

RULES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE
(with all amendments through the 2019 Organizational Convention & Redistricting)

PREAMBLE

THE MISSION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE IS TO PROMOTE THE REPUBLICAN PHILOSOPHY AND TO ENDORSE THOSE PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT BY ELECTING QUALIFIED REPUBLICANS TO STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICE. THESE RULES ESTABLISH THE FRAMEWORK IN WHICH OUR MISSION CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED. THEY PRESERVE THE FAIRNESS AND INTEGRITY OF OUR SYSTEM AND ALLOW THE VOICES OF MANY TO BE UNIFIED AS ONE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL.

ARTICLE I. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All residents of the State of Delaware who are registered as Republicans on the voter registration lists of the respective Boards of Election within Delaware are members of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware.

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The State shall be divided into five (5) Convention Districts, also known as the five regions, as follows:

<u>Convention District/Region</u>	<u>Representative Districts</u>
1. Northern New Castle	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, and 16
2. Western New Castle	13, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26
3. Colonial	5, 8, 9, 15, 17, and 27
4. Kent	11, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34
5. Sussex	14, 20, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41

Regions may adopt different names with the consent of the Executive Committee. Because the 11th Representative District is the only such district which crosses County lines, at least 25% of any convention delegates attributable to the 11th shall reside in the New Castle County portion of the district and at least one of the four officers of the district (chair, vice-chair, treasurer, or secretary) shall reside in New Castle County.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

- Section 1.** The elected officers of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware shall be the Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Rules.
- Section 2.** The officers shall be elected at the Organizational Convention to serve for a period of two (2) years. Their term of office shall begin upon the final adjournment of the Organizational Convention.
- Section 3.** The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall come from separate Convention Districts.
- Section 4.** The duties of the Chairperson shall be as follows:
- A.** To be responsible for the administration of the affairs of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware;
 - B.** To be responsible for calling and organizing the State Committee meetings and conventions as provided in these Rules;
 - C.** To be the spokesperson for the Republican Party of the State of Delaware and for effective intra-party communications;
 - D.** To be the Chairperson of the State Committee and Executive Committee of the State Committee;
 - E.** To report regularly to the Executive Committee and the State Committee on matters of general interest;
 - F.** To hire and supervise an Executive Director and seek the advice of the Executive Committee on matters involving said Director. The Chairperson shall also be responsible to see that the appropriate staff personnel are employed to meet the administrative responsibilities of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware. The Executive Director shall not be an Officer of the Party; provided, however, that such prohibition shall not apply to serving as a delegate to a convention or serving on a campaign committee or serving as an officer of a Representative District committee;
 - G.** To make appointments to the Standing Committees pursuant to ARTICLE VII;
 - H.** To appoint a Parliamentarian who must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Parliamentarian shall function as the chief legal officer of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware. The Parliamentarian shall: (1) rule on technical and procedural matters at all meetings of the State

Committee and the Executive Committee; (2) inform the Executive Committee in writing of any violation of these Rules; (3) shall assist the Chairperson in implementing all requirements of state and federal law, and advise the Party on all requirements of state and federal law; (4) shall act as Chairperson of the Rules Committee and as an Ex-Officio member of the Executive Committee in a non-voting capacity.

Section 5. The duties of the Vice-Chairperson shall be as follows:

- A.** To be the Vice-Chairperson of the State Committee and the Executive Committee;
- B.** To assist the Chairperson in his/her enumerated duties and, during a temporary vacancy of the Chairperson, assume such duties of the Chairperson.

Section 6. The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:

- A.** To be the Secretary of the State Committee and the Executive Committee;
- B.** To assist the Chairperson in his/her enumerated duties;
- C.** To implement all requirements of state and federal law where and when applicable;
- D.** To file with the State Committee the Temporary Roll of Delegates and Alternates elected by the respective Convention Districts;
- E.** To call a Special Organizational Convention when a vacancy occurs in the office of the Chairperson, or in such other cases as may be required;
- F.** To comply with all the Rules of the Republican National Committee insofar as required by such rules;
- G.** To take and maintain minutes of the State Committee and the Executive Committee.

Section 7. The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:

- A.** To be the Treasurer of the State Committee and the Executive Committee;
- B.** To assist the Chairperson in his/her enumerated duties;
- C.** To file with the Delaware or federal authorities, where and when applicable, all necessary financial statements and reports;
- D.** To maintain at all times proper records of all receipts and expenses of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware.

