



*Information for  
Delegation Chairs And Delegates*

**2016 LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL CONVENTION**



**ROSEN CENTRE, ORLANDO, FL  
FRIDAY, MAY 27 – MONDAY, MAY 30**

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(with many thanks to former LNC Secretary, Bob Sullentrup, who created the original version)

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## INTRODUCTION



This booklet is presented to help ensure the 2016 convention in Orlando, FL, proceeds smoothly for you and your delegation, as well as for the speakers, candidates, officers, volunteers and assistants. It attempts to convey:

- Delegation and delegation chairs' responsibilities
- Convention structure and organization
- Information about delegates, delegations, and regions
- Special convention procedures

It is important we convey the best image possible to the country through the assembled media, so let's put our best foot forward. As this is a presidential nomination year, we expect additional media attention and need to put our best foot forward.

Accordingly, please ensure that you and your delegation understand the main points and procedures presented within this document.

*ALTHOUGH EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ACCURATELY REFLECT THE BYLAWS AND CONVENTION RULES, THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT THE FINAL AUTHORITY FOR RULES DISPUTES.*

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DELEGATION CHAIR

- Submit initial delegation list to the Credentials Committee by the deadline, one month before the convention. The Credentials Committee has prepared a separate instruction document for delegation chairs about how to enter your delegation list into their credentialing database. The convention starts May 27, 2016, making the deadline April 27, 2016. Failure to provide a delegate list by the deadline shall cause no delegation to be registered from your affiliate. The list may be amended through the close of the Credentials Committee meeting preceding the convention. (Bylaws Article 11.5.c and 11.5.d)
- Submit to the Secretary ([secretary@lp.org](mailto:secretary@lp.org)) and Credentials Committee ([credentials@lp.org](mailto:credentials@lp.org)) a copy of your affiliate party's rules (if any) governing alternates substituting for delegates. (Bylaws Article 11.7.b) These rules may be contained in your bylaws. If your affiliate has not adopted any such rules, or if you do not provide a copy of your rules, the alternate substitution for your affiliate will be governed by LP Bylaws Article 11.7.c and 11.7.d. Those default rules are that if a delegate has not yet arrived and registered with the Credentials Committee, an alternate from that affiliate will be chosen by drawing lots to fill in until the delegate arrives. If a delegate has arrived and

registered, but is temporarily absent from the convention floor, an alternate may temporarily vote in place of that delegate only with the written consent of that delegate.

- Turn in your region formation paperwork by the deadline. See the later section titled “Regions of the National Committee”.
- Convention Rule 3.1 requires that the Secretary ([secretary@lp.org](mailto:secretary@lp.org)) be notified if an affiliate's delegation has chosen someone besides the affiliate chair to serve as the delegation chair.
- During the convention, ensure your delegation submits written votes to the Secretary whenever written votes are required.
- Ensure your delegation understands and abides by the Party Bylaws and Convention Rules. See the later “Voting Rules” section.
- During the convention, ensure your delegation submits motions to the Secretary legibly in writing on the form provided by the Secretary before seeking recognition to address the convention.
- Be prepared to participate in delegation-roll-call vote reporting (see later section titled “Roll Call Votes by Delegation”)

## **CONVENTION STRUCTURE**

### **Order of Business**

The order of business conducted at this convention is prescribed by Convention Rule 1 to be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Credentials Committee report
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Treasurer's report
5. Bylaws and Rules Committee report
6. Platform Committee report
7. Nomination of Party candidates for President and Vice-President (in appropriate years)
8. Election of Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee
9. Election of Judicial Committee
10. Resolutions
11. Other business

## Secretary's Table

There is typically an extra table beside the stage to:

- Distribute motion, region formation, and other forms
- Receive written motions, region formation agreements, and other items required to be submitted to the Secretary
- Create and distribute ballots for state-by-state reporting on presidential/vice-presidential nominations and elections to party office
- Get written messages to the people on stage

Every year the Secretary needs volunteers to help with the convention business. State Chairs are requested to recommend qualified people for this task. Please contact Secretary Alicia Mattson at [secretary@lp.org](mailto:secretary@lp.org) with the names of recommended volunteers.

Prospective helpers with the following skills will be the most useful:

- Have general computer skills to assist in quickly locating files needed by the Secretary
- Be proficient with MS Word (including Mail Merge) and MS Excel
- Have experience as an elections teller
- Be a reliable and trustworthy person
- Be familiar with the Bylaws provisions relevant to convention business.
- Be familiar with this Delegation Chair's Manual

Being such a volunteer will not preclude the opportunity to be a voting, credentialed delegate.

## Updating Delegate Counts

The Bylaws in Article 11.9 state:

*"A quorum shall consist of 40% of the total number of delegates registered in attendance at the Convention."*

Frequently at our conventions, delegates start departing before the convention is over, and historically that has created difficulties achieving quorum on the final day to complete all of the necessary business of party elections. On the final day of the 2004 convention, it was necessary to recess for 30 minutes to round up delegates remaining in the hotel to come into the convention hall, and after that effort we barely met quorum to finish electing our party officers. Please encourage your delegates to stay through the end of the business agenda.

