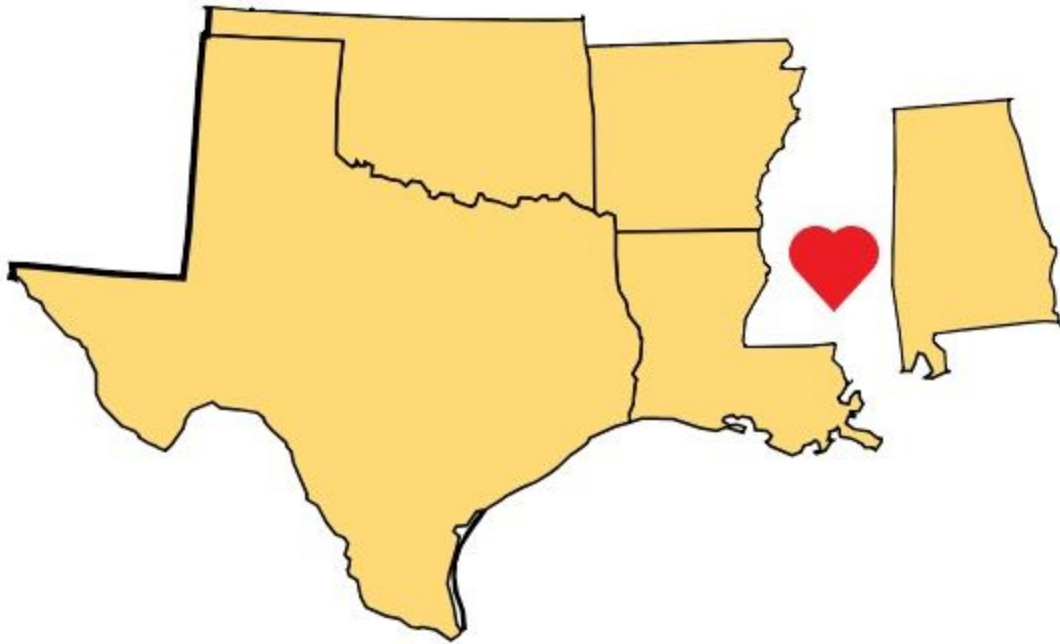


Libertarian National Committee Region 7

Region Representative - Whitney Bilyeu

Region Alternate - Erin Adams



March 9-10, 2019

ALEXANDRIA, VA

❖ ALABAMA - Laura Lane

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

- Chair: Laura Lane
- Vice Chair: Ron Bishop
- Secretary: Laura Whitfield
- Treasurer: Scott Hammond
- Region 1: Noah Rhys
- Region 2: Zane Johnson
- Region 3: Ashley Jennings
- Region 4: Anthony Peebles
- At Large: Richard Fast
- At Large: J. Dillon Mabrey

➤ COUNTY NEWS

- Pike County has successfully started a college group at Troy University.

➤ ELECTIONS

- Currently, the city of Montgomery will have City Council elections in 2019; we have one candidate, Ernest Claybon, declared for Dist 3. He will be up against a long time Democrat incumbent.

➤ BALLOT ACCESS

- Ballot access for 2020 is going to be even more difficult due to the higher voter turnout for the gubernatorial race. Valid signature requirement has increased to approx. 56,000. Funding, at this time, will not allow for much in the way of paid signature gatherers.

➤ EVENTS

- 2019 Convention - March 22 - 24 in Auburn
- LPA has joined with the Constitution Party, Common Sense Campaign, Young Americans for Liberty, Conservative Coalition, and other groups to protest the proposed gas tax hike on March 2nd at the state capitol. Response has been fantastic!

Alabama NORML, CannaBama, and the LPA will be sharing a table for outreach on Joe Cain Day (March 3rd) of Mardi Gras celebrations in Mobile.

➤ FINANCE/FUNDRAISING

- We are investigating hiring fundraisers from outside of the LPA, along with other avenues, to raise money for ballot access, amongst other things.

➤ MEDIA

- News of our lawsuit against the State over access to the voter registration list was picked up by AL.com, LegalNewsOnline.com, ALToday.com, BamaPolitics.com, ALReporter.com, Reddit.com, Ballot-Access.org, and a couple small local newspapers.

