

Guilford County Republican Party
Plan of Organization
March 2011

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PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Republican Party of Guilford County, dedicated to the sound principles fostered by that party, conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, firm in our determination to give our strength to preserving the American principle that government ought and must be of all the people, by all of the people, and for all of the people, do for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum power and efficiency, herewith establish this instrument, The Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Guilford County.

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Members are all citizens of Guilford County who are registered Republicans and are members of the Republican Party of Guilford County and shall have the right to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party in accordance with these rules. All references herein to Delegates, Alternates, Officers and Members shall in all cases mean persons identified and registered with the Republican Party in the precinct of their residence. Any person running for an office within the North Carolina state, legislative district, county or precinct Republican Party shall be a resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office.

ARTICLE II. PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

A. ANNUAL PRECINCT MEETINGS

1. Call for Meeting

In every year, the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman shall call Precinct Meetings between February 1 and March 10. Ten days written notice must be given to Precinct Chairmen either electronically or through newspapers of general circulation within the county and must be either an unpaid notice or paid advertisement, providing time, date, location and purpose of the meeting. Precinct Chairmen may also be informed of the number of registered Republicans entitled to cast votes at the Precinct Meetings and in accordance with Article III, C 2 b (pages 9-10 herein).

Failure of the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman to act in compliance with the provisions herein shall be cause for any member of the Guilford County Executive Committee to call for Precinct Meetings in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

Every Republican registered prior to January 31 preceding the Precinct Meetings shall be entitled to cast one vote, except that the January 31 requirement shall not apply to residents who have moved into the precinct within 30 days of the Precinct Meetings. Each person attending the Precinct Meetings shall sign a roster that

states: "I, the Undersigned, do certify that I reside in stated precinct as a Republican to vote therein and am registered the same."

2. Election of Precinct Officers

At odd-year Precinct Meetings, at which a quorum is one person, attendees shall elect a Precinct Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and as many Members-at-Large as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the precinct. Members of the Precinct Committee shall hold office for two years or until successors are chosen. There shall be no proxy voting.

3. Election of Delegates

The annual Precinct Meetings shall elect one Delegate and one Alternate to the Guilford County Convention. They shall also elect one additional Delegate and Alternate for every 50 votes, or major fraction thereof, cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the last general election in the precinct in accordance with Article III, C 2 b (pages 9-10).

4. Duties of Officers

The Chairman and Secretary of each precinct shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, and Delegates and Alternates to the Guilford County Convention on forms stipulated by the State Central Committee and furnished by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman.

Complete credentials shall reside with the Guilford County Republican Party Secretary by the deadline set by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman, which shall be at least two days prior to the Credentials Committee Meeting, unless the Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held on the same day.

No Delegate or Alternate shall be added to the Credentials List following the adjournment of the Precinct Meetings.

This delegate list shall be made immediately available to any registered Republican candidate. The candidate(s) will be responsible for any reasonable expense, along with a confidentiality and use agreement that said list will be used only for Republican activities related to the candidates run for elective office.

5. Other Precinct Meetings

a. Other meetings of the precinct general membership may be held at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman of the Precinct Committee after giving five (5) days notice of such meeting or upon similar call of one-third of the members of the Precinct Committee.

b. If a precinct fails to properly organize or the Precinct Chairman fails to act, the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman shall appoint a temporary Precinct Chairman who shall serve for a period not to exceed 60 days, during which time a general membership meeting of said precinct shall be called and a new chairman elected.

B. PRECINCT COMMITTEE

1. Duties of Committee

The Precinct Committee shall cooperate with the Guilford County Executive Committee in all elections and party activities, provide the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman with a list of Republican Party members within the precinct suitable for appointment as election officials, and promote the objectives of the party within the precinct.

