

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

MIKE URBEN; ANDRAE DEHAAN; and  
ARYN SCHLOEMER,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN  
PARTY,

Defendant.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLAINT

Jury Trial Demanded

### INTRODUCTION

1. “A free society demands an honest and accurate election process,” the North Carolina Republican Party (the “NCGOP” or “Party”) recognizes in its 2022 platform. (Ex. A attached at 8.) “Our laws and policies at every level of government should ensure that elections are conducted with absolute fairness and integrity, regardless of party registration, race, or socio-economic resources.” (*Id.*) According to purported NCGOP Chair Michael Whatley, “there are few issues more important than election integrity and the need to restore trust in our elections.” Michael Whatley, *NC voters deserve the confidence of basic ballot protections*, North State Journal, June 30, 2022, <https://nsjonline.com/article/2022/06/whatley-nc-voters-deserve-the-confidence-of-basic-ballot-protections/>.

2. On March 17, 2022, in an address to the Hoke County Republican Party Convention, Chair Whatley explained precisely what he meant by election integrity. Describing the Party’s efforts in the run-up to the 2022 election cycle, Mr. Whatley proclaimed that “in North Carolina [and] around the country we have to protect the ballot, we have got to make sure

that the votes are legal and that they are counted correctly.” *NC GOP Chairman Michael Whatley speaks at Hoke GOP Convention*, Hoke County Republican Party, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Jg22hJWmW8> (beginning at 9:21 mark). Mr. Whatley recognized that “there are two key components to election integrity that you just have to have—90 percent of election integrity comes down to having machines that do not and cannot connect with the internet, that have a paper ballot so that you can go back and do audits, and are made in the USA, and you have to have the Republican attorneys and observers in the room.” *Id.*

3. For four days in June 2023, the North Carolina Republican Party held its 2023 State Convention (the “Convention”) in Greensboro. The Convention is where top party officials are supposed to be elected. The Party previously established rules and guardrails for voting at the Convention. The NCGOP violated those rules, launching a mobile phone application which allowed votes to be cast from outside the Convention floor in the contested Chair election. The Chair election and the app failed both of Mr. Whatley’s “key components for election integrity”—the Party conducted the vote over the Internet and failed to use paper ballots making an audit impossible. The Chair election votes, to use Mr. Whatley’s words, were neither “legal” in that they didn’t comply with the Party’s own voting rules, nor were they “counted correctly.” To make matters even worse, the Party improperly adjourned without holding an election for Vice Chair, re-installing the incumbent for an additional two-year term. Plaintiffs—loyal Republicans all—and others have asked for answers regarding what happened in Greensboro but have only been stonewalled.

4. Faced with no other choice, Plaintiffs bring this lawsuit to get the NCGOP to follow its own rules. The record is clear—the Party repeatedly violated its own Plan of Organization and Convention Rules during the 2023 Convention. The NCGOP is not *The*

*Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. North Carolina courts have consistently required private associations of less public significance than the NCGOP to follow their own rules and governing policies. This case is not about substantive policy questions, but rather whether the Party met its election integrity commitments in its own operations. Under North Carolina’s Uniform Unincorporated Associations Act, this Court has authority to grant the relief Plaintiffs are seeking here.

5. With a presidential primary election less than one year away, ensuring the legitimacy of the NCGOP’s leadership is important not just to Plaintiffs or North Carolina Republicans, but all North Carolinians and even all Americans. The Party Chair has a significant role to play in the primary, as the person responsible for submitting candidate lists and receiving vote certifications. It is in everyone’s interest, including the NCGOP’s, to address what happened in Greensboro at the 2023 Convention. A new leadership election, which the NCGOP’s Plan of Organization contemplates, is the only path forward.

#### **PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE**

6. Plaintiff Mike Urben is a resident of Wake County. He is a member of the NCGOP and was a delegate to the 2023 NCGOP Convention who paid \$75 to participate.

7. Plaintiff Andrae DeHaan is a resident of Surry County. She is a member of the NCGOP and was a delegate to the 2023 NCGOP Convention who paid \$75 to participate.

8. Plaintiff Aryn Schloemer is a resident of Guilford County. She is a member of the NCGOP and was a delegate to the 2023 NCGOP Convention who paid \$75 to participate.

9. Defendant North Carolina Republican Party or NCGOP is an unincorporated nonprofit association subject to North Carolina’s enactment of the Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 59B-1 to 59B-15. The NCGOP maintains an

office at 1506 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27605, making the party a resident of Wake County. *See* N.C. Gen. Stat. § 59B-13.

10. This is an action for a declaratory judgment and injunctive relief pursuant to North Carolina’s enactment of the Declaratory Judgment Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-253 to 1-267.

11. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this case under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7A-243 because the value of the nonmonetary relief sought exceeds \$25,000.

12. Venue is proper in this Court under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1-82 because the NCGOP is a resident of Wake County.

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

### **I. The North Carolina Republican Party’s Plan of Organization and Governance of Political Conventions**

13. According to the NCGOP’s Plan of Organization (the “Plan”), adopted in 2022 and amended on March 5, 2023, the party exists “for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum power and efficiency.” (Ex. B attached at 6.) The party is a creation of its members, who made it “conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights.” (*Id.*) Further, “[a]ll citizens of North Carolina who are registered Republicans are members of the Republican Party of North Carolina and shall have the right to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party in accordance with these rules.” (*Id.*)

14. The NCGOP’s State Executive Committee sets the Party’s agenda. The Executive Committee “shall formulate and provide for the execution of such plans and measures as it may deem conducive to the best interests of the Republican Party” and has “supreme management of all affairs of the Party within the State.” (*Id.* at 17.) The Executive Committee includes, among other officials, the party Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer. (*See id.* at 14, 16.)

15. The Plan of Organization addresses the NCGOP's annual convention, which is where the Party's State Chair and Vice Chair are elected. In this regard, the Plan provides that "[i]n every odd-numbered year, the State Convention shall elect a State Chairman and a Vice Chairman who shall serve for a term of 2 years or *until their successors are elected.*" (*Id.* at 25 (emphasis added).) The Plan authorizes additional rules regarding the operation of the Party's various conventions. (*See id.* at 41.) The State Convention is to be run according to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. (*Id.*)

16. The Plan creates an Arbitration Committee, which exists to hear "[c]ontroversies in any County or District with respect to the organizations set up therein under this Plan." (*Id.*) Relevant here, under the plain language of the Plan, the Arbitration Committee's oversight does not include disputes arising out of the State Convention.

17. Just prior to the State Convention, the Rules Committee for the 2023 NCGOP State Convention released the Convention Rules (the "Rules"), which were later adopted on June 9, 2023, at the State Convention. The Rules exist "to provide for a fair and open Convention in a manner that facilitates the business of the Convention, respects the rights of the majority and minority, and encourages full participation by all Republican Delegates." (Ex. C attached at 2.)

18. The Rules specifically address voting. For a quorum to exist to conduct business and elect officers, "a majority of the accredited and registered Delegates as certified by the Committee on Credentials" and must be "present on the floor of the Convention." (*Id.*) Related, though the Rules allow for voting by "electronic ballot," they bar proxy voting and require "Delegates casting a vote [to] be present on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast." (*Id.*)

**II. Marked by irregularities, the NCGOP Convention ends without electing a Vice Chair, shattering Plaintiffs' confidence in the Party's leadership.**

19. The 2023 NCGOP Convention was held for four days at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina, from Thursday, June 8, through Sunday, June 11. (Ex. D attached.) Rule 6 of the Convention provides that “[t]he order of business of the Convention shall be published as in the Convention Agenda.” (Ex. C attached at 4.) Consistent with Rule 6, the meeting agenda included three business sessions, a session starting at 2 PM ET on Friday, June 9, and two other sessions on Saturday, June 10, a morning session starting at 9 AM ET and an afternoon session beginning at 2 PM ET. (Ex. D at 2-3.)

20. During the June 10 morning business session, the State Convention was supposed to receive a “Report from the Platform Committee” and a “Report from the Plan of Organization Committee.” (*Id.* at 2.) Neither of these items were taken up during that session and they were carried over to the afternoon session. However, at the 2 PM ET afternoon session, a motion was made to move forward with the election of the NCGOP’s Officers, and neither of these items were ever addressed. Under Rule 14 of the Convention Rules, a departure from the Convention agenda required a “two-thirds vote,” but no such vote took place. (Ex. C at 6.)

21. In defiance of Rule 14 and the Party’s published agenda, the NCGOP moved forward with officer elections anyway—at least for some positions. Again, the Party’s Plan of Organization requires that “[i]n every odd-numbered year, the State Convention *shall elect* a State Chairman and a Vice-Chairman who shall serve for a term of 2 years *or until their successors are elected.*” (Ex. B attached at 25 (emphasis added).)

22. But the Convention never voted on the Vice Chair. The NCGOP adjourned the June 10 afternoon business session on the grounds that no quorum existed without any vote on the Vice Chair. Rule 7 of the Convention Rules provides that “[a] quorum for all business transactions *and the election of officers* shall consist of a majority of the accredited and

registered Delegates as certified by the Committee on Credentials *and present on the floor of the Convention.*” (Ex. C attached at 4 (emphasis added).) This provision could be read in one of two ways.

23. *First*, because only delegates present on the floor have the right to vote under Convention Rule 9.D, a quorum would exist to the extent *any* accredited and registered Delegate was on the Convention floor. Under this interpretation, the Convention Chair had no basis to adjourn the June 10 afternoon business session.

24. The *second* way to read this language is that there is a quorum, provided “a majority” of the “accredited and registered Delegates” attending the Convention are on the Convention Floor. But even this interpretation does not support the NCGOP’s conduct in this case.

25. Relevant here, the NCGOP Committee on Credentials has represented that 1,696 delegates registered for the Convention and picked up their credentials. This 1,696 delegate count is likely a substantial overcount of the delegates present during the entirety of the Convention.

26. Even under this interpretation of Convention Rule 7, if there were more than 849 delegates on the Convention floor, then a quorum existed, and the Convention should have elected the Party’s Vice Chair. According to the NCGOP’s own figures, there were 901 delegates present on the Convention Floor, more than enough for a quorum. To support his decision to adjourn the session, the Convention Chair must have used 1,864 as the denominator for his quorum calculation, the total number of delegates accredited and registered in the entire State, not the “accredited and registered Delegates certified by the Committee on Credentials *and present on the floor of the Convention,*” as Rule 7 requires. The June 10 afternoon business

session should have moved forward, and the Vice Chair election should have proceeded, but the NCGOP violated its own Convention Rules. The Party also violated Robert's Rules of Order by departing from the published agenda and failing to order a recess with the possibility of reconvening later.

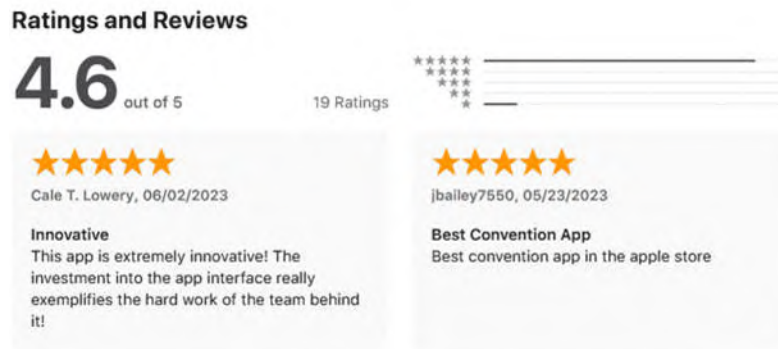
27. The primary challenger for the NCGOP Vice Chair position dropped out of the race the following day, Sunday, June 11. With the afternoon business session improperly closed, grassroots Plaintiffs lacked any ability to propose an alternate candidate for Vice Chair, which Plaintiffs had the right to do under Convention Rule 10. (*Id.* at 6.)

28. On June 15, the Party's Plan of Organization Committee met and considered whether to order a special election because the Party's Vice Chair was not elected at the State Convention. Instead of allowing Party members to vote on their Vice Chair in accordance with the Plan of Organization, the NCGOP decided to reinstall Susan Mills for an additional two-year term. That is a blatant violation of the Party's Plan of Organization, which limits Ms. Mills' term to two years "or until [her] successor[] [is] elected." (Ex. B at 25 (emphasis added).) The Party's website contains outdated language regarding Ms. Mills, proclaiming that she "is the newly elected Vice Chairwoman of the North Carolina Republican Party." (Ex. E attached). To the contrary, NCGOP insiders selected Ms. Mills to serve an additional two years, behind closed doors, without debate on the Convention floor, and without a vote.

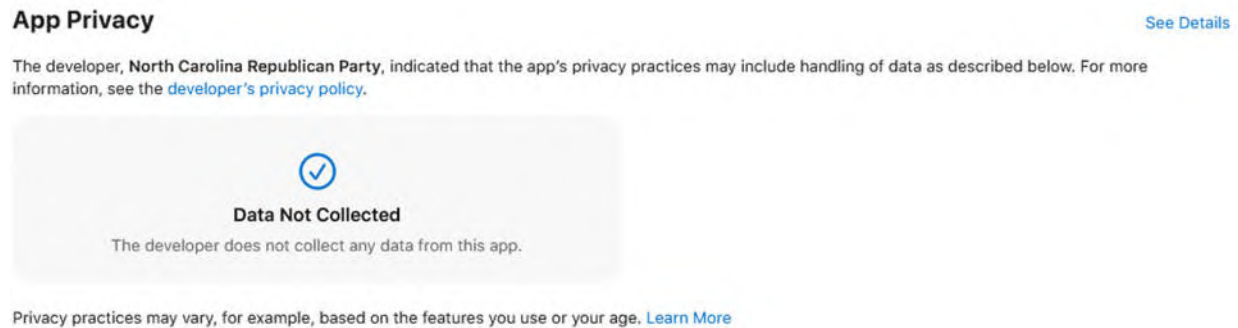
29. The selection, rather than the election, of a Vice Chair is but one failing in the 2023 NCGOP Convention. Convention Rule 9C bars proxy voting. (Ex. C at 5.) Convention Rule 9D provides that "[d]elegates casting a vote must on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast." (*Id.*) Convention Rule 11 bars guests from the Convention floor and from "attempt[ing] to vote on or speak to any matter before the Convention." (*Id.* at 6.)



30. For the 2023 NCGOP Convention, the Party’s leadership commissioned the creation of an online app, which Convention attendees could download from, amongst other platforms, Apple’s App Store. The app would be the mechanism through which delegates like Plaintiffs would vote for the NCGOP’s leadership. Before the application was ever even put to the test for voting in an actual Convention, positive reviews were already rolling in. On May 23, 2023, one reviewer wrote that the NCGOP’s app was the “[b]est convention app in the apple store.” (Ex. F attached at 2.) Another five-star reviewer called the app “extremely innovative.” (*Id.*) The two reviews which, upon information and belief, were created by NCGOP employees, are shown below.



31. As shown below, the NCGOP “does not collect any data from this app.” (*Id.*) With this label, the NCGOP was necessarily admitting the app did not track user location.



Given this, how could the app detect whether a delegate was on the floor? Answer: the app could not and did not track a delegate's location. The "developer's privacy policy" referenced above contains a hyperlink to [www.ncgopconvention.org/pages/privacy](http://www.ncgopconvention.org/pages/privacy), but that link redirects users to the [www.ncgopconvention.org](http://www.ncgopconvention.org) website which shows a picture of Greensboro's skyline with an announcement that "The convention is over!"

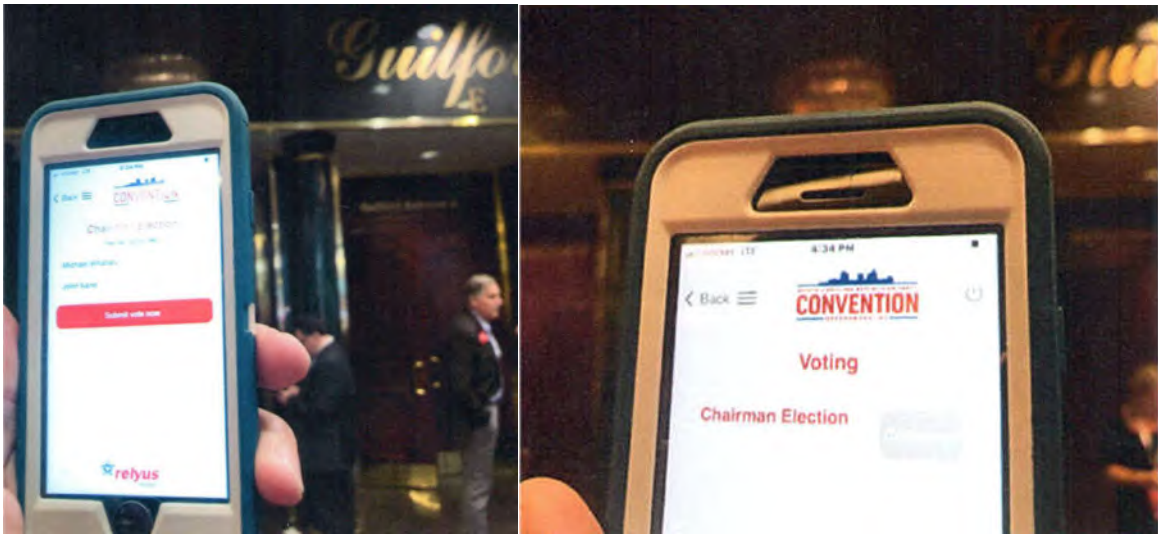
32. The NCGOP's Credentials Committee knew of the app's limitations. The morning of June 10, the same day as the NCGOP Officer election, the Committee met for one hour behind closed doors at the Koury Center. During the meeting, the NCGOP's Joshua Bailey confirmed that the app could not prevent delegates from voting outside the Convention Floor. Upon information and belief, Mr. Bailey is jbailey7550, one of the app's five-star reviewers. Far from allowing the Party's members to engage in a transparent vote, the design flaw in the NCGOP's app allowed users to end-run the Convention Rules on in-person, on-floor voting.

