

**LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

**BALLOT ACCESS COMMITTEE**

**2016 POST-ELECTION REPORT**

**Presented at the LNC meeting on December 20th, 2016.**

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# OVERVIEW

## About this report

This report attempts to comply with the word and spirit of the requirements outlined in the LNC Policy Manual for the post-election Ballot Access Committee Report. Election results are as reported as of 11/30. Secretaries of State are the source of this information unless otherwise noted.

## Sources of information

Information for this report was gathered from the LNC Staff, the Johnson Campaign, and State Parties. The LNC Staff provided the Ballot Access information current from early 2016, and the expenditures of the LNC on ballot access, as well as support in creating this report. The Johnson Campaign provided estimates on how much was spent by the campaign in each state specific to ballot access. State Chairs were asked to provide how much was spent by their State Party to obtain Presidential ballot access. Information about electoral results was gathered either from the Secretary of State, or from the New York Times when SoS data was unavailable. Data gathered from the various state SoS websites is current as of 12/2. The NYT website was updated and is current as of 11/29. In some cases, the SoS website for a state lagged behind the NYT (as determined by number of votes tallied) and in those cases the NYT numbers are used.

## Committee Members

### Voting Committee Members

Ken Moellman, Chair  
Mark Axinn  
Ed Marsh  
Bill Redpath  
Richard Winger

### Non-voting Committee Advisors

Paul Frankel, Petitioner (and scribe)  
Chris Thrasher, Johnson/Weld

### Staff Contributors

Wes Benedict  
Andy Burns  
Nick Dunbar  
Carla Howell  
Bob Johnston  
Robert Kraus

## Credits and Thank You

As the chair of this committee, I would like to take this opportunity like to thank each and every contributor for their time and dedication to both the task of obtaining 50+DC access in 2016, and supplying the information for this report. It is important to understand the truly monumental task that is 50+DC. No one else outside of the D/Rs did it.

I thank my fellow committeemen, my fellow LNC members, the LNC staff, state petition coordinators, every Libertarian petitioner, and every petition signer - past and present. And of course, our donors, without whom this wouldn't be possible.

While thousands of hours were donated to ballot access in 2016 (over 100 hours just to prepare this report alone), that time pales in comparison to the time of many dedicated activists and leaders who have given selflessly to grow the Libertarian Party in the past 45 years. We stand upon your shoulders to continue to push for liberty.

This organization we call the Libertarian Party shows that libertarianism, the philosophy, works; through mutual voluntary association, we can accomplish great things. It speaks to the strength of our organization that we are able to accomplish such great things. Here's to 2016, the 45 years before, and to the next 45 years. Thank you, Libertarians, of the past, the present, and the future.

Thank you,  
Ken Moellman, Committee Chair

# 2016 SUMMARY

	LNC Budget	Spent				Signatures			Cost per Signature			JW16 Result
		LNC	Johnson	State/Other	Total	Required	Collected	Valid	Required	Collected	Valid	
AL	\$15,000.00	\$18,750.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$23,750.00	5,000	12,000	---	\$4.714	\$1.979	---	2.09%
AR	\$26,000.00	\$24,997.50	\$0.00	\$8,273.10	\$33,270.60	10,000	15,609	11,918	\$3.327	\$2.132	\$2.791	2.6 %
CT	\$25,000	\$45,003.61	**\$2,000.00	\$7,640.41	\$54,644.02	7,500	16,500	---	\$7.289	\$3.312	---	3.0 %
DC	\$36,000	\$40,893.00	**\$8,500.00	\$0.00	\$49,393.00	4,421	18,501	---	\$11.172	\$2.670	---	1.57%
IA	\$0.00	\$764.07	**\$500.00	0.00	\$1264.07	1,500	2,282	---	\$0.843	\$0.554	---	3.78%
IL	\$50,000	+ \$59,291.03	**\$51,000.00	\$40,010.00	\$150,301.03	25,000	54,039	---	\$6.012	\$2.781	---	3.8 %
KY	\$15,000	\$9,230.00	**\$5,000.00	\$20,002.00	\$34,232.00	5,000	12,868	8,304	\$6.846	\$2.660	\$4.122	2.79%
MA	\$25,000	\$26,250.00	\$0.00	\$13,795.00	\$40,045.00	10,000	17,410	14,704	\$4.005	\$2.300	\$2.723	4.2 %
ME*	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	**\$4,500.00	\$39,000.00	\$45,500.00	5,000	7,659	5,200	\$9.100	\$5.941	\$8.750	5.1 %
MN	\$0.00	\$13.50	**\$200.00	\$0.00	\$213.50	2,000	3,211	---	\$0.107	\$0.066	---	3.84%
MT	\$3,722.20	\$3,722.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3722.20	0	0	0	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	5.7 %
NH	\$15,000.00	\$36,088.83	**\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$37,588.83	3,000	5,835	---	\$12.530	\$6.442	---	4.1 %
NJ	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	800	1,924	---	\$2.250	\$0.936	---	1.9 %
NY	\$25,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$74,500.00	15,000	32,617	---	\$4.967	\$2.284	---	2.26%
OH	\$12,500	\$19,894.13	\$0.00	\$1,000	\$20,894.13	5,000	12,407	6,730	\$4.179	\$1.684	\$3.105	3.2 %
OK	\$60,000	\$101,365.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$101,365.00	24,745	42,183	28,967	\$4.096	\$2.403	\$3.499	5.7 %
PA	\$62,000	\$42,318.29	**\$500.00	\$7430.66	\$50,248.95	4,000	26,342	---	\$12.562	\$1.908	---	2.40%
RI	\$2,500	\$2,000.00	**\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$9,500.00	1,000	2,150	---	\$9.500	\$4.419	---	3.18%
SD	\$20,000.00	\$14,738.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	14,738.10	6,936	7,680	7,066	\$2.125	\$1.919	\$2.086	5.63%
TN	\$0.00	\$0.00	**\$100.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	275	523	---	\$1.455	\$0.765	---	2.82%
VA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,013.35	\$12,013.35	5,000	9,692	6,500	\$2.403	\$1.240	\$1.848	2.97%
WA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	1,000	1,782	---	\$0.500	\$0.281	---	5.01%
T	<b>\$395,722.20</b>	<b>\$492,319.26</b>	<b>**\$98,300.00</b>	<b>\$169,264.52</b>	<b>\$759,883.78</b>	<b>142,177</b>	<b>303,214</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>\$5.345</b>	<b>\$2.506</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>

Anything in italics is an estimate based upon the best information available.

+ The Johnson Campaign directly contributed \$20,000 to the LNC for the IL drive, reducing the LNC's burden by \$20,000. The LNC had spent \$79,291.03.

\* Maine was a voter registration drive

\*\* Johnson campaign estimated spending

The number one issue in 2016 was the unexpected increase in petitioning rates. In 2012, the "going rate" was approximately \$2 per signature. In 2016, rates started at \$2.50 per raw signature (at 2/3rds validity), and increased throughout the drive, with some states reaching \$4 per signature. Costs were higher in the bigger states, compounding the cost increases.

All information was collected in good faith, and there are amounts that are not calculated, including in-kind donations of printing, organizing, distribution, collecting, collation, and submission. To collect this information in the future will require additional organization and better coordination with the state affiliates and with the campaign. For some states, the information on validity rates will never be reasonably available.

The Johnson campaign believes they have contributed over \$180,000, however, they were unable to provide details on such expenditures due to internal bookkeeping methodologies. If that is accepted and added, the total cost for 2016 access would be **\$841,583.78**.

# State Election Certification Dates

State	Certification/canvassing date
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Alabama	11/30/16
Alaska	11/29/16
Arizona	12/05/16
Arkansas	11/23/16
California	12/10/16
Colorado	12/08/16
Connecticut	11/30/16
Delaware	11/10/16
Florida	11/22/16
Georgia	11/22/16
Hawaii	No formal deadline
Idaho	11/25/16
Illinois	12/09/16
Indiana	11/29/16
Iowa	12/05/16
Kansas	12/01/16
Kentucky	11/28/16
Louisiana	11/21/16
Maine	11/28/16
Maryland	12/13/16
Massachusetts	11/30/16
Michigan	11/28/16
Minnesota	11/29/16
Mississippi	12/08/16
Missouri	12/13/16
Montana	12/05/16
Nebraska	12/05/16
Nevada	11/22/16
New Hampshire	No formal deadline
New Jersey	12/06/16
New Mexico	11/29/16
New York	12/12/16
North Carolina	11/29/16
North Dakota	11/25/16
Ohio	11/29/16
Oklahoma	11/15/16
Oregon	12/08/16
Pennsylvania	11/28/16
Rhode Island	No formal deadline
South Carolina	11/18/16
South Dakota	11/15/16
Tennessee	11/28/16
Texas	12/12/16
Utah	11/22/16
Vermont	11/15/16
Virginia	11/21/16
Washington	12/08/16
West Virginia	12/08/16
Wisconsin	12/01/16
Wyoming	11/16/16

Source: BallotPedia

Not all states were certified at the time that this report was completed. Therefore the results for the campaign are given from the best source available at the time.

## Election results in this report were compiled on 12/4/2016.

Election results are from the Secretary of State's website, or from the New York Times (which was updated on 11/29), whichever had more up-to-date information, as determined by the total number of votes tallied by each source.

# SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

**Create standard rates** - We need to look at creating standard petitioning rates prior to going into a state. Multiple states had issues of different petitioners being paid different amounts. Part of this is resolved with the non-compete language in our contracts, but we also need to be sure that rates are standard to prevent unnecessary drama on the ground. These rates may include: In-State Petitioner Rate, Out-of-State Petitioner Rate, Override Rate, etc. Also, requiring that a minimum number of signatures be collected before a petitioner would get paid may reduce other pain-points of having to generate small payments.

**Define “Valid Signature”** - A valid signature should be based upon the legal standard in a particular state. When the standard isn't clear, a conservative approach is the safe approach. These standards should be written into contracts as requirements for signatures to be deemed valid.

**Affiliate parties** - Unfortunately, many state parties do not understand the difficulty of obtaining access within their own state, and they certainly do not understand the ramifications that delays in their state cause in other states. The LNC has a responsibility to put the presidential candidate on the ballot. If state parties are unable or unwilling to assist in this task in a timely manner, then the LNC Ballot Access Coordinator should go around the state party. The presidential petitioning cannot be delayed by the gyrations of the State Party. Every effort should be made to prepare state affiliates in advance of a drive, but if an affiliate is not prepared, then the LNC should work around them.

**Start earlier** - We wait too long to start on petitions. These delays can cause problems. When one state runs too long, petitioning resources are delayed in getting into the next state, causing a domino effect. Additionally, petitions started earlier have a lower cost, generally, and are far less stressful for everyone involved.

**Piggy-back petitions when possible** - If there are local candidates that can piggy-back the Presidential ticket, and the state party is cooperating with the LNC Ballot Access Coordinator, we should piggy-back when possible. This requires that the State Party and the candidates are ready when the Presidential petitioning begins. An effort should be made by the LNC Ballot Access Coordinator to have these petitioning tasks align, when possible.

**Dossier of coordinators and petitioners** - Each coordinator and petitioner is different. Build a profile for each and utilize the right person(s) for any particular job.

**Contractors skipping out** - This year saw more petitioners who signed contracts, but did not turn in any signatures. This could have been because of the competition raising prices, but it resulted in unnecessarily increased paperwork.

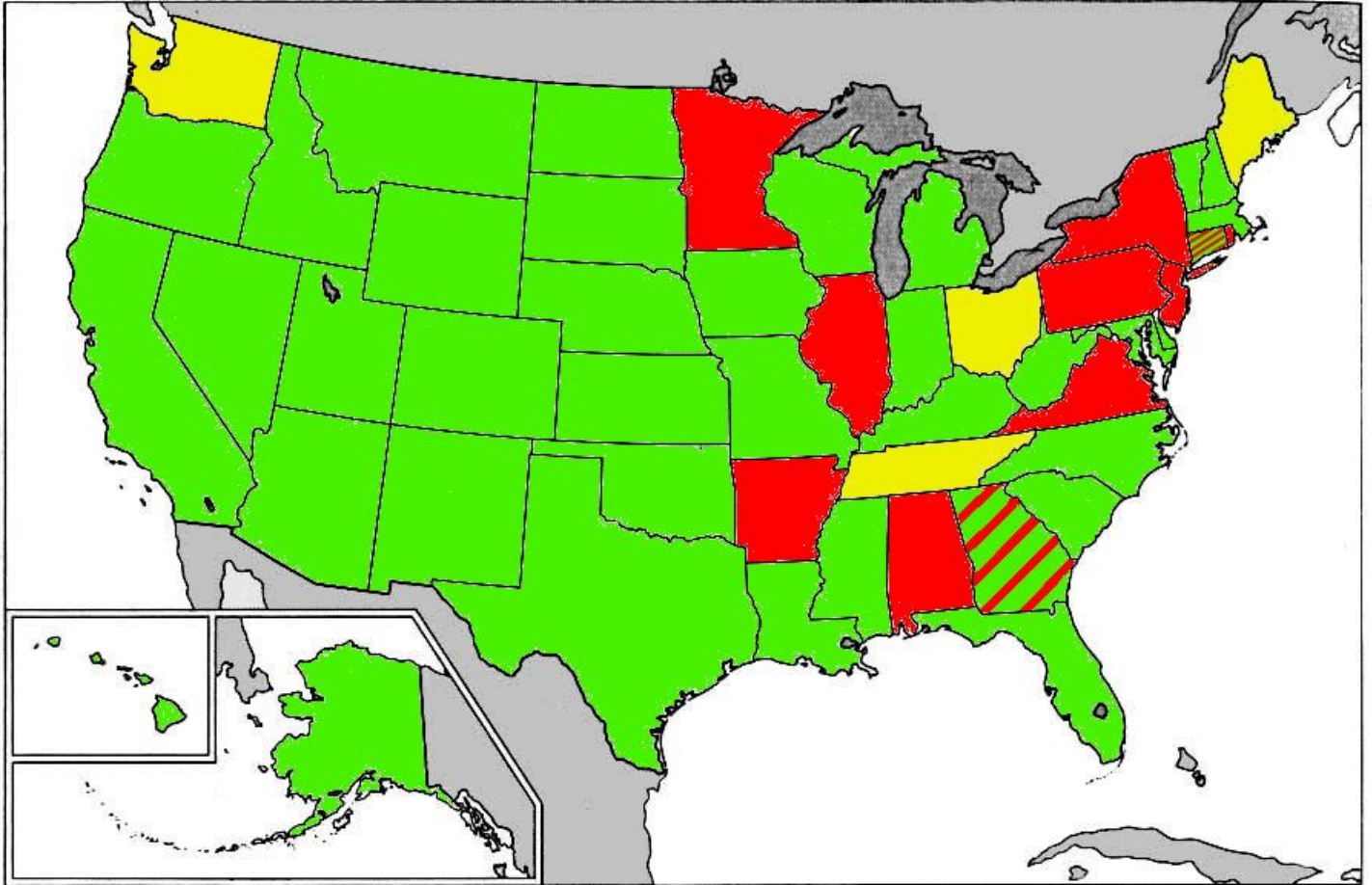
**Non-Compete Clauses** - We should employ non-compete clauses in our contracts to avoid drama caused by petitioners and coordinators arguing over who is owed what. Different coordinators use different methods of compensating their sub-contractors, and this can lead to contractors being stuck with big expenses. Some resources left states before the LP drive in that state was done in order to pursue work on LP petitions in states paying higher rates. This creates chaos, and ballot access drives are already chaotic enough.

**Advances and sole-source contracts** - Most petitioners overpromise and underdeliver. That doesn't hurt so much with simple pay-per-signature agreements where you hire a lot of petitioners and expect only a certain percentage will deliver. The bigger concern is when advanced payments are made or sole-source contracts are offered. Advanced payments should only be made when you're prepared to lose that money. And sole-source contracts should only be offered when you have plenty of time and a contract that provides opportunities for backup plans. A good way to think about it is, "if there's a 50% chance the petitioner won't deliver, would I want to offer this contract?" Leave yourself plenty of time and money in case a contractor is unable to deliver, and keep in mind that suing for damages would not work on petitioners without assets, and won't stop you from missing a state-imposed deadline.

**Petitioning Locations** - It would benefit the various efforts if a set of petitioning locations were researched and cleared ahead of time. Many hours are lost travelling site-to-site looking for locations. Document the petitioning rules in each state. Have an attorney on stand-by when a state actor violates those rules. Have local resources scope out locations. Have a group contact stores ahead of the drive to secure locations. Use Google Maps to find Post Offices and other high-traffic facilities directly on public streets. Use Google to research and document festivals and other events.

# BALLOT ACCESS 2018

Ballot Access as of 12/1/2016



After the 2016 General Election, we now have partial or complete ballot access in 37 states plus DC. Additionally, 4 states may have legal options to gain access that, if successful, would increase access to 41 states plus DC.

States with partial access: Connecticut and Georgia.

States without access: Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington.

States with immediate legal opportunity: Maine, Ohio, Tennessee, and Washington.

# Big ballot-access wins for the Libertarian Party

by Bob Johnston and Carla Howell [As published in LP News, Dec. 2016 issue]

As a result of the November vote totals of Libertarian Gary Johnson for president, as well as that of several down-ticket candidates, the Libertarian Party now has ballot access in 37 states, plus the District of Columbia — more states than after any election in the party's history.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for the Libertarian Party," said Nicholas Sarwark, Chair of the Libertarian National Committee. "No other political party, other than the two old parties, has achieved this level of post-election ballot access in over 100 years."

The **Texas** LP retained ballot access with Railroad Commission candidate Mark Miller receiving over 5 percent. The party would have had to collect over 80,000 signatures to get back on the ballot if no statewide candidate had received 5 percent. This will save the party approximately \$220,000 in petitioning cost.

The LP retained ballot access in **North Carolina** for four years, with Gary Johnson and the gubernatorial candidate, Lon Cecil, each getting over 2 percent. The party would have had to collect over 100,000 signatures to get back on the ballot, if neither the presidential nor gubernatorial candidate had achieved 2 percent, saving the party approximately \$250,000 in petitioning cost.

**Oklahoma** retained party status for two years for the first time ever after an election, because Johnson got over 2.5 percent of the vote. Otherwise, about 45,000 signatures would have been needed to get the party back onto the ballot.

LP **Kentucky** is a recognized party for the first time, with Gary Johnson getting over 2 percent. This effectively eliminates the need to collect 5,000 signatures for statewide office and 400 signatures for U.S. House candidates.

LP **New Hampshire** is a recognized party for the first time in two decades, thanks to governor candidate Max Abramson's exceeding 4 percent. This removes the signature-collection requirement.

The **District of Columbia** LP is recognized for only the second time, with candidate for Delegate to the U.S. House Martin Moulton getting over 17,000 votes, significantly reducing the burden of petitioning.

The LP retained ballot access in **North Dakota**, with both Gary Johnson and governor candidate Marty Riske getting over 5 percent of the vote, removing the requirement to collect 7,000 signatures.

LP **New Mexico** became a major party for the first time because of Johnson's garnering over 5 percent of the vote, significantly reducing the number of signatures needed to get Libertarians on the ballot.

In **Connecticut**, Libertarians Dan Reale for U.S. House in the second congressional district, Richard Lion for U.S. Senate, and Gary Johnson for President each received over 1 percent of the vote. As a result, the party will not have to petition for these offices. Without ballot access, 7,500 signatures for president and for U.S. Senate would have been required.

**West Virginia** retained ballot access for four years, thanks to David Moran's receiving over 2 percent in his race for governor, removing the need to collect about 7,500 signatures to regain ballot access.

**Iowa** is a recognized party for the first time ever with Gary Johnson's getting over 2 percent. "Libertarian" will appear as a choice when voters register, and the number of signatures needed to put Libertarian governor and U.S. House candidates on the ballot goes down significantly.

**Massachusetts** is a recognized party again with Gary Johnson's getting over 3 percent. "Libertarian" will appear as a choice when voters register.

**Wyoming** retained party status for two years because U.S. House candidate Lawrence Struempf received over 2 percent of the vote. Libertarians will not need to petition to get on the ballot.

**Hawaii** retained party status for ten years because Libertarians for state senate received more than four per cent of the votes cast for all state senate seats.

The LP easily retained ballot access in the following states: **Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont, and Wisconsin**. Access in Maine is unsettled at the time of this writing.

The party already had secured ballot access through 2018 in Colorado, Indiana, Nebraska, Utah, S. Carolina, S. Dakota, and Missouri. The LP has ballot access in California, although it is hampered in its access to the general election ballot by a "top-two open primary" law, which is also in effect in Washington.



This report was prepared by Bob Johnston. It has three important columns; does the affiliate have ballot-qualified party status, what it will take to become a recognized party in 2018, and what it will take to retain that status from 2018 to 2020.

State	Status	To Become A Recognized Party	Retention
Alabama	No	Must collect signatures equal to 3% of the 2014 gubernatorial vote (35,413). Due 6/5/18. Can start petitioning now. Can also petition for individual county party status and Independent candidates.	To attain party status, statewide or countywide (county-only status) candidate must get 20%.
Alaska	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 3%, or maintain registered voters above 3% of the votes cast for 2014 Governor (8,399) as of 5/31/18. Have 7,557 registered voters as of 11/16.
Arizona	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 5%, or maintain voter registration above 0.67% as of 11/1/15. Voter registration at 0.87% as of 11/16.
Arkansas	No	Must collect 10,000 signatures, which are due no later than 1/2/18, and must be collected within a 90-day window. Can start now.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 3%.
California	Yes	N/A	2018 statewide candidate gets 2% and party has 1/15 of 1% of the registered voters, or party has registered voters equal to 0.33% of the votes cast in the 2014 gubernatorial election (21,438). Has 139,805 registered voters (0.7%) as of 11/16.
Colorado	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
Connecticut	Part	Can run candidates by petitioning (statewide 7,500, US House 1% of 2016 race vote) between 1/4/16 and 8/10/16. Can run 2018 candidates for the US Senate and US House 2nd without collecting signatures.	To attain party status, 2018 candidate for Governor must get 20%, or party must have 20% of the party-registered voters. If a petition candidate gets 1%, can run for that same office in the next election without petitioning.
Delaware	Yes	Party must have voter registration of 0.1% on 8/21/18, the number of which is determined on 12/31/17. Has 0.22% of the registered voters as of 11/16.	Maintain voter registration of 0.1% as determined on 12/31/17.
District of Columbia	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Delegate, Mayor, Chairman of the Council, or council member must get 7,500 votes.
Florida	Yes	N/A	N/A
Georgia	Part	Can run candidates for statewide office. Must collect signatures for non-statewide candidates, the amount equal to 5% of the registered voters in the office's specific district, between 1/11/18 and 7/10/18. Must also pay filing fee equal to 3% of the office's annual salary.	If a statewide candidate receives 1% of the registered voters, can run 2020 statewide candidates without petitioning.