## Convention Hall Seating

Convention Rule 3.2 requires that each state affiliate's delegation sit together in the convention hall. This makes it more efficient for state chairs to conduct delegation votes and also for the convention to process any challenges to a delegation vote by polling the individual members of that delegation. Signage in the convention hall will designate where each state is to sit.

## DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

### Delegate Allocations

LP Bylaws Article 11.4 establishes the methodology for calculating the number of delegates your affiliate is entitled to. It states:

*"Affiliate Party Delegate Entitlements:*

*Each affiliate party shall be entitled to send delegates to each Regular Convention on the following basis:*

- a. *One delegate for each 0.14 percent, or fraction thereof, of the total Party sustaining membership in that affiliate; provided that at least one such delegate must be a resident of that State or District.*
- b. *One delegate for each 0.35 percent, or fraction thereof, of the votes cast nationwide for the Libertarian Party candidate in the most recent presidential election, cast in that affiliate's state."*

Since there are approximately 714 slices of a whole at 0.14% each and 286 at 0.35% each, a Libertarian Party convention will have slots for at least 1000 delegates. Since affiliates are credited for 'fractions thereof', the result is approximately 1051 possible delegates.

See the Delegate Allocation Table at the end of this document for the delegate allocations for each affiliate in 2016.

### Sustaining Members Counted in Delegate Apportionment

Bylaws Article 5.3 defines a sustaining member:

*"Sustaining member" is any Party member who has given at least \$25 to the Party in the prior twelve months, or who is a life member.*

Bylaws Article 5.5 directs us to also include as sustaining members:

*"Higher levels of contribution by or on behalf of a Party member qualify as sustaining member status for any provision of these Bylaws."*

Bylaws Article 5.6 directs us to count sustaining members for delegate allocation:

*“Only sustaining members shall be counted for delegate apportionment and National Committee representation. [...]”*



### **Alternate Allocations**

Each affiliate may also name alternates who can fill in for a delegate in accordance with the conditions and procedures in LP Bylaws Article 11.7. The number of alternates your state can name is determined by LP Bylaws Article 11.5.c, which states:

*“The number of alternates' names submitted shall not exceed the greater of 50 or the number of delegates allocated.”*

If you have fewer than 50 delegates, you may name up to 50 alternates. If you have more than 50 delegates, you may name as many alternates as you have delegates.

### **Who Can Be a Delegate?**

Bylaws Article 11.3.a specifies who can be a delegate:

*“Delegates shall be required to be members of either the Party or an affiliate party. At all Regular Conventions delegates shall be those so accredited who have registered at the Convention. At all Non-Regular Conventions, any person who wishes to attend may do so.”*

Membership in the Party is defined by Bylaws Article 5.1 which states:

*“Members of the Party shall be those persons who have certified in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.”*

### **How Are Delegates Chosen?**

Bylaws Article 11.3.b, specifies how delegates are chosen:

*“Any federal or state law to the contrary notwithstanding, delegates to a Regular Convention shall be selected by a method adopted by each affiliate party; provided however, that only members of the Party as defined in these Bylaws, or members of the affiliate party as defined in the constitution or bylaws of such affiliate party, shall be eligible to vote for the selection of delegates to a Regular Convention.”*

In other words, affiliates choose their delegates provided that the choosing is done by only national party or affiliate party members.

### **Credentialing Delegates and Alternates**

See Bylaws Article 11.5.b – 11.5.e in addition to the comments below.

By one month before the convention, your delegation must have submitted a delegate listing to the Credentials Committee by entering at least one delegate name and address into the Credentials Committee database. The Credentials Committee will provide you with a login username/password and a separate instruction document explaining how to do this. You may amend your list, including adding delegates, by making your changes directly in the Credentials Committee database. However, you have the amendment power only until the final Credentials Committee meeting before the convention begins. (This meeting usually happens very early in the morning on the first day of the convention.)

Once the convention begins, you may submit requested delegate list changes to the Credentials Committee, but you must then earn permission of the convention delegates to approve those last-minute changes to the list of delegates. The Credentials Committee reports to the convention at the beginning of each meeting any proposed changes to the delegate lists. Proposed changes must then be approved by the convention by a 7/8ths vote.

The substitution of alternates for delegates is described by Bylaws Article 11.7, which states:

*"Voting Eligibility:*

- a. Use of the unit rule or unit voting is prohibited at national conventions.*
- b. Duly selected alternates may be freely substituted for any members of their delegation who are temporarily or permanently absent from the floor, provided the procedure has been clearly specified by the affiliate party in advance of the Convention, and the Credentials Committee has been provided with lists of the affiliate party's delegates and alternates as well as a copy of the affiliate party's rules governing substitutions.*
- c. An alternate, upon certification by the Credentials Committee, may function as a delegate whenever a delegate of the same state has not been registered in attendance. This status shall continue until the absent delegate registers in attendance. If the affiliate party has made no provision for filling delegate vacancies, the alternate substitute shall be decided by drawing lots.*
- d. If the affiliate party has made no other provision, an alternate may temporarily vote in place of a delegate from the same state while he or she has the written consent of that delegate; however, no delegate may cast more than one vote on a question.*
- e. All members must wear the identification badge issued upon registration in order to be admitted to the Convention hall."*

## **DELEGATION VOTING**

Most voting during a convention is done with voice votes, but if the outcome is not clear, delegates may be asked to vote by standing or even by individually counting off. A few votes (election of our presidential/vice-presidential nominees and elections to party office) are taken with a written ballot turned in by each affiliate's delegation chair.

