

**GENERAL “MAD” ANTHONY WAYNE**  
**PARADE**  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**



## **The General “Mad” Anthony Wayne Parade Rules & Regulations**

### **I. INTRODUCTION.**

**Section 1.0** The General “Mad” Anthony Wayne Organization, Inc. (“GMAWO”), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity, has assumed responsibility for organizing and coordinating the annual summer Parade held in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana, for the last fifty-five (55) years, with the first Parade and every Parade since then, having been held under the auspices of a local “Festival” Board of Directors in 1969. That Organization has now filed bankruptcy. This reorganized event will now be known as The General “Mad” Anthony Wayne Parade.

**Section 1.1** The GMAWO is hereby establishing these Rules and Regulations for the conduct of the new Parade. The Parade entries are hereinafter referred to as “Participant(s)”, and these rules and regulations are designed to create and maintain a safe and fun environment for all Participants, and spectators as well. These rules and regulations are further intended to ensure a level of acceptable quality and safety for the public.

**Section 1.2** The GMAWO has established a Parade Committee to arrange the Parade, and in doing so, it reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations, and to settle and determine all disputes, matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with, or incident to, and to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine. Any Participant, or Participants, who violate any of these rules will forfeit all privileges and be subject to such penalty as the Parade Committee may order. Any such penalty imposed by the GMAWO, or the Parade Committee, shall not be used as a means to defend against any charges or penalties imposed by authorized law enforcement agencies who are involved in the safety and security measures imposed to protect Participants and Spectators, alike.

**Section 1.3** The Parade Committee of the GMAWO shall have the further right to delegate any or all of the rights, authorities, and responsibilities which it has under these rules to such Parade officials as it deems appropriate.

**Section 1.4** The Parade Director has the authority to enforce the rules herein described. He, or she, will inspect Parade entries during initial marshalling and staging, to be sure that they comply with representations made in the applications submitted. The Parade Director will be present during the Parade to assist other Parade officials and law enforcement agencies.

**Section 1.5** The Director of Security is the primary liaison between the Parade Committee and law enforcement agencies involved with providing safety and security measures for the Parade. The Director of Security has complete authority to represent the views of the Parade Committee,

and to implement what the Director of Security believes is the best course of action to follow in this regard. The Director of Security is encouraged to consult with the Chairman and the Parade Director in situations where there may be some question as to the application of these rules and regulations.

**Section 1.6** There shall be appointed a Chief Civilian Parade Marshal, who shall direct a force of twenty-five (25) volunteer civilian marshals. This group shall wear colored vests to identify themselves on the Parade route. They shall be the “eyes and ears” of the law enforcement agents on the Parade route, and they shall assist in identifying potential problems along the Parade route. Unless the volunteer is a police officer, this group shall have no “arrest” power, and is merely a means of adding additional ability to observe the conduct of participants and spectators at the Parade. However, each volunteer civilian marshal shall be vested with the authority to eject from the Parade any participant, and to eject from the Parade route any spectator, for violating these rules and regulations.

## **II. PARADE APPLICATIONS.**

**Section 2.0 Eligibility.** Applications are welcome from all interested groups. However, the General “Mad” Anthony Wayne Organization, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity, reserves the right to decline any application for entry.

**Section 2.1 Parade Unit Categories.** The Parade shall include the following unit categories of entries:

- A. Float;
- B. Walking;
- C. Motorized;
- D. Horsedrawn;
- E. Equestrian;
- F. Pedal; and,
- G. Marching Bands.

Each individual applicant may choose only one (1) category of Parade unit in which to participate. Entrants may not submit more than one Parade unit type. If more than one unit category is submitted, then the entire application will be automatically rejected. Please call the GMAWO Office, 260-452-7782, if you have any questions before submitting your application.

**Section 2.2 Parade Application Deadline:** The deadline for all applications for entry in the 2025 Parade is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 26, 2025. The application must be accompanied by payment of the entry fee, or they must be submitted simultaneously.