- Section 8.** Whenever a permanent vacancy occurs in the office of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall immediately assume the office of the Chairperson. The Secretary, within ten (10) working days of said vacancy, shall call a meeting of the Special Organizational Convention to be held not more than sixty (60) calendar days following the permanent vacancy; provided, however, that if the permanent vacancy occurs after a general election but prior to the Organizational Convention immediately following such general election, then the Vice-Chairperson shall serve as Chairperson through the end of such Organizational Convention. The call to any Special Organization Convention required by this Rule shall be limited to only the election of a new Chairperson to fill the unexpired term.
- Section 9.** The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may be removed from office only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates of a Special Organizational Convention called for that purpose only.
- Section 10.** Whenever a permanent vacancy occurs in the elected offices of Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and/or Treasurer, the Executive Committee of the State Committee shall appoint successors for the remainder of the unexpired terms of office.
- Section 11.** No person may hold more than one office created by or listed in these Rules, or hold an office of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware and hold an office of any other constituent part of the Republican Party (such as National Committeeman or Committeewoman, Parliamentarian, regional chair, vice-chair or other regional office, representative district chair, vice-chair or other office of a representative district); publicly elected officials may, however, also hold a party office. Notwithstanding the foregoing prohibition, an officer of the party or a region may also serve as an officer of the New Castle County Republican Committee. No person shall receive compensation for service or work as a party officer (be it at the state, regional, or representative district level); but such persons may receive reimbursement of expenses. For purposes of this Rule, a chair or member of a committee shall not constitute an office, nor shall a position on a campaign staff of a candidate for office. In the event an officer accepts (whether by election or appointment) a second office, it shall be deemed a resignation of the first office.

ARTICLE IV. STATE COMMITTEE

- Section 1.** The State Committee, together with its Executive Committee established in Article V, shall constitute the regularly organized statewide governing body of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware.
- Section 2.** Membership of the State Committee shall consist of the following:

- A. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer elected by the Organizational Convention;
- B. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson elected by each Convention District;
- C. The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman;
- D. All Republican statewide elected office holders;
- E. All Republican State Senators and Republican State House of Representative members;
- F. The president or chief executive officer of the following organizations:
 - 1. New Castle County Republican Committee;
 - 2. Delaware Federation of Republican Women;
 - 3. Young Republican Federation of Delaware;
 - 4. Delaware Federation of College Republicans;
 - 5. Such other Republican organizations as the Executive Committee shall, from time to time, deem appropriate.
- G. Two (2) members per Representative District within each Convention District provided there shall be at least one resident from each Representative District within each Convention District. Subject to the foregoing limitation, members shall be selected pursuant to the rules of the Convention District from which they are selected. Members under this subparagraph G shall be selected for a term of approximately two (2) years, which term shall begin at the business meeting of the State Committee preceding an Organizational Convention and shall terminate at the start of the business meeting held prior to the next Organizational Convention. At least twenty (20) days prior to each such business meeting, the Chairperson for each Convention District shall submit the names of the members selected under this paragraph to the Secretary of the Party, together with such person's address, phone number, and representative district.

Section 3. Whenever a permanent vacancy for a member occurs on the State Committee, with the exception of elected officers and others who serve by virtue of their position, it shall be the duty of the Convention District or appropriate organization to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term. A permanent vacancy shall be deemed to exist upon death, incapacity, change of registration, written resignation, or in the case of a member selected due to residence in a particular district (convention or representative as the case may be), upon no longer being a resident of said district. In the case of any controversy regarding residency, a person's residency shall be the address where such person is registered and eligible to vote in a federal election.

Section 4. In addition to the duties delegated under these rules to the Executive Committee, the State Committee shall:

- A. Conduct a business meeting on the eve of each Convention;
- B. At conventions in which Presidential Electors are to be elected, elect a National Committeeman and National Committeewoman.

Section 5. Meetings of the State Committee shall be upon the written notice of the Chairperson or upon the written petition of thirty (30) members of the State Committee representing at least three (3) Convention Districts. The notice or petition shall contain the principal purpose for which said meeting is being called.

Section 6. Members of the State Committee shall, during their terms of office, remain registered Republicans and residents in the Convention District from which they are elected.

Section 7. A majority of the State Committee shall constitute a quorum. Proxies are not allowed.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Voting members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the following: The State Chairperson; the State Vice-Chairperson; the Secretary; the National Committeeman and National Committeewoman; the Region Chairpersons or his/her designee; the Treasurer, and three members of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware to be appointed by the State Chairperson with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, with one such appointed member from each of the three counties, the President of the Delaware Federation of Republican Women, the President of the Young Republican Federation of Delaware, the President of the Delaware Federation of College Republicans, and the Leadership of the State House of Representatives and the State Senate Republican Caucuses.