33. Unsurprisingly, multiple voters exploited this design flaw, evidenced by the following:

a. During the June 10 afternoon session, Courtney Geels, a delegate from Durham County, alerted the Convention Chair that she had evidence of two delegates who had voted from Wisconsin and Wilmington, North Carolina. The Convention Chair told Ms. Geels to take the evidence to the Convention "help desk."

b. Convention guest Alison Dunlap cast a vote using the app off the Convention floor, from the lobby of the Koury Center. Even though she was a Convention guest barred from voting, and she was not on the Convention floor when she cast a ballot, Ms. Dunlap received a confirmation from the app that she had successfully voted in the NCGOP Chair race.

c. Jay DeLancy, a Convention guest who was locked out of the Convention floor during voting, witnessed two registered delegates who were also locked out of the Convention Floor, vote from the mobile app from the lobby of the Koury Center. One of the delegates who voted remotely received the following confirmation:



34. Upon information and belief, other delegates cast votes who were not present on the Convention Floor or who were not present at the Koury Center entirely. At a minimum, these represent serial, material violations of Convention Rule 9.D.

35. Convention Rule 13 provides that Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised apply to the conduct of the Convention. Robert's Rules of Order provide for electronic voting to facilitate roll-call voting, not to facilitate remote voting. So not only did the NCGOP violate Convention Rule 9.D, the Party also violated Robert's Rules.

36. The Convention's commitment to the app was selective. Convention Rule 9.A provides that "[v]oting shall be conducted, at the discretion of the Convention Chair, by electronic ballot, voice vote or by the standing of the Delegates." (Ex. C at 5.) The use of the disjunctive "or" in this manner means the Convention Chair was obligated to choose one and

only one of these three voting methods. Instead, the Convention Chair used the app for the Chair race while employing other voting methods for less consequential votes.

37. Other irregularities emerged. One delegate, North Carolina House of Representatives Member Ben Moss, from Richmond County, voted for John Kane for NCGOP Chair, but all votes cast from Richmond County were reported for Mr. Whatley. Delegations from three other counties, Alexander, Avery, and Durham, all reported casting more votes than those counties had delegated. While the Convention Chair disallowed those votes, the reporting raises additional questions regarding the integrity of the vote.

38. Despite the many noted irregularities, and a delegate on the Convention Floor even moving to overturn the Party Chair election results, this motion was quickly determined to be out of order by the Convention Chairman, and Mr. Whatley emerged victorious.

39. These are not academic issues for Plaintiffs, all of whom “have the right to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party.” (Ex. B at 6.) At the very least, the NCGOP’s Vice Chair is sitting in a position of power having not been elected in accordance with the Party’s Plan of Organization and the State Convention Rules. The current NCGOP Chair was elected through a process that defied the on-floor, in-person voting requirements set out in the State Convention Rules, calling the Party leadership’s legitimacy into question, much less the NCGOP’s own public pronouncements regarding election integrity.

40. When Plaintiffs and others asked for answers, the NCGOP avoided providing transparency and accountability. Left with no other choice, Plaintiffs are bringing this action to get answers and to set the house of the Party they love in order.

## **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

### **COUNT I DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

41. Plaintiffs reallege the foregoing paragraphs.
42. Plaintiffs have the right to participate in the official affairs of the NCGOP.
43. There is an actual controversy regarding the conduct of the 2023 NCGOP Convention.
44. During the 2023 NCGOP Convention, the Party violated its Plan of Organization and Convention Rules in at least the following ways:
  - a. Failing to conduct all the business provided for in the NCGOP Convention agenda;
  - b. Adjourning the June 10 afternoon business session even though a quorum existed;
  - c. Failing to elect, and then effectively reinstalling the NCGOP Vice Chair for an additional two years;
  - d. Designing and deploying an online application that would allow voters to circumvent the Convention Rules;
  - e. Allowing and counting votes cast for NCGOP Chair by delegates who were not present on the floor of the Convention;
  - f. Disregarding valid votes in counties that registered more votes than delegates present on the floor of the Convention; and
  - g. Using multiple methods of tabulating votes in defiance of the Convention Rules.

45. Because of the NCGOP's multiple, material failures to follow the Party's Plan of Organization and Convention Rules, the results of the 2023 NCGOP Convention are null and void.

46. Plaintiffs suffered and continue to suffer injury on account of the NCGOP's violation of its own rules.

47. The issues raised herein are justiciable.

**COUNT II  
BREACH OF CONTRACT**

48. Plaintiffs reallege the foregoing paragraphs.

49. Plaintiffs each paid \$75 to attend and participate in the 2023 NCGOP convention as delegates.

50. The NCGOP's Plan of Organization, Convention Rules, and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, form the terms of a contract between the NCGOP and Plaintiffs.

51. Plaintiffs abided by their obligations under the terms of its contract with the NCGOP.

52. As alleged above, the NCGOP violated the terms of its contract with Plaintiffs in the conduct of the 2023 NCGOP Convention.

53. Plaintiffs suffered damages.

**JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully pray that this Court:

A. Enters a declaration that the election results of the 2023 NCGOP Convention are null and void given the Party's violations of its Plan of Organization, Convention Rules, and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised;

B. Enters a declaration that the NCGOP violated its Plan of Organization and Convention Rules by not completing all the business on its published agenda;

C. Enters a declaration that the NCGOP's de facto appointment of Susan Mills to the position as Vice Chair is null and void;

D. Enters a declaration that the results of the election for NCGOP Chair are null and void given that the NCGOP's app allowed for off-the-Convention-floor voting in violation of the Convention Rules and that such voting did take place;

E. Enters a declaration that the use of multiple voting methods during the 2023 GOP Convention violated the Party's Plan of Organization, Convention Rules, and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised;

F. Orders the NCGOP to conduct a special election regarding all matters on which this Court finds the Party did not abide by its Plan of Organization, Convention Rules, and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised;

G. Award any other relief to Plaintiffs which this Court deems necessary and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023.

/s/ James R. Lawrence, III  
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EXHIBIT A



# 2022 Platform

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**North Carolina  
Republican Party**

EXHIBIT A

**2022 PLATFORM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Julie Scott Emmons, Chair

Beth Capillary, 1<sup>st</sup> District

Don Payne, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Steven Rader, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

Evelyn Poole-Kober, 4<sup>th</sup> District

Heather Ward, 5<sup>th</sup> District

Connie Baker, 6<sup>th</sup> District

Kathryn Lawler, 7<sup>th</sup> District

Jennifer Dunbar, 8<sup>th</sup> District

Harold Mendelson, 9<sup>th</sup> District

Leisa Rowe (Secretary), 10<sup>th</sup> District

John Anglin, 11<sup>th</sup> District

Ashley Bookout, 12<sup>th</sup> District

Brandon Tucker, 13<sup>th</sup> District

Julie Scott Emmons, At Large

Kevin Austin, At Large

Addul Ali, At Large

EXHIBIT A  
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# EXHIBIT A

## **PREAMBLE**

Ronald Reagan once said that, “America is too great for small dreams.” Throughout this great nation, people from all walks of life have dreamed of freedom, opportunity, and the chance to leave this world a better place for the next generation. The North Carolina Republican Party unequivocally defends that dream.

We are the party of individuals and the institutions they create together—families, schools, congregations, neighborhoods—to advance their ideals and realize their dreams. We are the party that encourages equality for all citizens and embraces the inherent value of every single human being God creates—born and unborn. We are the party that defends the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and safeguards religious institutions against government control. We reaffirm the Constitution’s fundamental principles: limited government, separation of powers, individual liberty, and the rule of law. As a Party, we denounce bigotry, racism, sexism, anti-semitism, ethnic prejudice, and religious intolerance. We recognize God—not government—as the Author of these principles. We are the party that stands strong against tyranny and will fight at home and abroad to protect the lives and fundamental liberties of all people. We are the party of a growing economy that gives everyone—regardless of background—a chance in life, an opportunity to learn, work and realize the prosperity that is made possible by the freedom we hold dear.

The Republican Party is committed to the values and ideals that are the true greatness of America, and we gladly join together to fight for justice, secure the blessings of liberty, and provide true opportunity and hope for generations to come.

## EXHIBIT A

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### ARTICLE I. FAMILY

1. Our nation's strength lies with the family. It is the first school of discipline, responsibility, and good citizenship. Economic strength is the foundation of the United States' greatness. We support free markets, fair trade, and capitalist principles at home and around the world. We support free and fair trade, with allied trading partners, for North Carolina industries that seek business in the global marketplace. Threats to our economic strength should be met with sound, market-based policies designed to enhance individual rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness.
2. Traditional marriage and family, based on marriage between one man and one woman, is the foundation for a civil society. The success of marriage may impact the economic well-being of individuals. Furthermore, we support actions to return marriage laws to the states; therefore, we support the marriage amendment as part of the North Carolina constitution and encourage all efforts to defend it. We recognize and honor the courageous efforts of those who bear the many burdens of parenting alone, even as we affirm our support for traditional marriage.
3. We affirm the authority of parental rights over their children's welfare from conception to emancipation. We support laws that require written, notarized consent for all medical treatments such as but not limited to vaccinations, immunizations, mental health treatments of minor children, drug and alcohol treatment, and counseling and services related to immunizations, contraceptives, pregnancy, abortion, sexual orientation and/or gender identity issues. Government, however, should protect children from abuse and neglect, balancing parental rights with the protection of a child's health and safety.
4. We support efforts to make adoptions in North Carolina easier to access. We believe that children, when adopted in a "forever home," have the best chances for success in life. We applaud foster parents for their dedication and urge our state to ensure that the foster care system is efficient and puts the best interests of the child first. Supports should be provided for young adults as they transition out of the foster care system.

## EXHIBIT A

### ARTICLE II. THE ECONOMY

1. We support capitalism as the main economic system in the United States and will continue to ensure that this country does not become a socialist or communist nation.
2. We support free market solutions for societal issues, which provide the most efficient use of our resources. We support an individual's ability to choose market-based solutions to retirement, utilities, health care and insurance, worker's rights, or any goods and services. We believe health savings and retirement accounts should be encouraged and free of taxation.
3. Recognizing that wealth creation is the product of human enterprise, the free enterprise system is the most effective and just economic system in the world. It creates opportunity, rewards self-reliance and hard work, and unleashes productivity that other societies can only imagine. It is an engine of charity, making America the most philanthropic nation on earth. Government should encourage honest, productive work through elimination of both gratuitous regulations and excessive taxation.
4. Economic freedom is essential to human liberty and dignity. It preserves the inherent right to liberty and ownership of private property. To protect this inherent right, government must provide an environment for individual initiative and enterprise. We support encouraging economic growth through reduced regulation and taxation, and we oppose corporate favoritism.
5. Government should tax only to raise money for its constitutional functions. We support a thorough review of expenditures each year, and we support a taxpayer's bill of rights. We support a federal and state balanced budget. We support the continuation of reforming the tax code to encourage economic growth that moves toward a system that taxes the broadest possible base of economic activity at the lowest possible rates.
6. We believe that capital gains, which are necessary for employment growth, should not be taxed as ordinary income. We believe dividend distributions should not be taxed, as that constitutes a double taxation on income.
7. Our nation's economic security depends on reliable and affordable energy. We support developing energy sources within the parameters of market forces. We support the elimination of mandated renewable energy quotas and subsidies that artificially raise energy costs or taxes. We support federal revenue sharing with those states directly affected by offshore exploration and development in federal waters.
8. We support agriculture, agribusiness, and commercial fishing as driving forces in North Carolina's economy. We support legislation to uphold these economic forces from burdensome and frivolous lawsuits and regulations.

## EXHIBIT A

9. We acknowledge that many North Carolina communities are underserved as to their health care needs. We support easing regulations and major reforms to Certificate of Need laws, as they can stifle competition, increase cost, and negatively impact health outcomes.

### ARTICLE III. INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

1. Liberty is founded upon a belief in the inherent dignity of the human person and recognition that individuals possess God-given inherent rights including, but not limited to: the right to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness. The fundamental role of government is to protect those inherent rights as recognized in our Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution, including its Bill of Rights, and the North Carolina Constitution, and its Declaration of Rights.
2. We support the free exercise of religion by all Americans. We oppose any restriction on the free exercise of religion such as removing prayer from governmental activities or name of God or similar terms from our public documents and institutions. We oppose any attempt of government to establish a state religion, or to foster one religion over another. We oppose any governmental coercive action aimed at limiting the free exercise of religion. We support the right of individuals and corporations to uphold their free exercise rights consistent with the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. We support the right of all institutions, including hospitals and schools, to refuse to provide contraceptive, abortion, or other services and procedures inconsistent with their religious tenets.
3. Government should treat all citizens impartially and equally under the law. Unjust discrimination is detrimental to freedom for all individuals and we oppose it in any form. The concept of guaranteed equity runs counter to our beliefs. Efforts to equalize outcomes result in unequal treatment of individuals and loss of personal freedom.
4. The Second Amendment and the NC Constitution guarantee the right of the individual to keep and bear arms. We support the constitutional ownership, sale, purchase and carry of firearms by law-abiding citizens. Further, we support reducing the number of “gun-free zones.” Gun owners have a right to confidentiality. Personal information acquired by government agencies for gun purchases and permitting should be available to law enforcement for investigative purposes only and not for public record.
5. Private property should not be taken by eminent domain except for a direct public use and upon prompt payment of just compensation.
6. We disagree with all censorship of constitutionally protected free speech, including—but not limited to—all social media platforms.

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### ARTICLE IV. SANCTITY OF LIFE

1. We believe in the sanctity of all human life. Unborn children have constitutional rights to life and liberty and, the government must respect and protect all innocent human life from conception to natural death.
2. We are the Party that offers real solutions for women. We have a moral obligation to assist women who face unexpected pregnancies and applaud organizations that empower women with compassionate, life-affirming resources and care.
3. We oppose infanticide and urge the enactment of laws to require medical care for babies who survive abortions.
4. We oppose efforts to mandate the provision of abortion or to fund with taxpayer dollars organizations that provide or promote abortion services. We oppose public school-based health clinics that provide referrals, counseling and related services for abortion and contraception.
5. We support requiring mandatory counseling before an abortion to ensure the pregnant woman knows all of the options and resources available to her and her baby including information about the possibility of reversing the intended effects of chemical abortion drugs.
6. We support the right of medical professionals to refuse to participate in abortions. We support the right of pharmacists to refuse to dispense abortion inducing drugs. We believe that state funded institutions should not provide abortion training.
7. We oppose all forms of euthanasia and assisted suicide, as they are the ultimate form of discrimination against persons with disabilities, including newborns, the elderly and infirm. We believe these individuals should be treated with love and respect, not as a burden. We also oppose basing the denial of life saving treatments on a perceived quality of life. We urge the General Assembly to enact legislation criminalizing assisted suicide.
8. We support developments in biomedical research that enhance and protect human life. We oppose human cloning and the destruction of human embryos, and we support adult stem cell research.
9. We support criminal penalties for harming or killing an unborn child when the mother is killed or injured in a criminal act.
10. We support laws which require written, notarized parental consent for an abortion and/or contraceptives for their minor children.
11. We oppose the sale, purchase, possession, or use of fetal tissue or body parts obtained from induced abortions.



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### ARTICLE V. STATE GOVERNMENT

We believe that in a free society, power should rest in the hands of the people. We believe in a limited government which serves the people, rather than one that burdens them.

We affirm three distinct and equal branches of government with a system of checks and balances. No branch shall usurp the powers of any other branch, except those provided by the State Constitution. The Governor's emergency powers which impact the rights of citizens should only be used with the consultation and approval of the Council of State.

We believe that government at all levels should not spend money it does not have and avoid passing on debts to future generations.

Government retirement and pension plans should be privately owned and portable.

We oppose unfunded state mandates, including state mandated local property tax exemptions for a particular type of business. We oppose excessive regulation of commerce and industry by either statute or administrative rule, and support sunset provisions that require reauthorization for a business regulatory statute or rule to continue in force.

No State funds should be spent without an explicit appropriation. We oppose "slush funds" as rewards for political support. Raiding of dedicated funds should not be allowed except in an emergency as determined by law. Every bill heard in committee should receive a recorded vote. The budget bill should be made public at least two legislative days before the final vote in each house. To assure transparency, every committee substitute to a pending bill should be scheduled in committee and on the floor in a manner that gives citizens sufficient notice to communicate with their legislators about the bill.