Hawaii	Yes	N/A	Statewide candidate or one of the US House candidates must get 10%, or state senate candidates must get 4% of all the votes cast for those races, or state representative candidates must get 4% of all votes cast for those races, or candidates for state senate and state representatives must get 2% of the votes combined for all of those races.
Idaho	Yes	N/A	2018 federal or state candidate must get 3% of the votes cast for Governor, or party must run at least 3 candidates for federal and/or state offices in the general election.
Illinois	No	Must collect 25,000 signatures, between 3/27/18 and 6/25/18.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 5%. If any 2018 non-gubernatorial statewide candidate gets 5%, can run statewide candidates in 2020 without petitioning.
Indiana	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Secretary of State must get 2%
Iowa	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 2%.
Kansas	Yes	N/A	2018 statewide candidate must get 1%.
Kentucky	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
Louisiana	Yes	N/A	Must have 1,000 registered voters as of 4/22/18.
Maine			
Maryland	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 1%, or party must have 1% of the registered voters as of 12/31/18.
Massachusetts	Yes	N/A	2018 statewide candidate must get 3%, or party must have 1% of the registered voters.
Michigan	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate must get 1% of the votes cast for Secretary of State.
Minnesota	No	Must collect signatures equal to 5% of the 2016 presidential vote (145,821) by 5/31/18. Can also run candidates by petitioning (statewide 2,000; US House 1,000) between 3/18/18 and 5/31/18.	If statewide candidate gets 5%, becomes a recognized party.
Mississippi	Yes	N/A	N/A
Missouri	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
Montana	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
Nebraska	Yes	N/A	Need 2018 statewide candidate to get 5%, or a combination of candidates encompassing the whole state to get 5% in each of their races.

Nevada	Yes	N/A	2018 partisan candidate must get 1% of the cumulative votes cast for the Nevada US House races, or party must have 1% of the registered voters as of 1/1/18. Have 0.9% as of 11/16.
New Hampshire	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 4%.
New Jersey	No	Must collect 100 signatures for any non-statewide office, 800 for any statewide office, due 6/6/17. Petitions available the first week of January, 2017.	2017 candidates running for the General Assembly must get 10% of the votes cast for the General Assembly.
New Mexico	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
New York	No	Must collect signatures for individual candidates (statewide 15,000, US House 3,500). For statewide office petitions, at least 100 signatures each must come from of 1/2 of the counties. Can start petitioning for state candidates on 7/10/18, and are due by 8/21/18.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 50,000 votes.
North Carolina	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
North Dakota	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Attorney General or Secretary of State must get 5%.
Ohio	No	Must collect signatures equal to 1% of the 2016 presidential vote (53,254) by 7/4/18. Can start petitioning now.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 3%.
Oklahoma	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 2.5%.
Oregon	Yes	Must have 0.1% of the registered voters at any time between 5/15/18 and 9/8/18. Currently has 0.8% as of 11/16.	Statewide candidate must receive 1% and party must have 0.1% of the registered voters, or party must maintain 0.6% of the registered voters.
Pennsylvania	No	Must have 15% of the registered voters. Can run individual candidates by collecting signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast for the 2017 elected official of that office, except for statewide office, which is 5,000 signatures. Can start petitioning 3/7/18, and are due by 8/1/18.	Must maintain 15% of the registered voters.
Rhode Island	No	Must collect signatures equal to 5% of the 2016 presidential vote (22,541). Can start 1/1/18, and are due 6/1/18 if nominating by primary, or 8/1/18 if nominating by convention. Can also run Independent candidates by collecting signatures (statewide 1,000, US House 500), due 7/13/18.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 5%.
South Carolina	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
South Dakota	Yes	N/A	2018 gubernatorial candidate must get 2.5%.

Tennessee	No	Must collect signatures equal to 2.5% of the 2014 gubernatorial vote (33,816), due 5/17/18 if nominating by primary, 8/8/18 if nominating by convention. Can start petitioning now. Can run Independent candidates by collecting 25 signatures. Can start petitioning 1/5/18, and are due 4/5/18.	2018 gubernatorial candidate must get 5%.
Texas	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor must get 2%, or any other statewide candidate must get 5%.
Utah	Yes	N/A	Has retention through 2020.
Vermont	Yes	N/A	N/A
Virginia	No	Candidates must collect signatures between 1/2/17 and 6/13/17 (statewide 10,000 with 400 from each of the 11 congressional districts; State Senate 250; House of Delegates 125).	2017 statewide candidate must get 10%.
Washington	No	Candidates must either pay a filing fee (federal \$1,740; Governor \$1,669; state \$421), or collect an equal amount of signatures, due between 5/14/18 and 5/18/18.	N/A
West Virginia	Yes	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	Yes	N/A	2018 statewide candidate must get 1%.
Wyoming	Yes	N/A	2018 candidate for Governor, Secretary of State, or the US House must get 2%.

# BALLOT ACCESS LAW CHANGES

As reported by Richard Winger:

1. Alabama: recently a US District Court struck down the number of signatures, in special elections. This will be especially helpful if there is a 2017 special election to fill the seat of US Senator Jeff Sessions, likely to be the new Attorney General.
2. Arizona: we are in the middle of our court fight to be able to place our members on our own primary ballot. Evidence is being filed now. If we win this case, we will again be able to have candidates for congress and legislature, which were not in 2016. The law we are fighting was passed in 2015, so it was not a problem in the past and we had lots of candidates for congress and the legislature in Arizona between 1976 and 2014.
3. Arkansas: we have won round one of our battle against the 2015 law that forces us to nominate all our candidates (except president) in November of the year before the election.
4. California: the Ninth Circuit is about to receive briefs in the lawsuit against one aspect of the top-two system. Specifically the ban on party labels for candidates who are members of unqualified parties. A win in this case might be the straw that breaks the back of the top-two system, which is already reeling from multiple attacks in the Los Angeles Times.
5. Connecticut: we won our 2016 lawsuit against the ban on out-of-state circulators.
6. Georgia: in 2016 a US District Court struck down the requirement that minor party and independent candidates for president need approximately 50,000 signatures. Although this has no direct impact on us in Georgia, it is an important victory that may be useful against other bad states.
7. Illinois: in 2016 we won our lawsuit in US District Court against the full-slate law, which should make it easier for us to petition for county office in the future. The state is appealing. Also an independent candidate won in 2016 against the 5% petition for minor party and independent candidates for US House. If this case is also won in the 7th circuit, it will hugely help us to run more candidates for US House in Illinois. We had no such candidates in 2016.
8. Maine: in 2016 we won injunctive relief against the December of the year before the election deadline for new parties. The Secretary of State will ask the legislature for an all-around better law for party recognition, as a result of what has been accomplished already in the lawsuit.
9. Maryland: in 2016 a US District Court virtually struck down the number of signatures for an independent for statewide office (over 40,000). This has no direct impact on us in Maryland but will help fight bad laws in other states.
10. Missouri: in 2015 the Constitution Party won in US District Court against a county ordinance that said only the two largest parties can run in special elections for partisan county office. This precedent will help us in Kansas if we have to sue get into an upcoming special election for US House, due to Congressman Pompeo's likely becoming CIA director.
11. New Hampshire: we are waiting for the First Circuit to rule on our lawsuit against the 2013 law that makes it illegal to work on the party petition in an odd year. Although we are now on the NH ballot, this case will help us if we go off the ballot in the future, and will be a good precedent for fighting similar laws in other states.
12. New York: our case against the out-of-state circulator ban is in the fact-gathering stage.
13. Ohio: our case in state appeals court will be of the utmost importance for our ability to regain ballot status in this state.
14. Pennsylvania: our case in the 3rd circuit against the county distribution requirement for statewide state office is very likely to win, and it wins, that will destabilize the law on how Democrats and Republicans get on their primary ballots for statewide state office. That will force the legislature to substantially revamp the ballot access laws, something that legislature has been refusing to do since 1980, despite 7 other ballot access victories in court.
15. South Dakota: our case in US District Court against the petition deadline for new parties will determine whether that state will be forced to let newly-qualifying parties nominate by convention, which will be extremely beneficial if it happens, because now the mandatory primary plus the difficult primary petition requirements has kept most Libertarian from running for Governor, Congress and legislature. For instance this year we had no such candidates.
16. Tennessee: The Green-Constitution lawsuit now in the 6th circuit over the party petition will be hugely important for our own future party status. This year Gary Johnson was only on as an independent, something that was also true only in Ohio and Alabama.
17. Texas: Rocky De La Fuente's ballot access lawsuit, if it wins, will force the legislature to ease at least some ballot access laws.

# STATE-BY-STATE ANALYSIS

## How to read this part of the report

Each report is formatted similarly:

## State Name

### Summary

A summary of the state drive, when available and applicable.

Links to important candidate Information

Ballot Access details

(State party) Pre-election Status

Johnson result

(State party) Post-election Status

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	(Validity rates provided when available.)
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	(Validity rates provided when available.)
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	(Validity rates provided when available.)
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	(Validity rates provided when available.)
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	(Validity rates provided when available.)

**Original LNC Budget:** \$

**Total Expenditure:** \$

LNC Expenditure: \$

JW16 Expenditure: \$

State Expenditure: \$

**What went right:**

**What went wrong:**

**How to do better:**

### Ballot Access for 2018

What did a state party do with ballot access the last time that they ran? What would a state party do with ballot access in 2018? What would it take to get that party access in 2018?

# Alabama

## Summary

Paid signature gathering began on June 11 and ran through August 18. The independent petition method was used, because a party petition requires over seven times as many signatures.

Elections: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/>  
Minor Party Info: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/downloads/election/2016/mpp-info-2016.pdf>  
Presidential: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/downloads/election/2016/pba-2016.pdf>  
Independent: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/downloads/election/2016/ic-info-2016.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/electionLaw.aspx?sm=voters> (title 17)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 3% of those who voted in the most recent race for Governor (2014: 1,180,413; 3% = 35,413), and the signatures must be filed by the date of the primary election (2016: March 1). Can start petitioning any time after previous election for next general election (§17-6-22).
- Retention: statewide cand must get 20% (§17-13-40). If a county-wide cand receives 20%, county gets party status.
- If party not recognized, candidates can run as Ind. Must collect signatures equal to 3% of those who voted in the most recent race for Gov in the jurisdiction running. Sigs are due the date of the primary election (§17-9-3(a)(3)).
- Primary election held on the first Tuesday in June, except in Presidential years, the primary is held on the first Tuesday in March (§17-13-3).
- Can run an Independent candidate for President by collecting 5,000 signatures (§17-14-31). Ind. Presidential signatures must be filed 82 days prior to the election date (2016: Aug. 18). No substitution (§17-14-31).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 2.09% with 44,211 votes.

Post-election Status: Unrecognized. Did not do partisan petition, did not reach 20%.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>12,000</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	7,500
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	2,000
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	2,500

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 15,000.00

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 23,750.00</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 18,750.00
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
State Expenditure:	\$ 5,000.00

**What went right:** Paid drive was managed by Paul Frankel and TE Finnegan. Pay rate did not have to be hiked, unlike many other states. Number of signatures we were shooting for did go up midstream, but only because there was a question about how state checks validity. We had some good locations that we already knew about from past petition drives, and petitioners cooperated on maximizing those locations.

**What went wrong:** An issue arose when petition signatures were not secured and accounted for. There is a question of whether some signatures were lost by state party officers. How state checks validity: we need to be careful what we say on turn-in. They will check at 5k raw, but only if we indicate that we think this is our final turn-in if all 5k valid, even though we know there's no chance of that.

**How to do better:** As with other states, ramping up quickly as soon as we can start needs to be taken better advantage of. We need to make sure all signatures are secured and accounted for at all times. Contracts should be signed before work commences, not after the fact.

### Ballot Access for 2018

To obtain automatic access in 2020, a petition drive to give party status would be necessary, and any statewide candidate in 2018 would need 20% to maintain access. LP Alabama retained statewide ballot access 2000 by running candidates for statewide office; the candidate for *Supreme Ct. Justice, Pl. 2* received 225,969 votes, or 20.16% of the statewide vote, in a two-way race. Another race that same year, for PSC President, received 197,569 votes, or 17.6% of the statewide vote. Almost 60 candidates ran as Libertarians all up and down the ballot in 2002, and it could have been many more if the state party executive director had time to review all of the applications. Ballot access was not retained because Democrats and Republicans had candidates for every statewide office in 2002. Since 2002, LPA had one candidate for a single state house district (out of 105) in 2006; the presidential candidates "without party label" in 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016; and just over a dozen party-branded candidates for county and subcounty offices in Jefferson, Shelby, Bibb and Chilton counties in 2014 thanks to an out of state PAC. A petition drive would require 35,413 valid signatures; approximately 58,432 raw signatures. The timeline for completion is over 1 year, with no restriction on a start date and the deadline being June 6th, 2018. In the Facebook group "Alabama Libertarians", there was strong and enthusiastic interest in running for partisan office if LPA were to get back on the ballot. You can read that thread here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2210901693/permalink/10154830826286694/>. The cost for this drive would be between \$116,000 and \$175,000, with an estimated cost of \$146,000. If LP Alabama were to receive 20% in any statewide race in 2018, they would retain party access for 2020. In 2014, the candidate for State Treasurer ran unopposed, and a Libertarian candidate would have likely reached the 20% threshold.

# Alaska

## Summary

We are recognized as a party, as the 2014 Libertarian candidate for Governor received over 3%. We could maintain access by boosting registration numbers. We had 7,024 registered voters as of June 2016. If we had 8,400+ registrations, we would have access regardless of the Gubernatorial campaign results. This number of registrants does change based on the number of people who vote in the Gubernatorial election.

Elections: <http://www.elections.alaska.gov/>

Political Parties: [http://www.elections.alaska.gov/pi\\_rp.php](http://www.elections.alaska.gov/pi_rp.php)

Election Law: <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folio.asp> (title 15)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, must have registered voters equal to at least 3% of the votes cast in the last general election for Governor as of May 31 of the year of the election (2014: 279,958; 3% = 8,399) (§ 15.80.008), or...
- Candidate for Governor must get 3% (§ 15.80.010(25)(a)) (see "Political Parties" above).
- If there is no race for Governor, then use the votes cast for the US Senate candidate, else use the US House candidate (§ 15.80.010(25)(b)(c)).
- If party is not recognized, can run a candidate for statewide office by collecting signatures equal to at least 1% of the votes cast in the most recent general election for Governor (1% = 2,800) (§ 15.25.160). Signatures are due the date of the primary election (§ 15.25.150).
- The primary election is held on the third Tuesday in August (§ 15.25.020).
- Can run a candidate for President by collecting signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast in the last election for President. If candidate receives 3%, can run candidate in the next Presidential election. Signatures are due 90 days prior to the general election (§ 15.30.025).
- Presidential paperwork due September 1 of the election year (§15.30.020).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. 2014 Governor received over 3%.

Johnson result: 5.88% with 18,785 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. No change.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

To maintain access for 2020, our 2018 candidate for Governor must get 3%, or party must maintain voter registration of 3% of the number of votes cast for governor in 2014 (8,399 registrants) on 5/31/18. Currently have 7,557 as of 11/16. Estimated cost to be safely above 8,399 registrants is \$10,000.



# Arizona

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Arizona.

Elections: <http://www.azsos.gov/election/>

Candidate Handbook 2014: [http://www.azsos.gov/sites/azsos.gov/files/candidates\\_and\\_political\\_committees.pdf](http://www.azsos.gov/sites/azsos.gov/files/candidates_and_political_committees.pdf)

Election Law: <http://azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=16>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1 1/3% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent election (2014: 1,537,671 => 20,451) Party is on the ballot for 2 general elections following recognition (§ 16-801).
- Petitions must be filed with the Secretary of State no later than 180 days before the election in which the party wishes to participate (§ 16-803). Can participate in the primary or only the general election.
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 5% (§ 16-804.A), or party have 2/3 of 1% of the registered voters as of October 1 of the year preceding the next general election (§ 16-804.B). The Secretary of State will determine the sufficiency of the voter registration for party status by February 1 of the election year (§ 16-804.C).
- Can run as an Independent candidate by collecting signatures equal to 3% of the non-primary-party registered voters in the district (§ 16-341.E).
- Independent Presidential candidates must collect signatures between 60 and 90 days prior to the general election. Signers cannot have signed a petition for another Independent Presidential candidate (§ 16-341.G).
- The number of signatures necessary for Independent candidates to collect is determined by March 1 of the election year. Any registered voter can sign the Independent candidate petition (§16-341.F).
- Presidential paperwork due 60 days prior to the general election (2016: September 9) (§ 16-341.G).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Currently have 0.75% of registered voters @ 6/16.

Johnson result: 4.16% with 106,327 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. No change.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

To have automatic access in 2020, our 2018 candidate for Governor must get 5%, or party must maintain voter registration of 0.67% of all voters. Currently have 0.87% as of 11/16.

# Arkansas

## Summary

The Arkansas drive began Mar 23, 2015. 15,609 signatures were collected in 68 days. Total cost of \$33,003 for signatures plus \$267.60 in expenses. Validity checks sampled 11.4% of all raw sigs. Petitions were delivered to the SoS on June 2, 2015. Validity estimated to be 75.5% was actually 76.1%. 11,918 were certified as valid on June 22, 2015. The SoS issued a New Political Party Certification on July 8, 2015. On May 28, 2015, the state moved up the primary election, moving up the petition deadline to Nov 6, 2015. Despite an earlier deadline, LPAR nominated 25 candidates. LPAR won a federal lawsuit contending the earlier deadline was unconstitutional, but the judge declined to allow the nomination of additional candidates. All Arkansas voters saw candidates for President, U.S. Senate and U.S. House, and many other county and local races. Three of four congressional seats and 8 of 34 state house races were two-way races. Johnson received 29,622 votes (2.63%), up from 15,838 (1.52%) in 2012. Other results outperformed 2014.

Elections: <http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/elections.html>  
New Political Party: [http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/Documents/New\\_political\\_party\\_2012.pdf](http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/Documents/New_political_party_2012.pdf)  
Running For Office (2012): [http://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/pdfs/2012\\_Running\\_for\\_Public\\_Office.pdf](http://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/pdfs/2012_Running_for_Public_Office.pdf)  
Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/arcode/Default.asp>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 10,000 signatures within a 90-day period. Signatures must be filed at least 60 days prior to the end of the filing period (March 1, 2016), which is December 31, 2015 (§ 7-7-205(a)).
- The preferential primary election is on the Tuesday 3 weeks prior to the general primary election (2016: May 24), which is held on the second Tuesday in June of the year of the general election (2016: June 14), (§ 7-7-203(a)(b)).
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 3% (§ 7-1-101.21).
- Can run as an Independent candidate for Congress by collecting signatures (statewide 10,000; US House 2,000; or 3% of the registered voters in the district in which the candidate is running, whichever is less).
- Cannot start collecting until 90 days prior to the deadline, which is noon on March 1 of the election year (§ 7-7-103).
- Can have a candidate for President on the ballot if party isn't recognized, by collecting 1,000 signatures, due by noon on the first Monday in August (2016: August 2) (§ 7-8-302(6)).
- Presidential electors due 2 days after the state convention. Presidential paperwork due Sept 15 of the year of the election (§ 7-8-302(1)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized by petition completed in 2015.

Johnson result: 2.6% with 29,829 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Not recognized. Needed 3% to retain.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	15,609	@ 76.3% (official)
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	9,999	@ 73.8% (est.)
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0	
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	4,889	@ 77.6% (est.)
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	721	@ 77.6% (est.)

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 26,000.00 (per 3/7/15 LNC-EC minutes)

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 33,270.60</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 24,997.50
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
State Expenditure:	\$ 8,273.10

**What went right:** The pace of the campaign was good; petitioning completed in 68 days. Costs reduced by using local canvassers, and negotiation with contractors at the end of the campaign. Average signature rate out of state funds was \$1.66/signature, compared to the \$2.50 paid under the LNC-sponsored contract. Estimates of validity rates were close; estimated validity was 75.1% - 75.9%, compared to the official rate of 76.1%.

**What went wrong:** Volunteers started late and did not generate an adequate contribution to the effort. Validity checking was slow, lacking a quick and efficient software interface. The campaign could have been suspended sooner, submitting perhaps 1,000 fewer raw signatures, which would have saved approximately \$1,200. Petitioners encountered access problems, particularly on college campuses. Petitioners focused primarily on central Arkansas, missing much of the state's northwest population concentration.

**How to do better:** Volunteer efforts need to be mobilized earlier and better-coordinated with the paid-petitioners' activities. Consider timing the beginning of the drive with the state convention (tentatively scheduled for late March or early April 2017). Validity checking software should be upgraded. The campaign should have petitioners in Northwest and Northeast Arkansas as well as in Little Rock.

