

North Carolina Republican Party Plan of Organization

Adopted June 3, 2011

PREAMBLE

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

A. MEMBERS..... 1

ARTICLE II - PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

A. ANNUAL PRECINCT MEETINGS..... 4

1. Call for Meeting 4

2. Election of Precinct Officers 4

3. Election of Delegates 5

4. Duties of Officers 5

5. Other Precinct Meetings 5

B. PRECINCT COMMITTEE 5

1. Duties of Committee 6

2. Duties of Officers 6

3. Vacancies and Removals..... 6

ARTICLE III - COUNTY ORGANIZATION

A. ANNUAL CONVENTION 6

1. Call of Convention 6

2. Convention Action 7

3. Credentials 8

4. Convention Fee 8

B. COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 8

1. Membership 8

2. Powers and Duties 8

3. Meetings 9

4. Duties of Officers..... 9

5. Vacancies and Removals 10

C. COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEES 10

1. Finance Committee 10

2. Auditing Committee 10

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

A. GENERAL ORGANIZATION 11

1. Membership 11

2. Election of Officers 11

3. Powers and Duties of Committees 11

<u>ARTICLE V - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS</u>	
A. CONVENTIONS	12
1. Call of Convention	12
2. Convention Action	12
3. Credentials	13
B. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	13
1. Membership	13
2. Powers and Duties	14
3. Meetings	14
4. Duties of Officers	14
5. Vacancies and Removals	15
C. DISTRICT FINANCE COMMITTEE	15
 <u>ARTICLE VI - STATE ORGANIZATION</u>	
A. ANNUAL CONVENTIONS	15
1. Call to Convention	15
2. Election of Officers	15
3. Standing Committees	15
4. Presidential Election Year State Convention	16
B. STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE	17
1. Membership	17
2. Powers and Duties	18
3. Meetings	18
4. Duties of Officers	19
C. STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	19
1. Membership	19
2. Powers and Duties of Committee.....	19
3. Committee Meetings	20
4. Duties of Officers	21
5. Vacancies and Removals	21
D. STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE	21
1. Membership	22
2. Powers and Duties	22
3. Duties of Officers	22
E. DEFINITION OF REVIEW.....	22
 <u>ARTICLE VII - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE</u>	
A. CONVENTION PROCEDURES	22
1. Annual Conventions and Presidential Election Year Conventions	22
2. Voting Procedure	23
3. Special Meeting and Conventions	23
4. Newspaper of General Circulation	23
5. Challenges	24
6. General Election Procedure	24
7. Vacancies and Removals	24
8. Non-Partisan Candidates and Office Holders	24

B. OFFICIAL RECORDS	25
C. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS	25
1. Records	25
2. Loans	25
3. Budgeted Expenses.....	25
4. Leases	25
D. APPOINTMENTS	25
1. Notification	25
2. Filling Vacancies	25
E. FORFEITURE OF OFFICIAL PRIVILEGES	26
1. Removal or Resignation from Committees	26
2. Party Disloyalty	26
F. ELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES	27
G. REFRAIN FROM UTILIZING POWERS OF OFFICE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY	27
H. PARTY OFFICERS AS CANDIDATES.....	27
I. ENDORSEMENTS IN NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS	27

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN

A. AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF ORGANIZATION	28
B. APPLICABILITY	29
1. Rules as to Towns and Cities	29
2. Rules as to Counties and Districts	29
C. AUTHORITY	29
1. Controversies	29
2. Parliamentary Authority	30
3. Gender and Number	30
D. EFFECTIVE DATE	30
1. Effective Date of this Plan	30

PREAMBLE

We, the Members of the Republican Party of North Carolina, dedicated to the sound principles fostered by that party, conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, 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 do, for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum power and efficiency, herewith 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 an office within the North Carolina state, district legislative, county or precinct Republican Party shall be a resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office.

ARTICLE II - PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

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, after giving 10 days written notice to each Precinct Chairman and by notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the County as provided for in Article VII.A.4., and the Precinct Chairs also be informed as to the number of registered Republicans entitled to cast votes at the county convention, and in accordance with Article VII.A.4. 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 notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the County as provided for in Article VII, A.4. Every Republican registered prior to January 31 preceding the Meetings shall be entitled to cast 1 vote, except that the January 31 requirement shall not apply to residents who have moved into the Precinct 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.