**Section 2.3 Resubmission Fee.** If for any reason an application is resubmitted, the GMAWO reserves the right to charge an additional resubmission fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), in addition to the standard entrant’s fee.

**Section 2.4 Cancellation & Refund Policy.** Cancellations and refund requests must be in writing (or email) and received by GMAWO prior to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 30, 2025. If approved, any refund will be assessed an administration fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00). Cancellations made after that date are not eligible for refunds.

**Section 2.5 Disclaimer, Waiver and Release.** Each application must be accompanied by a completed and signed Disclaimer, Waiver and Release form created by GMAWO legal counsel.

**Section 2.6 Submission of Application.** The submission of application materials constitutes a promise on the part of the entrant and all associated individuals, that the Parade unit entered does comply, and will comply, with all applicable Parade Rules and Regulations.

**Section 2.7 Schedule of Fees.** All entrees shall be categorized for purposes of entry fees as either (1) Commercial; (2) Non-Profit; or, (3) Marching Bands. The rate schedule is defined hereinbelow.

### **III. RULES FOR PARTICIPATION.**

**Section 3.0** These rules and regulations apply to all entrants in the Parade.

**Section 3.1** The minimum age for a child to ride on any Parade unit, regardless of category, is six (6) years old.

**Section 3.2** If a child is walking as a part of a Parade entry, the child must be at least twelve (12) years of age, and must be accompanied by a competent supervising adult. No adult shall supervise more than one (1) child at any one time. Any exceptions to this age limit must be pre-approved by the Parade Committee; however, exceptions will be rare.

**Section 3.3** All participants are expected to be compliant with these Rules and Regulations, and they must be cooperative with Parade officials before, during and immediately after the Parade. Failure to comply with direct orders from FWPD, authorized Parade Marshals, or other Law Enforcement Agencies on site, will result in immediate removal from the Parade. Arrest for “disorderly conduct” is also an option by the FWPD.

**Section 3.4** All entries must arrange for water for their animals; a power supply where needed; ample helium to inflate balloons; and, any and all other supplies needed for setting up and tearing down of their Parade units.

**Section 3.5** All entrants are responsible for ensuring that their unit can safely fit and maneuver on the Parade route (considering trees, street lights, intersection lights, street signs, turns, etc.)

**Section 3.6** Identification information, such as company name, a website address, and a phone number for the entrant’s organization, may be displayed on each individual entry.

**Section 3.7** The use of partisan political signs or other political material on any entry is expressly prohibited on, or near, the Parade route. Any controversial statements, pictures or other depictions may be disruptive, and thus may cause your unit to be ejected from the Parade.

**Section 3.8** All applications MUST be accompanied by a sketch or photo of the proposed entry, at the time of submission. The final entry must adhere to the original concept, as closely as is reasonably possible. Any significant variation or change from the original concept requires prior approval of the Parade Committee. If a variance has not been granted, the entry is subject to elimination (on grounds of misrepresentation) at the time of pre-Parade marshalling.

**Section 3.9** Each Parade unit must designate a “Supervisor/Captain” on the Application. Suitable contact information must also be indicated for that designee, and said designee MUST be in attendance for the entire Parade, and remain in close proximity to the unit.

**Section 3.10** Spacing between the Parade units will be strictly enforced by the Volunteer Parade Marshals. A unit will be required to adjust the gap between itself and the preceding unit when directed by Parade officials. Units that cannot keep pace may be asked to leave the Parade route.

**Section 3.11** The Volunteer Parade Marshals shall be authorized to cause an entry to “halt” for an adjustment stop, in order to cure any spacing problem.

**Section 3.12** A picture or sketch of any planned decorated “support vehicle” must be provided at the time of application to the Parade.

**Section 3.13** All entries are encouraged to incorporate the 2025 General “Mad” Anthony Parade theme of “**Change and Tradition**”.

