

1 **BYLAWS**  
2 **OF THE TENNESSEE REPUBLICAN PARTY**

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4 **ARTICLE I**  
5 **NAME AND PURPOSE**  
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7 Section 1. The name of this organization is the Tennessee Republican Party  
8 (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "TRP" or the "Party").  
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10 Section 2. The purposes of the Party include, but are not limited to, electing  
11 Republican candidates to office on the national, state and local levels; recruiting Republican  
12 candidates to run for office; assisting the national Republican Party, the Republican National  
13 Committee and other Republican organizations on the national level in carrying out their  
14 purposes; raising funds for election campaigns and other Republican purposes; recruiting  
15 membership in the Republican Party; increasing public awareness of the Republican position on  
16 public issues; and fostering good citizenship in general.  
17

18 **ARTICLE II**  
19 **STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
20

21 Section 1. The affairs of the TRP shall be governed by the Republican State  
22 Executive Committee of Tennessee (hereinafter, the "Executive Committee").  
23

24 Section 2. The duties and powers of the Executive Committee, in general, include but  
25 are not limited to the following: To serve as the TRP's state primary board; to have immediate  
26 charge and full control of the political affairs of the TRP and establish policy to guide and direct  
27 County Republican Parties; to adopt such rules and measures as may best promote the success of  
28 the Republican Party and the broadening of its base; and to cause the Congressional Districts,  
29 Counties, precincts, and other political subdivisions in Tennessee to be organized for political  
30 purposes.  
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32 Section 3. The duties of individual members of the Executive Committee include, but  
33 are not limited to, the following:  
34

35 A. They shall be the representatives of the TRP to their home district.  
36

37 B. They shall facilitate the flow of information to and from their home  
38 district.  
39

40 C. They shall be expected to attend all meetings of the Executive Committee;  
41 or, if a member is unable to attend, he shall execute and deliver a valid proxy, as more  
42 particularly described in Article V, Section 4 below.  
43

44 D. They shall be appointed to a Subcommittee of the Executive Committee,  
45 and shall actively participate in the execution of that Subcommittee's responsibilities.  
46

47 E. They shall be expected to support the TRP as a member of the Capitol

1 Club or higher level of support, and shall assist in recruiting local Capitol Club members.  
2

3 F. They shall be active in local Republican affairs and shall attend as many  
4 Republican events within their home district as possible.  
5

6 G. They shall assist in coordinating the biennial reorganization of the Party in  
7 the County or Counties within their District.  
8

9 H. They shall assist in recruiting, advising and supporting Republican  
10 candidates for office.  
11

12 Section 4. The following shall apply to endorsement of candidates in contested  
13 elections:  
14

15 A. Neither the Executive Committee as a body, nor the Officers, nor the  
16 TRP's paid staff members, nor a County Republican Party or Executive Committee as a body,  
17 nor County Republican Party Chairmen shall endorse a Republican candidate in a contested  
18 primary election.  
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20 The exceptions to the above prohibition against endorsements are as follows:  
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22 1) The foregoing prohibition against endorsements shall not prohibit  
23 endorsement of a Republican opponent of a Republican candidate who, as a member of  
24 the General Assembly, voted for any redistricting plan opposed by the Tennessee  
25 Republican Party either through the Executive Committee, the State Chairman, or the  
26 Tennessee Republican Party's legal counsel.  
27

28 2) The foregoing prohibition against endorsements shall not prohibit  
29 endorsement of a Republican opponent of a Republican candidate who, as a member of  
30 the General Assembly, voted for a person who was not the nominee of the Republican  
31 Caucus of the House or Senate, for any officer of the House or Senate.  
32

33  
34 B. Neither the Executive Committee nor a County Republican Party or  
35 Executive Committee shall endorse a Democrat or other non-Republican in an election in which  
36 a Republican is a candidate.  
37

38 C. Sections 3A, B, F and H above shall specifically govern the conduct of  
39 individual Executive Committee or County Executive Committee members with respect to the  
40 endorsement of any Republican candidate in a contested primary election for State Senator or  
41 State Representative or other local or judicial offices in the District or County which he  
42 represents.  
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44 D. The foregoing subsections shall not apply to a primary election in which  
45 the individual Executive Committee member or Officer, or his spouse, or a member of his  
46 immediate family, is a candidate.  
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**ARTICLE III**  
**MEMBERS OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. A. The Executive Committee shall consist of sixty-six (66) members. They shall be elected at each regular August Republican primary election immediately before the election of the Governor in the same year. One bona fide Republican man and one bona fide Republican woman shall be elected to the Executive Committee from each of the thirty-three (33) State Senatorial Districts, by the voters of each respective District qualified to vote in such Republican primary. Each Executive Committee member shall be a legally registered voter in the Senatorial District from which he is elected. He shall have voted in the last three Republican primaries in his county of residence during those primary elections. Younger Republicans who may not have been of legal age for three primary elections must obtain approval from the state Chairman<sup>1</sup>. State Legislators and paid employees of the Tennessee Republican Party shall not be eligible to serve on the State Executive Committee<sup>2</sup>. The Executive Committee shall serve a four-year term, commencing September 15 following its election. Upon commencing his term, each member shall qualify by taking the oath of office, which shall be filed with the State Coordinator of Elections.

B. Bona fide Tennessee Republicans holding the following offices and positions shall be entitled to receive notice of, and attend, all meetings of the Executive Committee: The Governor; any U. S. Senator or Congressman; the Republican Leaders of the Tennessee House of Representatives and Senate; the State Election Commissioner, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Treasurer; the Republican National Committeeman and Committeewoman; the County Party Chairmen; the Chairmen of the Congressional District Republican Executive Committees, if any; and the State Chairman or President of the Federation of Republican Women, the Young Republicans, the College Republicans, any statewide organization of African-American Republicans, and the Teenage Republicans.

Section 2. A. If a member of the Executive Committee dies, resigns, or is removed from office during his term, the State Chairman shall appoint a committee of at least three (3) Executive Committee members, including the other member from the District from which the vacancy exists. The committee shall recommend a replacement at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. At that meeting, other nominations shall be permitted to be made from the floor. The Executive Committee shall elect a successor by majority vote of the members present and voting. Proxies shall be permitted for this purpose. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. If there is a tie, successive votes shall continue to be taken until there is a winner of a majority vote.

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the minutes from the December 3, 2011 State Executive Committee Meeting, the phrase referencing “the last three Republican primaries in his county of residence”, was approved with the understanding that this would not require one to have voted in three primaries in the same residence. Thus allows for an individual to have moved from county to county and state to state.

<sup>2</sup> The ineligibility of legislators and TRP employees will go into effect on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

1           B.     A member of the Executive Committee who is elected to fill a vacancy  
2 shall serve until the next regular August primary election, at which a successor shall be chosen  
3 by the voters of the Senatorial District in question.  
4

5           C.     A person elected to fill an unexpired term under Section 2A or 2B above  
6 shall be a bona fide Republican of the same gender as the former member, and a legally  
7 registered voter in the Senatorial District from which the vacancy arose, under the  
8 reapportionment law then in effect.  
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10          D.     If no one qualifies or is elected to a position on the Executive Committee  
11 at an August primary election under Section 1 or Section 2B, the vacancy shall be filled in  
12 accordance with Section 2A.  
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14          E.     If, solely because of reapportionment, a member ceases to be a legally  
15 registered voter or resident of the Senatorial District from which he was elected, this shall not  
16 constitute grounds for removal or declaring the position vacant.  
17

18          Section 3.     An Executive Committee member shall automatically cease to hold office,  
19 and a vacancy shall exist, in the event of change of his place of voter registration outside the  
20 District which he represents (except in the case of reapportionment during the member's term, as  
21 stated above), or for having been physically absent from three (3) consecutive regularly called  
22 Executive Committee meetings. This provision shall not apply to an absence from meetings that  
23 have been rescheduled from the previously announced date. An Executive Committee member  
24 shall have an affirmative duty to give notice in writing to the State Chairman of a move outside  
25 the District which he represents. The Secretary shall announce at the beginning of each  
26 Executive Committee meeting the name of any member who has become disqualified because he  
27 has moved outside his District, and shall announce at the end of each meeting the name of any  
28 member who has become disqualified because he has been physically absent from three (3)  
29 consecutive Executive Committee meetings. The State Chairman shall proceed to fill the  
30 vacancy in the manner set forth herein.  
31

32          Section 4.     In addition to the foregoing reasons for automatic removal from the  
33 Executive Committee, a member may be removed for cause. "Cause" shall consist of  
34 disqualification, violation of the oath of office, or serious violation of the material duties of  
35 office (including, but not limited to, ceasing to be a bone fide Republican). "Disqualification" is  
36 defined as open and overt support of a declared non-Republican candidate in either a contested  
37 primary or general election in which candidates run under party labels; or having been  
38 determined by the Executive Committee to have engaged in conduct unfit for a member of that  
39 body. To remove a member for cause, at least two other members must file a written motion  
40 with the State Chairman, stating the specific reason for the proposed removal. They must also  
41 send a copy to the member for whom removal is being proposed, by certified mail, return receipt  
42 requested, addressed to the member's last address known to the State Chairman or the Secretary.  
43 Such motion shall be filed and the copy sent at least forty-five (45) days before the Executive  
44 Committee meeting at which the motion to remove is to be acted upon. After receiving the  
45 motion, the State Chairman may appoint a committee to investigate the facts set forth in the  
46 motion. At the Executive Committee meeting at which the motion is considered, the member of  
47 whom removal is sought, and those requesting removal, shall have the right to be heard, present

1 evidence, and call witnesses. It shall not be necessary to follow the rules of evidence or other  
2 procedures followed in courts of law or equity; hearsay evidence shall be allowed. The  
3 affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Committee members who are physically  
4 present and qualified to vote at the meeting at which such vote is taken, at which a quorum of  
5 thirty-four (34) members is physically present, shall be required for removal. Proxies shall be  
6 permitted on other issues voted on at such a meeting, but shall not be permitted on the vote for or  
7 against removing the member. If the member is removed, his removal shall take effect  
8 immediately upon the State Chairman's announcement of the vote. The vacancy shall be filled in  
9 accordance with Section 2A above.

10  
11 Section 5. This Article III is based upon Tennessee Code Annotated (hereinafter,  
12 "TCA") Sections 2-13-103 through 1-13-105 and any related sections which create and form the  
13 legal authority for the Executive Committee. Amendments of any of such sections shall  
14 constitute automatic amendments of these Bylaws, if such amendments conflict with or are not  
15 covered by these Bylaws.

