



of
Louisiana

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

adopted in convention April 21st, 2012, Lafayette, Louisiana

By-laws of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana

- Article 1: Name3
- Article 2: Period of Duration.....3
- Article 3: Status3
- Article 4: Purposes3
- Article 5: Statement of Principles and Platform4
- Article 6: Membership4
- Article 7: Officers5
- Article 8: State Central Committee7
- Article 9: Supporting Committees9
- Article 10: Parish Executive Committees11
- Article 11: Finance and Accounting14
- Article 12: Conventions & Caucuses14
- Article 13: Parliamentary Authority16
- Article 14: Amendment.....16
- Article 15: Judicial Matters16
- Article 16: Promulgation of By-laws17

Special Rules of Order of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana

- Rule 1: Motions and Debating18
- Rule 2: Voting Eligibility and Procedures18
- Rule 3: Quorums19

Rule 4: Conventions19
Rule 5: National Convention Delegate Selection21
Rule 6: Nominating candidates for Presidential Elector.....22
Rule 7: State Central Committee23
Rule 8: Parish Caucuses24
Rule 9: Parish Executive Committees25
Rule 10: Supporting Committees25
Rule 11: None of the above26

Platform of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana

General Principles

Union27

Federalism

International Relations

Militias

Laissez Faire Markets

Taxes

National Party Platform

Justice28

Citizenship

Individual Rights

Contracts

Corporations

Public Resources

Juries

Confidence29

Elections

Accountability

Preparedness

Constitutions

Budgets

Initiatives

By-laws of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana

ARTICLE I: NAME

These articles shall govern the free association known as the “Libertarian Party of Louisiana,” hereinafter referred to as the “Party.”

ARTICLE 2: PERIOD OF DURATION

The duration of the Party shall be perpetual in accordance with the By-laws of the national Libertarian Party and Louisiana law.

ARTICLE 3: STATUS

The Party shall establish itself as the first and only affiliate party in the State of Louisiana to the national Libertarian Party, and shall take the means set forth in the Libertarian Party's By-laws to obtain and maintain that position.

ARTICLE 4: PURPOSES

The purposes for which the Party is organized are to implement and give voice in the State of Louisiana to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party by:

1. Functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements.
2. Moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office.
3. Making the libertarian viewpoint heard throughout the State of Louisiana on the various issues concerning our State.
4. Joining libertarians together in a united political front of action and information in the State of Louisiana.
5. Holding conventions or caucuses of Party members in the State of Louisiana in order to select delegates to participate in the national Libertarian Party conventions in accordance with the By-laws of the national Libertarian Party.
6. Achieving and maintaining legal status as a political party in the State of Louisiana.

ARTICLE 5: STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM

The Platform of the Party shall be composed of two sections, organized as follows:

- a. Individual planks
 - i. outlining general principles of the party geared either around state powers, state perspective, or state issues,
 - ii. at least one of which includes language which affirms the Statement of Principles and Platform of the national Libertarian Party.
- b. Individual planks
 - a. outlining specific implementation of party general principles on certain issues,
 - b. which specify the current problem, the principle applied, specific policy solutions, and reasoning, rationale, and/or supporting material with empirical examples where possible.

ARTICLE 6: MEMBERSHIP

1. Registered Party members shall be those residents of the State of Louisiana who are registered to vote as members of the Libertarian Party.
2. If anyone contends that he should be a registered Libertarian voter, but that his local Registrar of Voters refuses to allow him to register Libertarian, then the State Central Committee may elect to give him the privileges of a Registered member.
3. The State Central Committee shall offer annual dues paying memberships to all Registered Party members.
4. The State Central Committee may offer life memberships to all Registered Party members, and must honor all prior and future life memberships.
5. The State Central Committee may create and offer other levels of membership to all Registered Party members and shall determine the contribution or dues levels for any and all memberships as well as the privileges associated with each.
6. Any annual dues or membership contribution may be satisfied with volunteer service for official Party projects, as requested by any member of the State Central Committee, or Parish Executive Committees, in any combination (in whole hours) of hours and money, at a rate per hour to be determined by the State Central Committee.

7. Only Registered Party members who have satisfied their annual membership dues requirement in full shall
 - a. be entitled to admission to the business session of the state convention free of further charges or fees;
 - b. be presumed as registered for such convention upon payment of their annual dues;
 - c. be entitled to vote on all official matters; and
 - d. be eligible to seek, be elected to, and hold any executive office of the Party.
8. Associate members of the Party shall be persons not registered to vote in Louisiana as members of the Libertarian Party who:
 - a. Are members in good standing of the Libertarian Party of the United States and reside in Louisiana; or
 - b. Have expressed their support for the Libertarian Party of Louisiana and asked to be enrolled as an associate member of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana.
9. Associate members of the Party are entitled to receive all public informational mailings of the Party and attend all conventions upon payment of registration fees, and public meetings of the Party, but they shall not be entitled to vote on official matters, nor hold any office within the party, or be nominated as a candidate for Presidential Elector.
10. Associate members who are also members in good standing of the Libertarian Party of the United States, may be chosen as delegates to a National Convention.