**Section 3.14** A Veterinarian will be provided at the Parade route, in case of an emergency. The costs of such veterinary services shall be paid by the owner of the animal(s) involved.

**Section 3.15** All participants in the Parade shall conduct themselves with decency, and shall not engage in foul language or actions. Violators shall be ejected from the Parade.

**Section 3.16** No participant in the Parade shall be permitted to sell any item during the Parade activities.

**Section 3.17** The use of glassware by Parade participants is strictly prohibited.

**Section 3.18** Participants and spectators are invited to use public accommodations and public facilities along the Parade route, as necessary.

**Section 3.19** Each float, vehicle, and towing unit shall be assigned a number, in addition to its Parade entry name.

**Section 3.20**

### III. **PARADE ENTRIES: Categories of Participants**

#### **Section IV-A Float Criteria**

**Section 4.0** A float shall consist of a low flat trailer (farm type), boat trailer (heavy duty), mobile home frame, or other “suitable” frame with pneumatic tired wheels, and each shall be constructed in such a way as to be able to accommodate its weight load.

**Section 4.1** The approved towing units include the following: riding lawn mower or garden tractor; car; SUV; pick-up truck; flat-bed truck; utility and recreational side-by-side, such as the Kawasaki Mule, Polaris Ranger or John Deere Gator; or, other All Terrain Vehicle or Utility Terrain Vehicle. The pulling vehicles may be decorated, and the proposed decorations should be included on the sketch submitted with the application). Self-propelled units, wherein the towing unit is an integral part of the float design, are permitted.

**Section 4.2** The float decorations should, as closely as possible, reflect the Parade theme.

**Section 4.3** A sponsor's name on either commercial or non-commercial entries may appear on the float, or on a banner preceding the float. Only authorized signage (that which appeared on the approved sketch or drawing) will be permitted.

**Section 4.4** The following minimum/maximum size restrictions apply:

(A) Length: Min 12', Max 60'

(B) Width: Min 7', Max 12'

(C) Height: No minimum, Max 14' --Important because of railroad underpasses!

(D) Flatbed Clearance: Min 2', Max 4'

(E) Skirting Clearance: Min 1", Max 2"

(F) Float framework must be steel, aluminum, wood or other solid material, covered by chicken wire, plastic netting, sprayed canvas or other suitable material. The outer surface may be covered with poms, foil, paper mache, live or artificial flowers, cloth, garlands, fringes, petals, papers, grass mat or paint. Lettering may be cut from wallboard or any other material, to which paint, glitter, foil, floral or other covering may be applied.

**Section 4.5** Animation and music are highly desirable, though sound level volume must not be unreasonable or cause spectators to feel uncomfortable.

**Section 4.6** No unit is permitted to STOP in order to perform during the Parade, unless ordered to do so by a Volunteer Parade Marshal, as indicated hereinabove at rhetorical paragraph number Section II, (A)(12). This includes all specialty units such as mini-bikes, go-karts, tricycles, bicycles, drones, and model aircraft. It also includes all cheerleaders, walkers, banner-carriers, or other individual accompanying personnel. All choreography, acts or demonstrations must be accomplished while moving forward, unless an exception is granted in advance by the Parade Committee, which exception shall not be lightly given. Spacing of the Parade entrants must be properly observed, and preserved.

**Section 4.7** The following safety measures are required:

(A) Float materials and costumes made of flame-proof material (or sprayed with a flame-proofing solution of 7 oz. borax, 3 oz. powdered boric acid, and 2 quarts hot water). A fire extinguisher shall be carried aboard the float or towing unit;

(B) Safety type couplers for all towing connections;

(C) Carefully secured lug nuts on all wheels; and,

(D) Tires of good quality.

**Section 4.8** Volunteer Parade Marshals may disqualify any float entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing or complying with these Rules and Regulations, or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe to, or inconsiderate of, other participants or spectators.