#### 16 17 **ARTICLE IV** 18 **OFFICERS** 19

20 Section 1. The Officers of the TRP shall be the State Chairman, the Vice-Chairman,  
21 the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Vice-Treasurer, and such other Officers as the Executive  
22 Committee deems appropriate. The Officers need not be members of the Executive Committee.  
23 The Executive Committee shall elect the Officers in December of each even-numbered year.  
24 Any contested race for Officer shall be conducted by secret ballot. Proxies shall not be permitted  
25 in the election of Officers. Officers shall serve a term of two (2) years or until their successors  
26 are elected and qualified. Officers who are not members of the Executive Committee shall not  
27 vote at Executive Committee meetings. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a runoff shall  
28 be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. If there is a tie,  
29 successive votes shall continue to be taken until there is a winner of a majority vote.

30  
31 Section 2. Officers can be removed, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of  
32 two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Committee members who are physically present and qualified  
33 to vote at the meeting at which such vote is taken, at which a quorum of thirty-four (34)  
34 members is physically present. Proxies shall be permitted on other issues voted on at such a  
35 meeting, but shall not be permitted on the vote for or against removing the officer. The  
36 procedure to be followed for removal shall be the same as that set forth for removal of Executive  
37 Committee members in Article III, Section 4 above.

38  
39 Section 3. The State Chairman shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the TRP and  
40 of the Executive Committee. He shall be responsible for the management and administration of  
41 the affairs of the Executive Committee. He shall preside at all meetings of the Officers and of  
42 the Executive Committee; coordinate the political activities of the TRP; and supervise and direct  
43 advance planning of the political activities of the TRP, including consulting with the campaigns  
44 of Republican candidates in general elections. He shall preserve decorum and order at meetings,  
45 and shall decide all questions of order and procedure, subject to an appeal by any member to all  
46 Executive Committee members present when the question of order arises. He shall be a member  
47 of all subcommittees. He shall submit an annual budget to the Executive Committee not later

1 than three (3) months before the close of each fiscal year. He shall approve (by his signature) all  
2 check requests for disbursements of TRP funds, and a copy of the check for the disbursement  
3 shall be attached to the check request and maintained as part of the Party's financial records. He  
4 shall have such powers and responsibilities as shall be delegated to him from time to time by the  
5 Executive Committee, and those general and customary powers which are usually exercised by  
6 chief executive officers. He may employ staff personnel, and establish their compensation.  
7 Such positions and compensation shall be subject to the approval of the Administrative  
8 Subcommittee created in Article VI, Section 1 below. However, the State Chairman shall have  
9 full and unlimited discretion as to the persons who are employed to fill such positions, and as to  
10 their tenure in such positions. Upon the election of a new State Chairman (at the beginning of a  
11 term or to fill a vacancy), the Executive Committee shall determine whether the State Chairman  
12 shall be compensated; and, if so, the level of such compensation.  
13

14 Section 4. The Vice-Chairman, who shall be the sex opposite the State Chairman,  
15 shall perform the duties of the State Chairman in his absence. If both the State Chairman and the  
16 Vice-Chairman are absent from an Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee  
17 shall elect a temporary State Chairman to preside at such meeting.  
18

19 Section 5. The Secretary shall take the minutes of each meeting of the Executive  
20 Committee and the Administrative Subcommittee created in Article VI, Section I below,  
21 including all such meetings held by conference call. If the Secretary must be absent from such a  
22 meeting, he shall be responsible for obtaining a replacement. The Secretary shall perform such  
23 other duties as may be assigned by the State Chairman or the Executive Committee. All records  
24 of the Secretary shall be and remain the property of the Executive Committee, and shall be  
25 maintained at the principal office of the Tennessee Republican Party.  
26

27 Section 6. The Treasurer shall be responsible for implementing an internal system of  
28 financial controls, shall review TRP books on a monthly basis, shall be available to assist the  
29 Party's bookkeeper and the State Chairman as needed, and shall be responsible for preparation of  
30 standard yearly financial statements. The term "internal system of financial controls" shall  
31 include, but shall not be limited to, maintenance of all bank statements and cancelled checks and  
32 deposit records, photocopies of other copies of all receipts and disbursements, and the invoices,  
33 check requests or other documentation substantiating each disbursement; copies of  
34 documentation of all internal transfers between accounts; copies of all reports filed with any  
35 governmental body including the Federal Election Commission or the Tennessee Registry of  
36 Election Finance; copies of all tax returns and schedules and exhibits and all supporting  
37 documentation; monthly, quarterly and annual statements of profit and loss and balance sheets;  
38 all documentation needed in order for the preparation of the "review" referred to elsewhere; and  
39 proper backup (off-site) of all computer records. Records shall be maintained for such periods of  
40 time as are required by law, and thereafter as recommended by the Tennessee Republican Party's  
41 outside accountants. He shall assist in the performance of a "review," as that term is customarily  
42 used by accountants, of the TRP's books and records and financial statements, at the end of each  
43 State Chairman's term and whenever the Committee determines that a "review" is needed. He  
44 shall be responsible for state and federal financial and election disclosures, and shall represent  
45 the Party at any hearings of the State Registry of Election Finance or the Federal Election  
46 Commission. The books and records shall be maintained at the principal office of the Tennessee  
47 Republican Party, and shall be open to inspection by any member of the Executive Committee at

1 reasonable times. The Treasurer shall report, at each regular or special meeting of the Executive  
2 Committee, all receipts and disbursements since the previous meeting. The Executive  
3 Committee may require that the Treasurer give a bond to secure the proper performance of his  
4 duties. If it does so, the premium for said bond shall be paid from the funds of the TRP. All  
5 records of the Treasurer shall be and remain the property of the Executive Committee.  
6

7 Section 7. The Vice-Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in performing his duties. If  
8 the Executive Committee requires the Vice-Treasurer to obtain a bond to insure the proper  
9 performance of his duties, the premium for said bond shall be paid out of the funds of the TRP.  
10

11 Section 8. If an office created in this Article becomes vacant, the Executive  
12 Committee shall elect a person to serve during the remainder of the unexpired term. If the office  
13 of State Chairman or Treasurer becomes vacant, the Vice-Chairman or Vice-Treasurer shall  
14 automatically fill the vacant office temporarily, until the Executive Committee elects a new State  
15 Chairman or Treasurer. If the Chairman elected to fill an unexpired term is of the same sex as  
16 the Vice-Chairman, it shall not be necessary to replace the Vice-Chairman with a new Vice-  
17 Chairman of the opposite sex until the end of the term. If the office of Vice-Chairman becomes  
18 vacant, the Vice-Chairman elected to fill the unexpired term shall be of the opposite sex from the  
19 person then serving as the elected Chairman.  
20

21 **ARTICLE V**  
22 **MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
23

24 Section 1. The Executive Committee shall hold at least three (3) regular meetings per  
25 year. The State Chairman shall determine the date of each of said regular meetings. However,  
26 one (1) of said meetings shall take place on the first or second Saturday of each December  
27 (beginning in 1994), and no more than six (6) months shall elapse between regular meetings.  
28 Notice of the exact date, time and place of each regular meeting, and principal items on the  
29 agenda, shall be mailed to each Officer, member and ex-officio member at least thirty (30) days  
30 before the date of said meeting. Substantial compliance with the foregoing notice requirements  
31 shall be sufficient, and the extent of the description of the agenda to be included in the notice  
32 shall be at the State Chairman's discretion. By January 31 of each calendar year, the State  
33 Chairman shall set and provide to members the dates for each meeting to be held during that  
34 year.  
35

36 Section 2. Special meetings of the Executive Committee can be called by the State  
37 Chairman on his own motion, or on the request of at least ten (10) members of the Executive  
38 Committee residing in at least four (4) Congressional Districts. Notice of such special meetings  
39 shall be given in the manner described in Section 1 above, except that notice may be shortened to  
40 10 days for good cause.  
41

42 Section 3. A quorum for the transaction of business at an Executive Committee  
43 meeting shall consist of thirty-four (34) members present in person or by proxy, but at least  
44 twenty-two (22) members shall be present in person except as provided elsewhere in these  
45 Bylaws. A majority of those present in person or by proxy at a duly constituted meeting shall be  
46 sufficient to vote on any question, unless specifically excepted elsewhere in these Bylaws.  
47

1 Section 4. An Executive Committee member may give his proxy to any other  
2 Executive Committee member, or to any qualified voter from the same Senatorial District as the  
3 member giving the proxy. The proxy shall name the individual authorized to exercise the  
4 Executive Committee member's vote. It shall state the date of the meeting for which the proxy  
5 shall be effective, and the limitations or instructions, if any, under which the designated proxy  
6 shall be voted. No individual shall be permitted to hold and exercise more than two valid  
7 Proxies at any meeting.

8  
9 Section 5. The most recent revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all  
10 proceedings of the Executive Committee on matters not specifically covered by these Bylaws.

11  
12 Section 6. Except as otherwise provided herein, whenever the Executive Committee  
13 is required or permitted to take any action by vote, such action may be taken without a meeting,  
14 on written consent by a majority of the full voting membership of the Executive Committee, after  
15 the question has been presented to the full voting membership in writing, setting forth the action  
16 for which consent is sought. Actions shall not be taken without a meeting on written consent on  
17 the following: Election of officers, amendment of the Bylaws, and removal of Executive  
18 Committee members or Officers.

19  
20 **ARTICLE VI**  
21 **SUBCOMMITTEES**  
22

23 Section 1. There shall be five (5) standing Subcommittees of the Executive  
24 Committee: Bylaws and Rules; Finance and Budget; Issues; Candidate Recruitment; and  
25 Administrative. The State Chairman shall assign every Executive Committee member to at least  
26 one (1) standing Subcommittee.

27  
28 Section 2. The Administrative Subcommittee shall consist of the State Chairman, the  
29 Chairmen of the other four (4) standing Subcommittees, and at least four (4) other members (at  
30 least half of whom shall be members of the Executive Committee). The members of such  
31 Subcommittee who are not Chairmen of the other Standing Subcommittees shall be appointed by  
32 the State Chairman with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. Under no  
33 circumstances shall lists of the TRP's financial contributors be given out without prior approval  
34 of the Administrative Subcommittee.

35  
36 Section 3. The State Chairman, with the advice and consent of the Executive  
37 Committee, shall appoint the Chairmen and members of the remaining four (4) standing  
38 Subcommittees. The Chairmen of such Subcommittees shall be members of the Executive  
39 Committee. The State Chairman may appoint additional members of such Subcommittees, who  
40 are not required to be members of the Executive Committee. Each of the remaining four (4)  
41 standing Subcommittees shall have at least one (1) member from each Congressional District.

42  
43 Section 4. The Subcommittee Chairmen and members may be removed, with or  
44 without cause, either by a majority vote of the full membership of the Executive Committee, or  
45 by the State Chairman.