ARTICLE 7: OFFICERS

1. The executive officers of the Party shall be a:
 - a. Chairman who shall:
 - i. be the chief executive officer of the Party with full authority to direct its business and affairs, including hiring and discharging of Party volunteers and paid personnel, subject to express State Central Committee policies and directives issued in the exercise of the State Central Committee's plenary control and management of Party affairs, properties, and funds;
 - ii. act as liaison to the national Libertarian Party;

- iii. preside at all conventions and meetings of the State Central Committee;
 - iv. may participate as a non-voting member of all committees of any convention; and
 - v. perform such duties as are prescribed in these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party; and a
- b. Vice-Chairman who shall:
- i. be the chief assistant to the Chairman, performing such duties as the Chairman shall prescribe, and holding such executive powers as the Chairman shall delegate;
 - ii. perform the duties of the Chairman in the event the Chairman is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of his office;
 - iii. see that Parishes organize and hold a Parish caucus in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party for the purpose of electing members to serve on the Parish Executive Committee, the State Central Committee and convention committees; and
 - iv. perform such other duties as are prescribed in these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party; and a
- c. Secretary who shall:
- i. be the recording officer of the Party;
 - ii. attend all meetings of the State Central Committee, and all Party conventions, and shall act as secretary thereof, being responsible for keeping and maintaining such written records as are necessary;
 - iii. make annual reports to the State Central Committee containing all information required by the Committee;
 - iv. be responsible for the arrangements of clerical services during the conventions and State Central Committee meetings as are necessary for the Party throughout the year; and
 - v. perform such other duties as are prescribed in these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party and those assigned by the Chair and/or the State Central Committee; and a
- d. Treasurer who shall:
- i. be the chief financial officer of the Party;

- ii. receive all monies paid to the Party, and shall deposit the same in such bank or banks as shall be designated by the State Central Committee, and shall disburse said monies upon order and under the supervision of the Chair and the State Central Committee;
 - iii. perform all duties required of his office by applicable law;
 - iv. be responsible for oversight of all financial functions of the Party, including, but not limited to receipts, disbursements, internal and external reporting;
 - v. make an annual financial report to the State Central Committee, prepared according to the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America; and
 - vi. perform such other duties as are prescribed in these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party and those assigned by the Chair and/or the State Central Committee.
2. All of these officers shall be elected at a Regular Convention of the Party by registered delegates to such Convention, shall take office immediately upon the close of the Convention, and shall serve thereafter until the final adjournment of the next Regular Convention.
3. The officers shall be full voting members of the State Central Committee.
4. No offices may be combined and no Party member shall hold more than one office at a time excepting that the Secretary may exercise the duties of either the Vice-Chairman or Treasurer as needed by the party should one of those two officers not have been chosen at a regular convention, and until such time as one can be selected by the State Central Committee.

ARTICLE 8: STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

1. The State Central Committee shall be composed of the following:
 1. The executive officers of the Party;
 2. One member from each Parish in the state. It shall be their responsibility to:
 - a. represent the Party membership within their Parish by attending all meetings of the State Central Committee and
 2. regularly ensure that Parish Registrars are properly allowing voters to register as Libertarian;

3. Five members to be elected at large from among the delegates at a Regular Convention who shall serve as:
 - a. Communications Officer who shall
 - i. attend all meetings of the State Central Committee;
 - ii. serve as the Chairman of the Media Relations Committee and be responsible for all of its obligations; and
 - iii. shall report to the National Party on State activities from time to time as such information is requested;
 - b. Finance Officer who shall
 - i. attend all meetings of the State Central Committee and
 - ii. serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee and be responsible for all of its obligations;
 - c. Membership Officer who shall
 - i. attend all meetings of the State Central Committee and
 - ii. serve as Chairman of the Registration Committee and be responsible for all of its obligations;
 - d. Elections Officer who shall
 - i. attend all meetings of the State Central Committee and
 - ii. serve as Chairman of the Elections Committee and be responsible for all of its obligations; and
 - v. Economic Development Officer who shall
 - i. attend all meetings of the State Central Committee and
 - ii. serve as Chairman of the Economic Development Committee and be responsible for all of its obligations.
2. The members of the State Central Committee shall take office beginning immediately upon the close of the Convention and shall serve thereafter until final adjournment of the next Regular Convention.
3. The State Central Committee shall have the control and management of all affairs, properties, and funds of the Party consistent with these By-Laws.

