

[County Name] Committee of Safety Bylaws

Adopted by [County CoS]: <DATE>

PREAMBLE

The [County Name] Committee of Safety shall be a non-partisan representative body of [County Name]. It shall strive to secure and maintain the Safety and good Welfare of the People of the County through promotion of, and adherence to, the principles of Liberty of the American Constitutional Republic, their only and true Form of Government. To this end, the Committee shall foster efforts to educate the People concerning the American Constitution and other Founding Documents, in order to increase awareness of the exceptional nature of America's Founding, its special and republican Form of government, which is the Birthright of the native-born and the cherished privilege of the naturalized citizen. The Committee shall work with other elected bodies and officials within [County Name] County in order to promote and ensure adherence to the principles of the American Constitutional Republic, as well as all underlying principles of Liberty, the aim of which is to promote the Good and restrain the Evil within our society. To this end, the Committee will work with elected officials such as the County Sheriff, County Commissioners, County Clerk, city officials, and others. The Committee shall work to maintain or restore Law and Order in the absence or failure of regular or sufficient County law enforcement. The [County] Committee of Safety has adopted the following Bylaws to guide its conduct in carrying out the business of the Committee.

ARTICLE I – ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY

Section 1 – COMPOSITION –

The County Committee of Safety is composed of the County Committeepersons, Delegates from their Precincts to the County Committee of Safety, elected at the Precinct Elections. Each Precinct in the County shall elect One (1) Committeeperson to the County Committee of Safety.

Section 2 – OFFICERS –

The officers of the County Committee of Safety shall consist of Seven (7) Officers: the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and Three (3) Directors.

Section 3 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS –

A. Chairperson – The Chairperson shall preside at all County Committee meetings, and will serve as Chairperson of the Executive Committee and will serve as ex-officio member of all standing, special, and ad-hoc committees of the County Committee. The Chairperson shall have the authority to temporarily suspend proceedings, recess and reconvene the Assembly, and clear the meeting of all persons other than those legally entitled to be present.

B. Vice-Chairperson – In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at all County Committee meetings, and assume those functions of the Chairperson in the conduct of normal business. The Chairperson shall be considered to be absent whenever outside the boundaries of the County [County Name] for more than 72 hours or when notice of intended absence is given to the Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall perform such other duties that may be delegated by the Chairperson.

C. Secretary – The Secretary shall maintain a permanent record of all regular, special, and executive meetings and assemblies; shall maintain a permanent correspondence file relating to the business of the County Committee; maintain a file of the State election laws, County election laws, rules and policies of the County Clerk, current County and Precinct boundary descriptions, rules and bylaws of the Precinct Committees of Safety, rules and bylaws of the County Committee of Safety, Precinct Committee Elections information and results; and such other records as designated by the County Chairperson. The Secretary shall serve as Clerk for Elections, and may serve as Registrar or may designate another member of the County Committee to serve as such. Normally it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify the members of the Committee of meetings, assemblies, and other information as appropriate.

D. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall have custody and responsibility for all funds of the County Committee, including all donation and levy funds collected by the Committee. The Treasurer shall be prepared to render a current report of all receipts and expenditures at each REGULAR MEETING. The Treasurer is authorized to expend funds for normal housekeeping expenses, not to exceed \$250.00, without prior approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4 – REMOVAL OF OFFICERS – Unless sooner removed, Officers shall serve until their successors are elected pursuant to the laws of the State [State Name] and the Rules of the [County Name] County Committee of Safety. An officer deemed unwilling to perform the duties required by these bylaws and by the rules of the [County Name] County Committee of Safety may be removed from office by a vote of 2/3rds of the County Committeepersons present at a REGULAR MEETING or SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY THE CHAIRPERSON or SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY PETITION of the County Committee called for the purpose of considering the removal of officers, except that a Seventy-Five percent (75%) quorum of Committeepersons shall be required for the removal of the County Chairperson or an Executive Committee Officer. No officer shall continue to serve when they are no longer a resident of [County Name] County.

