

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF
THE SUMMIT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the Summit County Democratic Party.

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2012

SECRETARY OF STATE

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purposes of this organization shall be to advance the principles of democracy, to uphold human and civil rights, and to promote and defend constitutional government. Toward these ends, the Summit County Democratic Party dedicates itself to maintaining an open, representative, effective, and responsible party organization at all levels in Summit County, to advancing the interests of the National and Ohio Democratic Parties, and to supporting the election of Democratic candidates and the adoption of policies consonant with the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Membership in this Party shall be open to all residents of Summit County who support the Constitutions of the United States, the State of Ohio, and the Summit County Democratic Party, and who are not members of any other political party.

ARTICLE IV

Governing Body

1. The governing body of the Summit County Democratic Party shall be its Central and Executive Committee, hereinafter referred to simply as the Central Committee, which shall be composed of one member from each election precinct in Summit County chosen in the manner prescribed by law.
2. The Central Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairperson. Meetings shall be held as required by law, within twenty (20) days of the Chairperson's receipt of a written petition from at least ten (10) percent of the members of the Central Committee, and at such other times as the Chairperson deems appropriate, provided that no more than one year shall elapse between meetings of the Central Committee. If a meeting is called for the purpose of appointing an officer of a municipality that includes one or more precincts in an adjacent county, notice of the meeting shall be given to the members of the Democratic Central Committee of such county who represent such precincts, and such members shall be entitled to participate and vote in the meeting.

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SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
COLUMBUS, OHIO

3. Members shall be notified of meetings by letter or postcard sent at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting by regular U.S. Mail to the last address of any member appearing on the records of the Secretary. The purpose(s) of the meeting shall be stated in the notice.
4. A quorum for a meeting of the entire Central Committee shall consist of 50 of its members; otherwise, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members who are eligible to vote in the meeting. No member shall vote by proxy.

ARTICLE V

Officers

1. The officers of the Central Committee shall be Chairperson, a First Vice-Chairperson, a Second Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
2. The officers shall be elected by ballot at each biennial meeting required by law, and shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected. Their terms shall begin at the end of the biennial meeting at which they are elected.
3. The officers shall perform the duties prescribed in this section and such duties as are otherwise prescribed by this Constitution or by the parliamentary authority adopted in this Constitution.
 - a. The Chairperson shall be the chief executive officer of the Party, and shall preside over all meetings of the Central Committee.
 - b. The First Vice-Chairperson shall perform the functions of the Chairperson in the event of the absence, incapacity or removal of the Chairperson, and shall perform such other duties as are assigned by the Chairperson.
 - c. The Second Vice-Chairperson shall perform the functions of the Chairperson in the event of the absence, incapacity, or removal of the Chairperson and First Vice-Chairperson, and shall perform such other duties as are assigned by the Chairperson.
 - d. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the Central Committee, maintain all non-financial records of the Party, and send such notices and other communications as may be required.
 - e. The Treasurer shall have custody of the funds of the Party; conduct the financial affairs of the Party, including receiving, depositing, and disbursing funds; maintain clear and accurate financial records; and annually make a detailed report of the financial condition of the party showing all receipts and expenditures.
4. No member shall hold more than one office at a time.

ARTICLE VI
Steering Committee

1. The Steering Committee shall be composed of the following persons:
 - a. A number of persons elected by and from among the Central Committee members from each of the following wards, cities, townships, and districts:
 - i. The wards of the City of Akron;
 - ii. The cities of Barberton, Cuyahoga Falls, Fairlawn, Green, City of Hudson Village, Macedonia, Norton, Stow and Tallmadge;
 - iii. The townships of Bath, Copley, Coventry, and Sagamore Hills; and
 - iv. District 1, which shall consist of the Village of New Franklin and Clinton Village; District 2, which shall consist of the City of Munroe Falls and the Village of Silver Lake; District 3, which shall consist of the Townships of Boston and Richfield and the Villages of Boston Heights, Peninsula and Richfield; District 4, which shall consist of the Township of Springfield and the Villages of Lakemore and Mogadore; District 5, which shall consist of the Township of Northfield Center and the Village of Northfield; and District 6, which shall consist of the City and Township of Twinsburg and the Village of Reminderville.