➤ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Have recruited a new IT person to manage transitioning to the StateCRM Project.

➤ OTHER

- On Jan 27th, the LPA filed suit against the state claiming discrimination over access to the voter registration list; specifically, Ds and Rs get the list several times per year for free, while minor parties and independents must pay one cent per name (\$34,000). On Feb 19th, the State filed a motion to dismiss stating failure to file a claim. With the advice of Richard Winger and legal counsel, David Schoen, we will continue pushing forward with this suit. Our current Exec Comm envisions this as the first step to challenging the ballot access requirements of this state.
- Pike County officers, Richard Fast and Logan Mike Wetzel, were recently elected to the Student Council at Troy University.

❖ **ARKANSAS - Michael Pakko**

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

- Chair - Michael Pakko
Vice-Chair - Christopher Olson
Secretary - Brooke Million
Treasurer - Stephen Wait

➤ STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

- As of Feb 1, our membership is 151, up from 138 on Dec 1, 2018.
 - 85 pay dues directly to the LPAR
 - 91 are members for paying dues to national over the past 12 months

- 25 are in both categories.

➤ BALLOT ACCESS

- The state legislature just passed SB163, which raises the petition signature requirement from 10,000 to 3% of the last gubernatorial vote (approximately 27,000). The new standard is beyond our reach. We are taking steps to challenge the constitutionality of the new law, and will be petitioning in the expectation of prevailing in that lawsuit. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
 - More information about the issue (and links to editorials supporting the LP): <https://lpar.org/no-on-sb163/>

➤ FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

- We're presently wrapping up a matching-fund drive. A generous donor has offered \$5000 in matching funds. As of 2/25, we're at \$4,226.
- We have also engaged a professional fundraiser to help us raise the rest of the funding necessary for our ballot access plans. Legal fees are a new expense we need to account for.

➤ EVENTS

- We will be launching a lawsuit in federal court at the same time we begin petitioning. Our contention is that SB163 was unconstitutional, and we will be seeking an injunction to force the Secretary of State to accept 10,000 valid signatures as sufficient.

➤ MEDIA

- Media has been very supportive as we face legislation designed to restrict our access to the ballot. Most prominent, "Ain't-broke Don't-Fix" in the Democrat-Gazette, the statewide paper of record.
- <https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/jan/31/ain-t-broke-don-t-fix-20190131>
- See also the other links at <https://lpar.org/no-on-sb163/>

❖ LOUISIANA - Rufus Craig

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

- Vice Chair - Mike Dodd. Secretary - Shannon Sloan. Treasurer - Charles Fotsch

➤ MEMBERSHIP

- Approximately 25 active members of state central committee
- 12 parishes with active committees

➤ ELECTIONS

- We have set a goal to have 100 candidates on the ballot for the October elections.
- All state legislative and executive offices are on the ballot.

➤ FINANCE/FUNDRAISING

- We have ten recurring donors that total about \$500 a month, and another \$300 to \$500 in one time donations.
- We sent our Treasurer to FEC training, in case we, or any of our candidates, become FEC filers.

➤ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- We now have a template website for candidates, and are implementing the CRM program.

❖ **OKLAHOMA - Erin Adams**

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

- Officers are Erin Adams (Chair), Christina Wright (Vice Chair), Chad Williams (Treasurer), and Traci Baker (secretary).

➤ ELECTIONS

- Chad Williams, our treasurer has an upcoming election. He is running for Choctaw city council

➤ BALLOT ACCESS

- Secure at this time

➤ EVENTS

- Convention March 30

➤ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- New website up and running

❖ **TEXAS - John Wilford**

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

- Treasurer - Cassie Villela, Vice Chair - Steven Harris, Secretary - Gary Johnson

➤ COUNTY NEWS

- Affiliating new counties at a healthy rate, approaching our previous affiliation record with expectations to surpass it by the next state convention.

➤ ELECTIONS

- Several non-partisan candidates are working with their counties toward wins in city council and mayoral elections.

➤ ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

- Lege session is happening now, so we've got a couple lege days planned to influence bills toward liberty

➤ OTHER

- Getting ready to switch out website to national branding, should be happening week of March 18.