Section 5 – ELECTION & TERM ALIGNMENT – Once the County Committee is Organized, all Precincts within the County shall align their Elections and Terms of Office to that of the County Committee. The Precinct Delegate, who serves as County Committeeperson for the County Committee of Safety, serves the same Term of Office as the Precinct Committeepersons (and the other County Committeepersons). Also, in the event that the State Committee of Safety is Organized, Elections and Terms of Office should be aligned such that the Committeemen and Delegates are being elected during the same Election Cycle, the lifecycle of all the Committees of Safety: Precinct, County, and State will be synchronized. This will help create smoother transitions in the life of all of the Committees. It may be helpful to schedule the Election Day for the Committees in close proximity to a Regular General Election or a Regular Primary Election.

ARTICLE II – MEETINGS

There shall be Five (5) types of Meetings of the [County Name] County Committee of Safety. They are:

ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY
COUNTY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY
SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY THE CHAIRPERSON
SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY PETITION
REGULAR MEETING

Section 1 – ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY –

An ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY shall be held after the Clerk of the [County Name] County Committee of Safety certifies the Election Results, which have been certified by the Precinct Election Clerks, and within 10 days of the Election; for the purpose of seating the elected County Committeepersons, and electing Officers. The Chairperson may choose to set up subcommittees at the Organizing Assembly, or may call a SPECIAL MEETING at a later date for this purpose.

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A. QUORUM – Fifty-One percent (51%) of the County Committeepersons holding office shall be required for a quorum at the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY.

B. ELECTION OF OFFICERS – The election of the officers shall be the first order of business at the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY, with the election of the Chairperson being taken up first. The County Committeepersons at the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY shall then elect all the remaining officers of the County Committee of Safety.

1. OFFICERS – The Seven (7) officers of the [County Name] County Committee of Safety shall consist of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Three (3) Directors.

2. QUALIFICATIONS – Any qualified elector of [County Name] County, resident of this County, is eligible for nomination and election.

3. NOMINATIONS – At the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY all nominations for the election of officers shall come from the floor, and only elected County Committeepersons shall be eligible to move such nominations.

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4. NOMINATING SPEECHES – Nominating speeches at the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY shall be limited to Two (2) speeches for each nominee and each of such speeches not to exceed Two (2) minutes in time. Seconding nominations shall be by a simple statement of “I second the nomination of...” or the equivalent thereof.

5. VOTING – The right to vote in the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY shall be limited to County Committeepersons duly elected in the previous Precinct Elections. The Chairperson shall not vote except in the case of a tie, except in the election of the Chairperson, in which case the incumbent Vice-Chairperson shall act as the tie-breaker, unless the Vice-Chairperson has already voted in their capacity as a County Committeeperson, in which case the incumbent Secretary, then the incumbent Treasurer, shall act as tie-breakers, provided they have not already voted in their capacities as County Committeepersons. In the event that all officers have voted in that capacity, a coin-flip shall break the tie.

6. PROXY OR ABSENTEE VOTING – All voters must be present to cast votes. Proxy or Absentee voting is not allowed.

7. BALLOT TYPE – When more than one candidate is nominated for an office, election to that office shall be by secret ballot.

8. VOTE REQUIREMENT – A simple majority of County Committeepersons present is required for the election of officers.

9. THE MANNER OF COUNTING – In the event that a secret ballot is required, the County Chairperson will select Three (3) individuals to count the ballots. In the event that the vote to be counted is for the election of the Chairperson, the incumbent Secretary shall select the Three (3) individuals to count the ballots. None of the Three (3) selected may be nominated in the election for which they are counting ballots. Counting shall be done openly, and observers are allowed. Any County Committeeperson present may observe the ballot counting.

10. TIE VOTES – See 5 above.

11. OATH OF OFFICE – The incumbent Secretary shall administer the Oath of Office for the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall administer the Oath of Office to all the other Officers, and any members of Committees subsequently appointed, whether at the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY or at future Meetings. See Article IX for the text of the Oath of Office.

C. ELECTION & TERM ALIGNMENT – Especially during the very first County Committee ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY, the task of working to align Precinct Elections and Terms of Office should be taken up. This may also need to be addressed periodically so that the Elections and Terms are synchronized across the County for the Committees. It would be a good practice to take this item up at each ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY.

Section 2 – COUNTY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY –

Each County Committee of Safety shall hold an Assembly for selection of Two (2) Delegates to the State Committee of Safety. These Delegates are the State Committeepersons. A COUNTY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY shall be held after the ORGANIZING ASSEMBLY, and within 10 days of the same; for the purpose of sending Representatives to the State Committee of Safety.