4. The State Central Committee shall meet in the manner, times, and places prescribed in the Special Rules.
5. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the State Central Committee, or to the Chairman or the Secretary of the Party. Unless otherwise specified in such written notice, such resignation shall take effect upon receipt thereof by the State Central Committee or by such officer, and the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
6. A State Central Committee member who fails to attend two consecutive regular meetings of the State Central Committee shall be deemed to have vacated his or her seat.
7. Vacancies which may occur in the State Central Committee, for any reason, shall be filled as follows:
 - a. In the case that the office of Chairman is vacated, the Vice-Chairman shall assume the duties.
 - b. In the case that the offices of Vice-Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer is vacated the Chairman shall appoint, with the approval of the State Central Committee, a successor to serve the remainder of the term of that office.
 - c. In the case that a member elected from a Parish vacates his position the State Central Committee shall appoint a member from the same Parish, where such a member is available and is willing to serve, to fill the post for the remainder of the term of that post.
 - d. In the case that an At-Large position is vacant, the Chairman with the approval of the State Central Committee may appoint such member to carry out the duties as Chairman of the respective Supporting Committee as he deems fit.
8. Any official appointed by the State Central Committee may be removed by the State Central Committee with or without cause.

ARTICLE 9: SUPPORTING COMMITTEES

1. There is hereby created a Media Relations Committee. It is the responsibility of this committee to
 - a. maintain the Party's various websites;
 - b. prepare press releases;

- c. respond to all press inquiries to the Party;
 - d. report all Party events to the Press for placement on local community events calendars;
 - e. contact all new members and inquiries to the Party with introductory materials and to assess their level of interest, directing them to the proper resources in the Party to assist them;
 - f. create and produce audio/visual outreach and educational media; and
 - g. train and assist candidates with public speaking engagements.
2. There is hereby created a Finance Committee. It is the responsibility of this committee to
 - a. set Party funding goals;
 - b. plan and budget for Party expenses;
 - c. provide oversight of all Party fund raising activities;
 - d. report the analysis of costs and benefits associated with various proposed policies, projects, and campaigns; and
 - e. work with the Elections Committee assisting candidates with respect to issues of campaign finance laws, rules, and regulations.
 3. There is hereby created a Registration Committee. It is the responsibility of this committee to
 - a. conduct voter registration drives;
 - b. oversee get-out-the-vote efforts;
 - c. maintain a current database of all Registered and Associate Party members and National Party members in the State;
 - d. maintain records of dues payments and volunteer commitment fulfillments; and
 - e. credential all registered delegates to Regular and Special Conventions.
 4. There is hereby created an Elections Committee. It is the responsibility of this committee to
 - a. maintain a current and accurate elections calendar;
 - b. maintain a current and accurate State and Local Offices database;

- c. assist candidates with meeting legal requirements and educating them on how to run an effective campaign;
 - d. work with the Finance Committee assisting candidates with respect to issues of campaign finance laws, rules, and regulations;
 - e. provide analysis of campaign issues and effectiveness, of opposition candidates, and post election analysis of results;
 - f. secure and/or conduct demographic analysis and voter patterns for campaigns; and
 - g. secure and/or conduct scientific voter preference surveys for campaign analysis.
5. There is hereby created an Economic Development Committee. It is the responsibility of this committee to
- a. assist members with securing information and directing them to the proper resources with respect to business and entrepreneurial development in their communities;
 - b. assess and report on entrepreneurial activities around the state that are consistent and friendly to the Libertarian Platform; and
 - c. work with the Media Relations Committee in promoting Libertarian economic policies through small business development and activities in the State.
6. There is hereby created a Strategic Planning Subcommittee. It is the responsibility of this committee to prepare Action Plans with assigned responsibilities and firm dates of action and completion designed to carry out the Purposes of the Party as outlined in Article 4 of these By-Laws. They shall be composed of:
- a. The Party Vice-Chairman, who shall serve as chairman of this subcommittee and preside at all of its meetings; and
 - b. The At Large State Central Committee Members who serve as Chairmen of the various other Supporting Committees.

ARTICLE 10: PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

The Party shall be organized on the Parish level as follows:

1. A Parish Executive Committee composed of no more than the number of members corresponding to the seats on the governing body of such Parish,

excepting that if there are no at-large seats on such governing body, then the Parish Executive Committee may contain two at-large members.

2. If state and or parish registration has not reached sufficient number to require a state run election, than the committee shall be chosen by caucus where at least five Registered party members, who are registered to vote in that parish shall be in attendance, without respect to the size of their parish governing body.
3. The Parish Executive Committee shall elect from among themselves a:
 - a. Chairman who shall
 - i. attend and preside over all Committee meetings;
 - ii. organize and oversee all Party activities within their Parish; and
 - iii. communicate their activities and progress to the State Central Committee Representative responsible for their Parish at least once per quarter; and
 - iv. serve as a proxy for his Parish State Central Committee Representative; and a
 - b. Secretary who shall
 - i. attend all Committee meetings;
 - ii. keep the minutes and records of the Committee;
 - iii. provide such information or reports as required by the Chairman of the Committee; and
 - iv. perform such other duties as requested by the Chairman of the Committee; and a
 - c. Treasurer who shall
 - i. be responsible for the receipt, deposit, withdrawal, and disbursement of Committee funds, dues, fees, and/or donations;
 - ii. perform all such other duties as required of him by law and these By-laws, the Special Rules of the Party, the Chairman of the Committee, and the State Central Committee; and
 - iii. report as requested on financial matters of his Parish to the Party Finance Committee; and a
 - d. Membership Coordinator who shall
 - i. organize and oversee voter registration drives;

