the annual convention. The Executive Committee shall also notify the state party members at least ninety (90) days before the Annual Business Meeting. If within 90 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the host affiliate is unable or unwilling to fulfill the assigned duties, the Executive Committee shall assume all responsibility for the Annual Business Meeting. If the Executive Committee exercises its authority to take control of the Annual Business Meeting under this section, then the Executive Committee shall notify the county affiliates of any such changes within 10 days<sup>19</sup>

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.<sup>20</sup>

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 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.

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

#### 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.<sup>21</sup>

D. The party checking account must be established to require two signatures per check on all checks in excess of \$500. 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 will include the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and the Treasurer. 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.<sup>22</sup>

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 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.<sup>23</sup>

#### 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; or <sup>24</sup>

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.

#### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> affiliates, vetting and supporting multicounty 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

<sup>2</sup> " ,or if there is no affiliate in that county." added Annual Meeting 2014

<sup>3</sup> 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

<sup>4</sup> (Title revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 52597)

<sup>5</sup> (Revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 3301)

<sup>6</sup> The LPF should be notified within seven (7) days of the resignation of an Officer or member of the Executive Committee. (Amended at the Annual Business Meeting, 6693) Deleted and replaced at the annual meeting May 25, 013

<sup>7</sup> No member of the Executive Committee or Standing Committees shall serve unless and until proof and maintenance of registration to vote as members of the Libertarian Party of Florida has been demonstrated to the Executive Committee.. deleted and replaced at the 2013 annual meeting

<sup>8</sup> C. The Secretary shall serve as recorder for all meetings of the party, conventions, and Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the minutes of all meetings, correspondence, committee reports, and the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and shall make provision for legal service to the LPF. (Amended at the Annual Business Meeting, 6693) Deleted and rewritten at the 2013 annual meeting

<sup>9</sup> (Amended Annual Meeting 2011)

<sup>10</sup> entire section added at the annual meeting 2014

<sup>11</sup> (Entire subsection E added 329 08, Orlando)

<sup>12</sup> (Quorum replaced by this number from seven (7) at the Annual Business Meeting 6693)

<sup>13</sup> (Section inserted and other sections renumbered at the Annual Business Meeting, 10800, Section amended 2605 and 32908).

<sup>14</sup> Added at the Annual Meeting 2013

<sup>15</sup> A. Delegates shall be members as prescribed in ARTICLE II of the Constitution. Each delegate must have been a member of the LPF and a registered Libertarian voter in Florida for the immediate 60 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting; the 60 day rule may be suspended by twothirds vote of the delegate assembly seated at the opening of the Annual Business Meeting who have met the 60 day requirement (Semicolon and section after the semicolon added at the Annual Business Meeting 2-1-03). The officers of the Party shall be the officers of the Annual Business Meeting. (Second sentence passed at the Annual Business Meeting, 6-4-94 and revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 5-24-97) (Revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 21-03) deleted and replaced at the annual meeting 2013

<sup>16</sup> (Rev. at Convention 120211), Deleted as redundancy at the annual meeting May 2014

<sup>17</sup> . (Amended at the Annual Business Meeting 3301 reworded at the Annual Business Meeting 2-1-03)

<sup>18</sup> Sections B and C passed at the Annual Business Meeting, 6-5-94; revised at the Annual Business Meeting, 5-24-97)

<sup>19</sup> (added Annual Meeting 2012)

<sup>20</sup> Name changed from Nominating Committee at Annual Meeting 2014

<sup>21</sup> Deleted at Annual Meeting 2014 All expenditures exceeding \$25.00 shall be made by check.

<sup>22</sup> (Amended at the Annual Business Meeting (3-3-01)

<sup>23</sup> Added at the annual meeting 2013

<sup>24</sup> 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



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