We support the issuance of a driver's license or state identification card only to those who are lawful residents of the United States.

We support reforming the mental health system. The needs of patients must be the first priority. This includes diagnosis, comprehensive care, follow-up, and stiff penalties for those who abuse or exploit patients.

9. We affirm that the State of North Carolina is prohibited from taking discriminatory action against a person based on a religious or moral conviction.
10. We support efforts to ensure that habitual drug users are not on public assistance. We believe that drug tests are appropriate if there is a reasonable suspicion of illegal drug use.
11. We affirm that law enforcement should honor detainers for illegal aliens held on criminal charges.

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## ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

1. The Elections Clause of the US Constitution is the primary source of constitutional authority to regulate elections and appoints states as the primary regulatory authority for the election process. Election laws and policies should ensure honesty and accuracy in all elections.
2. A free society demands an honest and accurate election process. Our laws and policies at every level of government should ensure that elections are conducted with absolute fairness and integrity, regardless of party registration, race, or socio-economic resources. Every legal vote should count and not be canceled out by illegal votes.
3. We support legislation requiring election judges at all election sites, including early voting sites. Poll observers should be allowed at every polling place and placed in a position that enables thorough observation. The rights of voters should be equally protected regardless of voting method.
4. We support enforced statewide procedures for updating voter rolls to ensure accuracy.
5. Current laws regarding absentee voting should be analyzed and tightened to ensure ballot security. The rights of all voters should be equally protected regardless of voting method.
6. We encourage election officials to report—and state and federal prosecutors to promptly investigate and prosecute—voter and election fraud.
7. We support the Electoral College as the Constitutional mode of electing our President and oppose all efforts to abolish it, as a national popular vote would be a grave threat to our federal system.
8. We support state efforts to ensure ballot access for the elderly, the disabled, military personnel, and all legitimate voters. We support laws with strict requirements regarding the postmark and return of absentee ballots by election date except as otherwise required by federal law.
9. We reaffirm our support of Voter ID and oppose the reinstatement of straight-ticket voting. Proof of citizenship should be required when registering to vote.
10. Voters should have timely information on candidates' campaign finances. We oppose funding election campaigns with public or foreign funds.
11. Neither the State Board of Elections nor the county boards of elections have the authority to accept private monetary donations for the purpose of administering elections or employing individuals on a temporary basis.

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### ARTICLE VII. EDUCATION

1. We support an educational system that provides all children access to an education that empowers them to reach their highest, God-given potential, allowing them to contribute to the betterment of our society. A North Carolina high school diploma should fully prepare students to enter college, technical school, or the workforce.
2. We believe education policies and budget decisions are best made by local and state governments, rather than national agencies, to ensure that North Carolina students graduate with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in today's global economy. The people of North Carolina support the highest, most rigorous educational standards that are developed through legislation by the NC General Assembly. All standards and reforms should aim to improve student achievement.
3. We support English as the official language of the United States. Therefore, we support the expedited use of English as a Second Language in the classroom as an assimilation tool.
4. Parents have the right to expect excellent public education. Parents also have the right and responsibility to direct their children's education, while students have the obligation to learn. Allowing choice and competition in education drives all schools towards quality outcomes. We applaud the expansion of vocational curricula and parent choice in North Carolina. We support maintaining and expanding opportunity scholarships and education savings accounts that support the education of children with disabilities and open doors for students in need. All education dollars for grades K-12 dispersed by the state should follow the student to whatever education choice is made by the parents; be it public, charter, or private.
5. We urge the NC General Assembly to enact legislation guaranteeing parental rights over sex and health education in NC. Parents must have access to all curricula and data about their children, including content that is stored electronically. Schools should not ask children to answer offensive or intrusive personal questionnaires without parental consent. We oppose sex education in public schools without parental consent. Public schools should not be permitted to teach children about homosexual behavior and gender identity. No birth control devices or drugs should be distributed in public schools. We support teaching abstinence until marriage as the expected norm for sexual behavior. Biological males should not be allowed to participate in women's sports.
6. We applaud the Republican led North Carolina General Assembly for consistently increasing teacher pay. Teacher compensation should be based on evaluations and market conditions. Teacher evaluations should be based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to, educational training, job longevity, administration-based performance measures, and student achievement.
7. We support teaching civil liberties and patriotism as an important part of becoming a good citizen. We support regular recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, displays of the American and North Carolina

## EXHIBIT A

State flag, and use of our national motto "In God We Trust". Curricula must include civics so that students will be prepared to vote as informed citizens. We oppose curriculum that seeks to divide students based on race or gender. Instead, curricula should promote the unity of all students around American values such as liberty, justice and opportunity for all, and should encourage students to join together against all forms of oppression and injustice.

8. We believe in religious freedom and support the right of students and faculty to pray in school without censorship, as well as the respect for all religions. Schools should revitalize the Judeo-Christian values of Western civilization and teach American Exceptionalism.
9. We encourage both state and federal governments to help prospective students understand the real costs of lending and allow students to discharge their debts according to market principles. We support economic assistance for students that comes from both private and public sources using market lending principles.
10. We applaud the efforts of the Republican led General Assembly in supporting community colleges, as these colleges truly open doors and remove barriers to accessible, high-quality education for all citizens. Community colleges play a vital role in developing our workforce and they provide much needed basic literacy programs, vocational training, and university transfer options for students from all walks of life.
11. We believe it is a requirement of the state and county Boards of Education to ensure all schools provide a safe learning environment. Schools should provide a level of security which protects students and faculty from harm, consistent with the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution.

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### ARTICLE VIII. JUSTICE

1. One of the main duties of government is to maintain law and order, while securing for its citizens the freedom to pursue the blessings of liberty and the fruits of their labor.
2. We honor the men and women in uniform who protect citizens of North Carolina at home and abroad. We are grateful for our state and local law enforcement as well as our first responders for their public service to our citizens.
3. We call for mandatory sentencing for all violent crimes, especially crimes committed against those who are charged with protecting us. We support the death penalty for first-degree murder. Suppliers of illegal drugs should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Those who drive or operate a water craft while impaired must face stiff punishment. We support the diversion of first-time, nonviolent offenders to community sentencing, accountability courts, drug courts, veteran treatment courts, and guidance by faith-based institutions with proven track records of rehabilitation. We call for the examination of mandatory sentencing for non-violent crimes to ensure fairness and justice in its application.
4. We believe the state must protect the rights of victims and their families. We believe in a justice system that provides for restorative justice when applicable. Criminal justice reforms that reduce relapses by former offenders and assist them in seeking reentry as contributing members of society are applauded, including support for transitional housing and employment for recently released inmates.
5. Millions of lives are destroyed by predatory criminals that exploit children or other innocents via the internet or in person. We deplore pornography, sex trafficking, human trafficking, and the abduction, abuse, and exploitation of children, both born and unborn. We denounce domestic violence. We applaud the efforts of government to protect innocent lives from predators everywhere.
6. Prisons should focus on security, education, rehabilitation, and labor. Public officials must regain control of their correctional institutions so that every inmate is protected against cruel or degrading treatment. We encourage opportunities for literacy, vocational education, and substance abuse counseling to prepare prisoners for release into the community.
7. We support tort reform, including a cap on awards for pain and suffering, and structured payments of awards for lost income.

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### **ARTICLE IX. THE ENVIRONMENT**

1. As we are stewards of our God-given natural heritage, we have a duty to protect and wisely use the earth's resources.
2. We support reasonable measures to keep our air, water, and soil free of substances that harm the health of our people as well as that of domestic animals and wildlife. We support the maintenance of adequate wildlife habitat but not at the expense of further loss of private property.
3. We support a robust system of state and national parks to give our citizens access to nature.
4. We recognize that the theories of global warming and climate change are subject to scientific debate. We urge that both sides of this debate listen and engage with respect, and that drastic action that would raise energy costs and impair our citizens' quality of life not be undertaken without careful consideration and a thorough evaluation of scientific data.

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### ARTICLE X. FEDERAL POLICY

1. The US Constitution is the supreme law of this land. As such, it outlines the foundational principles of this great nation. These principles include a legislature which creates laws, an executive who enforces laws, and a judiciary which interprets laws. To this end, we support the separation of powers and all efforts to maintain independent branches of government, based on a strict interpretation of the constitution's original intent.
2. We call on Congress, the President and the courts to abide by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution and the Ninth and Tenth Amendments, which were added to order to protect the rights of the States and the people. We oppose encroachment upon all powers that the Constitution has reserved to the States or to the people. On the basis of the Constitution and the intent of the Founding Fathers, we oppose statehood for the District of Columbia.
3. Membership in treaties and organizations should never dilute our sovereign right to govern or interfere in our electoral process. We oppose attempts by foreign governments and international organizations to infringe on our sovereignty.
4. A republican form of government is the foundation of freedom. We support the Electoral College as the constitutional mode of electing our President. We oppose tyranny in all of its forms.
5. Opposition to slavery is the foundation for the Republican Party. We oppose slavery, including human trafficking, in any form both foreign and domestic.
6. National security is one of the first and most important roles of government. We support a foreign policy of peace through strength that is accomplished with a strong military with the full gratitude and resources of the United States. Strength only exists when our borders are secure and our enemies deterred.
7. We oppose granting permanent resident status for those who, by violating the immigration law, disadvantage those who have obeyed it. Granting amnesty only rewards and encourages more law breaking. Employers should only hire those legally allowed to work in the United States.
8. We support policies which uphold the nation of Israel as a sovereign nation and Jerusalem as its capital.
9. We support free market solutions for societal issues, which provide the most efficient use of our resources. We support an individual's ability to choose market-based solutions to retirement, health care and insurance, worker's rights or any goods.

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10. We support the principle of a “sound money” policy to sustain a stable US currency. The Comptroller General of the General Office of Accounting must perform an annual accounting of the Federal Reserve to ensure its transparency and accountability.
11. We support policies protecting all innocent human life, and therefore we oppose government efforts promoting abortion and infanticide. We support actions that prohibit the distribution of federal funds to any organization that promotes or provides abortions.
12. We are free because of those who have answered the call to serve. Our nation’s veterans have been our nation’s strength and remain a national resource. America has a sacred trust with our veterans, and we are committed to ensuring their and their families’ care and dignity.

## CONCLUSION

Thomas Jefferson said that "the price of freedom is eternal vigilance". We, the North Carolina Republican Party, are committed to remaining vigilant as we stand guard to protect the freedoms, we hold dear. Ronald Reagan stated that a strong Republican Party is like a stool that stands on three legs: strong defense, free enterprise, and strong moral values. Together, we will turn back the tide of socialism and preserve our nation as beacon of liberty, hope, and opportunity for all.

This document was adopted by the 2022 NCGOP Convention.





**NCGOP Plan of Organization**

EXHIBIT B

**NCGOP Plan of Organization**

*Adopted at the NCGOP State Convention on May 21, 2022. Administrative Amendments Approved by NCGOP Plan of Organization Committee March 5, 2023.*

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## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Republican Party of North Carolina, are dedicated to the sound principles fostered by our Party, are conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, and are firm in our determination to give our strength to preserving the American principle that government ought and must be of all the people, by all of the people and for all of the people. Therefore, for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum power and efficiency, and providing focus to win elections, we hereby establish this instrument, The Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of North Carolina.

## ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

### A. MEMBERS

All citizens of North Carolina who are registered Republicans are members of the Republican Party of North Carolina and shall have the right to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party in accordance with these rules. All reference herein to Delegates, Alternates, officers and members shall, in all cases, mean persons identified and registered with the Republican Party in the precinct of their residence. Any person running for Party office within the North Carolina Republican Party, at any level, shall be a resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office. A candidate running for any level of Republican Party office shall be a registered Republican resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office. In the event a candidate for public office was not a registered Republican as of January 31 of the year prior to the election in which that candidate seeks election, the Executive Committee of the jurisdiction may disqualify such candidate from recognition, endorsement, and the utilization of Party resources.

## ARTICLE II - PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

### A. OFFICERS

The Precinct Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and as many Members-at-Large as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Precinct.

### B. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

The Precinct Committee shall cooperate with the County Executive Committee in all elections and Party activities, provide the County Chairman with a list of Party members within the precinct suitable for appointment as Election Officials, and promote the objectives of the Party within the precinct.

### C. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The Chairman of the Precinct Committee, with the advice and consent of the Precinct Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party within the precinct, shall preside at all meetings of the Precinct, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Precinct Committee or the County Executive Committee. The Vice-Chairman shall function as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records and shall maintain a list of registered Republican voters and workers within the precinct, unless otherwise provided by the Precinct Committee or the County Executive Committee.

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The Chairman and Secretary of each Precinct shall certify the election of Officers, Committee members, and Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention to the County Chairman. Complete credentials shall be in the hands of the County Secretary by the deadline set by the County Chairman, which shall be at least 2 days prior to the Credentials Committee meeting; provided, however, that when the Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held on the same day, the complete credentials shall be in hands of the County Secretary at the time set by the County Chairman on that day. No Delegate or Alternate shall be added to the credentials list following the adjournment of the Precinct Meeting. This delegate list shall be made immediately available to any Republican candidate, at that candidate's reasonable expense, after the County Chairman receives a confidentiality and use agreement, signed by the candidate, stating the list will be used only for Republican activities related to the candidate's run for office.

### D. PRECINCT MEETINGS

#### 1. Regular Precinct Meetings

Other meetings of the Precinct general membership may be held at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman of the Precinct Committee after giving 5 days' Public Notice of such meeting, or by such other method of notification as may be specified in the County Plan of Organization; or upon similar call of 1/3 of the members of the Precinct Committee, or 10 members of the general Precinct membership.

#### 2. Unorganized Precincts

In the event a Precinct fails to properly organize or the Precinct Chairman fails to act, the County Chairman shall appoint a temporary Precinct Chairman who shall serve for a period not to exceed 60 days, during which time a County Executive Committee meeting shall be called and a new Precinct Chairman shall be elected by the County Executive Committee. All County Executive Committee members present at a County Executive Committee meeting called for the purpose of electing a new Precinct Chairman may vote in the election; there is no requirement for a voting County Executive Committee member to be registered in the precinct for which a new Precinct Chairman is being elected.

#### 3. Vacancies and Removals in Precinct Committee

Vacancy due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the precinct, removal of any officer, or member of the Precinct Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining members of the Precinct Committee, or as provided in the County Plan of Organization. The procedure for removal of any member or officer is defined in Article IX.A.6. Such removal may be appealed to the County Executive Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

## ARTICLE III - COUNTY ORGANIZATION

### A. COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### 1. Membership

The County Executive Committee shall consist of the County officers and other persons elected by the County Convention in accordance with Article VII.B.2.b, and the County Finance Chairman.

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### 2. Powers and Duties

The County Executive Committee shall cooperate with the District and State Committees in all elections and Party activities; shall encourage qualified candidates for office within the County; shall adopt a budget; shall recommend nominees to the State Chairman for appointments for County Board of Elections in accordance with Article IX.D.2.d. and shall have active management of Party affairs within the county. It shall approve a Finance Committee and an Auditing Committee of not less than 3 members each and may approve such other Committees as may be deemed necessary. The County Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be ex officio members of all Committees indicated in this Article. In the event that it is determined that the County Plan of Organization is not consistent with the State Party Plan of Organization, the County Executive Committee must at the next called meeting bring the County Plan of Organization into compliance with the State Party Plan of Organization. Under any circumstances, the County Plan of Organization must be brought into compliance within 90 days. If permitted by the County Plan of Organization, the County Executive Committee may amend the County Plan of Organization upon a 2/3 vote after providing written notice of the meeting advising members regarding the substance of the proposed amendment and provided a quorum is present. County Republican Parties shall submit, by certified United States mail, return receipt requested, their County Plans of Organizations, and amendments thereto, to the NCGOP State Headquarters Executive Director, Political Director, and District Chairman within 30 days after their adoption, in order for the Plan and/or amendment to be considered valid. The County Executive Committee shall elect the General Counsel at its first meeting after the biennial County Convention unless the County Plan of Organization provides for election by that Convention itself.

### 3. Meetings

The County Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year upon the call of the County Chairman, or the call of 1/3 of the members of the County Executive Committee, after giving 10 days' notice, as that term is defined in Article IX.1.2 herein, to all members. The County Plan of Organization shall specify a quorum for the transaction of business, but in no event shall it be less than 25% of the County Executive Committee.

### 4. Duties of Officers

- a. The Chairman of the County Executive Committee, with the advice and consent of the County Executive Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party within the county. The Chairman shall issue the call for Annual Precinct Meetings, the County Convention, and Executive Committee meetings, and the Chairman shall preside at all the meetings of the County Executive Committee. The Chairman shall appoint a Finance Chairman, Auditing Committee and any other committees the Chairman deems necessary to conduct the business of the County Executive Committee. The Chairman shall further appoint a temporary Chairman of the County Convention, who may be himself. The Chairman shall make periodic reports on the status of the Party within his county to the District Chairman. The Chairman shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of a Republican organization in every precinct within his county. The Chairman shall obtain and preserve a list of all registered Republicans within the county and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the County, District, or State Committees; the County Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all County Committees unless otherwise designated in the County Plan of Organization.



