

Orleans Parish Democratic
Executive Committee

Constitution
&
By-Laws

The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee Constitution

Preamble

We, the members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, in order to organize and perpetuate a representative, effective and responsible party organization in the Parish of Orleans, Louisiana, and to uphold human and civil rights and constitutional government, do establish this constitution.

Article I. Subordination

This constitution and the by-laws adopted pursuant to this constitution are subordinate to the Louisiana and United States Election Laws, to the Democratic National Committee Charter and the Rules of the Democratic National Committee, and to the Louisiana Democratic State Central Committee.

Article II. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Article III. Object

The object of this parish committee shall be to promote the ideals and principles of the Democratic National Committee and the Louisiana Democratic State Central Committee.

Article IV. Party Membership

Any registered Democrat of Orleans Parish, eighteen (18) years of age or older, actually residing in and domiciled in the council district in which he or she seeks election shall be eligible for election to the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Article V. Management

The official body for administration of the local affairs of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall be the Executive Board of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee. The parish executive committee shall be subordinate to the Democratic State Central Committee. The Executive Board shall be the governing body of the Orleans Parish Executive Committee between meetings of the general membership.

Article VI. Election

Members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall be elected every four years in compliance with State Law, at the same time as the presidential preference primary election. The term of office shall not extend beyond the time for which the member was elected, unless extended by state law.

Article VII. **Composition and Apportionment of The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee**

In Orleans Parish, the parish executive committee shall be composed of fourteen (14) members elected from each council district: Districts A, B, C, D, and E.

Article VIII. Organization of the Committee

The newly-elected members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall meet at the Civil District Court (or such other place as may be designated by the outgoing Chair of the Orleans Parish Executive Committee), shall take office, and shall organize the Committee, commencing at 12:00 p.m., on a date at least 28 days before the organizational meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee. At the first meeting of the newly-elected members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, a temporary Chair shall be appointed to conduct the meeting, members shall be sworn in and the officers provided by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Committee shall be elected by ballot or voting machine. This election shall be decided by a majority vote of those in attendance and voting.

Article IX. Officers

The officers of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee of Louisiana shall be the Chair, First Vice-Chair (Male/Female combination), Vice-Chair of Administration, Vice-Chair of Operations, Treasurer, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, and all District Chairs (A-E). All officers shall be members of the Executive Board of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Article X. Voting by Proxy

A member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may vote by proxy, subject to the following conditions:

1. A member shall not vote by proxy at more than two consecutive meetings.
2. No member shall exercise the proxy votes of more than two other members at any meeting.
3. A member can exercise the proxy vote of a member who does not reside in the same council district as the member who exercises the proxy vote.
4. Only members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall hold and exercise a proxy.

Article XI. By-Laws

The By-Laws are intended to further define and regulate the operational procedures of the parish committee and its constituent bodies. The By-Laws may be added to and amended by majority vote of the membership present after forty-five (45) days of notice of the proposed amendments to the Rules and By-Laws Committee and fourteen (14) days notice to the full membership.

Article XII. Amendment

This Constitution may be amended by majority vote of the membership present and voting, after sixty (60) days prior notice of proposed amendments to the Rules and By-Law Committee and twenty-one (21) days notice to the full membership.

Article XIII. Powers of the Committee

The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may adopt rules and regulations for its governance that are consistent with the laws of the State of Louisiana or the rules and regulations of the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic State Central Committee, and may create any committee it deems necessary. The rules and regulations of this Parish Committee shall be filed with the Democratic State Central Committee within ten (10) days of their adoption.

Article XIV. Vacancies

A vacancy occurs in the membership of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee when a member dies or no longer meets the qualifications for membership on the committee, or no person qualifies and is elected to succeed a member whose four-year term has expired. This is further detailed in Article V and Article VII of the By-Laws.

Article XV. Removal

An elected member of the Parish Executive Committee is subject to removal from office when one of the following occurs:

1. A member establishes residence outside the parish.
2. A member is convicted of a felony.
3. A member changes his official party registration.
4. A member fails to attend, in person, at least three (3) consecutive meetings subject to the exceptions detailed in Article X of the By-Laws.

The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee

By-Laws

Purpose of Committee

Article I. Duties and Powers

Subject to state law, the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall have general responsibility for the affairs of the Democratic Party on the local level.

