

GWINNETT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY, INC.

By-Laws, Revised and Restated, November 15, 2016

By-Laws, Revised and Restated, May 24, 2019

PREAMBLE

We, the Democrats of Gwinnett County, united in common purpose, hereby rededicate ourselves to the principles which have historically sustained our Party. Recognizing that the vitality of the Nation's political institutions has been the foundation of its enduring strength, we acknowledge that a political party which wishes to lead must listen to those it would lead, a party which asks for the people's trust must prove that it trusts the people and a party which hopes to call forth the best the Nation can achieve must embody the best of the Nation's heritage and traditions.

What we seek for our Nation, we hope for all people: individual freedom in the framework of a just society, political freedom in the framework of meaningful participation by all citizens. Bound by the United States Constitution, aware that a party must be responsive to be worthy of responsibility, we pledge ourselves to open, honest endeavor and to the conduct of public affairs in a manner worthy of a society of free people. (Adapted from the Preamble of the Democratic Party of The United States' Charter)

ARTICLE I. NAME

The organization is incorporated under laws of the State of Georgia as the Gwinnett County Democratic Party, Inc. (hereinafter referred to and known as the "Gwinnett County Democratic Party" or "GCDP").

ARTICLE II. GWINNETT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Section A. Membership. Any person eighteen years of age or older, who resides in and is registered to vote in Gwinnett County, and who shall declare themselves to be a member of the Democratic Party, shall be entitled to membership in the Gwinnett County Democratic Party. Membership shall be confirmed upon completion of a basic application form established by the Vice Chair for Membership. These members are called "General Members." General Membership does NOT entitle a member to County Committee membership, except as otherwise set out in these by-laws.

Section B. Contributions and Fees. All members are encouraged to actively participate and contribute towards achieving the goals of the Party. Membership fees are NOT required to participate.

ARTICLE III. GOVERNING AUTHORITY

The ultimate responsibility, jurisdiction over Party affairs, and approval of Party business as concerns the GCDP shall be vested in the Gwinnett County Democratic Committee (hereafter referred to as the "County

Committee” or simply “The Committee”) subject to the provisions of the Charter and By-Laws of the Democratic Parties of Georgia and the United States of America, the resolutions and other actions of the Democratic National Committee (“DNC”).

ARTICLE IV. GWINNETT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

Section A. Duties and Responsibilities. The duties and responsibilities of the County Committee shall be to:

- Elect quality Democrats to public office;
- Increase voter awareness and participation;
- Support Democratic nominees;
- Promote development of Party organization and activities;
- Perform such election functions as are required by law;
- Maintain appropriate records;
- Promote and add logistical support to the State Affirmative Action Program;
- Raise funds in support of Gwinnett County Democratic Party affairs;
- Oversee and supervise the expenditure of funds according to the budget adopted by the County Committee
- Determine Party Districts and apportionment;
- Elect Officers for the Gwinnett County Democratic Party;
- Elect State Committee Members; and
- Perform such other duties as may be required by the State Committee.

Section B. Membership. The membership of the County Committee shall be voting members comprised of Post Seat Holders based on the following:

1. **Party District Caucus.** The County Committee is made up of four (4) caucuses coinciding with the County Commission Districts of Gwinnett with twenty (20) Post Seat Holders representing each District. The post to which each member is elected shall be assigned a letter and number combination denoting the year elected (Presidential or Gubernatorial), Party District Caucus, and Post Number. In the event the county expands to more than four (4) County Commission districts or General Reapportionment, these by-laws shall be amended at the time to incorporate such changes.
2. **At-large.** Officers elected to the County Committee shall serve as At-large Post Seat Holders. Additionally, up to twelve (12) At-large posts shall be filled by the Chair’s recommendation, subject to the approval of the County Committee. The post to which each member is elected or shall be assigned a letter and number combination denoting their At-large status, Party District Caucus, and Post Number. At-large Post Seat Holders shall serve two (2) year terms, serving only until the next election cycle for the County Committee members, and after that point, these positions will terminate.
3. **Ex Officio.** Ex Officio posts shall be voting but non-quorum members with status granted to the following Democratic officials who reside in, are registered to vote in, and represent any portion of Gwinnett County:
 - National and State Committee members