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- b. The Vice-Chairman shall function as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the County Executive Committee. The Vice-Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all County Committees unless otherwise designated in the County Plan of Organization.
- c. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records and shall maintain a roster of all Precinct officers and Executive Committee members. At a minimum, these records shall contain the name and address for each Precinct officer and Executive Committee member. Such records shall be available, including all credentials lists upon request, to any registered Republican within the county. The Secretary shall furnish to the Congressional District Chairman and to State Headquarters up-to-date lists of all Precinct Chairmen.
- d. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds for Party expenditures pursuant to authority duly given by the County Executive Committee, shall make a financial report at all County Executive Committee meetings and shall fulfill all financial reports and obligations required under state and federal election laws. All elected Treasurers must successfully enroll in and complete the mandatory compliance training provided by the North Carolina Board of Elections as soon as possible, but not later than sixty (60) days after election.
- e. The General Counsel shall be an attorney licensed in North Carolina who shall provide general legal and parliamentary advice to the County Party and be the chief election integrity officer of the County Party working to identify and eliminate election fraud and to maintain trained and qualified election observers in every precinct. In the event that no qualified Republican in a county is willing to serve as General Counsel, the County Executive Committee may select a person familiar with election procedures to chair an Election Integrity Committee to carry out the election integrity functions of the General Counsel. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in all questions regarding the State Plan of Organization, the interpretation thereof, or any issues that impact the State Party, the County General Counsel shall have no authority to contradict the State General Counsel or Arbitration Committee.

### 5. Vacancies and Removals

- a. Vacancy due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the county, removal of any officer or member of the County Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining members of the County Committee, or as provided in the County Plan of Organization.
- b. The procedure for removal of any member or officer is defined in Article IX.A.6. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

## B. COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEES

### 1. Finance Committee

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The County Finance Committee shall be composed of the County Finance Chairman, the County Chairman, County Vice-Chairman, the County Treasurer, and not less than 3 persons approved by the County Executive Committee. They shall cooperate with the Congressional District and State Finance Committees and shall have active management of fund-raising efforts within the county.

### 2. Auditing Committee

The members of the Auditing Committee shall be nominated by the County Chairman and the names shall be presented for the advice and consent of the County Executive Committee. The Auditing Committee, once approved, shall conduct a yearly review of the financial records of the County and report such review to the County Executive Committee for approval. The review to be conducted shall be of the type and nature which the Auditing Committee, in its discretion, deems appropriate.

## ARTICLE IV - JUDICIAL, SENATORIAL, & LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

### A. GENERAL ORGANIZATION

#### 1. Membership

- a. In a single county district, the County Executive Committee shall serve as the District Committee.
- b. In a single county containing more than one (1) district wholly within the county, the County Plan of Organization shall address the method of election of District officers; however, only those members of the County Executive Committee who reside within a particular district may serve on that District Committee.
- c. In those Districts encompassing more than one county, or portions of more than one county, voting membership shall consist of County Executive Committee members residing within that district, if any, or there being none, it shall be the Precinct Chairmen residing within that district, if any, or there being none, it shall be one or more persons residing within that district, as appointed by the County Chairmen, and approved by the County Executive Committees. Voting is to be weighted based on the number of registered Republicans in each county and portions of counties within that district.
- d. In those counties that are divided into 2 or more multi-county Legislative, Judicial, or Senatorial Districts, the County Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall each appoint, with the approval of the County Executive Committee, a designee to serve on the District Executive Committee for districts in which the County Chairman or the Vice-Chairman do not reside.
- e. All District officers shall reside within their districts.

#### 2. Election of Officers

At some time preceding the State Convention, the District Committees shall meet at a time and place designated by the Congressional District Chairman. If the District is split between two (2), or more

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Congressional Districts, the County Chairman designated by the Congressional District Chairman of the Congressional District in which the greater part of the district population lies shall call the meeting. The meeting shall elect a Chairman and such other officers as may be deemed necessary. The officers shall have such duties as may be prescribed by the State Executive Committee. The Chairman shall report to the State Chairman names of the officers elected.

### 3. Powers and Duties of Committees

- a. The District Executive Committee shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties, upon call of the District Chairman, or the call of 1/3 of the members of the District Executive Committee, after giving 10 days' notice, as that term is defined in Article IX.I.2 herein, to all members.
- b. The Judicial District Committee shall encourage qualified candidates for District Attorney, District Judge and Superior Court Judge and shall assist and cooperate with the County and State Executive Committees in all campaigns.
- c. The Senatorial District Committee shall encourage qualified candidates for State Senate and shall assist and cooperate with the County and State Executive Committees in all campaigns.
- d. The Legislative District Committee shall encourage qualified candidates for State House of Representatives and shall assist and cooperate with the County and State Executive Committees in all campaigns.
- e. Committees herein elected shall serve as the appropriate District Executive Committee as they are referred to in North Carolina G.S. §163-114.
- f. The Judicial District Committees shall be permitted exclusively to issue endorsements in judicial elections pursuant to Article IX.H.1, and subject to the Notice requirements of Article IX.H.3.

## ARTICLE V - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

- A. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
  1. Membership

The Congressional District Executive Committee shall be composed of:

- a. The officers elected at the District Convention.
- b. County Chairs and First Vice-Chairs shall be members of each District Executive Committee in which even a portion of their county lies, regardless of whether they, themselves, live in that district.
- c. The District Finance Chairman and General Counsel.

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- d. All Members of the State Executive Committee who are elected by the District Convention under the provisions in Article VII.C.2.c.
- e. Such others as the District Plan of Organization may provide.

### 2. Powers and Duties

The Congressional District Executive Committee shall encourage qualified candidates for Congress; cooperate with the Judicial, Senatorial and Legislative Executive Committees in encouraging qualified candidates for those offices, especially in multi-county districts; elect a General Counsel; approve a Finance Chairman; and cooperate with the County and State Executive Committees in all campaigns.

### 3. Meetings

The Congressional District Executive Committee shall meet at least each calendar quarter of the year, upon call of the Congressional District Chairman after giving 10 days' written notice to all members. Twenty-five percent of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

### 4. Duties of Officers

- a. The Congressional District Chairman, with the advice and consent of the District Executive Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party within the district. The District Chairman shall assist the State Chairman in carrying out state programs, maintain contact with all Counties within the district, and shall be responsible for the proper organization and functioning of those Counties. The District Chairman shall maintain constant liaison with all County Chairmen with regard to a Republican organization in every precinct within his district and with Legislative, Senatorial and Judicial District Chairmen with regard to candidate recruitment. In addition, the District Chairman shall furnish, upon request, each County Chairman and each County Executive Committee officer an accurate and up-to-date list of all County Executive Committee officers within his district to include title, name, address and zip code. These lists shall be updated periodically to ensure that the latest information is provided to those to whom it is required to be provided. The District Chairman shall appoint a Finance Chairman and Audit Committee. The District Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all District Committees. The District Chairman shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the State Executive Committee.
- b. The Vice-Chairman shall be chief assistant to the District Chairman and shall act as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman; shall maintain liaison with the County Vice-Chairman through the district (where applicable) and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the District Committee. The Vice-Chairman will be an ex officio member of all District Committees unless otherwise designated.
- c. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records and shall maintain a roster of all officers of the Counties within the District.
- d. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds for Party expenditures pursuant to

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authority duly given by the District Committee and will make a financial report to all District Executive Committee meetings. The Treasurer shall fulfill all financial reports and obligations required under state and federal election laws. All elected Treasurers must successfully enroll in and complete the mandatory compliance training provided by the North Carolina Board of Elections as soon as possible, but not later than sixty (60) days after election.

- e. The General Counsel, who shall be a licensed attorney in North Carolina, shall provide legal advice to the District Executive Committee and shall be the chief election integrity officer of the district, responsible for Party efforts to combat election fraud and to promote fair and honest elections, including working with County organizations to maintain trained election observers at every precinct. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in all questions regarding the State Plan of Organization, the interpretation thereof, or any issues that impact the State Party, the District General Counsel shall have no authority to contradict the State General Counsel or Arbitration Committee.

### 5. Vacancies and Removals

- a. Vacancies due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the district, removal of any officer of the Congressional District Executive Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining members of the District Committee, or as provided in the District Plan of Organization.
- b. The procedure for removal of any member or officer is defined in Article IX.A.6. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

### B. DISTRICT FINANCE COMMITTEE

The District Finance Chairman shall serve as Chairman of the Congressional District Finance Committee, which shall be composed of the Finance Chairmen of all the counties within the district, the Congressional District Chairman, and the Congressional District Treasurer, plus 3 additional members to be elected by the members of the Finance Committee. Other officers as may be deemed necessary may be elected by and from the members of the Committee. This Committee shall cooperate with the State Finance Committee and with County Finance Committees in all fund-raising efforts.

## ARTICLE VI - STATE ORGANIZATION

### A. STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

#### 1. Membership

The State Central Committee shall be composed of the following:

- a. The Congressional District Chairmen.
  - i. A Congressional District Vice-Chairman shall be a non-voting member unless

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acting in the absence of the Chair, and unless acting in the absence of the Chair shall not affect quorum.

- ii. Congressional Districts with more than one Vice-Chairman shall designate one Vice-Chairman who may act in the absence of the Chairman and one Vice-Chairman who shall be a non-voting member. Said designations shall be made by the respective Congressional District Executive Committees, and shall be made immediately following the annual District Convention. These designations can only be amended following the annual District Convention and prior to the subsequent annual District Convention due to said designated Vice-Chairman no longer serving in their elected position.

- b. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, Secretary, Treasurer, General Counsel, State Finance Chairman. The Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant General Counsel and Assistant Finance Chairman shall be non-voting members unless acting in the absence of their principal and, unless acting in the absence of their principal, shall not affect quorum.

The Chair of the North Carolina Federation of Young Republicans the President of the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women, the President of the North Carolina Federation of Republican Men, the Chairman of the District & County Officers Association of the North Carolina Republican Party, the Chairman of the North Carolina Federation of College Republicans, the Chairman of the North Carolina Federation of Teenage Republicans, and the Chairman of the North Carolina Chapter of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly, and the President of the Frederick Douglass Foundation of North Carolina shall be voting members. The vote of the North Carolina Federation of Teenage Republicans shall be cast by the North Carolina Teenage Republican Advisor, who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the North Carolina Republican Party each year following the annual Convention of the North Carolina Teenage Republicans, who shall yearly nominate an Advisor. The Chairman of the North Carolina Federation of Teenage Republicans shall forward the name of their nominated Advisor to the Chairman of the North Carolina Republican Party within ten (10) days following their annual Convention. The nominated Advisor for the North Carolina Federation of Teenage Republicans shall be a registered voter in the State of North Carolina. The vote cast by the Advisor to the North Carolina Teenage Republicans shall be as instructed by the Chairman of the North Carolina Federation of Teenage Republicans.

- i. The Organization's Vice-Chairman or Vice President shall act in the absence of the Chairman or President.
- ii. The Organization's Vice-Chairman, unless acting in the absence of the Chairman, shall not affect quorum.
- iii. Organizations with more than one Vice-Chairman shall designate one Vice-Chairman who may act in the absence of the Chairman. Said designation shall be made by the respective Organization's Executive Committees. Said designation shall be made immediately following the Organization's annual Convention or meeting. The designation of a Vice-Chairman or Vice President

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can only be amended following the Organization's annual Convention or meeting and prior to the subsequent annual Convention or meeting due to said designated Vice-Chairman no longer serving in his elected position.

- iv. In order for an Organization's Chairman or Vice-Chairman or Vice President acting in the absence of the Chairman or President to be eligible for membership on the State Central Committee, said Organization must provide the North Carolina Republican Party a current copy of their Plan of Organization or Bylaws within ten (10) days following their State Convention or meeting, and within ten (10) days of any amendment.
- v. In order for the Chairman or President or Vice-Chairman or Vice President, acting in the absence of the Chairman or President, of any Republican affiliated group sitting on the State Central Committee or State Executive Committee, said individual must be a registered voter in the State of North Carolina.
- c. Any person entitled to membership on the State Central Committee in more than one capacity, shall designate at the first called meeting of the State Central Committee the role in which he shall serve for the ensuing year. The organization or entity not designated by the member serving in dual roles shall be represented on the State Central Committee by the person who would serve in his absence pursuant to this Plan of Organization.
- d. The immediate past State Chairman, the Republican Joint Caucus Leader of the General Assembly, the Republican Leader of the North Carolina House of Representatives and the Republican Leader of the North Carolina Senate. All other living past State Chairmen shall be non-voting members, whose numbers shall not be included in the determination of a quorum.

### 2. Powers and Duties

- a. The State Central Committee shall have the power to appoint such committees as it may deem necessary for the proper conduct of Party affairs, to formulate fiscal policy, establish financial goals, prepare a budget, set the dates for the State Convention as provided for in Article VII.D.1, and the Precinct Meetings, County, Congressional District, and State Conventions between February 1 and 35 days prior to the Republican National Convention in presidential election years, in accordance with National rules; and to do all things pertaining to Party affairs which it may be authorized to do by the State Executive Committee. The State Central Committee shall keep accurate accounts of its proceedings and shall make annual reports to the State Executive Committee.
- b. The Committee may contract with, as a full-time Executive Director, a person of highest character and professional political competence to execute on a day-by-day basis the mission of the Committee. The Committee shall provide on a full-time basis, in the vicinity of the capital city of North Carolina adequate offices for the Executive Director and such staff as the Committee shall provide for him, which offices shall be known as Headquarters, North Carolina Republican Party.

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- c. The Central Committee is charged with, in addition to all other duties, the mission of creating an effective Republican organization in every political precinct in North Carolina.

### 3. Meetings

The State Central Committee shall meet at least every other month upon the call of the Chairman with 10 days' notice to all members, or upon petition of 1/3 the members with 10 days' notice to all members. Twenty-five percent of the members listed in Article VI.A.1.a through VI.A.1.e shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

### 4. Duties of Officers

The officers of the State Executive Committee shall act as officers of the State Central Committee, with corresponding duties.

## B. STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### 1. Membership

The State Executive Committee shall be composed of the following:

- a. The State Central Committee.
- b. The Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Finance Chairman and the Assistant General Counsel. The Vice-Chairs or Vice Presidents of the North Carolina Federation of Young Republicans, the North Carolina Federation of Republican Men, the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women, the District & County -Officers Association of the North Carolina Republican Party, the North Carolina Federation of College Republicans, the Frederick Douglass Foundation of North Carolina, and the North Carolina Chapter of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly shall act only in the absence of the organization's Chair, and unless acting in the absence of the Chair, shall not affect quorum.
- c. The Congressional District Vice-Chairmen, Congressional District General Counsels, and the Congressional District Finance Chairmen. Congressional Districts with more than one Vice-Chairman shall designate one Vice-Chairman who shall be a member of the State Executive Committee. Said designation shall be made by the respective Congressional District Executive Committees and shall be made immediately following the odd-year District Convention. The designation of a Vice-Chairman serving as a member of the State Central Committee can only be amended following the odd-year District Convention and prior to the subsequent odd-year District Convention due to said designated Vice-Chairman no longer serving in his elected position.
- d. All County Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen:
  - i. Counties with more than one Vice-Chairman shall designate one Vice-Chairman



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who may act in the absence of the Chairman. Said designation shall be made by the respective County Executive Committees and shall be made immediately following the annual County Convention. The designation of a Vice-Chairman acting as a member of the State Executive Committee can only be amended following the odd-year County Convention and prior to the subsequent odd-year County Convention due to said designated Vice-Chairman no longer serving in his elected position.

- e. All current Republican members of the North Carolina delegation to the United States Congress and United States Senate, Governor, Lieutenant Governor and members of the Council of State as ex officio members, who shall not affect quorum.
- f. All current Republican members for the North Carolina General Assembly, as ex officio members, and shall not affect quorum.
- g. At-Large members elected by the District Conventions under Article VII.C.2.c of this Plan.

### 2. Powers and Duties of Committee

In every odd-numbered year, the State Executive Committee shall meet within 30 days of the adjournment of the State Convention and elect a Secretary and an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer, General Counsel and Assistant General Counsel who shall serve for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected. The Committee shall formulate and provide for the execution of such plans and measures as it may deem conducive to the best interests of the Republican Party. It shall approve an Auditing Committee of at least 3 Members, 1 of whom shall be a certified public accountant, to conduct a yearly review, as described in Article VI.D; adopt a budget; and have supreme management of all affairs of the Party within the State. It may delegate such duties as it deems proper to the State Central Committee.

### 3. Committee Meetings

- a. The State Executive Committee shall meet at least twice per calendar year, upon call of the Chairman at such times as the State Chairman deems necessary, or upon petition of 1/3 of the members of the Committee, after giving 15 days' written notice to all Committee members. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Ex officio members do not affect the quorum.
- b. All proposed resolutions to come before the Executive Committee shall be submitted at least one month in advance so that they can be distributed to the Executive Committee membership prior to its meeting. Notwithstanding the above, resolutions may be submitted on the day of the meeting, but only if the propounder(s) of the resolution(s) shall have first furnished sufficient copies of the proposed resolution for each member of the Executive Committee, and if, by a two-thirds majority, the members of the Executive Committee vote to consider the resolution.