This responsibility shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Filling the vacancies on the Parish Democratic Executive Committee;
2. Assisting in the election of local and statewide Democratic candidates; and
3. Promoting and encouraging Party activities, including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. Encouraging and promoting voter registration;
 - b. Establishing and maintaining a strong, viable Democratic organization at the parish level;
 - c. Assisting local Democratic organizations;
 - d. Raising funds for both state and parish Democratic activities and for the Louisiana Democratic Party;
 - e. Educating local voters as to Democratic Party issues and activities.

Members

Article II. Election of Officers

At the first meeting following the election of new members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, the newly elected members shall elect officers for the Committee in accordance with State Law, the rules and regulation of the Democratic State Central Committee and the Constitution of this Committee. Such meeting shall be held at a time as provided under State law and only elected members shall be entitled to vote. For purposes of this meeting only, a majority of the newly elected members either present in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum.

The officers shall be: **Chair, First Vice-Chair (Male/Female Combination), Vice-Chair of Administration, Vice-Chair of Operations, Treasurer, Secretary, Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms.**

Members

Article II. Election of Officers (Cont'd)

No person shall hold dual offices, however, an officer may be appointed by the Chair to chair a special or standing committee.

Duties of Officers:

1. **Chair**—The Chair shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee and shall exercise authority delegated by the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee and the Executive Board in carrying out the day-to-day activities of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee and the Louisiana Democratic Party. All appointments by the Chair are subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board, unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution or these By-Laws.
2. **First Vice-Chair**—The First Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair in his/her absence.
3. **Vice-Chair of Administration**—The Vice-Chair of Administration shall assume the duties of the Chair and First Vice-Chair in their absence and shall coordinate the activities of the District Chairs.
4. **Vice-Chair of Operations**—The Vice-Chair of Operations shall coordinate the activities of the standing committees.
5. **Treasurer**—The Treasurer shall take custody of all funds, place them in an interest-bearing account, and make payments when authorized to do so. The treasurer shall serve on the Finance Committee, provide reports at general and Executive Board meetings, and prepare an annual accounting and end-of-the-year statement to the parish committee.

The Treasurer shall:

- a. Maintain all financial records of the Committee, maintain the budget as approved, assist in the conducting of audits of the Committee's financial records and the filing of all reports required by all agencies on behalf of the Committee by law, the Democratic State Central Committee, or the National Democratic Committee.
- b. Assure that all Committee funds are deposited in accounts in either licensed state or national banks, and that persons permitted to draw on such accounts are bonded with corporate surety in such reasonable amounts as may be determined by the Executive Board.

Members

Article II. Election of Officers (Cont'd)

6. **Secretary**—The Secretary shall keep on file all records of meetings, including, but not limited to: committee reports, proxies, resolutions, and motions. The Secretary will notice all meetings in accordance with the rules of this Committee and the Democratic State Central Committee.
7. **Parliamentarian**—The Parliamentarian shall ensure that the customs and rules for conducting the business of this parish committee are in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee and the tenets of *Robert's Rules of Order*.
8. **Sergeant-at-Arms**—The Sergeant-at-Arms shall maintain an orderly conduct of meetings.
9. **District Chairs**—The District Chairs shall be the liaison between the district members and the Executive Board; encourage attendance and participation of members; and motivate member to actively participate in committee project and affairs; and, in the case of a vacancy, shall identify persons interested in serving on the parish committee. District Chairs shall also serve on the Executive Board.

Committees

Article III. Executive Board

Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be comprised of the Officers and District Chairs of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

The Executive Board shall be charged with responsibility of transacting the business of the Committee and Party affairs at times when the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee is not in session.

Meetings of the Executive Board may be held by sessions, telephone conferences or any other electronic means. The Executive Board may take any action by written approval of more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting members of the Board.

Article IV. Other Committees

The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall have the following standing committees and such other committees as may be appointed from time to time by the Chair. A chair to lead each standing committee will be appointed by the Chair.

Article IV. Other Committees (Cont'd)

Except for any event that an attendance fee is required, any member of OPDEC may (1) attend any meeting, seminar, function, or activity of any standing committee and (2) participate in any discussion of the committee as allowed by the chair of that particular committee, but will have no vote on any matter coming before that committee. At the discretion of the Chair of any committee of OPDEC, meetings of that committee may be held by sessions, telephonic conferences or other electronic means.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall be comprised of the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Finance Chair, such other persons, who need not be members of OPDEC, as may be appointed by the Chair of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, and at least three other members of the parish Committee, who are appointed by the Chair of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee. The members of OPDEC must ratify all committee members.