- County Committee officials on the Board of Elections
- Presidents of the Gwinnett Federation of Democratic Women and the Gwinnett County Young Democrats or the organization’s designee as confirmed by the County Committee.
- Elected Government officials (Federal, State, County, and Municipal)

An official in a non-partisan post may only be conferred Ex Officio status by recommendation of the Chair and approval of the County Committee. Ex Officio members shall serve until their successors are elected, appointed, or their positions abolished. Ex Officio Status may be held at the sole discretion of the holder, in addition to or the substitution of any of the other committee member status.

4. **Emeritus.** The Vice Chair of Membership may recommend to the County Committee a maximum of one person per calendar year to obtain status as an Emeritus Member of the County Committee.
 - a. **Emeritus Eligibility.** Only those persons age sixty-five (65) and older who have served as a member of the County Committee for at least ten (10) years of continuous active membership are eligible to be considered for an Emeritus Post Seat.
 - b. **Term and Privileges.** Once designated as such, Emeritus Members shall hold the distinction for life and have full voting privileges but shall not be counted in determining a quorum.
 - c. **Limitations.** At any given time, the number of Emeritus Post Seat Holders shall be capped at five (5).

Section C. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of the County Committee shall be responsible for oversight and supervision of the day-to-day operations of the County Committee. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the GCDP’s six (6) elected officers: Chair, First Vice-Chair, Vice-Chair of Political Affairs, Vice-Chair of Membership, Secretary, and Treasurer. They shall have legal and fiduciary responsibilities as approved by the County Committee. These duties shall include, but not be limited to:

- Overseeing efforts to raise money and make any and all expenditures which they believe to be proper except as otherwise set out herein;
- Establish standards for contribution levels and/or a voluntary sponsorship program with benefits associated with the respective sponsorship level;
- Establish additional standing Subcommittees, Ad Hoc Subcommittees, or Teams as considered necessary to carry out the objectives and the business of GCDP;
- Enter into contracts, negotiations or agreements on behalf of the GCDP, subject to approval by the County Committee;
- Determine rules and schedules for business meetings;
- Plan strategies for Party building;
- Refer major decisions believed to be significant to the County Committee for ratification; and
- Keep the County Committee members informed of decisions periodically at the general business meetings of the GCDP.

1. **Officers.** The elected officers shall be responsible for conducting the affairs of the GCDP in between meetings of the County Committee.
 - **Chair.** The Chair shall be the GCDP's Chief Executive Officer and spokesperson, responsible for carrying out the programs and policies of the Democratic Party and the County Committee. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the County Committee, Executive Committee, and Special Meetings or Events. The Chair may also establish ad hoc committees and appoint persons to chair such committees. The Chair shall be an ex officio member of all standing and ad hoc committees. Jointly with the Treasurer or Secretary, the Chair shall have legal authority to sign all written contracts and obligations with prior approval of the County Committee. The Chair may sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer except as otherwise set out, herein. Following election, the Chair shall have the specific responsibility to formulate a Strategic Plan for the Party for that year and through the next election cycle and present that plan for approval to the County Committee. The Chair will present the approved strategic plan to the GCDP membership. The Chair shall call meetings of the officers and Subcommittee Chairs in order to coordinate the plans of GCDP activities. This shall be done on a quarterly basis at a minimum but may be done more frequently per officer GCDP need. Official statements as to the activities of the GCDP or its standing committees shall be made by the Chairperson or the First Vice Chair in the event of the Chairperson's absence, illness or disability, or at their respective direction by the Communications Chair.
 - **First Vice-Chair.** The First Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings of the County Committee in the absence of the Chair and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated by the Chair. In the event of vacancy in the office of the Chair, the First Vice-Chair shall become Acting Chair and shall have the authority, powers, and duties of Chair until a new Chair is selected as outlined in Article VI. The First Vice Chair shall be charged with the primary responsibility for the organizational and development needs of GCDP and shall have oversight of such Subcommittees as assigned in the Strategic Plan.
 - **Vice-Chair for Political Affairs.** The Vice Chair for Political Affairs shall also be known as the Political Director and oversee and coordinate all efforts that relate to political affairs. The Vice Chair for Political Affairs shall plan and execute any messaging and lobbying activity, as well as, field and constituency programming. The Vice Chair for Political Affairs shall have oversight of such Subcommittees as assigned in the Strategic Plan.
 - **Vice-Chair for Membership.** The Vice-Chair for Membership shall have overall responsibility for all Membership activities. Duties of the Membership Vice-Chair include keeping membership rosters and contact information up to date including General Members and Voting Members, maintaining contact with all members, conducting orientation of new members, and building GCDP membership. The Vice Chair for Membership shall have oversight of such Subcommittees as assigned in the Strategic Plan.
 - **Secretary.** The Secretary shall keep and maintain all records of the County Committee including minutes, financial reports, and inventory. The Secretary shall