46  
47 Section 5. The State Chair, upon election or re-election, shall appoint all



1 Subcommittee Chairman and members in accordance with Article VI, Section 3 of these Bylaws.  
2 All Subcommittee Chairman and members shall serve on the Subcommittee until such time as  
3 their successors are duly appointed, except in cases of resignation or removal.  
4

5 Section 6. The State Chairman shall be the Chairman of the Administrative  
6 Subcommittee. Notwithstanding Article III, Section 3, in the absence of the State Chairman, the  
7 Chairman of the Bylaws and Rules Subcommittee shall preside over the Administrative  
8 Subcommittee. The State Chairman shall also be a voting member of all other Subcommittees.  
9

10 Section 7. The State Chairman may create and appoint any special or temporary  
11 Subcommittees which he deems to be in the best interest of the TRP. Such Subcommittees may  
12 include or may consist of persons other than members of the Executive Committee.  
13

14 Section 8. A special temporary Bylaws and Rules Subcommittee for Reorganization  
15 will be formed by December 15th every even numbered year to prepare for the upcoming County  
16 Party Reorganizations.  
17

## 18 **ARTICLE VII**

### 19 **AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

20

21 Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the full voting  
22 membership of the Executive Committee at any meeting, provided that notice of the meeting at  
23 which the vote is to be taken includes a copy of the proposed amendment.  
24

25 Section 2. The proposed amendment to the Bylaws may not be amended from the  
26 floor at the Executive Committee meeting, unless such amendment is minor and non-substantive,  
27 and is passed by acclamation. Any amendment which is not minor or which is substantive shall  
28 require re-commencement of the amendment procedure, including notice of the proposed  
29 amendment being included with notice of the subsequent Executive Committee meeting at which  
30 the proposed amendment is to be considered.  
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## 32 **ARTICLE VIII**

### 33 **COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTIES**

34

35 Section 1. County Parties shall exist to promote Republican ideals, values, and  
36 Republican elected officials across Tennessee while, at the same time, helping Republican  
37 nominees defeat Democrats in general elections.  
38

39 Section 2. The Republican Party in each County shall adopt Bylaws consistent with  
40 and in accordance with those of the TRP and the Republican National Committee, and may adopt  
41 additional Rules, which shall also be consistent therewith. County Bylaws and Rules, and any  
42 amendments thereto, must be approved by the Rules and Bylaws Subcommittee of the Executive  
43 Committee of the TRP, and shall be filed with the TRP immediately after their adoption. The  
44 Rules and Bylaws Subcommittee may, for good cause shown, grant waivers of state bylaws.  
45

46 A. Every four years, each county party's newly elected Executive Committee  
47 must evaluate its bylaws and make any necessary changes to ensure that they do not conflict with

1 changes made at the state level during the last four years.

2  
3 B. The bylaws will be due by September 30th of each year immediately  
4 following a presidential election; all counties must submit their bylaws by this time.

5  
6 C. County parties may make changes to their bylaws at any time, but they  
7 must submit a copy to be reviewed and approved by the TRP's Rules and Bylaws Committee  
8 before they are recognized as the new county party bylaws. The Rules and Bylaws Committee  
9 may require changes to be made prior to approving the bylaws.

10  
11 Section 3. Each County Executive Committee shall meet at least quarterly. The  
12 County Executive Committee is defined as the County Party's elected Republican Party Officers,  
13 the State Executive Committee member(s) representing that County, the President of any  
14 Tennessee Federated Republican Women's Club in that County, the Chairman of the County  
15 Young Republicans, the immediate past County Chairman, and any other members as defined by  
16 the County Party's Bylaws. Chairmen or representatives of local political subdivisions within a  
17 County, such as Precincts or Council Districts, shall not be voting members of County Executive  
18 Committees. If there is not a Tennessee Federated Republican Women's Club or a Young  
19 Republicans Club in that County, the State Chairman may appoint a person from that County to  
20 represent those constituencies.

21  
22 Section 4. Every odd-numbered year, each County Republican Party shall reorganize  
23 itself in accordance with procedures set forth in the Rules accompanying these Bylaws, and in  
24 accordance with the County Party's Bylaws and applicable Rules. The County Party shall notify  
25 the TRP at least 30 days in advance of its convention held for the purpose of reorganizing.

26  
27 Section 5. The following shall be requirements for candidacy to county party leadership.

28  
29 A. Any individual who is actively involved in the Tennessee Republican  
30 Party, his County Republican Party, or any recognized auxiliary organization of either; and  
31 resides and is registered to vote in said county; and

32  
33 B. Any individual who has voted in the last three Republican primaries in his  
34 county of residence during those primary elections<sup>3</sup>. Younger Republicans who may not have  
35 been of legal age for three primary elections must obtain approval from the State Chairman; and

36  
37 C. Any individual who is vouched for in writing to the satisfaction of the  
38 State Chairman as a bona fide Republican, such as by an officer of the TRP, a member of the  
39 State Executive Committee, or County Executive Committee of the County where the individual  
40 resides. The State Chairman may require additional verification that the individual in question is  
41 indeed a bona fide Republican, and shall have final authority to make the determination.

42  
43 Section 6. The County Party Officers shall include a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman of

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to the minutes from the December 3, 2011 State Executive Committee Meeting, the phrase referencing "the last three Republican primaries in his county of residence", was approved with the understanding that this would not require one to have voted in three primaries in the same residence. Thus allows for an individual to have moved from county to county and state to state.

1 the opposite sex from the Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Vice-Treasurer, and such other  
2 similar officers, including additional Vice-Chairmen or Directors, as may be deemed appropriate,  
3 and as may be provided for in the County Party's duly adopted and approved Bylaws. County  
4 Party Officers shall also include the County Party's legal counsel, who shall be appointed by the  
5 County Chairman, but who shall not have a vote in that position. A County Party legal counsel  
6 shall not be prohibited from simultaneously holding a voting position as a County Party Officer  
7 or Executive Committee member. Officers and County Party Executive Committees shall not  
8 include Chairmen or representatives of local political subdivisions within a County, such as  
9 Precincts or Council Districts. In counties with 250,000 or more residents, separate elected  
10 district chairs may be included as voting members of the county's executive committee. The  
11 Vice-Chairman or Vice-Treasurer shall automatically assume the office of Chairman or  
12 Treasurer, respectively, on a temporary basis, if either of said offices should become vacant. The  
13 County Executive Committee shall proceed to elect a new Chairman or Treasurer, as the case  
14 may be, and fill any other office which becomes vacant, by majority vote, at a duly called  
15 meeting within thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs. An officer elected to fill a vacancy  
16 shall serve until the next County Party reorganization, and until his successor is duly elected and  
17 takes office. A vacancy in a County office occurs if an Officer dies, resigns, changes his  
18 residence out of the County, is removed from office, or otherwise becomes disqualified or unable  
19 to serve his complete term. No County Chairman shall serve more than two (2) full consecutive  
20 terms.  
21

22 Section 7. A county party chairman running for public office in a contested  
23 Republican primary shall resign his position ten (10) days after the filing deadline.  
24

25 **ARTICLE IX**  
26 **MISCELLANEOUS**  
27

28 Section 1. The following shall be Party membership requirements for candidacy to  
29 public office, and appointment to positions such as Election Commissions. The TRP hereby  
30 defines the term "bona fide Republican," or the like, as:  
31

32 A. Any individual who is actively involved in the Tennessee Republican  
33 Party, his County Republican Party, or any recognized auxiliary organization of either; and  
34 resides and is registered to vote in said county; or  
35

36 B. Any individual who has voted in at least two (2) of the four (4) most  
37 recent state and/or local Republican primary elections; or  
38

39 C. Any individual who is vouched for in writing to the satisfaction of the  
40 State Chairman as a bona fide Republican, such as by an officer of the TRP, a member of the  
41 State Executive Committee, County Executive Committee of the County where the individual  
42 resides, or a Republican Election Official. The State Chairman may require additional  
43 verification that the individual in question is indeed a bona fide Republican, and shall have final  
44 authority to make the determination.  
45

46 Section 2. If a person's bona fide status is challenged, the challenge shall be made to  
47 the State Chairman. Such a challenge must be made no later than five (5) days before the

1 deadline for removal of a candidate's name from a ballot under TCA Section 2-5-204 or  
2 otherwise, or any other applicable deadline. The State Chairman may require sufficient proof of  
3 the challenged individual's status as a bona fide Republican, and the Executive Committee  
4 hereby delegates to the State Chairman the authority to make the decision as to whether or not  
5 the challenged individual shall be considered a bona fide Republican for the purposes in  
6 question.  
7

8 Section 3. These Bylaws shall be effective on and after their adoption by the  
9 Executive Committee. All previous Bylaws or Rules inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.  
10

11 Section 4. The use of the masculine shall include the feminine and neuter. The use  
12 of the feminine shall include the masculine and neuter. The use of the neuter shall include the  
13 masculine and feminine. The use of the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa.  
14

15 Section 5. These Bylaws are intended to be in conformity with all Bylaws, rules and  
16 regulations of the national Republican Party, including the Republican National Committee; with  
17 governing federal and Tennessee statutes, rules and regulations; and other law. If any of the  
18 foregoing are amended hereafter with the effect that these Bylaws are in conflict therewith, these  
19 Bylaws shall be deemed amended to conform therewith. The Executive Committee shall as soon  
20 as possible thereafter cause these Bylaws to be expressly amended to conform therewith.  
21

22 Section 6. From time to time, the Executive Committee may adopt Rules and  
23 Regulations to set forth or govern procedures to be followed, conditions to be met, and actions to  
24 be taken by the TRP, the Executive Committee, County Republican Parties, and/or affiliated  
25 Republican organizations. Such Rules and Regulations shall have the full force and effect of  
26 these Bylaws. The bodies affected by such Rules and Regulations, or changes thereto, shall  
27 promptly take such action as is necessary to conform therewith. Such Rules and Regulations  
28 shall be adopted or amended in the same manner as amendments to these Bylaws as set forth in  
29 Article VII.  
30

31 10/08/93

32  
33 Revised 03/19/94

34 Finalized 08/25/94  
35

36 New Revision Drafts May 29, 2001

37 June 4, 2001

38 August 7, 2001

39 September 26, 2001

40 October 22, 2001

41 October 30, 2001

42 February 24, 2002

43 Amended April 6, 2002 by State Executive Committee

44 Amended April 9, 2002 by State Executive Committee

45 Amended December 4, 2010 by State Executive Committee

46 Amended April 16, 2011 by vote of State Executive Committee Members.

47 Amended December 3, 2011 by vote of the State Executive Committee Members

- 1 Amended March 31, 2012 by vote of the State Executive Committee Members
- 2 Amended February 9, 2013 by vote of the State Executive Committee Members
- 3 Amended December 6, 2013 by vote of the State Executive Committee Members
- 4

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**RULES AND REGULATIONS  
OF THE TENNESSEE REPUBLICAN PARTY**

**RULE A  
REPRESENTATION ON REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

Section 1. The Tennessee Republican Party shall be represented on the Republican National Committee by the State Chairman, who shall serve ex officio, and by one (1) National Committeeman and one (1) National Committeewoman, selected as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. Before each quadrennial Republican National Convention, the State Executive Committee shall select the National Committeeman and Committeewoman in the following manner:

A. The State Chairman shall place on the agenda of an Executive Committee meeting, the selection of the National Committeeman and National Committeewoman. The selection of each shall be made separately, and may occur at a regular or a special meeting of the Executive Committee.