- ii. maintain a current database of all Registered and Associate Party members and National Party members within his Parish;
 - iii. maintain a current and accurate database of dues payments and volunteer commitment fulfillments;
 - iv. organize and oversee any volunteer efforts of the Party conducted within his Parish; and a
 - e. Liaison Coordinator who shall
 - i. organize and oversee volunteers, one for each elected office within their parish, to act as liaison to that office;
 - ii. create, maintain, and make available to all Party members, a comprehensive collection of information on each such office, including such information as the State Central Committee may from time to time request; and
 - iii. report as requested such liaison activities and office information to the Party Elections Committee; and a
 - f. Campus Coordinator who shall
 - i. organize and oversee outreach to schools within their Parish;
 - ii. where allowed, establish affiliate student organizations for educational and mentoring purposes;
 - iii. maintain a list of campus affiliate organizations and their membership; and
 - iv. report as requested all Campus activities within their Parish to the Party Registration Committee.
- 4. The Parish Executive Committee shall
 - a. be considered a sub-affiliate of the Party and shall be entitled as per the By-Laws of the National Libertarian Party, to use the name “Libertarian Party of” before their Parish name;
 - b. be responsible for voter registration and national membership within their parish;
 - c. be responsible for all fundraising activities of the Party within their parish;
 - d. be responsible for assisting any and all candidates running as Libertarian for any elected offices within their parish;

- e. be the governing body for all other party matters delegated to them by the State Central Committee; and
 - f. decide their own rules governing their proceedings and for discipline of their members subject to agreement of the State Central Committee and not in conflict with these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party.
5. In Parishes where there is insufficient registration to select anyone to the Parish Executive Committee, then the Vice-Chairman of the Party, or his designee, shall see that the duties outlined above are upheld and carried out, until such time as a Committee can be chosen.

ARTICLE 11: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

1. The fiscal term of the Party shall begin on the first day following the adjournment of each Regular Convention.
2. The State Central Committee shall cause an efficient double entry system of accounts to be installed and maintained in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America.
3. All disbursements exceeding \$5, shall be made solely by cheque or be documented with notice of payment made/received issued by the payment processor if done by electronic transfer, and receipts on all items purchased shall be kept for the records.
4. The State Central Committee shall have the power to designate the depository of all funds of the Party, and the Treasurer shall deposit and withdraw funds from said depository upon order of the State Central Committee.

ARTICLE 12: CONVENTIONS & CAUCUSES

1. The Party shall hold a Regular Convention at a time and place to be selected by the State Central Committee, between New Year's Day and Labor Day in Presidential Election years.
2. All Regular Conventions and all Special Conventions, may be attended by any person who is a member of the Party, who has paid his annual membership dues, and who registers for such Convention. All such persons shall be considered as delegates to said Convention, and shall be eligible for any office.
3. The State Central Committee may provide for Registered Party members who have not satisfied annual dues requirements with a means to register and pay admission to the Convention, excepting that such members may not vote, seek,

be elected to, or hold executive office in the party, unless they are granted such privileges by a vote of seven-eighths of the delegates in attendance.

4. A Special Convention may be called by three-fourths of the State Central Committee or by one-third of the members of the Party. Special Conventions may not be held within the sixty days prior the Regular Convention. A notice of sixty days must be given to all members of the Party prior to any Special Convention.
5. There shall be a Convention Planning Committee, a By-laws and Rules Committee and a Platform Committee for each Regular Convention which shall
 - a. each consist of one member from each Parish where possible;
 - b. each elect a Chairman from among its members as set forth in the Special Rules of the Party; and
 - c. meet at such times, places, and frequency as directed in the Special Rules of the Party.
6. Parishes shall hold caucuses or conventions according to the Special Rules of the Party where they shall elect as set forth in these By-laws and the Special Rules of the Party:
 - a. members to the Parish Executive Committee;
 - b. one representative and one alternate to serve on the various convention committees;
 - c. one representative to serve on the State Central Committee; and
 - d. such number of delegates to the National Convention as they shall be entitled to vote upon.
7. The autonomy of the Parish sub-affiliates shall not be abridged by the State Central Committee or other committees of the Party except as provided herein.
8. Only one Parish Convention or Caucus held once every four years for each Parish, shall be recognized for the purpose of electing any member or members to serve in available positions on the State Central Committee, or any other Committee of the Party.
9. Only one Parish Convention or Caucus, held once every two years for each Parish, shall be recognized for the purpose of choosing delegates to the National Convention.

10. Except as provided herein, procedure at the Conventions or Caucuses of the Party shall be in accordance with the Special Rules of the Party and any Rules adopted by a majority of the delegates at such Convention or Caucus.
11. The State Central Committee shall have supervision and management of all Conventions.
12. The officers of each Regular or Special Convention shall be the officers of the Party.
13. The officers of each Parish Convention or Caucus shall be the officers of the Parish Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 13: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these By-laws or Special Rules of the Party.