The Finance Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Preparing a proposed annual budget for an administrative year beginning January 1, by November 1 of the prior year. Said proposed budget shall be submitted to the Executive Board, which shall approve the budget, with any adopted amendments, by December 1st of each year.
2. Assuring that all parish committee funds are deposited in accounts in either licensed state or national banks and that persons permitted to draw on such accounts are bonded with corporate surety in such reasonable amounts as may be determined by the Executive Board.
3. Obtaining a reviewed annual financial statement of the operating account of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.
4. Proposing and developing plans to raise additional funds for:
 - a. Operating OPDEC and its activities
 - b. Supporting of Democratic Candidates
 - c. Disseminating of Democratic positions on issues
 - d. Building the Party
 - e. Registering and educating voters

Subject to the approval of Orleans Parish Executive Committee Chair, the Finance Committee may implement such programs, development plans and methods for fundraising, as it deems appropriate. Any funds raised or contributed for a stated purpose may not be used for any other purposes, without approval of the Finance Committee.

Article IV. Other Committees (Cont'd)

5. Receiving and reviewing the annual financial reports of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.
6. Performing such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Chair, the Executive Board, or the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Rules and By-Laws Committee

The Rules and By-Laws Committee shall be comprised of members appointed by the Chair and ratified by the Parish Committee. The Rules and By-Laws Committee shall be responsible for:

- Reviewing and approving all proposed changes and amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws in compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Committee.

Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee shall be comprised of members appointed by the Chair and ratified by the Parish Committee. The Resolutions Committee shall be responsible for:

- Reviewing and approving all proposed resolutions in compliance with the By-Laws of this Committee.

Political Activities Committee

The Political Activities Committee shall be comprised of members appointed by the Chair and ratified by the Parish Committee. The Political Activities Committee shall be responsible for:

- Coordinating “Meet the Candidate” forums sponsored by the committee.
- Coordinating voter registration drives.

Special Activities Committee

The Special Activities Committee shall be comprised of members appointed by the Chair and ratified by the Parish Committee. The Special Activities Committee shall be responsible for:

- Coordinating events in conjunction with the Louisiana Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee, when required.
- Coordinating receptions and/or socials and charitable events, and fundraisers on behalf of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Designations and Duties of the Members

Committee Business

Article V. Meetings

A. Election of Officers

The newly elected members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall meet at the Parish courthouse or such other place as may be designated by the outgoing Chair of the Orleans Parish Executive Committee, commencing at 12:00 p.m., on a date at least 28 days before the organizational meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee. At the organizational meeting, a temporary Chair shall be appointed to conduct the meeting, and the following officers shall be elected: Chair, First Vice-Chair, who shall be of the opposite gender of the Chair, Vice Chair of Administration, Vice-Chair of Operations, Treasurer, Secretary, Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms. Election shall be by majority vote of those in attendance and voting. Nominations and elections for officers to be elected shall be conducted as follows: Nomination for Chair, election of Chair; Nomination of First Vice-Chair, election of First Vice-Chair; and so on, until all offices are filled. The newly elected Chair shall certify that the full names, complete mailing address, and telephone numbers of the newly elected officers shall be sent to the Chair of the Democratic State Central Committee within three days of the election.

B. Vacancies

After the election of the Committee Officers, and at the next general meeting of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, a majority of the newly elected members of the Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of organizing and filling any vacancies which may exist due to death, ineligibility, or failure to fill a vacancy by election (See Article VII).

A vacancy in the membership of a Democratic Parish Executive Committee shall be filled by a member appointed by a majority of the newly elected members of the Executive Board. This appointed member would serve until an election to fill the unexpired term is conducted and the newly elected member takes office. An election to fill the unexpired term of an office of a member of a Democratic Parish Executive Committee shall be held in conjunction with and at the same time as the next regular or special election, which is conducted and held throughout the entirety of the district wherein the vacancy occurred.

C. Meeting Notification

1. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall meet at least four times a year, at a time and date to be determined by the Chair and shall require a 14-day notice to the general membership prior to any regular meeting.
2. The Executive Board shall meet at least four times a year, no later than two weeks prior to the regular meeting of the full committee. Notice to Board members shall be given at ten (10) days prior to any meeting.
3. Special meetings shall be called by the Chair at his/her instance or by petition of a majority of the Parish Committee membership. At least seven (7) days notice must be given.

