



***Information for  
Delegation Chairs And Delegates***

**2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION**



**RED ROCK CASINO RESORT SPA  
THURSDAY, MAY 3 – SUNDAY, MAY 6**

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(with many thanks to my predecessor, Bob Sullentrup, who created the original version)

*Last Updated April 30, 2012*

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## INTRODUCTION



This booklet is presented as a means of helping ensure the 2012 convention in Las Vegas, NV, 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. 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 3, 2012, making the deadline April 3, 2012. 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 you do not provide a copy of your rules, the alternate substitution for your affiliate will be governed by LP Bylaws Article 11.7.d.
- 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 affiliate chair notify the Secretary ([secretary@lp.org](mailto:secretary@lp.org)) if someone besides the affiliate chair will be serving as the delegation chair.
- During the convention, ensure your delegation submits written votes to the Secretary whenever written votes are requested
- 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”)
- It would be a good idea for you discuss with your delegation potential arrangements for lunch on Saturday. During our Presidential nomination process, we don’t stop for a lunch break. The CSPAN executives and audience are interested in continuous coverage. There are a number of fast-food restaurants within our convention hotel that, IF YOU PLACE ORDERS IN ADVANCE so they can arrange to have sufficient staff, will be able to fill bulk orders for your delegation. During a round of vote-counting, you can send a couple of representatives to pick up your order and bring it back to the convention hall.

## **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

We will again use an area off stage to:

- Distribute motion, region formation, and other forms
- Receive written motions, region formation forms, 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 should have the following experience:

- Be familiar with the Bylaws
- Be familiar with the Delegation Chair's Manual
- 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
- Be a reliable and trustworthy party member

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

## Updating Delegate Counts

The Bylaws in Article 11.9 states:

*“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 after the presidential nomination process 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.

You can assist in a couple of ways. First, encourage your delegates to stay through the end of the business agenda. Second, pay attention to your delegation on the convention floor, and as you hear delegates departing, remind them to check out with the Credentials Committee. When the Credentials Committee can document delegate departures, they can decrement the registration totals accordingly, and the remaining convention attendees are more likely to meet the quorum requirements so that business can be completed.

## **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.

The Convention Oversight Committee Chair has announced that in order to minimize the number of empty seats that will be visible on the C-SPAN broadcasts, the order of state delegation seating in the convention hall will be determined by how full your state delegation is expected to be. Delegates purchasing registration packages have made a clear commitment to attend, so the names of those buying registration packages will be compared to your state's delegate list, and the very first state affiliate to have all of its delegates registered will get front and center seating. Other states filling their delegations by buying registration packages early will be seated closer to the front than those whose delegates buy registration packages later.

## **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 states 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 2012.

## **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 state 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.”*

So 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 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 Secretary 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 Secretary, 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 by a voice vote, and 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 the sample ballot at the end of this document.

Within your delegation, your responsibility is to oversee your 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 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.

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 votes according to a majority vote of your affiliates' delegates) – Bylaws Article 11.7.a
- No proxy voting
- No absentee voting

- **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, Vice-President, and the first round of votes for LNC Chair and LNC At-Large members 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, 7.4, 8.1.c and 8.2.c state that the order shall be alphabetical by state starting with a randomly selected delegation.

For those who haven’t been to presidential 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 is quite time consuming, so the convention often opts to suspend this rule for everything except the first ballot for the Presidential nominee.

For 2012, those initial delegations were determined using random numbers from lines eleven and twelve 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 combinations between 01 and 51 inclusive (don’t forget the DC affiliate), to produce the following:

	<b>President</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>
First Ballot	28 Nebraska	15 Indiana
Second Ballot	23 Michigan	01 Alabama
Third Ballot	13 Idaho	07 Connecticut
Fourth Ballot	32 New Mexico	34 North Carolina
Fifth Ballot	36 Ohio	09 District of Columbia
Sixth Ballot	50 Wisconsin	48 Washington
Seventh Ballot	10 Florida	23 Michigan
	<b>LNC Chair</b>	<b>LNC At-Large</b>
First Ballot	50 Wisconsin	34 North Carolina

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**

If no candidate attains a majority on the first ballot for President or Vice-President, Convention Rule 7.2 prescribes that the candidate with the fewest votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot. In addition, any candidate polling less than 5% shall also be eliminated from the subsequent ballot.

