



Region 8 Report

Submitted on 09.23.2018 by Regional Representative Justin O'Donnell

Regional Representative: Justin O'Donnell

Regional Alternate: Jeff Lyons

Since the July Convention, the Region 8 states have been fully engrossed in preparing for and working towards the November Midterm Elections. Across the board we are seeing sustained growth in membership and volunteer activity, as well as record breaking numbers of Active Candidates, and even contested primary elections. Both Myself and Mr. Lyons have been actively participating in and supporting a number of campaigns, from local to federal, across the region. With everyone working so hard towards success this fall, we look forward to continuing to see Region 8 grow, and Break records across the board in this November's Elections.

-Justin O'Donnell

Massachusetts:

The Libertarian Association of Massachusetts is hosting its annual convention on October 13th, at the MGM Casino in Springfield Massachusetts. They have a robust lineup of speakers, and are expecting guests from all over New England to join them for the day.

Following the Primary election, Massachusetts will have 2 major campaigns on the General Election Ballot in November, Daniel Fishman is running for State Auditor, and Mark Mercier is running for Governor's Council.

New Hampshire:

The LPNH held a special Business Convention in July to finish debate and adoption of new bylaws and platform first introduced at the April 2018 Convention. A.J. Olding was elected to fill a vacancy in the state's executive committee, and the convention Hosted the First ever

Libertarian Gubernatorial Debate for New Hampshire. Following the Convention, the Contested Primaries for the LP drew modest media coverage, including interviews for Both candidates for Governor with Television and Radio outlets.

After the 9/11 Primary Election, both contested Primaries were Settled, with Jillette Jarvis defeating Aaron Day by a slim Margin for the Governor Race, and Justin O'Donnell defeating Tom Alciere with 75% of the Vote for the 2nd Congressional District. Of Note during the Primary was the record breaking voter turnout, where LPNH Had voter turnout exceeding 300% of its previous voter registration totals, and over double the Secretary of State's predictions regarding the vote totals.

Of concern during the Primary were reports of voter suppression and negligence of poll workers denying voters the opportunity to take Libertarian ballots, and at least one ward running out of Libertarian Ballots as the state did not print enough to accommodate the turnout.

Following the Primary, LPNH was given the opportunity to nominate people to fill vacancies on the ballot, and found several additional candidates to round out their ballot presence. Of note during this round of nominations, was the Loser of the Governor primary, Aaron Day, graciously accepting the Nomination for County Sheriff to continue campaigning and helping to build LPNH while Supporting the winning Ticket.

Maine:

Since Convention, LPME has continued its grassroots fundraising efforts through hosting a series of raffles and public outreach. Information is available on the LPME Website about their ongoing raffles and fundraising efforts to help re secure ballot access for 2020.

Connecticut:

LPCT, with the aid of the LNC, was able to complete a last minute petition drive to secure ballot access for their candidate for governor. While ultimately successful, the drive was marred by roadblocks due to government officials and police prohibiting the exercise of petitioning rights for LPCT in Public forums. LPCT Chair Dan Reale responded to these issues by pressing suit against the responsible parties for a civil settlement, and as last reported LPCT was offered a sizeable settlement in response to the suppression of their 1st Amendment Rights.

New Jersey:

LPNJ Continues to work in support of the Murray Sabrin Campaign for US Senate, where their candidate has received the endorsement of Former US Congressman and LP Presidential Candidate Ron Paul. The ongoing issue facing the Sabrin Campaign is exclusion from public debates in New Jersey.

Vermont:

No Information submitted for this report from LPVT.

New York:

Following challenges to petitions, LPNY Candidate for Governor Larry Sharpe successfully secured a place on the November General Election Ballot. The Sharpe team has been running

an active, and professional statewide campaign poised to break records for vote totals and success of LP Candidates at that Level. Larry has partaken in numerous Media appearances podcasts and radio shows, though is still largely ignored by the establishment parties regardless of his large grassroots support and growing base of volunteers and donors. The LPNY is fully involved at every level of the Sharpe campaign, as well as numerous other smaller campaigns throughout the state, and is fully expecting to achieve major party status as a result of their efforts this year.

Rhode Island:

New to region 8 following the 2018 Election, Rhode Island till lacks recognition as a Major Party, and does not have ballot access in the state. Regardless of these Hurdles, The LPRI is still growing and running several candidates for state house and nonpartisan city offices in the Providence area to promote the Libertarian Brand.