Article VI.

Quorum and Proxies

- A. In order for any business to be transacted by the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee or any part of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, including subcommittees, a quorum of the members of said committee must be present in person or by proxy. A quorum will consist of a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee.
- B. Proxies shall be used to determine a quorum for a regular meeting.
- C. A member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may cast a vote by proxy for an absent member, subject to the following conditions:
 1. No member shall exercise the proxy votes of more than two other members at any meeting.
 2. Only a member of the Parish Committee shall hold and exercise a proxy.
 3. A proxy need not be notarized.
 4. Each proxy shall be filed, in writing, with the Secretary of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee prior to or at the time of a meeting. A proxy may also be filed during a meeting if a member is required to leave.

Article VII.
Vacancies

- A. A vacancy occurs in the membership when a member dies, no longer meets the qualification for membership on the committee, or no person qualifies and is elected to succeed a member whose four-year term has expired. The Democratic Parish Executive Committee may declare a vacancy when a member has failed to attend in person three (3) consecutive meetings of the Democratic Parish Executive Committee, in person or by proxy, unless he or she qualifies for an exception listed in Article X, Section A of these By-Laws.
- B. A vacancy in the membership left by a representative of a district shall be filled by any qualified resident of the district. The majority of the duly elected and appointed members of OPDEC from the council district where the vacancy occurs shall vote to fill the vacancy. This appointment shall be ratified by a majority of the Committee. This appointed member would serve until an election to fill the unexpired term is held in conjunction with and at the same time as the next regular or special election, which is conducted and held throughout the entirety of the district wherein the vacancy occurred. The Secretary will notify the Secretary of State of the newly appointed member and inform the SOS of the need for an elected replacement at the next scheduled election.
- C. A member elected at such an election shall be elected as provided by State Law and the By-Laws of the Democratic State Central Committee of Louisiana

Article VIII.
Affiliation with Democratic State Central Committee

- A. The Democratic Parish Executive Committee is an integral part of the Democratic Party, and under the jurisdiction of the Democratic State Central Committee in accordance with state law and the rules of the Democratic National Committee.
- B. No Democratic Parish Executive Committee may adopt any Constitution, By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, Articles of Association, Articles of Organization, or rules without written majority approval of the Executive Committee of the Democratic State Central Committee and the Parish Executive Committee.
- C. No Democratic Parish Executive Committee shall file any Constitution, Articles of Incorporation, Articles of Association, Articles of Organization or any other document with the Secretary of State of Louisiana, any Clerk of Court or in any

Article VIII.

Affiliation with Democratic State Central Committee (Cont'd)

Other office of any state or local official without approval of the Executive Committee of the Democratic State Central Committee and the Parish Executive Committee.

- D. Prior to the adoption of any Constitution, By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, Articles of Association, Articles of Organization, or rules, a Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall submit a copy thereof to the Executive Committee of the Democratic State Central Committee. The Executive Committee of the Democratic State Central Committee may require such changes, as it deems necessary by majority vote.
- E. The Democratic Parish Executive Committee shall provide the Democratic State Central Committee with changes in its membership and copies of minutes of its official meetings.
- F. At any meeting called for the endorsement of a candidate, no member of OPDEC or the DSCC shall be permitted to wear any campaign paraphernalia.

Article IX.

Fund Raising and Maintenance of Financial Records

- A. In compliance with State Law, this Committee shall raise funds through the assessment of fees and other methods for party operations, under the following conditions:
 - 1. Funds received by the assessment of fees from Democratic candidates shall be deposited in a separate account established for such funds.
 - 2. Funds received by the assessment of such fees shall be used solely for the operations of the Committee and shall not be used for the direct or indirect benefit of any particular candidate for public office.
 - 3. Funds from sources other than assessment of fees may be used in direct support of Democratic candidates. In no event shall this Parish Committee make an expenditure other than in direct support of Democratic candidates, Democratic Party activities, or to maintain operations of the Committee.

Article IX.

Fund Raising and Maintenance of Financial Records (Cont'd)

- B. Collections and expenditures of funds received by the assessment of fees shall be audited annually by the Finance Committee and submitted to the Chair of the Democratic State Central Committee no later than February 1 of each year for the previous year.
- C. If any Democratic Parish Executive Committee raises or expends funds from sources other than the assessment of fees in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) annually, the Committee shall file an additional statement of income and expenditures with the Chairperson of the Democratic State Central Committee no later than February 1st of each year and shall cover the period from January 1 throughout December 31 of the previous year.