### 4. Duties of Officers

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- a. The State Chairman, with the advice and consent of the Central Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party within the State. In addition to overseeing the general operation of the Party, the State Chairman shall be the primary fundraiser for the Party. He shall preside at all meetings of the State Executive Committee and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the State Executive Committee. He shall appoint, with the approval of the State Executive Committee, a Finance Chairman and Assistant Finance Chairman, who shall serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman. The State Chairman shall appoint the temporary officers of the State Conventions. In accordance with Article IX.D.2.d. the Chairman shall nominate persons to the North Carolina State Board of Elections to serve on County Boards of Elections. In accordance with Article VII.D.3 he shall appoint three members to each Convention Committee and a Chairman of each Convention Committee from the Committee's membership. The State Chairman may delegate authority to the District Chairmen to act on his behalf on any matter.
- b. The Vice Chairman shall be chief assistant to the Chairman and shall act as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall maintain close liaison with the District and County Vice-Chairmen and encourage and direct activities in the Party structure. The Vice-Chairman shall work with the National Committeewoman and National Committeeman and provide them with information and assistance on state matters. The Vice-Chairman shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the State Executive and Central Committees.
- c. The National Committeewoman and National Committeeman shall maintain liaison with the National Republican Party and with the State Executive and Central Committees.
- d. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings. The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in the above duties and shall act as the Secretary in the absence of the Secretary.
- e. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds collected or earned by the State Party, and all disbursements shall be made by him. All funds shall be deposited in a central location at the Treasurer's direction. The Treasurer shall be bonded in an amount fixed by the State Central Committee, with the premium to be paid from Party funds. The Treasurer shall submit such financial reports as are required by state and federal campaign election laws. The Treasurer shall submit such financial reports as required by the State Executive Committee and the Central Committee, including but not limited to, all debts and payables over 30 days past due, and the status of unpaid loans. The Treasurer shall submit at each Central Committee meeting a financial balance sheet, which includes all accounts of the Party. The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer and act as the Treasurer in the absence of the Treasurer. All elected Treasurers must successfully enroll in and complete the mandatory compliance training provided by the North Carolina Board of Elections as soon as possible, but not later than sixty (60) days after election.
- f. The General Counsel shall advise the Executive Committee in all legal matters and shall act as parliamentarian at all meetings of the Committee. The Assistant General Counsel shall assist the General Counsel in his duties, act in his stead in his absence,

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and shall serve as the Party's chief election integrity officer, who shall work in conjunction with the District and County General Counsels to identify and eliminate election fraud and to build a team of trained election observers in every precinct in North Carolina.

### 5. Vacancies and Removals

- a. Vacancies due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the state, removal of any officer of the State Executive Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the State Executive Committee. Vacancies due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the district, or removal of any member representing a Congressional District, or for any other reason shall be filled by the remaining members of the Congressional District Executive Committee in which such vacancy occurs.
  - i. A vacancy in the office of State Chairman shall be filled by the next ranking Committee member until the State Executive Committee elects a successor. The order of rank shall be Vice-Chairman, Secretary. A meeting of the State Executive Committee shall be called within 60 days of the vacancy for the purpose of electing a State Chairman.
  - ii. A vacancy in the office of State Vice-Chairman shall be filled at a meeting of the State Executive Committee which shall be called within 60 days of the vacancy.
  - iii. A vacancy in the office of District Chairman shall be filled by the next ranking Committee member until the District Executive Committee elects a successor. The order of rank shall be Vice-Chairman, Secretary. If there is more than one Vice-Chairman, then the order of rank shall be 1st Vice-Chairman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman, Secretary.
- b. Procedure for removal of any member or officer is defined in Article IX.A.6. The decision of the State Executive Committee shall be final.
- c. Any At-Large member who is absent from three consecutive meetings shall have automatically resigned from the Executive Committee. The resulting vacancy shall be filled in accordance with Article VI.B.5.a.

### C. STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

#### 1. Membership

The Finance Committee shall consist of the State Finance Chairman, the Congressional District Finance Chairmen and the State Chairman. The State Finance Chairman shall serve as the Chairman of the State Finance Committee. Other Officers as may be deemed necessary may be elected by the members of the Committee.

#### 2. Powers and Duties

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It shall be the duty of the State Finance Committee to develop ways and means to properly finance the general election campaigns and other businesses and affairs of the Republican Party. The Committee shall develop, implement and execute a united fund-raising effort in cooperation with the State Central Committee and District and County organizations for effective fund-raising campaigns. Said Committee shall not, directly or indirectly, raise or collect funds for the benefit of any candidates in primary elections. All persons making contributions to the State Party of \$100.00 or more shall be furnished with a receipt thereof upon request. Contributions going directly to the National Committee or to any candidate shall not be acknowledged by the State Treasurer or recorded as a regular contribution to the Republican Party of North Carolina.

### 3. Duties of Officers

The State Finance Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Committee and shall be the chief liaison between the Finance Committee and the State Central Committee. Other Officers shall have such duties as may be prescribed by the Committee.

### D. DEFINITION OF REVIEW

The review to be conducted by the Auditing Committee, as described in Article VI.B.2 above, shall be of the type and nature which the Auditing Committee, in its discretion, deems appropriate. However, the Auditing Committee shall conduct a full audit, as that term is used in the accounting industry, at least once every four years.

## ARTICLE VII - CONVENTIONS

### A. ANNUAL PRECINCT MEETINGS

#### 1. Call for Meeting

In every year, the County Chairman shall call Precinct Meetings during the months of February or March, if held concurrently with the County Convention, after giving no less than 10 days' written notice to each Precinct Chairman and by Public Notice as provided for in Article IX.1.3. Precinct Chairs shall be informed as to the number of registered Republicans entitled to cast votes at the County Convention, and in accordance with Article VII.A.3. Failure of the County Chairman to act in compliance with the provision above shall be cause for any member of the County Executive Committee to call said Precinct Meetings by Public Notice as provided for in Article IX.1.3. Every Republican registered as of January 31 preceding the Meetings shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote, except that the January 31 requirement shall not apply to residents who have moved into the precinct, or turned eighteen (18) years of age within 30 days of the Precinct Meeting.

#### 2. Election of Precinct Officers

At odd-year Precinct Meetings, at which a quorum is one person, unless the County Plan of Organization requires a larger number, attendees shall elect a Precinct Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and as many Members-at-Large as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Precinct. Members of the Precinct Committee shall hold their offices for 2 years or until their successors are chosen.

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### 3. Election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates

The annual Precinct Meetings shall elect 1 Delegate and 1 Alternate to the County Convention. They shall also elect 1 additional Delegate and Alternate for each 100 registered Republican voters, or major fraction thereof, in the precinct as of January 31 of that year. In determining the number of registered Republicans to be used as the basis for the number of additional Delegates and Alternates to be elected in the precinct under this calculation, a County may adopt, in its Plan of Organization, a basis number of registered Republican voters less than 100 but, in so doing, must assure proportional representation of all registered Republican voters in the county. Precinct members do not need to be in attendance in order to be elected as Delegates or Alternates.

### 4. Meeting Cancellation Due to Circumstances out of Party's Control

When circumstances beyond the control of the County Party prevent access to or use of the annual precinct facility(ies) (including but not limited to inclement weather conditions), it shall be the responsibility of the County Chairman to consult with the County Vice-Chairman, County Secretary and County Treasurer and make a decision on the cancellation and rescheduling of said Annual Precinct Meetings in the most timely manner possible. All efforts should be made by the County Chairman to notify local news outlets of said cancellation and rescheduling information. Notice of cancellation and rescheduling shall be given to Republican State Headquarters within twenty-four (24) hours or on the next business day.

## B. COUNTY CONVENTIONS

### 1. Call of Convention

- a. A County Convention shall be called every year by the Chairman of the County Executive Committee, at a suitable location within the county, within the month of March, at least 10 days prior to the scheduled District Convention, and following procedures given in Article IX.1.3. At or about the time of the call of the Convention, the County Chairman, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Credentials Committee consisting of no less than 3 people, which will meet and issue its report on Delegates and Alternate Delegates certified to that Convention. If Precinct Meetings are held prior to the County Convention, the Credentials Committee shall issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to the County Convention at least 3 days in advance of the convening of the County Convention. When Precinct Meetings are held prior to the date of the County Convention, all Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee shall be notified prior to the day of the Convention and allowed to present their cases to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention. If Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held on the same day, the Credentials Committee shall issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to the County Convention prior to the transaction of any business at the County Convention. When Precinct Meetings are held concurrently on the same day with the County Convention, all Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee shall be notified on that day and allowed to present their cases to the Credentials Committee. The Delegates and Alternates elected at the Precinct Meetings, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention.

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- b. If the County Chairman fails, refuses or neglects to call a County Convention as required by this Article, it shall become the duty of the Vice-Chairman to act in this capacity. The Vice-Chairman shall follow procedures given in Article IX.A.1. If the County Chairman or Vice-Chairman does not call the County Convention, it shall be cause for any member of the County Executive Committee, with the approval of the Congressional District Chairmen, to call such County Convention.

### 2. Convention Action

- a. Each year, the County Convention shall adopt or amend a written County Plan of Organization not inconsistent with this State Plan of Organization, a current copy of which shall be on file at County Headquarters and at State Headquarters. If the County Convention fails to adopt a written County Plan of Organization, the previously adopted County Plan of Organization shall remain in effect, to the extent not inconsistent with this State Plan of Organization. If a County has never adopted a County Plan of Organization and fails to adopt a written County Plan of Organization at a County Convention, the State Plan of Organization shall control. Failure to comply may result in the County Delegation not being seated at the State Convention by the State Credentials Committee. Failure of a County Republican Party to submit a County Plan to the NCGOP State Headquarters, within 30 days of its adoption, shall constitute agreement by the County Party to adopt the State Plan of Organization for that county.
- b. Elections
  - i. In every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such other officers as are otherwise provided for in the State or County Plan of Organization, who are registered Republicans as of January 31 of that year and who shall serve for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected.
  - ii. In every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect a County Executive Committee of five 5 or more voters, in addition to the County officers, who shall hold their places for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected. The County Plan of Organization may provide for the County Executive Committee to elect additional members of the County Executive Committee in addition to those members of the County Executive Committee elected by the County Convention.
  - iii. The County Convention shall elect 1 Delegate and 1 Alternate to Congressional District and State Conventions, plus 1 additional Delegate and Alternate for every 250 Republicans, or major fraction thereof, registered in that county, as of January 31 of that year. In addition, for counties located within more than one (1) Congressional District, the County Convention shall elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate Delegate for each Congressional District located within said county. Each County shall further elect 1 Delegate and Alternate for each Republican elected to the state legislature and to public office on the state or national level from said county in the last election held for that office. With respect to the District Convention, the additional 1 delegate and 1 alternate shall only be elected to the District Convention being held in the district in which said

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Republican elected to the state legislature and to public office on the state or national level actually lives.

- iv. If a county has been divided between 2 or more congressional districts, it shall prorate its Congressional District Delegate vote among these congressional districts in accordance with the Republican registration as of January 31 of that year in the political subdivisions within the county which have been divided among the different congressional districts. Congressional District Delegates elected to a Congressional District Convention, in addition to the other qualifications which they must meet, must reside in the congressional district to whose Convention they are elected. The Delegates to the County Convention from the political subdivisions in different congressional districts shall elect the Delegates to their own Congressional District Convention.
- v. The residency requirements stated in the previous subsection (iv) only apply to the selection of Delegates to the Congressional District Convention and nothing in the previous subsection (iv) shall be construed to create Congressional District residency requirements for election as a Delegate to the State convention.
- vi. Members considered for election in the previous subsections iii and iv do not need to be in attendance at the County Convention to be elected as Delegates or Alternates.

### 3. Credentials

The Chairman and Secretary of the County Executive Committee shall certify the election of officers, Committee members, Delegates, Alternates and Precinct Chairs to the District and State Conventions, on forms created by the State Credentials Committee and approved by the State Central Committee and in conformance with Article VII. Completed credentials shall be in the hands of or in the email box of the Congressional District Secretary and the State Headquarters no later than 10 days following the date of the County Convention. The postmark date will be used to determine compliance for mailed credentials. No Delegates or Alternates shall be added to the credentials list following the adjournment of the County Convention. Copies of all Notices in addition to a list of county and precinct officers, shall be submitted to the NC Republican Party and all applicable Congressional District Committees along with County credentials.

### 4. Convention Fee

For each person who is elected at a County Convention to be either a Delegate or an Alternate to the State Convention, the County shall forward to the State Party a fee set by the State Central Committee to defray the costs of mailing Convention materials to such elected Delegates and Alternates. A County Plan of Organization may permit the County Party to recover this fee from the Delegates and Alternates following their election. In addition, each County Chairman, with the advice and consent of his respective County Executive Committee, shall be authorized to assess a reasonable delegate fee, in addition to fee identified above, to defray the costs and expenses of conducting the County Convention.

### 5. Meeting Cancellation Due to Circumstances out of Party's Control

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When circumstances beyond the control of the County Party prevent access to or use of the County Convention facility (including but not limited to inclement weather conditions), it shall be the responsibility of the County Chairman to consult with the County Vice-Chairman, County Secretary and County Treasurer and make a decision on the cancellation and rescheduling of said County Convention in the most timely manner possible. All efforts should be made by the County Chairman to notify local news outlets of said cancellation and rescheduling information. Notice of cancellation and rescheduling shall be given to Republican State Headquarters within twenty-four (24) hours or on the next business day.

### C. DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

#### 1. Call of Convention

- a. A Congressional District Convention shall be called in every year by the Chairman of the Congressional District Committee at a suitable location within the district, within the month of April upon 20 days' written notice of the time and place for holding same to all members of the District Committee and to the County Chairmen within said district. In presidential election years when National Convention Delegate selection is held, the State Party Chairman in consultation with the District Chairmen shall issue the Calls to Convention.
- b. At the time of the call of the Convention, the District Chairman shall appoint a Credentials Committee, which will meet and issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to that Convention at least 3 days in advance of the convening of the Convention. All Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee shall be notified prior to the day of the Convention and allowed to present their cases to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention. The Delegates and Alternates elected in the County Conventions, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the Congressional District Convention. In years requiring reapportionment, the District Convention shall be called within dates designated by the Chairman of the State Republican Executive Committee. These Conventions are to be held after the General Assembly has completed Congressional redistricting.

#### 2. Convention Action

- a. Each year, the Congressional District Convention shall adopt a District Plan of Organization, or the State Plan of Organization a current copy of which shall be on file at State Headquarters. If the District Convention fails to adopt a written District Plan of Organization, the previously adopted District Plan of Organization shall remain in effect, to the extent not inconsistent with this State Plan of Organization. If a District has never adopted a District Plan of Organization and fails to adopt a written District Plan of Organization at a District Convention, the State Plan of Organization shall control.
- b. In every odd-numbered year, the Congressional District Convention shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary who shall serve for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected.



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- c. In every odd-numbered year, the Congressional District Convention shall further elect one (1) At Large member of the State Executive Committee, plus one (1) additional At Large member for every 8,000 Republicans, or major fraction thereof, registered within that district, as of January 31 of that year.
- d. In every presidential election year, the Congressional District Rules Committee shall prepare and adopt rules in compliance with the provisions of Article VIII.B.1.
- e. In every presidential election year the Congressional District Convention shall elect 3 Delegates and 3 Alternates to the Republican National Convention and shall nominate 1 Presidential Elector, who must not be a current elected public official (pursuant to state law).

### 3. Credentials

- a. The Chairman and Secretary of the Congressional District shall certify election of officers, and at large Members of the State Executive Committee, elected according to the provisions of Article VII.B.2.b. Completed District credentials, plus completed credentials for the Counties within the District, shall be in the hands of the State Credentials Committee Chairman by the deadline set by the State Chairman.
- b. The Chairman and Secretary of the Congressional District shall certify the election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention, in addition to the nominee for Presidential Elector, on forms furnished by the State Central Committee.

### 4. Convention Fee

Each Congressional District Chairman, with the advice and consent of his respective Congressional District Executive Committee, shall be authorized to assess a reasonable delegate fee for attending the District Convention. The purpose of this delegate fee shall be to defray the costs and expenses of conducting the District Convention.

#### D. STATE CONVENTION

##### 1. Call to Convention

A State Convention shall be called to be held in the month of May or in the first two weeks of June of each year, by the Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee after giving 60 days' written notice of the time and place for holding same to all members of the State Executive Committee. Delegates and Alternates elected at the County Conventions, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention. In years requiring reapportionment, the State Convention shall be called by the Chairman of the State Republican Executive Committee upon 60 days' written notice of the time and place to all members of the State Executive Committee.

##### 2. Election of Officers

In every odd-numbered year, the State Convention shall elect a State Chairman and a Vice-Chairman who shall serve for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected.

