

---

# Libertarian Strategy Gazette

Volume 2 Number 3

Now on the web at [www.cmlc.org](http://www.cmlc.org)

March 2002

---

## Past Strategies

### “A Program for the Libertarian Party” from the Alicia Clark for National Chair Campaign, August, 1981

We turn again to our Party’s past for a proposed plan for our National Party, this due to Alicia Clark, who ran for National Chair in 1981. As is sometimes said, the more things change, the more they stay the same:

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface

Introduction

Goals To Be Achieved By 1983

Grassroots Organization

Education

Organizational Skills

Political Services

Fund-raising

Communications

Issues at The National Convention

1980 Presidential Campaign

The LP Debt

A Full Time Chair

Political Activities Of Paid Staff

Running 435 Congressional Candidates in 1982.

Consultation With State Organizations

Relationship to Presidential Campaigns

Assigning National Convention Delegates

LP News

Presidential Nominating Convention

Media Coverage

Increasing Minority Group Membership

Biography

PREFACE

To achieve the goals set forth in our Statement of Principles, we have organized a party to take political action as necessary:

1. To eliminate the initiation of force by government against any individual.
2. To eliminate any government restraint on speech, self-expression, economic activity, travel, voluntary adult sexual activity, drug use or any other peaceful act.
3. To limit government, where it exists, to the defense of individuals and property within the United States.
4. To eliminate all taxes and pay for the costs of any government maintained for police, judicial or defense functions by voluntary contributions. We, the members of the

[Past Strategies] (Continued on page 2)

## Which Campaigns?

In the end, you can only support the candidates that you actually have on the ballot. You can talk all you want about which races you would like people to run in. You can discuss at great length the merits of focusing or dispersing your resources. But in the end, you will be working with the candidates, races, and resources that are actually at hand.

Nonetheless, early in the campaign season there are options for influencing the races that the Party chooses to contest, and it is worthwhile to consider a few policies:

1) **Keep the commitment to those who have committed to us.** In every state, we have members who have committed to the Libertarian cause by joining their state or National organization. In some states, we have registration by Party. In yet other places, we have Americans who have committed to the cause of Liberty and The Libertarian Party—The Party of America—by voting for our candidates, giving their time and energy to our campaigns, or even donating to political committees.

They have committed to us, and there is a political and moral obligation to return the commitment. There is also a matter of enlightened self-interest. If we want these fine Americans to stay committed to our cause, we need to respond to that commitment. This includes running unwinnable races that give our candidates better ballot access.

What is the return? *On every partisan ballot in every election, we should strive to ensure that there is some opportunity to **Vote Libertarian!*** The race may not always be easy to win. The candidate may not always be the finest imaginable. But whenever these people come to the polls in a partisan election, our friends should see that their party is keeping up the fight.

How we do this depends in detail on local election laws. Sometimes a slew of local campaigns are more effective; sometimes a single statewide race makes a difference. What we do this depends in part on resources.

I am not proposing a purely unilateral effort by the National Party. We are the Party that believes in individualism, in Americans who stand up to do what is right, in voluntary agreements out of mutual self interest—so we should as much as possible motivate our friends and supporters to *give themselves* the chance to **Vote Libertarian!** The National Party can help by motivating Libertarians to become candidates. It can help by motivating people to become activists, so that all our candidates have core support staffs. It can help by providing turnkey campaign kits, so the Libertarians with limited

[Which Campaigns?] (Continued on page 5)

# Libertarian Strategy Gazette

**[Past Strategies]** *(Continued from Page One)*

Libertarian Party, believe that we can work together to establish a libertarian society: a totally free, open, voluntary, peaceful and just society. We have decided that political activity is essential to reach masses of people and to let them know about the most humane and benevolent solutions to today's problems: libertarian principles and ideas.

We must not become politicians. We must remain libertarians. We must stay true to our principles both in our attempts to convert non-libertarians and in our dealings with each other. our party must be the party of principle and not a party of politicians.

We will be most successful in building the organization we need to reach our goals if we act in accordance with our principles, if we immediately stop imitating the way the old political parties do things.

Let's start by respecting our fellow libertarians who do not agree with us 100%; let's try to use reason and conviction to change their way of thinking or let them try to convince us by reason and conviction. Let's abandon vilification and the formulation of cliques to drive other cliques out of the party.