Article X.

Attendance

- A. Any member failing to attend in person three (3) consecutive meetings of the Democratic Parish Executive Committee, in person or by proxy, may be deemed to have resigned and vacated his or her office, unless the member:
 - 1. Submits a doctor's certificate certifying that he or she was unable to attend;
 - 2. Is a student attending school out of town or at night, in town;
 - 3. Serves as a legislator of the Louisiana State Legislature and the parish committee meeting date conflicts with the member's legislative responsibilities;
 - 4. Is called to active duty for military service.
- B. In the event a member has vacated his/her seat due to failure to attend, the Chair shall notify the former member at the last address of record by certified mail, and the majority of duly elected and appointed district members of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee from the council district where the vacancy occurs shall vote to appoint a representative until the next scheduled regular or special election (See Article VII). The full Parish Committee shall ratify the membership of the newly elected member and the Secretary will notify the Secretary of State of the change.

Article XI.

Endorsement and Support of Candidates for Public Office

- A. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee (OPDEC) may endorse Democratic candidates for federal, state, or local offices by a majority vote of members attending and voting in person any official meeting of OPDEC called for the purpose of endorsing candidates.
- B. If the Democratic State Central Committee has received notice from a Democratic Parish Executive Committee of that Committee's endorsement of a candidate for local office in the parish, with the exception of a multi-parish State Senate and a multi-parish State Representative, or any other multi-parish office, then the Democratic State Central Committee may not endorse any other candidate for the office.
- C. The Executive Committee should meet at least thirty (30) days prior to the end of the qualifying period and review information regarding the campaigns of Democratic candidates at any level. Upon review of the information, the Executive Committee will determine what races will be considered for endorsement by OPDEC and may also recommend candidates for endorsement by the Committee. Committee members will receive at least ten (10) days notice that the subsequent meeting of OPDEC will include consideration of endorsement, *provided however*, in the case of any special election the Chair may shorten or modify the above time periods as he/she deems appropriate.
- D. Any member of OPDEC may propose that an endorsement be made for a specific office by filing a resolution at least five (5) days prior to a meeting of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee called for that purpose.
- E. At an OPDEC meeting called for the purpose of endorsing candidates, the meeting notice should specify the offices for which endorsements shall be considered and a list of all Democratic candidates who have qualified for the offices. Each such Democratic candidate shall be notified of the "Meet the Candidates" forum of the Orleans Parish Executive Committee and shall be given the opportunity to address OPDEC prior to any vote thereon. Written notice to the candidates scheduled to address the Parish Committee for endorsement purposes must obtain the language "candidates must appear in person before the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee to be considered for endorsement by the Committee. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis by a simple majority of the members present and voting at the "Meet the Candidates" forum.
 1. After the candidates have appeared before the Committee, the Chair will call a brief recess and the room will be cleared of all non-members. A discussion session will be held prior to the election. In addition to voicing their opinions about candidates, members can use this time to make a

Article XI.

Endorsement and Support of Candidates for Public Office (Cont'd)

- motion for the body to consider dual endorsements or no endorsements for specific races. The vote may be taken by ballot, hand count, or via voce. A majority vote will decide if the motion carries. If dual endorsement is declared by a majority vote, then the body will endorse the two candidates that receive the most votes. If the body decides by a majority vote not to endorse in a particular race, then the body will be asked to ignore that office on the ballot (any ballots cast for that race will be discounted).
2. A primary election will be held with the names of all Democratic candidates for the office listed on the ballot. A winner will be declared in the primary with a majority vote (50% +1). The determination of majority will be calculated as such: if the total number of people casting ballots is even, then calculate 50% and add one vote for majority; if odd, subtract one from the total number of people casting ballots to obtain 50% then add it back to get the majority.
 3. In the event one candidate does not receive a majority of the votes cast in the primary endorsement election, a run-off election will be conducted between the two (2) highest recipients of votes in the primary election (unless the body has already voted for a dual endorsement).
 4. In the run-off election, the candidate who receives a plurality of the votes cast will be declared the winner of the endorsement election.
- F. In the event of a special election, or the withdrawal, death or disability of an endorsed candidate, where there is insufficient time to follow the above procedures, the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall meet at the earliest opportunity and establish Extraordinary Procedures to cover the particular circumstances.
- G. No member of OPDEC shall use the name of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee in opposing a candidate who has been endorsed by OPDEC or the Democratic State Central Committee.
- H. A member of OPDEC cannot identify himself or herself as a member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee in any communication, printed or oral, designed to support a candidate or position contrary to OPDEC's endorsement.
- I. At any meeting called for the endorsement of a candidate, no member of OPDEC and/or the Democratic State Central Committee shall be permitted to wear any campaign paraphernalia.