B. The State Chairman may promulgate rules concerning the selection procedure, including but not limited to the order of selection, the length of nominating or seconding speeches, and other procedural matters not covered specifically by this Rule or the Bylaws of the Party. Such rules shall be distributed to all members of the Executive Committee at least five (5) days before said meeting.

C. Any member of the State Executive Committee may nominate any qualified individual for either of said offices. Each nomination must be seconded by another member of the Executive Committee.

D. After all nominations are made and seconded, the Executive Committee shall elect the National Committeepersons. On the request of any member of the Executive Committee, the voting shall be by secret ballot. The State Chairman shall preside over the election, and may delegate to others such duties as are appropriate to assist him in carrying out the election process and in counting votes. Each qualified member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to vote at each ballot, but proxies shall not be permitted. "Qualified member" shall mean a member duly elected as provided in the Bylaws, who is not an ex officio member, who is not subject to automatic removal from office, and who has not been removed for other cause.

E. The State Chairman shall have no vote, in the event of a tie or otherwise, unless he is a qualified member of the Executive Committee in his own right.

F. The candidate receiving a majority of the votes shall be the National Committeeman or National Committeewoman. "Majority" shall mean more than one-half (1/2) of the elected and qualified members present, whether or not such members actually cast ballots. Ex officio members of the Executive Committee shall not be counted in determining a majority. If no candidate receives a majority on the first ballot, a "run-off" vote shall be taken between the

1 two candidates receiving the most votes on the first ballot. The candidate attaining a majority in  
2 this "run-off" vote shall be declared the winner. If there is a tie vote on the second ballot,  
3 succeeding ballots shall be taken until one of the two candidates receives a majority and is  
4 thereby elected. Any elected and qualified member of the State Executive Committee who  
5 abstains from voting on one balloting shall not be prohibited from voting on a subsequent  
6 balloting.  
7

8 Section 3. Any bona fide member of the Republican Party duly registered to vote in  
9 Tennessee, and residing therein at the time of such election, shall be eligible to hold such office.  
10 A National Committeeperson shall cease to be qualified to hold office, and his office shall be  
11 deemed vacant, in the event of death, removal of his residence from the State, inability to serve,  
12 inattention to duties, by duly tendered and accepted resignation, or for other cause. A National  
13 Committeeperson may be removed from office for inability to serve or inattention to duties, or  
14 for other cause, if he does not voluntarily resign, pursuant to the procedures set forth in the  
15 Bylaws for removal of a State Executive Committee member. In the event of such removal, the  
16 action of the Executive Committee shall be final and conclusive for all purposes. Any  
17 resignation shall be tendered to the State Chairman. Its acceptance shall be by formal action of  
18 the Executive Committee by a duly carried motion or resolution.  
19

20 Section 4. Each National Committeeperson shall serve a four (4) year term, or until  
21 his or her successor shall be duly elected, unless the Committeeperson ceases to be qualified to  
22 hold office, resigns or is removed. There shall be a limit of two (2) successive full terms to  
23 which a person may be elected.  
24

25 Section 5. If there is a vacancy in the office of National Committeeperson, the State  
26 Chairman shall declare the vacancy. Alternatively, the Executive Committee may declare a  
27 vacancy by resolution. The State Chairman shall schedule an election to fill such vacancy at a  
28 regular or special meeting of the Executive Committee to take place within ninety (90) days  
29 thereafter. Said election shall be carried out as provided in this Rule A, but the term of the  
30 newly-elected National Committeeperson shall be effective only as to the remainder of the term  
31 of office during which the vacancy occurred.  
32

33 Section 6. At each Republican National Convention, the Chairman of the Tennessee  
34 Delegation to said Convention shall announce and/or certify to such Convention, pursuant to the  
35 rules thereof, the selection of the National Committeepersons. Said Convention shall proceed to  
36 ratify or confirm such selection as provided by its rules.  
37

38 Section 7. If a meeting of the Republican National Committee is held when there is a  
39 vacancy in the office of National Committeeman or National Committeewoman for Tennessee,  
40 or if a meeting is held at a time when a National Committeeperson cannot attend, the State  
41 Chairman shall appoint an Alternate Committeeman or Committeewoman for such meeting (if  
42 and to the extent authorized by the rules of the Republican National Committee). Such Alternate  
43 shall have and exercise the rights and privileges of such office to the full extent permitted by the  
44 Republican National Committee.  
45

46 Section 8. If there is a meeting of the Republican National Committee at a time when  
47 there is a vacancy in the office of State Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall substitute for the

1 State Chairman as the ex officio member for Tennessee, if and to the extent permitted by the  
2 Republican National Committee.

3  
4 Section 9. If there is a conflict between this Rule A and any applicable rules of the  
5 Republican National Committee, the latter shall govern.  
6

7  
8 **RULE B**  
9 **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS**

10 Section 1. The Tennessee Republican Party hereby adopts this Rule to provide for  
11 the selection of Republican nominees for Presidential Elector, as defined by TCA Sections 2-15-  
12 101 through 2-15-105.  
13

14 Section 2. After the first Tuesday in May and before the first Tuesday in September  
15 of each Presidential election year, or before any earlier deadline set by applicable law, the State  
16 Executive Committee shall elect one (1) Elector for each Congressional District, who shall be a  
17 resident of such District, and two (2) Electors for the State at large. When selected, those names  
18 shall appear on the ballot as the Electors representing the Republican candidates for President  
19 and Vice-President of the United States, and who shall perform the duties of a Presidential  
20 Elector as defined by the laws of Tennessee and the United States then in effect. When  
21 performing the duties of a Presidential Elector, he shall vote for the candidates for President and  
22 Vice-President who are the nominees of the national Republican Party, unless one or both of said  
23 persons has ceased to be the national Republican Party's nominee, in which case he shall vote for  
24 an individual approved by the Tennessee Republican Party, unless prohibited from doing so by  
25 federal or state statute, a binding court ruling, or the Rules of the Republican National  
26 Committee.  
27

28 Section 3. The State Chairman shall call for the selection of Electors at a regular or  
29 special meeting of the Executive Committee. The State Chairman shall appoint a Nominating  
30 Committee pursuant to Article VI, Section 7 of the Bylaws, which shall nominate a slate of  
31 proposed Electors prior to the time when notice of the Executive Committee meeting is required  
32 to be sent. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at such meeting. The State  
33 Chairman shall adopt rules to govern the holding of the election, as provided in Rule A above.  
34

35  
36 **RULE C**  
37 **ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION**

38 Section 1. Three (3) Delegates to the Republican National Convention shall be  
39 elected from each Congressional District, on the ballot in the Tennessee Presidential Preference  
40 Primary. The Delegates and Alternates from each Congressional District shall be bona fide  
41 Republicans, and bona fide residents of and legally registered voters in the District for which  
42 they are Delegates and Alternates.  
43

44 Section 2. The remaining number of Delegates, as determined by the rules of the  
45 Republican National Committee, shall be allocated as follows: Half shall be elected from the  
46 State at large on the ballot in said Presidential Preference Primary. The remaining number of  
47 Delegates, including any odd number or delegate positions not filled through election due to a



1 lack of qualified candidates, shall be appointed from the State at large by the Executive  
2 Committee, with the advice of the respective Presidential campaigns. A corresponding number of  
3 Alternates to such Delegates shall be appointed from the State at large in the same manner,  
4 separately from the selection of Alternates to elected Delegates under Section 3 below. At large  
5 Delegates and Alternates shall be bona fide Republicans, and bona fide residents of and legally  
6 registered voters in Tennessee.  
7

8 Section 3. The official campaign of each Presidential candidate earning Delegate and  
9 Alternate positions shall offer Alternate positions to those persons who unsuccessfully sought  
10 election to be Delegates, having already met the approval of that Presidential campaign. Each  
11 such Delegate candidate shall be offered the right of first refusal to a position as an Alternate to a  
12 seat for which he was a candidate, in descending order based on the popular vote count. If all of  
13 the positions for a candidate's Alternates are not filled from among such candidates for Delegate,  
14 the Presidential campaign shall then choose any bona fide Republican as such Alternate. The  
15 position of Alternate to an uncommitted Delegate, if such is created, shall be filled from those  
16 seeking election as uncommitted Delegates, in descending order of votes received.  
17

18 Section 4-A. District Delegate and Alternate Entitlements. For the purpose of  
19 determining the entitlement to District Delegates and Alternates by Presidential candidates, the  
20 provisions of this Section shall apply, as follows:  
21

22 A Presidential candidate receiving more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes in any  
23 Congressional District shall be entitled to three (3) Delegates and Alternates from that  
24 Congressional District.  
25

26 If no Presidential candidate receives more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes in any  
27 Congressional District, the plurality winner is entitled to two (2) Delegates and Alternates from  
28 that District, and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes receives one (1)  
29 Delegate and Alternate; provided, however, that if the plurality winner receives more than  
30 twenty percent (20%) and the number of votes received by the next highest candidate is less than  
31 twenty percent (20%), the plurality winner is entitled to three (3) Delegates and Alternates.  
32

33 If no Presidential candidate receives more than twenty percent (20%), each of the  
34 three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall receive one (1) Delegate and  
35 Alternate.  
36

37 Section 4-B. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Entitlements. For the purposes of  
38 determining the entitlement to At-Large Delegates and Alternates by Presidential candidates, the  
39 provisions of this Section shall apply, as follows:  
40

41 A Presidential candidate receiving more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast in  
42 the Presidential Primary, canvassed on a statewide basis, shall be entitled to all At-Large  
43 Delegates and Alternates allocated to Tennessee under the Rules of the National Republican  
44 Party.  
45

46 If no Presidential candidate receives two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast statewide in  
47 the Presidential Primary, the At-Large Delegates and Alternates shall be apportioned among the

1 candidates receiving more than twenty percent (20%) of the statewide vote, in the ratio which the  
2 number of votes received by each such candidate who received more than twenty percent (20%)  
3 of the statewide vote bears to the total of all such candidates receiving more than twenty percent  
4 (20%) of the statewide vote, rounding fractional Delegates and Alternates upward to the next  
5 whole number beginning with the Presidential candidate receiving the largest number of votes.  
6