ARTICLE 14: AMENDMENT

1. Article 5, Section a, Subsection ii of, and this section, of these By-laws shall not be amended by a vote of less than seven-eighths of the registered delegates at any Regular Convention.
2. Otherwise these By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Regular Convention, or by a majority of all Party members by means of a mail ballot or at a Special Convention.
3. The Special Rules may be amended by a majority vote at any convention.

ARTICLE 15: JUDICIAL MATTERS

1. Disciplinary action against any Party members shall be provided in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order except as provided herein.
2. Officers and other State Central Committee members may be removed for cause by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the State Central Committee.
 1. The charges against any offending officer must be fully stated in the call for any State Central Committee meeting at which any removal action is planned.
 2. This call along with the charges must be issued 21 days preceding the meeting.

3. Officers and State Central Committee members may also be removed by a Special Convention of all Party members by a two-thirds majority vote of convention delegates voting to carry out the removal. Any vacated office shall thereupon be filled by an election held at that Convention. Such officers shall complete the term of the office vacated.

ARTICLE 16: PROMULGATION OF BY-LAWS

The State Central Committee shall promulgate these By-laws in accordance with applicable law. A copy of these By-laws and the Special Rules shall be provided to each member of the State Central Committee, each member of Supporting Committees and each Chair of the Parish Executive Committees within 90 days of adoption.

Special Rules of Order of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana

RULE 1: MOTIONS AND DEBATING

1. Debate on any single motion which is debatable shall be limited to three speeches for and against or a total limit of 18 minutes, whichever comes first.
2. Speeches shall be limited to 3 minutes each. The mover shall be required to stand for two minutes for questions if there be any. Subsequent speakers shall stand open for questions if they choose for the remainder of any unused speaking time.
3. Upon reaching the limit of speeches or time allotted for debate, the previous question shall be immediately in order and be pending without a further second.

RULE 2: VOTING ELIGIBILITY AND PROCEDURES

1. The Secretary, acting on behalf of the Registration Committee, shall report the number of delegates registered in attendance and eligible to vote directly after the opening of the first business session, and at the beginning of each succeeding session.
2. All delegates of conventions shall be eligible to vote on all matters, except the choosing of delegates to the National Convention. In order to vote on a given matter, a delegate must be present on the floor at the time the vote is taken. Each delegate present shall have one vote.
3. All members must wear the identification badge issued upon registration in order to be admitted to the Convention.
4. On all matters, except the election of Executive Officers and At-large State Central Committee members, voting will be by voice vote. If one-eighth or more delegates object to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a counted vote will be held.
5. The Chair may require any motion offered from the Convention floor to be in writing, signed by the mover and submitted to the Secretary.
6. The Parish State Central Committee Representative shall serve as chair of his or her delegation, unless that delegation selects another of its members to serve as its chair and so notifies the Secretary.
7. In cases where a roll call vote is required, polling shall be by parish. The Secretary will ask for the vote from each parish in alphabetical order, and the

chair of each delegation shall report the vote for that parish. If someone challenges the vote reported by any parish's chair, the Secretary shall poll the delegates from that parish individually.

8. After verifying that the number of votes cast does not exceed the number the parish is entitled to, the chair of each delegation shall submit the ballots to the Secretary. During the period of time allotted for such votes, the business of the convention shall continue without interruption.
9. Resolutions must be approved by a 2/3 vote.
10. Resolutions must not be in conflict with the Statement of Principles.
11. Regardless of the manner, timing or method of choosing delegates and alternates to the National Convention, only Registered Party members residing in organized Parishes are eligible to vote for delegate or alternate.

RULE 3: QUORUMS

1. A quorum for any convention or caucus, on any level of organization shall be five Registered Party members.
2. A quorum for any committee meeting, except the first meeting of any committee and except the State Central Committee, shall be three-eighths of actual members without regard to vacant positions.
3. A quorum for the first meeting of any newly constituted committee shall be a majority of actual members of that committee without regard to vacant positions, excepting that the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and the Secretary must be present at the initial State Central Committee meeting to establish a quorum for that meeting.
4. A quorum for any subsequent State Central Committee meeting shall be three-eighths of the actual members of the State Central Committee without regard to vacant positions, and must include either the Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and the Secretary.
5. Members who are not present at a physical meeting, but who participate in real time electronically, by whatever means, shall be considered as present for voting and quorum purposes if three-fourths of those in physical attendance agree to count them for such purposes.