record all official minutes of County Committee meetings, including meetings of the Executive Committee; and shall distribute the minutes to the membership via email within five (5) days of the meeting. The Secretary shall perform operational duties of the organization including but not limited to distribution of agendas, nametags, ordering supplies, arranging and confirming venue speaker logistics, preparation of reports, including the annual report to the Democratic Party of Georgia. The Secretary under the supervision of the Chair is responsible for turning in all candidate forms and fees to the Board of Elections and posting candidate information at the Courthouse and Board of Elections for Gwinnett County offices (e.g. School Board, County Commission). If the Secretary is unable to turn in candidate forms, the Chairperson will assign a member of the County Committee to turn in the candidate forms or the Chairperson shall carry out such duties him/herself. The Secretary shall have oversight of the Administration & Records Subcommittee.

- **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall have general supervision and custody of all GCDP funds. The Treasurer shall maintain records of all financial transactions, kept on a calendar year basis, and a list of unpaid obligations. The Treasurer shall issue a monthly financial statement. The Treasurer shall utilize modern recordkeeping technologies and shall see that all appropriate financial records are audited each year. The Treasurer shall perform all recordkeeping and compliance filing, including reports to the Democratic Party of Georgia, the State of Georgia, the Democratic National Committee, and the United States government. The Treasurer has accountability for knowing and understanding all compliance requirements. The Treasurer is authorized to issue checks by his/her signature alone unless otherwise set out herein. Except as otherwise set out above, the only other person with check-signing authority shall be the Chairperson, who is authorized to issue checks against the Gwinnett County Democratic Party treasury only in the absence of the Treasurer. Documentation of compliance processes, as well as, records must be provided to the next Treasurer elected immediately following the election. The Treasurer shall oversee the Budget Subcommittee.

ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS

Section A. **Oversight.** The Chair shall appoint an Elections Chair to oversee the election of officers if he or she is a candidate for such a position. The Chair may also appoint an elections committee to oversee the voting and officially count the ballots.

Section B. **Qualifying.** In order to qualify for any post, a candidate must be a member of GCDP and complete an affidavit certifying that they live in the district in which they are running; that they are a registered voter; and that they agree to uphold the principles of the Democratic Party. Those persons interested in qualifying for posts filled by the County Committee shall file the aforementioned affidavit along with any additional requested documentation to the Elections Chair no less than three (3) days before the election.

Section C. **Public Notice.** Public notice of the election shall be given to GCDP membership, including but not limited to County Committee members at least twenty-one (21) days

prior to the date of the election by email and by posting the notice in a prominent place in the Gwinnett County Courthouse. The information shall also be placed on the GCDP website, if applicable, and shall be considered the same as notice at the courthouse. The Chairperson or party officer in charge of the issuance of the notice shall certify that such notice was properly posted at the time of the election. Publication in the county legal organ is not a necessity.

Section D. Quorum. With regard to elections, a quorum of 50% of the existing County Committee members shall be necessary to conduct an election. If such a quorum is not reached, the election will be reset within thirty (30) days and the quorum requirement shall drop to 20%.