7 If no Presidential candidate receives more than twenty percent (20%) of the statewide  
8 vote, the At-Large Delegates and Alternates shall be apportioned among such candidates in the  
9 ratio which the number of votes received by each candidate bears to the total statewide vote,  
10 beginning with the Presidential candidate receiving the highest number of votes, and rounding  
11 fractional Delegates and Alternates to the second highest candidate in the same manner, and so  
12 forth, until the Delegates and Alternates to be apportioned have been fully awarded.  
13

14 Section 5. If a duly selected Delegate dies, resigns, or is otherwise unable or fails to  
15 attend the Republican Convention or any session thereof, his Alternate Delegate shall succeed to  
16 such office during the absence of the Delegate. If, more than thirty (30) days before the  
17 convention, a Delegate's position becomes vacant and is not filled by his Alternate or if an  
18 Alternate's position becomes vacant, the position shall be filled in accordance with Paragraph 3  
19 above. If such a vacancy is not filled by thirty (30) days before the convention, it shall be filled  
20 in the manner described in the following sentence. If, thirty (30) or fewer days before the  
21 convention or during the convention, a Delegate's position becomes vacant and is not filled by  
22 his Alternate, or if an Alternate's position becomes vacant, the State Chairman, with the advice  
23 and consent of the Administrative Committee, shall fill the vacant Delegate or Alternate position.  
24

25 Section 6. If, after a Presidential Primary election in which a certain Presidential  
26 candidate earns Delegate positions, the Presidential candidate withdraws from the race, his  
27 Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) shall continue to have the right to attend the Convention. If any of  
28 them does not attend the Convention, the State Chairman, with the advice and consent of the  
29 Administrative Committee, shall select a replacement Delegate or Alternate.  
30

31 Section 7. The TRP, through its staff personnel, shall assist in seeing that the  
32 procedures set forth in this Rule C are carried out properly and on time.  
33

34 Section 8. If any provision of this Rule C is contrary to the Rules and Call of a  
35 Republican National Convention, the Rules and Call of the Convention shall govern; and the  
36 State Executive Committee shall be entitled to rely upon any written opinion of the General  
37 Counsel of the Republican National Convention. If any provision of this Rule causes a  
38 mathematically impossible result, the Executive Committee is hereby authorized to modify the  
39 provision so that a mathematically possible result occurs.  
40

41 **RULE D**  
42 **NOMINATION OF STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES**  
43 **AND OTHER APPELLATE JUDGES**  
44

45 Section 1. The State Chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee for the  
46 purpose of nominating candidates for election to the Tennessee Supreme Court and other  
47 appellate judgeships for which political parties are permitted to nominate candidates. Such

1 Committee shall be chosen pursuant to Article VI, Section 7 of the Bylaws, and shall consist of  
2 seven (7) bona fide Republicans. Such Nominating Committee shall meet before the  
3 qualifying deadline for the Coordinator of Elections to certify political party nominees for the  
4 August General Election, which nominees were chosen other than by primary election, and its  
5 meeting shall be on a date and at a time and place designated by the State Chairman. Telephonic  
6 meetings and telecopied correspondence, notices, documents and ballots shall be permitted.  
7

8 Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall nominate persons to be the Republican  
9 candidates for the Supreme Court and other appellate judgeships for which political parties are  
10 permitted to nominate candidates, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The  
11 Nominating Committee shall not be required to nominate a candidate for each Supreme Court  
12 position or other such appellate judgeship.  
13

14 Section 3. The candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee shall be chosen  
15 by majority vote of the Nominating Committee. Five members of the Nominating Committee  
16 shall constitute a quorum, and proxies shall not be permitted.  
17

18 Section 4. The Executive Committee shall hold a regular or special meeting prior to  
19 the deadline for the Coordinator of Elections to certify political party nominees for the August  
20 General Election which were selected other than by primary election, at which the nominees of  
21 the Nominating Committee shall be subject to approval and official nomination. Telephonic  
22 meetings and telecopied correspondence, notices, documents and ballots shall be permitted.  
23 Additional nominations may be made during the meeting. The State Chairman shall announce  
24 rules for the holding of elections for nominee to the Supreme Court and other appellate  
25 judgeships, in accordance with Rule A above. The Executive Committee's determination shall  
26 be final for all purposes, and shall not be appealable.  
27

28 Section 5. Not later than the aforementioned filing deadline, the State Chairman shall  
29 certify the nominees approved by the Executive Committee, to the Coordinator of Elections.  
30

31 **RULE E**  
32 **COMPREHENSIVE RULE GOVERNING COUNTY PARTY REORGANIZATION**  
33

34 **Part I--General**  
35

36 Section 1. County Republican Parties shall reorganize themselves between January  
37 15 and April 15 of each odd numbered year. Such reorganizations shall be accomplished in the  
38 manner set forth in these Rules. If any County Party desires to use a method of reorganization  
39 differing from these Rules, its County Chairman and Secretary shall, by January 1 of any odd-  
40 numbered year, certify to the State Chairman in writing its proposed reorganization rules, which  
41 are subject to approval or disapproval by the TRP Bylaws and Rules Subcommittee. If the  
42 proposed rules are disapproved by the TRP Bylaws and Rules Subcommittee before the  
43 beginning of the County Party's reorganization process, the County must follow the procedures  
44 set forth herein, unless before the beginning of the reorganization process the Executive  
45 Committee overrides the decision of the TRP Bylaws and Rules Subcommittee. Before certifying  
46 its proposed reorganization rules to the State Chairman, the proposed County rules must  
47 previously have been approved by a majority of a County Convention or the County Executive

1 Committee. The certification to the State Chairman by the County Chairman and Secretary shall  
2 state the date and manner of adopting said proposed County rules, and shall represent that, to the  
3 best of their knowledge, information and belief the Convention or Executive Committee meeting  
4 at which such proposed County rules were adopted was held in the spirit of fairness, and that fair  
5 notice and the opportunity for full participation were given. If a county does not have approved  
6 rules from it's county regarding reorganizations, then that county will follow the manner set  
7 forth in the state rules.  
8

9 Section 2. Counties having a population of at least 100,000 people according to the  
10 last official U. S. Census shall reorganize by means of a Precinct Delegated Convention.  
11 Counties having a population of under 100,000 people according to the last official U. S. Census  
12 shall have the choice of reorganizing by means of a Precinct Delegated Convention or by means  
13 of a Mass Convention.  
14

15 Section 3-A. On or before the January 15 of each odd numbered year, the County  
16 Chairman shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee of the County Party (as defined by  
17 Article VIII, Section 2 of the TRP Bylaws, that is, the County Party's elected Republican Party  
18 Officers, the State Executive Committee member(s) representing that County, the President of  
19 any Tennessee Federated Republican Women's Club in that County, the Chairman of the County  
20 Young Republicans (or a representative of those two constituencies appointed by the State  
21 Chairman), the immediate past County Chairman, and any other members as defined by the  
22 County Party's Bylaws), by written notice sent at least 15 days before such meeting. Such  
23 meeting shall take place on or before January 30 of each odd numbered year. At such meeting,  
24 the Officers present shall constitute a quorum. If the County Chairman fails to call the meeting,  
25 the State Chairman shall appoint a temporary County Chairman to carry out the procedures for  
26 reorganizing the County Party.  
27

28 B. In Counties having a population of at least 100,000 people, such meeting  
29 shall fix the time, date and places for the Precinct Conventions and for the Precinct Delegated  
30 County Convention. Precinct caucuses and county conventions may be held on the same day  
31 with approval by the Bylaws Subcommittee.  
32

33 C. In Counties having a population under 100,000 people, such meeting shall  
34 determine whether the County Convention shall be a Precinct Delegated Convention, or a Mass  
35 Convention; and shall fix the time, date and place of such Convention. If such Convention is to  
36 be a Precinct delegated convention, such meeting shall also fix the time, date and place(s) of the  
37 Precinct Conventions, which shall be held at least ten (10) days before the County Convention.  
38

39 D. At such meeting, in any event, the County Chairman shall appoint, with  
40 the approval of the Officers present, a Parliamentarian and a Contest and Credentials Committee  
41 for the County Convention. The Contest and Credentials Committee shall consist of five (5)  
42 members from five (5) separate Precincts within the County.  
43

44 E. No waivers to the rules of reorganization will be granted after February  
45 28th  
46

47 Section 4. The duties of the Contest and Credentials shall include the following:

1  
2 A. It shall prepare instructions for the holding of the Precinct Conventions, if  
3 applicable, including the proper number of Delegates to be chosen by each Precinct. The  
4 number of Delegates to be elected from each Precinct shall be determined from the official  
5 voting records of the last Presidential General Election, and shall be certified in writing and  
6 delivered to the existing Precinct Chairman, or person serving in his stead as described in Part II,  
7 Section 3A below, along with the ballots for the election of Precinct Officers and Delegates, and  
8 certification forms to be used for the Precinct Convention proceedings.

9  
10 B. It shall prepare ballots for the election of Precinct Officers and Delegates,  
11 certification forms for reporting the results of the elections in the Precinct Conventions, and  
12 provide the form for affirmation of Republican allegiance (the form of which is attached hereto  
13 as Exhibit A), and any other forms deemed necessary or appropriate for use in the reorganization  
14 of the County Party.

15  
16 C. It shall meet after the Precinct Conventions and before the County  
17 Delegated Convention and review the certifications received from each newly elected Precinct  
18 Chairman, and take such other actions as are specified in Part II, Section 5 below.

19  
20 D. It shall hear and determine any contests of elections at Precinct  
21 Conventions, subject to appeal to the County Delegated Convention as a whole, in the manner  
22 set forth below.

23  
24 E. Meetings of the Contest and Credentials Committee shall be open to the  
25 public.

26  
27 Section 5. At least ten (10) days before the Precinct Conventions in a county which  
28 reorganizes by means of a Precinct Delegated Convention, and at least ten (10) days before the  
29 County Convention in a county which reorganizes by means of a Mass Convention, the County  
30 Chairman shall cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation within said County  
31 (no less than 10,000 circulation in Counties having over 100,000 population) a paid  
32 advertisement stating the date, time and place for the holding of each Precinct Convention. The  
33 Precincts shall have the same geographic boundaries as the Precincts in the previous November  
34 general election. Such advertisement shall also specify the date, time and place, and the purpose,  
35 for holding the Precinct Delegated Conventions to reorganize the County Party. The  
36 advertisement shall also state the name and address of the Chairman of the Contest and  
37 Credentials Committee, and shall specify the deadline for filing contests as to the results of any  
38 Precinct Convention.

39  
40 **Part II--Precinct Conventions**

41  
42 Section 1. On the date and at the time and place(s) specified, a Precinct Convention  
43 shall be held for each Precinct within the County. The purpose of such Conventions shall be the  
44 election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates from such Precinct to the Delegated County  
45 Convention, as well as the election of a Precinct Chairman, Vice-Chairman and such other  
46 Officers as may be desired, and the transaction of such other business as may be appropriate.