### Ballot Access for 2018

A petition drive will be necessary to give the party access. The 2018 candidate for governor needs at least 3% of the vote to maintain access for 2020. In 2012, the first year on the ballot, we ran 17 candidates for office. In 2014, it was 26 candidates. In 2016, it was 24 candidates. We expect over 30 candidates for office in 2018, which features 7 statewide offices. Summary of all results: <http://lpar.org/elections/election-results/>. Per BAN, need 10,000 sigs. The projected cost of this drive is between \$30,000 and \$45,000, with a likely cost of \$37,500. Should start in 2017.

# California

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in California.

Elections: <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/>

Election Law: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=elec&codebody=&hits=20>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must have registered voters equal to 0.33% of the votes cast at the most recent gubernatorial election, 135 days prior to the primary (2014: 6,496,307; 0.33% = 21,438) (§ 5100(b)), or collect signatures equal to 10% of the number of votes cast in the last gubernatorial election, on or before 154 days prior to the primary election (10% = 649,631) (§ 5100(c)).
- Retention: party has registered voters equal to 0.33% of the votes cast at the most recent gubernatorial election, 135 days prior to the primary (2016: Jan. 25) (§ 5100(b)), or statewide candidate must get 2% at the most recent gubernatorial election and must maintain 1/15 of 1% of the reg voters (§ 5100(a), 5101).
- Has a top-two primary; all candidates, except for President, must run in the primary election, regardless of party, if any; top two run in the general election. Primary elections are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June (2016: June 7) (§ 1201).
- If party not recognized, can run an Independent Presidential candidate by collecting signatures equal to 1% of the registered voters between 88 and 148 days prior to the general election (§ 8400, 8403(a)).
- To run for office, candidates must pay filing fees (statewide office: 2% of the annual salary, US House: 1%) (§ 8103). May collect signatures in lieu of the filing fee (statewide office 10,000; US House 3,000) (§ 8106(a)). Signatures must be filed 15 days prior to the close of the nomination period (§ 8106(b)(3)).
- Presidential paperwork due October 1 of the election year (§ 7100, 7300).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Party has 121,876 registered voters as of 2/16.

Johnson Result: 3.4% with 478,499 votes.

Post-election Status: Still Recognized. Party has 139,805 registered voters as of 11/16.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

To maintain for 2020, we need a statewide 2018 candidate gets 2% and party has 0.067% voter registration, or party has voter registration at 0.33% of the votes cast in 2018 gubernatorial election. Had 139,805 (0.7%) as of 11/16.

# Colorado

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Colorado.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/main.html>

Cand Information Guide (2012): <http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/Candidates/files/HowToRunForOffice.pdf>

Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/colorado/> (title 1)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 10,000 signatures, due the second Friday in January of the election year in which the party wishes to participate (§ 1-4-1302(1)).
- Retention: candidate for statewide office in either of the last 2 general elections gets 1%, or party has 1,000 registered voters prior to July 1 in either of the last 2 general elections (§ 1-4-1303(2)).
- Can also run candidates by collecting signatures (President 5,000; other statewide office 1,000, US House 800, or 2% of the votes cast for that office in the last general election, whichever is less) (§ 1-4-802.c).
- Signatures for minor party candidates may be collected between the first Monday in February (2016: Feb. 1), and 85 days prior to the primary election (2016: April 4). (§ 1-4-802.d (II),f(II)).
- Signatures for unaffiliated candidates may be collected between 117 and 173 days prior to the general election (§ 1-4-802.d (I),f(I)).
- If the party is not recognized and a statewide candidate gets 5%, then qualifies as a recognized party for next 2 general election cycles. Also, the party is recognized if it has at least 1,000 registered voters as of July 1 of the election year (§ 1-4-1303(1)).
- Presidential paperwork due 60 days prior to the election (§ 1-4-701(3)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. 2014 statewide candidates received over 1%.

Johnson Result: 5.18% with 144,121 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained. Johnson result extends access through 2020.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

LP Colorado has retention through 2020.

# Connecticut

## Summary

The earliest date to collect was January 1. When Joshua Katz took over the drive in May, only a couple hundred signatures had been collected. The drive was completed on August 10th. A temporary injunction for the 2016 petitioning barring enforcement of an out-of-state petitioner ban. Right after petitioning was completed, the court made the injunction permanent.

Elections: <http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3172&q=525432>

Nominating Petition: [http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/nominating\\_petitions\\_info/frequently\\_asked\\_questions\\_nominating\\_petition.pdf](http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/nominating_petitions_info/frequently_asked_questions_nominating_petition.pdf)

Election Law: <http://www.ct.gov/seec/cwp/view.asp?a=3571&Q=425444&PM=1> (title 9)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, candidate for Governor in the most recent general election must get 20%, or have at least 20% of the party registered voters at the time of the gubernatorial election (§ 9-372(5)).
- If party is not recognized, candidates must obtain signatures equal to at least 1% of the amount of votes for that office in the last general election, or 7,500, whichever is less. Signatures must be from those eligible to vote for the candidate(s) listed on the petition (§ 9-453(d)).
- Circulators must be registered CT voters (§ 9-453(e)).
- Can run for same office w/o having to petition if 1% of vote total was received for that race (§ 9-372(6)), (§ 9-379).
- Cannot start to petition until the first business day in January of the election year (§ 9-453(b)), and are due 90 days prior to the general election @ 4 pm (2016: August 10) (§ 9-453(i)).
- If party can run a candidate in a race as a minor party candidate (e.g. 2016 US Senate & US House 2<sup>nd</sup>), candidate must be nominated 62 days prior to the general election (2016: September 7) (§ 9-452).
- Can substitute (§ 9-460).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized. Can run 2016 US House (2<sup>nd</sup>) candidate and US Senate candidate w/o petitioning.

Johnson result: 3.0% with 48,650 votes. (NYT) Richard Lion (US Senate): 1.14% with 18,182 votes.

Daniel Reale (US Congress 2nd): 1.50% w/ 4,949 votes. Richard Lion (State Rep 9th): 12.9% with 1,070 votes.

Post-election Status: Partial access. President in 2020, and US Senate, US Congress 2nd, and State Rep 9th in 2018.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>16,500 (approx)</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	14,000 (approx)
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	2,000 (approx)
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	500 (approx)

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 25,000.00 (per 2/1/2016 LNC-EC minutes)

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 54,644.02</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 45,003.61
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 2,000.00 (est)
State Expenditure:	\$ 7,640.41

**What went right:** We gathered enough signatures and gained ballot access. The state board contributed significant sums towards the end, when it was clear that costs were running high. Directly-hired petitioners such as Kevin Brook, Mark Greenstein, Jamaal Butler, and Will Preston were consistent and delivered high validity rates. Gary Summers was a pleasure to work with.

**What went wrong:** Petitioning began too late. Coordinators delayed the start and then increased rate. Petitioners were dishonest. Coordinators did not shield party from petitioners. Underestimated level of effort for validity checking. There was a "who's in charge" problem. Volunteers were almost non-existent. Internal validity was far higher than the state totals.

**How to do better:** Better communication. Clarity on responsibilities. Tighter grip on contractors. Start on time.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

To gain full party access for 2020, would need petition of 7500 signatures to place governor on the ballot in 2018, and candidate for governor needs 20% result, or party needs 20% voter registration.

# Delaware

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Delaware.

Elections: <http://elections.delaware.gov/default.shtml>

Election Law: <http://delcode.delaware.gov/title15/index.shtml> (title 15)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, must have 0.1% of the registered voters determined by the last day of the year preceding the general election (653) 21 days prior to the primary (2016: August 23) (§15-3001).
- Non-Presidential primary elections are held on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in September (2016: September 13) (§15-3101(3)).
- Presidential primary election is held the fourth Tuesday in April of the year of the Presidential election (2016: April 26) (§15-3181).
- Can run an Independent candidate by collecting signatures equal to 1% of the registered voters as of December 31 of the year prior to the general election in the district in which the candidate is running. The candidate can also not have been registered with a political party for 3 months prior to submitting the paperwork. Signatures must be collected between January 1 and July 15 of the year of the general election, and submitted by September 1 (§15-3002).
- Minor party candidates must be nominated at a convention by August 1 of the election year (§15-3301(e)).
- Presidential paperwork due August 15 of the election year (§15-3301(e)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Have 1,265 registered voters (0.19%) as of 6/16.

Johnson Result: 3.35% with 14,757 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. Have 1519 registered voters (0.22%) as of 11/16.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

Must maintain voter registration rate of 0.1% as of 12/31/17. Currently have 0.22% as of 11/16.

# District of Columbia

## Summary

Petitioning period opened on June 17. We began July 1. Turn-in date was Aug 10. Challenge period ended Aug 20. The LNC EC voted to fund 3 drives at once: Johnson, Moulton for Delegate, and Klokkel for City Council, hoping one would win the needed 7,500 votes. Bruce Majors began a run for city council, but he dropped out due to his work circumstances.

Elections:

<http://www.dcboee.org/home.asp>

Candidate Qualification and Ballot Access:

[http://www.dcboee.org/popup.asp?url=/pdf\\_files/nr\\_844.pdf](http://www.dcboee.org/popup.asp?url=/pdf_files/nr_844.pdf)

Election Law:

<http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/dccode/> (title 1, chapter 10)

Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, a candidate for Delegate, Mayor, Chairman of the Council, Council member, Attorney General, or President in the preceding general election must get 7,500 votes (§ 1-1001.08(d)(h2)).
- If not a recognized party, a candidate for city-wide office must collect signatures from 3,000 registered voters or 1.5%, whichever is less. Council member: 500 signatures or 1.5% (§ 1-1001.08(j)(1)).
- To run a candidate for President, must collect signatures from 1% of the registered voters (§ 1-1001.08(f)).
- Cannot begin until the 143<sup>rd</sup> day prior to the general election (2016: June 17), and are due 90 days prior to the election (2016: August 10). Number of reg voters determined 144 days prior to election (§ 1-1001.08(f)(i)).
- If party is recognized, candidates must collect signatures. City-wide: 2,000 or 1% of the registered party voters, whichever is less; Ward: 250 or 1% of the party-registered voters in the specific ward. (§ 1-1001.08(i)).
- If the party is recognized, signatures must be collected between 90 and 144 days prior to the primary. The primary election is held on the first Tuesday in April (§ 1-1001.10(a)(1)). Primary now held on second Tuesday in June.

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson results: 1.57% with 4,906 votes. Martin Moulton (Delegate) results: 5.99% with 18,713 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. Candidates for delegate and for city council both received over 7,500 votes.

	<u>GJ/WW</u>	<u>est valid</u>	<u>Moulton</u>	<u>est valid</u>	<u>Klokkel</u>	<u>est valid</u>
<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>7,972</b>	<b>62.89%</b>	<b>5,329</b>	<b>59.28%</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>59.69%</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	7,408			4,689		4,645
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0			0		0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0			0		0
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	564			640		555

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 36,000.00 as 20,000 (JW) and \$16,000 (Klokkel & Moulton)

**Total Expenditure:** \$ 49,393.00

LNC Expenditure: \$ 40,893.00

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 8,500.00 (est)

State Expenditure: \$ 0.00

**What went right:** Ballot access was achieved with down-ticket. Putting \$7.00 on the boards attracted enough petitioners to get the job done. Sanford Pankin was the key to success in DC drive. Costs were contained by voluntary housing of Pankin in home of DC area Libertarian. John LaBeaume assisted with accepting turn-ins, validity checking, and the final turn-in.

**What went wrong:** Domino effect: Other states running long caused a slow start. Out-of-district petitioners must register with DCBOE which caused problems; several petitioners who came to weekend petition couldn't get through traffic before DCBOE closed and most didn't come back. Moulton and Klokkel were added, requiring a 2nd trip to DCBOE for petitioners. The drive ran to the deadline. Dates for each signature required a year. We struggled to find people who could validate sigs.

**How to do better:** D.C. is a city-state. Validity in cities is generally poor. We should never plan for more than 60% validity in D.C., and then only with tight management and good petitioners. A solid validation plan should exist prior to petitioning beginning. We should lobby to at least allow online registration of out-of-district petitioners, for the DCBOE to offer Saturday hours, or to allow registration after the start of petitioning.

## Ballot Access for 2018+

Candidate for Delegate, Mayor, Chair of Council, or council member must reach 7,500 votes to maintain to 2020.

# Florida

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Florida.

Elections: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/>  
Qualifying Information (2016): <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/candidate/Qualifying-info.shtml>  
Election Law: <http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693802/election-laws.pdf>

### Ballot Access:

- To be a recognized major party, must have 5% of the registered voters as of January 1 of the year preceding a primary election (§ 97.021.(18)). To become a recognized minor party, must file specific documents (§ 103.095).
- A minor party may run a candidate for President if it is affiliated with a national party and holds a convention to nominate a candidate for President (§ 103.021(4(a))).
- If party is not recognized, can run candidate for President by collecting signatures equal to 1% of the registered voters as of the preceding general election, and are due by July 15 of the election year (§ 103.021(3)).
- To run for office, candidates must pay a fee of 6% of the annual salary of the office sought (2014: US Senate and House \$10,440) (§ 99.092). Instead of paying the filing fee, candidate may collect signatures equal to 1% of the registered voters in the district of the office sought (2014: statewide 119,345) (§ 99.095).
- Signatures are due by noon of the 28<sup>th</sup> day preceding the first day of the qualifying period (2016: federal - April 4, state - May 23) (§ 99.095(3)). The qualifying period is between 116 and 120 days prior to the primary election for federal office, and 67 and 71 days for state office (§ 99.061(1)). Primary elections are held on the Tuesday 10 weeks prior to the general election (§ 100.061).
- Presidential paperwork due September 1 (§ 103.021(4(a))).

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 2.2% with 207,043 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Recognized.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

Nothing to do to maintain status.



# Georgia

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Georgia. We are recognized for statewide candidates only.

Elections: <http://www.sos.ga.gov/elections/>

Candidate Information: [http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/information\\_for\\_candidates](http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/information_for_candidates)

Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/gacode/Default.asp> (title 21)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor or President must get 20% (§ 21-2-2(25)).
- If party is not recognized, can run candidates for statewide office by collecting signatures equal to 1% of the registered voters eligible to vote in the prior election (51,436 @ 10/14) (§ 21-2-180(1)).
- Can also run candidates for statewide office if a statewide candidate gets at least 1% of the registered voters in the last general election (§ 21-2-180(2)).
- For non-statewide candidates, must collect signatures from **5% of the registered voters eligible to vote in the prior election for the specific election district** (§ 21-2-170(b)).
- Must also pay filing fee equal to 3% of the office's annual salary (§ 21-2-131(a)(1)(B)).
- Filing period for Independent and non-recognized party candidates is from the fourth Monday in June to noon on the following Friday (2016: June 27-July 1) (§ 21-2-132(d)(1)).
- **Cannot collect signatures 180 days before due** (2016: January 13) (§ 21-2-170(e)). Signatures are due by noon on the second Tuesday in July (2016: July 12) (§ 21-2-185).

Pre-election Status: Recognized (statewide only). Can run statewide candidates, as 2014 candidates received over 1%.

Johnson result: 3.06% with 125,306 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized (statewide only).

### Ballot Access for 2018+

Statewide candidate must receive 1% of the vote in order to maintain statewide access. County-level access based on countywide races.

# Hawaii

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Hawaii.

Elections: <http://hawaii.gov/elections>

Qualify a Political Party: <http://hawaii.gov/elections/factsheets/fsbo121.pdf>

Election Law: <http://hawaii.gov/elections/info/laws/> (TOC)

[http://capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol01\\_Ch0001-0042F/HRS0011/HRS\\_0011-.htm](http://capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol01_Ch0001-0042F/HRS0011/HRS_0011-.htm) (title 2)

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol01\\_Ch0001-0042F/HRS0011/HRS\\_0011-0061.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol01_Ch0001-0042F/HRS0011/HRS_0011-0061.htm)

(chapter 11, part V; Parties)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 0.1% of the registered voters as of the previous general election, and must be filed 170 days prior to next primary (2016: February 15) (§ 11-62(a)), which is held on the second Saturday in August (2016: August 13) (§ 12-2).
- If party qualifies for 3 consecutive general elections through petition process or specific election results (§ 11-61(b)), gains retention for 10 years, as long as it runs a candidate in each general election (§ 11-62(d)).
- If party not recognized, can run an Independent Presidential candidate by collecting signatures of registered voters who intend to support the candidate equal to 1% of those who voted in the previous Presidential election, due 90 days prior to the general election (2012: 436,683; 1% = 4,367) (§ 11-113(c)(2)).
- Presidential paperwork due 60 days prior to the general election (§ 11-113(c) (1)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Met voter threshold for state representative races in 2014.

Johnson result: 3.6% with 15,954 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized.

### Ballot Access 2018+

We believe, at this time, that Hawaii may qualify for 10 years of ballot access. If not, then the 2018 election cycle may hold the key to that level of access. At this time we are unable to confirm the status of Hawaii, other than to note that access has been retained through 2018.

# Idaho

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Idaho.

Elections: <http://www.sos.idaho.gov/elect/eleindex.htm>

Election Law: <http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title34/T34.htm> (title 34)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast for President in the last presidential election (2012: 666,290; 2% = 13,326) (§ 34-501(c)).
- Petitions must be turned in to the Secretary of State no later than August 30 of the year in which the party wishes to participate in a general election. Cannot start collecting signatures before August 30 of the previous year (§ 34-501(c)(D),(c)(G)).
- Retention: must run at least 3 candidates for state or national office, including President (VP doesn't count) in most recent general election (§ 34-501(a)).
- ...or by having one of its candidates for state or national office get 3% of the votes cast for Governor or President in that election (§ 34-501(b)).
- Can run as an Independent candidate for federal office by collecting signatures (1,000 US Senate, 500 US House), due the 10<sup>th</sup> Friday prior to the primary election (§ 34-704,708), which is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in May (§ 34-601(1)).
- Can run as an Independent candidate for President by collecting 1,000 signatures by August 25 of the election year (§ 34-708.A).
- Presidential paperwork due September 1 of the election year (§ 34-711).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Ran more than 3 candidates for state or national office in 2014.

Johnson status: 4.1% with 28,331 votes.

Post-election Status: Retain. Johnson over 3%.

### Ballot Access 2018+

We continue to have access in 2018 because we have run continuously to retain access. If we continue to run at least 3 candidates for federal/statewide office in 2018 then we will retain to 2020.

# Illinois

## Summary

This year was an unusual one for ballot access in Illinois. Signatures went for an impressively high rate in California, and it made hiring experienced, reliable contractors extremely difficult. Contractors literally laughed when offered \$2.50/sig, a very good rate based on what had been previously paid for ballot access petitioning in Illinois. This year 17 contractors turned in work. Final turn-in resulted in a large dump very late Sunday evening before the SBOE turn in, creating workload and financial constraints.

Elections: <http://www.elections.illinois.gov/>  
Candidate Information: <http://www.elections.illinois.gov/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/2016CanGuide.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=170&ChapterID=3>.

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor must get more than 5%.
- If a statewide non-gubernatorial candidate in a general election gets 5%, can run statewide candidates. 5% for any candidate for the US House allows ballot access for that specific seat.
- If the party is not recognized, can run candidates by collecting signatures equal to 1% of those who voted in the last general election, or 25,000, whichever is less. Must also run a full slate of statewide candidates.
- Can also run a congressional candidate by collecting signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast in that district in the preceding general election, or 25,000 signatures, whichever is less. For a general election following a census, 5,000 signatures (10 ILCS 5/10-2).
- Signatures must be collected in a 90-day period prior to the date for candidates to file (2016: March 22) (10 ILCS 5/10-4)), and are due between 134 and 141 days prior to general election (2016: June 20-27) (10 ILCS 5/10-6)).
- A Recognized party must collect signatures (statewide 5,000; US House 0.5% of the votes cast in the preceding general election in that district), due between 106 and 113 days prior to the primary (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1)), which is held on the 3rd Tuesday in March (5/2A-1.1(a)). Can't start petitioning more than 90 days prior to the filing deadline.

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 3.8% with 208,682 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Unrecognized. Gubernatorial race is the ballot access race and will be held in 2018.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>54,039 @ 65.97%</b>	
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	24,416 @ 61%	*LNC and State validity combined
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	1,405 @ 32%	*First Place Campaigns, LLC
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	18,338 @ 61%	*LNC and State validity combined
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	13,621	validity was not checked for volunteer sigs

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 50,000.00 per 3/7/16 LNC-EC minutes

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 150,301.03</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 59,291.03
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 51,000.00 (est)
State Expenditure:	\$ 40,010.00

**What went right:** Good volunteer signature validation effort. Our contract and subcontractor agreement forms were definitely something done well. We had the highest amount of donations ever, paired with the highest amount of sigs turned in.

**What went wrong:** Petitioning rates elsewhere caused price increases. The high amount of contractors made the paperwork, validation, and payment tracking a much larger task than normal. Some inexperienced contractors turn in batches with extremely low validity. Had to increase rate up to \$3.50 per sig.

**How to do better:** A firm set of directions from start to finish for both contractors and volunteers should clean up any of those small issues and streamline the process. Assigning a firm number of signatures to contractors and holding firm on the turn in deadline is very important to avoid any large mishaps at the end.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

The 2018 candidates guide has not yet been released by the SBOE, but we can assume the same start date (around the 29th of March and lasting 90 days) and signature requirement (25,000). A challenge will be more likely since it is not a presidential election year, so 40,000 is the minimum and 50,000 is the goal. LP Illinois is preparing a full slate, and working with potential candidates for 2018. That ticket would include Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller. This drive in 2018 is estimated to cost between \$75,000 and \$125,000, with \$100,000 being a realistic estimate. To retain for 2020, the candidate for governor would need to reach 5% in 2018.

# Indiana

## Summary

There was not a ballot access drive in Indiana. Indiana has retained access since 1994.