Article XII.

Censure

- A. Censure is a public expression of condemnation by the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.
- B. Any member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall be subject to censure:
 - 1. For publicly endorsing or publicly supporting (e.g. hosting and attending parties and events for a candidate, endorsing through print, internet, or television, etc., signing affidavits for a candidate, and offering financial support or contributions) any candidate who is not registered with the Democratic Party in any election contest in which there is a candidate who is registered to vote with the Democratic Party.
 - 2. For taking any action in contravention of the Constitution, By-Laws, or rules of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.
- C. Censure shall be initiated by the filing with the Chair of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee a petition signed by at least twenty (20) percent of the members of the Committee setting forth with particularity the grounds for censure.
- D. Executive Board Hearings
 - 1. Within three days after receipt of a censure petition, the Chair shall forward to the person named in the petition and to each member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, a copy of the petition and an official notice that a meeting of the Executive Board will be convened not less than seven (7) nor more than fourteen (14) days thereafter for the purpose of considering the petition.
 - 2. The person named in the petition and any member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may appear before the meeting of the Executive Board to present evidence and arguments with respect to the proposed censure. The person named in the petition shall have the right to cross-examine any person who presents evidence against him.
 - 3. At the conclusion of the presentations, the Board may, by a majority vote of the Executive Board, recommend censure to the full Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee and to the Democratic State Central Committee. If at the conclusion of the meeting, a majority vote of the membership of the Executive Board has failed to adopt a motion

recommending censure, the petition shall be dismissed and no further action taken.

E. Action by Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee:

1. If the Executive Board recommends censure, the Chair shall immediately call a meeting of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee to be held not less than seven (7) nor more than fourteen (14) days thereafter for the purpose of considering the censure petition.
2. When the petition comes before the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, each member shall have the right to present evidence and arguments with respect to the petition. In no instance shall the proponents and opponents of the petition be given less than one hour, respectively, to debate the censure.
3. At the conclusion of the debate, the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may, by roll call vote of a majority of the total membership of the Committee, vote in favor of censure. If at the conclusion of the meeting, a majority of the total membership of the Committee has failed to approve the censure petition, the petition shall be dismissed and no further action shall be taken.

F. Effect of Censure

Any person censured by action of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall be publicly condemned for their actions. Immediately after the adoption of the censure petition, the Chair of the Executive Committee will notify the Democratic State Central Committee of the actions of the committee.

Article XIII.

Congressional District Caucuses

Congressional District Caucuses have been established by the Democratic State Central Committee for each of the State's Congressional Districts. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee agrees to serve as a host committee, whenever possible, and further agrees to participate in the Congressional District Caucus process, in accordance with the rules and regulations of Section 17, Congressional District Caucuses, of the By-Laws of the Democratic State Central Committee.

Article XIV.

Amendments to By-Laws

- A. These By-Laws may be added to or amended by a majority vote of the membership after forty-five (45) days notice of the proposed amendments to the Rules and By-Laws Committee and fourteen (14) days notice to the full membership.
- B. All changes and amendments to these by-laws must be reviewed and approved by the Rules and By-Laws Committee in order to be considered by the full Parish Committee.
- C. All amendments to the By-Laws should appear on the agenda at the meeting in which the amendment is to be considered.
- D. Any changes or amendments to these By-Laws that are rejected by the Rules and By-Laws Committee can be considered by the Parish Committee if such consideration is approved by a majority vote of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Article XV.