When these written votes are required, the Secretary will make available a form for your delegation. See a sample ballot at the end of this document.

It is the responsibility of the delegation chair to oversee the delegates casting their votes, ensure the integrity of the process, see that it is done in accordance with the rules, and report your state's results. The ballot form will have a place for you to report vote totals from your delegation, and it will have a place for you as delegation chair to sign and date. Before you turn in your form, make a copy of the numbers for yourself so that when the Secretary's tally spreadsheet is projected overhead for review, you can verify your state's numbers were recorded accurately.

When recording your delegation's votes, do not differentiate between votes cast by delegates versus votes cast by alternates.

The form will show both the maximum number of delegates your affiliate is entitled to send to the convention, and it will show the current count of your affiliate's delegates registered as being in attendance. Your vote total cannot exceed either of these numbers, nor may it exceed the number of delegates your affiliate has present on the convention floor at the time of the vote.

### **Voting Rules**

It cannot be over-emphasized that your delegation must abide by the rules of delegation voting:

- One person, one vote
- No unit voting (casting all your affiliate's votes for the candidate who received a majority vote of your affiliate's delegates) – Bylaws Article 11.7.a
- No proxy voting (RONR, 11th ed., p. 423, 428-9)
- No absentee voting (RONR, 11th ed., p. 263, 423)
- **Votes are only permitted by credentialed delegates physically present in the room at the time of the vote. Even if your affiliate is allocated up to 20 delegates, and 15 attended and were credentialed at the convention, but only 8 are in the room at the time of the vote, you may only submit 8 votes. Even if the 7 people who are out of the room told a friend how they wanted to vote, you may not submit votes for them.**

## Roll Call Votes by Delegation

Convention Rules provide that votes for President and Vice-President will include announcements by delegation chairs of their affiliate's vote totals in addition to the written ballots submitted to the Secretary. Convention Rules 7.3 and 7.4 state that the order shall be alphabetical by state starting with a randomly selected delegation.

For those who haven't been to presidential nominating conventions before, many state chairs prepare a **BRIEF** (a couple of phrases) interesting factoid or humorous reference to promote their state when they announce their affiliate's vote totals. For instance, "From a state with no income tax, and where, unlike Congress, the drunks gamble with their own money, the state of Nevada proudly casts its 14 votes as follows:..."

This procedure makes for interesting TV, but it is quite time consuming, so the convention often opts to suspend this rule for everything except the first ballot for the Presidential nominee.

For 2016, the initial delegations were determined using random numbers from line thirteen of the random number table listed in the 26<sup>th</sup> Edition of the CRC Standard Mathematical Tables, page 556, considering successive pairs of digits and recognizing only numbers between 01 and 51 inclusive (don't forget the DC affiliate), and mapping those numbers to an alphabetically-sorted listing of the affiliates to produce the following starting points for these roll call vote announcements:

	<b>President</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>
First Ballot	09 District of Columbia	36 Ohio
Second Ballot	42 South Dakota	32 New Mexico
Third Ballot	39 Pennsylvania	01 Alabama
Fourth Ballot	27 Montana	17 Kansas
Fifth Ballot	37 Oklahoma	30 New Hampshire
Sixth Ballot	43 Tennessee	01 Alabama
Seventh Ballot	34 North Carolina	50 Wisconsin

Again, these roll-call procedures are often suspended for everything except the first ballot of the Presidential nomination, but these random starting points are prepared in case the delegates decide to use them.

## Subsequent Ballots

For LNC Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer elections, each delegate may cast one vote for one candidate, and a majority is required for election. If no candidate attains a majority on the first ballot, Convention Rule 8.1.c prescribes that the candidate with the fewest votes on the latest ballot shall be struck from subsequent ballots, and the delegates vote again on the remaining candidates.

For LNC At-Large and for Judicial Committee elections, we use an approval voting process governed by Convention Rule 8.2 and Rule 9. A majority is still required for election, but

because delegates may vote for multiple candidates, the chances are greater for these elections to be completed with a single round of balloting. Any ties affecting the outcome are decided by lot.