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### 3. Standing Committees

- a. The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Credentials, Plan of Organization, Platform, Resolutions and Rules. These Committees will be appointed no later than September 1 following the odd-numbered year State Convention elections. The Committees will remain in effect for 2 years until the next cycle of appointments. The State Chairman shall appoint three members to each of the Standing Committees for the Convention. Each Congressional District Chairman will appoint one person, other than himself or his spouse, from their district to each of the Standing Committees. The State Party Chair will name the Committee Chair for each of the Standing Committees from within the membership of the respective Committees. Twenty-five percent of the members of a Standing Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- b. The Credentials Committee will meet and issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to that Convention at least three (3) days in advance of the convening of the Convention. All Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee shall be notified prior to the day of the Convention and allowed to present their cases to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention.
- c. The Credentials Committee, Plan of Organization Committee, Platform Committee, Resolutions Committee and the Rules Committee shall give written notice of all business it will place before the Convention at least 30 days prior to the convening of the Convention by placing its reports on the NCGOP website. Any State Executive Committee member may request a written copy of the reports by mail. Any business on which notice has not been given shall not be taken up by the Convention or be placed on the agenda unless the propounder of said business shall have first furnished a minimum of one thousand (1000) copies of the matter to be considered, and then only if the Convention, by a two-thirds vote, agrees to address said business.
- d. The Plan of Organization Committee shall have the following responsibilities and duties:
  1. Propose amendments to the State Plan of Organization at the annual State Convention (Art VII.D.3.c)
  2. Serve as the final interpretive body concerning questions related to the State Plan of Organization or parliamentary procedure. Any question that implicates state or federal law shall be referred to the State General Counsel.
    - a. Questions concerning to the interpretation of the State Plan of Organization or parliamentary procedure shall be submitted to the State General Counsel and the State Plan of Organization Committee Chairman. Any decisions may be appealed to the Plan of Organization Committee for a final decision.
    - b. The State General Counsel and State Plan of Organization Committee Chairman may refer any question to the State Plan of Organization

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Committee. If the State General Counsel and State Plan of Organization Committee Chairman are not in agreement on a decision, they shall refer the question to the State Plan of Organization Committee for consideration.

- c. If questions arise because of potential conflicts between the District or County Plan of Organization and the State Plan of Organization, the questions may be submitted as stated in VII.D.3.d.2.a.
- e. If either the State Chairman or District Chairman fails to make the Standing Committee appointments within the time prescribed, the respective Vice-Chairman shall make the appointments.
- f. If, prior to the next appointing cycle, the residence of any Committee member appointed by a District Chair pursuant to Section VII.D.3.a shall change such that the residence of that member shall lie outside the District from which he was appointed, that person shall no longer be deemed a member of the Standing Committee to which he was appointed, and the District Chair shall, within 30 days of his receipt of notice of the member's change of residence, submit the name of a new appointee to the State Chairman, who shall serve for the remainder of the term of the former member. Should the District Chair fail to act in accordance herewith, the District Vice-Chair shall make the replacement appointment in accordance with Section VII.D.3.a. In the event that a change in residency within a District of a District officer or member of any District Executive Committee is caused by Congressional District Redistricting, said affected officer or member shall remain in his respective position until the next regularly scheduled District Convention which shall elect his successor.
- g. For all Standing Committees of the State Executive, State Central Committee, or the State Convention, a Committee meeting may be called upon the call of the Chair of the Committee or upon petition of 1/3 of the members of the Committee, after giving 15 days' written notice to all Committee members. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### 4. Presidential Election Year State Convention

- a. A Presidential Election Year State Convention shall be called in every presidential election year on or before the date specified by the Republican National Committee Rules of the Republican Party for the selection or election of Delegates to the National Convention, by the Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee after giving 60 days' written notice of the time and place for holding same to all members of the State Executive Committee. Delegates and Alternates elected at the Presidential Election Year County Convention, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the Presidential Election Year State Convention.
- b. In every presidential election year, the Convention shall elect Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention, in addition to those specified under Article VII.C.2.e, in the number stipulated by the State Chairman as determined by the National Rules. The Convention shall nominate a National Committeeman and National Committeewoman

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who shall serve for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are elected; and nominate two (2) Presidential Electors-at-Large, and two (2) Alternate Electors-at-Large (listed in order) who shall not be current elected public officials (pursuant to state law).

- c. In addition to the Standing Committees for the State Convention identified in Article VII.D.3, the State Chairman shall appoint a National Convention Selection Committee for Presidential Election Year State Conventions. The appointment and operation of said Committee shall follow the same guidelines for other Standing Committees outlined in Article VII.D.3, and shall have the further duties as outlined in Article VIII.C.

### 5. Convention Fee

The North Carolina Republican Party may charge a delegate fee to cover the anticipated costs of the General Session of the State Convention. The delegate fee should be based on the estimated costs of hosting the State Convention and the estimated number of attendees. The State Central Committee shall approve the delegate fee based upon information presented by the staff of the North Carolina Republican Party.

## ARTICLE VIII – NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE SELECTION

### A. DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE ALLOCATION

1. In every presidential election year the Presidential Election Year State and District Conventions shall elect Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention. Each Presidential Election Year Congressional District Convention shall elect three (3) Delegates and three (3) Alternates to the National Convention. The remaining At Large Delegates and Alternates allocated to the State, as determined by the National Rules, shall be elected at the Presidential Election Year State Convention. All Congressional District and At Large Delegates, Alternate Delegates and Replacement Delegates shall execute a Delegate Pledge which shall be prepared by the National Convention Selection Committee pursuant to its authority under Article VIII.C.1.a.ii.
2. For the purpose of determining the entitlement to Congressional District Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention by presidential candidates, the provisions of this subsection shall apply as follows:
  - a. A presidential candidate receiving more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes in any congressional district shall be entitled to three (3) Delegates and three (3) Alternates from that congressional district;
  - b. If no presidential candidate receives more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes in any congressional district, or if the rules of the Republican National Committee requires proportional allocation of congressional district Delegates and Alternates, the plurality winner is entitled to two (2) Delegates and two (2) Alternates from that congressional district, and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes receives one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate; provided, however, that if the plurality winner receives more than twenty percent (20%) and the number of votes received by the next highest candidate is

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less than twenty percent (20%), the plurality winner is entitled to three (3) Delegates and three (3) Alternates.

- c. If no presidential candidate receives more than twenty percent (20%), each of the three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall receive one (1) Delegate and Alternate.
3. For the purposes of determining the entitlement to At Large Delegates and Alternates by presidential candidates:
    - a. If permitted by the rules of the Republican National Committee, the presidential candidate that receives the highest number of votes cast in the statewide presidential preference primary, based upon a statewide canvass, shall be entitled to all of the At Large Delegates and Alternates;
    - b. If the rules of the Republican National Committee require that At Large Delegates and Alternates be allocated on a proportional basis, the total number of At Large Delegates and Alternates shall be proportionally divided among those candidates who receive more than twenty percent (20%) of the votes cast in the statewide presidential preference primary, based upon a statewide canvass.

### B. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SELECTION

1. The Congressional District Rules Committee for each Presidential Election Year Congressional District Convention shall prepare and adopt rules for the process by which Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be elected. These rules shall be adopted by the appropriate Congressional District Executive Committee and shall be submitted to the State Party at least two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled Presidential Election Year Congressional District Convention. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection shall also provide for the election of two (2) replacement Alternate Delegates, who shall be bound in the same manner as Alternate Delegates pursuant to Article VIII.A above.
2. The State Party shall maintain copies of the adopted rules for the election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention for each congressional district, and shall furnish copies of said rules to any and all presidential campaigns which are or were on the North Carolina ballot, and which have not suspended their campaign. Congressional Districts shall not directly provide copies of the adopted rules to any presidential campaigns, but shall refer any such requests for copies to the State Party.
3. The names of Congressional District Delegates, Alternate Delegates and Replacement Alternate Delegates to the National Convention shall be submitted to the State Party within ten (10) days of the Congressional District Convention. The names shall be submitted on forms provided by the State Party and shall be accompanied by an original signed pledge prepared by the National Convention Selection Committee, along with any other additional information requested by the State Party.

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4. Congressional District Alternate Delegate and Replacement Alternate Delegates' names shall be submitted in the order of replacement. In the event that a Congressional District Delegate shall resign, he shall be replaced by the first Alternate Delegate. The remaining two (2) Alternate Delegates shall be moved up in position and a Replacement Alternate will be notified of his election as the third Alternate Delegate.
- C. AT-LARGE SELECTION
1. National Convention Selection Committee
    - a. In addition to the Standing Committees for the State Convention identified in Article VII.D.3 above, the State Chairman shall appoint a National Convention Selection Committee for Presidential Election Year State Conventions. The appointment of the members of the National Selection Committee, and its general operation shall be governed by the provisions of Article VII.D.3.; however, the National Convention Selection Committee shall have the following additional duties and obligations:
      - i. The Chairman of the National Convention Selection Committee shall call a meeting of the Committee within thirty (30) days of his appointment to adopt rules governing the method of receiving applications or taking nominations for At Large Delegates and Alternate Delegates. The Committee shall submit its adopted rules to the State Party Chairman who with the advice and consent of the State Central Committee shall approve the proposed rules or recommend amendment;
      - ii. Pursuant to their adopted rules, the Committee shall prepare applications, Delegate Pledges and any other forms required for the selection of At Large and Congressional District Delegates and Alternate Delegates.
      - iii. Pursuant to the Rules adopted above, the Committee shall meet and prepare a slate of At Large Delegates and Alternate Delegates for submission to the Presidential Election Year State Convention.
      - iv. The number of At Large Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be determined by the National Rules. In addition to the number of Alternate Delegates determined by the National Rules, the slate shall include the names of five (5) Replacement Alternate Delegates, who shall be identified as such. The At Large Alternate Delegates and Replacement Delegates shall be listed on the slate in the order of replacement.
      - v. The Committee shall publish the proposed slate on the NCGOP website at least three (3) days prior to the commencement of the Presidential Election Year State Convention.
      - vi. Nothing in this Plan shall be construed as a prohibition from Delegates to the Presidential Election Year State Convention from nominating additional slates of At Large Delegates and Alternate Delegates to be considered in lieu of the slate

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prepared by the National Convention Selection Committee, provided that no name may appear on more than one slate.

### D. BINDING OF DELEGATES

The Delegates and Alternate Delegates serving as Delegates to the National Convention shall be bound by the results of the presidential preference primary for the first two (2) ballots and shall vote for the candidate to whom they are pledged. Should more than two ballots be required, the Delegates and Alternate Delegates serving as Delegates shall no longer be bound to the result of the presidential preference primary; however, the Delegates and Alternate Delegates serving as Delegates shall be bound by the will of the North Carolina delegation to the National Convention, who shall meet and determine how the North Carolina delegation shall vote. Only Delegate and Alternate Delegates serving as Delegates shall be permitted to vote during the meetings of the North Carolina delegation at the National Convention.

### E. DELEGATE FEE

The North Carolina Republican Party shall be authorized to assess a delegate fee to any Delegate or Alternate Delegate attending the National Convention. The purpose of this delegate fee shall be to defray the costs of the delegation attending the National Convention. Any Delegate or Alternate Delegate who does not pay any assessed delegate fee shall be permitted to attend the National Convention sessions; however, he will not be permitted to attend any other events whose costs would have been defrayed by the delegate fee.

### F. VACANCIES

If, thirty (30) or fewer days before the National Convention or during the Convention, a Delegate's position becomes vacant and is not filled by an Alternate, or if an Alternate's position becomes vacant, and is not filled by a Replacement Delegate, the State Chairman shall fill the vacant Delegate or Alternate position.

## ARTICLE IX - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

### A. MEETING PROCEDURES

#### 1. Annual Conventions and Presidential Election Year Conventions

- a. The County, Congressional District, and State Conventions shall be called to order by their respective Chairmen, or in the absence of the Chairman, by the Vice-Chairman or Secretary, in order stated, who shall have the power to appoint the necessary Convention Committees and temporary officers at or before the convening of the Convention.
- b. No member of a Credentials Committee created by this Plan shall be eligible to be elected to an officer or Executive Committee position at the Convention for which the Credentials Committee serves, nor shall a Committee member publicly support anyone for an office to be elected by said Convention. Except when voting in Convention, members of Credentials Committees shall strive to maintain the integrity of the Convention and the Committee by conducting the business of the

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Committee with impartiality and strict neutrality on the business and elections of said Convention.

### 2. Voting Procedure

- a. No Precinct shall cast more votes than it has duly elected Delegates on the floor at the County Convention.
- b. No person shall be seated as a Delegate at any County, District or State Convention unless such person shall have personally attended the Annual Precinct Meeting, and shall have been duly elected a Delegate or Alternate by the appropriate Precinct Meeting or County Convention; except, the registered Republican or Republicans, present at a County Convention from an unorganized Precinct, which has not had its credentials accepted, shall have the right to vote 1 vote per Precinct, prorated among those present from that Precinct. For those who were unable to attend the Annual Precinct Meeting, each County Plan of Organization may provide for a procedure to permit the election of persons to be Delegates and Alternates to the County, District and/or State Convention. Each County Executive Committee is hereby authorized to amend their County Plan of Organization prior to the Annual Precinct Meetings and County Convention for the sole purpose of implementing a procedure to permit the election of persons to be Delegates and Alternates to the County, District and/or State Convention.
- c. No Delegate, Alternate or any other member of a Committee shall cast any vote by proxy; provided, however, that, when not inconsistent with the rules of the Republican National Committee, any Delegate or Delegates present shall have the right to cast the entire vote of the County in District and State Conventions. At Congressional District Conventions, votes for district officers (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and any other offices provided in the District Plan of Organization) shall be by county according to the number of Delegates authorized to attend the District Convention, so long as there is 1 Delegate, from that county, on the floor to vote the Delegates authorized. At State Convention, votes for Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be by county according to the number of Delegates authorized to attend the State Convention, so long as there is one Delegate, from that county, on the floor to vote the Delegates authorized.
- d. At the Presidential Year Convention, the Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention, in addition to the National Committeeman and National Committeewoman shall be elected only by votes from the Convention Delegates on the floor of the Convention. Presidential Electors-at-large shall be nominated only by votes from the Delegates on the floor of the Convention.
- e. Ex officio members of the Committees have the same voting rights as the other Committee members, and are not counted in determining if a quorum is present. When an ex officio member of a Committee ceases to hold the office that entitles him to such membership, his membership terminates automatically.



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### 3. Special Meetings and Conventions

The State Central Committee, at any time, in the interests of the Republican Party, may direct the State Chairman or the Congressional District Chairmen to issue a call for Special Senatorial, Judicial or Legislative organizational meetings, and special County and Congressional District Conventions, in any or all of the counties and districts of the state. The procedure for calling regular meetings and Conventions shall apply to the calling of special meetings and Conventions so far as applicable and not inconsistent with this Plan of Organization.

### 4. Challenges

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Plan of Organization, challenges to Delegates and Alternates must be made in their capacity as individual Delegates and Alternates. The successful challenges of individuals in their capacity as Delegates and Alternates shall not affect the seating of other Delegates and Alternates in the same precinct or county Delegates unless it can be demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that the previous election of such successfully challenged Delegates and Alternates resulted in the election of other Delegates and Alternates within such delegation who would not otherwise have been elected, but for the votes of the unqualified Delegates or Alternates.

### 5. General Election Procedure

Notwithstanding any other Article in this Plan of Organization, the allocated Delegate slots and then the allocated Alternate slots allotted under this Plan of Organization to a Precinct or a County shall be filled first by the election of those duly qualified registered Republicans, eligible to vote, present at such Meeting or Convention and desiring to be elected to fill such slots. All duly qualified Republicans registered to vote may be elected by qualified Republicans attending the Meeting or Convention to fill slots that have not been filled by Republicans attending the Meeting or Convention. A County may provide in its Plan of Organization that only persons actually present are eligible for election as Delegates or officers.

### 6. Vacancies and Removals

- a. Any member of a Committee organized under this Plan may be removed either:
  - i. By a 2/3's vote of the respective Committee after being furnished with notice of the charges against him, signed by the lesser of (i) 50 members or (ii) one-third of the members of the respective Committee. Any Republican against whom charges are brought shall be furnished with 15 days' notice of said charges and be given an opportunity to present a defense. Removal by a vote of the respective Committee shall be confined to gross inefficiency, Party Disloyalty (as defined herein) or failure to comply with the County, District, or State Party Plans of Organization.
  - ii. Automatically upon such member's conviction (as defined below) of a felony after election to such Committee organized under this Plan without the need for any further action immediately effective upon such conviction, and the seat declared vacant. Each member shall have the affirmative duty to inform the Chairman of such Committee in writing immediately upon his conviction of a

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felony; provided that the failure of a member to so notify the Chairman in writing shall not delay, prevent or restrict the expulsion of such member from such Committee in accordance with this subsection.

- b. For the purposes hereof, a "conviction" shall be defined as the conviction of or the entering of a guilty plea, an Alford plea, or a plea of no contest to a felony.
- c. For the purposes of this Plan of Organization, "Party Disloyalty" shall be defined as actively supporting a candidate of another Party or independent candidate running in opposition to a candidate of the Republican Party or a Republican endorsed by the appropriate Executive Committee in a non-partisan election.

### 7. Non-Partisan Candidates and Office Holders

No County, Congressional District or State Committee of the North Carolina Republican Party shall offer an opportunity for a candidate for, or current office holder of, a non-partisan office who is not a registered Republican to address a Republican Convention or other function sponsored by the North Carolina Republican Party or any of its subdivisions.