3. Election of 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.

4. Duties of Officers

The Chairman and Secretary of each Precinct shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, and Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention, on forms stipulated by the State Central Committee and furnished by 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, along with a confidentiality and use agreement that said list will be used only for Republican activities related to the candidate's run for office.

5. Other Precinct Meetings

a. 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 notice of such Meeting in a newspaper of general circulation within the County, 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.

b. 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.

B. PRECINCT COMMITTEE

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. Vacancies and Removals

a. 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.

b. The procedure for removal of any Member or Officer is defined in Article VII A.7. Such removal maybe appealed to the County Executive Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

ARTICLE III - COUNTY ORGANIZATION

A. ANNUAL CONVENTION

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 VII, A.4.

b. 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 Alternates 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 case to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention. If Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held concurrently 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 case 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.

c. 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 VII, A.4. If the County Chairman or Vice-Chairman does not call such a Meeting, 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 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 may be deemed necessary, 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 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. 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 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 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. 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.

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 furnished by the State Central Committee and in conformance with Article VII. Completed Credentials shall be in the hands of the Congressional District Secretary and the State Headquarters by the deadline set by the State Chairman. All County Credentials for the State Convention should be mailed to State Headquarters no later than 10 days following the date of the County Convention or the deadline set by the State Chairman, whichever date comes first. 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 newspaper 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.

B. 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 III A.2, and the County Finance Chairman.

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; and shall recommend nominees to the State Chairman for appointments for County Board of Election; 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 paragraph. 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 via first class United States Mail 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 within 30 days after their adoption, in order for the Plan and/or amendment to be considered valid.

3. Meetings

The County Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year upon call of the County Chairman after giving 10 days notice to all Members; or upon similar call of 1/3 of the Members of the Committee. 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 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 (subject to the advice and consent of the County Executive 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 Committees unless otherwise designated in the County Plan of Organization.

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 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. 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.

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 VII A.7. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

C. COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEES

1. Finance Committee

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 1 District wholly within the County, the County Plan of Organization shall address the method of election of District Officers.

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 Committee. 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 appoint, with the

approval of the County Executive Committee, designees 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 2 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 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.

b. 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.

c. 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.

d. Committees herein elected shall serve as the appropriate District Executive Committee as they are referred to in North Carolina G.S. §163-114.

ARTICLE V - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

A. CONVENTIONS

1. Call of Convention

a. A Congressional District Convention shall be called in every year by the Chairman of the Congressional District Committee, 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.

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 case 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.

c. 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, 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.

c. In every odd-numbered year, the Congressional District Convention shall further elect 1 Member of the State Executive Committee, plus 1 additional 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 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 V.A.2.c. 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.

B. 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.

d. All Members of the State Executive Committee who are elected by the District Convention under the provisions in Article V.A.2.c.

e. Such others as the District Plan of Organization may provide.

2. Powers and Duties

The Congressional District Executive Committee shall set the location of District Conventions; 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; 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 notice to all Members by mail. 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 insure 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 Chairman. 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 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.

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 Committee at the next officially called District Meeting.

b. The procedure for removal of any Member or Officer is defined in Article VII A.7. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

C. 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. ANNUAL CONVENTIONS

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.

3. Standing Committees

a. The Standing Committees for each Convention shall be the Rules, Credentials, Platform, Resolutions and Plan of Organization. These committees will be appointed no later than the second Monday of the November preceding the Convention. The Committees will remain in effect 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 themselves or their spouses, 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 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 case to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention.

c. The Rules Committee, Resolutions Committee, Platform Committee and the Plan of Organization 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 except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention to address said business.

d. If either the State Chairman or District Chairman fails to make the appointments within the time prescribed, the respective Vice-Chairman shall make the appointments.

e. If, prior to the next appointing cycle, the residence of any committee member appointed by a District chair pursuant to Section VI.A.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 VI.A.3.d.