By the way, if “None of the Above” wins a majority for President or Vice-President, then no candidate shall be nominated for that office. If “None of the Above” wins for any Party office, then the position is considered vacant, subject to being later filled, but none of the candidates defeated by NOTA may be appointed to that vacancy during the term. (LP Bylaws Article 11.8)

## **PRESIDENTIAL, VICE-PRESIDENTIAL AND PLATFORM TOKENS**

### **Signature Tokens for Presidential or Vice-Presidential Nominations**

Convention Rule 7 lays out the methodology for nominating and selecting the Libertarian Party presidential ticket. Section 1 states:

*“No person shall be nominated for President or Vice-President unless at least 30 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Chair. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate for each office. The affixing of signatures to a nominating petition per this requirement shall be effected by a transfer of signature tokens issued by the Credentials Committee.”*

Accordingly, delegates will receive these two signature tokens as they are credentialed. Delegates wishing to use their tokens must fill them out completely by writing the name of their preferred candidate, signing them, and placing them in a ballot box in a designated location. A candidate who receives 30 such tokens will be granted 16 minutes (president) or 11 (vice-president) of convention time for nominating and seconding speeches.

The signature token for the presidential petition will look similar to the image below. Delegates will receive one of these for president and a similar one for vice-president.

**2016 Libertarian Party  
Presidential Petition Signature Token**

FILL IN THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE OF YOUR CHOICE, SIGN IT, AND PLACE IT IN THE DESIGNATED TOKEN COLLECTION BOX.  
CANDIDATES RECEIVING 30 SUCH TOKENS WILL BE ENTITLED TO 16 MINUTES OF CONVENTION TIME FOR NOMINATIONS.

CANDIDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DELEGATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE CONVENTION RULE 7.1

## Signature Tokens and Presidential Debate Inclusion

The LNC's Convention Oversight Committee has set the parameters for inclusion in the Presidential Debate. The presidential debate is typically broadcast nationally on C-SPAN, as is the presidential nomination process.

For the 2016 Presidential Candidate debate, scheduled for the evening of Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Libertarian National Convention:

Participation in the Presidential candidate debate will be open to Presidential candidates who receive presidential nomination tokens from 10% or more of the number of delegates accepted in the first Credentials Committee report on May 28th.

## Tokens for Platform Plank Retention Vote

The Platform Committee will present proposals for making amendments to our existing platform, but Convention Rule 5.1 provides a special procedure by which delegates have the option to delete up to 5 planks from the existing platform:

- a. *The Credentials Committee shall issue five signature tokens to each delegate.*
- b. *Tokens shall only be issued to delegates. Delegates are responsible for transferring possession of unused tokens to their alternates if necessary.*
- c. *Each delegate may cast each token as a recommendation for deletion of one plank by noting on the token the plank to be deleted and signing the token.*
- d. *A delegate may cumulate recommendations by casting any number of tokens for deletion of the same plank.*
- e. *Delegates will be given until one hour prior to the scheduled start of the platform report to mark their tokens and deliver them to the Secretary.*
- f. *Prior to the scheduled start of the platform report, the Secretary shall review the tokens received and tabulate and report the tokens submitted for deletion of each plank.*
- g. *As its first item of platform business, the convention shall vote whether to delete each of those planks that received a number of tokens for deletion equal to 20% or more of the number of credentialed delegates. Such votes shall be cast without amendment or debate.*

Tokens in the past have looked similar to the image below and each delegate will receive five of them from the Credentials Committee.

## 2016 Libertarian Party Platform Plank Signature Token

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 Personal Liberty             | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.2 Environment                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.0 Securing Liberty                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.1 Self-Ownership               | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.3 Energy and Resources            | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.1 National Defense                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.2 Expression and Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.4 Government Finance and Spending | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.2 Internal Security and Individual Rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.3 Privacy                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 Money and Financial Markets     | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.3 International Affairs                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.4 Personal Relationships       | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.6 Marketplace Freedom             | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.4 Free Trade and Migration                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.5 Abortion                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.7 Labor Markets                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.5 Rights and Discrimination               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.6 Crime and Justice            | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.8 Education                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.6 Representative Government               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.7 Self-Defense                 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.9 Health Care                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.7 Self-Determination                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2.0 Economic Liberty             | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.10 Retirement and Income Security | <input type="checkbox"/> 4.0 Omissions                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2.1 Property and Contract        |  |  |

**DELEGATE (SIGNATURE REQUIRED):** \_\_\_\_\_

Any platform plank that reaches the threshold – a number of tokens equivalent to 20% of credentialed delegates – will be brought before the convention for a straight up/down vote at the beginning of the Platform Committee report.

Platform token collection begins after adoption of the agenda (order of business item #3) and ends one hour before the Platform Committee report (order of business item #6).

Also note that each delegate has five platform tokens and that the threshold to recall a platform plank for an up/down vote is 20%. Thus it follows that 4% of delegates casting all 5 of their tokens on a single plank could bring that plank up for a deletion vote.

### **PRE-PRINTED FORM FOR MAKING MOTIONS FROM THE CONVENTION FLOOR**

Convention Rule 2.2 authorizes the Chair to require “any motion offered from the Convention floor to be in writing, signed by the mover and submitted to the Secretary.” Just as in prior years, you should expect the Chair to make use of this in 2016. In particular, this is typically applied to main motions that are to be displayed on the overhead screens. This is not usually required for very simple or secondary or incidental motions (e.g., recess/adjourn/point of order).