### B. OFFICIAL RECORDS

Minutes shall be kept by all Committees and Conventions of official actions taken, and a copy shall be filed with the Chairman of the appropriate Committee or Convention and with Republican State Headquarters.

### C. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

#### 1. Records

The Chairman, Treasurer, and Finance Chairman of the County, District and State Committees shall keep faithful and accurate records of any and all monies received by them for the use of the said Committees and shall make faithful and accurate reports thereof when so requested.

#### 2. Loans

No officer, staff or member of the Party shall cause the Party to undertake a loan without the prior approval of the Central Committee.

#### 3. Budgeted Expenses

No State officer, or State staff member of the Party shall exceed approved total budgeted expenditures without approval from the Central Committee.

#### 4. Leases

No State officer, or State staff member, of the Party shall commit the Party to a lease in excess of \$10,000 or 90 days without the approval of the State Central Committee.

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### D. APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS

#### 1. Notification

It shall be the duty of the State Chairman to transmit notice of known vacancies on a county, district or state level to those persons having jurisdiction over such appointments.

#### 2. Filling Vacancies

- a. When a vacancy occurs in a governmental office for which a Party recommendation is called for, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the terms of this Plan. The abovementioned recommendation shall be provided by the Committee having jurisdiction over the district, which is subject of the vacancy.
- b. In multi-county offices or state legislative offices, the responsibility for calling the meeting rests with the State Chairman. The State Chairman may delegate this authority to the appropriate District or County Chairman or the Congressional District Chairman if the county or congressional district, as the case may be, encompasses all the district or county in which the vacancy occurs.
- c. Unless otherwise provided by law, notice to Committee members of the time, date, location and purpose of the meeting at which a recommendation for filling the vacancy will be considered, must be made by United States Mail First Class Postage prepaid to the last known address of the Committee member. Notice must be mailed at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a date and time less than five (5) days after the mailing of the notice to Committee members. The individual required by this Plan of Organization or appointed by the Chairman of the North Carolina Republican Party shall provide the Executive Director an affidavit or other suitable verification that notice was properly mailed, via United States Mail First Class postage prepaid to the last known address of the Committee members requiring notice of the meeting.
- d. Nominations to the County Boards of Elections for a full term by the State Chairman to the North Carolina State Board of Elections shall be subject to the following procedures:
  - i. At least ninety (90) days prior to the date the State Chairman must submit nominees to the North Carolina Board of Elections, the State Chairman must give notice by electronic and/or written means to the County Chairmen informing the County Chairmen of the deadline by which such nominations from the County Executive Committees must be submitted to the State Chairman. The deadline for nominations to be submitted to the State Chairman shall be at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the State Chairman must submit the nominees to the North Carolina Board of Elections.
  - ii. Each County Executive Committee, through the County Chairman, shall submit

## EXHIBIT B

to the State Chairman by electronic and/or written means the names and the order of the names for the nominations approved by a majority of the County Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the State Chairman must submit the nominees to the North Carolina Board of Elections.

- iii. If the State Chairman fails to accept the nominations from the County Executive Committee (including the order of the names submitted), the State Chairman shall provide the County Chairman in writing by electronic and/or written means a list of his final nominations to the North Carolina State Board of Elections and his reasons for rejecting the County's nominees.
- iv. If a vacancy occurs on a County Board of Elections the State Chairman shall establish a procedure in which the following occur: (1) the respective County Executive Committee is given the opportunity to submit nominations to the State Chairman; (2) the State Chairman gives the County Executive Committee notice if the State Chairman intends not to accept the submitted nominations, including the order of the names of the nominations; (3) the County Chairman is notified of the State Chairman's final nominations to the North Carolina State Board of Elections.
- v. In all events, the State Chairman shall give written notice to each County Chairman of the nominations submitted to the North Carolina State Board of Elections within fifteen (15) days of the submission of the nominations.
- e. In those cases where the State Chairman or, by appointment, the County, District, or Congressional District Chairman calls the meeting, the State Chairman shall designate the person to chair the meeting. The vote shall be conducted in a method reasonably calculated to assure accuracy and fairness to all potential candidates for the position.
- f. Should any clause or provision found in this section be deemed inconsistent with the laws of the State of North Carolina, those laws shall govern as to the particular clause or provision and the remainder of this section shall apply.

### E. FORFEITURE OF OFFICIAL PRIVILEGES

#### 1. Removal or Resignation from Committees

Any current or former officer or member of a Precinct Committee, County Executive Committee, District Committee, State Executive Committee or State Central Committee who, for any reason, is removed or resigned from said position shall forfeit all rights and privileges in any way connected with that position.

#### 2. Party Disloyalty

Any registered Republican attempting to influence or influencing the outcome of any election against a Republican candidate or Republican endorsed by the appropriate Republican Executive Committee or Legislative Caucus, other than by supporting an opposing Republican candidate in a Republican primary, may be declared ineligible to hold office under the State Plan of Organization at the State, District, County and Precinct level for Party Disloyalty by 2/3 vote of the State Executive Committee. Charges of

## EXHIBIT B

Party Disloyalty may be brought by petition of 50 members of the State Executive Committee, or by resolution of a County or District Republican Executive Committee. The State Executive Committee may declare a Republican found to have engaged in Party Disloyalty as ineligible to serve in any office under the Plan of Organization for a period of time between 6 months and 5 years.

### 3. Automatic Resignation.

Any Committee member or officer of a County, District or State Republican Executive Committee campaigning in person, on social media, or in any other manner for a candidate, in any race, who is not a member of the Republican Party and is running in opposition to a member of the Republican Party, shall have been deemed to have automatically resigned from the Committee and any position. In addition, no Committee member or officer shall serve as a treasurer or member of a campaign committee for any candidate, in any race, if that candidate is not a member of the Republican Party and is running in opposition to a member of the Republican Party.

### F. REFRAIN FROM UTILIZING POWERS OF OFFICE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Each officer and each member of any Committee created pursuant to this Plan of Organization shall refrain from utilizing the powers and dignity of his office or position in any Republican primary for public office at any level. Nor shall any Committee created pursuant to this Plan of Organization make or issue, in any way, manner or form, any endorsement in any Republican primary for public office. Nor shall any Committee issue any contrary endorsement or withhold support from any non-partisan judicial candidates properly endorsed pursuant to this Plan of Organization.

### G. PARTY OFFICERS AS CANDIDATES

In the event that the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the State Party, or any District, Legislative, Judicial or County Party, shall announce his intentions to run for public office or shall file a notice of candidacy with the Board of Elections, that person shall be deemed to have resigned his office within the Party, effective seven days after the close of filing, and the then-existing vacancy shall be filled as provided for herein. In those cases where the Party office held by said person is at the county level, the Party official may petition the County Executive Committee for exemption from this provision and the County Executive Committee may, for good cause shown, grant such an exemption with a two-thirds affirmative vote. This exemption shall be deemed void if any other Republican files with the Board of Elections for the same public office within that election cycle.

### H. ENDORSEMENTS IN ELECTIONS

#### 1. County and District Elections

In non-partisan elections or in elections where there is no primary election, District and County Executive Committees shall have exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans running in that district or county. Political subdivision Executive Committees (i.e., County Executive Committee) shall not issue endorsements in races unless the district resides entirely within the county. All members of the County Executive Committee may vote on the endorsements for districts wholly encompassed within that county, regardless of whether Committee members live within the district in question. In those districts encompassing more than one county or portions of more than one county, endorsements may only be made in accordance with Article IV.A.1.c

#### 2. Statewide Judicial Elections

## EXHIBIT B

In statewide judicial elections where there is no primary election, the NCGOP State Executive Committee shall have the exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans. Political subdivisions Executive Committees (i.e., County Executive Committees, Congressional District Executive Committees, etc.) shall not issue endorsements of statewide judicial candidates inconsistent with the State Executive Committee endorsements. At a properly noticed meeting, the NCGOP State Executive Committee is permitted to issue an endorsement of a statewide judicial candidate prior to, during or after the prescribed filing period for said statewide judicial office.

### 3. Notice of Endorsement Meetings

With respect to any endorsement provided for in this section (Article IX.H), and unless otherwise provided by law, notice to Committee members of the time, date, location, and purpose of the meeting at which any such endorsement will be considered must be made by United States Mail to the last known address of the Committee member. Notice must be mailed at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a time and date less than (5) days after the notice to Committee members. Such notice shall also be provided to all registered Republicans who are candidates seeking the office for which the endorsement is made.

#### I. NOTICE

##### 1. Written Notice

"Written Notice" as used in this Plan shall mean notice sent through the United States Postal Service (USPS) first class mail.

- a. The date post marked by the USPS shall be conclusive as to the date notice was given.
- b. Individuals entitled to receive written notice under this Plan may elect to receive notification by other means in lieu of written notice. This may be requested via written notice to the Secretary of the entity required to give written notice; however, this waiver is revocable at any time by sending written notice of the revocation to the Secretary.

##### 2. Notice

"Notice" as used in this plan shall be defined as the actual providing of the required information to the intended recipient by direct means which are substantially likely to inform the recipient. "Notice" can include, but is not limited to, US Mail First Class postage prepaid, telephonic communications, telefacsimile transmissions, and/or email. Any individual providing notice pursuant to the Plan shall document the time and manner of providing notice in the event a challenge to providing proper notice arises.

##### 3. Public Notice

"Public Notice" as used in this Plan shall be defined as the procedure for informing interested persons by means that ensure full and timely notice to the public of the event requiring notice. The primary means for Public Notice shall be the County, District or State Party's website. Other media such as radio, television, email, or US mail may be used with approval of the State Credentials Committee. All Public

## EXHIBIT B

Notices must appear or be broadcast at least 10 days prior to a Convention or special meeting.

### J. Electronic Meetings

Except as herein provided, meetings of the following bodies are to be held in person:

1. All State, District, and County conventions;
2. All State Executive Committee and State Central Committee meetings;
3. All required District Executive Committee meetings (Art. V.A.3); and
4. All required County Executive Committee meetings (Art. III.A.3).

These in-person meetings may be broadcast, as provided below.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a County or District Chair may petition, in writing or via email, the State Party Chairman for relief from the in-person meeting requirement. County or District Chairs may join together in a written or emailed petition. Grounds for relief consist of a need for a meeting which cannot be postponed; an event consisting of an adverse weather event; or a public health crisis; or an unforeseeable occurrence which counsels prudence against an in-person meeting. The State Party Chairman may grant the petition after a majority vote on consultation with the Vice-Chair, the General Counsel, the Treasurer, and the Secretary. The State Secretary shall record all votes for and against the petition.

On the same grounds the State Party Chair may grant relief from the in-person meeting requirement for State Conventions, State Executive Committee meetings, and State Central Committee meetings, on a majority vote after consultation with the Vice-Chair, the General Counsel, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, as well as the National Committeeman and National Committeewoman. The State Secretary shall record all votes for and against the petition.

In addition, any District Executive Committee meetings or County Executive Committee meetings beyond the required quarterly meetings may be held in person or electronically at the discretion of the Chair of the respective Committee.

Each State, District, and County Executive or Central Committee may authorize any Standing or special Committee formed under its jurisdiction to be conducted as an electronic meeting.

When the State Party Chair grants relief from any in-person meeting requirement for a State Convention, or a meeting of the State Executive Committee or the State Central Committee, the State Party Chair shall provide an alternative broadcast by electronic means of a meeting. When the State Party Chair grants relief from any in-person meeting requirement for a District or County Convention or Executive Committee meeting, the respective Chair of any such District or County party shall provide an alternative broadcast by electronic means of a meeting. In any 3 cases, the State Party Chair or the District or County Chair may provide a place for in-person participation.

Any meeting held electronically must allow each member to fully participate in its proceedings, including the right to attend meetings, to make motions, to speak in debate, and to vote. No member can be individually deprived of these basic rights of membership or of any basic rights concomitant to them, such as the right to make nominations or to give up previous notice of a motion.

### K. ACTION WITHOUT MEETING

## EXHIBIT B

Action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of any Committee organized under this Plan may be taken without a meeting by unanimous written consent of all members of such Committee. The action must be evidenced by one or more written consents signed by each member of such Committee before or after such action, describing the action taken, and included in the minutes or filed with the Committee's records. Action so taken is effective when the last member of such Committee signs such consent, unless the consent specifies a different effective date. Such consent has the effect of a meeting vote and may be described as such in any document.

### ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN

#### A. AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

##### 1. Timing of Amendment

The Plan of Organization may be amended, not inconsistent with the rules of the Republican National Committee, by majority vote of the Delegates present and voting at any State Convention provided, however, that the proposed amendment was mailed to the membership of the State Executive Committee, elected at the preceding District Convention, at least thirty days prior to the convening of the State Convention. This mailing requirement shall not apply to the report of the duly appointed Plan of Organization Committee, which shall be noticed pursuant to Section VII.D.3.c of this Plan.

##### 2. Proposed Amendments from Floor of State Convention

Amendments from the Convention floor to the proposed amendments to the Plan (an amendment to the amendment) which would materially alter the intent of the original proposed amendment shall not be considered in order unless the propounder of the proposed amendment shall have first furnished a minimum of one thousand (1000) copies of the proposed amendment, and must receive a two-thirds vote of the Delegates present and voting at any State Convention to be approved. This subsection applies only to amendments to amendments to the Plan that were mailed out to the Executive Committee as above described.

##### 3. Untimely Proposed Amendments

Proposed amendments to the Plan not mailed to the State Executive Committee thirty days prior to the convening of the State Convention shall not be considered in order unless the propounder of the proposed amendment shall have first furnished a minimum of one thousand (1000) copies of the proposed amendment, and it must receive a two-thirds vote of the Delegates present and voting at any State Convention.

##### 4. Administrative Amendments

Plan of Organization Committees shall have authority to correct any spelling or typographical errors in the Plan of Organization, as a housekeeping matter, that do not change the substance of the Plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan or any County Plan of Organization, in the event that there is a change in state or federal election law that renders a portion of this Plan ineffective, obsolete or inoperative, the Executive Committee may, upon a two-thirds majority vote, temporarily amend this Plan to the extent necessary to alter procedures or schedules affected by such change in state or federal election law. Any change made pursuant to this subsection shall be effective only until the date of adjournment of the next annual State Convention called pursuant to this Plan, Article



# EXHIBIT B

## VII.D.1.

### B. APPLICABILITY

#### 1. Rules as to Towns and Cities

This Plan of Organization is not intended to extend to or establish organizations for the Republican Party of various towns and cities of the State of North Carolina as separate units from the Precinct and County organization. Qualified and registered Republican voters of the towns and cities of the state may organize and promulgate their own rules not inconsistent with these rules and the organizations herein established.

#### 2. Rules as to Counties and Districts

The Precinct and County Committees and County Conventions, and the District Committees and Conventions are authorized to promulgate such additional rules and establish such additional Party officers or committees for their respective organizations, not inconsistent with these rules, as shall be deemed necessary. Counties may establish Executive Boards to transact the business of the Party between County Executive Committee meetings.

### C. AUTHORITY

#### 1. Controversies

Controversies in any County or District with respect to the organizations set up therein under this Plan shall be referred to an Arbitration Committee whose members shall be the State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman and General Counsel for arbitration. Parties before the Arbitration Committee shall have a reasonable opportunity to present their case through argument and evidence. The length and parameters of such argument, as well as the admission and consideration of such evidence, shall be solely within the discretion of the Arbitration Committee, but the Arbitration Committee must afford parties a reasonable opportunity to present their cases. Rulings from the Committee shall be made within 60 days, and their decision shall be final. All parties who participate in an arbitration shall have access to the final, written decision of the Arbitration Committee.

#### 2. Parliamentary Authority

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern all proceedings, except when inconsistent with this State Plan of Organization or Convention Rules properly adopted.

#### 3. Gender and Number

The masculine pronoun or title herein includes the feminine, and the singular herein includes the plural, wherever appropriate.

#### 4. No Proxy Voting

No proxy voting shall be allowed at any meeting or Convention held pursuant to this Plan.

#### 5. Days

## EXHIBIT B

All references to "days" shall mean calendar days unless otherwise stated.

### D. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Plan of Organization shall become effective and repeal and supersede all other rules, except as specifically noted, immediately following adjournment of the State Convention held on May 21, 2022. This, however, shall not invalidate any action taken under the previous rules prior to the date above. The adoption of this Plan shall not affect the term of those office holders at the time of the adoption of this Plan.

### **2022 Plan of Organization Committee**

**Secretary Ed Stiles**, District 1, Wilson County  
**Ed Gavin**, District 2, Wake County  
**Bob Pruet**, District 3, Carteret County  
**Melodie Parrish**, District 4, Durham County  
**Lynette Ramsey**, District 5, Caldwell County  
**Marcus Kindley**, District 6, Guilford County  
**Jerol Kivett**, District 7, Sampson County  
**Roger Farina**, District 8, Harnett County  
**Vice Chair Daniel Barry**, District 9 Union County  
**Caitlin Gregory**, District 10, Iredell County  
**David Eachus**, District 11, Haywood County  
**Anne Clifford**, District 12, Mecklenburg County  
**Rick Smith**, District 13, Randolph County  
**Jonathan Fletcher**, At Large, Gaston County  
**Alissa Batts**, At Large, Union County  
**Chair Steven Walker**, At Large, Johnston County



**Report of the Rules Committee  
for the 2023 NCGOP State Convention**

# EXHIBIT C

## 2023 REPORT OF THE RULES COMMITTEE

In accordance with the State Plan of Organization the 2023 North Carolina Republican Party State Convention shall be convened at the Koury Convention Center, 3121 West Gate City Boulevard, Greensboro, North Carolina, on Thursday, June 8, 2023.