Ex Officio members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the following: the Parliamentarian; the Executive Director of the State Committee;; a representative of each Republican elected United States Senator, United States Representative, Governor, Lt. Governor, and statewide elected officials; the President or CEO of (a) the Republican Heritage Council, (b) the Black Republican Alliance of the State of Delaware, and such other Republican organizations as the Executive Committee shall from time to time deem appropriate.

Section 2. The State Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer shall serve in those respective positions on the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall hold not less than six meetings annually at such times and in such locations as determined by the Chairperson. Additional meetings may occur at the call of the Chairperson or upon written request of two-

thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Executive Committee. Proxies may be used at Executive Committee meetings by Region Chairs provided that the proxy may only be given to a party member who is a resident of such Region and not already a voting member of the Executive Committee. The Chairperson (or person otherwise conducting a meeting in the Chairperson's absence) may exclude non-members (except those with a valid proxy) from any meeting of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Executive Committee of the State Committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- A.** To review and approve an annual budget. Such budget shall be prepared by the State Chairperson and submitted to the Executive Committee in January of each year. A final budget shall be approved by the Executive Committee no later than the last day of February;
- B.** To review and approve an annual operational plan. Such plan shall be prepared by the State Chairperson and submitted to the Executive Committee. A final plan shall be approved by the Executive Committee no later than the last day of March;
- C.** To serve as an advisory board for the Chairperson in establishing and implementing all policies, procedures, and major activities of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware;
- D.** To review and approve members of a long range Strategic Planning Committee as may be appointed by the State Chairperson;
- E.** To appoint, where necessary, a Temporary Credentials Committee with the authority to hear and determine all contests relating to the qualifications of delegates and/or alternates to a convention;
- F.** To distribute delegates and alternates to a Republican National Convention in accordance with ARTICLE VI, Section 20;
- G.** At its first meeting following a General Election, or as soon as practicable thereafter, to set the number of delegates for each Convention District, pursuant to the formula set forth in these Rules for the following Organizational, General Conventions and any Special Organizational Conventions.
- H.** Upon a vote of three-quarters, to call a Special Organizational Convention for the purposes(s) set forth in the call.
- I.** Where in the opinion of a two-thirds majority of the voting members circumstances warrant a departure, to grant waivers from any time deadlines established by these Rules.

ARTICLE VI. STATE CONVENTIONS

- Section 1.** The Convention Districts shall be defined as is Article II.
- Section 2.** The Conventions of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware shall be of three (3) types: "Organizational Conventions," held in the odd-numbered years, "General Conventions," held in the even-numbered years, and "Special Organizational Conventions."
- Section 3.** Organizational and General Conventions shall be called by the State Chairperson and the Secretary not less than one hundred twenty (120) days in advance of the convention. Special Organizational Conventions shall be called at least sixty (60) days in advance of such convention. The call shall be sent to all Convention District Chairpersons. In addition, the call shall be published in two (2) newspapers of general statewide circulation not less than thirty (30) days prior to such Convention. The Chairperson shall schedule any Organizational or General Convention in May of each year, unless the Chairperson and the Executive Committee decide that, in their discretion and under circumstances then present, that a different date is more appropriate.
- Section 4.** The Executive Committee, at its first meeting following each General Election, or as soon as practicable thereafter, shall fix the number of delegates and alternates for each Convention District pursuant to the formula set forth in Section 5 below.
- Section 5.** All Conventions shall consist of 341 delegates. Such delegates shall be apportioned in the following manner:
- A.** Each of the three counties shall be allotted nine (9) base delegates. In New Castle County, the nine (9) base delegates shall be divided equally between the three Convention Districts.
 - B.** In addition to those delegates apportioned in subparagraph A above, each Convention District shall be allotted four (4) delegates for each Representative District within the Convention District.
 - C.** In addition to those delegates allotted in subparagraphs A and B above, 150 delegates shall be distributed as nearly as practicable among the Convention Districts on the basis of one and one-half (1.5) delegates for each one (1) percent of the statewide Republican vote cast in each Convention District in the last two General Elections. For purpose of these rules, the statewide Republican vote shall consist of the Republican vote for all candidates for federal and state office for which votes are cast on a statewide basis, including the vote for President and Vice-President of the United States. For purposes of allocating the 150 votes authorized in this subsection C for the 2013 Organizational Convention and the 2014 General Convention (and any special conventions that may occur after the

general election in 2012 but prior to the 2014 general election), only the election results as above defined for 2012 shall control.