The Secretary will provide a standard form for submitting motions. See an example at the end of this document. Using this form will help:

- Prepare video displays with the motion’s text
- Eliminate delays, so the convention does not have to wait while motions are crafted and edited on the fly
- Accurately document convention proceedings for the minutes
- Ensure motions are presented in the appropriate order

**Make sure to write legibly, else the Convention has to wait while sloppy writing is clarified.**

## **REGIONS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

LP Bylaws Article 8.2.c describes how your affiliate party can band together with others to form a "representative region" to gain representation on the Libertarian National Committee.

This bylaw provision states:

*“Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party sustaining membership within affiliate parties (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national sustaining membership. Affiliate parties may, by mutual consent, band together to form "representative regions," and each such "region" with an aggregate national party sustaining membership of 10% or more shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national party sustaining membership. "Representative regions" may be formed or dissolved once every two years during a period beginning 90 days before the beginning of and ending on the second day of the National Convention, and notice of new formations or dissolutions must be given in writing to the national Secretary prior to the close of the Convention at which they take place.”*

See the Delegate Allocations Table at the end of this document for your affiliate’s sustaining membership as determined for delegate allocation as well as the percentage of national membership that it represents.

The region formation period begins 90 days before the start of the convention (February 27, 2016) and ends the second day of the convention (May 28, 2016).

The Convention Oversight Committee has built designated times into the convention schedule to facilitate region formation caucuses.

Use the form provided at the end of this document to report regional formations to the Secretary.

Some regions opt to use regional formation agreements to document mutually agreed upon rules for their region before any future disputes arise. A recommended basic regional agreement is included at the end of this document, though you are not required to use this particular one or any one at all.

Below are two default rules that are in effect for your region unless you have a regional formation agreement stating otherwise.

**LP Bylaws Article 8.8:** *“A National Committee Regional Representative may be removed and replaced only by the act of the affiliate parties which constitute the subject region.*

*The voting procedure for the removal and replacement of regional representatives shall be determined by the regions. In the absence of any such procedures, a majority vote of the state chairs shall prevail.”*

Convention Rule 8.4: *“In the event a region has not otherwise provided for the election of its regional representative to the National Committee then the delegates from the region shall elect its regional representative, provided there are at least five delegates present. Each Region's delegates may elect their representative in whatever manner they choose, provided all delegates present from that region are given equal voice in the selection.”*

If your region is large enough to have more than one LNC alternate, your region should also agree to and document a ranking of those alternates or some clear procedure whereby the LNC Secretary can determine the ranking. The ranking is relevant for application of Bylaw Article 14 which states:

*“Boards and committees may transact business by electronic mail. The chair or secretary shall send out electronic mail ballots on any question submitted by the chair or cosponsored by at least 1/5 of the members of the board or committee. The period for voting on a question shall remain open for ten days, unless all members have cast votes, or have stated an intention to abstain or be absent during the voting period, by electronic mail to the entire board or committee. Votes from alternates will be counted, in accordance with previously defined ranked order, in the absence of the corresponding committee member(s). The outcome of each motion shall be announced promptly and recorded in the minutes of the next meeting. The number of votes required for passage of any motion shall be the same as that required during a meeting. Motions dispensed through electronic mail ballots satisfy the requirement of giving previous notice.”*

## **CONVENTION COMMITTEES**

There are three convention committees according to LP Bylaws Article 12. These committees include the Bylaws and Rules Committee, the Platform Committee and the Credentials Committee.

### **Bylaws and Rules Committee**

The Bylaws and Rules Committee makes recommendations to the delegates for amendments to our Bylaws and to our Convention Rules. Then the delegates vote whether or not to adopt those recommendations.

The current LP Bylaws are online at [www.lp.org/bylaws](http://www.lp.org/bylaws)

The committee's report of recommended changes this year will likely be posted on the convention website.



LP Bylaws Article 12.2 states: *"The Bylaws and Rules Committee shall consist of ten Party members appointed by the National Committee no later than three months before a Regular Convention. No more than five of these members shall be members of the current National Committee."*

The LNC selected the following Bylaws and Rules Committee members for 2016:

1. M Carling, Chair
2. Sam Goldstein
3. Dan Karlan
4. Joshua Katz
5. Alicia Mattson
6. Chuck Moulton
7. Jeff Orrok
8. Aaron Starr
9. Rich Tomasso
10. Dan Wiener

Ranked alternates are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Matt Wittlief

### **Platform Committee**

The Platform Committee makes recommendations to the delegates for amendments to our party platform. Then the delegates vote whether or not to adopt those recommendations.

The current LP Platform is online at: [www.lp.org/platform](http://www.lp.org/platform)

The committee's report of recommended changes this year will likely be posted on the convention website.

LP Bylaws Article 12.3 states:

- "The Platform Committee shall consist of 20 members selected as follows:*
- a. One member by each of the five affiliate parties having the greatest per capita sustaining membership as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention.*
  - b. One member by each of the ten affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships, excluding those affiliates from (a), as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention.*
  - c. Five members selected by the National Committee.*

*d. These members shall be selected no later than the last day of the fifth month prior to the Regular Convention.”*

At its March 28-29, 2015 meeting in Phoenix, the LNC selected the following Platform Committee members for 2016.