4. Presidential Election Year State Convention

a. A Presidential Election Year State Convention shall be called in every Presidential Election Year between the date of the Presidential Preferential Primary Election and 35 days prior to the Republican National Convention of said Presidential Election 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 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 Presidential Election Year Convention shall elect Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention, in addition to those specified under Article V, in the number stipulated by the State Chairman as determined by the National Rules. The Convention shall nominate a National Committeeman and National Committeewoman who shall serve for a term of 4 years or until their successors are elected; and nominate 2 Presidential Electors-at-Large, who must not be current elected public officials (pursuant to state law).

B. STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

1. Membership

The State Central Committee shall be composed of the following:

a. The Congressional District Chairmen.

i. The Congressional District Vice-Chairman shall be a non-voting member unless acting in the absence of the Chair, and unless acting in the absence of the Chair shall not effect quorum.

ii. Congressional Districts 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 Congressional District Executive Committees.

b. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, Secretary, Treasurer, General Counsel and 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

c. The Chairman of the Young Republican Federation, the President of the Republican Women's Federation, the Chairman of the Republican Men's Federation, the Chairman of the North Carolina Republican County Chairmen's Association, the Chairman of the North Carolina College Republicans, and the Chairman of the North Carolina Teenage Republicans shall be voting Members. The vote of the North Carolina 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. The vote cast by the Advisor to the North Carolina Teenage Republicans shall be as instructed by the Chairman of the North Carolina 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 effect 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.

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 VI.A.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. It shall be responsible for coordinating all campaigns for the United States Senate and Council of State as determined feasible. 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 capitol 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.

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, B.1.a through 1.d 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

C. 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 and Assistant Finance Chairman. The Assistant General Counsel and the Vice Chairs or Vice Presidents of the North Carolina Young Republican Federation, the North Carolina Republican Men's Federation, the North Carolina Republican Women's Federation, the North Carolina Republican County Chairmen's Federation, and the North Carolina College Republicans shall act only in the absence of the organization's Chair and, unless acting in the absence of the Chair, shall not effect quorum.

c. The Congressional District Vice-Chairmen, and the Congressional District Finance Chairmen.

d. All County Chairmen and Vice Chairmen:

i. Counties 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 County Executive Committees.

e. All current Republican Members of the North Carolina Delegation to the United States Congress and United States Senate, Governors, Lieutenant Governors and Members of the Council of State as Ex-officio members, who shall not effect quorum.

f. All current Republican Members for the North Carolina General Assembly, as ex-officio members, and shall not effect quorum.

g. At large members elected by the District Conventions under Article V.A.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, Section E; 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. When monies are raised and expenditures authorized by other than the State Central Committee or the State Executive Committee on behalf of any candidate for state or national office, the Party shall not be held liable; except, however, that the State Executive Committee, by 2/3 vote of a quorum present, may assume any portion of such debts it deems advisable.

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, by a two-thirds majority, the members of the Executive Committee vote to consider the resolution.

4. Duties of Officers

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. 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 VI A.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-Chairman 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.

f. The General Counsel shall advise the Executive Committee in all legal matters and shall act as Parliamentarian at all Meetings of the Committee.

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.

b. Procedure for removal of any Member or Officer is defined in Article VII A.7 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 C.5.a.

D. 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

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 manage 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. 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. A permanent record of all contributions shall be maintained by the State Chairman and the State Treasurer, and such records shall be available, upon request, to the appropriate County and District Chairmen.

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.

E. DEFINITION OF REVIEW

The review to be conducted by the Auditing Committee, as described in Article VI, Section C-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 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

A. CONVENTION 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 slated, 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 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 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.

c. No Delegate, Alternate or any other Member of a Convention 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. Votes for Chairman and

Vice-Chairman will 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/her to such membership, his/her membership terminates automatically.

3. Special Meeting 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 Organization 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. Newspaper of General Circulation

Notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the County for the purpose of this Plan of Organization shall include either a paid advertisement or a news item, provided it includes the time, date, location and purpose of the Meeting. Such notices shall appear in the newspaper at least 10 days prior to the Meeting or Convention. This in no way relieves the County Chairman of the responsibility of providing written notice to party officers as may be otherwise required by this Plan of Organization.

5. 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.

6. 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 to fill slots that have not been filled by Republicans attending the meeting or conventions. A county may provide in its Plan of Organization that only persons actually present are eligible for election as Delegates or Officers.

