

September 17, 2011

Judicial Committee members,

If the Judicial Committee intends to clarify its decision rendered August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, then there is an aspect of that decision for which I would like to have clarification.

That Judicial Committee decision included the following statement:

*“We find that the Libertarian Party of a particular state, in this case the State of Oregon, is the entity that is recognized by the secretary of state, in this case the Secretary of State of Oregon.”*

This is a far-reaching rule which is not found in our bylaws. Application of this "rule" in this particular case would directly interfere with the autonomy of the Oregon affiliate, in that the LPO members operating under the bylaws to which they mutually agreed selected one set of officers, but the Judicial Committee has declared that the affiliate is instead whoever is on file with the Secretary of State's office in Oregon. Article 6.5 of the LP Bylaws states:

*“The autonomy of the affiliate and sub-affiliate parties shall not be abridged by the National Committee or any other committee of the Party, except as provided by these Bylaws.”* (underline added for emphasis)

Autonomy is the right of self-rule, and an acceptance of that statement in the Judicial Committee decision of August 25<sup>th</sup> would in this case effectively deprive the members of the Libertarian Party of Oregon of the right to choose their own officers.

Please cite which LP Bylaw grants the Judicial Committee the authority to construct and enact this new rule for affiliate governance, a rule not found in the LP Bylaws, a rule not adopted by our convention delegates.

I look forward to your answer to this question, as I believe it to be very serious matter for our party.

Alicia Mattson  
LNC Secretary