

# CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS of the Broward County Libertarian Executive Committee

### Article I Name and Territorial Limits

This organization shall be known the Broward County Libertarian Executive Committee, hereinafter referred to as the "County Executive Committee." This organization shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Florida. The County Executive Committee shall encompass all voting precincts in Broward County.

### Article II Purposes

The purpose of the County Executive Committee is to seek qualified Libertarians to become candidates and to elect those candidates to public office.

### Article III Membership

Section 1: Membership in the County Executive Committee shall consist of a) two registered voters affiliated with the Florida Libertarian Party, a man and a woman, from each precinct in Broward County who shall be known, respectively, as Precinct Committeemen and Precinct Committeewomen and b) all members of the Legislature who reside in Broward County and are affiliated with the Libertarian Party of Florida who shall be known as At-Large Committeemen and Committeewomen. As a necessary condition for membership, all Committeemen and Committeewomen, both precinct and at-large, shall file with the secretary, on a form created by the secretary, a signed and dated loyalty oath that states:

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, certify that I am a registered voter in Broward County with a declared affiliation with the Libertarian Party of Florida. I will not endorse or support a candidate for public office who is not affiliated with the Libertarian Party except in a non-partisan election or in an election that has no Libertarian Party candidate. I oppose the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals and believe that no one should be forcibly prevented from acting in any way he or she chooses provided his or her acts are not invasive of the free acts of others.



Section 2: Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen shall serve two-year terms. Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen representing voting precincts which, according to the precinct numbering system employed by the Broward County Supervisor of Elections, end in an odd number shall be selected at the County Executive Committee's Annual Organizational Meeting held in years that end in an odd number. Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen representing voting precincts which, according to the precinct numbering system employed by the Broward County Supervisor of Elections, end in an even number shall be selected at the County Executive Committee's Annual Organizational Meeting held in years that end in an even number. At the 2018 Annual Organizational Meeting, however, Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen from all precincts may be selected with those representing even-numbered precincts serving two-years terms and those representing odd-numbered precincts serving one-year terms.

Section 3: Vacant Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen seats may be filled with qualified persons by resolution of the County Executive Committee.

Section 4: A Precinct Committeeman's or Committeewoman's gender is that which appears on his or her state-issued driver license or identification card.

Section 5: Any Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman who either moves his or her residence to outside the precinct he or she represents or who ceases to be a registered voter affiliated with the Florida Libertarian Party shall be considered to have resigned his or her seat. It is the duty of each member of the County Executive Committee to keep the secretary informed of his or her current party affiliation, changes in voter registration status, residence address, telephone number, e-mail address and other contact information.

## Article IV Annual Organizational Meeting

Section 1: At 7 p.m. on the third Friday of August, or on another date and hour prescribed by resolution of the County Executive Committee that falls within thirty days thereafter, the County Executive Committee shall hold its Annual Organizational Meeting. If the date for the Annual Organization Meeting falls within a period declared pursuant to the laws of this State or Broward County as a state of emergency, public health emergency, or state of local disaster emergency, then the Annual Organizational Meeting may he held by means of an Internet platform for video and audio conferencing.

Section 2: The first order of business at the Annual Organizational Meeting shall be the selection of Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen. To be eligible, those seeking a Precinct



Committeeman or Committeewoman seat, including the incumbent, if any, must file a notice of intention in accordance with the Standing Rules no earlier than the 1st and no later than the 15th of July of the year in which the Annual Organizational Meeting is being held. If the seat of a Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman who served in office on June 30th in the year the Annual Organizational Meeting is held is being sought by one or more other eligible candidates, the winner shall be determined by written ballots, which shall be prepared by the Secretary in advance of the election, cast by only those registered voters present at the meeting who were affiliated with the Florida Libertarian Party on June 30th of the same year and whose addresses, as shown on their voter registration cards, are within the precinct for which the election is being held. Otherwise, winners shall be determined by ballots, which shall be prepared by the Secretary in advance of the election, cast by incumbent Precinct Committeemen or Committeewomen and At-Large Committeemen and Committeewomen. Such ballots shall list each seat for which at least one notice of intent was filed and for each such seat the name(s) of the candidate(s) who are seeking it along with a "None of the Above (NOTA)" selection. After all Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen selections have been made, the newly selected Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen shall be seated. The newly comprised body shall then elect from among themselves a temporary chairperson, who shall not be a candidate for any office defined by Article V herein, to preside over the election of officers. If the leading candidates for any contested Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman seat shall receive the same number of votes, another ballot, including all candidates and NOTA shall be cast. If this second ballot still results in a tie between the leading candidates, the winner shall be selected by a vote of the newly seated County Executive Committee. Section 3: The second order of business at the Annual Organizational Meeting shall be the election of officers, who shall be elected to one-year terms by written ballot and whose terms shall commence immediately upon election. To be eligible, those seeking to be an officer, including the incumbent, if any, must file a notice of intention in accordance with the Standing Rules no earlier than the 1st and no later than the 15th of July of the year in which the Annual Organizational Meeting is being held. Officers shall be elected on separate ballots, which shall be prepared by the Secretary in advance of the election, in the order in which they appear in Article V herein and each ballot shall contain the names of each person who filed a timely notice of intention and a "None of the Above (NOTA)" selection. If at least one qualified nominee for any given office has filed a notice of intention, no nominations from the floor will be in order for that office. Nominations from the floor shall be in order for those offices for which no notices of intention were filed. Any office for which NOTA receives a plurality of votes shall be declared vacant until the next Annual Organizational Meeting. However, the body shall, at the present meeting and at each subsequent meeting held prior to the next Annual Organizational Meeting, elect from among themselves a person to temporarily serve in each vacant position until the adjournment of the following meeting. If the leading candidates for any office receive the same number of votes, another ballot, including all candidates for the office and NOTA shall be cast.