The Rules of the Convention shall be as follows:

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

#### Rule 1

It is the purpose of these Rules to provide for a fair and open Convention in a manner that facilitates the business of the Convention, respects the rights of the majority and minority, and encourages full participation by all Republican Delegates.

### CONVENTION OFFICERS

#### Rule 2

- A. The officers of the Convention shall be the Convention Chair, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, and such other officers deemed necessary. All appointments shall be by the State Party Chair, or his or her designee.
- B. The Convention Chair shall appoint Assistant Sergeants-at Arms as necessary.

### COMMITTEES

#### Rule 3

The Committees of the Convention shall be the Committees on Credentials, Rules, Plan of Organization, Platform, and Resolutions.

### REGISTRATION

#### Rule 4

Delegates to the Convention must have registered for the North Carolina Republican Party State Convention 3 days prior to the convening of the Convention. Each Delegate's or Alternate Delegate's registration shall include the Delegate's or Alternate Delegate's name as shown on his/her voter registration, email address and phone number. A Delegate or Alternate Delegate shall not be considered registered unless all of the said information is submitted to the North Carolina Republican Party.

# EXHIBIT C

## REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE CONVENTION

### Rule 5A. Committee on Credentials

- A. Prior to the Convention, the Committee on Credentials shall post on the North Carolina Republican Party website a list of all Counties and respective numbers of Delegates and Alternate Delegates allotted.
- B. Prior to the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Credentials, no person shall be seated as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate unless elected as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate at his or her respective Republican Party County Convention.
- C. Motions to amend a Report of the Committee on Credentials shall only be in order pursuant to one of the following:
  - a. After the Report of the Committee on Credentials is posted on the North Carolina Republican Party website but before the presentation of the Report of the Committee on Credentials to the Convention, provided:
    - i. The motion is made by the County Chair, or in absence of the Chair, the county delegation leader, and
    - ii. The motion is made in writing to the North Carolina Republican Party 14 days prior to the convening of the Convention, and
    - iii. The motion concerns a discrepancy in the Report's Delegate or Alternate Delegate count for the respective County, and
    - iv. The Committee on Credentials shall confer with the County Chair or other authorized person prior to the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Credentials.
  - b. Immediately after the Report of the Committee on Credentials is presented to the Convention for such period as allowed by the Convention Chair.
  - c. After the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Credentials by the Convention, provided:
    - i. The motion is made in writing,
    - ii. The motion states the specific grounds for its proposed adoption,
    - iii. The motion is endorsed in writing by a member of the Committee on Credentials, and
    - iv. The motion shall have been submitted to the Chair of the Committee on Credentials prior to the motion's presentation to the Convention.
- D. The Committee on Credentials shall have available at the Convention a record of the Delegates and Alternates accredited to the Convention from each County.

## EXHIBIT C

- E. After the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Credentials, if a County does not have a full Delegation, the Convention may seat the Alternate Delegate(s) of that County as Delegate(s), up to the maximum number of Delegates for that County as allocated pursuant to the State Plan of Organization

### **Rule 5B. Rules, Plan of Organization, Platform & Resolutions**

- A. Motions to amend a Report of the following Committees: Rules, Plan of Organization, Platform or Resolutions shall not be in order unless a motion is made to the respective Committee Chair 10 days prior to the convening of the Convention.
- B. Any motion to amend a Report of the Rules, Plan of Organization, Platform or Resolutions Committees shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of all votes cast.
- C. Any motion to amend the State Plan of Organization pursuant to Article X. A. 1. of the Plan of Organization shall be adopted by a majority of all votes cast.
- D. Any motion to amend the State Plan of Organization pursuant to Article X.A.2. or 3. shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of all votes cast.
- E. The Reports of the following Committees: Rules, Plan of Organization, Platform and Resolutions shall be adopted by a majority of all votes cast.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### **Rule 6**

The order of business of the Convention shall be as published in the Convention Agenda.

## QUORUM

### **Rule 7**

A quorum for all business transactions and the election of officers shall consist of a majority of the accredited and registered Delegates as certified by the Committee on Credentials and present on the floor of the Convention.

## DISCLOSURE AND CLOSURE

### **Rule 8**

- A. No motion shall be in order unless each maker and seconder thereof states his or her name and county of residence.

## EXHIBIT C

- B. No Delegate shall speak in Convention longer than 2 minutes at any one time, or more than twice on any motion open for discussion.
- C. If any contest shall develop over any matter other than a nomination or election, the Convention Chair may, at his discretion, allow each side not more than 5 minutes to present its position.
- D. Any demonstrations or presentations prior to the voting for elected positions, other than traditional speeches, must have prior written approval from the State Republican Party Chair and the Convention Chair.

### VOTING

#### Rule 9

- A. Voting shall be conducted, at the discretion of the Convention Chair, by electronic ballot, voice vote or by the standing of the Delegates. On the adoption of reports from the Committees on Credentials, Rules, Platform, Resolutions or Plan of Organization, the Chairs of ten percent of the Delegations of the Counties registered and in attendance, or the majority of Delegates of the same, may require a roll call vote.
- B. For purposes of a roll call vote by paper ballot, the method of voting within each County Delegation shall be by a caucus of the Delegation.
  - a. The vote shall be counted by the County Chair or County Delegation leader. The County Chair or the County Delegation leader will report the total number of Delegates on the floor of the Convention from the County followed by the number of votes cast for each nominee or upon any other question presented for a vote.
  - b. If using electronic voting, Delegates shall vote as directed by the Convention Chair.
  - c. At the conclusion of voting, the votes shall be displayed for the Convention to view.
  - d. The Convention Chair shall be responsible for accurately converting the votes of Delegates on the floor of the Convention into the overall votes cast by a particular County pursuant to Article IX.A.2.c. of the Plan of Organization
- C. There shall be no proxy voting
- D. Delegates casting a vote must be on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast.

# EXHIBIT C

## NOMINATIONS

### Rule 10

In odd numbered years when the Chair and Vice Chair of the North Carolina Republican Party are elected, nominations shall be conducted as follows.

- A. Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair of the North Carolina Republican Party will be made from the podium upon recognition by the Convention Chair. Nominations for an election of Chair will be completed, followed by nominations for an election of Vice-Chair. The person nominating a candidate for Chair or Vice-Chair will be allocated a total of 5 minutes for his/her nominating speech.
- B. Up to three Delegates may second a nomination from the floor of the Convention upon recognition from the Convention Chair for the purpose of stating their name, County of residence, and the name and office of the nominee being seconded. No seconding speeches will be allowed.
- C. Before balloting for election to an office, each candidate shall be allowed 5 minutes to address the Convention. The order of the speeches to address the Convention shall be determined by drawing.

## CONVENTION GUESTS

### Rule 11

Only Delegates will be allowed on the floor of the Convention. All Alternate Delegates and guests must remain seated in the section designated for guests. The Convention Chair, in the Convention Chair's discretion, may allow guests to listen and observe the Convention. Guests shall not attempt to vote on or speak to any matter before the Convention.

## RESOLUTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

### Rule 12

No proposed resolution from the floor of the Convention by a Convention Delegate shall be in order unless it shall first be submitted in writing to the North Carolina Republican Party 7 days prior to the convening of the Convention. The resolution shall include the author of the resolution, and if applicable the name of any organization sponsoring the resolution. The proposed resolution can only be considered by the body upon a two-thirds vote of the Convention.



# EXHIBIT C

## PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

### **Rule 13**

*Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, most current edition, shall govern this Convention when applicable and when not inconsistent with these Rules and the State Plan of Organization.

## SUSPENSION OF RULES

### **Rule 14**

These Rules may be suspended during the Convention by a two-thirds vote, except that the Rules contained herein which are drawn from or implement provisions of the State Plan of Organization may not be suspended. Should any discrepancy between these Rules and the State Plan of Organization be discovered, the State Plan of Organization shall prevail.

## DURATION OF RULES

### **Rule 15**

The fundamental Rules herein shall govern until new Rules are adopted at a subsequent Convention of the North Carolina Republican Party.

### **2022 Rules Committee:**

Mark Edwards, First District (Chair)  
Christine Weason, Second District  
Cat Stash, Third District  
Floyd Adsit, Fourth District  
Jonathan Jordan, Fifth District  
Scott Harkey, Sixth District  
Vince Musilli, Seventh District  
William Taylor, Eighth District  
Sen. Danny Britt, Ninth District  
Charles Newman, Tenth District  
Sarah Reidy-Jones, Twelfth District  
Glenn Mace, Thirteenth District  
Ken May, Fourteenth District  
Russ Ferguson, At-Large  
Omar Lugo, At-Large  
Justin Brackett, At-Large

## EXHIBIT D



### North Carolina Republican Party 2023 State Convention

#### Thursday, June 8th

- 4:00 PM Registration Pick-up (Closes at 7:00 PM)
- Prefunction Area, Third Floor
- 6:30 PM Welcome Reception with John Solomon, Investigative Journalist and CEO of Just the New
- Victoria Ballroom, Third Floor

#### Friday, June 9th

- 8:00 AM Registration Pick-Up (Closes at 4:00 PM)
- Prefunction Area, Third Floor
- 8:00 AM District and County Officers Association Annual Meeting and Breakfast
- Colony A-B, Third Floor
- 8:30 AM *NCGOP GoRed! Training Series - Breakout Session One*
- Tips for County Fundraising with The Leadership Institute, Auditorium II, First Floor
  - Parliamentary Training with Billy Miller, Auditorium III, First Floor
  - Assisting Veterans with HBOT4Heros, Auditorium IV, Third Floor
  - Treasurer Training: Financial Compliance with ElectraFile, Colony A, Third Floor
- 9:30 AM *NCGOP GoRed! Training Series - Breakout Session Two*
- GOTV (Get out the Vote) with The Leadership Institute, Auditorium II, First Floor
  - Faith Engagement with Faith and Freedom Coalition, Auditorium III, First Floor
  - NationBuilder with NCGOP's Carley Martinette, Colony A, Third Floor
- 10:00 AM NCGOP Central Committee Meeting
- Victoria Ballroom, Third Floor
- 10:00 AM Republican National Hispanic Assembly of North Carolina
- Featuring Rep. Virginia Foxx and Rep. Mayra Flores
  - Auditorium IV, Third Floor

## EXHIBIT D

- 10:30 AM      *NCGOP GoRed! Training Series - Breakout Session Three*
- Precinct Organizing with Leadership Institute, Auditorium II, First Floor
  - Communications with GOCO Consulting, Auditorium III, First Floor
  - Treasurer Training: Financial Compliance with ElectraFile, Colony A, Third Floor
- 11:30 AM      *NCGOP GoRed! Training Series - Breakout Session Four*
- Election Integrity with the NCGOP and Republican National Lawyers Association, Auditorium II, First Floor
  - Voter Contact with Campaign SideKick, Auditorium III, First Floor
  - Ballots In. Ballots Out. Winning the Absentee/Early Ballot War in '24 with American Majority-Action, Colony A-B, Third Floor
  - GOP Data Center with the NCGOP's Josh Bailey, Colony C, Third Floor
- 12:30 PM      NCGOP County Chair Luncheon
- Blue Ash, Third Floor
- 2:00 PM      NCGOP Afternoon Business Session
- Guilford Ballroom D-G, First Floor
    - Report from the Credentials Committee
    - Report from the Rules Committee
    - Report from the Resolutions Committee
- 5:00 PM      VIP Reception
- Victoria Ballroom, Third Floor
- 6:30 PM      The Old North State Dinner featuring Governor Ron DeSantis
- Guilford Ballroom A-C, First Floor
- 8:30 PM      NCGOP Chairman's Reception
- Victoria Ballroom, Third Floor

### **Saturday, June 10th**

- 8:00 AM      Registration Pick-Up (Closes at 4:00 PM)
- Prefunction Area, Third Floor
- 8:00 AM      The Judicial Victory Fund Breakfast
- Imperial Ballroom, First Floor
- 9:00 AM      NCGOP Morning Business Session
- Guilford Ballroom D-G, First Floor
    - Report from the Platform Committee
    - Report from the Plan of Organization Committee
- 12:30 PM      First in Freedom Luncheon featuring the 48<sup>th</sup> Vice President Mike Pence
- Imperial Ballroom, First Floor

## EXHIBIT D

- 2:00 PM NCGOP Afternoon Business Session
- Guilford Ballroom D-G, First Floor
    - State Party Officer Elections
- 5:00 PM VIP Reception
- Victoria Ballroom, Third Floor
- 6:30 PM Grand Old Party Dinner featuring 45<sup>th</sup> President Donald J. Trump
- Guilford Ballroom A-C, First Floor
- 8:30 PM North Carolina State Legislative Reception
- Victoria Ballroom, Third Floor

### **Sunday, June 11th**

- 9:00 AM NCGOP Prayer Breakfast featuring Ralph Reed, Founder and Chairman of Faith and Freedom Coalition
- Imperial Ballroom, First Floor
- 10:30 AM NCGOP Executive Committee Meeting
- Guilford Ballroom E-F, First Floor

## EXHIBIT E

**VICE-CHAIR**

# Susan Mills


**NCGOP**



Susan Mills is the newly elected Vice Chairwoman of the North Carolina Republican Party. She is a lifelong NC resident, born in Rowan County and now living in Fayetteville. She is a graduate of Appalachian State University where she met her husband, Michael. They've been married for 37 years and have a daughter, Katie who is an attorney in DC. Susan teaches high school in Sampson County.


Prior to being elected NCGOP Vice Chairwoman, Susan was a County Chair, a District Vice Chair, President of the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women, and was actually NCGOP Vice Chairwoman before that. In 2020, Susan was selected to serve on the 2020 Electoral College and cast her vote for President Trump and VP Pence.

Susan's campaign pledge was to A.C.E. the party – Activate, Communicate, and Engage Republican voters across NC, and she is excited to take on that task now as NCGOP Vice Chairwoman!

## Connect

 <http://nc.gop/susanmills> (<http://nc.gop/susanmills>)

  ([https://twitter.com/intent/user?screen\\_name=ASUDZKA](https://twitter.com/intent/user?screen_name=ASUDZKA))

 (<mailto:susan.mills@ncgop.com>)

# EXHIBIT F

## App Store Preview

Open the Mac App Store to buy and download apps.



### NC Republican Convention 17+

North Carolina Republican Party

Designed for iPad

4.6 • 19 Ratings

Free

### Screenshots [iPad](#) [iPhone](#)

The screenshots display the following app features and layout:

- Screen 1 (Login/Registration):** Titled "LOGIN OR REGISTER". It prompts users to login if registered or register otherwise. Fields for "Username or Email" and "Password" are present, along with "Login" and "Register" buttons. A link for "I forgot my password" is also visible.
- Screen 2 (Main Menu):** Titled "CONVENTION". It features a grid of icons for:
  - Announcements
  - Agenda
  - Breakout Sessions
  - Floor Plan
  - Voting
  - Credentials
  - Resolutions
  - Platform
  - Meal Options
  - Receptions & Hospitality
  - My Delegate
  - Virtual Ticket
  - My County Delegate
- Screen 3 (Vertical Menu):** A vertical list of menu items:
  - Agenda
  - Floor Plan
  - Credentials
  - Platform
  - Receptions & Hospitality
  - My County Delegate

At the bottom of each screenshot, there is a "Buy Convent" button with a small app icon.

NCGOP Attendees can use this app to receive timely updates, learn more about the event, and vote in party elections.

### What's New

[Version History](#)

Version 1.0.6

# EXHIBIT F

Bug fixes and minor updates.

## Ratings and Reviews

# 4.6

out of 5



19 Ratings



Cale T. Lowery, 06/02/2023

### Innovative

This app is extremely innovative! The investment into the app interface really exemplifies the hard work of the team behind it!



jbailey7550, 05/23/2023

### Best Convention App

Best convention app in the apple store

## App Privacy

[See Details](#)

The developer, **North Carolina Republican Party**, indicated that the app's privacy practices may include handling of data as described below. For more information, see the [developer's privacy policy](#).



### Data Not Collected

The developer does not collect any data from this app.

Privacy practices may vary, for example, based on the features you use or your age. [Learn More](#)

## Information

### Seller

North Carolina Republican Party

### Size

20.9 MB

### Category

[Business](#)

### Compatibility

#### iPhone

Requires iOS 13.0 or later.

#### iPad

Requires iPadOS 13.0 or later.

#### iPod touch

Requires iOS 13.0 or later.

#### Mac

Requires macOS 11.0 or later and a Mac with Apple M1 chip or later.

### Languages

English

### Age Rating

17+

### Copyright

© North Carolina Republican Party

### Price

Free

# EXHIBIT F

[App Support](#) ↗  
[Privacy Policy](#) ↗

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