Elections: <http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/>

Candidate Information: [http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2016\\_Candidate\\_Guide\\_Complete.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2016_Candidate_Guide_Complete.pdf)

Election Law: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title3/> (Title 3)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Secretary of State must get 2% (IC 3-8-4-1).
- If party is not recognized, a candidate may run for office by collecting signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast for Secretary of State (2014 = 1,334,995; 2% = 26,700 signatures for statewide office) in that specific election district in which the candidate is running for office (IC 3-8-6-3).
- Independent and non-recognized-party candidate petitions are due between the first day of the period a declaration of candidacy can be filed, which is 118 days prior to the primary election (IC 3-8-2-4(a)), and June 30 of the election year (IC 3-8-6-10(b)).
- Primary elections held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May (IC 3-8-6-10(b)).
- If the candidate for Secretary of State receives 10%, then the party is a major party. If the candidate gets between 2% and 10%, then the party is a minor party. Minor parties nominate by convention (IC 3-8-4-10). List of minor party candidates nominated at convention, including President, must be submitted by noon on July 15 (IC 3-8-7-8).
- Major party candidate for US House must collect 4,500 signatures, with 500 from each congressional district, due 91 days prior to the primary election (IC 3-8-2-10(a)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized minor party. 2014 SoS candidate received 3.4%.

Johnson result: 4.89% with 133,993 votes.

Post-election Status: Unchanged. Access based on SoS race.

### Ballot Access 2018+

To retain for 2020, the LP candidate for Secretary of State must obtain 2% of the vote. There is a proposal to reduce the number of signatures required for non-qualified parties, meaning that competition in the SoS race may increase, and LPIN may be at risk of losing access if that were to happen.

# Iowa

## Summary

Iowa required 1,500 valid signatures before August 19th. No validity checking was performed. Andy Burns and Chris Thrasher went to Iowa to assist with gathering extra signatures beyond the 1600 collected by volunteers. A total of 2282 signatures were submitted on August 18th.

Elections: <http://sos.iowa.gov/>  
Ballot Access News: <http://www.ballot-access.org/2012/08/two-iowa-voters-challenge-gary-johnson-placement-on-iowa-ballot/>  
Election Law: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/ElectionLaws/ElectionLaws.pdf>  
Cand Guide (2014): <http://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/candidates/2014gencandguide.pdf>

### Ballot Access:

- To be a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor or President must get 2% (§ 43.2).
- To get candidates on the ballot if the party is not recognized, must collect signatures: statewide 1,500 (minimum 10 counties), US House 1,500/# of congressional districts (375) (§ 45.1).
- Can also get candidates on the ballot by nominating conventions. Must have at least 250 electors for President, 50 for US House (§ 44.1).
- Can get candidates on the ballot by using above convention method and collecting 250 signatures, as the LPIA used this method to get 2012 Presidential candidate Gary Johnson on the ballot (see Ballot Access News article, above).
- All petitions and paperwork, including that for President, must be turned in between 81 and 99 days prior to the general election (2016: August 1 – August 19) (§ 44.4(1)). Can start petitioning any time.
- No substitution (§ 45.5).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 3.78% with 59,186 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. Johnson vote total gave access.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>2,282</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	2,282

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 0.00

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 1264.07</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 764.07
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 500.00 (est)
State Expenditure:	\$ 0.00

**What went right:** This was a successful volunteer effort. All states which accomplish their petitioning requirements on a volunteer basis should be applauded.

**What went wrong:** Some outside assistance was required when the LNC required LPIA to collect more signatures than they were expecting and used to collecting. The extra requirement wasn't properly communicated to the state affiliate ahead of time, creating an end-of-drive push.

**How to do better:** LNC should communicate that unless there is active petition validation, it should be assumed that validity is 66% at best, even on a volunteer drive.

### Ballot Access 2018+

The Iowa candidate for governor must obtain 2% in order to retain access for 2020.

# Kansas

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Kansas.

Elections: <http://www.kssos.org/elections/elections.html>

Candidate Filing Information: [http://www.kssos.org/elections/16elec/2016\\_Candidate\\_Filing\\_Information.pdf](http://www.kssos.org/elections/16elec/2016_Candidate_Filing_Information.pdf)

Election Law: [http://www.kslegislature.org/li/statute/025\\_000\\_0000\\_chapter/](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/statute/025_000_0000_chapter/) (chapter 25)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast in the most recent election for Governor (2014: 847,988; 2% = 16,960).
- Signatures must be submitted by noon, June 1 of the election year in which the party wishes to run candidates (KS 25-302a).
- Retention: statewide candidate must get 1% in each general election (KS 25-302b).
- Can run an Independent candidate for President or statewide office by collecting 5,000 signatures; for US House, 4% of the registered voters of the district or 5,000, whichever is less (KS 25-303b,c).
- Independent candidate signatures due the Monday prior to the primary election (KS 25-305b).
- Primary elections held on the first Tuesday in August (2016: August 2) (KS 25-203).
- Presidential paperwork due by noon, June 1 (KS 25-205a).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Statewide candidates received 1% or more in 2014.

Johnson result: 4.7% with 55,406 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Retained. Johnson received more than 1%.

### Ballot Access 2018+

In order to retain access for 2020, a candidate for statewide office must obtain at least 1% of the vote in their race.

# Kentucky

## Summary

Kentucky was the last state to start and the second-last state to be completed. The LNC portion of the drive started on 8/18 and was turned in on 9/6. LPKY turned in their petition first (30 minutes before the Green Party) which is important to avoid signature disqualification for duplication.

Elections: <http://sos.ky.gov/elections/>

Becoming A Candidate: <http://sos.ky.gov/elections/BecomingACandidate/Pages/default.aspx>

Election Law: <http://elect.ky.gov/laws/Pages/default.aspx>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, Presidential candidate must get 20% (KRS 118.015(1)).
- A party whose most recent Presidential candidate did not get 20%, but did get at least 2% is recognized as a “political organization”, and may nominate candidates by primary or convention (KRS 118.325(1)).
- If the party is not recognized, nor is considered a “political organization”, can get a candidate on the ballot by collecting signatures: 5,000 for statewide, 400 for US House.
- Cannot start collecting signatures until the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year prior to the election (2016 elections: November 4) (KRS 118.315(2)).
- Non-Presidential signatures due the second Tuesday in August (2016: August 9) (118.365(3)).
- Presidential signatures are due the Friday following the first Tuesday in September prior to the election (2016: September 9) (KRS 118.365(6)).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 2.79% with 53,749 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. First time ever recognized.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>12,868 @ 64.532%</b>
<b>Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>3,893 @ 63.267%</b>
<b>Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:</b>	Approx 734 @ 66.000% (est)
<b>Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:</b>	Approx 5,448 @ 64.354% (est)
<b>Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:</b>	Approx 2,793 @ 66.237% (est)

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 15,000.00 (per 6/16/2016 LNC-EC minutes)

**Total Expenditure:** Approx \$ 34,232.00

LNC Expenditure: \$ 9,230.00

JW16 Expenditure: Approx \$ 5,000.00

State Expenditure: \$ 20,002.00

**What went right:** This drive used petitioners who had petitioned in Kentucky recently. Therefore, the petitioners were ready to go. LPKY’s attorney was able to unlock locations from which we were improperly barred within 2 hours of being thrown out. Volunteers turned in much more than expected based on previous volunteer efforts.

**What went wrong:** The drive started late due to timeline over-runs in VA and DC. The effort was split between the State and National organizations, and “who’s in charge” wasn’t clear. Went way over because of petitions returned last-minute.

**How to do better:** Clarify roles and responsibilities up-front. Better overall planning would prevent the compressed timeline.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Kentucky retains access through 2020.



# Louisiana

## Summary

There was not a petition in Louisiana.

Elections: <http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/tabid/68/Default.aspx>

Election Law: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?folder=92> (title 18)

### Ballot Access:

- To be a recognized party and for retention, must have 1,000 registered voters 90 days prior to the opening of the qualifying period of any election (2016: June 10), file a notarized registration statement and pay a fee of \$1,000 to the Secretary of State (§ 18.441.B).
- The qualifying period in gubernatorial elections begins on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in August of the election year. The qualifying period in congressional elections begins on the third Wednesday in July of the election year. Qualifying period open for 3 days (2016: July 20-22) (§ 18.467).
- Must run a candidate in a primary election at least every 4 years (§ 18.441.B (6)). A party can also maintain party status by having a candidate for statewide office, including President, get 5% of the votes in a primary or general election (§ 18.441.C(1)).
- Gubernatorial primary election held on the second-to-last Saturday in October (2015: October 24). Gubernatorial general election held on the fourth Saturday after gubernatorial primary (2015: Nov. 21) (§ 18.402.A).
- Primary elections for congressional offices are held on the general election day for other states. General elections, if necessary, are held on the fifth Saturday after the primary election (§ 18.402.B).
- Any candidate who receives a majority of the votes in the primary election is considered elected, and does not participate in the general election (§ 18.511.A), else the top 2 advance to the general election (§ 18.481).
- Presidential paperwork due the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in September of the election year (2016: September 6) (§ 18.1253.E).

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 1.87% with 37,978 votes.

Post-election Status: Qualifying. Appear to just need \$1000 and paperwork to qualify.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Must have 1,000 registered voters on 4/22/18 and register with the Secretary of State.

# Maine

## Summary

A voter registration drive was undertaken to register 5,000 Libertarians. The law is a bit confusing as to what happens, but we needed 10,000 people to be registered Libertarian (including same-day registration) and vote in the 2016 election to retain.

Elections: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/index.html>

Candidate Info: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/2014/guide14.doc>

Election Law: <http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/statutes/21-A/title21-Ach0sec0.html>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must enroll 5,000 voters between December 1 of an even-numbered year and December 1 of the following year.
- Must file Declaration of Intent to form a party between Dec. 1 and Dec. 30 prior to enrolling new voters (§21A.303).
- Can also become a political party if candidate for Governor or President gets 5% (§21A.302).
- Retention: must have at least 10,000 party-registered voters participate in next general election, and hold a caucus in each of the 16 counties and a state convention each primary election year.
- Retention lasts for 2 general election cycles (§21A.301).
- To run a candidate for statewide office, must collect 4,000 - 6,000 signatures; US House 2,000 – 3,000. Cannot start before January 1 of the election year (§21A.354.5,6). Will be listed on ballot as "Libertarian" (§21A.354.1).
- No substitution (§21A.354.1.B).
- Presidential petitions due August 1 of the election year with the SOS, and must be checked by the registrar by July 25. Other candidate petitions due June 1 of the election year, and must be checked by the registrar by May 25 (§21A.354.7, 8-A).

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 5.1% with 37,578 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Uncertain.

**Number of total signatures + Validity rate: 7,659 @ 68% (est)**

Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate: Not separated

Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate: Not separated

Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate: Not separated

Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate: Not separated

**Original LNC Budget: \$ 3,000.00 (per 6/22/16 LNC-EC minutes)**

**Total Expenditure: \$ 45,500.00**

LNC Expenditure: \$ 2,000.00

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 4,500.00

State Expenditure: \$ 39,000.00

**What went right:** Maine engaged in outside fundraising to get to 5,000 registered Libertarians, and almost reached that threshold without help. With additional assistance, Maine made it to 5,200 registered Libertarians by the deadline.

**What went wrong:** There were some serious validity problems with voter registration cards, which is pretty disturbing. Low pay to circulators meant production was slow.

**How to do better:** This is another case where the state and the LNC need to be in better communication. The slow production and validity issues led to the LNC and Johnson campaign contemplating scrapping the effort and switching to a petition drive. In the end the petition drive was completed and voter registrations were completed.

## 2018 Ballot Access

Our status is currently unknown in Maine.

# Maryland

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Maryland.

Elections: <http://www.elections.state.md.us/>

Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/mdcode/>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 10,000 signatures. Signatures cannot be more than 2 years old as of the last qualifying signature (§ 4-102).
- Gets ballot access for 2 general election cycles (§ 4-103(a)(1)).
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 1% (§ 4-103(a)(2)(i)), or...
- party has 1% of the registered voters as of December 31 of the election year. Retains ballot access until the next December 31 (§ 4-103(a)(2)(ii)). (As of 10/16: need 34,327, have 6,906)
- An Independent candidate can run for office by collecting signatures equal to 1% of those who can vote for that specific race, and the signatures must come from the district of the race in which the candidate is running (§ 5-703(e)(1)).
- Independent and party signatures are due the first Monday in August (§ 5-703(f)(1)).
- Presidential paperwork due 30 days prior to the general election (2016: October 8) (§ 8-503).

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 2.9% with 79,605 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Retained. Johnson received over 1%.

### Ballot Access 2018+

2018 candidate for governor must get 1%, or the party must have 1% of all registrations as of 12/31/18, in order to retain access for 2020. Currently at 0.49% registrations as of 10/16. Would need approximately 20,000 more registrations to obtain status through registrations, at a cost of approximately \$200,000.

# Massachusetts

## Summary

Petitioning did not start until June 1st because Massachusetts does not allow substitution. Signature collection was completed on July 17th, before the deadline of August 2nd. Massachusetts requires petitions to be sorted by town. Signatures are submitted to town clerks, who perform validation and certification, then collected from the clerks and turned into the Secretary of State. LPMA had enough signatures to qualify on August 2nd but arranged a press event with Vice-pres candidate Weld to turn in the 10000th signature on August 8th. A final batch of signatures was turned in on August 30th.

Elections: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm>  
Candidate Guide (2016): <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elepdf/Candidates-Guide-generic.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleVIII> (title 8)

### Ballot Access:

- To be a recognized party, statewide candidate must get 3% of the votes cast in each general election, or the party must have 1% of the voters registered (§ VIII.50.1).
- Registration determined as of February 1 of the election year (§ VIII.53.38A).
- To run as an unrecognized party candidate, cannot be registered with a recognized party 90 days or less prior to the filing deadline for party-recognized candidates (§ VIII.53.6).
- All candidates must collect nomination paper signatures (10,000 President, US Senate, Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General; 5,000 other statewide; 2,000 US House) (§ VIII.53.44).
- Nomination papers for non-recognized party statewide candidates must be submitted to the SOS the last Tuesday in August (2016: August 30) (§ VIII.53.10). Papers must be submitted to local election officials for verification 28 days prior to deadline for delivery to SOS (§ VIII.53.46).
- Presidential paperwork due the last Tuesday in August of the election year (2016: August 30) (§ VIII.53.10).
- No substitution (§ VIII.53.8).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized. Have 8,352 registered voters @ 6/16, which is 0.2% of the registered voters.

Johnson result: 4.2% with 136,784 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Recognized. Johnson received over 3%.

**Number of total signatures + Validity rate: 17,410 @ 84.46%**

Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate: Approx 12,410

Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate: 0

Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate: Approx 3,700

Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate: Approx 2,000

**Original LNC Budget: \$ 25,000.00 (per 5/26/16 LNC-EC minutes)**

**Total Expenditure: \$ 40,045.00**

**LNC Expenditure: \$ 26,250.00**

**JW16 Expenditure: \$ 0.00**

**State Expenditure: \$ 13,795.00**

**What went right:** LPMA raised substantial funds to pay for drive. State chair did great job and worked well with National. We had many reliable volunteers for turning in and picking up petitions. End of collection phase was firm and early so we had no problem with delivering and picking up. We turned in almost 3000 petition sheets to 290 cities and towns and retrieved all but 11 sheets with 43 raw signatures. Volunteers were enthusiastic and proactive, lined up their own locations and turned in petitions for validation early on.

**What went wrong:** We ended up with nearly 15000 valid signatures, which means we overspent.

**How to do better:** Nominate the candidate earlier in the year so we could start earlier than June, and/or lobby the Massachusetts legislature to pass a law allowing substitution on petition forms.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Massachusetts retains for 2018. To retain for 2020, a statewide candidate in 2018 must get 3%, or party must have 1% of all registered voters. Would require approximately 23,000 registrations at a cost of about \$230,000.

# Michigan

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Michigan.

Elections: <http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,1607,7-127-1633---,00.html>

Election Information: [http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633\\_8721\\_11839---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_8721_11839---,00.html)

Election Law:

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(5lc0hj552pujgi45qe4rd32w\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-Act-116-of-1954](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(5lc0hj552pujgi45qe4rd32w))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-Act-116-of-1954)  
(Chapter 168)

### Ballot Access:

- To be a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for Governor (2014: 3,137,941; 1% = 31,379).
- Signatures are due 110 days prior to the general election, and signatures cannot be obtained 180 days before the filing of the petitions.
- Petitions must contain at least 100 signatures from at least ½ of the congressional districts (§ 168.685(1)).
- Retention: candidate must receive 1% of the votes cast for the successful Secretary of State candidate (2014: 1,646,243; 1% = 16,462) (§ 168.685(6)).
- Independent statewide candidates, including US President, can get on the ballot by collecting between 30,000 and 60,000 signatures (§ 168.544f).
- At least 100 signatures coming from ½ of the congressional districts.
- Independent candidate petitions due 110 days prior to the general election. Signatures can be no older than 180 days from date of filing petitions (§ 168.590b, c).
- Presidential paperwork due 1 business day after the state or national convention, whichever is later (§ 168.686).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Candidates in 2014 received over 1%.

Johnson result: 3.59% with 172,136 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. Obtained Major Party status for Ballot Access purposes.

### Ballot Access 2018+

The 2018 candidate for Secretary of State must obtain 1% to retain ballot access through 2020.

# Minnesota

## Summary

This was a volunteer drive. Andy Burns (LP National) and Chris Thrasher (Johnson campaign) drove in for a short time to assist.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=4>  
Candidate Information <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=1783>  
Election Law: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=588#Statutes>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 5% of votes cast in the last general election, which must be filed before the close of the primary ballot period (2016: May 31) (2014: 1,973,872 = 98,693), or...
- must have a statewide candidate in the most recent general election receive 5%, or...
- must have at least 45 candidates for state representative, 23 for state senate, 4 candidate for the US House, and candidates for all statewide offices. Retains major party status for 2 general elections. (§ 200.02.sub 7).
- Primary elections held on the second Tuesday in August (2016: August 9) (2014: August 9) (2014D.03).
- If party is not recognized, can run non-Presidential candidates by collecting signatures 144 days prior to the primary (2016: March 18), and must be submitted between 70 and 84 days prior to the primary election (2014: May 17 to May 31) (statewide 2,000; US House 1,000) (204B.08,.09).
- Can collect equal number of signatures in lieu of the filing fee (204B.11.sub 2).
- Can run a Presidential candidate by gathering 2,000 petition signatures between start of primary filing period and 77 days prior to general election (2016: May 18 to August 23) (204B.09(c)).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson results: 3.84% with 112,972 votes.

Post-election Status: Unrecognized. Needed 5%.

**Number of total signatures + Validity rate: 3,211**

Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:

Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:

Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:

Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:

**Original LNC Budget: \$ 0.00**

**Total Expenditure: \$ 213.50**

**LNC Expenditure: \$ 13.50**

**JW16 Expenditure: \$ 200.00 (est)**

**State Expenditure: \$ 0.00**

**What went right:** The state party did show a marked improvement over 2012 when the drive had to be done with paid petitioners.

**What went wrong:** The state party should have gotten the petitioning done in 1 month but it ran up to the very end to submit. 2 volunteers not connected with the state party did a heroic job in collecting 1000 signatures or 1/3 of the total needed. If this did not happen we would have cut it much closer. Andy Burns also submitted a few hundred signatures which was LNC subsidization (only in terms of time allocated). There wasn't a strong organized effort to get this project done, and there was a lot of downtime in between signature collecting efforts.

**How to do better:** Set a deadline of approximately mid-July and wrap up the drive.

### Ballot Access for 2018

Party ballot access petition would require approximately 150,000 signatures. The cost is estimated to be between \$300,000 and \$450,000, with a realistic number being \$360,000. Alternate mechanisms need to be considered; can put individual candidates on with fewer signatures per candidate. In order to retain, a statewide candidate in 2018 would need over 5%. May have legal options based on signature requirement.

# Mississippi

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Mississippi.

Elections: <http://www.sos.ms.gov/Elections-Voting/Pages/default.aspx>

Election Law: <http://www.sos.ms.gov/links/elections/home/tab5/ElectionCodeRev020209.pdf> (chapter 15)

### Ballot Access:

- Must organize a party according to Election Code 23-15-1053, 1061, and 1063, then can place candidates on the ballot.
- Can run as an Independent candidate by collecting signatures (statewide 1,000; US House 200). Signatures due the day party-recognized primary candidates must file paperwork and fees, but no earlier than January 1 of the election year (23-15-359).
- Can run as an Independent Presidential candidate by collecting signatures. Signatures due 60 days prior to the general election (23-15-785(1)(2)).
- Presidential paperwork due 60 days prior to the general election (2016: September 9) (§ 23-15-785(1)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 1.2% with 14,411 votes. (Source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Unchanged.

### Ballot Access 2018+

The requirements are simple enough that we will retain through 2020.

# Missouri

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Missouri.

Elections: <http://www.mo.gov/government/elections-and-voting/>

Election Law: <http://www.moga.mo.gov/STATUTES/C115.HTM>

Candidate Information: [http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/s\\_default.asp?id=candidate](http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/s_default.asp?id=candidate)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect petition signatures from 10,000 registered voters (§ 115-315).
- Signatures are due the fifteenth Monday prior to the general election. Can submit signatures any time after last general election (§ 115-329).
- After becoming a political party, statewide candidate must get over 2% of the vote. Becomes an established political party (§ 115-317(2)).
- Retention: established party - statewide candidate in either of the last 2 general elections must get 2% (§ 115-013.10), (§ 115-317(3)).
- Can run as an Independent candidate (statewide 10,000; else 2% of those who voted for that office in the most recent election for that office (§ 115-321). Filing deadline same as for new party (see above).
- Presidential candidate must be certified to the Secretary of State within the twelfth Tuesday prior to the general election, or within 7 days after the nomination, whichever is later (2016: August 16) (§ 115-399).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Several 2014 statewide candidates achieved 2%.

