



Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Orange County, California

As Amended March 31, 2018

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this nonprofit organization is the Libertarian Party Central Committee of Orange County, hereinafter referred to as the “Central Committee”. It may also be known as the Libertarian Party of Orange County, California (LPOC).

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the Central Committee is to conduct the following activities, primarily within Orange County, consistent with the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party and the Libertarian Party of California:

- A. Disseminate libertarian philosophy through outreach and informational activities.
- B. Nominate and support Libertarian Party candidates for political office.
- C. Register Libertarian Party voters.
- D. Encourage membership in the Libertarian Party.
- E. Encourage and support other libertarian-related activities.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1: Requirements

- A. Central Committee members have voting privileges at Central Committee meetings.

- B. An individual may become a member of the Central Committee by:
 - i. Holding an elected public office in Orange County as a registered Libertarian pursuant to relevant provisions of the California Election Code,
 - ii. Being elected to the Central Committee by registered Libertarian voters in a primary election pursuant to relevant provisions of the California Elections Code, or
 - iii. Satisfying membership requirements established by the Libertarian Party of California and designating their county affiliation as Orange County.
- C. No member of the Central Committee shall be a registrant of, or hold office in, any political party other than the Libertarian Party.
- D. A member of the Central Committee does not have to reside in Orange County, California, however they may not be a member of another County Central Committee.

Section 2: Termination of Membership

- A. Unless another requirement for becoming a member is met, membership in the Central Committee shall terminate upon occurrence of any of the following:
 - i. A member ceasing to hold elected public office in Orange County.
 - ii. A member failing to be re-elected to the Central Committee by registered Libertarian voters in the subsequent primary election.
 - iii. A member failing to pay required membership dues as determined by the Libertarian Party of California or changing their designated county affiliation to something other than Orange County.
- B. The membership of any Central Committee member may be suspended or terminated by any of the following:
 - i. A 2/3 vote of a quorum of the Central Committee (with at least ten (10) votes in favor),
 - ii. A 2/3 vote of all members of the Executive Committee,
 - iii. The Libertarian Party of California according to criteria set in their bylaws,
 - iv. Written request by the member.
- B. Membership in the Central Committee may be suspended or terminated for failure to meet or maintain the requirements established in these Bylaws, or for violating these Bylaws.
- C. Membership in the Central Committee may be suspended or terminated for causes stated in the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of California.
- D. A member facing suspension or termination by vote of the Executive or Central Committees shall be sent written notice at least thirty (30) days prior to a suspension or termination vote taking place.
- E. After the suspension or termination vote, written notice of the final result of the vote shall be sent to the member within three (3) business days.

- F. The suspension or termination decision shall be final after ten (10) business days, unless appealed.

Section 3: Appeal

- A. A member may appeal the Executive Committee's suspension or termination decision:
- i. To the Central Committee membership, by written notice to the Secretary or Chair within ten (10) business days of notification.
 - a. The appeal shall be placed on the agenda of the Central Committee meeting which immediately follows the appeal, with adequate notice of the vote provided to members, or
 - b. A special meeting of the Central Committee may be called, in accordance with the criteria set in these bylaws.
 - ii. The member shall be given the opportunity to be heard, verbally or in writing, prior to the final vote by the Central Committee.
 - iii. A majority vote of a quorum of the Central Committee is needed to restore a membership.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1: Positions

- A. The officers of the Central Committee shall be at a minimum: a Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- B. Additional officers of the Central Committee shall be: Vice Chair and Technology Officer
- i. These additional officer positions may be left vacant by a majority vote of the Central Committee.

Section 2: Eligibility

- A. Any Central Committee member that is a registered Libertarian is eligible for election as an officer.
- B. No officer shall:
- i. Be a registrant of, or hold office in, any political party other than the Libertarian Party.
 - ii. Use any office in the LPOC to support a candidate of another political party.

Section 3: Officer Removal

- A. Any officer may be removed from office by
- i. The unanimous vote of all other members of the Executive Committee, or

- ii. A 2/3 vote of a quorum at a meeting of the Central Committee (with at least ten (10) votes in favor), provided
 - a. Charges against the officer are made and adopted by a 2/3 vote at the preceding Central Committee meeting, and
 - b. Thirty (30) days notice is given to Central Committee members of the meeting for the final vote.
- B. An officer facing removal shall be sent written notice at least twenty-one (21) days prior to a removal vote taking place.
- C. After the removal vote, written notice of the final result of the vote shall be sent to the removed officer within three (3) business days.
- D. Upon an officer's removal, the office shall be declared vacant after three (3) business days, unless the decision is appealed.