#### **Section IV-B. Walking Unit Criteria**

**Section 5.0** Everyone must be able to keep up with the pace of the Parade, and walkers are not excused from this expectation.

**Section 5.1** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations, or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe to, or inconsiderate of, participants or spectators, alike.

**Section 5.2** It is strongly recommended that any vehicle associated with walking units be driven ahead of all pedestrians, to reduce the possibility of “hitting” someone walking. The speed limit of the vehicles should not exceed 5 miles per hour under any circumstances. Golf carts or wagons may be used as support vehicles, even if they are not pulling a float. It is strongly advised that all support vehicles be decorated in some fashion.

#### **Section IV-C Motorized Unit Criteria**

**Section 6.0** Motorized Unit refers to any motorcycle, mini-bike, car, truck, tractor, ATV or UTV.

**Section 6.1** All drivers must be currently licensed and are required to have proof of insurance.

**Section 6.2** No more than ten (10) vehicles will be accepted in any single section of a Parade unit. Additional vehicles must be operated in a separate section of the Parade unit, for which an additional Parade entry fee must be paid.

**Section 6.3** The manner in which any and all vehicles travel through the route must be explicitly authorized by the Parade Committee, and thus the manner of travel must be explicitly detailed in the application.

**Section 6.4** With respect to the Motorized Units, preference will be given by the Parade Committee to entrants whose motorized vehicles travel side-by-side, for purposes of spacing and timing.

**Section 6.5** Reckless driving is expressly prohibited: There will be **NO** burn-offs, wheelies, hole shots, dumping the clutch, or any other driving action that the GMAWO may deem unsafe,

or that would potentially endanger our Parade guests or other Parade units. Failure to abide by Indiana law, local ordinance, and Parade rules and regulations will result in immediate removal from the Parade along with further actions that may be taken by the Fort Wayne Police Department or other LEA's at the scene. That is to say, no "warnings" will be given.

**Section 6.6** Volunteer Parade Marshals may also disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade Rules and Regulations, or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe to Parade participants or spectators.

#### **Section IV-D Horsedrawn Criteria.**

**Section 7.0** Only handlers with experience driving horses shall be permitted to operate horsedrawn carriages. That experience MUST be documented in the application.

**Section 7.1** Acceptable one, two and four horse team vehicles shall include: a hackney coach; a stagecoach; a buggy; a handsom cab; a landau; a phaeton; a barouche; a post-chaise; a brougham; a cabriolet; a gig; a brake (also spelled "break").

**Section 7.2** Chariots are disfavored, because of their inherent instability.

**Section 7.3** Only street-worthy horsedrawn vehicles shall be permitted in the Parade. Any incident or accident that is caused by a mechanical situation that could have been avoided, resulting in personal injury or property damage, shall result in legal action.

#### **Section IV-E Equestrian Criteria**

**Section 8.0** Individual equestrian units are permitted, provided that they are saddled and bridled. No bareback horses will be permitted in the Parade.

**Section 8.1** Each unit is required to provide its own sanitation (pooper-scooper or diaper). This will be strictly enforced. Sanitation support must immediately "follow on" with the unit.

**Section 8.2** Each unit will be responsible for providing ample water for the animals.

**Section 8.3** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations, or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe to participants, spectators, or animals.

**Section 8.4** There shall be no more than fifteen (15) horses in any single equestrian Parade unit.

#### **Section IV-F Pedal Criteria.**

**Section 9.0** All pedal Parade entry units are welcome. However, pedal go-karts are disfavored



because of their relatively small size, low speed, and energy required for the route.

**Section 9.1** Such entries shall include unicycles; bicycles; tricycles; quadracycles; and, pedal cars.

**Section 9.2** One-wheeled, two-wheeled, and three-wheeled electric pedal-powered vehicles will not be admitted to the Parade this year. Four-wheeled electric pedal-powered vehicles will be admitted upon application, on a case-by-case basis, only.