If no candidate attains a majority on the first ballot for National Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary or Treasurer, Convention Rule 8.1.d prescribes that the candidate with the fewest votes on the latest ballot shall be struck from subsequent ballots.

According to Convention Rule 8.2.d and Rule 9, in the case of ties affecting the outcome of elections of five At-Large members and seven Judicial Committee members, another ballot for the remaining offices shall be held with each delegate allowed to cast as many votes as there are remaining offices to fill. Majorities are not required in At-Large members or Judicial Committee members. Rather the candidates receiving the highest vote totals are elected.

By the way, if “None of the above” wins a majority, then the position is considered vacant and none of the candidates get to fulfill the role this term. (LP Bylaws Article 11.8)

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

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

Convention Rule 7: *Nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential Candidates* 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.





## 2012 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

### 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 voting process.

For the 2012 Presidential Candidate debate, scheduled for the evening of Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Libertarian National Convention:

1. 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 4th.
2. After sorting the candidates in descending order by the number of tokens received, the Xth-ranked candidate will receive the Xth pick of preferred speaking positions in the debate opening/closing statements. (The candidate with the most tokens receives 1<sup>st</sup> pick of speaking position. The candidate with the second-most tokens receives 2<sup>nd</sup> pick. Etc.)
3. For each additional 5% of tokens received by a candidate, the candidate will receive one debate wild card. Each debate wild card may be redeemed during the debate for the candidate's choice of a debate perk. The specific perks to choose from will be announced at the convention.

### 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.*

The token will look similar to the image below and each delegate will receive five of them from the Credentials Committee.

2012 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 Expression and Communication	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.3 Energy and Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.1 National Defense
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.2 Personal Privacy	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.4 Government Finance and Spending	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.2 Internal Security and Individual Rights
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.3 Personal Relationships	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 Money and Financial Markets	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.3 International Affairs
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.4 Abortion	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.6 Monopolies and Corporations	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.4 Free Trade and Migration
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.5 Crime and Justice	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.7 Labor Markets	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.5 Rights and Discrimination
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.6 Self-Defense	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.8 Education	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.6 Representative Government
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.0 Economic Liberty	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.9 Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.7 Self-Determination
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.1 Property and Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.10 Retirement and Income Security	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.0 Omissions
<b>DELEGATE (SIGNATURE REQUIRED):</b> _____		<b>.1</b>

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 require this in 2012. In particular, this applies to main motions that must be displayed on the overhead screens. This rule is usually not enforced on simple and secondary motions (e.g., move to recess/adjourn).

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
- Later reconstruct convention proceedings for the record
- 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 3, 2012) and ends the second day of the convention (May 4, 2012).

The Convention Oversight Committee is tentatively planning to set aside a meeting room at the convention on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> for use by regional caucuses. There will likely be a sign-up sheet at the credentialing desk for scheduling use of this room.

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 the following Bylaw.

*Article 8.10: "The National Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by electronic mail. The 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 Committee. Fifteen days shall be allowed for the return of the votes cast, by electronic mail, to the Secretary. Votes from alternate regional representatives will be counted, in accordance with the ranking procedure of the region, only if the regional representative fails to respond to the ballot. The number of votes required for passage of any motion shall be*

*the same as that required during a meeting. The Secretary shall preserve all such votes until the next meeting of the National Committee, at which meeting the Committee shall order the disposition of such votes.”*

## **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 <http://www.lp.org/files/bylaws-2010-1207.pdf>

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 Bylaws and Rules Committee for 2012 at its November 20-21, 2010 meeting in New Orleans. The Committee consists of:

- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Dan Karlan, Chair | dankarlan@earthlink.net        |
| 2. M Carling         | mcarling@gmail.com             |
| 3. Marc Goddard      | aggielong@msn.com              |
| 4. Michael Johnston  | Michael.Johnston@lpo.org       |
| 5. Vicki Kirkland    | vickilp12@gmail.com            |
| 6. Jonathan Morris   | jonathantaylormorris@gmail.com |
| 7. Chuck Moulton     | chuck@moulton.org              |
| 8. Rob Oates         | chair@lpid.org                 |
| 9. Mark Rutherford   | rutherfordlaw@indy.rr.com      |
| 10. Aaron Starr      | starrcpa@pacbell.net           |

Ranked alternates include:

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Alicia Mattson | agmattson@gmail.com |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|

## 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: <http://www.lp.org/platform>

LP Bylaws Article 12.3 states:

*“The Platform Committee shall consist of 20 members selected as follows:*

- a. One member by each of the ten affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention. These members shall be selected no later than the last day of the fifth month prior to the Regular Convention.*
- b. Ten members appointed by the National Committee, including no less than five members from states other than the ten affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention. These members shall be appointed no later than the last day of the fifth month prior to the Regular Convention.”*

At its August 20-21, 2011 meeting in Columbus, the LNC named the following members to the 2012 Platform Committee:

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Alicia Mattson, Chair | agmattson@gmail.com           |
| 2. Chris Barber          | chris@advancedhandlingltd.com |
| 3. Jeff Dimit            | jldimit@aol.com               |
| 4. Randy Eshelman        | commdirector@lpne.org         |
| 5. Sam Goldstein         | SAM8074@aol.com               |
| 6. Joe Hauptmann         | joeh46250@yahoo.com           |
| 7. Brian Holtz           | brian@holtz.org               |
| 8. Richard Randall       | rrandall@richardrandall.com   |
| 9. Rebecca Sink-Burris   | rebecca.sinkburris@gmail.com  |
| 10. Aaron Starr          | starrepa@pacbell.net          |

The top 10 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 2010 convention in St. Louis. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 10/31/2009, making the top 10 states as shown below:

	State	Members As Of 10/31/2009	Platform Committee Representative	E-mail
1	California	1691	Bruce Dovner	bdovner@artnet.net
2	Texas	879	John Shuey	jshuey@shueyfamily.org
3	Florida	823	Lynn House	houseslynn@verizon.net
4	Ohio	630	Ann Leech	Ann.Leech@lpo.org
5	New York	613	Christian Padgett	libertychrisny@yahoo.com
6	Virginia	578	Jim Lark	jwlark@virginia.edu
7	Illinois	540	Kent McMillen	kenton1961@sbcglobal.net
8	Pennsylvania	536	Matthew Cantrell	matthew.p.cantrell@gmail.com
9	Colorado	502	Debbie Schum	smudgesticks@juno.com
10	Georgia	489	Jason Pye	jason@jasonpye.com

### 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 Las Vegas 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.”*

In a mail ballot documented in the December 10-11, 2011 LNC minutes, the LNC named the following members to the 2012 Credentials Committee:

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Jeff Dimit, Chair | jldimit@aol.com           |
| 2. Mark Bodenhausen  | markbodenhausen@yahoo.com |
| 3. Jo Coleman        | jorcoleman@sbcglobal.net  |
| 4. Scott Lieberman   | scott73@earthlink.net     |
| 5. Emily Salvette    | salvette@ameritech.net    |

Ranked alternates include:

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> M Carling    | mcarling@gmail.com |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Carla Pealer | cpealer99@msn.com  |

The top 5 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 2010 convention in St. Louis. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 10/31/2009, making the top 5 states as shown below:



State	Members As Of 10/31/2009	Representative	e-mail
1 California	1691	Cory Nott	corynott@yahoo.com
2 Texas	879	Gary Johnson	sedition@aol.com
3 Florida	823	Vicki Kirkland	vickilp12@gmail.com
4 Ohio	630	Aaron Harris	aaron.harris@lpo.org
5 New York	613	Michael Houze	michael_houze@yahoo.com