Johnson result: 3.458% with 96,404 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained. Multiple statewide candidates received over 2%.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Missouri has retention through 2020.



# Montana

## Summary

There was not a petition in Montana. However, from the 2/20/16 LNC minutes: BALLOT ACCESS FUNDING FOR MONTANA: Mr. Olsen moved that \$3,722.02 of ballot access funds be encumbered to be used for funding candidate filing fees for candidates for Governor and U.S. Representative of Montana for the 2016 election. Motion passed.

Elections: <http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/index.asp>

Election Law: [http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca\\_toc/13.htm](http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/13.htm) (title 13)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast for the successful gubernatorial candidate, or 5,000 electors, whichever is less.
- Retention: candidate for statewide office within last 2 general elections must get 5% of the votes received by the successful gubernatorial candidate (2012: 438,439; 5% = 21,922).
- Must get signatures from at least 1/3 of the legislative districts, with at least 5% of the votes for the successful gubernatorial candidate in those districts, or 150 electors, whichever is less (§ 13-10-601).
- Petitions are due 92 days prior to the primary election (§ 13-10-601(2)(c)(d)).
- Can run as an Independent candidate by collecting signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast for the office in the previous general election (§ 13-10-502). Can get a party label on the ballot (§ 13-10-501(3)).
- Nominating petitions due one week prior to the primary election (§ 13-10-503).
- Independent candidate for President must collect 5% of the votes cast for Governor, or 5,000, whichever is less. Petitions due 83 days prior to general election. Can get a party label (§ 13-10-504).
- Presidential paperwork due 76 days prior to the general election (2016: August 22) (§ 13-25-101).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Several 2012 candidates received over 5%.

Johnson result: 5.7% with 28,036 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Retained. Johnson result extends access to 2020.

**Original LNC Budget:**                      \$ 3,722.20      **NOTE: Funds were used for filing fees for candidates, not petitioning.**

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 3,722.20</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 3,722.20
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
State Expenditure:	\$ 0.00

### Ballot Access 2018+

Montana has access through 2020.

# Nebraska

## Summary

There was not a petition in Nebraska.

Elections: <http://www.sos.ne.gov/dyindex.html#boxingName>.

Candidate Information: <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/2016/pdf/2016-Instructions-Candidates-Filing.pdf>

Election Law: <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/browse-chapters.php?chapter=32> (chapter 32)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election (2014: 539,657; 1% = 5,397). Must get 1% in each of the 3 congressional districts (§ 32-716(1)).
- Petitions must be filed by February 1 of the election year to qualify for the primary election, or August 1 to qualify only for the general (§ 32-716(1)).
- Must pay circulators by the hour (§ 32-630(g)).
- Retention: statewide candidate within the last 2 general elections must get 5%, or a combination of candidates which encompass the whole state get 5% in each of their respective districts (§ 32-610).
- If party not recognized, can get on the general election ballot by collecting signatures (statewide 4,000, with 750 per congressional district; else 20% of the vote for Governor or President in the preceding general election for the specific race, or 2,000, whichever is less (§ 32-618(2)).
- Signatures due September 1 of the election year (§ 32-617(1)).
- Can run an Independent Presidential candidate by collecting 2,500 signatures, due August 1 of the election year (§ 32-620).
- Presidential candidate must be certified by the Secretary of State no later than September 8 of the election year (§ 32-712).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Several 2014 statewide candidates received 5%.

Johnson result: 4.69% with 38,746 votes.

Post-election Status: Did not extend. No candidates reached threshold or add up to threshold in 2016. Access through 2018.

### Ballot access 2018+

A 2018 candidate for statewide office must obtain 5% of the vote to extend through 2020, since Johnson did not reach 5% in NE.

# Nevada

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Nevada.

Elections: <http://nvsos.gov/index.aspx?page=3>

Election Guide (2016): <http://nvsos.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=3776>

Election Law: <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-293.html> (chapter 293)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, a candidate must get in the most recent general election 1% of the votes cast for the NV US House races (2014: 543,009; 1% = 5,431), or...
- Must have 1% of the registered voters as of January 1 of the election year, or...
- Collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for all of the NV US House races.
- Party petitions must be submitted to the appropriate county clerk 25 days prior to the filing deadline (§ 293.172.1.c), and then filed with the SOS the third Friday in May prior to the general election (§ 293.1715(2)).
- Can run as an Independent candidate by collecting signatures (statewide 250, others 100), between January 2 and the second Friday after the first Monday in March. Must submit petitions to appropriate county clerk 25 days prior to the final day of the filing period (§ 293.200).
- Independent candidate for President must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for the NV US House in the most recent general election, and are due the second Friday in August. Must submit petitions to appropriate county clerk 25 days prior to the final day of the filing period (§ 298.109).
- Presidential candidate must file nomination papers by first Tuesday in September (2016: September 6) (§ 293.1725.4).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Several 2014 cand over 1% US House cumulative. Have 0.81% of reg voters @ 5/16. Johnson result: 3.32% with 37,384 votes.

Post-election Status: Assume retained; have to add house candidates vote totals. Have 0.93% of reg voters @ 11/16.

### Ballot Access 2018+

To retain through 2020, a candidate must obtain 1% all votes cast in US House races, or reach 1% voter registration as of 1/1/18. Currently, registration is at 0.93% as of 11/16. To safely reach 1%, we would need to add approximately 2,000 registrations in 2017, at an estimated cost of \$20,000.

# New Hampshire

## Summary

New Hampshire ballot access is determined by the Gubernatorial or US Senate race. There was a dispute in which slate of candidates should be placed on the ballot. The candidates chosen at the state party convention were placed on the ballot, despite notice issues with that convention. There is a distribution requirement of 1,500 signatures per Congressional District.

Elections: <http://sos.nh.gov/Elections.aspx>

Filing Information: [http://sos.nh.gov/nhsos\\_content.aspx?id=13052](http://sos.nh.gov/nhsos_content.aspx?id=13052)

Election Law : <http://sos.nh.gov/ElecLaws.aspx> (chapters 652-671)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized and for retention, cand for Gov or US Senator in each gen election must get 4% (§ 652.11).
- If party not recognized, candidates must collect signatures (President, US Senate, or Governor 3,000 (1,500 from each of 2 congressional districts), Congress 1,500) (§ 655.40-43).
- Can also run candidates for all partisan offices for election by collecting signatures equal to 3% of the votes cast in the last statewide election (2014: 485,534; 3% = 14,566) (§ 655.42.III).
- Signatures must be collected in year of election. No substitution (§ 655.40).
- Primary elections held on the second Tuesday in September (2016: September 13) (§ 653.8).
- Candidates and parties must file Declaration of Intent with the SOS between the first Wednesday in June and the Friday of the following week (2016: June 1–10) (§ 655.14).
- Nomination papers and party petitions must be submitted to the supervisors of the checklist on the Wednesday 5 weeks prior to the primary (2016: August 10), and must be returned to the candidates by the Wednesday 2 weeks prior the primary (2014: August 31) (§ 655.41).
- Nomination papers must be delivered to the Secretary of State's office on the Wednesday 1 week before the primary (2016: September 7) (§ 655.43.I).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson: 4.1% with 30,694 votes.

Source: (New York Times)

Chabot (US Senate) result: 1.8% with 12,988 votes.

Abramson (Gubernatorial) result: 4.3% with 31,099 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. Max Abramson received more than 4% of the vote in the US Senate race.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>D1 - 3051</b>	<b>D2 - 2784</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	D1 - 3051	D2 - 2784
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:		
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	N/A	N/A
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:		

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 15,000.00

**Total Expenditure:** \$ 37,588.83

LNC Expenditure: \$ 36,088.83

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 1,500.00

State Expenditure: \$ 0.00

**What went right:** Andy Burns and Nick Dunbar were sent in to save the day, and they did a tremendous job.

**What went wrong:** This drive started very poorly. The state nominating convention had apparently been rescheduled without proper notice and there was dispute over which slate was the right slate. The gubernatorial candidate and presidential candidate were the same on each slate. The petition contains multiple candidates.

**How to do better:** This showed the importance of our state affiliates following their own bylaws. When a state has multiple candidates on a petition the importance of the LNC ensuring that the state party has done their due diligence and is following their own bylaws.

### Ballot Access 2018+

To retain for 2020, our candidate for Governor must reach 4% in 2018.

# New Jersey

## Summary

This drive was completed by the state party.

Elections: <http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/index.html>

Candidate Information (2015): <http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/candidate-petitions.html>

Election Law: [http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om\\_isapi.dll?clientID=2155086&depth=2&expandheadings=off&headingswithhits=on&infobase=statutes.nfo&softpage=TOC\\_Frame\\_Pg42](http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=2155086&depth=2&expandheadings=off&headingswithhits=on&infobase=statutes.nfo&softpage=TOC_Frame_Pg42) (title 19)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidates must get 10% of the votes cast for the General Assembly (§ 19:1-1).
- Candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures (statewide 800, US House 100) (§ 19:13-5).
- Can have party label on the ballot (§ 19:13-4).
- Can substitute – new candidate must meet signature requirements. Petitions due 64 days prior to general election (§ 19:13-19).
- Primary elections are held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in June (2016: June 7) (19:2-1).
- Signatures for non-Presidential candidates due the day of the primary election at 4 pm.
- Presidential signatures and paperwork due 99 days prior to the general election (2016: August 1) (§ 19:13-9).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 1.9% with 72,477 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Unrecognized. Retention based on odd-year election for General Assembly.

### Number of total signatures + Validity rate: Approx 1,924

Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate: 0

Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate: 0

Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate: Approx 800

Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate: Approx 1,000

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 0.00

**Total Expenditure:** \$ 1,800.00

LNC Expenditure: \$ 0.00

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 0.00

State Expenditure: \$ 1,800.00 (est)

**What went right:** This was a volunteer drive that was completed successfully.

**What went wrong:** The rate of pay was low, so the drive was slow.

**How to do better:** This is a relatively simple state, but it has an out-of-state circulator ban that should be challenged.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

There is no mechanism for statewide access in New Jersey. In 2018, all legislative seats will be up for election, and ballot access is incumbent on all Libertarian candidates for General Assembly receiving 10% of all votes cast statewide for General Assembly.

# New Mexico

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in New Mexico. Also, Gary Johnson lives here.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.nm.us/>

Election Law: [http://www.sos.state.nm.us/Public\\_Records\\_And\\_Publications/2015-election-handbook.pdf](http://www.sos.state.nm.us/Public_Records_And_Publications/2015-election-handbook.pdf)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures for 0.5% of the votes cast in the preceding election for Governor (2014: 512,805;  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  = 2,565) (§ 1-7-2.A).
- Signatures are due the 23<sup>rd</sup> day after the primary election (§ 1-7-2-A, 1-7-4.A) (same as minor candidate filing deadline).
- Retention: must have at least one candidate on the ballot within the last two general elections, and if a candidate is running for Governor or President, they must get 0.5% (§ 1-7-2.c).
- Non-Presidential candidates must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for Governor in the last general election within the district in which they are running for office, and are due 23 days after the primary election (§ 1-8-2.B), which is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June (2016: June 7) (§ 1-8-11).
- Minor party and Independent candidates cannot start petitioning until March 1 of the year of the election (§ 1-8-50e).
- Can run an Independent candidate for office by collecting signatures equal to 3% of the votes cast for Governor at the last general election (§ 1-8-51). Signatures are due 23 days after the primary election (§ 1-8-52).
- Presidential paperwork due 56 days prior to the general election (2016: September 13) (§ 1-15-3).
- Major Party status depends on President or Governor over 5%, voter registration over  $\frac{1}{3}\%$  on the day of the governor's primary election proclamation.

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Presidential candidate received over 0.5% in 2012 general election.

Johnson result: 9.34% with 74,541 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained. Can obtain Major Party status. Johnson received over 5%. Voter reg must be kept over  $\frac{1}{3}\%$ .

### Ballot Access 2018+

We have retention through 2020, and will be a major party as long as we maintain voter registration. This would appear to require 4,307 voter registrations in New Mexico. Numbers on how many there are currently was not available. This registration drive should happen in 2017.

# New York

## Summary

The petitioning period only for federal candidates in New York was moved up this year by three weeks, commencing in mid-June rather than the traditional start date of the Tuesday after Independence Day, and also ended three weeks earlier than usual on July 26. New York petitioners still had only six weeks to obtain 15,000 valid signatures. As New York is a challenge state, we aimed for 25,000 - 30,000 raw sigs. Petitioners must be qualified to vote in New York.

Elections: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/>  
Running For Office (2014): <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/law/2014RunningForElectiveOffice.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/law/2013NYElectionLaw.pdf>  
New federal calendar (2016): <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/law/2016FEDERAL-STATEcombinedlegalCALrev2.pdf>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor must get 50,000 votes (§ 1-104.3).
- If party not recognized, candidates must run as Independents. Statewide offices require signatures of 15,000 or 5% of the reg voters, whichever is less (voter reg > 10,000,000 @ 11/10). US House races require 3,500 valid sigs.
- A minimum of 100 signatures must come from at least half of the congressional districts (§ 6-142).
- Circulators must be in-state registered voters. Party registration is irrelevant for independent petitions..
- Only voters registered as the candidate's party can sign a petition for a recognized party candidate (§ 6-140.1.b).
- Signatures must be filed 11 weeks prior to the general election (2016: August 23) (§ 6-158.9), and cannot begin collecting until 6 weeks prior to the filing deadline (July 12) [state candidates only] (§ 6-138.4).
- Federal candidates started petitioning June 21, and completed petitions were due August 2.

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 2.26% with 162,273 votes; 1.53% with 109,965 votes as Independence Party  
0.73% with 52,308 votes as Libertarian Party \* different elector slates

Post-election Status: Unrecognized. No way to gain access in 2016. Next chance is 2018.

<b>Number of total signatures:</b>	<b>32,617</b>
Number of paid signatures:	25,000
Number of volunteer signatures:	7,617

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 25,000.00 (plus \$20,000 total from State Party and JW16)

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 74,500.00</b>
<b>LNC Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 45,000.00</b>
<b>JW16 Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 17,000.00</b>
<b>State Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 12,500.00</b>

**What went right:** A separate petitioning entity was created which allowed the drive to be centralized and well coordinated. As has been the case every two years in the past forty-two except for 1986, LPNY submitted a sufficient number of raw signatures to deter challengers from filing specifications and pursuing attempts to disqualify the Libertarian statewide candidates from the ballot.

**What went wrong:** The largest problems were (1) inadequate production in the first four weeks, (2) reduction in volunteer production and (3) the tremendous cost increases for paid petitioning, exceeding an average of **\$2.98 per signature**.

**How to do better:** Must have paid petitioners available to start on first day of petitioning period. Need candidates who will attract greater volunteer interest.

### Ballot Access for 2018

In 2018, LPNY will run candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General and Comptroller. The four statewide positions can be combined on a single petition form and at least 15,000 valid signatures must be submitted at that time to achieve ballot access for 2018. Once again, LPNY will seek to obtain 25-30,000 raw signatures to withstand any potential challenges. Automatic ballot access will be achieved and maintained for four years only if the Gubernatorial candidate obtains at least 50,000 votes on the Libertarian line. That has never happened in past years. This drive will cost between \$50,000 and \$75,000, with a reasonable estimate being approximately \$60,000. Drive cannot start until 2018.

# North Carolina

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in North Carolina.

Elections: <http://www.ncsbe.gov/ncsbe/>

Election Law: <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl?Chapter=0163> (chapter 163)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast in the last election for Governor, (2012: 4,468,295; 2% = 89,366), of which at least 200 must come from each of 4 congressional districts.
- Signatures are due by noon on the first day of June of the year of the general election (§ 163–96(a)(2)).
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 2% (§ 163–96(a)(1)). Governor and President elected in same general election, so if party petition is completed prior to a mid-term general election, party is on the ballot for 2 general elections.
- Presidential paperwork due by noon on the first Friday in August of the election year (2016: August 5) (§ 163–209).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. 2012 gubernatorial candidate received 2%.

Johnson result: 2.74% with 130,132 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Party has retention through 2020.



# North Dakota

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in North Dakota.

Elections: <http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/>

Election Law: <http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t16-1.html>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 7,000 signatures, due by 4 pm 64 days prior to the primary election, which is held on the second Tuesday in June (2016: June 14) (§ 16.1-11-01).
- Retention: a candidate in a general election for President, Governor, Secretary of State, or Attorney General must get 5% (§ 16.1-11-30).
- Party petitions cannot have signatures dated more than one year prior to the date of the filing of the petitions (§ 1-01-50).
- Can run a Presidential candidate by collecting 4,000 signatures, due 64 days before general election (2016: September 5).
- Presidential candidate does get party label (§ 16.1-12-02).
- Can run an Independent statewide candidate by collecting 1,000 signatures, due 64 days prior to the general election (2016: September 5) (§ 16.1-12-04.1).
- Independent statewide candidate cannot start collecting signatures until 150 days prior to the filing deadline (2016: April 8) (§ 16.1-12-02.1).
- Cannot start circulating Presidential petitions until January 1 of election year (§ 16.1-12-02).
- Must pay circulators by the hour (§ 16.1-01-12.11).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Candidate for Secretary of State received 5%.

Johnson result: 6.22% with 21,434 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained. Johnson received more than 5%.

### Ballot Access 2018+

2018 candidate for Attorney General or Secretary of State must reach 5%.

# Ohio

## Summary

Ohio's new Ballot Access laws were put in place in 2014. The Secretary of State delayed the release of the new petition for Party Formation until January 2016, causing a delay in starting that process. As a result, the Independent Petition was chosen to ensure our candidate would be on the ballot. The party petition would have required approximately 30,000 valid signatures in 2016, and it is estimated that the party petition will require 60,000 valid signatures in 2017. The party petition has a distribution requirement. The independent petition required 5,000 valid signatures. The independent petition began on 3/26 and ran until 8/8.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections.aspx>

Election Law: <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/35> (title 35)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for either Governor or President in the most recent general election (2014: 3,001,794; 1% = 30,056).
- At least 500 signatures must come from half of the congressional districts.
- Party petitions must be filed more than 125 days before the general election (2016: July 6).
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 3%. Party is recognized for 2 general election cycles (§ 3517.01(A) (1)).
- The primary is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, except in Presidential election years held on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March (2016: March 15) (§ 3501.01(E)(1)(2)).
- Can run Independent candidates for statewide office by collecting 5,000 signatures (15,000 maximum). Independent Presidential candidate must file 90 days prior to the general election (2016: August 10); non-Presidential candidates must file by 4 pm the day prior to the primary election (§ 3513.257).
- Presidential paperwork due 90 days prior to the general election (2016: August 10) (§ 3505.10).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 3.2% with 174,266 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Unknown.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>12,407 @ 54.24% (est)</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	9,227 @ 49.76%
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0 @ -----
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	350 @ 50.00% (est)
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	2,830 @ 69.38%

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 12,500.00 (from 4/27/16 LNC-EC minutes)

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 20,894.13</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 19,894.13
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
State Expenditure:	\$ 1,000.00 (est)

**What went right:** A handful of solid volunteers helped ensure validation went smoothly.

**What went wrong:** One contractor failed to collect signatures in a timely manner, and we should have done a better job of enforcing the "by XYZ date" clause in the contract. Validity was very low all around.

**How to do better:** Use known, reliable contractors. Shorten the period until "end date" in future contracts.

### Ballot Access for 2018

In 2014, LP Ohio lost ballot access due to a lawsuit orchestrated by the Republican Party and allies of John Kasich. Various cases have been litigated in both state and federal courts, and the courts have not provided relief. The state courts found that the Republicans did engage in shenanigans; the Federal courts found the opposite. This drive should cost between \$159,000 and \$238,500, with \$200,000 being a reasonable estimate and can start immediately. Candidate for governor in 2018 would need 3% to retain through 2022.

# Oklahoma

## Summary

We had not been on the ballot in Oklahoma since 1996. The petition requirements were reduced from 5% to 3%, and the decision was made to go for 50+DC access in 2016. Oklahoma's drive was successfully completed in 2015-2016.

Elections: <http://www.ok.gov/elections/>

Election Law: <http://www.oklegislature.gov/osStatutesTitle.aspx> (title 26)

BAN article: <http://ballot-access.org/2016/05/05/oklahoma-ballot-access-bill-signed-into-law/>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must gather signatures equal to 3% of the votes in the last election for either Governor or President (2014: 823,761; 3% = 24,713).
- The Notice of Intent to form a political party cannot be filed between March 1 and November 15 of an even-numbered year, and petitions cannot be circulated between June 1 and November 15 of an even-numbered year.
- Petitions must be turned in by March 1 of an even-numbered year, and within 1 year after Notice of Intent is filed (§ 26-1-108) (see above "HB 165").
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 10% (§ 26-1-109.A). *Now candidate for Governor or President needs 2.5% to retain party status (see above BAN article).*
- Presidential paperwork due 90 days prior to the general election (2016: August 10) (§ 26-10-101).
- Can run an Independent candidate for President by gathering signatures equal to 3% of the vote in the last presidential election (3% = 40,047).
- Petitions must be turned in by July 15 of the election year. Independent Presidential paperwork due September 1 (§ 26-10-101.1).

Pre-election Status: Recognized, by petition completed in 2016.

Johnson result: 5.7% with 83,481 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Retain. Candidate for Governor must get 2.5% to retain for 2020.

**Number of total signatures + Validity rate: 42,183 @ 72.3% validity (per election board)**

Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate: 40,593

Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate: 0

Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate: 0

Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate: 1,590

**Original LNC Budget: \$ 60,000.00**

**Total Expenditure: \$ 101,365.00**

LNC Expenditure: \$ 101,365.00

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 0.00

State Expenditure: \$ 0.00

**What went right:** The drive was completed. Some validation was completed, and the state used a more lax standard than what was used for validation.