Section F. Voting. All ballots cast during elections shall be in writing and signed by the voter.

Section G. County Committee Election. The caucus shall be held within forty-five days following the general election and the time and place shall be set by the Chairperson and elected officers of the Party. If the Chairperson and the elected officers do not set an official time and place within fifteen (15) days of the general election, the County Committee, on motion, may set a date and time at their last regular scheduled business meeting in the month of December.

1. Sequence of Election. The election sequence shall start with members of the existing County Committee electing Officers of the incoming County Committee. Once the election of officers is complete, voting will begin for Post Seat Holders of the County Committee.
2. Officers. The County Committee shall elect officers no later than December 31st of even numbered years, to take office January 1st of the following year, or immediately following the election, whichever is earlier.
 - a. Eligibility and Term of Office. Candidates for an officer position must be an existing member of the County Committee. All officers serve two-year terms.
 - b. Election Procedure. Officers shall be elected ad seriatim and in the following order: Chair, First Vice Chair, Vice Chair of Political Affairs, Vice Chair of Membership, Secretary and Treasurer.
 - c. Majority Rules/Run-off. Any person receiving the majority of votes for election to an office shall be declared elected. Should no candidate for a position receive a majority of votes, there shall be a run-off between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.
 - d. Notice to State Committee. The new Chair shall immediately upon taking office notify the State Committee Chair and appropriate Congressional District Chair of his/her election.
3. Post Seat Holders. One-half of County Committee members shall be elected in the gubernatorial election years and one-half shall be elected during the presidential election years. Upon election, County Committee members shall take office on the first day of the first month after their election.
 - a. Eligibility and Term of Office. Any member of the GCDP is eligible to be elected to the County Committee. Candidates are elected as Post Seats Holders of the

County Committee based on residence in one of the four County Commission districts in which they live. County Committee members serve four-year terms with one-half being elected every two years as set out above, unless affected by reapportionment.

- b. **Election Procedure.** The election is not done by process of elimination or by progressive ballots. The candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes from the existing County Committee shall be elected without the necessity of a run-off. If multiple candidates are running for positions, the highest vote getters will be elected based on the number of available positions.

Section H. State Committee Election. The County Committee shall elect its apportioned number of members of the State Committee from among the residents of Gwinnett County at a time specified by the Georgia Democratic Party, and according to the directives of ensuring racial, gender, and geographic diversity.

- a. **Geographic Diversity.** So long as Gwinnett County is apportioned more than ten (10) State Committee Members, the Chair shall develop and must submit a geographic diversity plan pursuant to the rules as outlined by the State By-laws.
- b. **Eligibility and Term of Office.** Any member of the GCDP is eligible to be elected to the State Committee. State Committee members serve four-year terms.
- c. **Gender-balanced.** The County Committee shall ensure that the State Committee Delegation it elects is sex-balanced, and that the manner of sex-balanced selection conforms to State and National Democratic Party Rules.
- d. **Certification to the State Committee.** Within one week of election, the County Chair shall certify to the State Chair the names, addresses, and phone numbers of those persons elected as members of the State Committee and shall file their candidacy affidavits with the Congressional District Chair.

ARTICLE VI. VACANCIES & REMOVALS

Section A. County Committee Vacancies.

1. All vacancies in officers and County Committee Posts shall be filled for the duration of the remaining term by a special election of the remaining Committee members, provided at least three such members remain.
2. County Committee members and officers may be removed by the County Committee for cause, with reasonable notice and the opportunity to be heard, by a 2/3 vote of the County Committee provided a 50% quorum is met.
3. Any person subject to removal shall first receive written notice of the alleged reasons for removal.
4. The removal procedure shall be conducted by a subcommittee appointed by the County Committee Chair. Where the Chair is the subject of the removal procedure, the subcommittee shall be appointed by a majority of the other County Committee Officers.