2. Duties of Officers

The Chairman of the Precinct Committee, with the advice and consent of the Precinct Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Republican Party within the precinct, shall preside at all meetings of the precinct, and shall perform other duties as may be prescribed by the Precinct Committee or the Guilford county Executive Board. The Vice-Chairman shall function as the Precinct Chairman in the absence of the Precinct Chairman. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records and shall maintain a list of registered Republican voters and workers within the precinct, unless otherwise provided by the Precinct Committee or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

3. Vacancies and Removals

a. Vacancy due to death, resignation, party disloyalty, discontinuance of precinct residency, removal of any officer or member of the Precinct Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining members of the Precinct Committee, or as provided in the Guilford County Plan of Organization.

b. The procedure for removal of any member or officer is defined in Article IV E. Such removal may be appealed to the Guilford County Executive Board within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

ARTICLE III. GUILFORD COUNTY PRECINCT DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

A. AREAS

1. High Point Township

The Precinct Committee members in High Point shall elect a Township Chairman from the High Point area, consisting of Guilford County Commissioner Districts 1 & 2, who shall be responsible for the organization of said precincts. There shall be no proxy voting. The High Point Township Chairman will obtain from each Precinct Chairman reports relative to the complete organization of precincts, and shall report those findings to the Vice-Chairman of the Guilford County Republican Party.

2. Other Districts

Within 14 days of the close of the Guilford County Convention, the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman shall appoint a Precinct District Chairman in each County Commissioner's District, except Districts 1 & 2. The Precinct District Chairman, whose appointment shall be confirmed by the Guilford County Executive Board, shall be responsible for the organization of the precincts within said districts. There shall be no proxy voting. Each Precinct District Chairman will obtain from each Precinct Chairman reports relative to the complete organization of the precincts, and shall report those findings to the Guilford County Republican Party Vice-Chairman.

3. Non-Compliance

Failure by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman to comply with this provision shall be deemed cause for any Republican Precinct Chairman within the affected district to call a district-wide precinct meeting by providing five (5) days written notice to each Precinct Chairman.

4. Terms

The Precinct District Chairmen and the High Point Township Chairman shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

B. DUTIES

1. Responsibilities

The Precinct District Chairmen and the High Point Township Chairman, under the direction of the Guilford County Republican Party Vice-Chairman shall be responsible for building, organizing, and maintaining a viable precinct organization in each precinct within his/her district. They shall cooperate with the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman and the Guilford County Executive Committee and shall perform other duties as they may designate.

2. Meetings

The Precinct District Chairmen and the High Point Township Chairman shall hold district meetings, as necessary, for the purpose of building a strong precinct organization and fulfilling other duties as may be designated by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

3. Vacancies

In the case of death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the district, removal or other vacancy, the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman shall appoint a replacement, to be confirmed within 30 days by the Guilford County Executive Board. This does not apply to the High Point Township.

4. Removal

A Precinct District Chairman and the High Point Township Chairman may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Precinct Chairmen from within the respective district who must also be present at a meeting called by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman. For the meeting to be called by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman, one-third of the Precinct Chairmen within a district must provide a written request, specifying the charges showing cause for removal.

5. Cause for Removal

Cause for removal of a District Chairman shall be confined to gross inefficiency, party disloyalty as defined on page 17, paragraph 5. Vacancies and Removals, failure to comply with the Guilford County Plan of Organization, or failure to discharge duties as specified in this article.

C. ANNUAL CONVENTION

1. Call of Convention

a. A Guilford County Convention shall be called every year by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman at a suitable location within the county, within the month of March, and at least 10 days prior to the scheduled Congressional District Convention.

A written notice shall be disseminated 10 days prior to the meeting or convention through electronic communications or through a newspaper of general circulation in the county. For the purpose of this Plan of Organization the notification shall include either an unpaid notice or paid advertisement provided it includes the time, date, location and purpose of the meeting.

This does not relieve the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman of responsibility for providing written notice to party officers as may be otherwise

required by this Plan of Organization, and following procedures shown on page 19, paragraph Notices of Information.

b. At the time of the Call of the Convention, the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman with the advice and consent of the Guilford County Executive Board shall appoint a Credentials Committee consisting of no less than three people, which will meet and issue its Report on Delegates and Alternates certified to attend the convention at least three days in advance of convening the convention, unless Guilford County holds its Precinct Meetings and the Guilford County Convention on the same day.