A. QUORUM – Fifty-One percent (51%) of the County Committeepersons holding office shall be required for a quorum at the COUNTY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY.

B. PROXY VOTING – All voters must be present to cast votes. Proxy or Absentee voting is not allowed.

C. CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION – The election of the Two (2) Delegates to the State Committee of Safety will be conducted by the newly-elected County Chairperson, or in the Chairperson’s absence, the newly-elected County Vice-Chairperson.

D. ENTERING OF NAMES INTO NOMINATION –

1. Names of those seeking to be elected as Delegates to the State Committee of Safety may be entered into nomination by any County Committeeperson Member of the County Committee of Safety. Nominations must be seconded by a County Committeeperson of the County Committee of Safety.

2. Delegates can be nominated individually, one at a time, or by means of a slate of more than one nominee at a time.
3. Slates shall be composed of Two (2) nominees.
4. More than one slate may be nominated at a time.
5. Individuals may be nominated to run against slates.
6. If an individual receives more votes than a slate, the entire slate is deemed to have been defeated. Voting will then take place for the remaining position individually.

E. NOMINATING SPEECHES – Nominating speeches at the COUNTY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY shall be limited to Two (2) speeches for each nominee (or slate) and each of such speeches not to exceed Two (2) minutes in time. Seconding nominations shall be by a simple statement of “I second the nomination of...” or the equivalent thereof.

F. ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES – Acceptance speeches will not be allowed.

G. THE MANNER OF VOTING

1. Except as herein provided, only County Committee Members shall be allowed to vote.
2. Voting will be conducted by voice vote.
3. A motion may be made from the floor by any County Committee Member to conduct a vote by a show of hands. Such a motion will be dealt with as would any other motion before the Committee.
4. A motion may be made from the floor by any County Committee Member to conduct a vote by secret ballot. Such a motion will be dealt with as would any other motion before the Committee.

H. THE MANNER OF COUNTING

- 1.** In the event that a secret ballot is required, the County Chair will select Three (3) individuals to count the ballots.
- 2.** None of the three selected may be nominated in the election for which they are counting ballots.
- 3.** Any County Committee Member may observe the ballot counting.

G. TIE VOTES

- 1.** In the event of a tie, the County Chair, if not already voting as a County Committee Member, may break the tie.
- 2.** In the event of a tie where the County Chair has already voted as a County Committee Member, the County Vice-Chair, if not already voting as a County Committee Member, may break the tie.
- 3.** In the event of a tie where both the County Chair and the County Vice-Chair have voted as County Committee Members, a second vote shall be taken.
- 4.** If the second vote also results in a tie, the result shall be decided by a single coin flip.

Section 3 – SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY THE CHAIRPERSON –

A SPECIAL MEETING may be called at the discretion of the County Chairperson when deemed necessary by the Chairperson to consider urgent business concerning the County Committee. Notice of a SPECIAL MEETING of the County Committee, with details of the purpose for that SPECIAL MEETING, shall be given in writing not less than Four (4) days in advance of the Meeting.

A. QUORUM – Fifty-One percent (51%) of the County Committeepersons holding office shall be required for a quorum at the SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY THE CHAIRPERSON.

B. VOTING – The right to vote in the SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY THE CHAIRPERSON shall be limited to County Committeepersons and Officers of the Committee. These persons shall also be allowed to originate motions and move nominations. Notwithstanding that the Chairperson may also be a County Committeeperson, the Chairperson shall not vote except in the case of a tie.

C. PROXY VOTING - There shall be no proxy or absentee voting.

D. VOTE REQUIREMENT – Simple majority of those eligible to vote.

E. BALLOT TYPE - Any ballot type may be used, at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Section 4 – SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY PETITION –

Upon receipt of a written petition signed by 1/3 of the members of the County Committee requesting a SPECIAL MEETING, the County Chairperson shall, within Ten (10) days, and upon not less than Four (4) days' notice, call a meeting of the County Committee as requested by the petition. The PETITION FOR SPECIAL MEETING shall specifically detail the purpose for which the SPECIAL MEETING is being called. Any SPECIAL MEETING called by Petition shall follow the Rules in Article II, Section 3.