### **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 7.4.a)
11	Total time for nominating and seconding speeches for a vice-presidential candidates (Convention Rule 7.4.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 7.4)

#### **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 (Convention Rules 7.2 and 8.1.a)	Majority
LNC At-Large Representatives and Judicial Committee members (Convention Rules 8.2.d and 9)	Top Vote Getters

## Resolutions

Adopt a resolution (Convention Rule 6.1)	2/3
--	-----

## Amendments

Amend the Convention Rules (...citation needed...)	2/3
Adopt new platform planks, or amend existing platform plank (Bylaws Article 4.3)	2/3
Amend Bylaws (Bylaws Article 17.1)	2/3
Amend Statement of Principles (Article 17.2)	7/8 of registered delegates

## Deletions and Retentions

Delete a platform plank (Bylaws Article 4.3)	Majority
--	----------

## 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)	$\frac{3}{4}$
---	---------------

## 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
---	----------

## Quorums

Convention quorum (Bylaws Article 11.9)	40% 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
Number of signature tokens needed for a candidate to participate in the Presidential candidate debate (see p. 13)	10% of credentialed delegates as of morning of debate

## DELEGATE ALLOCATION TABLE

The following table lists the number of delegates each affiliate is entitled to at the 2012 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.

State	2012 Delegate Allocation	Sustaining Membership				Presidential Vote		
		Members As of 10/31/2011	LNC Region Formation --	Delegate Allocation --	Delegates Based on Members	Barr 2008 Vote	Percent of 2008 Vote	Delegates Based on 2008 Vote
			Percent of Members	Percent of Members				
AL	13	182	1.376 %	1.370%	10	4,991	0.953%	3
AK	5	59	0.446 %	0.444%	4	1,589	0.303%	1
AZ	24	301	2.275 %	2.265%	17	12,555	2.397%	7
AR	8	79	0.597 %	0.595%	5	4,776	0.912%	3
CA	138	1874	14.166 %	14.104%	101	67,582	12.905%	37
CO	29	414	3.129 %	3.116%	23	10,897	2.081%	6
CT	10	175	1.323 %	1.317%	10	-	0.000%	0
DE	4	44	0.333 %	0.331%	3	1,109	0.212%	1
DC	3	37	0.280 %	0.278%	2	1	0.000%	1
FL	52	773	5.843 %	5.818%	42	17,218	3.288%	10
GA	39	417	3.152 %	3.138%	23	28,812	5.502%	16
HI	5	65	0.491 %	0.489%	4	1,314	0.251%	1
ID	6	63	0.476 %	0.474%	4	3,658	0.699%	2
IL	38	485	3.666 %	3.650%	27	19,645	3.751%	11
IN	34	327	2.472 %	2.461%	18	29,257	5.587%	16
IA	10	118	0.892 %	0.888%	7	4,590	0.876%	3
KS	13	162	1.225 %	1.219%	9	6,706	1.281%	4
KY	10	99	0.748 %	0.745%	6	5,989	1.144%	4
LA	7	124	0.937 %	0.933%	7	-	0.000%	0
ME	6	77	0.582 %	0.580%	5	251	0.048%	1
MD	20	257	1.943 %	1.934%	14	9,842	1.879%	6
MA	21	235	1.776 %	1.769%	13	13,189	2.518%	8
MI	39	476	3.598 %	3.582%	26	23,716	4.529%	13
MN	18	215	1.625 %	1.618%	12	9,174	1.752%	6
MS	6	67	0.506 %	0.504%	4	2,529	0.483%	2
MO	20	235	1.776 %	1.769%	13	11,386	2.174%	7
MT	4	50	0.378 %	0.376%	3	1,355	0.259%	1
NE	7	84	0.635 %	0.632%	5	2,740	0.523%	2
NV	14	201	1.519 %	1.513%	11	4,263	0.814%	3
NH	10	139	1.051 %	1.046%	8	2,217	0.423%	2
NJ	23	322	2.434 %	2.423%	18	8,441	1.612%	5
NM	8	106	0.801 %	0.798%	6	2,428	0.464%	2
NY	43	582	4.399 %	4.380%	32	19,513	3.726%	11
NC	33	330	2.495 %	2.484%	18	25,722	4.912%	15