- Section 6.** Notwithstanding the adjournment of a previous convention, the delegates and alternates to the most recent convention shall be the delegates and alternates to any Special Organizational Convention that may be called. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the position of delegate or alternate, it shall be the duty of the Convention District electing such delegate or alternate to fill the vacancy, provided that the requirements of Section 9 below are maintained.
- Section 7.** All delegates and alternates elected from each Convention District shall be residents of and qualified Republican voters in their respective Convention Districts at the time of their election and at the time of the Convention.
- Section 8.** Each Convention District shall be allotted three (3) alternates for each Representative District.
- Section 9.** Distribution and election of the Convention District delegates and alternates established in this Article shall be a matter of local determination within each Convention District; provided, however, that (i) each Representative District shall have not less than one delegate and one alternate; (ii) all applicable rules of the national party are followed; (iii) all registered Republicans who are registered to vote and eligible to vote in the next federal election in the Convention or Representative District, as the case may be, and who attend the meeting at which delegates are selected, shall be entitled to vote; (iv) there shall be no automatic delegates who are delegates by virtue of their position; (v) public notice in a newspaper of general circulation shall be provided at least fifteen (15) days prior to any election of delegates in the case of selecting delegates to a convention at which delegates to a national convention are to be selected; and (vi) such public notice of the election of delegates as the Convention District Chairperson or Convention District Rules require shall be provided; and (vii) thirty (30) days' notice is given to the Executive Director of any meeting at which delegates will be selected as required by Article XIII.
- Section 10.** The list of delegates and alternates shall be assembled by each Convention District to include name, address, representative district, and telephone number of each delegate and alternate. Such list shall be filed by each Convention District with the Secretary not less than twenty (20) days prior to the Convention.
- Section 11.** All notices of delegate or alternate contests shall state the ground of such contest and shall be filed in writing with the Secretary not less than ten (10) days prior to the State Convention.
- Section 12.** In the event of a delegate or alternate contest, the Executive Committee may appoint a Temporary Credentials Committee in accordance with Article V hereof. Before the evening preceding the day fixed for a State Convention, the Secretary

of the State Committee shall present a list of the names of the delegates and alternates, as certified together with certificates, to the Temporary Credentials Committee. The Temporary Credentials Committee shall, upon giving due notice, hear and determine all contests relating to the list of delegates and alternates. A list of delegates and alternates for said convention shall be filed by the Secretary with the State Committee not later than the evening prior to the Convention.

Section 13. The Convention shall be called to order by the State Chairperson, or, in his/her absence, the State Vice Chairperson. The Convention delegates shall then elect temporary Convention officers. The Temporary Convention Chairperson, who shall preside until a permanent Chairperson is chosen, shall appoint a temporary Parliamentarian. After accepting the report of the Credentials Committee, the Convention delegates shall elect permanent Convention officers. [NOTE – this section superseded by section 22 below].

Section 14. All resolutions to be considered by a Convention shall be filed in accordance with Article XII.

Section 15. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson of each Convention District to call to order caucuses of the respective Convention Districts for the purpose of organizing for the Convention. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform this duty.

Section 16. The primary functions of the Organizational Convention shall be election of the State Chairperson, State Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Organizational Convention shall also receive the annual reports of the officers, to include, where appropriate, a report from the National Republican Party, standing committees, and the report of any other committee ready to report and take such action on the reports as necessary and deemed appropriate.

Prior to the Organizational Convention, each Representative District at the Convention District Caucuses shall elect their delegates and alternates pursuant to their respective Convention District rules. The delegates chosen at the Convention District caucus shall meet and elect:

- A. Three (3) members who shall serve on the Credentials Committee; and
- B. Three (3) members who shall serve on the Permanent Organization Committee (if required).

Section 17. The election of officers at an Organizational Convention shall be by roll call. The roll call shall be omitted in the event only one candidate has been nominated and in such event election may be by acclamation. Roll call may be by Convention District or by individual delegate. A Convention District caucus may authorize one of its members to cast the vote of the Organizational Convention District;

however, the Chair shall honor the request of any delegate in that Convention District for a roll call of individual delegates within said delegate's Convention District.

Should no candidate receive the required majority vote of the Organizational Convention, the Chairperson shall direct the vote to be taken again until a candidate shall have received a majority vote of delegates present and voting.