1           Section 2.     The order of business for the Precinct Convention shall be as follows:  
2

3           A.     The then-existing Precinct Chairman shall convene the meeting. If he is  
4 unable to be present, the Precinct Vice-Chairman, if any, shall preside. If there is no Vice-  
5 Chairman, the Precinct Chairman may designate in writing a temporary Chairman to act in his  
6 place and stead. If there is no functioning Precinct Chairman or Vice-Chairman, the County  
7 Chairman shall designate in writing a temporary Chairman who meets the qualifications  
8 prescribed for elected county party leadership in Article VIII Section 4.  
9

10          B.     The next order of business shall be the resolution of any challenge to a  
11 citizen's right to vote and participate in the Precinct Convention. Any bona fide Republican  
12 citizen who is duly registered to vote in, and resides in, the Precinct shall be entitled to vote and  
13 participate in the Precinct Convention. Any bona fide Republican citizen whose loyalty to the  
14 Republican Party is questioned may be challenged by any other bona fide Republican citizen  
15 present and qualified to participate. The challenged citizen shall be entitled to vote and  
16 participate in the Convention upon his public and written affirmation of his allegiance to the  
17 Republican Party on the form duly furnished by the County Chairman or the Contest and  
18 Credentials Committee as set forth on Exhibit A attached hereto. Notwithstanding the  
19 foregoing, no person who is then holding office as a Democrat shall be allowed to vote and  
20 participate in a Precinct or County Party Convention. If a citizen's residence or registration to  
21 vote in the Precinct is challenged, he shall vote on a provisional paper ballot which shall be  
22 counted, marked and set aside. If such citizen is determined not to be duly registered to vote in  
23 said Precinct, and not to be a resident thereof, his vote and participation shall be null and void.  
24 All prospective delegate shall present a valid photo I.D., and the county Contest and Credentials  
25 committee shall verify the delegates registered voter status..  
26

27          C.     The next order of business shall be that the Chairman of the meeting shall  
28 designate two (2) Clerks, who shall assist in distributing, collecting and counting ballots, and  
29 shall perform such other tasks as are assigned by the Chairman of the meeting.  
30

31          D.     The next order of business shall be the election of a new Precinct  
32 Chairman and other Officers as mentioned above. Precinct Officers shall meet the requirements  
33 set forth for elected county party leadership in Article VIII Section 4, and be elected by majority  
34 vote of the qualified citizens present and voting. Runoffs shall be held, if necessary to determine  
35 a majority. The newly elected Precinct Chairman shall upon his election assume the chair and  
36 preside at the remainder of the Precinct Convention.  
37

38          E.     The next order of business shall be the election of the Precinct's Delegates  
39 to the Delegated County Convention.  
40

41                 1.     The total Republican vote in the last Presidential general election  
42 shall be the basis on which shall be determined the number of Delegates to be elected. In  
43 Counties having populations of more than 100,000 in the last U. S. Census, the Precinct shall be  
44 entitled to one (1) Delegate for each 200 Republican votes cast for the Republican Presidential  
45 nominee, or majority thereof, in that Precinct. Fractional Delegates shall not be permitted. In  
46 Counties having populations of fewer than 100,000 in the last U.S. Census, the Precinct shall be  
47 entitled to one (1) Delegate for each 100 Republican votes cast for the Republican Presidential

1 nominee, or majority thereof, in that Precinct.

2  
3 2. If Early Voting in the Presidential Election was conducted in such  
4 a manner that it is not possible to ascertain the Republican Presidential vote from Early Voting in  
5 each Precinct, then the total Republican Presidential votes cast during Early Voting shall be  
6 divided pro rata among the Precincts. Thus, if 5% of the Republican Presidential vote on  
7 Election Day was cast in a Precinct, then that Precinct shall be apportioned 5% of the Republican  
8 Presidential votes during early voting. In that manner, the total number of Republican  
9 Presidential votes shall be determined for each Precinct.

10  
11 3. Each qualified citizen present and participating in the Precinct  
12 Convention shall be entitled to vote for the number of Delegates to which such Precinct is  
13 entitled. No proxies shall be permitted.

14  
15 4. The floor shall be opened for nominations for Delegates. Delegate  
16 nominees must be present to accept the nomination or, if they cannot be present, have submitted  
17 a written letter of intent to attend the delegated convention and accept a delegate nomination at  
18 that precinct convention. The total vote for each candidate for Delegate shall be recorded.  
19 Delegates in the number allotted to such Precinct shall be elected in order of the highest total  
20 vote received. In case of a tie vote, all names involved in the tie shall be used in consecutive  
21 Delegate positions. A runoff shall be used if necessary to fill the last Delegate position. All  
22 Delegates must be bona fide Republicans duly registered to vote in, and residing in, the Precinct  
23 at the time of the Precinct Convention. Alternate Delegates shall also be elected, in a number up  
24 to the number of Delegates elected. Candidates for Delegate who did not receive sufficient votes  
25 to be elected Delegate shall become Alternates, in descending order of the number of votes cast  
26 for each person. In case of a tie, the method described herein above shall be used for electing  
27 Alternates. Any remaining Alternate Delegate positions which cannot be filled by election, shall  
28 be filled by appointment by the Precinct Chairman.

29  
30 F. The Precinct Convention shall then proceed to such other business as may  
31 be appropriate.

32  
33 Section 3. If any Precinct fails to hold a Precinct Convention, or fails to elect  
34 Delegates at such Convention, then promptly after the Delegated County Convention, the newly  
35 elected County Chairman shall appoint a Precinct Chairman and other Precinct Officers and  
36 committee members from qualified Republicans who meet the requirements for county party  
37 leadership set forth in Article VIII Section 4 and reside and are registered to vote in such  
38 Precinct, to serve until the next County Reorganization. The County Chairman shall not,  
39 however, appoint Delegates to the County Convention.

40  
41 Section 4. Within three (3) business days after the Precinct Convention, the newly  
42 elected Precinct Chairman shall certify the results of the election of Precinct Delegates to the  
43 County Chairman or the Chairman of the Contest and Credentials Committee, on forms  
44 prescribed and furnished by the Contest and Credentials Committee. The newly elected Precinct  
45 Chairman shall also furnish a list of the names and addresses of the citizens who voted and  
46 participated in the Precinct Convention. The names and addresses of Delegates to the County  
47 Convention shall be available to the public. The ballots cast in the Precinct Convention shall be

1 preserved by the Precinct Chairman until after the Delegated County Convention. If the results  
2 of the election are timely contested, or the certification is rejected by the Contest and Credentials  
3 Committee, the ballots shall be promptly delivered to the Chairman of that Committee, to be  
4 preserved until any possible contest has been finally resolved, or the time for filing any further  
5 contest has expired.  
6

7 Section 5. Within seven (7) calendar days after the Precinct Conventions, the Contest  
8 and Credentials Committee shall meet and review all certifications made pursuant to Section 5  
9 above. If it rejects any certification, the Chairman of the Committee shall, within twenty-four  
10 (24) hours thereafter, notify in writing any Delegate whose credentials have been rejected,  
11 specifying the time and place at which any contest of such rejection shall be heard.  
12

13 Section 6. If there is a contest of any election at a Precinct Convention, the Contest  
14 and Credentials Committee shall hear and resolve the same. Any citizen participating in any  
15 Precinct Convention may contest the results by filing with the Chairman of the Contest and  
16 Credentials Committee at the address specified in the newspaper advertisement of the Precinct  
17 Conventions, a written notice of contest stating the specific legal and factual grounds therefor.  
18 Such notice of contest shall be filed within five (5) business days after the Precinct Convention.  
19 At the meeting held pursuant to the foregoing Section, the Contest and Credentials Committee  
20 shall fix the time and place for hearing all contests filed pursuant to this Section; and the  
21 Chairman shall notify the contestants and the contested Delegates of the time and place for  
22 hearing such contests. Contestants may be represented by counsel at such contest hearings. The  
23 Committee or any contestant may cause a record to be made of such hearing. All contests shall  
24 be heard and decided at least twenty-four (24) hours before the Delegated County Convention.  
25 The determination of the Contest and Credentials Committee may be appealed to the County  
26 Convention as a whole in the manner provided elsewhere herein. Any contests or appeals of  
27 rejected certifications or of the results of the Precinct Convention may be dismissed and not  
28 appealed to the County Convention as a whole if the dismissal is based on grounds clearly laid  
29 out in the above rules.  
30

### 31 **Part III--County Conventions**

32

33 Section 1. At the time, date and place specified, the County Convention shall meet to  
34 reorganize the County Party. Whether said Convention is a County Delegated Convention or a  
35 Mass Convention shall be determined on the basis described in Part I, Sections 2 and 3 above.  
36

37 Section 2. The order of business at the County Convention shall be as follows:  
38

39 A. The County Chairman shall convene the Convention. If he is unable to be  
40 present, the County Vice-Chairman, if any, shall preside. If there is no Vice-Chairman, the  
41 County Chairman may designate in writing a temporary Chairman, who meets the qualifications  
42 prescribed for elected county party leadership in Article VIII Section 4, to act in his place and  
43 stead. If there is no functioning County Chairman or Vice Chairman, the State Chairman may  
44 designate in writing a temporary Chairman. The County Chairman may also appoint a  
45 Convention Chair to preside of the convention per the approval of the State Chairman.  
46

47 B. The following procedures shall only apply to Delegated county



1 Conventions:  
2

3 i. Only Delegates (including Alternates, if applicable) certified by  
4 the Contest and Credentials Committee shall be allowed on the floor of the Convention.  
5

6 ii. The report of the Contest and Credentials Committee shall be read,  
7 and the Secretary shall call the roll of Precincts to determine if a quorum is present. The  
8 presence of Delegates representing one-third (1/3) of the Precincts in the County shall constitute  
9 a quorum.  
10

11 iii. The Convention shall then proceed to hear and determine any  
12 appeals from actions of the Contest and Credentials Committee. Contestants shall be entitled to  
13 appear on the floor and present their appeals. The contests shall be heard in the numbered order  
14 of Precincts, and, within Precincts, in alphabetical order. Each contest shall be determined by a  
15 majority vote of the Delegates voting in the manner heretofore prescribed. The certified  
16 Delegates whose seats are in question shall not be entitled to vote, but all other Delegates,  
17 including those whose seats may be the subject of a later contest, may vote on such contest. If  
18 any contesting Delegate is seated by the Convention, such Delegate shall immediately take his  
19 place in the Convention, and shall be entitled to full participation thereafter.  
20

21 iv. On any divided vote, a roll call may be requested by any Delegate.  
22 The roll call shall be called by Precinct in numerical order and, within Precincts, in alphabetical  
23 order. Each Precinct shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Delegate (including Alternates,  
24 where applicable) present and voting. Use of the unit rule shall not be permitted.  
25