5. The person to be removed shall have the right to be informed of all persons who will be witnesses against him/her and who will testify in support of the charges against him/her, at least ten (10) days before a hearing on said charges before the full County Committee.
6. The person to be removed shall have the right to counsel and to present all witnesses, documents and arguments in support of his/her position. The subcommittee which has tendered the charges may likewise have counsel and present witnesses, documents and arguments in support of its position.

Section B. Removal and Replacement of Absent Members Including Officers.

1. Any County Committee member who has four or more unexcused absences from regularly scheduled meetings of the County Committee in any calendar year shall have his/her seat declared provisionally vacant by the Chair thereafter, subject to the provisions set out hereafter.
2. The Secretary shall send a written notice to the absent County Committee member that his/her seat has been vacated because of absences. The notice shall state that the absent member may elect to be subjected to a formal removal procedure as set out above by responding to the Secretary in writing within ten days of his/her desire for formal removal procedure. The notice shall also state that the member may be reinstated automatically by simply attending the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee.
3. Within thirty (30) days of the meeting at which the seat of the absent member was declared vacant, the members of the County Committee shall elect a new member who is a resident of that Gwinnett County Commission district from which the absent member has been removed.

ARTICLE VII. SUBCOMMITTEES

Section A. Appointment. The Subcommittee Chair and membership of GCDP subcommittees shall be appointed by the County Committee Chair from among the members. The Chair of the County Committee may appoint any other person who is not a member of the County Committee as an additional member of a standing subcommittee, but not being a member of the County Committee, such person shall have no voting rights on the latter.

Section B. Role of Subcommittees. Subcommittees shall be responsible for developing proposals and plans for activities to be undertaken by the County Committee to further its stated goals. Actionable proposals shall be presented as motions during a regular or special meeting for approval by the County Committee. Committees shall be responsible for the execution and oversight of proposals and plans; however, all members of the GCDP are encouraged to assist in ensuring the successful completion of subcommittee programs and activities.

Section C. Reports. Subcommittee Chairs shall provide written activity reports to the Secretary via email three (3) days in advance of each regular meeting. Reports shall include status

updates, budget requests, proposals and metrics as directed by the Chair. Committee reports shall be offered orally by each Committee Chair at regular meetings.

Section D. **Standing Subcommittees**. The following standing committees shall perform the duties provided and such other duties as assigned by the County Committee Chair.

- **Administration & Records**. Responsible for general office administration, as well as, monitoring record retention and disposal.
- **Audit**. Conducts and oversees auditing and reconciliations of GCDP income and expenditures
- **Budget**. In coordination with the Chair and Treasurer, the Budget Subcommittee shall assist in drafting the GCDP biennial budget. The Budget Subcommittee shall also provide ongoing support to the Treasurer in the form of process.
- **Campaigns & Elections**. In coordination with Chair, seek out qualified candidates to run for office, liaise with strategic partners, supply effective volunteer and grassroots support directed by campaigns, register voters, and track election news and info.
- **Communications**. The Communications Subcommittee shall be responsible for internal and external communications. Areas of charge include social media, content development, website, email newsletters and calendar. The Communications Subcommittee shall also be charged with the creation and distribution of merchandise.
- **Diversity & Inclusion (Affirmative Action)**. The Affirmative Action subcommittee shall be hereafter known as the Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee. The Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee shall identify, build, and maintain relationships with influential constituency groups outside the GCDP who are historically and philosophically aligned with Democratic tenets and develop a strategy for working with these groups with the goals of increasing Democratic voter registration, voter turnout and active participation in the GCDP, and Democratic candidate campaigns. The Subcommittee shall also inform Democratic candidates, voters and members of the GCDP about relevant constituency-based issues and shall work in conjunction with the Democratic Party of Georgia's Affirmative Action Committee.
- **Education & Training**. The Education & Training Subcommittee shall be responsible for creating and curating content with the assistance of other subcommittees as needed to produce information, instructive trainings and materials. The overarching responsibility of the Education & Training subcommittee shall be to provide GCDP members with the tools to be knowledgeable about the issues, be prepared to take action, and support the success of Democratic candidates.
- **Field Operations**. The Field Operations Subcommittee shall coordinate activities relating to the recruitment and training of regional and precinct captains, responding to their concerns and communicating with them with the

express goal of supporting Democratic candidates and increasing voter engagement, registration and turnout.

