

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BALLOT ACCESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Libertarian National Committee meeting

Alexandria, Virginia

July 18-19, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

The following memo addresses petitioning opportunities for the LNC in 2015 and 2016.

I want to thank Richard Winger and Bob Johnston, LP of Maryland Chair and an Independent Contractor to the LNC, for their assistance in updating this report.

We currently have ballot access for our 2016 Presidential ticket in the following 31 states: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IN, KS, LA, MD, MI, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NM, NC, ND, OR, SC, TX, UT, VT, WV, WI & WY.

I will now address the other 19 states and DC:

AL: The LP can start a party petition anytime (39,975 valid sigs), but I presume that we will do an Independent petition for 5,000 valid sigs in 2016 after the Presidential nomination. I budget \$15,000.

CT: 7,500 valid sigs in 2016 for President. The LPCT is working with the ACLU to possibly litigate the out-of-state petitioner ban in CT. This drive will likely need some subsidization from the LNC. I budget \$25,000.

DC: I estimate a 4,600 valid sig petition drive for President in 2016. I budget \$15,000 from the LNC.

IL: 25,000 valid sig petition drive for President & US Senate in 2016. I will budget \$66,500, which was the budgeted amount for 2014.

IA: 1,500 valid sig petition drive for President. This required subsidization in 2012 from the LNC. Hopefully not in 2016.

KY: 5,000 valid sig petition drive for President can start the day after Election Day 2015. I budget \$7,500 in 2015 and \$7,500 in 2016.

ME: The LPME is working with Scott Kohlhaas in a voter registration drive. The LPME needs 5,000 registered voters to become an officially recognized political party in Maine, which would give the LPME ballot access. This registration drive has to conclude by December 2015. Currently, there are about 1,000 voter registrations, with collections proceeding at an average of 225 per week. Scott hopes to increase the pace. He anticipates this registration drive will succeed, with no subsidization from the LNC.

MA: We will need to do a 10,000 valid sig petition drive for President after Memorial Day 2016, unless we receive permission from the Secretary of State to list only our Presidential electors. If we got that permission, the petition drive could start in February 2016. We have filed a request with the MA Sec of State to start this petition drive at any time; we have not yet received a response. Deadline: August 1, 2016.

Please note that if we had party status in MA, we would not have to petition at all to get our Presidential ticket on the ballot there.

MN: A 2,000 valid sig petition drive for President after the Memorial Day 2016 weekend convention. I will plan on this being done by the LPMN.

NH: 1,500 valid sigs in each of two congressional districts (3,000 valid sigs total). I have not seen anything out of the LPNH recently that would indicate that it could handle this petition drive on its own. I budget \$15,000 in 2016.

NJ: 800 valid sigs after Memorial Day 2016. Although the LNC needed to subsidize in 2012, I would hope they could do this on their own in 2016.

NY: We will need 15,000 valid sigs for our Presidential ticket in 2016. I budget \$30,000 from the LNC.

OH: The LPOH is still in court regarding Ohio's ballot access laws. We should see how this litigation plays out before considering what to do with Ohio for 2016. I have budgeted \$10,000 in 2016 to assist the LPOH with an Independent presidential petition that would require 5,000 valid sigs.

OK: After years of lobbying by the LP and a coalition of ballot access reformers, the Oklahoma legislature finally passed a law this year that reduces the number of signatures of needed to qualify a political party for the ballot from 41,242 to 24,745. That's a 40% reduction in the number of valid signatures needed to get on the ballot in Oklahoma.

If we can raise at least \$60,000 earmarked for OK (and at least \$55,000 net of fundraising expenses), we will proceed with this drive. Including Richard Winger's \$30,000 pledge, we are at at least \$41,500 now.

PA: We are looking at probably about a 25,000 valid sig petition drive in PA starting in February 2016. We are probably looking at an expenditure of \$70,000.

There is a ballot access bill (SB 495) in a PA Senate Committee that would base party ballot access on the number of party voter registrations. The LPPA would qualify for the ballot based on the criteria in this bill. The bill's chief sponsor, Sen. Mike Fulmer, is Chair of that committee.