Section 5 – REGULAR MEETING –

REGULAR MEETINGS shall be held at a time and place to be designated by the County Committee. Notice of meetings shall be given at least Four (4) days in advance of the date of the meeting.

A. ORDER OF BUSINESS – The order of business at a duly called REGULAR MEETING of the [County Name] County Committee of Safety should include the following:

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum
5. Reading of Minutes
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Old Business
9. Programs and/or Special Guests
10. New Business
11. Announcements
12. Adjournment

B. ROLL CALL – The Secretary shall call the roll of the members of the County Committee at each meeting. The Secretary shall keep the records of the roll call and the official minutes of previous meetings in a binder and shall make them available to the County Committee members at each meeting. The Secretary shall also post these records to the County Committee website or other website or bulletin board publicly accessible to the People of the County.

C. QUORUM – 1/3 of County Committeepersons shall constitute a quorum at a REGULAR MEETING of the County Committee.

D. VOTING – The right to vote in the REGULAR MEETING shall be limited to the County Committeepersons and Officers of the Committee. These persons shall also be allowed to originate motions and move nominations. Notwithstanding that the Chairperson may also be a County Committeeperson, the Chairperson shall not vote except in the case of a tie.

C. PROXY VOTING - There shall be no proxy or absentee voting.

D. VOTE REQUIREMENT – Simple majority of those eligible to vote.

E. BALLOT TYPE - Any ballot type may be used, at the discretion of the Chairperson.

ARTICLE III – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Section 1 – AMENDMENTS –

Additions and amendments to these bylaws may be adopted by the affirmative vote of 2/3rds of the County Committeepersons in attendance at any properly convened meeting or assembly of the County Committee, provided that a quorum of Seventy-Five percent (75%) of County Committeepersons is present.

Section 2 – NOTICE OF AMENDMENT –

The Secretary shall provide written copies of suggested additions or amendments to the Bylaws to all members of the County Committee at least Ten (10) days in advance of the vote on such additions or amendments. The Secretary shall also make written or digital copies of such additions or amendments available to the People of the County in a reasonably accessible fashion, such as on a website or bulletin board.

Section 3 – CONFLICTS –

Should changes occur in the laws of the [State Name], the laws or rules of the County, or the rules or the bylaws of the State Committee of Safety, which changes create conflicts with these bylaws, the County Chairperson shall call a meeting of the County Committee to review those changes and to make appropriate amendments as necessary. The changes identified by the Committee shall follow the normal amendment process as outlined in this Article of the bylaws.

ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEES

Section 1 – STANDING COMMITTEES –

For approval by the County Committee, the County Committee Chairperson shall nominate a chairperson and such other members as deemed necessary to the following standing committees: Correspondence (and Investigation), Volunteers, Inspection, Finance, and Program (and Education). Committee Chairpersons or Members need not be County Committeepersons, but must be eligible to vote in [County Name] County. Though the above named are considered Standing Committees, they may be left vacant at the discretion of the County Committee (typically for lack of willing members for the subcommittees).

Section 2 – SPECIAL COMMITTEES –

The Chairperson may appoint, on a temporary basis, special committees as may be necessary for the administration of the business of the County Committee.

Section 3 – DUTIES –

The duties of all committees shall be designated by the County Chairperson and subject to the review of said Chairperson.

Section 4 – COUNTY DELEGATES –

The County Delegates are elected to represent the County as a State Committeeperson on the State Committee of Safety. In the event there is no organized State Committee, the Delegates serve as members of an Outreach Committee, the purpose of which is to encourage other Counties to organize Committees and set up the State Committee.

ARTICLE V – EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Section 1 – APPROVAL –

Expenditure of funds other than regulated by Article I, Section 3, D, of this document shall be authorized by the County Committee, by 2/3 of the County Committeepersons, provided a quorum for the Meeting is present. Expenditure of funds by the Executive Committee is described in Article VI, Section 3 of this document.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 – COMPOSITION –

The Executive Committee shall consist of the County Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Three (3) Directors. The Two (2) County Delegates shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. The County Chairperson may call meetings of the Executive Committee at the Chairperson's discretion.