- **Finance**. The Finance Subcommittee is responsible for finance development including donor research, outreach, and fundraising efforts. In addition to developing fundraising goals and plans, the subcommittee supports the County Committee Chair and Treasurer in developing an annual budget.
- **Member Affairs**. Shall pursue projects and activities to energize and retain GCDP members, and to reach out and engage additional members of the larger community. Maintains Membership records and provides training to all members as it relates to the processes and functions of the Party.
- **Policy & Issues**. The Policy & Issues Subcommittee shall track local, state and federal legislation to create action alerts and to provide education on the processes empowering members of GCDP to effectively engage elected officials and candidates.
- **Programming**. The Programming Subcommittee schedules, coordinates and runs GCDP's social and small dollar events, including monthly programs (e.g. locations and speakers), socials and visibility events.

Section E. **Membership of the Standing Subcommittees** . The original membership of standing subcommittees shall be constituted from the membership of the County Committee. The Chair of the County Committee may appoint any other person who is not a member of the County Committee as an additional member of a standing subcommittee, but not being a member of the County Committee, such person shall have no voting rights on the latter.

Section F. **Additional Standing Subcommittees** . The County Committee may by majority vote create additional standing committees as necessary pursuant to the provisions set out above.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS & VOTING

Section A. **Regular Meetings**. The Committee shall meet regularly at least once each quarter. The County Committee Chair may call special meetings. Where meetings are not held in a previously designated time and place, all members shall be provided notice, either written or electronically or both, at least ten (10) days in advance.

Section B. **Special Meetings**. Special meetings of the County Committee may be called by the Chair upon ten (10) days notice, or upon five days notice by a unanimous vote of the officers, or upon five days notice by a 75% majority of the membership of the County Committee via electronic (email) vote called by any County Committee member.

Section C. **Officers Meetings and Standing Subcommittee Meetings** . The Chairperson may call a meeting of the officers or any standing subcommittee at his/her discretion. Standing subcommittees may meet at the discretion of the standing subcommittee chair with notice to the Chairperson and any officer having oversight of that standing subcommittee.

- Section D.** **Quorum.** A quorum for the conduct of GCDP business shall be 20% of the County Committee, unless otherwise required in these by-laws.
- Section E.** **Eligibility to Vote.** Only currently serving County Committee members are eligible to vote in GCDP business and elections. General GCDP members who are NOT County Committee members have no standing to vote in any election or Party business reserved for the County Committee.
- Section F.** **One Vote.** No County Committee members shall be entitled to more than one vote.
- Section G.** All meetings of the County Committee shall be open to the public unless the County Committee votes to go into Executive Session.
- Section H.** Unless otherwise provided for, Robert’s Rules of Order most recently revised shall govern the conduct of all meetings. The Chairperson shall act as the presiding officer and all decisions of the Chair regarding the application of the Rules shall be final. The Chair shall appoint a Parliamentarian as he or she deems appropriate under the circumstances.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

- Section A.** **Fiscal Year.** The County Committee shall have a fiscal year commencing April 1 and ending March 31.
- Section B.** **Biennial Budget.** The Chair shall present a biennial budget to the County Committee in March of each odd-numbered year in addition to the plans for financing the budget. A majority vote of the County Committee is required to approve the proposed budget. The budget may be amended by a majority vote of the County Committee.
- Section C.** **Non-budgeted Expenditures.** Non-budgeted expenditures exceeding the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) in the budget adopted by the GCDP must be approved by the County Committee.
- Section D.** **Audit.** Each year the Audit Subcommittee shall review the books and records of the Committee and report on such review to the full County Committee.