**Section 9.3** Velomobiles, zeppelins, and cyclones, being human-powered vehicles, will be admitted to the Parade upon application, on a case-by-case basis, only.

**Section 9.4** In the event of entering unicycles or bicycles, there must be a minimum of five (5) such vehicles in the unit.

**Section 9.5** The pedaled units must be able to keep pace with the forward movement of the Parade.

#### **Section IV-G Marching Band Criteria**

**Section 10.0** Bands are encouraged to perform over as much of the Parade route as possible. To the extent that the temperature and/or humidity becomes a factor in human performance, the respective Band Directors may allow their marching bands to merely walk, without playing.

**Section 10.1** Each band is required to have an adequate water supply, and a means of distributing water, that will provide ample water for rehydration of all band members and supporting personnel.

**Section 10.2** No unit is permitted to STOP to perform. All choreography or demonstrations must be accomplished while moving forward, unless an exception is granted IN ADVANCE by the Parade Committee.

**Section 10.3** All members of a Band MUST continue to march forward while turning corners, keeping pace with the rest of the Parade.

**Section 10.4** Bands may not be followed by transportation buses or other large vehicles. This rule will be strictly enforced. Decorated golf carts or wagons ARE allowed as support vehicles on the Parade route.

**Section 10.5** Bands may be identified by banners or signs preceding the groups, or by signage that is an integral part of the group. Vehicles may not be used to identify bands.

**Section 10.6** The band is encouraged to dress appropriately. If the band chooses not to wear regular uniforms, then it should select the dressiest uniform possible for summer weather.

**Section 10.7** Any band stipend given by TRF is contingent on sponsorship obtained and the number of marching bands that qualify to participate in the Parade.

**Section 10.8** All units must be at the specified marshalling spot on time, or they will not be allowed to participate.

**Section 10.9** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observed Parade rules and regulations or if the official observes any behavior or circumstances which is considered to be unsafe.

## **V. OTHER PARADE PARTICIPANTS**

### **A. POLITICAL UNIT CRITERIA.**

**Section 11.0** The following elected officeholders are eligible for an entry in the Parade:

- (i) President of the United States
- (ii) Vice President of the United States
- (iii) Governor of the State of Indiana
- (iv) U.S. Senator (Indiana only)
- (v) U.S. Congresspersons (Indiana only)
- (vi) State Senator
- (vii) State Representative
- (viii) Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne
- (ix) Fort Wayne Councilpersons
- (x) Allen County Commissioners
- (xi) Allen County Sheriff
- (xii) Allen County Prosecutor
- (xiii) Allen County Judges

**Section 11.1** Participation must be by the elected official and not a representative of the official.

**Section 11.2** Only elected officials, not those running for office, may participate in the Parade.

**Section 11.3** Elected officials may be accompanied by no more than three (3) non-elected persons, plus two (2) banner carriers. All persons who are a part of the political entry must walk.

**Section 11.4** Banner signage shall be limited to the official's name and title. No partisan signs or materials are allowed. No distribution of campaign materials is permitted.

**Section 11.5** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations, or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe.

**Section 11.6** No more than one (1) vehicle per elected official is permitted.

### **B. PAGEANT TITLE HOLDER CRITERIA**

**Section 12.0** One vehicle per title holder is permitted.

**Section 12.1** Each unit may have two (2) banner carriers.

**Section 12.2** Banner signage shall be limited to the title holder's name and title.

**Section 12.3** Driver must be licensed and have proof of insurance.

**Section 12.4** Vehicle must maintain no more than two car lengths distance between them and the unit directly in front of them at all times.