Too many libertarians look at those who are running for a party office against their candidates as enemies. Libertarians running for office are trying their best. often they have different ideas about how to run that office or how to do things. According to libertarian principles the free market or competition is a good thing. It seems to me that market forces will eventually settle many of our internal disputes. Let them.

Let's stop using fraud to get votes just because that is the way "politicians do things." We libertarians are against fraud of all kinds. To commit fraud is to lie, to pretend, to insult your competitors, or to push your friends to vote for your candidate just because "they are your friends." Fraud is to offer advantages to one individual over other individuals if they vote for you (to "buy" votes). Fraud is to make deals to get votes.

If you as a libertarian are sincerely interested in working to establish the kind of society we dream of, you have to do the right thing each time you make a choice. Act individually and express your own thinking, not what the majority thinks or what the "top people" think. Your vote must express your individual reasoning and conviction. Isn't this what we wanted the American people to do during the last presidential campaign?

If you are my friend and after reading this presentation you think I am not the best candidate for National Chair, pay me the respect due a friend: do not vote for me. My deepest interest is to do what is best for libertarianism, not just to get elected.

If after reading this presentation you think I am the best candidate we have, and your real interest is to do what is best for libertarianism, vote for me regardless of who else is voting for me or against me. I urge you to read very carefully and with an open mind what all three candidates have to say. Reason by yourself, make your own personal choice and vote accordingly.

If we all do this we will be acting as libertarians and we'll stop doing things the way politicians do. We will be libertarians in fact and not just in theory.

## INTRODUCTION

Until now the National Committee formed by members elected by convention every two years, has been working and making decisions thinking it knows what is right for all state organizations. I believe there has not been enough communication from state organizations to the National Committee, and when the National Committee tries to decide what it thinks is best for the party as a whole, it does not have enough information to do so. State organizations resent it when they are told to do things and resent the fact they haven't had a chance to give their opinions.

I believe that the way the Libertarian Party will work best is to organize it from the bottom up. From local groups to the state organization and from state organizations to the National Committee. The local groups are the basic unit of our organization. If they do well and grow, then the party will do well and grow.

The effort of the National Committee and state executive committees must be to help, work for, and provide services to local groups.

I encourage all 50 state chairs to bring to the Denver National Convention a list of ideas and services they think the National Party should provide. During the meeting of state chairs in Denver all 50 state lists can be compiled into one list and arranged in order of priority. This list should then be presented to the National Committee for consideration and analysis.

After the Convention the National Chair and National Executive Director will work out the cost of each of the services requested by the 50 state organizations and after considering the National Party's annual revenues decide how many of these services can be provided.

The members of the National Committee and the 50 state chairs will be informed and the Executive Director and members of the staff will work to provide these services.

This way of working is described below.

Ideas can also be generated by the National Party. if the National Chair, National Executive Director or members of

## Libertarian Strategy Gazette

the National Committee have an idea that can be helpful, this idea, the budget and the way to raise money to pay its cost have to be worked out by the National Chair and the Executive Director and presented to the members of the National Committee and the body of 50 state chairs for approval.

The National Chair must work with the Executive Director who will be charged with the execution of almost all projects. The National Chair must travel around the country to attend State conventions, visit areas with specific problems, talk with members of the party, learn what they need, find out whether the services the National party is giving are working, hear complaints and get new ideas. If by any chance the visit of the National Chair creates some interest among the local media, this has to be directed to the state chair, state or local candidates and other important local members. The work of the National Chair from now on must be to coordinate efforts and to provide services.

The work of the Libertarian Party is to organize local and regional groups and to increase membership. We cannot wait for the next presidential candidate and his or her committee to run a national campaign and, at the same time, to organize regional and local groups and teach them how to work during a presidential campaign. This is the work of the National Committee, state executive committees and local groups. This is the work that we all have to do before 1984. When the presidential campaign starts in 1984 the candidate's committee will then be able to work on the presidential campaign, and not on doing the work of the Party.

One of the primary objects of my campaign for Chair, and as Chair if I am elected, is to emphasize the importance of genuine respect for fellow libertarians with whom we may differ on some point of tactics or ideology and to involve all interested persons in party activities. If the delegates choose me as National Chair, I will ask Kent Guida and John Mason and members of their committees to work with me and to continue their valuable contributions to the National Party.