26 C. The following procedures shall apply to Mass Conventions: The next  
27 order of business shall be the resolution of any challenge to a citizen's right to vote and  
28 participate in the Mass Convention. Any bona fide Republican citizen who is duly registered to  
29 vote in, and resides in, the County shall be entitled to vote and participate in the County Mass  
30 Convention. Any bona fide Republican citizen whose loyalty to the Republican Party is  
31 questioned may be challenged by any other bona fide Republican citizen present and qualified to  
32 participate. The challenged citizen shall be entitled to vote and participate in the Convention  
33 upon his public and written affirmation of his allegiance to the Republican Party on the form  
34 duly furnished by the County Chairman or the Contest and Credentials Committee as set forth on  
35 Exhibit A attached hereto. If a citizen's residence or registration to vote in the County is  
36 challenged, he shall vote on a provisional paper ballot which shall be counted, marked and set  
37 aside. If such citizen is determined not to be duly registered to vote in said County, and not to  
38 be a resident thereof, his vote and participation shall be null and void.  
39

40 D. The next order of business shall be the election of a new County  
41 Chairman, which shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast. There shall be a run-off  
42 election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes, if necessary. The  
43 newly elected County Chairman shall upon election assume the chair and preside over the  
44 remainder of the Convention. The newly elected chair may allow the past chair or the appointed  
45 convention chair to preside of the rest of the reorganization if they so desire.  
46

47 E. The meeting shall then proceed to the election of other Officers of the

1 County Party, including a Vice-Chairman of the opposite sex from the Chairman, a Secretary, a  
2 Treasurer, a Vice-Treasurer, and such other Officers, including additional Vice-Chairmen, as  
3 may be deemed appropriate, subject to the Tennessee Republican Party Bylaws and Rules.  
4

5 F. At least two (2) Clerks appointed by the Chairman of the Contest and  
6 Credentials Committee shall tally the votes for all officer elections immediately following each  
7 ballot and perform such other functions as are assigned by the Chairman of the meeting. The  
8 Contest and Credentials Committee shall oversee the voting.  
9

10 G. The County Convention shall then proceed to such other business as may  
11 have been included in the Call of the meeting, and such other business as it deems appropriate.  
12

13 H. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws and Rules, or the duly  
14 approved County Party Bylaws or Rules, the County Convention shall be conducted in  
15 compliance with Robert's Newly Revised Rules of Order.  
16

#### 17 **Part IV--Certification of County Executive Committee**

18  
19 Within ten (10) calendar days after the County Party reorganization, whether by Precinct  
20 Delegated Convention or Mass Convention, the newly elected County Chairman and Secretary  
21 shall certify in writing to the State Chairman the following:  
22

23 1. The names and addresses of all members of the newly elected County Executive  
24 Committee;  
25

26 2. The names and addresses of the newly elected Officers of the County Republican  
27 Party;  
28

29 3. The names and addresses of the newly-elected Precinct (or Council District)  
30 Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the County Republican Party; and  
31

32 4. The names and addresses of all Delegates participating in a Precinct Delegated  
33 Convention, or of all persons participating in a Mass Convention, whichever is applicable.  
34

#### 35 **RULE F**

#### 36 **CONTESTS OF RESULTS OF COUNTY REORGANIZATIONS**

37  
38 Section 1. If any qualified Republican seeking to be elected to County Party office,  
39 and in attendance at the County Convention, should desire to contest the results of the elections  
40 at such Convention, a contest is deemed to exist. Likewise, if two (2) certifications are received  
41 by the State Chairman for the same office, then a contest is deemed to exist.  
42

43 Section 2. A contestant shall file a Notice of Contest with the State Chairman within  
44 five (5) calendar days after the County Convention, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of  
45 such Notice on the County Chairman, other County Officers, and all contestees affected by such  
46 contest. Such Notice of Contest shall state with particularity the factual and legal basis for such  
47 contest. If a contest is immediately deemed to lack grounds for contest, then the State Chairman

1 may dismiss the contest and inform all parties involved.  
2

3 Section 3. Within ten (10) calendar days thereafter, the contestant shall file with the  
4 State Chairman a memorandum or brief supporting the contest. A copy of such memorandum or  
5 brief shall be served on the same parties listed in Section 2 above, and on their counsel, if any  
6 have appeared. Within seven (7) calendar days thereafter, the contestee or contestees may file  
7 with the State Chairman a response and any supporting memorandum or brief that they deem  
8 appropriate; and shall serve a copy thereof on the parties listed in Section 2 above and on their  
9 counsel, if any. Such memoranda or briefs shall include any supporting affidavits,  
10 correspondence or other documents to be relied upon as evidence.  
11

12 Section 4. The State Chairman shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee, to  
13 take place after the expiration of the periods set forth in Sections 2 and 3 above, to consider such  
14 contest. With the notice of such meeting, the State Chairman shall mail to all members and  
15 Officers of the Executive Committee copies of the Notice of Contest, Response(s), and  
16 supporting memoranda or briefs.  
17

18 Section 5. The State Chairman may, in his discretion, appoint a special committee  
19 before such meeting, to review the Notice of Contest, Response(s), and supporting memoranda  
20 or briefs. Such committee may also hear any further testimony or statements which the  
21 contestants might desire to submit. Such committee shall make a recommendation to the  
22 Executive Committee as to the disposition of the contest. The Executive Committee, in its  
23 discretion, may hear and consider other matters besides the recommendation of the special  
24 committee. If a special committee is not appointed, the Executive Committee shall hear the  
25 testimony or statements of the contestants. In either event, each contestant shall be given equal  
26 opportunity to present his position on the issue. The contesting party shall have the privilege of  
27 opening and closing. The Executive Committee shall have full power to adopt other rules and  
28 procedures as may be appropriate for and pertinent to the hearing. Upon completion of the  
29 hearing, the Executive Committee shall take such action as it may deem fit in the disposition of  
30 said contest.  
31

32 Section 6. While a contest exists, all checks or monies disbursed out of County funds  
33 must be approved by the State Chairman. The same shall apply for all regularly scheduled  
34 meetings of the County Party.  
35

## 36 **RULE G** 37 **REMOVAL OF COUNTY OFFICERS** 38

39 Section 1. A County Party Chairman, shall automatically cease to hold office, and a  
40 vacancy shall exist, in the event of change of his place of voter registration outside the County  
41 which he serves; or the County Party Chairman may be removed for "cause" by action of the  
42 State Chairman and the State Executive Committee in a manner similar to that described in  
43 Article III, Section 4 of these Bylaws and Rules, upon written request signed by two-thirds (2/3)  
44 of the County Executive Committee.  
45

46 Section 2. The rules for removal of any County Party Executive Committee Member  
47 except the County Chairman, shall be determined by the County Party Bylaws. In the event that

1 rules for removal of County Party Executive Committee Members are not described in County  
2 Bylaws, the following State Party rules shall apply.

3  
4 Section 3. A member shall be automatically removed for having been physically  
5 absent from three (3) consecutive committee meetings. By a two-thirds (2/3) vote, the County  
6 Executive Committee may move for the removal for cause of any member of the County  
7 Executive Committee, excluding the Chairman. This action shall be filed with the State  
8 Chairman and signed by the necessary number of members of the County Executive Committee.

9  
10 Section 4. The action for removal for a County Executive Committee Member, other  
11 than the Chairman, shall specify the grounds, and include a statement of the facts, and any  
12 documentation in support thereof, and shall designate a time and place with fifteen (15) days  
13 notice for a full hearing of the action and response, such hearing to be conducted by the County  
14 Chairman. A copy of such shall be served on the members of the County Executive Committee  
15 affected by such action, and their counsel, if any.

16  
17 Section 5. Within ten (10) calendar days thereafter, the affected member may file  
18 with the County Chairman a response and supporting brief and documentation. A copy of the  
19 same shall be served on those requesting the removal from office, and their counsel, if any.

20  
21 Section 6. Three-fourths (3/4) of the entire County Executive Committee shall be  
22 required to be present in order to constitute a quorum at such special meeting.

23  
24 Section 7. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Executive Committee present and  
25 voting at such meeting shall be required for removal.

26  
27 Section 8. Any member of the County Executive Committee, including the  
28 Chairman, may be removed for "cause" by a majority vote of the State Executive Committee at  
29 any meeting in which two-thirds (2/3) of the Committee is present.

30  
31 Section 9. If a member of the Executive Committee is removed, his successors shall  
32 be elected in the same manner and by the same procedures specified for the filling of a vacancy  
33 of an officer by the County Executive Committee under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 4.

34  
35 **RULE H**  
36 **LOCAL CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS**

37  
38 Section 1. The purpose of this Rule is to authorize and provide additional methods,  
39 other than by Party primary, for the nomination of Republican candidates for any office in which  
40 only the voters within a single County (or portion thereof) are entitled to vote.

41  
42 Section 2. The County Executive Committee for each County in the state is hereby  
43 authorized to decide whether or not Republican candidates for local or County offices shall be  
44 nominated and, if so, whether they shall be nominated by a Party primary or by a County  
45 Convention. Such decision shall be made at a meeting of the County Executive Committee duly  
46 called for such purpose. Such meeting shall be held more than fifteen (15) days before the  
47 candidate qualifying deadline as provided in TCA Section 2-5-101, as it may be amended from

1 time to time. Such meeting may be called either by the County Chairman or by a majority of the  
2 members of the county Executive Committee, by giving each member seven (7) days' prior  
3 written notice of the date, time, place (within the County) and purpose thereof.  
4

5 Section 3. In Counties having a population of at least 100,000 people according to  
6 the latest U. S. Census, a County Convention shall be a Delegated County Convention. In  
7 Counties having a population under 100,000 people according to the latest U. S. Census, a  
8 County Convention may be either a Delegated County convention or a Mass Convention.  
9

10 Section 4. If the County Executive Committee decides to nominate Republican  
11 candidates by either of the Convention methods, a time, date and place for holding such  
12 Convention shall be fixed; provided that the date of such Convention shall be before the first  
13 Thursday in May before the August election. The pertinent provisions of Rules E and F above  
14 shall govern the procedures for advertising and giving notice of such Convention, the selection  
15 of Delegates, the conduct of the Convention, the certification of nominees, contests, etc.  
16

17 Section 5. In offices with districts separated within the county, only delegates from  
18 within those districts may nominate candidates for offices in said district.  
19

20 **RULE I**  
21 **JUDICIAL COMMITTEES**  
22

23 Section 1. For each Judicial District lying in more than one County or part of a  
24 County, this Rule shall govern the selection of candidates for Chancellors, Circuit Judges,  
25 District Attorney General and Public Defender.  
26

27 Section 2. If any County Executive Committee within a Judicial District chooses to select  
28 candidates for said office to run as Republicans, it is the responsibility of the County Executive  
29 Committee to notify the State Party of their intention and request that a Judicial Committee be  
30 formed. In the event that no County Party contacts the State Party, the Chairman of the State  
31 Party may also call for the formation of the Committee.  
32

33 A. The State Chairman may appoint a temporary Judicial Committee Chairman to be  
34 responsible for notification to all Counties or partial Counties within the Judicial  
35 District.  
36

37 B. The Judicial Committee member(s) from each County or portion of a County shall be  
38 appointed by the County Executive Committee in each respective County lying  
39 wholly or partly in the Judicial District in question.  
40

41 C. Each County Executive Committee shall appoint two persons to the Judicial  
42 Committee, which shall not exceed 15 members. In the event the Committee would  
43 exceed 15 members, each County or portion of a County in the Judicial District,  
44 starting with the smallest population, in ascending order, shall have only one member.  
45 Should one or more County Parties within a Judicial District not have a recognized

1 County Party, the State Party shall act on behalf of the respective County or Counties.

2  
3 D. The Committee shall be constituted at a time sufficiently in advance of deadlines for  
4 candidates to qualify.