The number of persons elected from each of the wards, cities, townships, and districts specified above shall be determined by dividing the number of election precincts in each by ten and rounding the quotient to the nearest whole number;

- b. The officers of the Central Committee; and
- c. Twelve (12) other persons appointed by the Chairperson and two (2) persons appointed by each of the remaining Executive Committee Members.

The Chairperson and the members of the Central Committee, when appointing and electing, respectively, the members of the Steering Committee, shall attempt to ensure fair representation of diverse groups within the party, including women and racial minorities. The elections of Steering Committee members shall be held in meetings called by the Chairperson and convened within three weeks following the statutorily required biennial meeting of the Central Committee. Such meetings shall be chaired by the Chairperson or another member of the Central Committee designated by the Chairperson.

2. The officers of the Central Committee shall be the officers of the Steering Committee.
3. The Steering Committee shall elect delegates to state conventions, recommend allocation of party funds to election campaigns, recommend candidates for appointment to judicial office, and advise the Chairperson on matters of concern to the Party. The Steering Committee may delegate the exercise of its powers to such subcommittees as it may choose to establish.

ARTICLE VII
Other Committees

1. An Auditing Committee consisting of not fewer than three (3) nor more than five (5) members shall be elected biennially by the Steering Committee. The Auditing Committee shall audit the Treasurer's accounts at the close of the fiscal year and at such other times as the Party Chairperson or any member of the Audit Committee may request.
2. A Finance Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson promptly after each biennial meeting of the Central Committee required by law. The Finance Committee shall advise and assist the Chairperson, Treasurer, and Steering Committee in the raising and expenditure of Party funds.
3. A Campaign Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson promptly after each biennial meeting of the Central Committee required by law. The Campaign Committee shall assist the campaigns of Democratic candidates and of committees supporting positions taken by the Party concerning ballot issues.
4. A Platform Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson promptly after each biennial meeting of the Central Committee required by law. The Platform Committee shall study issues of public concern and may from time to time recommend policy positions for adoption by the Central Committee.
5. Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the Chairperson as the Central or Steering Committees shall from time to time deem necessary to carry of the work of the Party.
6. In appointing chairpersons and members of committees, the Party Chairperson shall attempt to include a broad cross-section of the Democratic Party, including women, minorities, labor, business, officeholders, all regions of the County, the young, senior citizens, and club and ward leaders.
7. The Chairperson shall be an ex officio member of all committees, and shall appoint the chairs of all committees except the Audit Committee, who shall be elected by its members.

ARTICLE VIII
Endorsements

1. Limitation:
Candidates for elected office shall not be endorsed by the Party, except as provided in this Article.
2. Non-voted Endorsements:
 - a. Any person who is nominated as a Democratic candidate for an office by winning a partisan primary election shall be considered endorsed by the Party.

b. Any person who is nominated as a candidate for an office by winning a non-partisan primary election shall be considered endorsed by the Party if such person would be legally qualified to be nominated as a Democratic candidate in a partisan primary election. (Hereafter, a person so qualified will be referred to as a "Democrat" or a "Democratic candidate".)

c. Any Democrat who is a candidate for an office for which there is no primary election shall be considered endorsed by the Party if the number of Democratic candidates for the office does not exceed the number of persons to be elected to it.

d. Any Democrat who is a candidate in a non-partisan primary election shall be considered endorsed by the Party if the number of Democratic candidates for the office does not exceed the number of persons to be elected to it

e. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this section (2), a candidate shall not be considered endorsed by the Party if, at a meeting called expressly for the purpose of denying a non-voted endorsement, a motion to deny such endorsement is adopted by a two-thirds vote. The Chairperson of the Party shall call such a meeting upon written request by not fewer than twenty-five (25) percent of the persons eligible to vote therein, and otherwise may call such a meeting at his or her own discretion. The meeting shall be called and conducted in accordance with the procedures established in this Constitution and the By-Laws of the Party, except that a quorum shall consist of a majority of the persons eligible to vote on the matter under consideration. The meeting shall be presided over by the Party Chairperson, First-Vice Chairperson, or Second Vice-Chairperson, as provided in Article V of this Constitution. The following persons shall be eligible to vote in a meeting to deny a non-voted endorsement.

i. Every member of the Central Committee who is the elected or appointed representative of a precinct within the unit(s) of government served by the office under consideration. For purposes of this provision, unit(s) of government means the county if the office serves the entire county; the city, township, or village or the several of them, in terms of which the geographical jurisdiction of the office is defined; or, in the case of an office of a limited purpose governmental unit, the district served the office.

ii. The officers of the Central Committee; and

iii. All other registered Democrats who hold elective office except judges, including those who hold such office as a result of appointment to a vacancy, and who reside in a precinct described in clause (i) above.