7. Vacancies and Removals

a. Any Member of a Committee organized under this Plan may be removed by a 2/3's vote of the respective Committee after being furnished with notice of the charges against him, signed by not less than 50, or 1/3 of the Members of the Committee, whichever is the lesser. Any Republican against whom charges are brought shall be furnished with 2 weeks notice of said charges and be given an opportunity to present a defense. Removal shall be confined to gross inefficiency, Party disloyalty or failure to comply with the County, District, or State Party Plans of Organization.

b. 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.

8. 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.

D. APPOINTMENTS

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 certified 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 date and time less than five (5) days after the mailing of the notice to committee members.

d. 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.

e. Should any cause 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, and Precinct level for Party disloyalty by 2/3 vote of the State Executive Committee. Charges of 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.²

F. ELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Compliance with National Republican Party:

In order to comply with the rules of the National Republican Party and with the North Carolina General Statutes, specifically Section 163-213.8, immediately following the Presidential Preference Primary, the State Chairman, after consultation with the North Carolina Chairman for each Candidate receiving votes in the primary, shall allocate Delegate positions between the Candidates accurately reflecting the division of votes in the statewide primary, thereby requiring the election of the 3 Delegates and 3 Alternates

at the District Convention and the remaining Delegates at the State Convention, in such allocated numbers as to accurately reflect the results of the statewide primary. Each person nominated as a Delegate or an Alternate at either the District or State Convention must have publicly declared as a representative of a Candidate on the Presidential Preference Primary ballot prior to the election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention. Delegates and Alternates shall then be elected in the allocation as announced by the State Chairman.

G. REFRAIN FROM UTILIZING POWERS OF OFFICE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Each Officer and each Member of the State Executive Committee shall refrain from utilizing the powers and dignity of his or her office or position in any Republican Primary for public office at any level.

H. 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.

I. ENDORSEMENTS IN NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS

1. In non-partisan elections, district and county executive committees shall have exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans running in that district or county. Political subdivision executive committees (ie., County Executive Committee) shall not issue endorsements in non-partisan races unless the District resides entirely within the County. All members of the County Executive Committee may vote on the non-partisan endorsements for districts wholly encompassed within that county, regardless of whether Committee members live within the District in question.

2. In non-partisan, statewide judicial elections, the NCGOP State Executive Committee shall have the exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans. Political subdivisions executive committees (ie., County Executive Committees, Congressional District Executive Committees, etc) shall not issue endorsements of non-partisan, statewide judicial candidates inconsistent with the State Executive Committee endorsements.

3. With respect to any endorsement provided for in this section (Article VII, Section (I)), 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.

J. Notice

1. "Written Notice" as used in this plan shall mean notice sent through the United States Postal Service (USPS) first class mail.
2. The date post marked by the USPS shall be conclusive as to the date notice was given.
3. 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.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN

A. AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

1. 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 VI.A.3.b of this Plan.1
2. 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 must receive a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at any State Convention. This paragraph applies only to amendments to Amendments to the Plan that were mailed out to the Executive Committee as above described.
3. Proposed amendments to the Plan not mailed to the State Executive Committee thirty days prior to the convening of the State Convention must receive a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at any State Convention.

4. 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.

5. 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 paragraph shall be effective only until the date of adjournment of the next annual State Convention called pursuant to this Plan, Article VI A 1 A.

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 the State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman and General Counsel for arbitration. Ruling shall be made within 60 days, and their decision shall be final.

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.

D. EFFECTIVE DATE

1. Effective Date of this Plan

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 in Wilmington, North Carolina, on June 2, 2011. This, however, shall not invalidate any action taken under the previous rules prior to the date above. The adoption of this Plan shall not effect the term of those office holders at the time of the adoption of this Plan.

2010 Plan of Organization Committee

Phil Strach, Chairman
David Sawyer (At Large)
Rep. Justin Burr (At Large)
Dianne Layden (1st District)
Jackson Stancil (2nd District)
Patrick Lamb (3rd District)
Jonathan Bandy (4th District)
Theresa Esposito (5th District)
Donna Peeler (6th District)
Jonathan Medford (7th District)
Ralph Reagan (8th District)
Deborah Barton (9th District)
Dennis Davis (10th District)
Candler Willis (11 District)
Jason Lawes-Murphy (12th District)
Dennis Berwyn (13th District)