ARTICLE X. COUNTY COMMITTEE RECORDS & CERTIFICATION

- Section A.** **Records.** The County Committee shall maintain records of all financial transactions, kept on a calendar-year basis, and a list of unpaid obligations. Financial records shall be audited each year with a report provided to the Committee.
- Section B.** **Transfer.** Prior to the election of officers and upon naming of the elections Chair, the incumbent Secretary (regardless of candidacy status) shall submit to the elections Chair a fully complete set of records, including but not limited to all financial reports, inventory, membership, minutes, and by-laws with any amendments.
- Section C.** **Certification.** The County Committee shall report directly to the State Committee Chair and shall file a list of membership, all rules, regulations, by-laws and other such certification documents in accordance with State Committee By-laws, Article VII, Section

7.6. Additionally, the list of members and officers shall be certified in writing by two members of the County Committee.

ARTICLE XI. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section A. **Non-discrimination Policy**. There shall be no discrimination in the conduct of GCDP affairs on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, color, handicap, national origin, or age.
- Section B. **Neutrality in Partisan Races**. The GCDP and its members in their official capacity are explicitly prohibited from supporting a Democratic candidate who has opposition during a Partisan Primary or Special Election. No Party member shall publicly support another candidate other than the Democratic nominee in a General election. The endorsement of, support of, or contribution to a candidate of another Party or to an opponent of the Democratic nominee may result in the expulsion of such person from the County Committee. However, nothing herein shall prevent an endorsement in a non-partisan election.
- Section C. **Candidate Contributions**. Any contribution by the GCDP to a candidate for public office shall be accompanied by a cover letter, which shall state in substance, “This contribution is made on the express condition that, after election, you remain a member of the Democratic Party. Your acceptance and/or use of this contribution is your acknowledgement and contract that should you win election yet any time prior to your term change parties or leave the Democratic Party, you will repay these amounts and any costs, including attorney’s fees, associated with seeking such repayment.”
- Section E. **Reimbursement of Candidate Contributions**. The County Committee shall seek reimbursement of contributions made to a candidate who subsequently leaves the Democratic Party in accordance with State Committee By-laws, Article I, Section 8.
- Section F. **Proxy Voting**. No proxy voting is allowed.
- Section G. **Affiliate Organizations**. The County Committee may recognize and allow affiliation of such county organizations as it deems appropriate.
- Section H. **No weapons**. No weapons are allowed at any County Committee or GCDP event unless carried by a law enforcement official and prior authorization obtained from the Chair.
- Section I. **Spokesperson**. The Chair speaks for the GCDP to the media and the Public; no other Committee Member can speak for the Party unless designated as a surrogate by the Chair.
- Section J. **Terms of Appointed Positions**. Appointments expire with the terms of office of the Appointing Officer.

ARTICLE XII. POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- Section A. Policies and procedures of the County Committee stemming from applications of the GCDP’s By-laws, Strategic Plan, and Platform are to be maintained in a Policy Manual that

shall be reviewed and updated as necessary. Standard Operating Procedures supporting the Policy Manual are to be maintained by the officers and updated as often as necessary to identify current procedures.

Section B. Modifications. All amendments made to the Policy Manual shall be approved by a majority vote of the County Committee, provided quorum is met.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Section A. These by-laws may be amended at any County Committee meeting by a 2/3 vote of those County Committee members present, provided that a quorum for such a vote is 50% of the County Committee members and given that at least ten (10) days written notice of said amendments has been provided to all County Committee members.

Section B. Transition. The membership increases authorized in Article 4, Section B, Clauses 1 and 2 shall be implemented in staggering increments:

1. Party District Caucuses shall increase by four (4) members in the next scheduled general election in 2020 and by an additional four (4) members in 2022 for a total of eight (8) additional District Post Seat Holders.
2. Membership increases in At-large post seats shall increase by two (2) when the County Committee elected in 2020 takes office in January 2021 and by an additional two (2) members in January 2023 for a total of four (4) additional At-large Posts Seat Holders.

Section C. Whereas, these By-laws constitute a major revision to those previously adopted, all previous By-laws and portions of By-laws in conflict with this document are hereby repealed, and these amended By-laws are adopted in Full.

Adopted this 23rd day of May, 2019 to become effective the 24th day of May, 2019.

Attested to by:

Curt Thompson
County Committee Chairperson

Shelly Abraham
County Committee Secretary