RULE 4: CONVENTIONS

1. The standing order of business for a Regular Convention shall be as follows:

- a. Call to order
 - b. Registration Committee report
 - c. Adoption of agenda
 - d. Officer Reports
 - e. Supporting Committee Reports
 - f. By-laws and Rules Committee report
 - g. Platform Committee report
 - h. Presidential & Vice-Presidential candidate forum
 - i. Nomination of candidates for Presidential Elector
 - j. Election of Party Officers
 - k. Resolutions
 - l. Other business
2. Prior to each duly called Convention, the Secretary shall certify the delegates at least fifteen days prior to the Convention to the State Central Committee and shall proffer such proof as the State Central Committee shall require that said delegates meet the requirements of the By-laws.
 3. The Chair of the By-laws and Rules Committee shall meet before each Regular Convention and prepare a report containing its recommendations. At the convention, the Committee's recommendations shall be reported to the floor with an explanation of intent and purpose of the proposed amendment(s), and be debated and voted on separately.
 4. After all By-Laws and Rules Committee recommendations have received initial consideration, any delegate may propose amendments to the By-Laws and/or the Special Rules.
 5. The Platform Committee shall meet before each Regular Convention and prepare a report containing its recommendations. At the convention, the Platform Committee's recommendations shall be reported to the floor with an explanation of intent and purpose of the proposed amendment(s), and be debated and voted upon separately.
 6. The current Platform shall serve as the basis of all future platforms. At Regular Conventions, the existing Platform may be amended. Additional planks, or

amendments to planks, must be approved by 2/3 vote. A platform plank may be deleted by majority vote.

7. After all Platform Committee recommendations have received initial consideration, any delegate may propose amendments to the Platform.
8. Nominations for Party Officers, delegates to the National Convention, and candidates for Presidential Elector shall be from the floor and require a second. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:
 1. For each office, a majority vote will be necessary for election.
 2. In cases where no candidate receives a majority, runoff votes will be held, dropping the candidate with the fewest votes after each ballot.
9. In the event a Parish has not otherwise provided for the election of its representative to the State Central Committee then the delegates from that Parish, present at the convention, shall elect its Parish Representative, provided there are at least five delegates from that Parish present. Each Parish's delegates may elect their representative in whatever manner they choose, provided all delegates present from that Parish are given equal voice in the selection.
10. Upon election, the new members of the State Central Committee and the several convention committees shall meet in person no later than 30 days after their election in order to establish the committee and set their meeting calendar for their term.
11. The State Central Committee and the several convention committees shall each meet either in person or by electronic means the week prior to the Convention for finalization of any and all proposals, business, agenda or other items to be taken up or conducted at the convention.
12. Notice of each Regular or Special Convention shall be published in at least one newspaper serving each Parish no later than 60 days prior to such convention and every week thereafter until the convention.
13. All Convention Committee meetings shall be published in at least one newspaper serving each Parish where the meeting will be held no later than 30 days prior to the meeting and each week thereafter until the meeting is held.

RULE 5: NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE SELECTION

Selection of Delegates to the National Libertarian Party Conventions shall be as follows:

1. Where the number of either delegates or alternates due the Party, shall be less than the number of organized Parishes, then such delegates or alternates shall be selected at-large.
2. Where the number of either delegates or alternates shall be equal to the number of organized Parishes, each organized Parish shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate.
3. Where the number of either delegates or alternates shall be greater than the number of organized Parishes, each organized Parish shall be entitled to one delegate or alternate for their equal proportion of National Party Members to the number of delegates or alternates due to the Party, excepting that no organized Parish shall be granted less than one delegate or one alternate.
4. Any remaining delegates or alternates not chosen due to rounding shall be awarded to the organized Parish with the greatest number of National Party Members.
5. In the case where one or more organized Parishes does not have any members interested in being delegates, then the qualified voters of such organized Parishes shall choose, in order of their National Party membership, from among the excess nominees from the other organized Parishes in order of their National Party membership.
6. If no parishes have organized, then delegate and alternate positions shall be awarded in the order someone expresses interest in attending, in writing or electronic communication to the Secretary, excepting that any member of the State Central Committee may veto a delegate or alternate so chosen.

RULE 6: NOMINATING CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR

Nomination of candidates for Presidential Elector shall be as follows:

1. There shall be one candidate for Elector from each Congressional District, who is constitutionally eligible to serve.
2. There shall be two At-Large candidates for Elector who are constitutionally eligible to serve.
3. Nominations and voting shall be by Congressional District for District candidates, and state-wide for At-Large candidates.
4. Upon selection of nominees, a resolution of the Convention shall immediately be considered formalizing the entire slate of candidates for Presidential Elector. The resolution, upon passage shall be signed by the Party Chairman and the Party Secretary.

5. If any candidate so nominated, fails to submit his or her notarized forms to the Secretary of the Party in a timely manner, then he or she forfeits such nomination, and his or her replacement shall be selected by the Chairman of the Party, who shall amend the Convention Nomination Resolution accordingly, and which amendment shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Party.