State	2012 Delegate Allocation	Sustaining Membership				Presidential Vote		
		Members As of 10/31/2011	LNC Region	Delegate	Delegates Based on Members	Barr 2008 Vote	Percent of 2008 Vote	Delegates Based on 2008 Vote
			Formation --	Allocation --				
			Percent of Members	Percent of Members				
ND	3	22	0.166 %	0.166%	2	1,354	0.259%	1
OH	44	611	4.619 %	4.598%	33	19,888	3.798%	11
OK	6	93	0.703 %	0.700%	5	1	0.000%	1
OR	15	178	1.346 %	1.340%	10	7,635	1.458%	5
PA	39	511	3.863 %	3.846%	28	19,912	3.802%	11
RI	3	35	0.265 %	0.263%	2	1,382	0.264%	1
SC	14	171	1.293 %	1.287%	10	7,283	1.391%	4
SD	4	31	0.234 %	0.233%	2	1,835	0.350%	2
TN	18	232	1.754 %	1.746%	13	8,547	1.632%	5
TX	78	874	6.607 %	6.578%	47	56,116	10.716%	31
UT	9	79	0.597 %	0.595%	5	6,966	1.330%	4
VT	3	32	0.242 %	0.241%	2	1,067	0.204%	1
VA	35	511	3.863 %	3.846%	28	11,067	2.113%	7
WA	27	364	2.752 %	2.740%	20	12,728	2.430%	7
WV	4	66	0.499 %	0.497%	4	-	0.000%	0
WI	17	215	1.625 %	1.618%	12	8,858	1.691%	5
WY	3	30	0.227 %	0.226%	2	1,594	0.304%	1
OTHER	-----	58	-----	0.437%	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>1042</b>	13,287	100.000%	100.000%	<b>735</b>	523,688	100.000%	<b>307</b>

Notes:

- After the 2008 elections the LNC Secretary did not receive any affidavits from the chairs of CT, LA, or WV attesting that they voted for Bob Barr as a write-in presidential candidate in a state in which the LP did not gain ballot access. The chair of OK did submit such an affidavit (e-mail) that he wrote-in Bob Barr as did the DC affiliate. Accordingly, OK and DC receive one delegate as a positive fraction of 0.35% of the total vote.

Source for presidential vote totals:

<http://www.fec.gov/pubrec/fe2008/2008presgeresults.pdf>



LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
LAS VEGAS - 2012

For Office Use Only

# Delegate Motion

Motion pertains to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws:	Article _____	Section _____	<b>And is a (an)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Addition (new) <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Convention Rule:	Number _____	Section _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Platform	Plank _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment		

Old Text (deletions and replacements)

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---

New Text (additions and replacements)

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---

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

(Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconder (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Delegation \_\_\_\_\_



**LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
LAS VEGAS, 2012**

For Office Use Only

# Sample Election Ballot

**Delegation: MyState**

**First Ballot for: ThisOffice**

<b>JUSTIN TYME</b>	_____
<b>PETE ZERRIA</b>	_____
<b>DUSTY RHODES</b>	_____
<b>NONE OF THE ABOVE</b>	_____
<hr/>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

Total ballots cast from this delegation shall not exceed either:

**MyState** Delegation Allocation: **24**

**MyState** Currently Credentialed Delegates: **19**

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

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

May 5, 2012



**LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
LAS VEGAS 2012**

For Office Use Only

**Region Formation**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL BYLAWS, THE  
DELEGATION CHAIRS OF THE FOLLOWING AFFILIATES CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY  
THEIR INTENTION TO FORM A REPRESENTATIVE REGION.**

*Signatures below:*

*Printed Name and State:*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**In addition, the delegates from this region select the following as their  
Regional Representative(s) and Alternate(s):**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

*Regions must be formed by the second day of the convention (May 4). This notice of a  
new formation is due to the LNC Secretary by the close of the convention.*