**Section 12.5** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe.

**C. PROFESSIONAL AND COLLEGE SPORTS CRITERIA**

**Section 13.0** Each unit is allowed a maximum of thirty-five (35) people, including sign bearers.

**Section 13.1** Everyone must be able to keep up with the pace of the Parade.

**Section 13.2** One decorated vehicle per unit for team mascot is permitted.

**Section 13.3** Driver must be licensed and have proof of insurance.

**Section 13.4** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe.

**D. BALLOON UNIT CRITERIA**

**Section 14.0** Each unit is responsible for arranging its own supply of gas for its balloons.

**Section 14.1** Balloons will be filled at your marshalling area, which will be provided to each unit in June.

**Section 14.2** Each unit is allowed up to 30 people to accompany and control its balloon.

**Section 14.3** Vehicles are not permitted with Balloon units. Golf carts or wagons may be used as support vehicles, but must be decorated. A picture or sketch of decorated support vehicle must be provided at the time of application to the Parade.

**Section 14.4** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe.

**E. MILITARY CRITERIA**

**Section 15.0** Each unit is allowed to have walkers, military vehicle(s), and a float.

**Section 15.1** Everyone must be able to keep up with the pace of the Parade.

**Section 15.2** Driver must be licensed and have proof of insurance.

**Section 15.3** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations, or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe.

**Section 15.4** Each unit is allowed to have up to twenty (20) walkers; a vehicle (including military vehicles such as duck boat, retired jeep, personnel carrier, etc.), or a float.

**Section 15.5** Everyone must be able to keep up with the pace of the Parade.

**Section 15.6** Driver must be licensed and have proof of insurance.

**Section 15.7** Parade officials may disqualify an entry at any time if, in their opinion, the entry is not fully observing Parade rules and regulations or if the official observes any behavior or circumstance which is considered to be unsafe.

## **VI. RULES FOR SPECTATORS**

**Section 16.0** Local law enforcement will enforce state and local laws and ordinances, including those prohibiting Public Intoxication and Disorderly Conduct.

**Section 16.1** Setting off fireworks near the Parade route is strictly prohibited, and constitutes grounds for ejection from the Parade route and possible prosecution for criminal offenses.

**Section 16.2** While Indiana is an “open carry” state, the possession of firearms near the route of the Parade is discouraged. Anyone who does bring a firearm to the Parade route is instructed to keep it concealed and follow Indiana law.

**Section 16.3** The taunting of human individuals and/or animals participating in the Parade is strictly prohibited, and constitutes grounds for ejection from the Parade route.

**Section 16.4** Bringing pets to the Parade route is discouraged.

**Section 16.5** Throwing candy or other items at the Parade route is strictly prohibited, and constitutes grounds for ejection from the Parade route.

**Section 16.6** The use of squirt guns, pop guns, air guns, noisemakers, or other similar weapons or devices at or near the Parade route is strictly prohibited, and constitutes grounds for ejection from the Parade route.

**Section 16.7** Interference in any way with the progress of the Parade is strictly prohibited, and constitutes ground for ejection from the Parade route.

## **VII. MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES**

**Section 17.0** To the extent possible, your organization's name, as approved by the Parade Committee, should be an integral part of your unit. It may appear on a banner preceding or following your unit, along with the number assigned to your entry by the Parade Committee.

**Section 17.1** When transporting the float to the Parade site, it is a good idea to cover it with polyethylene for protection from sun, wind and rain.

**Section 17.2** It is strongly recommended that each walking unit be costumed and have learned a choreographed routine designed to entertain the people along the Parade route. However, the choreography must not slow down the pace of your unit.

**Section 17.3** Any demonstration or performance that will slow down the pace of the Parade is prohibited. All demonstrations and performances must receive the approval of the Chief of Civilian Marshals in advance, that is: prior to the beginning of the Parade. Choreographed routines are welcome, provided that they do not slow down the pace of the Parade. Please note that a Parade official may stop by your Parade unit during marshalling to ensure your group knows the time and place for presenting such a choreographed routine.

**Section 17.4** All Vehicles must maintain no more than two car lengths distance between them and the vehicle directly in front of them at all times.

**Section 17.5** Units utilizing “Walking Banners” are requested to keep pace with the flow of the Parade, and to avoid being placed into a dangerous situation with vehicles pulling floats.