**Join [www.excell.net](http://www.excell.net) and**

**Be *yourname*@4liberty.net**

**Excell.net**

**Providers of Internet Services**

**[http://excell.net/excellnet\\_national-dialups.htm](http://excell.net/excellnet_national-dialups.htm)**

**Dialup in most states and Canada.**

**\$19.50/month**

**Libertarian Owned**

**Libertarian Operated**

**Supporters of the**

**Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association**

### Before And During The Convention

Local groups and state executive committee members study and analyze their needs and prepare a list of services that state organization and/or National Party may provide. They present this list to the state chair.

Body of 50 state chairs during the National Convention. They prepare one list of services, in order of priority, present it to the National Committee.

The National Committee and National Chair study, make suggestions and approve the list of services subject to cost analysis.

### After The Convention

The Executive Director and members of the staff determine the cost of each service. The National Chair and Executive Director prepare a list of services that can be provided within the budget.

Program and Budget are adopted by the National Committee and the 50 state chairs are informed of the services that National will provide during the next two years.

National Executive Director and full time staff supplemented by the National Chair, the National Committee and volunteers, work to provide these services.

### Goals to be Achieved by 1983

These are the goals I think we should and can achieve by 1983:

FIRST: Substantial progress in educating all those who belong to or are registered in the Libertarian Party in the ethics, principles and policies of libertarianism.

SECOND: Massive increase in the grassroots strength and activism of local LP organizations in every part of the country. This will include increased local membership, registration, activism and political skills.

THIRD: An improved election effort in 1982 including achieving permanent ballot status in several additional states and election of additional Libertarians to office.

FOURTH: Creation of the organization, public acceptance and desire needed for major campaigns in 1984, which will multiply our members, contributors and supporters over our achievements in 1980 and 1982.

### Grassroots Organization

The key to the growth of the LP from 1981 to 1983, which would be my term if I were elected Chair, is to build the Party as an effective grassroots organization. I believe the

greatest contribution the National Party can make to the advancement of the LP at this time is to assist in the creation of this necessary network of libertarian activists.

The first step in assisting local organizations is to determine what they need for further growth. This should be done by consulting state chairs and local activists as described on pages 1, 2 and 4 above. I hope that the state chairs and delegates who come to the National Convention will come with ideas as to what the National Party can do to speed the growth of local organizations.

Here are some examples of services that could be offered by the National Party to achieve our goals and build a grassroots organization.

*A. Education in Libertarian Ethics, Principles, and Policies:*

**1) Internal Education**

With the large influx of new recruits as a result of the 1978 and 1980 Elections a major need is internal education. It is essential that we maintain the LP as a principled, coherent, ideological party and to do this we need educated, principled members. The form this education will take will be largely determined by individual desires and the leadership of local groups. However, as a service to local groups, National should prepare or make available materials useful for locally-conducted educational programs. Educational ideas for local meetings and state conventions would be developed by National.

**2. External Education**

By developing the Speaker's Bureau, as well as through brochures, position papers, books and interviews, the National Party should provide an educational program for non-libertarians outside of the context of political campaigns.

**B. Organizational Skills**

One of the most important needs of the LP is to develop the organizational skills of its members. In the past the National LP and some state organizations have offered seminars and pamphlets to improve these skills. I would continue these approaches and add a third one that is used by many successful volunteer organizations: the preparation and use of detailed outlines of the duties and procedures appropriate to each officer of a typical group.

These procedure books start with the importance of setting realistic goals and describe the steps each officer must follow to discharge each of his or her duties. Separate outlines would cover the duties of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer as well as of the Chairs of the Membership, Political, Publicity, Finance, News Letter, and other Committees. Included in each outline will be procedures and suggestions for improving skills, involving more people and expanding activities.

I also suggest an annual program of regional seminars.

The National Party would put together a group of knowledgeable libertarians to give two-day seminars by regions. Each state of that region will send one or more members for each subject.

The subjects might include:

1. How to start a new local group.
2. Developing local organizations.
3. Media relations.
4. Fund raising.
5. Candidate recruitment and training.
6. How to be a campaign manager.
7. Ballot status, petitioning and voter registration.

Those attending the seminars will receive printed material to take back to their states and use to train members of their own local groups.