5  
6 E. The Judicial Committee may meet by teleconference or in person, but the Chair of the  
7 Judicial Committee must give at least three (3) days notice to each County or part of a  
8 County lying within the Judicial District.

9  
10 Section 3. The Judicial Committee shall decide by a majority vote whether the Republican  
11 nominee for each office within the Judicial District will be selected by Primary or Delegated  
12 Convention.

13 A. If the Judicial Committee decides to hold a Delegated Convention they shall publish  
14 notice in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in each of the Counties as  
15 a whole or part, within the Judicial District at least ten (10) days prior to the  
16 qualifying deadline.

17  
18 B. If the Judicial Committee decides that positions will be nominated by a Primary, each  
19 County Executive Committee within the Judicial District must submit a written letter  
20 to their County Election Commission and provide a copy of the letter to the Judicial  
21 Committee Chair and State Party prior to the deadline defined in TCA Section 2-13-  
22 203 (d).

23  
24 i. Once the Judicial Committee decides that the open positions within the  
25 Judicial District will be nominated by primary, all County Executive  
26 Committees, even if they voted against the primary, must file the appropriate  
27 letter with the respective County Election Commission. The State Party will  
28 act on behalf of any County that does not have a County Party and file the  
29 appropriate notice.

30  
31 ii. In such an event that a position within a Judicial District is to be filled in a  
32 year when no spring primary will take place and a County or part of a County  
33 lying within a Judicial District will not be holding a primary for any other  
34 position, it will be left to the discretion of the respective County Executive  
35 Committee whether to call for the Primary. If the County Executive  
36 Committee chooses to not call for the Primary, but the Judicial Committee has  
37 decided on nominating by means of a primary, the County Executive  
38 Committee may not hold a Delegated Convention.

39  
40 C. If the Judicial Committee decides that positions will be nominated by Delegated  
41 Convention, the convention shall be held in a manner provided for in Rule E and  
42 contests shall be determined in a manner provided for in Rule F.

1  
2  
3 ii. Each County or portion thereof shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each 100  
4 votes cast for the Republican Presidential candidate in the most recent  
5 Presidential election prior to the date of said Delegated Convention.  
6

7 iii. The Chairman of the Judicial Committee shall certify the nominee to the  
8 Coordinator of Elections as is required by TCA Section 2-13-203, as may be  
9 amended from time to time, and to the State Party. The Committee shall take  
10 such other actions as may be required by state or federal law, rule or  
11 regulation.  
12

13 D. If the Judicial Committee decides that it shall hold neither a Primary nor Delegated  
14 Convention, an individual County Executive Committee can opt to call for the open  
15 positions in the Judicial District to appear on the Primary ballot in their County. In  
16 such an event, the County Executive Committee must notify their County Election  
17 Commission and the State Party as is required in TCA Section 2-13-203(d).

18 Section 4. The Judicial Committees shall carry out their duties in such a manner as to be  
19 neutral, fair and objective and to give all qualified persons a fair opportunity to seek the office to  
20 be filled.  
21

## 22 **RULE J**

### 23 **BREAKING TIE VOTES IN CONTESTED REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

24

25 This Rule J is adopted pursuant to TCA § 2-8-114, as it may be amended from time to  
26 time. This Rule is intended to govern the procedure for casting the deciding vote in any  
27 Republican primary election in which the vote, as certified by the County Election Commission  
28 under TCA § 2-8-101, et seq., is a tie between or among two or more Republican candidates.  
29

30 Section 1. In case of a tie vote between or among two or more Republican candidates  
31 in a primary election, the Executive Committee, in its capacity as the State Primary Board, shall  
32 cast the deciding vote. The State Primary Board shall hold a meeting within five (5) days after  
33 the tie vote has been officially certified by the Coordinator of Elections under TCA § 2-8-113;  
34 provided, however, that the State Primary Board shall hold its meeting and cast the deciding vote  
35 no later than seven (7) days before the qualifying deadline, even if the Coordinator of Elections  
36 has not officially certified the vote by that date. If it appears that there is a tie vote, based upon  
37 the certification of the election results by the County Election Commission under TCA § 2-8-  
38 101, et seq., then the State Chairman or his appointee may prepare for and give notice of the  
39 holding of a State Primary Board meeting to take place as soon as the tie vote has been certified  
40 by the Coordinator of Elections, or by seven (7) days before the qualifying deadline. The  
41 meeting of the State Primary Board shall be permitted to take place telephonically. If the  
42 meeting is telephonic, a roll call vote shall be taken. If a determination is made that ballots are to  
43 be cast under governing rules of procedure, telecopied ballots shall be permitted, so long as they  
44 are received by the State Chairman or his delegate within one (1) calendar day after the meeting,  
45 but if a ballot is not received, the roll call vote cast by the State Primary Board member in

1 question shall be counted as his vote. The quorum for such meeting shall be the same as the  
2 quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee, and the winning candidate shall be chosen by  
3 a majority vote of those present at the meeting, in person or telephonically. In case of a tie vote,  
4 the State Chairman shall cast the deciding vote. The State Primary Board's decision shall be  
5 final.  
6

7 Section 2. If the tie vote occurs in a Republican primary election within a single  
8 county, the deciding vote shall be cast by the County Primary Board of that county, as the  
9 delegate of the State Primary Board. The County Primary Board shall conduct an actual (not a  
10 telephonic) meeting, and the votes of 3 County Primary Board members shall be necessary in  
11 order to determine the winning candidate. Such meeting shall be held within five (5) days after  
12 the Coordinator of Elections has certified the results of the election as provided in TCA 2-8-113;  
13 provided, however, that the County Primary Board shall hold its meeting and cast the deciding  
14 vote no later than seven (7) days before the qualifying deadline, even if the Coordinator of  
15 Elections has not officially certified the vote by that date. If it appears that there is a tie vote,  
16 based upon the certification of the election results by the County Election Commission under  
17 TCA 2-8-101, *et seq.*, then the County Primary Board may prepare for and give notice of the  
18 holding of a County Primary Board meeting to take place as soon as the tie vote has been  
19 certified by the Coordinator of Elections. The County Primary Board shall notify the State  
20 Chairman of its decision, or the fact that it did not reach a decision, immediately after the  
21 conclusion of its meeting. Any candidate shall be permitted to appeal the decision of the County  
22 Primary Board, to the State Chairman. Notice of such appeal shall be communicated to the  
23 County Primary Board, the other candidate(s) involved, and the State Chairman, no later than 48  
24 hours after the decision of the County Primary Board; and such communication shall be by  
25 telecopy, electronic mail, or other means of instantaneous communication. The candidate so  
26 appealing shall send all documents which he wishes to bring to the attention of the State  
27 Chairman in such a manner that they are received by the State Chairman within 24 hours after  
28 the notice of appeal is given. Any other candidate shall send any additional documents in such a  
29 manner that they are received by the State Chairman within 24 hours thereafter. The State  
30 Chairman, as the delegate of the State Primary Board, shall determine such appeal, and the  
31 winner of the primary election. Additionally, if the County Primary Board is unable or refuses to  
32 meet, or to decide the winner of the primary election, the State Chairman shall decide the winner  
33 of the primary election. If such an appeal is made to the State Chairman, or if the State  
34 Chairman decides the winner due to the County Primary Board's inability or refusal to do so, his  
35 decision shall be final.  
36

37 Section 3. Proxies shall not be permitted at the meeting of the State Primary Board or  
38 the County Primary Board under this Rule J.  
39

40 Section 4. If it appears that any primary election has resulted in a tie vote, the County  
41 Party, the candidate(s), or other interested persons shall so notify the State Chairman or his  
42 appointee, immediately, by telephone, telecopy, or other means of instant communication. The  
43 State Chairman or his appointee shall be kept fully informed of all developments with respect to  
44 the situation. The State Chairman or his appointee shall notify and instruct the State Primary  
45 Board, the County Primary Board, the candidate(s) involved, and any other person whom the  
46 State Chairman directs, as to the procedures to be followed in order for the State Primary Board,  
47 the County Primary Board, or the State Chairman to carry out its or his duties, including setting



1 times by which interested parties must furnish documents that they wish to be considered by  
2 either the State Primary Board or the Chairman. The determinations to be made and the deciding  
3 votes to be cast under this Rule, by the State Primary Board, the County Primary Board, or the  
4 State Chairman, shall be made and cast in the manner provided herein, based upon the  
5 information (written and/or oral) made available to it or to him under the existing circumstances,  
6 including the time constraints under which it or he must operate. Meetings shall be conducted  
7 according to the Tennessee Republican Party Bylaws insofar as is reasonably practicable (except  
8 for the informality of notice of meetings necessitated by this Rule J) and parliamentary  
9 procedure; but the meetings are not judicial proceedings, and rules of civil procedure, rules of  
10 evidence, and other legal procedures shall not be applicable.  
11

12 Section 5. Notwithstanding any provision of this Rule J, all action necessary to  
13 determine the winner of the primary election shall be taken and completed in time to enable the  
14 State Primary Board, or the State Chairman as its delegate, to certify the results to the  
15 Coordinator of Elections in a timely manner, under the governing statutes.  
16

17 10/08/93

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19 Revised 03/19/94

20 Finalized 08/25/94

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22 Revised 09/95

23 Revised 12/06/97

24 Revised 05/98  
25

26 New Revision Drafts May 29, 2001

27 June 4, 2001

28 August 7, 2001

29 September 26, 2001

30 October 22, 2001

31 October 30, 2001

32 February 24, 2002

33 Amended April 6, 2002 by State Executive Committee

34 Amended April 9, 2002 by State Executive Committee

35 Amended December 4, 2010 by State Executive Committee

36 Amended April 16, 2011 by vote of State Executive Committee Members.

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38 Amended March 31, 2012 by vote of the State Executive Committee Members

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40 Amended December 6, 2013 by vote of the State Executive Committee Members