1. Alicia Mattson, Chair
2. Guy McLendon
3. Hollie Ryan
4. Dean Ahmad
5. Lynn House

LNC-appointed alternates are:

1. Mike Shipley
2. Andy LeCureaux
3. Nick Frollini

The top five sustaining-membership-per-capita states are determined based on sustaining membership for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. The most recent regular convention was the 2014 convention in Columbus, OH. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 11/30/2013, making the top five states as shown below:

Rank	State	Sustaining Members as of 11/30/2013	Population as of 2010 Census	Sustaining Members per 10k Population	Platform Committee Representative
1	Nevada	281	2,700,551	1.04053	Jason Weinman
2	New Hampshire	132	1,316,470	1.00268	Darryl Perry
3	Ohio	1073	11,536,504	0.93009	John Fockler
4	Alaska	60	710,231	0.84480	Debbie Schum
5	Virginia	648	8,001,024	0.80990	Matt Cholko

The top ten sustaining membership states for the Platform Committee are determined based on sustaining membership for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. The most recent regular convention was the 2014 convention in Columbus, OH. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 11/30/2013, making the top ten states as shown below (excluding #3-ranked Ohio and #5-ranked Virginia because they are already included in the top-five-per-capita list above):

Rank	State	Sustaining Members as of 11/30/2013	Platform Committee Representative
1	California	1621	Aaron Starr
2	Texas	901	John Shuey

Rank	State	Sustaining Members as of 11/30/2013	Platform Committee Representative
3	Florida	713	Zachary Silva
4	New York	559	Christian Padgett
5	Pennsylvania	496	Roy Minet
6	Illinois	449	Christopher Maden
7	Michigan	444	Jim Fulner
8	Georgia	410	Nathan Wilson
9	Indiana	408	Rebecca Sink-Burris
10	Washington	371	M Carling

State-appointed alternates are:

- Nathan Kleffman (TX)
- Bo Brown (VA)

### Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee is responsible for compiling and managing the list of eligible convention voters. The committee works before the convention to verify delegate lists sent in by the states. When the Credentials Committee begins its work, an assigned representative of the committee will contact each state chair about the process of submitting delegate lists. The committee will meet in Orlando the day before the convention opens, and its work continues throughout the convention until the very last session.

LP Bylaws Article 12.4 states:

- “The Credentials Committee, composed of ten members, shall be selected as follows.*
- a. Five members chosen by the National Committee no later than six months before a Regular Convention.*
  - b. One member by each of the five affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention. These shall be selected by each of the affiliate parties no later than one month prior to the Regular Convention.”*

At its March 28-29, 2015 meeting in Phoenix, the LNC selected the following Credentials Committee members for 2016:

1. Emily Salvette, Chair
2. Beth Duensing
3. Gary Johnson
4. Mike Kane
5. Vicki Kirkland

LNC-appointed alternates are:

1. Steve Linnabary

The top five sustaining membership states for the Credentials Committee are determined based on sustaining membership for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. The most recent regular convention was the 2014 convention in Columbus, OH. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 11/30/2013, making the top five states as shown below:

State	Sustaining Members as of 11/30/2013	Credentials Committee Representative
1 California	1621	-- TBD --
2 Ohio	1073	Scott Pettigrew
3 Texas	901	Carla Pealer
4 Florida	713	Ben Bachrach
5 Virginia	648	Juanita Billings

## **TIME ALLOTMENTS**

The Convention Rules stipulate the number of minutes allowed for certain events at the convention. The following tables summarize those allotments. While some years are not presidential nominating conventions, the tables are listed here for completeness.

### **President and Vice-President**

16	Total time for nominating and seconding speeches for presidential candidate (Convention Rule 7.5.a)
11	Total time for nominating and seconding speeches for a vice-presidential candidates (Convention Rule 7.5.b)
5	Time allowed for presidential nominee to address the convention for the purpose of endorsing or objecting to any of the Vice-Presidential nominees (Convention Rule 7.4)
5	Time allowed for a delegate collecting the required number of nominating tokens for None Of The Above to address the convention (Convention Rule 7.5)

### **Platform Committee Report**

2	When no minority position on a Platform Committee recommendation exists on an item, the committee chair or designee explains a recommendation (Convention Rule 5.3)
2	When a minority position on a platform plank exists, both spokespersons have two minutes to present and explain their positions (Convention Rule 5.4)
5	When a minority position on a platform plank exists, delegates have a total of five minutes to express views without offering amendments before voting on committee recommendation vs. minority recommendation (Convention Rule 5.4)
15	Discussion without amendment of a main motion platform proposal before voting (Convention Rule 5.3.b)
10	Discussion with amendment of a main motion platform proposal if it failed to be adopted after the 15 minutes of no-amendment debate (Convention Rule 5.3.b)
2	Delegate to present and explain a platform amendment proposed from the convention floor rather than from the Platform Committee Report (Convention Rule 5.5)