**C. Political Services**

1. In the 1982 Congressional races the National Party probably should be:
  - a. Preparing position papers on important issues.
  - b. Developing standard brochures which could be adopted by individual candidates.
  - c. Preparing standard speeches.
  - d. Assisting in a nation-wide fund-raising effort on behalf of all federal candidates.
  - e. In response to demand, producing standard radio and TV ads.
  - f. offering seminars for candidates and campaign managers as part of the regional seminars described in "B" above.
  - g. Forming a group of advisors whom candidates may call when they need information about issues and libertarian positions.

2. Provide advice to candidates and states trying to obtain ballot status. With broad party consent, provide active assistance to such states as Pennsylvania, Montana, Texas, and Massachusetts where we may be able to win permanent ballot status in 1982.

3. Assist in the development of candidates and political skills through the seminars described in "B" above and through pamphlets and detailed outlines on How To Be A Good Candidate, How to Manage A Campaign and How to Obtain Good Media Coverage.

4. With broad party support provide direct assistance in money and personnel in a small number of races in 1982.

*To be continued*

**Let Freedom Ring!  
Libertarian Strategy Gazette**

Subscriptions \$13 per year.

Send your money to Carol McMahan,  
221 Bumstead Road, Monson MA 01057.

**Which Campaigns?** *(Continued from Page One)*

knowledge of practical politics can run decent campaigns at the local level.

In a few cases, the National Party can assist Libertarians across America in voluntarily choosing to focus their resources. Some states make it so difficult to put candidates on the ballot that local parties cannot achieve ballot access by themselves. It is then up to the Libertarians across the rest of America to make their individual market-based decisions as to where their resources should be invested. The National Party can serve as a focus point for these resources by advising Libertarians, e.g., that 70,000 signatures are needed in State A, 60,000 are needed in State B, and here are the estimated costs for A, B,... If you donate to the National Uniform Ballot Access Campaign, your money will go to support these efforts.

**2. Flagship Campaigns:** When I refer to flagship campaigns, I am referring to something very different than responding to the commitments of our supporters. I am referring to the sort of campaigns that Libertarians have seen on a regular basis for the past decade, campaigns like our last two Presidential campaigns, Murray Sabrin for Governor (New Jersey), Jon Coon's two Michigan campaigns, the Howell for Senate campaign... Flagship campaigns raise very large amounts of money (at least for Libertarians). They have major fundraising expenses, in many though not all cases expensive staffs..., all paid for by Libertarians from coast to coast.

*In my opinion, 'flagship' campaigns have served the Libertarian Party very poorly. We should voluntarily cease to invest in them on a large scale.*

On one hand, flagship campaigns are extremely inefficient at spending your money. In flagship race after flagship race, a search of the spending records shows that more often than not the bulk of spending goes for fundraising letters, advertisements in the Libertarian press to convince future potential donors that the campaign is real, mailing lists, staffers, consultants, fundraising commissions,... These are all real expenses. They are **necessary** expenses for flagship campaigns. Without them, the Libertarian masses will not part with their hard-earned dollars and send them to the flagship. Alas, they are also totally useless expenses. After they have been spent not one voter has been persuaded to change parties and support us. Only the small amount of money left over after fundraising costs, staff, ... have been paid actually goes to building the Party. These are real, necessary expenses, and they make the flagship campaign approach astonishingly inefficient.

On the other hand, if people actually have serious chances to win, they enjoy support on a very wide scale from their own potential constituents. They will be able to mobilize volunteers, raise funds, and create support from the people that every Libertarian should be asking for support...the 280 million

living Americans and 100 million voters who support the other political parties. A large campaign that draws the bulk of its financial support from Libertarians across America is advertising its fatal flaw—its potential voters do not support it.

Having said this, we are all Libertarians. We do believe in consensual arrangements. If you insist on investing in this year's flagship campaign, I will not stand in your way. I will also try to ensure that ***Let Freedom Ring!*** continues to report how your money was actually spent.

**3. Undercontested Campaigns:** Across America, large numbers of political offices have few Americans contesting them. Whether we are discussing Town Meeting memberships in parts of Massachusetts, Election Officers in Pennsylvania, or the range of district offices uncovered by California's *Operation Breakthrough*, in many places there are political positions available for the asking. Some are less influential than others, but most of them give their officeholders a chance to build their credentials, gain credibility with their friends and neighbors, protect individual rights on a small scale, and implement workable Libertarian solutions to real problems. It is certainly worthwhile to motivate us and our fellow Libertarians to pursue election to office.