Section 18. The primary function of the General Convention shall be the endorsement of candidates for national and statewide offices. The endorsement is intended to offer the sense of the Convention as to the best candidate for each particular office; however, in the event that more than one candidate enters into a statewide primary for an office, then once such second person enters into a primary, the Party may not offer party resources or money to one candidate but not another. The Party shall not make any monetary contribution to an endorsed candidate until after the deadline for entering the primary has passed, and, if there is a primary with respect to any endorsed candidate, shall not make a monetary contribution to any candidate for that office until after the primary election. Individual Party officers may work for or endorse any Republican candidate in a primary, whether endorsed at the Convention or not, as they believe appropriate under the circumstances, but the endorsement of any Party officers shall not be deemed an endorsement by the Party, which endorsement may only be made at the General Convention by the delegates. Following the completion of any contested primary election, all Party officers at each level of the Party shall work for the winner(s) of any contested primary election, and shall not personally endorse or work for the loser(s) of such election(s) whether as a write-in candidate or the candidate of a different party. Notwithstanding the foregoing requirements on treating primary candidates equally, the requirement shall not apply to statewide candidates who (i) were not registered as Republican for the preceding two general elections and (ii) were not endorsed at the General Convention.

The General Convention shall also receive the annual report of the officers, standing committees, and the reports of any other committees ready to report and take such action on the reports as necessary and deemed appropriate.

Prior to the General Convention, each Representative District at the Convention District Caucuses shall elect their delegates and alternates pursuant to their respective Convention District rules. The delegates chosen at the Convention District caucus shall meet and elect:

- A. One Honorary Convention Vice-Chairperson;
- B. Three (3) members who shall serve on the Credentials Committee; and
- C. Three (3) members who shall serve on the Permanent Organization Committee (if required).

Where no person sought the endorsement of the Party for a particular office at the General Convention, or where an endorsed candidate at the General Convention withdraws from the race or is otherwise unable to run, the Executive Committee shall be empowered to endorse a candidate for office, as follows:

- (i) The Executive Committee shall schedule a meeting following 15 days' notice to the regions and all candidates who have filed to run for the office and other potential candidates the party may wish to consider endorsing;
- (ii) Each region shall, for purposes of the Executive Committee's vote to endorse, be entitled to have three additional members from the Region attend and vote on the endorsement;
- (iii) Each candidate who has filed for office, or has otherwise been invited by the Executive Committee, shall be entitled to address the Executive Committee at its meeting.

Following an address from each of the potential endorsees, the voting members of the Executive Committee, together with the three additional members from each region, shall vote until a candidate receives sixty percent of the votes cast. After five rounds of balloting, the Executive Committee may, by a simple majority, vote to suspend balloting and not endorse any candidate.

Section 19. Endorsements of the Republican Party of Delaware for National and Statewide Offices shall be by roll call. The roll call shall be omitted in the event only one candidate has been nominated and in such event endorsement may be by acclamation. Roll call may be made by Convention District or by individual delegate. A Convention District caucus may authorize one of its members to cast the vote of the Convention District; however, the Chair shall honor the request of any delegate in that Convention District for a roll call of individual delegates within said delegate's Convention District.

A candidate receiving sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast shall receive the endorsement of the General Convention. If no candidate receives the sixty percent (60%) vote required for endorsement, the Chairperson shall direct the vote to be taken again until a candidate receives the required sixty percent (60%) vote.

If more than two candidates seek the endorsement for federal or statewide office, any candidate receiving less than ten (10%) percent of the vote shall be ineligible to participate in subsequent roll calls, and, if all candidates receive more than ten (10%) percent of the vote, then the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be ineligible to participate in subsequent roll calls. In the event of a tie among candidates for the lowest vote total, all candidates tied for the lowest vote total receiving less than twenty (20%) percent of the vote each shall be eliminated: provided, however, that if no candidate has achieved the required sixty (60%) percent after five rounds of balloting in which there has been only two candidates,

and for every three rounds of balloting thereafter, the Chair shall call for a vote of the delegates on the question of whether the convention should end with no endorsement for the particular office at issue, and, it shall take an affirmative vote of sixty (60%) percent of the delegates then voting to end with no endorsement; otherwise, balloting shall continue until there is either an endorsement or a vote to end the balloting with no endorsement. If, after three rounds of balloting, no candidate has achieved sixty percent of the votes cast, each candidate remaining shall be invited to address the Convention with a speech not to exceed three minutes.