RULE 7: STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

1. The State Central Committee shall meet
 - a. at such times and places as may be determined by action of the Committee.
 - b. by call of the Chairman.
 - c. by call of the Secretary
 - d. by the written request of one-eighth of the actual members of the Committee.
2. A written notice of the time and place of all meetings shall be mailed to each members of the Committee not less than fourteen days prior to said meeting. The attendance of any member of the State Central Committee without protesting prior to the conclusion of the meeting the lack of notice of such meeting, shall constitute a waiver of notice by him or her.
3. The State Central Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by mail or telephone video conference, teleconference, internet chat rooms, or any other means they deem proper.
 - a. Voting on questions submitted by mail or telephone or electronic means to the members must be by or with approval of the Chairman.
 - b. In the case of a vote by mail, the measure being voted upon shall be deemed to have failed if at the expiration of fifteen days, the majority of the Committee have not returned their votes.
 - c. In all other cases, a majority of the votes returned shall carry the measure except where a higher vote is required by the By-laws.
 - d. The Secretary must preserve all such votes on permanent record, and shall advise the Committee members of the vote tallies upon request.
4. In the case that a Committee meeting is held, a member must be present in Committee to vote. No committee member shall be entitled to more than one vote.

5. The Chair, or his designee, shall be responsible to establish and maintain a punch list for executing and planning future conventions and State Central Committee meetings.
6. Each elected party officer or representative shall be responsible to establish and maintain job descriptions and/or manuals for carrying out the duties of their position.
7. Reports from State Central Committee members shall be submitted in advance of the meeting as the chair of the meeting shall so request.
8. The representative of the parish where a State Central Committee meeting or Convention will be held shall be responsible for securing a location and this location shall be reported back to the Chair 30 days prior to the meeting or other such time as the chair shall request, as in the case of conventions, sufficiently in advance to allow for planning, coordination, and notification.
9. All new business shall be submitted to the Chair 30 days prior to any meeting.
10. All State Central Committee Meetings shall be published in at least one newspaper serving the parish where the meeting will be held, no later than 21 days prior to the meeting, and each week thereafter until the meeting.

RULE 8: PARISH CAUCUSES

1. Parish caucuses shall be held no later than 30 days prior to the next Regular Convention. If there is no Parish Executive Committee in place for a particular parish, it is the responsibility of the Vice-Chairman of the Party to organize the parish caucus by this date.
2. All Parish caucuses shall be published in at least one newspaper in the Parish no later than 30 days prior to the caucus and each week thereafter until the caucus.
3. The standing order of business at all parish caucuses shall be as follows:
 - a. Call to order
 - b. Acceptance of delegates
 - c. Adoption of agenda
 - d. Election of Parish Executive Committee
 - e. Election of Regional Convention Committee Representatives and alternates
 - f. Election of a State Central Committee Representative

- g. Election of National Convention Delegates
- h. General Business

RULE 9: PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

1. Parish Executive Committees shall meet at regular monthly intervals, in the seat of their parish or the largest town or city in their parish, to discuss business, formulate policies, and plan activities. Such meetings shall be open to the general public, excepting that only Registered party members may vote on official matters.
2. Parish Executive Committees shall meet for the first time no later than 30 days after being elected in order to constitute the Committee and set their meeting Calendar for their term.
3. All Parish Executive Committee meetings shall be published in at least one newspaper in the Parish no later than 14 days prior to the meeting and each week thereafter until the meeting.

RULE 10: SUPPORTING COMMITTEES

1. Committees may conduct business by meeting, by mail or telephone, video conference, teleconference, internet chat rooms, or any other means they deem proper.
2. In the case that a physical Committee meeting is held, a member must be present in Committee to vote.
3. A majority vote of participating members is necessary for a recommendation to pass, and in the case of the Platform Committee, a majority must approve each specific Plank separately.
4. In the case of a vote by mail, the measure being voted upon shall be deemed to have failed if at the expiration of fifteen days, the majority of the Committee have not returned their votes. In all other cases, a majority of the votes returned shall carry the measure except where a higher vote is required by the By-laws or the Special Rules.
5. All supporting committee meetings shall be published in at least one newspaper serving the Parish where the meeting will be held, no later than 21 days prior to the meeting and each week thereafter until the meeting.

RULE 11: NONE OF THE ABOVE

1. Votes cast for "None of the Above" in voting on the selection of any member to fill an office, either by election or upon appointment, shall be considered valid.
2. In the event of a runoff election for any purpose, any candidate having fewer votes than "None of the Above" shall be eliminated from further consideration.
3. Should "None of the Above" be selected for any office, that position shall be declared vacant and none of the losing candidates for that position may be selected to fill the vacancy for that term of office.

Platform of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana

I. General Principles

A. UNION

1. Federalism

Louisiana is a sovereign State jealous of its territories and powers and zealously guards them. We have a reciprocal responsibility to our fellow States to bind the national government with the chains of the Federal Constitution. We pledge in this union, assistance to protect all from Invasion from without and to maintain republican government in our own territory.

2. International Relations

We jealously guard our national and state sovereignty against any attempt to institute a supranational government, organization, or instrument designed towards such ends. International relations should be conducted on a case by case basis only with relevant nations. We will not subordinate public money to foreign interests, nor interfere with the governing of, or initiate the use of force against, sovereign peoples. We encourage limited, legal immigration, for our general benefit.