Section 4: Appeal

- B. A removed officer may appeal the Executive Committee's removal decision:
 - i. To the Central Committee membership, by written notice to the Secretary or Chair within three (3) business days of the notification of removal.
 - a. The appeal shall be placed on the agenda of the Central Committee meeting which immediately follows the appeal, with adequate notice of the vote provided to members, or
 - b. A special meeting of the Central Committee may be called, in accordance with the criteria set in these bylaws.
 - ii. The removed officer shall be given the opportunity to be heard, verbally or in writing, prior to the final vote by the Central Committee.
 - iii. A majority vote of the Central Committee is needed to restore the officer.
 - a. A removal decision by a 2/3 vote of the Central Committee may not be appealed.
 - iv. During the appeal, the removed officer may not resume the regular duties of the office.

Section 5: Vacancy

- A. In the event of a vacancy in any office, the Executive Committee may fill the vacancy with a temporary appointment, and shall call for a vote to make the appointment permanent:
 - i. At the next Central Committee meeting, with adequate notice of the vote provided to members, or
 - ii. At a special meeting of the Central Committee, scheduled in accordance with the criteria set in these bylaws.

- B. If the temporary appointment is not ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee, the Chair will call for nominations from the floor, so the members may make their own appointment.

ARTICLE V

Officers' Duties

Section 1: Chair

- A. The Chair shall be the Chief Executive of the LPOC and preside at all meetings of the Central Committee and the Executive Committee.
- B. The Chair shall be responsible for writing an agenda, and distributing it to members, prior to the start of each Central Committee and Executive Committee meeting.
- C. The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and ad-hoc committees, unless expressly prohibited when the committee is created.

Section 2: Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall be the Recording Officer of the LPOC and be responsible for recording and distributing the meeting minutes.
- B. The Secretary shall maintain all records and the membership list.
- C. The Secretary shall send and receive formal notifications as specified by these Bylaws and/or as required by the Libertarian Party of California.

Section 3: Treasurer

- A. The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the LPOC and shall receive, hold, disburse, and account for all funds under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- B. The Treasurer shall regularly report to the Executive Committee on the financial status of the LPOC including account balances, revenues, and expenses.
- C. The Treasurer shall maintain an accurate and reviewable system of accounting, which shall be accessible to any officer at any reasonable time.
- D. The Treasurer may not also hold the position of Chair.

Section 4: Vice Chair

- A. The Vice Chair shall act as assistant to the Chair and shall perform the duties of the Chair in the event the Chair is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of his or her office.
- B. The Vice Chair shall oversee communication and coordination with outside groups, candidates, and volunteers within the county.

- C. The Executive Committee may create multiple Vice Chair positions to divide the responsibilities of the Vice Chair. The responsibilities of each Vice Chair shall be defined in the Standing Resolutions. The Executive Committee may create or dissolve additional Vice Chair positions by majority vote.

Section 5: Technology Officer

- A. The Technology Officer shall implement and maintain the technology-related tools, initiatives, and activities of the LPOC.
- B. The Technology Officer shall consult with and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, and other LPOC committees, about technology-related needs.
- C. The Technology Officer shall maintain a system for accessing and preserving LPOC records digitally.

ARTICLE VI

Committees

Section 1: Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers of the Central Committee.
- B. The Executive Committee shall have control and authority over the business affairs and property of the Central Committee, subject to:
 - i. The provisions of these Bylaws, and
 - ii. Standing Resolutions adopted by the Central Committee.
- C. Any action of the Executive Committee may be rescinded by a majority vote of the Central Committee.
- D. The Executive Committee may conduct business in-person and by telephone, mail, email, or other communication method.

Section 2: Ad Hoc Committees

- A. The Executive Committee may, by majority vote, establish such ad hoc committees as it deems advisable or necessary to conduct the business of the Central Committee.
 - i. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Director for each committee who is a member of the Central Committee.
 - ii. Each committee Director shall recruit additional members for each committee.
 - a. Any additional committee member shall be either a member of the Central Committee or a registered Libertarian Party voter.
- B. The activities of any committee established by the Executive Committee shall be limited in scope and specified by the Executive Committee.