3. Voted Endorsements:

a. If the number of Democrats who are candidates for an office or party nomination exceeds the number of persons to be elected to it, the Party may endorse candidates for the office according to the following procedures:

b. The Chairperson of the Party shall call, for the purpose of considering an endorsement or endorsements, a meeting upon written request by not fewer than twenty-five (25) percent of the persons eligible to vote therein, and otherwise may call such a meeting at his or her own

discretion. The meeting shall be called and conducted in accordance with the procedures established in this Constitution and the By-Laws of the Party.

c. The following persons shall be eligible to vote on an endorsement:

i. Every member of the Central Committee who is the elected or appointed representative of a precinct that participates in the election of the office under consideration;

ii. The officers of the Central Committee; and

iii. All other registered Democrats who hold elective public office except judges, including those who hold such office as a result of appointment to a vacancy, and who reside in a precinct that participates in the election of the office under consideration.

c. The meeting shall be presided over by the Chairperson of the Party, First Vice-Chairperson, or Second Vice-Chairperson, as provided in Article V of this Constitution, and shall be called and conducted according to the procedures established by this Constitution and the By-Laws of the Party.

d. A candidate shall be endorsed if he or she receives the votes of a majority of the persons eligible to vote on the endorsement who are present at the meeting.

4. Effect of Endorsement:

The Chairperson shall publicize every endorsement widely, as he or she may determine appropriate. No candidate for election to a public office shall be provided resources of the Party if he or she was denied an unvoted endorsement under the procedure specified in section (2) (e) of this Article, or if an opposing candidate received a voted endorsement under section (3) of this Article. This prohibition on the provision of party resources to such unendorsed candidates shall apply only during the election campaign for which endorsement was denied. For purposes of this section, resources of the Party include all Party funds and the use of all property of the Party.

ARTICLE IX

Procedure for Elections

If more than two persons are nominated for a single Party office, a vacancy in an elected public office to be filled by the Central Committee, a voted endorsement for an elected public office, or a recommendation for appointment by the Secretary of State to the Summit County Board of Elections, and if none of the nominees receive a majority of the votes cast in the first ballot, the person receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated from the election and another ballot shall be taken. This procedure shall be repeated until a nominee receives a majority of the votes cast.

ARTICLE X
Access to Meeting Records

1. All meetings of the Central Committee shall be open to the public. Other committees of the Party may open their meetings to the public according to the rules they adopt.
2. The most recent annual financial report of the Party Treasurer shall be made available for public inspection. All financial records of the Party shall be open to inspection by an officer or member of the Central or Steering Committee upon the giving of reasonable notice to the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XI
Parliamentary Authority

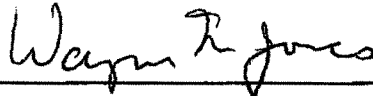
The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, New Revised shall govern the Party in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special rules of order the Party may adopt.

ARTICLE XII
Amendments

1. The Central Committee may amend this Constitution by a two-thirds vote at any biennial meeting required by law or at any other meeting called for that purpose, provided that the proposed amendment has been included with the written notice of the meeting required by Article IV, Section 3 of this Constitution.
2. Any member of the Central Committee may offer an amendment to this Constitution by submitting it in writing to the Chairperson before notice of the meeting at which it is to be considered and sent. The Chairperson shall include with the notice of the next meeting a copy of such amendment so submitted.


OATH OF OFFICE

I, Wayne M. Jones swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Summit County Democratic Party Bylaws, will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Party Chair, according to the best of my ability and understanding.



CHAIR WAYNE M. JONES

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of April, 2012.