**4. Run Candidates in Winnable Races, and Win Them.** There is no better way to strengthen the Party than to elect candidates to office. The candidates in undercontested races play a part in this effort. Candidates in contested races that we nonetheless manage to win play another part.

A good candidate does get support from the Libertarian activists in her District. But that's not her campaign. She instead turns to the people she knows, her friends and neighbors, her parishioners and club members, and asks them to help her in her campaign. If the campaign is winnable, she is already credible *with them* as the candidate. If she is not credible with them, enough that few of them will agree to help as volunteers and coordinators and staffers and donors, her campaign is not probably not winnable. Furthermore, by bringing into the campaign the non-Libertarian supporters, the candidate gets to explain our sound Libertarian solutions to her support team. That team will be hearing about Libertarian approaches from someone they have already decided to trust and support, rather than hearing about them from a mysterious obscure face on a late-night television show.

Having said that, I have no great ideas as to precisely how we are to find these winnable races. Open seats seem to be a good choice. Candidates with a past record of victory are a good choice. Craig Mathias had been elected to the Ashland Finance Board, so he was a good bet to be elected to the SelectBoard (Town Council, to those of you outside Massachusetts), and he was.

I do note that some Libertarians appear to overestimate

their chances of victory. I did run for Congress. Whenever I was asked whether or not I could win, I always said it was up to the voters. You can't argue with that line. Within the limits of available time, volunteers, and other resources, I carried out as best I could the steps that would be carried out by a potentially successful campaign. I believe that's what 'run to win' means. I did not, however, delude myself; nor did I lie to my supporters.

**5. Fill the Slate. Our Chances of Victory Are As Good as Theirs.** In 2002, it is widely estimated that 90% of all Congressional seats are non-competitive. One party or the other is virtually assured of re-election at least unless some political disaster strikes. (Disaster did strike the Democrats in 1994, when they were swept from control of Congress by outraged voters.) In 90% of all Congressional races, a Libertarian has about as good a chance of winning as does the Democratic or Republican challenger—that's almost no chance at all.

Nonetheless, if you want the electorate to take the Libertarian Party seriously, if you want to be seen as a real political party that is potentially worthy of being given control of the state legislature or the Federal Congress, there is no real choice. Piece by piece, as opportunity offers and the Party expands, in the long run we do need to advance to the position of contesting all 400,000 political offices in the country. Contesting—particularly when the ballot access requirements are minimal—as many partisan races as possible is a step in this direction. The contrary strategy is practiced by the Republican Party of Massachusetts, which contests only a third or so of all seats in the State Legislature, and which is widely seen within the state as being a joke rather than a serious political party. [Note that I am not advocating the belief that if you run enough candidates some of them will win. The ballot is not a lottery ticket.]

A filled slate lends credibility to every candidate of the Party, and increases vote totals. If you are running for State Senate, those State Representative candidates in your district bring out their immediate friends and neighbors to vote for them personally; once in the polling place, they'll vote for other Libertarians, too. Furthermore, in most states under most conditions, up-ticket candidates function as ice-breakers. As one works down-ticket, vote percentages for third parties rise. Up-ticket candidates may not get win themselves, but they prise voters from the hands of the duopoly party. ...George Phillies

**Letter**

In response to Robert Maynard's letter (last issue) on John Famularo's Strategic Planning ideas, Robert Rock Howard writes

I agree with the strategy implied here, but also want to point out a tactical issue. Let's say that we are going to attack a local race, but we are in an area where we have less than 50 activists (to pick a reasonable minimum number) available

to support that campaign. I see four choices:

- a) have a candidate with great name ID that can attract the volunteers;
- b) have the ability to raise substantial sums of money which can be used for a campaign to attract volunteers;
- c) attract or cultivate a local media (typically radio) supporter, and/or
- d) run paper candidates in partisan races to get some "free" name ID for the party understanding that the primary intention is to build a base of local activists that can, over time, grow to the point where winnable local races can be targeted.

If you look closely at Robert's story, you will realize that option d) is probably what happened, although the name change for the party obscures that fact to some degree. I also suspect that Aaron Starr's "outskirts tactic" might also have come into play. This is the tactic whereby local races in small cities or towns on the outskirts of major cities are targeted. This allows the activists of the nearby big city to assist a local effort giving the LP candidate an unfair advantage over the candidates of the established parties.