**What went wrong:** The drive went way over budget. Locations were tough to come by for the out-of-state petitioners. Two professional petitioners left the state in frustration.

**How to do better:** Developing the local LP will help the professionals find good petitioning locations over time. Hopefully we don't have to petition in OK ever again.

### Ballot Access 2018+

2018 candidate for governor must reach 2.5% to retain access for 2020.

# Oregon

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Oregon.

Elections: <http://oregonvotes.org/>

Minor Parties: [Minor Political Party Formation and Candidate Nominating Manual](#)

Election Law: [http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/doc/publications/elec\\_law.pdf](http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/doc/publications/elec_law.pdf) (title 23)

### Ballot access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1.5% of the votes cast in the most recent election for Governor (2014: 1,469,717 => 22,046).
- Petitions must be filed within 2 years of the date of the filing of the prospective petition (ORS 248.008.(1)(a)).
- Retention: must either have at least 0.5% of the registered voters at any time between the date of the primary election (2016: May 17) and 90 days prior to the general election (2016: August 10) ORS 248.008.4(b)), or...
- a candidate for state office must get 1% of the vote for a statewide candidate (including President) in their district, and the party must have 0.1% of the registered voters between the following primary election and 9 days prior to the general election (ORS 248.008.4(a)).
- No less than 10 days prior to a nominating convention, notice must be published at least once in at least 3 newspapers of general circulation within the state. The notice shall contain the time, place and offices for which nominations are to be made (ORS 248.009(3)).
- Presidential paperwork due 70 days prior to the election (ORS 248.355(2)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. 2014 Statewide cand over 1%, and voter reg is 17,242 (0.8%) as of 12/15.

Johnson result: 4.7% with 93,875 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election status: Retained. Johnson over 1% and voter reg is 19,065 (0.74%) as of 10/16.

### Ballot Access 2018+

To retain for 2018, we must have 0.1% of the registered voters any time between 5/15/18 and 9/8/18. To retain for 2020, a candidate for statewide office in 2018 must obtain 1% and party maintain 0.1% of registered voters, or the party must maintain 0.6% of registered voters. Currently, the party has 0.74% of registered voters.

# Pennsylvania

## Summary

The Pennsylvania drive began early April and ended mid-July. The drive was cut short when the courts and state legislature reduced the required number of signatures, which we had already met by the time the decision was final.

Elections: [http://www.dos.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/voting\\_and\\_elections/12363](http://www.dos.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/voting_and_elections/12363)  
Access and running: [General Information About Running for Public Office](#)  
Election Law: <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/US/PDF/1937/0/0320..PDF>

### Ballot Access:

- A political party is any party or political body, one of whose candidates at the general election preceding the primary polled at least 2% of the largest entire vote cast for any elected candidate in each of at least ten counties, and polled a total statewide vote of at least 2% of the largest entire vote cast in the State for any elected candidate (PA 801(a)).
- A minor political party is one where voter registration is less than 15% of the registered voters in the state as of the close of registration prior to the preceding November election (PA 912.2(a)).
- If party is a minor party or is not recognized ("political body"), to run for office, candidates must obtain signatures from registered voters of the district for the office in which they are running in an amount equal to at least 2% of the largest entire vote cast for an elected candidate at the last election within the district (2015: 1,088,716; 2% = 21,775) (PA 951(b)). Court ruling knocked signature requirement down to 5,000 near end of drive.
- Can collect signatures for candidates for multiple offices simultaneously (PA 951c). Substitution allowed (PA 980).
- Nomination papers must be circulated between the 10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday prior to the primary election (2016: February 17), and August 1 (PA 953(b)).
- Presidential electors must be nominated 30 days after the national nominating convention (PA 918).

Pre-election Status: Recognized minor party.

Johnson result: 2.40% with 146,709 votes. (source: New York Times)

Post-election Status: Retained. Johnson over 2% in over 10 counties.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>26,342 @ 70%</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	Approx 17,102
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	2,198
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	Approx 7,042

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 62,000.00

**Total Expenditure:** \$ 50,248.95

LNC Expenditure: \$ 42,318.29 \* Payment for Trent Pool sigs not settled and not reflected here

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 500.00 (est)

State Expenditure: \$ 7,430.66

**What went right:** Richard Schwarz was critical to drive's success. Lawsuit dramatically reduced the sig requirement mid-drive. Roy Minet did what he could to get out volunteers, and supply petitioning instructions. Primary Day was very productive for gathering sigs. The weather held up most of the day in most locations. U.S. House campaigns helped bring sigs for their campaigns and Johnson's.

**What went wrong:** Started too late – a blessing in disguise given the court ruling, but hurt down-ticket candidates. PA legislature, and possibly the judge, seemed to deliberately drag their feet. LP was only party with many more sigs than the new 5,000 requirement. LNC spent about \$30,000 more than would have been necessary if signature requirement was 5,000 (rather than 21,175) from the start, and more legislative LP candidates may have made the ballot. Signature validity didn't get fully functional until May; validity was uncertain throughout most of the drive. Competition was fierce - LP had to raise the price twice. One petitioner turned in what appeared to be fraudulent signatures, but LNC didn't pay him. Another petitioner has threatened a lawsuit.

**How to do better:** LPPA should have held their convention and started petitioning sooner. If the sig requirement remains at 5,000, it should be a relatively straightforward drive in the future that can potentially be done, or mostly done, with volunteers. Lower sig requirements should also make it easier to coordinate with down-ticket candidates. While a serious attempt was made to get more people out petitioning on Primary Day, it would be useful to get both volunteers and as many paid petitioners out to take advantage of this most lucrative opportunity, although a well-organized effort could be thwarted by bad weather.

### Ballot Access for 2018

The new requirement for President in Pennsylvania is 5,000 valid signatures, but other races are currently unchanged. No party petition mechanism. Party status requires 15% voter registration, which would cost \$1.3M. May want to seek legal action to have this reduced.

# Rhode Island

## Summary

Rhode Island was a drive run by the Johnson campaign.

Elections: <http://www.elections.ri.gov/>

Running For Office (2014): <http://sos.ri.gov/documents/elections/RunForOffice2014.pdf>

Election Law: <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE17/INDEX.HTM> (title 17)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor or President must get 5%, or must collect signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast for either Governor or President in the most recent general election (2014: 322,324; 5% = 16,116).
- If party wishes to nominate candidates by primary, signatures must be filed by June 1; to nominate by convention, due by August 1 (§ 17-1-2(9)).
- All candidates must collect signatures for office (Independent President, Governor and US Senate 1,000; US House 500) (§ 17-14-7).
- Signatures are due at 4 pm 60 days prior to primary election (2016: July 15), except for Independent Presidential candidates (see below) (§ 17-14-11).
- Can run an Independent Presidential candidate; must have up to 4 electors file by the last Mo/Tu/We in June (2016: June 27-29), and must collect 1,000 signatures 60 days prior to the general election (2016: September 9).
- Independent candidates can get a party label on the ballot (§ 17-19-9.1).
- Independent Presidential elector nomination papers issued within 4 days of the close for filing Declarations of Candidacy (2016: July 4) (§ 17-14-4).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 3.18% with 14,746 votes.

Post-election Status: Unrecognized.

**Number of total signatures + Validity rate: 2,150**

Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate: Not separated

Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate: Not separated

Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate: 0

Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate: 0

**Original LNC Budget: \$ 2,500.00**

**Total Expenditure: \$ 9,500.00**

LNC Expenditure: \$ 2,000.00

JW16 Expenditure: \$ 7,500.00

State Expenditure: \$ 0.00

**What went right:** The job was done.

**What went wrong:** The job started a little late, and drug on too long. Expenses were being fully covered which does decrease the incentive for some petitioners. There was tension between LNC and State Party leadership.

**How to do better:** Start earlier. State party cooperation would be nice.

## Ballot Access for 2018

Full access petition for 2018 requires 23,208 valid sigs That should cost between \$70,000 and \$140,000, with a likely cost of \$120,000 to complete. Can't start until 2018. Candidate for Governor would need to receive 5% to retain access through 2020.

# South Carolina

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in South Carolina.

Elections: <http://www.scvotes.org/>

Candidate Info: [http://www.scvotes.org/candidate\\_information](http://www.scvotes.org/candidate_information)

Election Law: <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/title7.php> (title 7)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 10,000 signatures 6 months before the election in which the party wishes to participate.
- Retention: must run a candidate in 1 of 2 consecutive general elections (§ 7-9-10).
- The party must also have at least one county organization hold an annual convention, by March 31 in the year of a general election. (§ 7-9-70,80).
- The state organization must also conduct an annual convention, to be held by May 15 in the year of a general election, and at least 2 weeks after the county convention. (§ 7-9-90,100).
- Presidential paperwork due at noon on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in September of the election year (§ 7-13-350(B)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Ran candidates in 2014 general election.

Johnson result: 49,204 (2.34%)

Post-election Status: Retained, assuming all paperwork is complied with.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Has retention through 2020.

# South Dakota

## Summary

The South Dakota drive started on 9/11/2015 and was delayed, and then completed.

Elections: <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/default.aspx>

Election Laws: <http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Statute=12&Type=Statute> (title 12)

BAN: <http://ballot-access.org/2016/02/29/south-dakota-now-says-parties-that-want-to-be-on-for-president-need-6936-signatures-due-july-11/>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2.5% of the total votes cast for governor in the last gubernatorial election (2014: 277,403; 2.5% = 6,936).
- Signatures cannot be more than one year old as of the date of submitting the petitions.
- If party petition completed in a Presidential election year, party is on the ballot for 2 general election cycles.
- Signatures must be turned in by the last Tuesday in March of the year of the election (2016: March 29) (§ 12.5.1). *Now due July 11; see above BAN post.*
- Retention: candidate for Governor must get 2.5% (§ 12.1.3(10)).
- Can run an Ind Presidential candidate by collecting signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for Gov (2,772), due by the first Tuesday in August (2016: August 2), and cannot start circulating until January 1 of election year.
- No substitution (§ 12.7.7).
- Circulator for Independent Presidential candidate must be in-state registered voter (§ 12.1.3(9), § 12.6.8). Note added by Wes: Circulators for a party petition do not have to be SD residents.

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 5.63% with 20,845 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized. No change. Access based on Governor's race.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>7,680 @ 92%</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	7,180 @ 92%
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	500 @ 92%

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 20,000.00

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 14,738.10</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 14,738.10
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
State Expenditure:	\$ 0.00

**What went right:** Total cost was under budget. SD allows you to turn in signatures as collected, so you get validity feedback as the drive progresses. This drive achieved 92% validity. 90% or higher is common in SD because voter address does not have to match to sign. You can't pay per signature in SD, but you can pay per hour and require a certain level of performance, which almost has the same effect (see 2015-2016 contracts for details on how to write the terms).

**What went wrong:** First contract was a sole-source contract with a \$5,000 advance given to one petitioner who did not deliver as promised. Eventually, enough signatures were received from that petitioner so that the \$5,000 advance was approximately covered. Fortunately, the contract required completion early enough such that failure allowed enough time to hire additional petitioners. The drive was originally going to be managed by the state chair, but he was not able to devote the time needed. As a result, the drive was managed by LPHQ staff. Petitioners mailed signatures to LPHQ where they were counted before payment was sent.

**How to do better:** Having an in-state coordinator would help. Avoid sole-source contracts, or write them in a way that any mode of failure won't hurt the petition drive financially or cause it to fail to complete on time.

### Ballot access 2018+

To retain through 2020, the 2018 gubernatorial candidate must receive 2.5%.



# Tennessee

## Summary

Tennessee ran their petition drive as a volunteer effort to place Johnson on the ballot as an Independent.

Elections: <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/>

Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/tncode/> (title 2)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2.5% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election (2014: 1,343,936; 2.5% = 33,599) (§ 2-1-104(24)).
- If party wishes to participate in primary election, must submit petitions on the third Thursday 3 months prior to the primary at noon (2016: April 21). To participate only in the general election, petitions must be submitted on the third Thursday 3 months prior to the general election at noon (2016: July 21) (§ 2-13-107(c)).
- Retention; statewide candidate within last 4 years must get 5% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election (§ 2-1-104(31)(a)).
- Can run as Independent candidates, by collecting 25 signatures per electoral district. 275 signatures minimum for Presidential candidate, with 25 signatures from each electoral district (§ 2-5-101(b)(1)).
- Non-Presidential signatures due at noon on the first Thursday in April (2016: April 7) (§ 2-5-101(a)(1)).
- Cannot start collecting signatures until 90 days prior to the filing deadline (non-Pres: January 8, 2016; Presidential: May 20, 2016) (§ 2-5-102(b)(5)).
- Presidential sigs and paperwork due the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 3 months prior to the election, noon (2016: August 18) (§ 2-5-101(a)).
- State and fed primaries are held the first Thursday in August of an even-numbered year (2016: August 4) (§ 2-1-104(26)).
- No substitution (§ 2-5-102(b)(1)).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 2.82% with 70,286 votes.

Post-election Status: Unknown.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>523</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	Not separated
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	Not separated

**Original LNC Budget:** \$ 0.00

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 100.00 (est)
State Expenditure:	\$ 300.00 (est)

**What went right:** This was a successful volunteer effort.

**What went wrong:** Unaware of specific issues in 2016. In the past, there has been a problem with having enough petition forms. Tennessee requires all forms have wet signatures from the candidates and original notarization of those wet signatures.

**How to do better:** Bring lots of forms -- more than ever needed -- to the national convention for the candidates to sign, and have a notary on-site at the convention to notarize all of the forms, to avoid the emergency FedEx of more forms.

### Ballot Access for 2018

Party petition in Tennessee requires 33,599 signatures, meaning the cost would be between \$100,797 and \$151,195, with a realistic estimate of \$115,000.

# Texas

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Texas.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml>

Election Law: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/?link=EL>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1% of the number of votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election (2014: 4,718,268; 1% = 47,183), and are due 75 days after the date of the precinct convention (§ 181.005(a),6).
- Party petition signers cannot have voted in a primary election or participated in another party's convention during the year of the election (§ 181.006(g)).
- Signatures cannot be collected until after the date of the party's precinct conventions (§ 181.006(j)). Precinct conventions are held on the second Tuesday in March (§ 181.061(c)).
- Retention: statewide candidate must get 5% in each general election (§ 181.005(b)). If gubernatorial candidate gets 2%, party retains ballot access through the next gubernatorial election (§ 172.002(a)).
- Can run an Independent candidate for President by collecting signatures equal to 1% of those who voted for President in the most recent election. Petition signers cannot have voted in a primary election in that year. Cannot start collecting signatures until after the Presidential primary election, which is held the first Tuesday in March (§ 41.007), and are due the second Monday in May of the year of the election (§ 192.032).
- Presidential paperwork due 70 days prior to the general election (2016: August 31) (§ 192.031(3)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Several 2014 statewide candidates received 5%.

Johnson result: 3.16% with 283,492 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained thanks to Railroad Commission race results.

### Ballot Access 2018+

To retain for 2020, the candidate for governor must obtain 2%, or candidate for any other statewide office must obtain 5%.

# Utah

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Utah.

Elections: <http://elections.utah.gov/>

Election Law: <http://le.utah.gov/UtahCode/chapter.jsp?code=20A> (title 20A)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 2,000 signatures.
- Cannot start collecting until after the canvass of the prior general election (roughly the end of November), and are due February 15 of the year of the general election (§ 20A-8-103).
- Retention: candidate must get 2% of all of the votes cast for the US House races within the last 2 general elections (2014: 565,970; 2% = 11,319) (§ 20A-8-101(1)).
- Can run an Independent statewide candidate by collecting 1,000 signatures from registered voters for statewide office, or signatures equal to 5% of the registered voters in the district in which the candidate is running for office or 300, whichever is less (§ 20A-9-502(2)).
- Signatures for Independent non-Presidential candidates are due between the second Thursday and the third Friday in March (§ 20A-9-202(1)).
- Signatures for Independent Presidential candidates are due August 15 of the year of the election (§ 20A-9-503(3)).
- Presidential paperwork due August 31 of the year of the election (§ 20A-9-202(4)(a)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. 2014 cand for Attny General received over 2% of the cumulative vote of US House races.

Johnson result: 3.50% with 39,608 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained.

### Ballot Access 2018+

Utah has retained access through 2020.

# Vermont

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Vermont.

Elections: <http://vermont-elections.org/sos/home.htm>  
Political Party Organizing: <https://www.sec.state.vt.us/media/68115/Guide-to-Party-Org-Statutory-Duties.doc>  
Election Law: <http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/title/17>

### Ballot Access:

- Major party is one where a candidate for state office received at least 5% of the vote in the most recent general election (§ 17 VSA 2103 (23)).
- Minor parties can run candidates, nominated by convention, by organizing in at least 10 towns between September 10 and September 30 in odd-numbered years (§ 17 VSA 2381(b)).
- If party not recognized, candidate can get on the ballot by collecting signatures (President 1,000; Congress 500) (§ 17 VSA 2402).
- Independent Presidential signatures due August 1. Other Independent candidate signatures due the Thursday prior to the primary, which is held on the second Tuesday in August (§ 17 VSA 2402(d)(1)).
- Petitions and Presidential candidate consent forms are due the fourth Thursday following the first Monday in May (2016: May 26) (§ 17 VSA 2356, 2401, 2402).
- No substitution (§ 17 VSA 2402(a)(2)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized minor party.

Johnson result: 3.14% with 10,078 votes.

Post-election Status: No change.

### Ballot Access 2018+

We are a recognized Minor Party. No action required.

# Virginia

## Summary

Virginia ran a successful all-volunteer drive.

Elections: <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/>

Election Law: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+TOC2402000> (title 24.2)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, statewide candidate must get 10% in either of the last 2 statewide general elections in which a statewide office was on the ballot.
- Party must have a state central committee and chair for 6 months prior to the filing of any nominee for office (§ 24.2-101).
- If the party is not recognized, can run candidates by collecting signatures: statewide 10,000, with 400 from each congressional district; US House 1,000.
- Can start collecting on Jan 1st of year of election for Presidential candidates, Jan 2nd for all other candidates (§ 24.2-506).
- Signatures are due the second Tuesday in June (2016: June 14) (§ 24.2-507).
- If party is not recognized, candidates can have an "L" by their name on the ballot by having the state recognize the party's existence 6 months preceding the filing for office (§ 24.2-613).
- Can run a candidate for President by collecting 5,000 signatures, with 200 from each congressional district, due by noon 74 days prior to the general election. Can get full party label on ballot, as long as party has a state central committee, bylaws, and officers within 6 months of the petition filing (§ 24.2-543).
- Presidential paperwork and signatures are due by noon 74 days before the general election (2016: August 26) (§ 24.2-542).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 2.97% with 118,274 votes.

Post-election Status: Unrecognized. Johnson did not reach 10%.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>9,692</b>	<b>Validity in the low seventies</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0	
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0	
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	4,600	
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	5,092	

<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$ 12,013.35</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
JW16 Expenditure:	\$ 0.00
State Expenditure:	\$ 12,013.35

**What went right:** Decent volunteer petitioning effort. Both paid petitioners (Bob Lynch & Sanford Pankin) are Virginia residents.

**What went wrong:** Took too long. Drive went deep into August (8/26 deadline)

**How to do better:** Try to stimulate better volunteer efforts going forward.

### Ballot Access for 2018+

To gain access for 2018 and 2020, a statewide candidate must obtain 10% in 2017. The candidates must petition separately, each with 10,000 signatures and a distribution requirement of at least 400 per Congressional District. Virginia has never had ballot access, because there is no party petition in Virginia, and the LPVA has never earned 10% of the vote in a statewide election. In 2017, there will be elections for Governor, Lt. Governor (which is not a ticket) and Attorney General. There is no party petition mechanism. Each office would require a separate petition, with 10,000 valid sigs needed for each petition. All 100 seats in the Virginia House of Delegates will be up in 2017. In 2018, there will be a US Senate election and US House elections.

# Washington

## Summary

The Washington petition drive was a volunteer effort.

Elections: <http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/Default.aspx>  
Candidate/Top-two FAQs: <http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/faqcandidates.aspx>  
Election Law: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?Cite=29A> (title 29A)

### Ballot Access:

- Candidate must pay as a filing fee 1% of the annual salary of the office, or the same amount in petition signatures of registered voters from the district of the office in which candidate is running (§ 29A.24.091).
- Filing period begins on the Monday two weeks prior to Memorial Day, and end on the following Friday (2016: May 7 to July 23) (29A.24.050).
- Candidates must participate in a top-two primary election (RCW 29A.52.112), which is held the first Tuesday in August (2016: August 2).
- Recognized party is one where Presidential candidate at the most recent Presidential election gets 5% (RCW 29A.04.086). Can nominate candidate for President without collecting signatures.
- If not a recognized party, can run a Presidential candidate by convening a state convention. Conventions must be held either between the first Saturday in May and the fourth Saturday in July (RCW 29A.56.610).
- Notice of the convention must be printed in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the convention is being held (RCW 29A.56.620). Can hold multiple conventions.
- Convention must have at least 100 registered voters in attendance. Must submit at least 1,000 signatures (29A.56.610).
- Presidential signatures and paperwork are due 10 days after the close of the nominating convention. No substitution (§ 29A.56.660). Must also be filed by the first Friday in August (2016: August 5) (29A.56.640).

Pre-election Status: Unrecognized.

Johnson result: 5.01% with 160,879 votes. \*\*\* Sec of State is lowering percentage by assessing all write-ins against us.

Post-election Status: Uncertain.

<b>Number of total signatures + Validity rate:</b>	<b>1,782</b>
Number of LNC-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of JW16-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of State-paid signatures + Validity rate:	0
Number of volunteer signatures + Validity rate:	1,782

<b>Original LNC Budget:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>0.00</b>
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<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>500.00</b>
LNC Expenditure:	\$	0.00
JW16 Expenditure:	\$	0.00
State Expenditure:	\$	500.00

**What went right:**

**What went wrong:**

**How to do better:**

### Ballot Access for 2018

There is no mechanism to put the party on the ballot. Washington is one of two states where the only measurement is the result of the presidential race with no alternative. There is nothing sort of legal relief that can be done for 2018 or 2020 at this time.