3. Militias

Louisiana is responsible for maintaining the general militia for the protection of itself, the Union, and to execute the laws. Each able individual has the responsibility to be knowledgeable and safe in the proper use of force so that he may provide for the defense of himself, his family, and the People. To these ends, the individual right of each to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

4. Laissez Faire Markets

All markets should be free of regulation and interference by government, using an honest weight and measure as a medium of exchange. All markets shall be kept free of any fraud and coercion. The free flow of goods, services and information among the several States should not be hindered.

5. Taxes

Taxation should be limited in its scope and light in its impact. Congress should be held to the constitutional restrictions on taxation in both form and purpose. Direct, apportioned taxes are preferred for both state and national revenue. Louisiana must ensure that the tax laws are not misapplied or improperly enforced to the detriment of the citizen. All taxation should be approved by a

three-fourths majority of the legislature and three-fourths of the people. No tax passed for any purpose shall last longer than five years.

6. National Party Platform

We adopt, affirm, and agree with the planks of the Libertarian Party Platform insofar as they are consistent with and supportive of the concepts of limited republican government as espoused in the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution for the United States of America.

B. JUSTICE

1. Citizenship

We hold that all Men born in Louisiana, or in any one of the several United States, now domiciled in Louisiana, regardless of race or gender, are Citizens of Louisiana, and enjoy all of the benefits, rights, powers, authorities, prerogatives, and privileges of a sovereign. At no time is any Citizen of Louisiana in any way subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, while within the territory of Louisiana.

2. Individual Rights

We affirm the principles espoused in the Declaration of Independence - that all Men are created equal, with inalienable rights; that the sole purpose of government is to protect these rights; that it is the responsibility of the People to alter or abolish their form of government whenever it becomes destructive of this purpose, instituting new government more conducive to their liberty.

3. Contracts

We uphold the right to freely contract with others outside of interference or coercion. Government has the obligation to enforce performance of private contracts, when requested by a counter-party, without regard to public policy.

4. Corporations

Corporations are chartered by government for the benefit of the People generally and no one specially. Corporations do not enjoy, nor should they be bestowed, the same individual and inalienable rights of Men. No Man should ever be deemed to be, or be treated as, a corporation.

5. Public Resources

Those resources, natural or otherwise, held in the public trust, are held so for the benefit of all the People generally and none specially. The holding of public resources in trust by government does not confer any power to government to

restrict or otherwise regulate the use or enjoyment of those resources by any one of the people except so as to preserve its future use for all. Any Man or Corporation deriving profit from use of public resources shall owe a royalty to the Treasury, to be used for the benefit of the People generally.

6. Juries

All jurors have the power to decide both the Law and the Facts in every case. It is the responsibility of all jurors to serve as a check against overreaching government and find for acquittal if in their opinion the law or its enforcement is unjust. Juries must be given all evidence relevant to their decision, and they should be present for all proceedings affecting the defendant.

C. CONFIDENCE

1. Elections

All elections should be secure and free from tampering or fraud. All votes should have a permanent paper record, and a publicly accessible electronic record, and should be counted in each precinct in full public view. The process, machines, or software used to count votes, be they manual, mechanical, or electronic, shall be open to the public.

2. Accountability

All public officials, elected or otherwise are fully and personally, legally and financially accountable to the people. Non elected positions should be bonded, and All Officials should be subject to a Grand Jury of the People, assembled for the purpose, should they be deemed to have violated their oath of office, the law, or enjoy personal benefit while acting under color of law. All proceedings of government, in any form or fashion whatsoever, should be open to the public, either at the time of their occurrence or by publishing of their activities.

3. Preparedness

Government officials have the duty to maintain civil defense procedures and emergency supplies or supply networks, held in trust for the People. All due diligence should be exercised in anticipating contingencies and relief needs. In No case should the government ever hinder or prevent the People or any one of Them from securing their own personal Safety and Security or that of their family or neighbors.

4. Constitutions

Our Federal and State Constitutions are the supreme law of the land. They should be maintained as general, yet absolute temporary delegations from the

people, of powers to various institutions of government. They should not be amended for light or transient causes, nor should their basic provisions be constructed so as to require amendment to assent to laws which would otherwise be in the purview of the Legislature or the People themselves.

5. Budgets

Government has the duty and obligation to spend within the means of the Treasury. Debt should not be incurred unless in dire emergency as invasion or rebellion or natural disaster as shall not admit of any other remedy. A full cash and accrual basis accounting of all Public resources and Monies shall be issued to the People no less than once per calendar year. Louisiana shall not accept or cause to be accepted, any Thing except Gold or Silver coin as a tender in the payment of debt as required by the United States Constitution.

6. Initiatives

We recognize the imperfection of vesting all power in government. We support the People in reserving their right of Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Initiative, and of Legislative Referenda. We also hold that our state constitution should reflect this right of the People, and outline a structure and guidelines for the People to properly exercise their power.