Resolutions

- A. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may, as provided for below, consider resolutions calling for the Congress, the State legislature, City Council, and Federal, State, or local agency, or any non-Democrat elected official, appointee or candidate:
 - 1. To take or cease any action or activity
 - 2. To support or oppose any proposed or enacted Federal, State, or local legislative action or agency rule or local issue
 - 3. To support any democratic elected official, Democratic appointee or Democratic candidate, their election their actions, their activities
 - 4. To support or oppose any issue or policy or any other resolution that the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee deems appropriate.
- B. Only members of OPDEC may submit resolutions for consideration by the Committee

Article XV.
Resolutions (Cont'd)

- C. All resolutions for consideration by the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall be a written proposal submitted to and be received by the Executive Board at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee meeting at which the resolutions will be considered.
- D. All resolutions shall be reviewed by the Resolutions Committee and either (1) approved or (2) rejected by the Committee.
- E. At least five (5) days prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee, the Resolutions Committee shall mail to the OPDEC members:
 - 1. A copy of the proposed resolutions
 - 2. A discussion of the resolution
 - 3. A report of the action of the Resolutions Committee's approval or rejection
 - 4. The reasons for the Resolutions Committee's approval or rejection.

The Resolutions Committee will contact the Secretary and place the resolution on the upcoming agenda for the general meeting. The full Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall consider all resolutions approved by the Resolutions Committee.

- F. Any meetings of the Resolutions Committee may be held by sessions, telephonic conferences or any other electronic means.
- G. Any resolutions proposed to the Resolutions Committee may be approved or rejected by written consent of more than fifty percent (50%) of the Committee without the necessity of a meeting.
- H. The Chair of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee may suspend the rules regarding the ten (10) day filing and five (5) day mailing periods with a majority vote of members present.
- I. Resolutions must receive a majority vote of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee in order to be approved.
- J. Any resolution rejected by the Resolutions Committee can be considered by the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee if such a consideration is approved by a majority vote of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Article XVI.

Louisiana Democratic Convention

- A. A Louisiana Democratic Party Convention may be held every four years in a city and on a date to be determined by the Executive Committee of the Democratic State Central Committee.

- B. The delegate selection process for the Louisiana Democratic Party Convention is as follows:
 - 1. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee Chair and First Vice-Chair shall be automatic voting delegates. Any other qualified Democrat is welcome and may attend the convention.
 - 2. Each parish shall receive at least two (2) voting delegates and one (1) additional delegate for every 10,000 Democratic voters within the parish. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committees shall elect these delegates. No parish shall receive less than two (2) delegates.
 - 3. Democratic elected officials who are members of Congress, statewide elected officials, state senators, and state representatives, by virtue of their offices, shall serve as voting delegates to the Louisiana Democratic Party Convention.

- C. The officers of the Democratic State Central Committee shall serve as officers of the Louisiana Democratic Party Convention.

- D. All resolutions for consideration shall be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the convention. Resolutions and other matters of reference shall be assigned to the appropriate committees.

- E. All resolutions and other actions approved by the membership of the Louisiana Democratic Party Convention shall be submitted to the Democratic State Central Committee for final approval.

- F. The Chairperson of the Democratic State Central Committee shall appoint a convention planning committee one (1) year prior to the convention.

Article XVII.

Removal

- A. Any elected member of the parish executive committee is subject to removal from office when one of the following occurs:
- a. A member establishes residence outside of the parish.
 - b. A member is convicted of a felony.
 - c. A member changes his official party registration.
 - d. A member fails to attend, in person, at least three (3) consecutive meetings subject to the exceptions detailed in Article X of the By-Laws.
- B. When a member of the parish executive committee commits any of the grounds for removal set forth in this Article, the parish executive committee shall schedule a hearing to review all available information on the incident. The parish executive committee shall provide a ten-day written notice to the member prior to conducting said hearing. Removal of the member, after completion of the hearing by the committee, shall be by a majority vote of the members present of the Parish Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting. A vacancy in the membership of the parish executive committee created by the removal shall be filled in accordance with the procedure cited in Article VII herein at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Article XVIII.

Parole Power

504-202-9317, 9318

- A. Every elected member of the Parish Committee shall have the power to parole a person who is under arrest and detention for the violation of any criminal or quasi-criminal municipal ordinance.
- B. Persons arrested for any of the following violations of municipal ordinances shall not be eligible for parole:
1. Criminal battery

Article XVIII.