### **Bylaws and Rules Committee Report**

2	The committee chair or designee explains a recommendation (Convention Rule 4)
8	Discussion without amendment of a main motion bylaws/rules proposal before voting (Convention Rule 4)
10	Discussion with amendment of a main motion bylaws/rule proposal if it failed to be adopted after the 8 minutes of no-amendment debate (Convention Rule 4)

### **National Committee Elections**

10	Nominating speeches for National Committee Chair (Convention Rule 8.3.a)
5	Nominating speeches for National Committee Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, At-Large members, Judicial Committee members (Convention Rule 8.3.b)

### **VOTE REQUIRED FOR ELECTION/ADOPTION**

The Bylaws and Convention Rules state the vote thresholds required for election/adoption of the following:



## Candidates

President, Vice-President, LNC Officers, LNC At-Large, Judicial Committee (Convention Rules 7.2, 8.1.a, 8.2.c, 9)	Majority
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## Resolutions

Adopt a resolution (Convention Rule 6.1)	2/3
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## Amendments

Amend the Convention Special Rules of Order (RONR p. 17, lines 28-31) - only permitted at a Regular Convention (Bylaw Article 11.11)	2/3 with previous notice or majority of all registered delegates
Adopt new platform planks, or amend existing platform plank (Bylaws Article 4.3)	2/3
Delete a platform plank (Bylaws Article 4.3)	Majority
Amend Bylaws (Bylaws Article 18.1) – only permitted at a Regular Convention	2/3
Amend Statement of Principles (Article 18.2)	7/8 of registered delegates

## Challenges

Percentage of delegates needed to challenge an adopted platform plank or resolution believing it to be in conflict with the Statement of Principles (Convention Rule 5.7 and 6.2)	10%
Number of delegates needed to object to the chair's determination of a voice vote in order to bring about a counted vote (Convention Rule 2.1)	20

## Reinstatements

Fraction needed to reinstate a platform plank or resolution which the Judicial Committee has vetoed (Convention Rule 5.7 and 6.2)	$\frac{3}{4}$
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## Procedures

Decide whether to hear amendments to platform plank proposals if they have failed to be adopted after 15 minutes of no-amendment debate (Convention Rule 5.3.b)	Majority
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**Quorums**

Convention quorum (Bylaws Article 11.9)	40% of registered delegates
Convention Committee quorum (Bylaws Article 12.6.c)	Majority

**Signatures**

Number of signature tokens needed for a candidate to be nominated for President or Vice-President (Convention Rule 7.1)	30
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## DELEGATE ALLOCATION TABLE

The following table lists the number of delegates each affiliate is entitled to at the 2016 convention (blue column). See the Bylaws Articles 11.4 and 11.5 for the allocation methodology.

Use the 'Percent of Members' column (yellow) of this table to form representative regions for the Libertarian National Committee. One LNC representative is authorized for each 10% of total party membership that is contained within the affiliates. There is an important note at the end of this table regarding the nuances of the calculation.

State	2016 Delegate Allocation	Sustaining Membership				Presidential Vote		
		Members As of 10/31/2015	LNC Region	Delegate	Delegates	Johnson 2012 Vote	Percent Of 2012 Vote	Delegates Based on 2012 Vote
			Formation -- Percent of Members	Allocation -- Percent of Members				
AL	13	155	1.376%	1.369%	10	12,328	0.966%	3
AK	6	56	0.497%	0.495%	4	7,392	0.579%	2
AZ	26	279	2.477%	2.464%	18	32,100	2.516%	8
AR	9	75	0.666%	0.662%	5	16,276	1.276%	4
CA	130	1522	13.513%	13.440%	97	143,221	11.226%	33
CO	32	374	3.321%	3.303%	24	35,545	2.786%	8
CT	12	128	1.136%	1.130%	9	12,580	0.986%	3
DE	3	27	0.240%	0.238%	2	3,882	0.304%	1
DC	3	27	0.240%	0.238%	2	2,083	0.163%	1
FL	53	654	5.807%	5.775%	42	44,726	3.506%	11
GA	31	310	2.752%	2.738%	20	45,324	3.553%	11
HI	5	55	0.488%	0.486%	4	3,840	0.301%	1
ID	7	57	0.506%	0.503%	4	9,453	0.741%	3
IL	37	377	3.347%	3.329%	24	56,229	4.407%	13
IN	34	341	3.028%	3.011%	22	50,111	3.928%	12
IA	11	113	1.003%	0.998%	8	12,926	1.013%	3
KS	13	125	1.110%	1.104%	8	20,456	1.603%	5
KY	11	102	0.906%	0.901%	7	17,063	1.337%	4
LA	13	116	1.030%	1.024%	8	18,157	1.423%	5
ME	7	55	0.488%	0.486%	4	9,352	0.733%	3
MD	22	232	2.060%	2.049%	15	30,195	2.367%	7
MA	19	179	1.589%	1.581%	12	30,920	2.424%	7
MI	25	362	3.214%	3.197%	23	7,774	0.609%	2
MN	18	151	1.341%	1.333%	10	35,098	2.751%	8
MS	8	81	0.719%	0.715%	6	6,676	0.523%	2
MO	24	213	1.891%	1.881%	14	43,151	3.382%	10
MT	7	40	0.355%	0.353%	3	14,165	1.110%	4
NE	8	66	0.586%	0.583%	5	11,109	0.871%	3
NV	14	165	1.465%	1.457%	11	10,968	0.860%	3
NH	10	116	1.030%	1.024%	8	8,212	0.644%	2
NJ	22	259	2.300%	2.287%	17	21,035	1.649%	5
NM	13	91	0.808%	0.804%	6	27,788	2.178%	7
NY	44	512	4.546%	4.521%	33	47,092	3.691%	11
NC	29	286	2.539%	2.526%	19	44,515	3.489%	10