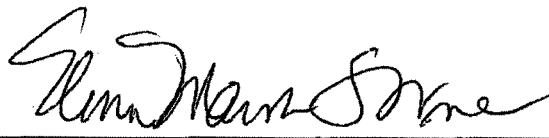
JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the 3rd day of April, 2012, personally appeared before me, Wayne M. Jones who was, by the Summit County Democratic Party Central Committee, duly elected as Party Chair, to whom I administered the foregoing Oath of Office as required by the Constitution of the United States and State of Ohio.

2012 APR -5 PM 2:37
SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF
ELECTIONS
AKRON OHIO

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 2012.



JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

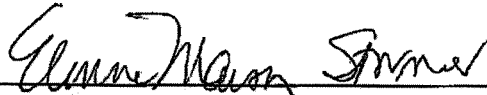
OATH OF OFFICE

I, Tim Gorbach swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Summit County Democratic Party Bylaws, will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Party First Vice Chair, according to the best of my ability and understanding.



VICE CHAIR TIM GORBACH

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of April, 2012.

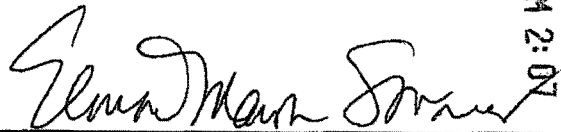


JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the 3rd day of April, 2012, personally appeared before me, Tim Gorbach who was, by the Summit County Democratic Party Central Committee, duly elected as Party First Vice Chair, to whom I administered the foregoing Oath of Office as required by the Constitution of the United States and State of Ohio.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 2012.



JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

2012 APR -5 PM 2:07
SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AKRON OHIO

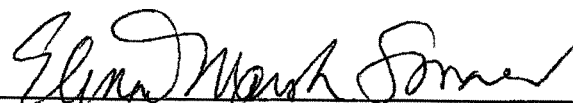
OATH OF OFFICE

I, Tamela Lee swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Summit County Democratic Party Bylaws, will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Party Second Vice Chair, according to the best of my ability and understanding.



2nd VICE CHAIR TAMELA LEE

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of April, 2012.




JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the 3rd day of April, 2012, personally appeared before me, Tamela Lee who was, by the Summit County Democratic Party Central Committee, duly elected as Party Second Vice Chair, to whom I administered the foregoing Oath of Office as required by the Constitution of the United States and State of Ohio.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 2012.



JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AKRON, OHIO
2012 APR -5 PM 2:07

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Rose DeBord swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Summit County Democratic Party Bylaws, will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Party Treasurer, according to the best of my ability and understanding.



TREASURER ROSE DEBORD

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of April, 2012.



JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the 3rd day of April, 2012, personally appeared before me, Rose DeBord who was, by the Summit County Democratic Party Central Committee, duly elected as Party Treasurer, to whom I administered the foregoing Oath of Office as required by the Constitution of the United States and State of Ohio.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 2012.



JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AKRON, OHIO
2012 APR -5 PM 2:07

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Russ Baltus swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Summit County Democratic Party Bylaws, will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Party Secretary according to the best of my ability and understanding.

Russ Baltus
SECRETARY Russ Baltus

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of April, 2012.

Elinore Marsh Stormer
JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the 3rd day of April, 2012, personally appeared before me, Russ Baltus who was, by the Summit County Democratic Party Central Committee, duly elected as Party Secretary, to whom I administered the foregoing Oath of Office as required by the Constitution of the United States and State of Ohio.

2012 APR 3
SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AKRON, OHIO
11:20:07

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 2012.

Elinore Marsh Stormer
JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Russ Baltus swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Summit County Democratic Party Bylaws, will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Party Secretary according to the best of my ability and understanding.

Russ Baltus
SECRETARY Russ Baltus

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of April, 2012.

Elinore Marsh Stormer
JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the 3rd day of April, 2012, personally appeared before me, Russ Baltus who was, by the Summit County Democratic Party Central Committee, duly elected as Party Secretary, to whom I administered the foregoing Oath of Office as required by the Constitution of the United States and State of Ohio.

2012 APR 3 2:07
SUMMIT COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AKRON, OHIO

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 2012.

Elinore Marsh Stormer
JUDGE ELINORE MARSH STORMER