# West Virginia

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in West Virginia.

Elections: <http://www.sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/default.aspx>

Election Law: <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/Code.cfm?chap=03&art=1> (chapter 3)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor must get 1% (§ 3-1-8).
- To get on the ballot, must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for that specific race in the last general election (§ 3-5-23(c)).
- Can collect signatures for multiple candidates simultaneously (§ 3-5-23(a)).
- Presidential paperwork and Signatures must be turned in by August 1 of the year of the election (§ 3-5-24(a)).
- Circulators can be from out-of-state, but must apply for credentials in each county they wish to work (§ 3-5-23b). Can be attained by mail.

Pre-election Status: Recognized.

Johnson result: 3.23% with 23,004 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized

### Ballot Access 2018+

We do not have to do anything to retain through 2020.

# Wisconsin

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Wisconsin.

Elections: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting>

Election Law: <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/prefaces/toc>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 10,000 signatures. Must include at least 1,000 signatures each from a minimum of 3 congressional districts.
- Petitions must be turned in by April 1 of the year in which the party wishes to participate in the primary, and cannot start circulating until January 1 of the same year (§ 5.62(2)(a)).
- Retention: statewide candidate in a gubernatorial election must get 1%. If election is in a Presidential year, Presidential candidate must get 1% (§ 5.62(1)(b)(1)).
- All candidates must collect signatures (statewide 2,000; US House 1,000). Can start petitioning April 15 of the election year, and are due June 1 (§ 8.15).
- Non-recognized party candidates on the ballot as "Independent" (§ 8.20(9)).
- Can run an Independent Presidential candidate by collecting between 2,000 and 4,000 signatures (§ 8.20(4)).
- Petitions can only be circulated for an Independent Presidential candidate between July 1 and the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in August (2016: August 2) (§ 8.20(8)(am)).
- No substitution (§ 8.20(2)).
- Presidential paperwork due the first Tuesday in September (2016: September 6) (§ 8.16(7)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized. Several 2014 statewide candidates received 1%.

Johnson result: 3.58% with 106,585 votes.

Post-election Status: Recognized

### Ballot Access 2018+

We're on the ballot in 2018. To retain through 2020, a statewide candidate in 2018 must get over 1%.



# Wyoming

## Summary

There was not a petition drive in Wyoming.

Elections: <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/Elections.aspx>  
Political Party Information: <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/PoliticalPartyInfo.aspx>  
Election Law: <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/ElectionStatute.aspx> (title 22)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast in the most recent general election for the US House Representative (§ 22-4-402(d)).
- Petitions must be turned in by June 1 of the year of the election the party wishes to participate (§ 22-4-402(a)).
- Cannot start circulating before April 1 of the year prior to the general election (§ 22-4-402(e)).
- Retention: candidate for the US House, Governor, or Secretary of State must get 2% (§ 22-1-102(xviii)).
- Can get on the ballot as an Independent candidate for statewide office by collecting signatures equal to 2% of the votes for US House in the previous general election. For non-statewide office, 2% of the votes cast in the previous general election for office in which running for (§ 22-5-304).
- Independent candidate petitions due 70 days prior to general election (§ 22-5-307).
- Presidential paperwork due 30 days after the state convention (§ 22-19-102(a)).

Pre-election Status: Recognized major party. 2014 SOS candidate received 10%

Johnson result: 5.19% with 13,287 votes.

Struempf result: (US House) result 3.59% with 9,033 votes.

Post-election Status: Retained.

### Ballot Access 2018+

We're on the ballot in 2018. In order to retain through 2020, we must have our candidate for Governor, Secretary of State, or US House get over 2%.

# MEETING MINUTES

## June 7, 2016

Meeting held between Marsh, Moellman, and Redpath to determine recommendation for additional members of the committee.

Axinn and Redpath agreed upon and recommended to LNC Chairman Sarkwark.

## June 18, 2016

Dear All,

The remaining two positions on the Ballot Access Committee will be filled with Richard Winger and Mark Axinn.

They join Ed Marsh, Ken Moellman, and Bill Redpath. Mr. Moellman is Chair of the Ballot Access Committee.

There were many other good candidates for the non-LNC positions on the committee, including Paul Frankel, and I trust that Mr. Moellman and the other members of the committee will reach out to those people as they do their work going forward.

Yours in liberty,  
Nick

## June 30, 2016

The scheduled meeting of the Ballot Access Committee was held on 6/30 at 9PM Eastern Time.

Called to order - 9:05PM

Present: Axinn, Marsh, Moellman, Redpath. Not present: Winger

Guests: Frankel, Thrasher

\* Approval of previous meeting minutes

approved without objection

\* Old Business

Illinois wrap-up

Completed drive - went over - challenge discussion

**Motion: Ballot Access Committee recommends the LNC or chair and/or the Johnson campaign fulfill the request from Illinois for \$7500. Rollcall vote. Passed Unanimously.**

\* New Business

Appoint/elect a secretary and a treasurer for the committee.

Discussion determined no need for treasurer. No volunteers for secretary. Tabled indefinitely. Frankel takes notes volunteer basis for the meeting.

Discuss appointing non-voting committee advisors

Johnson campaign - Thrasher - Appointed without objection

Petitioner - Frankel - Appointed without objection

Attorney - None at this time (invite appropriate attorney when relevant)

Status update, focused on Maine, Washington State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts.

ME: concerns whether registration will finish in time. 303 registrations short with Jul 12 deadline. 11 days left, 25 a day coming in. Redpath: additional people on the way to ME. Thrasher is one of them. Redpath recommends Thrasher assess how many are there. Report by Saturday if possible. Thrasher says no problem.

WA: July 23 deadline. 559 raw sig in hand for 1,000 valid requirement. M Carling has been handling it but will move to Vegas in the next few days. Possibly get Michael Pickens, Larry Nicholas, current chair Dave Trainor (sp?) to manage? Carling remotely? Separate conference call with the WA people.

NJ: 500 raw collected towards 800 valid needed by Aug 1. Redpath says they are in better shape than in past cycles. Can be accomplished on volunteer basis.

PA: Won lawsuit. Shutting down.

MA: 8/2 deadline. Redpath says it is doing well but does not have the numbers handy. Ken said over 5k paid and over 900 volunteer in hand.

NY: Deadline is Aug 2 for federal office, not Aug 23 as reported in BAN, which is deadline for state office only. 25k encumbered from LNC. One week in and about 2k raw collected. Darryl just got there from IL. A few local part timer/semi-pros and a good local volunteer base. Donations include mix of LPNY and LNC funds. A lot always comes in at the end, such as Redlich 2010 8k came in at the last week. NY is one of few states left where out of state petitioners are not allowed. Lawsuit on this has been filed in federal district court in New York. July 11 hearing. Preliminary injunction sought and quick ruling is expected.

Updated state counts, if available.

CT 8/10 Wes Benedict, Josh Katz, Arsenault as contractor. 7500 valid needed. 2300 previously in hand. Arsenault turned in some additional, less than 2,000. Compensation dispute?

DC: Wes Benedict? Samford Pankin, Pankin's daughter, Bob Lynch? Bruce Majors contacts? May need ramping up. Petitions picked up this past Monday, could have been picked up 10 days earlier. Labeaume is chair.

NH: Arsenault has not done anything there yet, nor has LPNH. Thrasher and others from Maine may go to NH after ME. Brian Chabot. Aug 10, 1500 valid in each of the two congressional districts. Redpath is managing remotely.

OH: Ken Moellman managing. Validity problems with the contractor. 50% overall overage. 5,000 valid needed by Aug 10 with a county distribution requirement. 300 volunteer in hand. Hoping for 1,000 volunteer. Paying 2.75. 2,080 gross in hand including both paid and volunteer. Only about 1/5 done. Contractor is claiming 3,500 collected but many not turned in yet.

AL: 700 volunteer and 700 paid known collected. Some more likely in Lachine PO Box. Petitioners on the way but may be sent to OH instead. I will try to ramp up.

TN: 275 valid needed, 231 raw in hand

IA: Need 1500 valid, 800 raw in hand

MN: 8/23 deadline, 2,000 valid needed, say they are on track to do it themselves. Andy Burns and/or state chair running it.

VA: 8/26, volunteers not doing as well as in the past, Redpath says they are on track though. Some confidential good news.

KY: 100 volunteer signatures in hand, 89 volunteers signed up promising to do 30 plus signatures each. 9/9 deadline. 5k valid needed.

RI: 1,000 valid needed by 9/9, only started yesterday. Trying to get it done volunteer. Katz and Redpath supervising.

Status update on New York lawsuit.

Covered above

Other legal (without objection)

AL county petition. Ken will help with attorney. National will take no action.

KY pressuring judge to rule, expect to lose this round.

Establish standard weekly meetings through the week of 9/12 or until ballot access is obtained in all states.

Next meeting on Thursday July 7th at 9 pm eastern. Focus on immediate states and any having problems.

No other business

Adjourned 10:50PM Eastern

## **July 7, 2016**

All voting members present along with Frankel and Thrasher

Minutes of previous meeting approved without objection

ME: 4 days left, looks like we are on track to succeed

SOS will give progress report tomorrow

WA: Carling says 1156 in hand, shooting for 2000 on 1000 valid requirement, deadline 7/23

NJ: Falling short with all-volunteer drive; many members of state committee not willing to collect themselves or pay. NJ based pro made 2.00 Offer. Deadline 8/1. Potential validity problem if bulk of signatures are gathered in Camden. Funding from LPNJ passed on close vote of the state committee.

MA: Deadline 8/1; Arsenault 13,358 in hand, 14k in the contract, 75% valid, drive is basically done.

NY: Started too slow according to Axinn. 15 k valid needed by Aug 2. 5-6k collected so far. Hiring new people and rounding up other signatures that have been collected but not turned in yet, expects to be at 10k or so in a week. Trying to do 10k volunteer and 30k overall. Johnson campaign kicking in 5k.

OH: Validity issues with contractor. Hiring one or two additional. Deadline 8/10. Redpath more worried about it than Moellman. 5k valid requirement.

CT: Due 8/10. Behind schedule. Needs 7500 valid. Had 359 paid and 1940 volunteer sigs as of a week ago. Arsenault is the contractor, finishing up MA so he may be able to get more people into CT now? Redpath will follow up with Katz and Arsenault.

NH: No signatures gathered yet as far as anyone on the call knows. Thrasher likely headed there after final deliveries to towns in Maine on Monday and Freedom Fest. Due 8/10. 1500 valid from each of two congressional districts. Town delivery as in other New England states.

DC due 8/10, needs 4600 valid. Trying to get Bob Lynch there. Samford Pankin coming in and out and did 500.

AL due 8/18: Needs 5k valid. 850 here or with Ross, 700 reported by Leigh about two weeks ago, 300 claimed by Kay's son Bobby. 25 to 50 more claimed by Justin Myers. I trained Justin yesterday (PF), he will be working more when he gets his car fixed, as well as I will be working more when I can get rides from him as well as TE. Kay will have doctors appointment tomorrow and hopes to travel next week, but doesn't know til she talks to the doctors. Forgot to mention: Tony in Mobile, experienced petitioner working part time, hasn't reported any numbers yet. Sent Johnson petition to Green petitioners in Montgomery and Huntsville; not sure if they will carry it or not. Arkansas couple I negotiated with got a \$5 offer on casino petition there so will probably not be here. Kay believes Bobby will do better when she is here.

## **July 14, 2016**

Everyone is now on that was planning to be. Richard Winger had a schedule conflict.

Last meetings notes approved without objection.

Lawsuit update - NY from Gary Donoyan and Mark Axinn

### *U.S. District Court Judge Won't Enjoin New York Ban on Out-of-State Circulators*

*Posted on July 14, 2016 by Richard Winger*

*On July 14, U.S. District Court Judge Sterling Johnson, Jr., refused to enjoin the New York state law prohibiting out-of-state circulators. Merced v Spano, e.d., 16cv-3054. His reason is that the lawsuit wasn't filed until one week before the start of the petitioning window. The decision says that the Libertarian Party has been petitioning in New York state starting in 1974. However, the order also says the Plaintiffs have demonstrated a likelihood of success, at least in overturning the law that says circulators must be registered voters in New York, as opposed to just residents of the state.*

KY - Moellman (Wiest unable to make the call)

### *Sixth Circuit Expedites Kentucky Ballot Access Case*

*Posted on July 14, 2016 by Richard Winger*

*On July 14, the Sixth Circuit expedited the Kentucky ballot access case, Libertarian Party of Kentucky v Grimes, 16-6107. The issue is the Kentucky law that does not permit a group to become a qualified party until after it has polled 2% for President. Kentucky and Washington are the only states in which it is impossible for a group to become a qualified party except by a showing in the presidential election. Those states would make it impossible for any party to be ballot-qualified if they weren't interested in the presidential election. There are many one-state parties in the U.S. who do not participate in the presidential election.*

*The briefs are to be filed by July 28. The plaintiffs are the Libertarian and Constitution Parties. The purpose of expediting this case is to make it possible for any decision to be in time for this year's election. The U.S. District Court had upheld the law on July 8.*

#### Ballot access updates

NY: Aug 2 deadline. Needs 15k valid. 9,000 in hand in various places. Late start was due to period shifting. Email blast from LPHQ and social media to Johnson supporters has brought in a lot of new/novice petitioners. Darryl bringing in new petitioner(s) also. Axinn expects about 20k, maybe more. Johnson check running late. Thrasher says it is on the way. Thrasher says Johnson, Weld signed forms also. Axinn believes it is likely a lot will come in at the end. Redpath concerned that 20k may not survive a challenge, believes we need 25k raw. Axinn: specific objections, over and above general objections, have never been done on a statewide petition, but have been done on local petitions. Redpath trying to get Derrick Lee into NY. Higher numbers will make a challenge less likely. Clinton and Trump being from NY may increase chance of challenges. Another LPHQ email blast and help from McAfee and Petersen?

CT Aug 10 deadline. Needs 7500 valid. Has about 6k gross, Arsenault crew and Thrasher are on the ground. Ken, Bill trying to get a hold of Katz.

DC Aug 10 deadline, 4500 valid needed, 1100 and change raw collected. Andy Jacobs negotiating, wants hotel. Sanford Pankin coming up some days and going home to VA back and forth. Redpath working there weekends as a volunteer, except this weekend (LNC meeting) and unless needs to go to NY instead, reports it is very tough. 2 more candidates added to the board to help bring in petitioners. Lynch and Jacobs may be available if Johnson campaign can pay motels.

OH, Aug 10 deadline, needs 5k valid, 464 volunteer and 4527 paid collected but with validity rates that is probably only about half way, Kaye Matthews may be coming in. Trying to keep Trent's crew working longer.

NH, 3k valid needed by Aug 10. Arsenault crew just starting up there, Lou Jasikoff headed there tomorrow, Nick Dunbar is on the ground. Thrasher likely headed there after CT situation handled. Decision has been made to go with the party nominees as opposed to a competing slate.

AL: 900 volunteer and 1500 paid in hand. New petitioners coming in from out of state and being hired locally, pace is picking up.

Back to NY: Suggestion to get signatures from lawyers and employees at Mintz Levin (Weld's firm).

WA: 1,000 valid due by 7/23; 1,600 raw as of 7/12. No problems expected.

NJ: 800 valid needed by 8/1. 400 volunteer and 800 paid as of 7/12.

IA: 1500 valid needed by 8/19, 1291 raw as of 7/6, haven't heard back from them since; may be able to finish all volunteer.

MN: 2k valid needed by 8/23; 1,800 raw reported by Andy Burns as of 7/12.

VA: 5k valid needed by 8/26, about 5k raw in hand. Need elector forms, certain congressional districts, trying to get VA forms to people circulating in DC, and need feedback on validity from early turn-ins. 6th and 9th districts are of possible concern.

KY: 5k valid needed by 9/9. Gailey working part time. Plan to bring in Lynch after DC. About 700 volunteer in hand, shooting for 2k which would be twice past record.

RI: 9/9 deadline. Trying to do all volunteer. Little if anything yet.

TN: Successfully completed.

PA: Pay issues unresolved for end of petition drive, Ken recommends a motion similar to what was done for IL. Redpath so moves to recommend the LNC pay PA petitioners still owed in accordance with normal validity requirements. Passes unanimously. 6-7k is still owed. About ten people are still owed money

CT: Update from Katz in separate email - fewer signatures than previously believed, about 4,400 in hand. 1,000 lower than we thought. Checked and I do not have this email. Followup with Arsenault needed. Tobin could help there, working on Greens.

Next meeting: same time. No objection.

## July 21, 2016

On the call: Ken Moellman, Carla Howell, Wes Benedict, Ed Marsh, Richard Winger, Mark Axinn, Bill Redpath...everyone on now except Chris Thrasher.

Previous meeting minutes approved without objection.

KY ballot access lawsuit update. Appealed district court ruling, brief today, their brief due next week, no reply briefs. On schedule to get an emergency ruling on strong case before circuit court goes on break in early August.

State by state

MA due 8/2. Signature drive is complete, town turn-in is very logistically challenging. Carla believes it is in good shape but there is a danger of failure if it is not handled correctly. Chris Crawford is heading that up.

NY 15k valid due by 8/2. Axinn reports production has picked up, Bonner crew is up to 6 people, turned in 2500 this week, cost has gone up from past years. 6,000 signatures came in in the past week, now 15k raw. Shooting for 25k raw which will take a thousand signatures a day. Money coming in from various sources.

NH 3k valid with a congressional and town distribution due 8/10. Wes Benedict heading it up for LNC. Nick Dunbar managing on the ground, 1773 reliable signatures reported. Andy Burns is also there. Wes believes it is no longer in emergency mode. Ed Marsh may be there in early August. Probably doing over 300 signatures a day now. Stray mark ruling in effect.

CT 7500 valid due by 8/10. Wes expects NY crew may go there after NY deadline. CT numbers are not being reported as often or thoroughly as other states. Josh Katz "not sure how we can speed it up." Going too slow. Anyone from MA that can go there? Most local NY petitioners will not go there, but Bonner crew may be negotiable. Arsenault has been hard to reach. Redpath and Moellman report that CT phone call on Monday was not productive. Christina Tobin has people up there? Repath recommends that Katz needs to stay on top of [NAME REDACTED] with daily reports. Move Dunbar, Burns down from NH if they get done early? [NAME REDACTED] tends to give optimistic projections, Katz reports numbers in hand. Wes recommends talking to Nick and Josh to see if more money can be appropriated to get someone else into CT, and not rely on [NAMES REDACTED] as they tend to fall short. Signature counts have not gone up much in the last week or two. However probably at least 6k in hand now. 5,400 in hand reported as of 4 days ago. 5-7k more needed. CT is paying 2.50, can that go up? [NAME REDACTED] is getting 3.00 rate but no one else can. Nick Dunbar needs to manage town deliveries in NH, Josh Katz can be reliable to manage it in CT.

DC 4,500 valid needed by 8/10, 2100 raw in hand, believed 2500 or so collected so far. Two other candidates paying also but have fewer signatures. Very difficult place to petition. New team came in in the last few days. Andy Jacobs and Bob Lynch may still come in, possibly tomorrow, but not yet guaranteed. Carla Howell managing. New/unknown people also starting up. George MacArthur transitioning from volunteer to paid, has about 500 so far. Pankin goes back and forth. Something needed to boost the production on the other two candidates if we want to actually get them on the ballot. Very hot weather and storms coming in. Not an emergency per Carla, but still of concern.

OH 5k valid by 8/10, Ken Moellman managing, Contractor **[NAME REDACTED]** has had bad validity. New crew just hired and is reporting good numbers, volunteer drive stepping up. Expect to be done in about a week. Verification on the new contractor will be done this week. New contractor is Gary Summers.

AL 5k valid by 8/18 Moellman/Frankel 3k paid, 1k raw .. can anyone here go up north in emergency? Probably not except for Robert Johnson, Kaye's son.

Back to CT, production rate needs to get doubled; 6k now and only doing about 125 raw sig per day

Chris Thrasher is on the call. Johnson campaign helping bring people in there as well DC. Redpath will call a list of Johnson supporters in CT, will get the list from the campaign.

KY, 5k valid needed by 9/9, Volunteer signatures not being counted. A lot of petitioners will be available after Aug 10 and 18th. 700 volunteer known as of Jul 5 but no updates since.

WA 1k valid needed by 7/23, getting everything together with 1600-1800 in hand.

NJ 800 valid by 8/1; still 400 volunteer and 800 paid, ten days left, need to shore up validity margin. Redpath recommends 1600 raw. Many signatures may have been collected in Camden, possible challenge? Has any validity checking been done?

IA 1500 valid needed by 8/19, 1500 in hand all volunteer. Probably 700-800 more needed for validity margin. State party may have a false sense of security because they have not been challenged before. Nebraska people may help with the margin.

MN 2k valid needed by 8/23, Burns is in NH; check with state chair Chris Dock. Ken will follow up. From the spreadsheet 1800 all volunteer reported 7/12.

VA 5k valid need by 8/26. Redpath reports 4k-5k valid in hand. Trying to get turn in organized, need at least 5k raw. Ed Marsh will help with 9th district, **[NAME REDACTED]** has been underperforming

RI 1k valid needed by 9/9. Starting to get a few sigs.

Suggestion to Thrasher to see if Johnson campaign can boost pay in CT if Sarwark does not agree. Thrasher will try to see if he can get another 50 cents per sig from the campaign to boost the pay.

Thrasher has been working with Bob Johnson on the paperwork end with electors, candidate substitution paperwork etc.

Same time and day next week. Adjourned without objection.

## July 28, 2016

Ken Moellman, Paul Frankel, Ed Marsh, Wes Benedict, Bill Redpath, Mark Axinn...