Section 2 – QUORUM –

A Quorum shall consist of 4 members of the Executive Committee.

Section 3 – EMERGENCY ACTION –

The Executive Committee shall have the power to act for the County Committee when matters arise that are so urgent as to preclude the calling of a SPECIAL County Committee Meeting. Expenditure of funds by the Executive Committee other than regulated by Article I, Section 3, D, of this document shall be authorized by a 2/3 vote of the Executive Committee. All actions of the Executive Committee under such circumstances should be subject to review and either ratification or disavowal by members of the County Committee present at the next REGULAR Meeting of the County Committee of Safety. **However**, at the discretion of the Chairperson certain actions may be deemed too sensitive for immediate disclosure, if ever. Such secrecy should only be used in extreme circumstance and with much caution and judicious approach. The Committee must remember that it, and its members, are accountable to the People and to God for their actions.

ARTICLE VII – VACANCIES

Section 1 – VACANCY DEFINED –

A vacancy occurs when a County Committee of Safety Committeeperson or subcommittee Member makes their resignation known to the Chairperson through letter, email, or otherwise, or upon the death or relocation of the County Committee Member outside of [County Name] County.

Section 2 – NOTIFICATION –

When the Chairperson learns of a vacancy, the Chairperson shall notify the Vice-Chairperson the Secretary, and – in the event of a County Committeeperson vacancy – the Chairperson of the Precinct Committee of Safety from which the Delegate was sent, within Forty-Eight (48) hours. The Secretary shall notify the County Committee within Ten (10) days of the next County Committee Meeting. Such notifications will be made via email, website, bulletin board, or other reasonable means.

Section 3 – INTERIM APPOINTMENTS –

When vacancies of County Committeepersons occur in the County Committee, the Chairperson of the originating Precinct Committee may fill such vacancies in accordance with the Precinct Committee bylaws. When vacancies occur of other positions, such as County Delegates or other members of the County Committee who are not otherwise County Committeepersons, the County Chairperson may appoint qualified persons to act on a temporary basis until the next meeting of the County Committee, where they will be permanently filled as described in the Article VII, Section 4 below.

A. County Committeepersons appointed in an interim capacity by the Precinct Chairperson shall have all of the authority and responsibility of regularly elected County Committeepersons, except that they shall not be allowed to vote in any meeting or assembly until the Precinct Committee of Safety in question duly elects them. County Delegates or other Committee members who are not otherwise County Committeepersons (Precinct Delegates) appointed in an interim capacity by the County Chairperson shall have all the authority and responsibility of their respective positions, except that they shall not be allowed to vote in any meeting or assembly until the County Committee of Safety duly elects them.

B. The Chairperson shall call for nominations to permanently fill such County Committee vacancies, with the exception of the County Committeepersons (Precinct Delegates) at the next meeting of the County Committee of Safety.

C. If a vacancy of a position other than a County Committeeperson is not filled, the Chairperson shall continue to call for nominations at each REGULAR MEETING until the position is filled.

Section 4 – ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES –

An election to fill the vacancy (other than a County Committeeperson) will be held at the next meeting of the County Committee of Safety.

A. Such election will be governed by the procedure set out in Article II, Section 1, B.

B. Nominees to fill vacancies must be eligible to vote in [County Name] County. They must attend the meeting and be prepared to address the County Committee and answer questions.

C. The Secretary shall notify the County Committee of Safety, by the usual means, of the election of the new member within Ten (10) days.

Section 5 – COUNTY CHAIRPERSON –

Should a vacancy arise in the office of the County Chairperson, by reason of resignation, death, or otherwise, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume all duties of the Chairperson and, within Thirty (30) days after giving at least Seven (7) days' notice, shall call the County Committee for the purpose of electing a new County Chairperson.

A. Such election will be governed by the procedure set out in Article II, Section 1, B.

ARTICLE VIII – MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1 – PARLIAMENTARIAN –

The County Chairperson shall appoint a parliamentarian to advise on interpretation of the rules and procedures in this document and to resolve questions, when necessary, on matters of parliamentary procedure.

Section 2 – ROBERT’S RULES –

The current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order: Newly Revised* shall govern this organization in all cases in which they are applicable, and when they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of this organization.

ARTICLE IX – OATH OF OFFICE

"I, [FULL NAME], do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."