If this second ballot still results in a tie between the two leading candidates, the winner shall be determined by a coin toss.

Section 4: The third order of business at the Annual Organizational Meeting shall be establishing the dates, hours and locations of all County Executive Committee regular meetings through to the next Annual Organizational Meeting.

Section 5: The fourth order of business at the Annual Organizational Meeting shall be establishing committees and determining the number of members on each committee. The Chair, at the Organizational Meeting and throughout the year, shall endeavor to fill the committees so established. Only registered voters affiliated with the Florida Libertarian Party may serve on a committee. Appointees to each committee shall select from among themselves the committee's chairperson. The Executive Committee Chair shall notify the Executive Committee immediately of all committee appointments and all appointments shall be recorded in the minutes of the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### Article V Officers

The County Executive Committee shall have the following officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Constitution & Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted herein. No person shall hold more than one office simultaneously. Only members of the County Executive Committee are eligible to hold office and no officer shall be eligible to serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

#### Article VI Meetings and Quorum

Section 1. The dates, hours and locations, as well as the agendas, to the extent known, of all County Executive Committee meetings shall be continuously maintained by the secretary on the County Executive Committee's Internet site. Special meetings of the County Executive Committee may be called by the Chair, any two officers or upon written request of ten Precinct Committeemen or Committeewomen. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least three days' notice shall be given. Notice of special meetings shall be made by e-mail to the e-mail addresses on file.

Section 2. If the total number of Committeemen and Committeewomen, both Precinct and At-Large, is fifty (50) or less, thirty (30) percent of them shall constitute a quorum. If the total

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number of Committeemen and Committeewomen, both Precinct and At-Large, is greater than fifty (50) but less than two-hundred (200), then twenty (20) percent of them shall constitute a quorum. If the total number of Committeemen and Committeewomen, both Precinct and At-Large, is two-hundred (200) or more, then ten (10) percent of them shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. No person shall participate in or vote at any meeting of the County Executive Committee unless he or she is personally present at the meeting. If, however, a meeting falls within a period declared pursuant to the laws of this State or Broward County as a state of emergency, public health emergency, or state of local disaster emergency, then the meeting may he held by means of an Internet platform for video and audio conferencing.

# Article VII Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the County Executive Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution & Bylaws and any special rules of order the County Executive Committee may adopt.

## Article VIII Discipline of Officers and Members

Section 1. The Chair, upon receipt of written charges filed by any member of the County Executive Committee against any other member or officer shall appoint an ad hoc Grievance Committee consisting of three, five or seven County Executive Committee members to investigate the charges. If the Chair is either the complainant or the accused, then the Vice-Chair shall appoint the Grievance Committee. The complainant, the accused and all witnesses shall be ineligible to serve on the Grievance Committee. The complainant and the accused shall be invited to attend, testify and submit any pertinent documents to the Grievance Committee and the Grievance Committee shall make its findings and recommendations not more than sixty days from its receipt of the complaint. If the Grievance Committee finds that a complaint was frivolous or filed in bad faith, it may recommend that the complainant be disciplined. The Grievance Committee shall forthwith forward its findings and recommendations to the secretary who shall promptly forward them, by certified mail, to the complainant and the accused member or officer together with at least ten days notice of the date, hour and location of the meeting at which the findings and recommendations will be considered and acted upon by the County Executive Committee. Discipline imposed may be censure, removal from office, a fixed term of suspension or expulsion from the County Executive Committee.

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Section 2. Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen who, without excuse, miss two consecutive regular meetings shall automatically be removed from office effective at the adjournment of the second meeting missed. Excuses shall be granted or denied by a majority vote of the County Executive Committee.

### Article IX Amendment of Constitution & Bylaws

This Constitution & Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting at which one-hundred fifty (150) percent of the required quorum of the County Executive Committee is in attendance and where the amendment receives a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment had been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.