Section 20. In those years when Presidential Electors are to be chosen by the people of the United States of America, the delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be elected by the General Convention. The election of said delegates and alternates shall be by majority of delegates present and voting. Votes shall be by roll call by Convention District. Distribution of said delegates and alternates among the Convention Districts shall be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the General Convention and the Executive Committee shall present a slate of delegates and alternate delegates to the General Convention for its consideration. Following the General Convention, if a delegate or alternate delegate is unable to attend, an alternate delegate shall become a delegate (in the case of a delegate unable to attend), and the Executive Committee shall be empowered to select a replacement alternate delegate. Delegates and alternate delegates selected to represent a particular Region shall, if possible, be replaced by delegates and alternates from the same region.

Section 21. Special Organizational Conventions may be called by the Chairperson, or Vice-Chairperson in the temporary absence of the Chairperson, as herein provided, or by a three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Executive Committee or upon written request of not less than two thirds (2/3) of the State Committee. The call shall state the purpose, time, and place of such Special Organizational Convention.

Section 22. Except as otherwise set forth below, the Party Chair and Party Secretary shall serve as the Chair and Secretary of each convention, and the Permanent Organization Committee shall not meet to recommend officers for each convention. However, if not later than ten (10) days before the scheduled date of a convention, a petition signed by not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the number of delegates scheduled to attend the convention, with at least five delegates from three Convention Districts, is presented to the Party Chair, Party Secretary, and Party Parliamentarian, then the Executive Committee shall, not less than three days before the convention select a temporary chair and temporary secretary for the convention who shall not be the Party Chair and Party Secretary, and the Permanent Organization Committee shall meet at the beginning of the convention to recommend a permanent chair and permanent secretary to the convention which shall either ratify such recommendation or otherwise select a permanent chair and permanent secretary. In all events, the Party Parliamentarian shall serve as parliamentarian for each convention.

ARTICLE VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

- Section 1.** The Standing Committees of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware shall be as follows:
- A.** Rules Committee
 - B.** Finance Committee
 - C.** Resolutions Committee
- Section 2.** The Chairperson shall appoint one (1) member to the Finance and Resolutions Committees who shall serve as the Chairperson of the Finance and Resolutions Committee.
- Section 3.** Each Convention District shall select two (2) members who shall serve on the Rules Committee. Each Convention District shall select three (3) members who shall serve on the Resolutions Committee.
- Section 4.** The Chairperson shall appoint the members of the Finance Committee.
- Section 5.** Members of the standing committees shall serve at the pleasure of the Convention District Chairperson or the State Chairperson as the case may be.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

The Rules of the Republican State Committee may only be amended according to the following procedure during an Organizational Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

- Section 1.** Proposed amendments to these Rules shall contain no more than one subject matter and shall be submitted by one of the following Originating Authorities:
- A.** Petition signed by thirty (30) members of the State Committee;
 - B.** Majority vote of the State Committee;
 - C.** Majority vote of the Rules Committee; or
 - D.** Majority vote of a Convention District.
- Section 2.** Each proposed Amendment to these Rules shall contain no more than one subject matter and shall be submitted in writing by an Originating Authority to the Rules Committee no later than seventy-five (75) days preceding the Organizational Convention by which they are intended to be considered.

Section 3. Proposed amendments shall be prepared in the appropriate form by the Rules Committee for presentation to the Organizational Convention. The report of the Rules Committee and those proposed amendments by such committee shall be sent to the Convention District Chairpersons at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Organizational Convention. Proponents of an amendment may withdraw the proposed amendment at any time prior to the Organizational Convention.

Section 4. Notwithstanding Section 1 and 2 above, the Rules Committee may propose its own amendments and alternative amendments, provided such alternative amendments, as proposed by the Rules Committee, together with the originally proposed amendment, are sent to each Convention District Chairperson at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Organizational Convention.

Section 5. Any proposed amendment which fails to attain the required two-third (2/3) vote for passage by an Organizational Convention may not be again considered except as a new proposal submitted at the next Organizational Convention in accordance with this Rule. Unless otherwise provided, all prevailing amendments shall take effect immediately following the final adjournment of the Organizational Convention at which they are adopted.

Section 6. Notwithstanding the foregoing requirements, if, due to changes in applicable state or federal law or National Party rules (including application or interpretation thereof), a two-thirds majority of a quorum of the State Committee determines that an amendment to these rules is necessary, the State Committee may amend these rules. Any amendment enacted by the State Committee pursuant to this section shall be considered at the next Organizational Convention; and, in the event such amendment does not receive two-thirds approval, it shall be stricken from these rules.

ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the State Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Rules and any special rules of order the State Committee may adopt.

ARTICLE X. COMPLIANCE

Section 1. These rules of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware shall be in compliance and consistent with the Rules of the National Republican Party, the laws of the United States and State of Delaware insofar as the same shall be applicable and shall supersede any and all Rules of the Republican Party of the State of Delaware previously adopted.

ARTICLE XI. PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES

- Section 1.** **A.** A majority of a quorum of the Executive Committee shall, on or before November 1 of the year preceding the year of a presidential election, determine whether the Republican Party of the State of Delaware shall conduct a presidential primary in accordance with this Article and Chapter 31, Title 15, of the Delaware Code.
- B.** Based upon the decision of the Executive Committee, the Chairperson shall either (1) notify the State Election Commissioner that pursuant to 15 Del. C. § 3181(b) the Republican Party of the State of Delaware elects not to conduct a presidential primary, or (2) certify and forward a copy of these rules to the State Election Commissioner pursuant to 15 Del. C. § 3185.
- C.** In the event the Executive Committee determines the Republican Party shall conduct a presidential primary, then the rules set forth in this article shall govern and control the selection of delegates to the Republican National Convention and the manner in which the delegates shall vote and shall supersede all other rules related to such matters. In the event the Executive Committee determines that the Republican Party shall not conduct or take part in a presidential primary, then the rules set forth in this article shall not apply.

Section 2. Delegates and alternate delegates shall be selected as set forth in this Article VI, Section 20.

Section 3. On the first ballot for the National Party's presidential candidate at the Republican National Convention, each delegate or alternate delegate entitled to vote shall vote for the candidate who wins a plurality of the votes cast in the presidential primary conducted in accordance with the Chapter 31, Title 15 of the Delaware Code; except that, in the event such winning candidate withdraws, dies, or otherwise releases his or her delegates, then each delegate or alternate delegate entitled to vote may vote for any other presidential candidate he or she chooses. On subsequent ballots, if any, each delegate or alternate delegate may vote for any presidential candidate he or she chooses.

Section 4. Presidential candidates shall not nominate or propose any delegates or alternate delegates.

ARTICLE XII. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Section 1. All substantive resolutions (that is, all resolutions which call on the party to take a position on an issue or advocate a policy or position) shall be submitted to the chair of the Resolutions Committee in writing at least forty (40) days prior to the convention at which the resolution is to be considered. Non-substantive

resolutions shall be in writing and filed with the Secretary on or before the evening preceding the Convention.

- Section 2.** Resolutions may only embrace one subject.
- Section 3.** Resolutions may only be submitted by a member of the State Committee or a duly elected delegate to the convention.
- Section 4.** Resolutions may not amend nor be contrary to the Rules.
- Section 5.** Unless no resolutions have been timely submitted, the Resolutions Committee shall meet at least twice prior to the convention for which it has received proposed resolutions to consider such resolutions. The chair shall set the time and place for such meetings. At least 5 days' notice of such meeting(s) shall be provided in writing to all Committee members, the chair of each Region and the Party Chairperson, either via regular first class mail or telecopy, although the failure of any member or members to receive such notice shall not invalidate any meeting. A quorum of sixty (60%) percent shall be necessary for the Committee to conduct any business.
- Section 6.** Meetings of the Resolutions Committee shall be conducted as determined by the chair. The Committee shall invite a sponsor of the resolution to come before it, and may invite others interested in such resolution to appear as well.
- Section 7.** The Resolutions Committee may modify the language and wording of any proposed resolution as it deems appropriate. Any such modified resolutions shall not be considered new resolutions and shall not be subject to the 40 day time limitation.
- Section 8.** Unless a proposed resolution is favorably reported by the Resolutions Committee, by a majority vote of the members present when such resolution is voted upon, the proposed resolution shall not be considered by the convention.
- Section 9.** Prior to the convention, the Resolutions Committee shall prepare a written report identifying all of the resolutions received and whether such resolutions have been favorably or unfavorably reported. Such report shall be available to delegates to the convention not later than the night before the convention.
- Section 10.** Non-substantive resolutions honoring individuals and organizations, and expressing condolences, etc., which do not call upon the party to take a policy position or endorse a particular policy may be referred to the Committee as late as the day before the convention for consideration and need not be contained in the Committee's written report. To the extent there is any question as to whether a resolution is substantive or non-substantive, the chair shall make the final determination.