Again, these are tactical details compared to the strategic vision that has been outlined. (And there are also additional subtactics for performing the tactical thrusts mentioned above.) I think that the best way to underscore this is to posit:

- 1) Winning begets winning;
- 2) The first win in a given area is likely to be in a local non-partisan race;
- 3) Therefore all other activities should be aligned with cultivating the required base of support and political climate that allows such a race.

Now it makes sense to actually test the theories that I have outlined above by collecting the stories of the 300 or so campaign winners so that they can be analyzed for common threads. We even have a few examples of the next phase of the strategy. To wit, winning a race or set of races whereby actual political power to change things directly is acquired. (This is as opposed to having only a bully pulpit presence such as one seat on a 7 member council.)

**Restoring the Franchise**

Bonnie Scott <rabbit@cownow.com> writes:  
Just this weekend at an upstate-downstate organizing meeting for the "Drop the Rock" group (DTR), we talked about the strategy of lobbying for restoring voting rights to felons currently in prison, or out on parole. NY doesn't take their franchise away forever, just until they've finished the sentence and parole. Many of the people in the DTR movement are interfaith prison outreach organizers, and it's important to them.

(The Rock == Rockefeller Drug laws, or mandatory sentencing, which is often used to also refer to our "second felony" mandatory minimum laws, which many drug prisoners fall

under.)

### Fundraising Via Lottery

(How the Tim Weaver for Mayor campaign raised money in Arizona—consult local laws before copying:)

As described by Tim Weaver, the components include

*An event:* To help fund my campaign for mayor, I have put together a raffle, with the following prizes generously donated by their respective vendors

*A good time:* “The restaurant owners have been gracious enough to offer us part of the restaurant for the event. Now, remember, this is a full-service restaurant that, for those who’ve lived here for a long time, was known as "Bailey's" in Glendale. Plenty of pool tables, a full bar and karaoke starts at 8:30 pm.”

*Support for friends:* “Since (the owners) are helping me out, I would like to remind you to help them out as well. Show up early, grab a table and get a bite to eat. Have some libations. Note: they serve alcohol, so keep that in mind for those of you who carry firearms. Also, it IS a smoking facility and, as far as I could tell, there were NO non-smoking areas. I am asthmatic, so I don't want to hear any whining!!! It's a great place and the people are really friendly, so show up and have a great time.”

*Raffle tickets:* “I'll have tickets there for anyone who wants more. So far, about 400 or so have been sold.”

*And Prizes:* “Due to circumstances beyond my control, the .50 rifle has been removed as a prize. Blame the federal government for this one....

- \* Dillon RL550B Reloader, in caliber of choice, donated by Dillon Precision ([www.dillonprecision.com](http://www.dillonprecision.com))
  - \* 100 Rounds .50 BMG ammo, donated by Thunderbird Cartridge Company ([www.tbirdammo.com/](http://www.tbirdammo.com/))
  - \* Sidearmor Holster and Mag combo, donated by Sidearmor ([www.sidearmor.net](http://www.sidearmor.net))
- (Much longer list shortened).

*Honesty is protected:* In the interest of fairness, neither I nor Rick DeStephens, nor our families, will purchase tickets since we are the ones coordinating this raffle. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold. I am no mathematician, so calculate the odds yourself. Tickets will cost \$10 each. This raffle is NOT tax deductible.

### Arizona Ethics Policy

From Jason Auvenshine

As announced at the recent Arizona Libertarian Party, Inc. convention, the ALP, Inc. Board of Directors passed an ethics policy regarding the treatment of candidates for public and party office. This policy was passed at the Board of Directors meeting on January 19th, 2002. The full text of the new policy can be found below.

The purpose of this ethics policy is to make it clear to party members and candidates that in its official activities, the ALP, Inc. will treat all competing candidates in Libertarian primaries and internal party elections fairly and equitably. All members of the party, including officers, remain free to support the candi-

date(s) of their choice as individuals. The ethics policy essentially prohibits the officers of the party from using their offices, titles, and access to party resources to unfairly benefit or disadvantage candidates in a contested Libertarian primary or party election.

