

CONSTITUTION

OR

BYLAWS

OR

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Preamble

We hold that:

Every individual has the right to his own life, and the right to live his life in any manner that does not forcibly interfere in the life of another,

The right to acquire property justly is a corollary to the right to life,

No individual, group, or government has the right to initiate physical force against anyone,

The only moral justification for government is for the protection of the rights to life, liberty and property,

Forcibly depriving an individual of what he has produced to help another is not compassion, but theft, and

All of life is economic, government cannot be separated from economics, and government is coercion, therefore we advocate reducing government to those minimal functions allowed in the original Constitution of the United States, we advocate the removal of physical force from the market place, and we advocate that all economic transactions be voluntary,

Accordingly, we have organized the Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County, California.

1. **Name of the Organization**

The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County, California. "The Party" in this document refers to the Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County, California.

2. **Object of the Party**

The purpose of the Party is to promote and maintain libertarian principles and seek election of public officials consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party and who support the Platforms of the Libertarian Parties of the United States and of California.

3. **Members**

Any member in good standing of the Libertarian Party of California who chooses to affiliate with this Party is eligible to be a member of this Party, and have full voting rights at any Party meeting. All voting must be done in person.

Section 1. Anyone may become a member of the Party who:

- (a) Is a member in good standing of the Libertarian Party of California.
- (b) Signs the statement at the bottom of the application for membership that states: "I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."
- (c) Chooses to affiliate with this Party. (Members may affiliate with more than one County party.)

Section 2. All voting must be done in person.

Section 3. Membership terminates when a member:

- (a) Fails to remain in good standing with the State Party.
- b. Is suspended by the State or Party Executive Committee for cause.

Section 4. Any Party member may appeal suspension within 15 days after suspension to the judicial committee.

4. **Officers**

Section 1. Officers shall be elected by the general membership of the Party at the Annual Meeting of the Party unless the Executive Committee shall arrange a special election meeting with notice as required. Officers to be elected are: a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Internet Resource Officer, Committee chairmen and members shall be appointed by the Chairman.

Section 2. Any person who is a member of the Party, and who has expressed a willingness to serve, shall be eligible for election to any Party Office.

Section 3. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Party.

Section 4. The Vice-Chairman shall act as assistant to the Chairman and shall perform the duties of the chair in the event the chair, for any reason, is unable to perform the duties of that office.

Section 5. The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Party and shall be responsible for membership, mailing lists, registration activities and state party registration.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall receive, expend and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chairman and Executive Committee,

Section 7. The Internet Resource Officer shall arrange for the creation, the hosting and the maintenance of the organization's web site and any associated internet based services that the organization requires.

Section 8. An Officer may be suspended from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee. The position of a suspended Officer shall be declared vacant unless the suspended officer appeals such suspension to the Party Judicial Committee within 15 days of notification of suspension.

Section 9. Upon appeal by the suspended Officer, the Judicial Committee shall set the date of a hearing. Following the hearing, the Judicial Committee shall rule to either uphold the suspension, thereby vacating the office, or restore the Officer to full authority.

Section 10. The Executive committee shall appoint new officers if vacancies or suspensions occur, such officers to complete the term of the office vacated.

5. **Meetings**

Section 1. The Party shall meet at least once every three (3) months. An Annual Meeting of the membership shall be held in the month preceding that in which the State

Party Convention is to be held. Election of Officers and Delegates to the State Convention shall be held at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. The presence of at least 2/3 of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for setting the time and place of all meetings. A minimum of two (2) weeks notice shall be provided to the Party membership concerning any meeting. Publication in the "Lifeline" newsletter and use of an e-mail mailing list shall be considered notice.

6. **Executive Board**

The Party Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 1. The Executive committee shall meet at such time and place as may be determined by the action of the Committee, by call of the Party Chairman, or by the written request of one-third (1/3) or more of the members of the Executive Committee. A written or verbal notice of the time and place of all meetings shall be given to each member of the Executive committee not less than seven (7) days prior to said meeting. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting.

Section 2. The Executive Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by mail or e-mail, by voting on questions submitted to it, by or with the approval of the Chairman. Two weeks shall be allowed for the return of the votes by mail to the Secretary. If, at the expiration of the applicable period, a quorum of the Executive Committee has not voted, the measure being voted upon shall be deemed as having failed; in other cases, a majority of the votes returned shall carry the measure except where a higher vote is required by the constitution or Bylaws. The Secretary must preserve all votes until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, at which time the Executive committee shall order the disposition of such votes.

7. **Article V. Judicial Committee**

Section 1. The Judicial Committee shall consist of five (5) persons nominated and elected from the general membership who do not belong to the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Judicial Committee shall elect a chairman who shall receive all appeals and petitions, and schedule hearings to obtain a quorum of the Committee. When a hearing is requested, the Chairman shall be allowed two (2) days to set the date of the hearing. A majority of the members of the Judicial Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting.

Section 3. The Judicial Committee must provide at least fourteen (14) days notice to each of the interested parties to a hearing.

Section 4. Hearings must be held within twenty-one (21) days from the time the request is received by the Judicial Committee, unless otherwise specified.

Section 5. Each party to a hearing shall have the right to represent his interests in the manner of his own choosing.

Section 6. The Judicial Committee must provide a ruling within two (2) days of the conclusion of a hearing, unless otherwise specified.

Section 7. Decisions of the Judicial Committee may be reversed by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at the next general meeting of the Party.

8. **Committees**

Section 1. The Executive Committee may establish whatever standing committees are deemed necessary.

Section 2. The Executive Committee may establish such working committees as it deems appropriate and shall appoint a Chairman for each committee. Working committees shall exist under the authority of and at the convenience of the Executive Committee.

9. **State Party Representation**

Representation of the Party at the State Party shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of California.

10. **Parliamentary Authority**

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Tenth Edition shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the Constitution, and Bylaws of the Party.

11. **Finances and Accounting**

Section 1. The fiscal term of the Party shall begin on the first day following the adjournment of each Annual Meeting.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall cause an efficient system of accounts to be installed and maintained.

Section 3. All disbursements exceeding twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be made solely by check.

12. **Executive Appeal**

Section 1. Any action taken by an Officer or the Executive Committee may be appealed to the Judicial committee by the petition of ten (10) Party members.

Section 2. The Judicial Committee will hold a hearing to determine whether or not the action in question was within the scope of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of the Region. Should the Committee rule that the action was not proper, then the Judicial Committee shall direct such corrective measures as it deems appropriate.

13. **Delegates**

Section 1. Any member of the Party, as indicated in Article III, Section 1 of the Bylaws, may be eligible to represent the Party at a State Party Convention.

Section 2. Delegates shall be elected at the Annual meeting by the general membership.

Section 3. Alternate delegates may be appointed by the Chairman or three (3) members of the Executive Committee

14. **Amendment**

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any Party Membership Meeting, providing that the amendment was proposed at the previous meeting, and notification of the proposed amendment accompanied the notice for the meeting at which the amendment will be considered.

15. **Compliance**

At such time as the Party or the California Libertarian Party qualifies to be placed on the California ballot, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party shall be amended as necessary to conform to the provisions of the California Election Code. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive committee to take such action.