ARTICLE XIII. CONVENTION DISTRICTS

- Section 1.** Each Convention District shall provide the Executive Director with advance notice, as reasonably practicable, of Convention District meetings and other events so that notice of such meetings and events can be included on the party's website and appropriate publications and included on the party's master calendar so, to the greatest extent possible, conflicts can be avoided and all party members will know of other Conventions District events.
- Section 2.** Each Convention District shall provide the Executive Director with at least thirty (30) days' written notice of any meeting at which delegates to a convention will be elected so that any applicable public notice requirements can be satisfied.
- Section 3.** Each Convention District shall provide the Executive Director with a copy of such district's rules.
- Section 4.** Convention Districts in New Castle County shall meet with the entire New Castle County Committee as required by Article XIV; however, nothing shall prohibit such regions from caucusing either before or after such meetings to conduct any specific Convention District business.
- Section 5.** Where there are two or more publicly announced candidates for any elected office (other than statewide office) representing all or a portion of a Convention District, the Convention District may, after 15 days' written notice to all such candidates, meet and endorse one of the candidates in a manner consistent with the Convention District's rules. For purposes of this rule, a Convention District need not wait until after the filing deadline set forth by applicable law for such office to make an endorsement, but shall not make any endorsement more than two months prior to the filing deadline. Where an elected office includes territory located in two or more Convention Districts, the Convention District with the highest number of voters represented by such office shall make the endorsement. In the case of county-wide offices of New Castle County, the New Castle County Republican Committee shall make any endorsements. The Party shall not make any monetary contribution to an endorsed candidate until after the deadline for entering the primary has passed, and, if there is a primary with respect to any endorsed candidate, shall not make a monetary contribution to any candidate until after the primary election. Individual Party officers may work for or endorse any Republican candidate in a primary, whether endorsed by the Convention District or not, as such officers believe appropriate under the circumstances, but the endorsement of any Party officers shall not be deemed an endorsement by the Convention District, which endorsement may only be made by the Convention District in accordance with its rules and procedures. Following the completion of any contested primary election, all Party officers at each level of the Party shall work for the winner(s) of any contested primary election, and shall not personally endorse or work for the loser(s) of such election(s) whether as a write-in candidate or the candidate of a different party.

ARTICLE XIV. NEW CASTLE COUNTY COMMITTEE

- Section 1.** As required by state law, there shall be a Republican committee for New Castle County known as the New Castle County Republican Committee. The Committee shall consist of the three Convention Districts located in New Castle County (Northern, Western, and Southeast).
- Section 2.** The membership of the New Castle County Republican Executive Committee shall consist of the three regional chairs in New Castle County, one member who serves at the pleasure of the State Chair, and 1 member elected by the three regional chairs, who shall serve for a period of two years beginning with such member's selection at the Executive Committee's first meeting in the month following an Organizational Convention. The Committee shall have a Chair and such other offices as the Executive Committee deems appropriate. Notwithstanding the prohibition on dual office holding set forth in these Rules, a regional chair may also serve as an officer of the New Castle County Republican Committee. For voting purposes, all five members of the Executive Committee shall be the voting members. The Chair shall serve a term of two years, provided, though, that the chair may be replaced earlier by a vote of 3 of the 5 members of the Executive Committee.
- Section 3.** The New Castle County Republican Committee shall serve all functions required by State law. In addition, the Committee shall focus on and provide support for county-wide elections and on elections for County Council members. The Committee shall also coordinate with the regions in New Castle County so as to most effectively utilize and deploy resources in the County. Finally, the Committee may make endorsements in New Castle County-wide races for New Castle County-wide offices.
- Section 4.** Meetings of the New Castle County Republican Executive Committee shall be held on not less than one weeks' notice as called by the Chair of the Committee (except in the case of emergency or exceptional situations as determined by a majority of the five regional chairs) or as called by three or more members of the Committee.
- Section 5.** Meetings of the New Castle County Committee shall be held at least once a year during non-election years, and at least twice a year during election years. Such meetings shall be in lieu of individual region meetings, and all regions shall be invited to the Committee meeting.
- Section 6.** These provisions relating to the New Castle County Republican Committee shall take effect the day of their adoption and shall supersede and replace any existing rules related to the Committee. Nothing shall prohibit the Committee from adopting additional rules, so long as such rules are not inconsistent with these Rules and do not provide for any additional voting members.

ARTICLE XV. SAVINGS CLAUSE

Section 1. In the event any Article or Section in these rules shall be declared illegal or not applicable, the remaining Articles and Sections shall survive and remain in full force and effect.