Parole Power (Cont'd)

2. Criminal trespass, criminal damage to property, disturbing the peace, if incident occurred at the arrestee's residence or resulted from an obvious domestic violence dispute.
 3. Violations of Article VII of Chapter 42 of the City Code of the City of New Orleans dealing with domestic violence.
 4. The following persons shall not be eligible for parole:
 - a) Persons arrested for two or more felony violations.
 - b) Persons arrested for five or more misdemeanors or felony arrests.
 - c) Persons arrested for illegal possession or carrying of firearm.
- C. Any committee member may notify the parish sheriff detaining such a person that he desires to be paroled pending arraignment on his own recognizance. The notice from the parish committee member may be verbal only if the Parish Committee member is contacted at his residence or office and can state an identifying number or word as may be prescribed for securing proper identification of such Parish Committee member. Prior to authorizing release, the Committee member shall be informed of the nature of the charges pending against the intended parolee.
- D. If the Parish Committee member cannot be contacted at his residence or office, the notice shall be in writing only and on a form supplied by the parish sheriff. This written form shall be signed by the officer, and all information called for therein correctly completed and the form delivered to the parish sheriff or the municipal authority either by the officer or on his behalf before any parole request may be honored.
- E. At the time of authorizing a release, the parish committee member shall be informed of the criminal history of the intended parolee.
- F. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall supply the parish sheriff with a list of membership additions and deletions, to include the names, addresses, phone numbers and other information as requested, within thirty (30) days of any changes in committee membership.
- G. No Parish Committee member shall have any business arrangement with a bail bonding company.

Article XVIII.

Parole Power (Cont'd)

- H. No Parish Committee member shall receive compensation, monetary or otherwise, in exchange for parole.
- I. In any 60-day period, if three persons paroled by a parish committee member fail to appear for arraignment at the appointed time, the parish sheriff may suspend the parole power of said parish committee member for a period of sixty (60) days.

Article XIX.

Participation in National Party Affairs

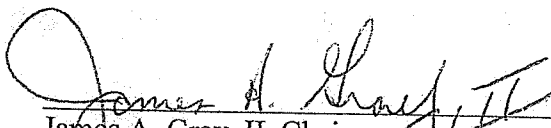
- A. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall work to implement and carry out the objectives of the Democratic National Committee, when such objectives are not in conflict with the objectives of the Orleans Parish Executive Committee.
- B. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall work in cooperation with the Democratic National Committee to promote the well being of national, state, and local Party affairs.
- C. The Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee shall support and actively work toward the election of the Democratic Candidate for President of the United States.

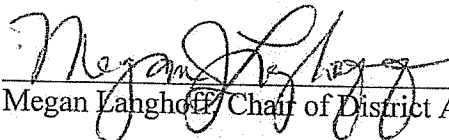
These by-laws were drafted by the Rules and By-laws Committee: Kenneth Garrett, Sr., Chair, Lisa Dawson, Secretary, Sundy Charles Barjon, Jason Coleman, Shelia Collins-Stallworth, Desiree Cook-Calvin, Lisa Diggs, Julius Feltus, Randy Greenup, Thomas Jasper, Deborah Langhoff, Charlene Larche Mason. The committee unanimously approved the motion to present these revisions to the general body, on July 2, 2014.

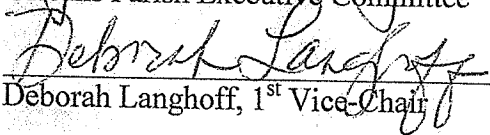
These amended By-laws shall become effective upon a majority vote of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Approved at duly called meeting of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee on the 9th day of July, with amendments approved on the 13th day of August 2014, by Majority Vote.

Executive Board


James A. Gray, II, Chair
Orleans Parish Executive Committee


Megan Langhoff, Chair of District A


Deborah Langhoff, 1st Vice-Chair

Charmaine Baker-Fox, Chair of District B

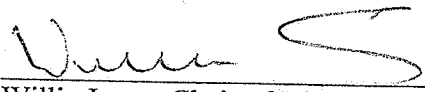
James Perry, Vice-Chair of Administration

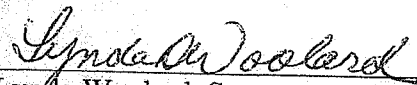
Troy Carter, Chair of District C

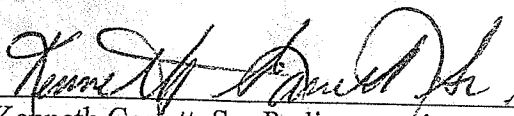
Julius Feltus, Vice Chair of Operations

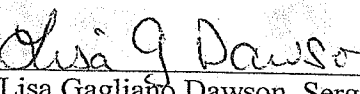
Randy Greenup, Chair of District D

Shelia Collins-Stallworth, Treasurer


Willie Jones, Chair of District E


Lynda Woolard, Secretary


Kenneth Garrett, Sr., Parliamentarian


Lisa Gagliano Dawson, Sergeant-at-Arms