Arizona Libertarian Party, Inc. Ethics Policy Towards Candidates for Public and Party Office Adopted by ALP, Inc. Board of Directors - January 19, 2002

#### Definitions:

The Party is The Arizona Libertarian Party, Incorporated. An Officer of the Party is an individual currently holding any position on the Board of Directors or any office listed in the bylaws of the Party. An Affiliate of the Party is the Party’s national affiliate as well as county and legislative district organizations recognized as affiliates under the bylaws of the Party. The Official Endorsement of a candidate by the Party is an endorsement obtained by a candidate for public office, according to the rules specified in section E below. A Pre-nomination candidate is a candidate for public office prior to such candidate (1) receiving the Official Nomination (usually by primary election) of the Party or one of its affiliates at the appropriate level for the office sought, or (2) being the only candidate to appear by name on the primary election ballot after the filing deadline necessary to appear on the primary election ballot has passed. A candidate for Party office is a candidate for any officer or Board of Directors position within the Party or any of its affiliates.

#### Policy:

A. No officer of the Party shall use his or her official title, position, or access to Party information or resources to benefit or disadvantage any pre-nomination candidate, nor to benefit or disadvantage any candidate for Party office, except as provided in sections D and E below.

B. If an officer of the Party wishes to personally (1) endorse, recruit, support, contribute, or accept any money, or (2) work as a volunteer, employee, or contractor to aid the campaign of a pre-nomination candidate or a candidate for Party office (including his or her own re-election campaign), he or she may do so. However, when doing so the officer of the Party must ensure that no Party information or resources are used except as provided in sections D and E below. Furthermore, an officer of the Party has a duty to avoid giving Party members, the media, or the public the impression that personal endorsement, aid, information, or resources come from the Party, and to attempt to correct any such impression to which the officer becomes aware.

C. No employee of the Party shall (1) use his or her title or position (2) endorse, recruit, support, contribute, or accept any money, or (3) work as a volunteer, employee, or contractor to benefit or disadvantage any pre-nomination candidate, or any candidate for Party office, except as provided in section D below.

D. Information and Resources of the Party, including but not limited to: money, supplies, mailing lists of members and contributors, voter registration data, space in temporary or permanent facilities of the Party, space in official Party written or elec-

tronic communications, attendance at training sessions produced or paid for by the Party, and speaking time at Party events, shall not be made available to any pre-nomination candidate or candidate for Party office unless the same or functionally equivalent resources or information are offered and made available to all candidates seeking the same nomination or Party office. Additionally, voter registration and Party membership data shall not be provided to any candidate for public office unless they (a) have filed a statement of organization with the appropriate government agency, and (b) sign a contract that the information will be used solely for political purposes and, in particular, solely for the purpose of their campaign.

E. Official Endorsements of candidates for public office by the Party may be made by a majority vote of the currently serving Board of Directors of the Party.

Official Endorsements of the Party may be given to any official candidate either before or after any election in a non-partisan race, or after the Primary election in a partisan race. In order to receive the Official Endorsement of the Party, a candidate must be in substantial agreement with the principles and platform of the Party as determined by the Board of Directors of the Party.

The Party shall not give an Official Endorsement that conflicts with an affiliate county Party's endorsement for a county or local election within that county, and shall not give an Official Endorsement that conflicts with the affiliate national Party's nominees for the presidential election. The Party shall not grant Official Endorsement to any candidate in a contested Libertarian Primary, nor shall the Party grant Official Endorsement to any candidate for Party office.

## Stand Up for Liberty!

George Phillies exciting new book of Libertarian Party strategy is now available as an ebook in multiple formats from Third Millenium Publishing, <http://3mpub.com>.

## Grassroots Libertarians

dedicated to fixing the Libertarian Party from the bottom up. Now on the web at [www.grassroots-libertarians.org](http://www.grassroots-libertarians.org).

Our Message: "Just Be Active! Run for Office! Campaign! Help!"

## Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association

Massachusetts' oldest local Libertarian group, with regular meetings since 1995. We meet the second Wednesday of every month at Bickford's Family Restaurant, Old Boston and Pasco Roads, Springfield.

## Our Web Pages

<http://www.pvla.net>      <http://www.cmlc.org>

Brought to you by [www.excell.net](http://www.excell.net).

*Libertarian owned—Libertarian operated  
Provider of internet services*

