

**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, if anything, 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 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, as amended (with the exception of the Sixteenth Amendment), 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.

**Articles**

**Article I. Name of the organization**

The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County, California. Every reference to “the Party” and “the County Party” in this document refers to the Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County, California, unless specified otherwise.

## **Article II. 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 California.

## **Article III. Members**

Any member in good standing of the Libertarian Party of California who chooses to affiliate with the County Party is eligible to be a member of the County Party and have full voting rights at any meeting the County Party may hold.

**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 which 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.”, and
- (c) chooses to affiliate with the Party. Members may affiliate with more than one county party.

**Section 2.** Every member of the Party shall be accorded one (and only one) vote whenever a vote is called for. No member may authorize another to vote on their behalf, and proxies will not be honored.

**Section 3.** Membership terminates when a member

- (a) fails to remain in good standing with the Libertarian Party of California, or
- (b) is suspended by the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of California for cause.

**Section 4.** If suspended, a member may appeal that suspension to the Judicial Committee of the Libertarian Party of California within fifteen days.

## **Article IV. Officers**

**Section 1.** Officers shall be elected by the 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. The Officers to be elected are: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Internet Resource Officer, committee chairmen and committee 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 of the Party's offices.

**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 Chairman in the event that the Chairman, for whatever 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 the Executive Committee.

**Section 7.** The Internet Resource Officer shall arrange the creation, hosting and maintenance of the Party's web site, social media and any associated internet-based services used by the Party.

**Section 8.** An Officer may be suspended from office by a vote of no less than two-thirds (2/3) 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 fifteen days of notification of suspension.

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

## **Article V. 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 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 simple majority (more than half) of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting.

**Section 2.** The Executive Committee may, without physically meeting together, transact business by mail, e-mail, telephone, or other method of telepresence, by voting on questions submitted to it, by or with the approval of the Chairman. One week shall be allowed for votes to be returned to the Party Secretary by mail. 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 Party Executive Committee, at which time the Executive Committee shall order the disposition of such votes.

## **Article VI. Meetings**

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

**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 for all meetings. A minimum of two (2) weeks' notice shall be provided to the Party membership concerning any meeting. Publication in the Party newsletter and/or use of an e-mail mailing list shall be considered adequate notice.

## **Article VII. 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 (except for the Party Judicial Committee, whose Chairman is elected by the members of the Judicial Committee). Working committees shall exist under the authority of and at the convenience of the Party Executive Committee.

## **Article VIII. Judicial Committee**

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

**Section 2.** The Party 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 Judicial Committee meeting.

**Section 3.** The Judicial Committee shall 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.

## **Article IX. State Party Representation**

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

## **Article X. 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 Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.

## **Article XI. Finances and Accounting**

**Section 1.** The fiscal year for the Party shall begin on the first day following the adjournment of the 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.

## **Article XII. 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) members of the Party.

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

## **Article XIII. Delegates**

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

**Section 2.** If the LPC requires the counties to select delegates for state convention, Delegates shall be elected at the Annual Meeting by the general membership. Alternate Delegates may be appointed by the Chairman or by any three (3) members of the Executive Committee.

## **Article XIV. Amendment**

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regularly-scheduled meeting of members of the Party; prior to voting, the proposed amendment and a notice of intent to amend the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party must be announced at a regular meeting that is no less than one (1) month prior to the voting.

## **Article XV. Compliance**

At such time as the Party or the Libertarian Party of California qualifies to appear on the ballot for the State of California, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party shall be amended as necessary to conform to the provisions of the California Elections Code. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to take such compliance actions.

The current version of the Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County, California is located online here: <https://u1myo26o1t789cb2l4fjwcx8-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Constitution-Bylaws-CCCLP.pdf>