RI: A 1,000 valid sig petition drive. I don't think the LPRI can do this themselves. We are probably looking at an LNC expenditure of \$2,500.

SD: A party petition for 6,936 valid sigs would get us two elections (2016 & 2018), with a possibility of retaining ballot status if we get 2.5% for Governor in 2018. I budget \$20,000 of LNC funds in 2015. We would like to get this drive started ASAP.

TN: 275 valid sig petition drive for President in 2016. The LPTN should handle this itself. The LPTN needs to work to get this done well ahead of the deadline in 2016, and not let it go to a last day fire drill, as in 2012.

The US Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals recently agreed with the US District Court that the TN law on how a party stays on the ballot is unconstitutional. The LPTN has a lawsuit pending in TN, and it seems likely (in Richard Winger's opinion) that it will win. The LPTN might then get on as a party in TN with no petition, something the Green Party and the Constitution Party have done in both 2012 and 2014.

VA: 5,000 valid sig petition drive for President in 2016. The LPVA should handle this itself.

WA: 1,000 valid sig petition drive for President in 2016. The LPWA should handle this itself.

Jay Estrada has resigned from the LNC and the Ballot Access Committee. The LNC needs to replace him on the Ballot Access Committee. The other committee members are Richard Winger, Paul Frankel, Ed Marsh & me.

Bill Redpath
Chair
Ballot Access Committee

State	Budget or Proposed Budget	Expenses Incurred To Date	Progress in Sigs	Contractors
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Year 2015

AR	\$26,000	\$24,998	Drive Done	Frankel/Bonner/Jacobs
OK	65,000	0	0	
SD	20,000	0	0	
KY	7,500	0	0	
ME	0	0	1,000 regs	
Total	\$118,500	\$24,998		

Year 2016

AL	\$15,000	\$0	0	
CT	25,000	0	0	
DC	15,000	0	0	
IL	66,500	0	0	
IA	0	0	0	
KY	7,500	0	0	
MA	25,000	0	0	
MN	0	0	0	
NH	15,000	0	0	
NJ	0	0	0	
NY	30,000	0	0	
OH	10,000	0	0	
PA	70,000	0	0	
RI	2,500	0	0	
TN	0	0	0	
VA	0	0	0	
WA	0	0	0	
Total	\$281,500	\$0		

Michael Pakko

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OIB Entertainm... (375)

OIB Finance (3957)

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Richard Winger

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Arkansas Ballot Access, Final Report

Wednesday, June 24, 2015 10:36 PM

From: "Michael Pakko" <mpakko@yahoo.com>

To: "Bob Johnston" <bob.johnston@lp.org>

"Wes Benedict" <wes.benedict@lp.org>

"Carla Howell" <carla.howell@lp.org>

"William Redpath" <william.redpath@lp.org>

"Paul Frankel" <travellingcircus@gmail.com>

Cc: "Nicholas Sarwark" <chair@lp.org>

Full Headers Printable View

As you should all know by now, the petition drive in Arkansas was successful! I want to take a moment first to thank all of you for your contributions to the effort, and hope you will pass along our gratitude to all the members of the LNC.

In the end, we submitted 15,709 signatures. The Secretary of State's office tossed out 90, perhaps due to illegibility, and verified that 11,918 were valid registered voters -- a validity percentage of 75.9%. Our validity checks had suggested 75%, but there is always uncertainty.

As for cost, the total was \$33,200. Of that, \$25,000 was from the LNC and \$8,200 was paid for by contributions from LPAR members.

We ended up paying \$2.50/signature for the first 10,164 signatures, and then were able to negotiate the price down to \$2.00/signature for the next 2,441. We appreciate the willingness of our paid canvassers to work with us on price. We also had a local paid petitioner who worked for \$1.00 to \$1.50 per signature. He collected a total of 1,528 signatures. Darryl Bonner also agreed to stick around a few extra days and collect signatures at \$1.00 per signature, yielding an additional 775 signatures. Our volunteer efforts yielded 801 signatures.

Thank you again for all that you have done to help.

Yours in Liberty,
Michael

Michael Pakko, Chair
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