Called to order 6:05 pm eastern

Thrasher joined

NJ expects to turn in 1800 raw for a 800 valid requirement early next week. many of the signatures are volunteer. 1500 in hand and expect 300 more before the turn in.



NY 26 k in hand including 6 k volunteer, shooting for 30k now, turn in Tuesday; behind on the money - cost was at least 50% more than ever before, volunteer effort was less than expected. A lot of signatures came in at the end. Axinn fronted 12k to cover petitioners and is owed money by LPNY and/or GJ16. 30k would double the requirement.

**Motion that the committee recommend GJ16 donate 12k to LPNY petitioning committee. Passed unanimously.**

Carla Howell now on the call.

MA - town turn ins and pickups will go on for weeks, not much info on that but in good shape as far as we know. Dropoffs may have all happened by now, now working on getting them back.

CT 7500 valid needed by 8/10; close to 8000 raw in hand now. Darryl needs to go to PA for medical reasons, his crew going to do Rocky in NY - available after NY deadline on 8/2? Darryl volunteered his final batch of 300 in NY. **[NAMES REDACTED]** did a lot in a few days in NY, doing Rocky there now, could go to CT? Validity testing is behind. Not clear whether they need more people or not? Can NH people go to CT? NH has a lot of small producers that live there. Andy Burns is back in MN. Nick Dunbar needs to stay in NH for town turnins. Bill Redpath can come in for the last few days.

NH 3k valid due 8/10, 4108 raw in hand, congressional district distribution and competition with other campaigns is an issue; no statewide database available to do validity; overkill needed i.e going over by more than in other states for validity. Need to track the two districts separately.

DC 4500 valid needed by 8/10. seven pros on the ground, about 4k raw in hand now. May not be enough signatures for the other 2 candidates.

OH 5k valid needed by 8/10. 1019 volunteer and 5237 paid in hand plus 700 that have not been entered into the spreadsheet. They are piggybacking off statewide petition that ends on Monday. Will they keep working after statewide ends? About 7k raw in hand between volunteer and paid. Need about 1300-1800 more valid. Chris Thrasher, Lou Jasikoff, Andy Jacobs, Kaye Matthews to OH? Carla suggests another name... Ed Mason. **[NAME REDACTED]** crew is starting to get better validity but still low. Johnson OH coordinator falsely broadcast that we were done a month ago, which was not corrected until last week. Andy wants to go to DC but not needed there. Bill Redpath can call GJ list to try to get petitioners if the campaign gives him the list. **[NAME REDACTED]** keeps saying he will get it done in a week for months. Some people shifted from AL?

Richard Winger on the call

Kay Matthews will go to OH after this weekend. Wes and I will provide some names of people who might go.

AL, VA, KY, IA, MN, RI all look like they will be in good shape. VA is at 5k raw, needs 5k valid by 8/26.

30k more sigs nationally thru 9/9.

Adjourned without objection.

## August 4, 2016

*On Thu, Aug 4, 2016 at 4:32 PM, Wes Benedict <[wes.benedict@lp.org](mailto:wes.benedict@lp.org)> wrote:*

*NH looks to be in fine shape. The CD1 vs. CD2 spread so far appears to be 52% to 48%. Total 5,800 signatures in hand. 3,000 valid needed (split in 2 districts).*

*CT looks likely to collect a couple thousand too many. Joshua is working to terminate petitioners. 10,818 turned in plus 2,500 in petitioners hands, and people still working (10,818+2,500=13,318). 7,500 valid required.*

*DC looks to be in fine shape for Gary Johnson, but will be cutting it close for the two down-ticket races. Plus, a third just joined (Bruce Majors) in a down ticket race. For Gary Johnson, 4421 required, 6,202 turned in, 487 reported in hand (6,202+487=6,689).*

*\*\*Bill Redpath will be wanted in DC for the down-ticket races, but not needed in NH, CT, DC.*

Thursday 8/4 at 6PM Eastern Time

Ed Marsh, Ken Moellman, Chris Thrasher, David Demarest, Mark Axinn, Bill Redpath, ...

everyone on the call who is supposed to be on except Richard Winger; Carla Howell won't be able to join but Wes Benedict will report on DC

NY (Axinn): 32,617 raw for Johnson/Weld and Alex Merced for Senate. About 25k paid and 7k volunteer. 5500 came in in 3 days. Spent far more than expected or in the past, due to slow start floodgates were opened and took some time to shut down. 75k spent; 60k came in. Money came in from national and state parties and GJ/WW campaign. 12k owed to Axinn. Lots of petitioners showed up right at the end. Johnson campaign has not replied to request to reimburse Axinn. Thrasher says Ron is willing to cut the check but just has not got around to it yet.

CT (Benedict) - keeps going back in forth between being ahead and behind schedule. Need 7500 valid by 8/10. 10,818 turned in raw, 2500 reported in petitioners hands. Petitioners being shut down but some are still collecting. Over budget. 15k or more raw sigs seems likely. No new people needed. Summers just got there from OH and then was told he was not needed.

Redpath: Biggest problem has been slow starts leading to panic at the end

Benedict: Solution is to send someone like Nick Dunbar to hard states early on.

Thrasher will be in CT to assist with the turnin. Alex and Danielle from FL may help with that also. May hit RI while up there.

DC - 6202 on GJ turned in, 487 reported in hand, total 6689, on target for successful completion on 8/10. The other two downticket petitions may still be short. Carla has been trying to get those over the top and Bill Redpath will go into DC over the weekend to work on it. Majors now running locally (city council?), 500 sigs needed. 4421 valid needed on GJ by 8/10.

	GJ/WW	MM	MK
Turned-in	6202	3154	3117
Reported in-hand	487	232	234
Total collected	6689	3386	3351
Estimated additional	1150	1690	1690
Total gross predicted	7839	5076	5041
GOAL gross at 60%	8000	5500	5500
Deficit	-161	-424	-459
GOAL gross at rpt'd validity	7619	5238	5238
Deficit	-220	162	197

Challenge jurisdictions so we may actually already be good on all of them if there is no challenge. Bruce Majors says DC has not ever had challenges.

Ken suggests 3.00 rate for the other candidates. Wes doesn't think we need it.

NH, 1500 valid needed in each of two congressional districts by 8/10. 5800 raw in hand split 52-48% between the two districts. Volunteers are still collecting so will have over 6k raw.

OH, 5k valid needed by 8/10. Volunteers and paid petitioners stepped way up at the end. Paid petitioning ended with a bang. On track for 12k plus raw, 6k plus valid. Came in under budget.

AL, 5k valid needed by 8/18. About 7k raw collected. Going for 9500 raw paid now, plus at least 1100 volunteer collected with more coming in, possible concern with SOS screwing us over on validity. If we bring in 12k raw we should have enough

to cover it even if they do. Me and Leigh will check with SOS tomorrow when we turn in some in. Looking at possible legal action if there are problems on the validity. David Schoen?

IA, 1500 valid needed by 8/19; state party has 1478 in hand and was only planning to go for 1600 raw. Ken trying to get them to go over by more. Lou Jasikoff will help cover the margin there. Need at least 2200. Same problem with some other easy states where they don't try to get enough margin.

MN, 2k valid needed by 8/23; Check on progress with Andy Burns? Is he/will he petition there? He worked in other states and is back home now. Benedict will follow up.

VA, 5k valid needed by 8/26. May need up to \$5k from out of state. 5400-5500 have been turned in Tuesday. Lynch, Bonner, others will be headed there; some people needed to be directed to specific congressional districts. Deadline is noon.

KY, 5k valid due 9/9; RI 1k valid due 9/9. Should be in good shape, lots of people will be headed to KY.

Meeting adjourned.

## **August 11, 2016**

Moellman, Frankel, Axinn, Marsh, Winger, Thrasher, Katz,

Previous minutes approved without objection

CT ended 8/10. 7500 valid required, 16k raw were submitted. Everything is checked by town clerks. Overall validity estimated at 60%. Summers did a good job in CT.

DC ended 8/10. 4421 required, 7926 turned in on GJ. Other two candidates also at about 166% of valid number.

NH ended 8/10, two districts needed 1500 valid each. Town dropoffs done, Dunbar will go back to NH to do town pickups and state dropoff. District 1 had just over double, district 2 had close to double.

OH ended 8/10, needed 5k valid, 12.6 k raw turned in. SOS is messing with substitution. They are falsely claiming that substitution needs to wait til after the petitions are checked, which will be after the substitution deadline.

AL 5k valid due by 8/18. 8500 paid and 1500 volunteer "in hand" but about 500 of the paid are missing (should be with either the state chair or state treasurer but they can't find them). Rocky petitioners are here as well now.

IA 1500 valid due by 8/19, 1600 raw in hand, Lou Jasikoff and Chris Thrasher will try to boost up the margin. Paid petitioner available for IA and/or MN.

MN 2000 valid due by 8/23. 1800 raw in hand as of mid July but have not been able to get a hold of them ever since. to get an update. Ken got a ph # for state chair Chris Dock from Robert Kraus today and will follow up. Winger says never been any challenges to any presidential candidate ever in Minnesota. Chris Thrasher will also try to reach Chris Dock.

VA 5k valid due 8/26. At least 5300 raw turned in. Redpath is not on the call.

KY 5k valid due 9/9. Milton Lukins is already working there. Paid drive will start in earnest this weekend. Several petitioners lined up to work there.

RI 1k valid due 9/9. Bonner is on the ground.

NY general objection filed, waiting whether specific objections will follow. Over 32k filed for a 15k valid requirement. Axinn still waiting on reimbursement for the 12k he fronted to petitioners to cover overruns. "Check is in the mail." In house validity checks were 60-80%, it would need to be below 46% for a challenge to succeed; we won't know til Mon or Tues whether specific objections were filed by 11:59 pm tonight. Congressional candidate Mike McDermott may be on the cusp of getting knocked off or making it.

AL does not need substitution, KY will not do it as were warned, MN does not allow it, VA needs it; RI and IA needs substitution also.

2 CT out of state petitioner ban lawsuits won yesterday. This will be useful in NY lawsuit on same issue.

Adjourned. Next week's call will be an hour later to accomodate my time for the final AL turnin.

## **August 18, 2016**

Call to order 7:03PM

Present: Axinn, Marsh, Moellman, Redpath, Thrasher

Motion to approve minutes: Axinn moves, Redpath second

State by state

\* OH good

\* AL turn-in today. Frankel at turn-in. No substitution for AL

\* Iowa 2153 sigs still collecting. Should have about 2200-2300 sigs. Substitution will be done same-day.

\* Minnesota – Thrasher contacting Andy Burns. Burns seemed to have sense that MN in good shape. Burns going back to MN tomorrow. Thrasher can make the trip over the weekend to MN. Anything less than 3000 is bad. Challenges uncommon. Unique year.

\* Virginia – 7547 sigs. No validity feedback until Monday 8/22. Events going on that should result in over 8000. Validity state, not challenge state. Multiple turn-ins. Last turn-in on 26<sup>th</sup> at noon.

\* Rhode Island – Bonner at about 475. Need to boost production.

\* Kentucky – State party questionable. Soft deadline 9/2. Turn-in target 9/5. Pros on the ground.

Next meeting set for Thursday August 25<sup>th</sup> 7PM

Axinn moves to adjourn, multiple seconds

Adjourned 7:20PM.

## **August 25, 2016**

On the call: Moellman, Frankel, Thrasher, Redpath, Marsh,

Axinn planned absence.

Called to order - 7:04

Previous minutes approved without objection

Ohio - challenge period ends tomorrow. Not expecting a challenge. State put us on the ballot.

AL - Final turn-in this past thursday. Confirmed on the ballot today. State's sample indicates that they counted 11,160 raw signatures, in line with my estimate of 11-12k. Ed Packard, head of elections division, says they would have checked validity at 5k raw had we represented to them that that would be our final turn-in if they ruled us as having enough valid signatures at that point. Even though they and we both know that 5 k raw is not going to be 5 k valid, it's important that we watch how we phrase/present this to them next time, so we need to document this so as not to repeat the same situation in the future.

IA - Confirmed on the ballot, except there is a challenge period. Challenge not expected. 4-6 days til challenge period ends.

MN - Turned in over 3k, certified and on the ballot.

VA - 5k valid by noon tomorrow. 4600 valid certified so far. Final turn in either already happened or will happen tomorrow morning. Not official in all congressional districts yet but believed more than enough. Working on substitution paperwork.

KY - 5k valid due 9/9. Collecting 500 plus signatures a day. Expecting to be done early and turn petitioners over to the other candidates. About 1k volunteer and 3k paid in hand.

RI - 1k valid due 9/9. 976 paid, 400 or so volunteer in hand. Expect to be done in a week. Thrasher hitting the ground there over the weekend.

Call next week will be Wednesday night 7 pm eastern. Thursday several people have other plans.

## **August 31, 2016**

On the call, Moellman, Frankel, Marsh, Redpath, Winger, Axinn, Thrasher

Meeting called to order

Previous minutes approved without objection

NH and CT - why so late in getting back to us?

CT - Greens are on as of today; Andy Rule would be who they will notify for LP. Thrasher will follow up to check.

NH - Dunbar handling NH pickups from towns and delivering to SOS. Scheduled for Sept 2.

IA, MN on the ballot, no issues

VA - Certified for the ballot

RI - 850 turned into towns, 700 more in hand, 300 more in Darryl Bonner's possession - ongoing turn in with towns. No pickup and delivery to SOS, towns report them to SOS directly.

KY - campaign, national LP and state LP not all on the same page. Thrasher on his way to try to resolve these issues. About 7500 in hand. Validity is ongoing on the signatures collected thru national. Signatures in state party possession have not been validated. Morning of Sept 6 turn in to SOS. Expect Greens to turn in first. Need to be there early in the morning so Rocky does not come in ahead of LP also.

Committee report needs to be written at the end of the petition drives. Lessons learned, things to improve and or do more of. How to get more production earlier in the drives? Issues with transparency, explain why some of the discussions had to be secret. Look at policy manual for report requirements. How to deal better with substitution issues?

Next meeting Wednesday at 6:30

Adjourned

## **September 7, 2016**

Frankel, Winger absent

Agenda:

6:33 - Call to Order / Attendance

6:34 - Approval of meeting minutes of previous meeting (review below) - 1 minute

Marsh moves, Axinn seconds.

No objection

6:35 - State-by-state analysis - 25 minutes

Connecticut (Review - is substitution complete?)

deadline either friday or next wednesday. paperwork all looks good. submitted today 9/7

Kentucky (Review)

Pulled all-nighter on Monday night prepping; Frankel, Moellman, Thrasher and Capano (state chair).

Almost 13000 sigs submitted

Beat the Greens by 30 minutes - we keep dupes

250% of minimum in a number of challenge states

Keeps us safe

We're listed on the ballot.

Rhode Island

Over 700 confirmed

Another 800 delivered in last few days

Thrasher almost on-site to help with turn-in

Turn-in mostly finished Thursday, outskirts towns on Friday.

Deadline 4pm Friday at town clerks

Need to verify if pickup required.

One more filing required to put candidates on the ballot. The electors select the candidate. Deadline is later but will get finished this weekend.

6:45 - Any other new business

Last time 50+DC w/ same candidate was 1996.

Missouri electors -- not submitted yet?!?! -- working to get resolved before RI turn-in completed

Florida form problem??? There were some issues related to confusion swearing an oath that does not apply to pres/vp.

Hurricane caused website delay. Johnson/Weld certified on the state website.

6:50 - Scheduling of next meeting

Thursday, September 22nd at 6:30pm

6:52 - Adjournment

motion and second - 6:54pm

## September 22, 2016

On the call: Paul Frankel, Ed Marsh, Mark Axinn, Bob Johnston, Ken Moellman, Chris Thrasher

Previous meeting minutes approved without objection

NH electing electors this weekend. Question about CA but believed good. MO has til October 18. NH can only appoint the electors from late September til a week before the election.

PA issue with Johnson not being on some counties' absentee ballots (at least two counties known). Requests for written responses not answered. Axinn motion to recommend to LNC to engage counsel in this matter seconded by Marsh, passed 3-0 (Redpath and Winger absent). Moellman will call Sarwark.

Thrasher says there is information there may be foul play involved and that it may be more widespread.

Moellman will post the policy manual section about the committee's report.

Next meeting in 2 weeks, Thursday October 6 at 6:30 pm eastern.

## October 6, 2016

Moellman has joined.

Last weeks minutes approved without objection.

Ken getting info from LNC, JW16 and states on spending etc this past cycle.

Bill Redpath will prepare report for VA

Shooting for early November first draft 4 weeks before Inc meeting, thanksgiving weekend for final draft

514k spent by Inc. JW16 estimate 180-200k. Adding states, likely over 800k total in '15-'16.

16 states Inc spent money plus a few that were all-volunteer or done locally/JW.

Sense of urgency early in the drives needed. Especially making sure the petitions are put together as soon as allowed. How to guide needed. Adjustment to more competition and higher rates in petition business. paid management? varying opinions.

meeting again 2 wks, same time

Bill - VA gov race ballot access petitioning for next year, may ask LNC for loan

## October 20, 2016

Meeting skipped. Meetings will resume post-election on November 10th.

## November 10, 2016

All voting members on the call. Bob Johnston on. Thrasher not on yet.

Previous meeting minutes approved without objection.

Ken has been working on compiling report.

Richard Winger on where we stand:

Need to lobby to introduce ballot access improvement bills.

Thrasher now on the call.

12 states with no access. 38 plus DC have access for 2018.

**\*\*(\*exec session: legal discussion\*)\*\***

AL needs to fix ballot access law due to court ruling on special elections petitioning. State is appealing. We can try to put in a friendly amendment.

**Winger: Motion, ask national office to help get legislation in the states where we are not on; passes unanimously.**

Next meeting - next week same time

## November 17, 2016

Richard Winger planned absence. Ed Marsh also not on the call.

Meeting called to order.

Previous minutes approved without objection.

50 states plus DC in 2018 ...how would this work in VA given the main non-prez races are in 2017, and the US House petitions are separate?

Sharpe looking at LPNY Gov race. Axinn optimistic about retention from that.

Need info from Johnson campaign about their state by state spending.

Ken (mostly) and Paul working on committee report.

Frankel discussed in Alabama FB group how many people would be interested in running if we could get ballot access, lots of interest. Ken says he thinks that would be the case all over the country. Alabama laws are good in the respect that statewide access gives us access for all local and legislative partisan races up and down the ballot with no separate petitions for any offices.

Redpath: Discussion of thanking petitioners as a way to help keep them working with LP. Need to come up with a list.

Richard Winger (planned absence), via Redpath: work with Brad Smith to reform Ohio ballot access laws.



Ohio wants to finish by Dec '17 so they can do a primary. Redpath, Moellman working with LPOH chair Scott Pettigrew. They have a written plan. Redpath is helping look up post offices to see which ones have sidewalk access. Tennessee is also working on volunteer petitioning already. Axinn very skeptical of being able to work with Republicans in Ohio, Redpath tends to agree.

As far as "passing laws against faithless electors" is concerned, every state has done so — the state laws all have electors designated as bound to candidates. By definition, electors who do not act according to that law are breaking that law.

Wes Benedict joined call. ME needs to write letter clarifying whether they are a recognized party.

**\*\*exec: legal discussion\*\***

Prioritize the lobbying efforts....which states?

Next meeting Wed Nov 30 at 6 pm eastern.

SOS certification - notes and planning to keep this from becoming a problem in the future.

Adjourn without objection.

## **November 30, 2016**

Chris Thrasher joined. Carla Howell joined. Redpath, Axinn; Marsh planned absent. Moellman, Frankel on the call. Wes Benedict joined.

Minutes approved without objection

Many states not yet certified, so Ken is using numbers as of now

Thrasher is adding state by state Johnson spending to the report.

Most of the Johnson spending was on expenses and logistics of picking up and delivering signatures

Issues with petitioner evaluations getting leaked?

Most of the discussion this call was mostly internal to the committee to help each other out on how to fill out the report.

Add section on ballot access wins/retentions - forthcoming LP News article covers this; Richard has a report on this that can be moved towards the front. Comparison with 2011-2012?

WA ballot access in question. Possible lawsuit?

<http://ballot-access.org/2016/11/30/washington-secretary-of-state-wont-recognize-libertarian-party-after-all/> Earlier article

<http://ballot-access.org/2016/11/30/libertarian-party-becomes-qualified-party-in-washington/>

Maine retention is also unclear. OH, TN - interpretation of vote test issue as explained in past week(s) - TN has sent a letter for clarification to SOS. OH just got results certified.

Next meeting 5:30 eastern next Wednesday 12/7

## December 7th, 2016

On the call: Ed Marsh, Chris Thrasher, Ken Moellman, Paul Frankel, Bob Johnston, Mark Axinn

5:35 Previous minutes approved without objection

5:36 Old business

\* Committee Report

--- what's been added

----- Report re-arranged and format changes (1 state per page)

----- Chart completed

----- More content added from staff

--- what's left

----- Petitioner reviews - email sent requesting information

----- Non-petitioned state Johnson Results / Retain or Extend or no difference

----- Adding "what to do for 2017/2018" to states without access.

Discussion of what has been added to the report - Bob Johnston's chart, missing info, grid finished and used to fill in info  
Items in report rearranged

We have the info already, put it together with each state. What is required, what will it cost, etc. Arkansas needs to be done in 2017, hopefully some other states.

Bill Redpath joined.

5:42 New business

--- what to submit/publish (exec session for supplemental?)

Petitioner review and legal opportunity would be executive session

Ed Marsh: **[LEGAL REDACTED]**, contra report

--- when to submit/publish ("Before LNC Meeting" in policy manual)

Axinn: Thanks to Ken for the work on this report, committee

Moellman: and everyone else

5:50 Schedule next meeting

January - exact date to be set over email

5:57 Adjourn

Approval of report will be over email.

Adjourned without objection.