- i. Each committee may establish its own rules to conduct its activities and meetings, subject to the rules and restrictions set forth in the Bylaws, Standing Resolutions, and other policies adopted by the Central Committee and the Executive Committee.
- C. An ad-hoc committee established by the Executive Committee may be dissolved at any time by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

Section 1: Annual Election Meeting

- A. An Annual Meeting of the Central Committee shall be held to elect officers. This meeting shall be held the month prior to the Libertarian Party of California Annual Convention.
- B. Notice shall be given to Central Committee members as to the date, time, location, and purpose of the Annual Election Meeting, at least thirty (30) days and no more than sixty (60) days prior to the election.
- C. Notice shall be given to the Secretary of the Libertarian Party of California as to the date, time, location, and purpose of the Annual Election Meeting, at least thirty (30) days prior to the election.
- D. The results of the annual election shall be reported to the Secretary of the Libertarian Party of California within fifteen (15) days following the election.
- E. Newly elected officers shall take office immediately upon the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

Section 2: Central Committee Meetings

- A. The Central Committee shall meet at least once per year. This meeting may also be the Annual Election Meeting.
- B. Additional meetings, more frequent meetings, or special meetings of the Central Committee may be called by
 - i. Majority vote of the Executive Committee, or
 - ii. Written request, submitted to the Chair or Secretary, by the lesser of either 1/3 of the total membership or ten (10) members.
- C. The Executive Committee shall set the time and place of all Central Committee meetings.
- D. Members who are eligible to vote at a Central Committee meeting are those whose names appear on the most current list of members obtained from the Libertarian Party of California, and who have been a Central Committee member for at least 30 days.
- E. A quorum shall consist of all members in attendance that are eligible to vote at the time a vote is taken, provided the number in attendance is not less than four (4).

- F. An agenda outlining topics to be discussed during the meeting shall be made available to members prior to the meeting. Any member of the Central Committee may submit an agenda topic provided:
 - i. The topic is related to the business or activities of the Central Committee.
 - ii. It is submitted to the Chair, or other presiding officer, prior to the start of the meeting.
- G. At least fourteen (14) days prior notice shall be given to all Central Committee members as to the date, time, location, and purpose of a Central Committee meeting.
- H. Voting by proxy is prohibited at any Central Committee meeting, including the Annual Election Meeting.

Section 3: Executive Committee Meetings

- A. The Executive Committee shall meet once per month, except for months where a Central Committee meeting takes place.
- B. The Executive Committee may conduct meetings in-person, by telephone, or by other communication method.
- C. Meetings may be called by the Chair or by any two members of the Executive Committee.
- D. At least seven (7) days prior notice shall be given to Executive Committee and Central Committee members as to the date, time, location, and purpose of an Executive Committee meeting.
- E. An individual meeting may be postponed or canceled by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- F. A quorum at a meeting shall be a majority of the members of the Executive Committee.
- G. An agenda outlining topics to be discussed during the meeting shall be made available to members prior to the meeting. Any member of the Executive Committee may submit an agenda topic, provided:
 - i. The topic is related to the business or activities of the LPOC.
 - ii. It is submitted to the Chair, or other presiding officer, prior to the start of the meeting.
- H. Voting by proxy is prohibited at any Executive Committee meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

Endorsements

- A. The Executive Committee may endorse candidates for nonpartisan office in Orange County with a 2/3 vote.
- B. The Executive Committee may endorse ballot measures in Orange County with a 2/3 vote.

- C. The Executive Committee may endorse candidates for partisan office in Orange County with a 2/3 vote, only if the candidate's political party affiliation is "Libertarian" or "Decline to State."
- D. No officer shall use their official position, or allow Central Committee funds to be used, to support or oppose any candidate or other matter appearing on a public ballot except in accordance with a position taken by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

- A. These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Central Committee by a 2/3 vote of a quorum, provided
 - i. Any proposed amendments were submitted in writing at a preceding Executive Committee or Central Committee meeting, and
 - ii. The text of the proposed amendment is included with the notice for the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered.

ARTICLE X

Authorities

- A. Libertarian Party of California
 - i. This organization is authorized under the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of California. These Bylaws are subordinate to the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of California.
- B. California Election Codes
 - i. The California Election Code shall be the statutory authority for the Central Committee.
- C. Robert's Rules of Order
 - i. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically addressed by these Bylaws.