State	2016 Delegate Allocation	Sustaining Membership				Presidential Vote		
		Members As of 10/31/2015	LNC Region Formation --	Delegate Allocation --	Delegates	Johnson 2012 Vote	Percent Of 2012 Vote	Delegates Based on 2012 Vote
			Percent of Members	Percent of Members	Based on Members			
		10/31/2015	Members	Members	Members	Vote	2012 Vote	2012 Vote
ND	5	40	0.355%	0.353%	3	5,238	0.411%	2
OH	44	499	4.430%	4.407%	32	49,493	3.879%	12
OK	6	84	0.746%	0.742%	6	-----	0.000%	0
OR	15	138	1.225%	1.219%	9	24,089	1.888%	6
PA	42	462	4.102%	4.080%	30	49,991	3.918%	12
RI	3	27	0.240%	0.238%	2	4,388	0.344%	1
SC	14	143	1.270%	1.263%	10	16,321	1.279%	4
SD	5	32	0.284%	0.283%	3	5,795	0.454%	2
TN	18	193	1.714%	1.704%	13	18,623	1.460%	5
TX	71	796	7.067%	7.029%	51	88,580	6.943%	20
UT	8	79	0.701%	0.698%	5	12,572	0.985%	3
VT	3	24	0.213%	0.212%	2	3,487	0.273%	1
VA	38	485	4.306%	4.283%	31	31,216	2.447%	7
WA	30	315	2.797%	2.782%	20	42,202	3.308%	10
WV	5	43	0.382%	0.380%	3	6,302	0.494%	2
WI	17	176	1.563%	1.554%	12	20,439	1.602%	5
WY	4	26	0.231%	0.230%	2	5,326	0.417%	2
OTHER	-----	61	-----	0.539%	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>1047</b>	11,324	100.000%	100.000%	<b>738</b>	1,275,804	100.000%	<b>309</b>

Source for presidential vote totals:  
<http://www.fec.gov/pubrec/fe2012/2012presgeresults.pdf>

IMPORTANT NOTE: You may wonder why there are slight differences in the percentages given in the region formation column (in yellow) versus the delegate allocation column right beside it. The numerator for each is the same, the number of sustaining members in that affiliate. The difference is in the denominator.

For delegate allocation (and determining which affiliates get to make committee appointments), the denominator is the total number of sustaining members, which is 11,324. For region formation, however, the denominator excludes the 61 people in the "OTHER" row who are not tied to a particular affiliate, so  $11,324 - 61 = 11,263$ . If you are checking your potential region formation status, either use the yellow percent column above, or if you prefer to add the number of members and divide it out yourself remember to use the 11,263 denominator rather than 11,324.

This design means that the 61 people who reside out of the country or don't have addresses on file don't dilute the ability of the state affiliates to form a theoretical 10 regions of exactly 10% each. In reality, of course, the regions don't have exactly 10%. They have a little over, and we usually end up with fewer than 10 regions.



**LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
ORLANDO, FL - 2016**

For Office Use Only

# Delegate Motion

**MOTION PERTAINS TO:**

Bylaws:	Article _____	Section _____	<b>And is a (an)</b> Addition (new) Deletion Amendment
Convention Rule:	Number _____	Section _____	
Platform	Plank _____		
Resolution		Attachment	

**Motion Text:**

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Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_ Delegation \_\_\_\_\_

Second (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Delegation \_\_\_\_\_



LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
ORLANDO, FL - 2016

For Office Use Only

# Sample Election Ballot

Delegation: **MyState**

First Ballot for: **ThisOffice**

Do not exceed **##** votes per delegate

JUSTIN TYME \_\_\_\_\_

PETE ZERRIA \_\_\_\_\_

DUSTY RHODES \_\_\_\_\_

NONE OF THE ABOVE (IF NOMINATED) \_\_\_\_\_

WRITE-INS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL VOTES \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL BALLOTS CAST \_\_\_\_\_

Total ballots cast shall not exceed any of the following:

**MyState** Delegate Allocation: **##**

**MyState** Currently Credentialed Delegates: **##**

**MyState** Currently has \_\_\_\_\_ delegates present in the convention hall

\_\_\_\_\_  
Delegation Chair Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Delegation Chair Signature

May 29, 2016 04:00 pm