**Section 17.6** The following guidelines shall be observed:

- (a) **no throwing or passing out of any favors or literature on the Parade route;**
- (b) **no advocating, opposing, depicting, or endorsing of any political, social, or religious issues or persons.** The Parade will not be used as a platform for advertising on any float or vehicle for any candidate or issue. Therefore, no election signs, themes, slogan or colors may be displayed. There will be no campaigning for election or re-election, or for another office, and no display or distribution of election materials or election colors or shirts is permitted on or near the Parade route.
- (c) **no persons are permitted to hang over or ride on the sides of floats or vehicles;**
- (d) **riders must be secure on all floats and vehicle with handholds, rails or chairs;**
- (e) **no articles, including signs and banners, are permitted to be displayed on the sides of floats or vehicles, except those identifying the name and number approved by the Parade Committee;**
- (f) **no persons shall ride on the roof or hood of vehicles;**
- (g) **no persons are permitted to standing in the back of any truck, without a reasonable fixed item providing stability;**
- (h) **no bicycles, skateboards or scooters are allowed in any entry;**
- (i) **there shall be no spraying of water or other liquids from Parade participants;**
- (j) **there shall be no jumping on or off floats or vehicles;**
- (k) **there shall be no blowing of sirens, vehicle horns or revving of engines;**
- (l) **there shall be no alcoholic beverages or smoking around or near Parade entries;**
- (m) **there shall be no use of weapons (unless previously approved by the Parade Committee, or those associated with a color guard unit);**

- (n) **the use of cell phones, including texting, by a person driving vehicle in the Parade is expressly prohibited;**
- (o) **no other form of distracted driving is permitted;**
- (p) **no backpacks are allowed on the Parade route; and,**
- (q) **it is specifically requested that participants not leave bags, boxes or equipment on the streets or in parking lots.**

## **VIII. EMERGENCY PLAN**

**Section 18.0** In the event of any emergency, the Director of Security shall immediately assume civilian control of the Parade participants, while communicating with law enforcement agencies, and shall issue appropriate orders for all Parade participants to follow. His authority, and judgment, shall not be questioned. Unless the Parade route is designated a crime scene by law enforcement, the Director of Security shall be authorized to make all decisions regarding the welfare of participants and spectators, alike.

## **IX. ALTERNATE PLAN IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER**

**Section 18.0** The Parade Committee shall be watching the weather closely. Any threat of inclement weather shall be cause for delay of the Parade. The Parade Committee will make public announcements to local media, and publish on its website and Facebook, any and all news of this nature. Ideally, such news shall be published no later than 7:00 p.m. on Friday, July 18 , 2025.

## **X. HELPFUL HINTS**

- (a) Decorated floats/vehicles should carry a current dated 2A10BC fire extinguisher;
- (b) All decorations must be flame retardant;
- (c) All vehicles must be properly registered, insured and licensed;
- (d) Drivers must be properly licensed;
- (e) All generators should be tested beforehand;
- (f) All fuel tanks should be filled, and checked, prior to the Parade;
- (g) Each vehicle hitch to the float shall be checked prior to the Parade, and made secure;
- (h) Every vehicle driver shall have clear, unobstructed vision;
- (i) All floats and decorated vehicles are subject to inspection by the Civilian Parade Marshals, and by the Fort Wayne Fire Department;
- (j) This is a family friendly event, and therefore all entries must appear appropriately;
- (k) Respect all Parade monitors, marshals and volunteers;
- (l) Keep a watchful eye on children and youth at all times;
- (m) Adult supervision is required for all children under the age of twelve (12);
- (n) Provide water to your participants, especially children and seniors
- (o) A representative of each organization has signed the original entry application, reflecting an understanding of all Parade information and guidelines presented; and,
- (p) Signs and banners are for identification of the entry only.

**-The End-**

**The General “Mad” Anthony Wayne Parade Committee  
thanks you for your participation and cooperation!**