All Delegates and Alternates challenged in the Credentials Committee's report shall be notified prior to the day of the convention and allowed to present their case(s) to the Credential Committee before the beginning of the convention. The Delegates and Alternates elected at the Precinct Meetings, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the Guilford County Convention.

c. If the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman fails, refuses or neglects to call a Guilford County Convention as required by this article, it shall become the duty of the Vice-Chairman to act in this capacity. The Vice-Chairman shall give five (5) days notice thereof to all Precinct Chairmen and County Executive Committee members and shall publish a notice 10 days before the meeting or convention through electronic means or in a newspaper of general circulation in Guilford County for the purpose of this Plan of Organization, that shall include either an unpaid notice or paid advertisement and provides the time, date, location and purpose of the meeting.

This does not relieve the responsibility of the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman of providing written notice to party officers as may be otherwise required by this Plan of Organization.

If the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Vice-Chairman does not call such a meeting, it shall be cause for any member of the Guilford County Executive Committee, with the approval of the Congressional District Chairman to call for a Guilford County Convention.

2. Convention Action.

a. The Guilford County Convention shall adopt or amend a written Guilford County Plan of Organization consistent with the NC Plan of Organization, a current copy of which shall be on file at Guilford County Republican Party Headquarters and at State Republican Headquarters or online at the NCGOP website. The Guilford County Republican Party Chairman shall submit the Guilford County Plan of Organization to the NCGOP Headquarters within 30 days of its adoption, by certified U.S. mail, return receipt requested; or by electronic mail.

b. Elections

(1) In every odd-numbered year the Guilford County Convention shall elect Guilford County Republican Party officers consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer; and other officers as may be deemed necessary, who shall serve for a two (2) year term or until their successors are elected.

(2) In every odd-numbered year the Guilford County Convention shall elect a Guilford County Executive Committee of not less than 10 but no more than 27 At-Large members, that includes the Guilford County Republican Party Officers, Precinct District Chairmen, Precinct Chairmen (exclusive of precincts in Commissioner Districts 1 and 2), and Committee Chairmen who shall hold office for a two (2) year term or until their successors are elected.

Individual nominations will be accepted from the floor at the convention. There will be no more than three (3) at-large members from any single Commissioner's District. In the case that 27 or fewer members are nominated with no more than three (3) nominated from a single Commissioner's District, a single private ballot by district will be held with the top three voted members per Commissioner's District receiving an appointment in the At-Large Committee. If changes occur to the number of districts within its area, the At-Large Committee will continue to serve until the next convention.

(3) The Guilford County Convention shall, in accordance with the Guilford County Plan of Organization, elect one Delegate and one Alternate to the Congressional District and State conventions, plus one additional Delegate and Alternate for every 200 votes, or major fraction thereof, cast for every Republican candidate for Governor in the last General Election in Guilford County in accordance with Article III C b. Guilford County shall further elect one Delegate and Alternate for each Republican elected to the state legislature and to public office on the state or national level from Guilford County in the last election held for that office.

(4) Delegates and Alternates must reside in the Congressional District to whose convention they are elected. The delegates to the Guilford County Convention from the political subdivisions in different Congressional Districts shall elect the delegates to their own Congressional District Convention.

3. Credentials

The Chairman and Secretary of the Guilford County Executive Committee shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, Delegates, Alternates, and Precinct Chairmen to the District and State Conventions, on forms furnished by the

State Central Committee. Completed credentials must arrive at the office of the Congressional District Secretary and the State Headquarters by the deadline set by the State Chairman.

All Guilford County credentials for the State Convention should be sent electronically or mailed to State Headquarters no later than 10 days following the date of the Guilford County Convention or the deadline set by the State Chairman, whichever date is first. The date mailed or sent electronically is used to determine compliance.

No Delegates or Alternates shall be added to the Credentials List following the adjournment of the Guilford County Convention. Copies of applicable notifications, via newspaper or electronics shall be submitted to the NC Republican Party and all applicable Congressional District Committees along with Guilford County credentials.

4. Convention Fee

For each Delegate or Alternate elected to the Guilford County Convention and to the State Convention, the Guilford County Republican Party will collect a fee from the Delegates and Alternates at the Guilford County Convention to defray expenses. In addition, the Guilford County Republican Party will forward to the State party a fee set by the State Central Committee to pay mailing costs pertaining to state convention materials sent to elected Delegates and Alternates.

D. GUILFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Membership. The Guilford County Executive Committee consists of:

a. The Guilford County Republican Party Officers are elected by the Guilford County Convention in accordance with Article III C 2 b (pages 9-10).

b. All Chairmen appointed by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman as set forth in Article III D 4 (pages 13-16).

c. The High Point Township Chairman and the Precinct District Chairman from each Guilford County Commissioner's District.

d. All registered Republicans who hold elected public office and reside in Guilford County.

e. The Presidents or Chairmen of Federated Republican Clubs.

f. Other Republican Auxiliary Organizations recognized and approved by the Guilford County Executive Board.

- g. Every duly elected Guilford County Precinct Chairman.
- h. The Congressional District Chairmen, if they reside in Guilford County.
- i. The immediate past Guilford County Republican Party Chairman.
- j. At-Large Committee members.
- k. All life-long committee members elected previous to March 22, 2005 and holding primary residency within Guilford County.

2. Powers and Duties

a. The Guilford County Executive Committee shall cooperate with the Congressional District and State Committees in all elections and Republican Party activities. The committee shall encourage qualified candidates for office within Guilford County; adopt a budget; and recommend nominees to the State Chairman for appointments to the Guilford County Board of Elections.

The committee shall have active management of the Republican Party affairs within Guilford County. It shall approve a Finance Committee and an Auditing Committee of not less than three (3) members each and may approve such other committees as deemed necessary.

At-large members shall be assigned a committee on which service is required. The committee assignments may be changed with the approval of the Guilford County Executive Board.

The Guilford County Republican Party Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be ex-officio members of all committees indicated in this paragraph.

b. If it is determined that the Guilford County Plan of Organization is not consistent with the State Party Plan of Organization, the Guilford County Executive Committee is responsible for compliance with the State Party Plan of Organization, within 90 days.

If permitted by the Guilford County Plan of Organization the Guilford County Executive Committee may amend the Plan of Organization upon a two-thirds vote after providing notice of the meeting advising members of the proposed amendment (s), provided a quorum is present.

The Guilford County Republican Party shall submit the Plan of Organization and amendments, if applicable, either electronically or by certified mail to the NCGOP State Headquarters within 30 days after adoption, in order for the plan and/or amendments to be considered valid.

3. Meetings

a. The Guilford County Executive Committee shall meet at least once per calendar year quarter, upon call of the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman after giving 10 days notice to all members; or upon similar call of one-third of the members of the Executive Committee. One-fourth of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. There shall be no proxy voting.

b. Members of the Guilford County Executive Committee shall attend all meetings unless excused by prior notification to the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Secretary. If two unexcused absences occur within one calendar year, the Secretary shall provide written notice of the member's removal from the Executive Committee as provided herein. Such vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Committee unless otherwise provided in the Plan of Organization.

c. Elected Republican officials shall be excused if absence is due to the performance of their official duties. They are encouraged to attend the Guilford County Executive Committee meetings at least two times per calendar year.

4. Duties of Officers

a. Chairman of the Guilford County Executive Committee shall:

(1) Also be the Chairman of the Guilford County Republican Party and as such have supervision of the affairs of the Republican Party within Guilford County, with advice and consent of the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(2) Issue the call for Precinct Meetings, the Guilford County Convention, and Executive Committee meetings, and shall preside at all meetings of the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(3) Appoint a temporary Chairman of the County Convention, who may be himself/herself.

(4) Make periodic reports on the status of the Guilford County Republican Party to the Congressional District Chairmen.

(5) Be responsible for the creation and maintenance of a Republican organization in every precinct within Guilford County.

(6) Obtain and preserve a list of all registered Republicans within Guilford County.

(7) Perform other duties as may be prescribed by the County, District or State Committees.

(8) Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees unless otherwise designated in the Guilford County Plan of Organization.

(9) Appoint the following Committee Chairmen within 60 days of assuming office:

(a) An Executive Director who shall work in conjunction with the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman; the Guilford County Executive Committee; and all other chairmen. The Executive Director will also perform other duties assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(b) A Finance Chairman who shall be responsible for organizing a Finance Committee, that includes the Guilford County Republican Party Vice-Chairman; a Fundraising Chairman (if appointed), the Treasurer, and not less than three other members who must be registered Republicans. The "other members" may be from within or outside the Guilford County Executive Committee, but must be approved by them. Any expenditure of more than \$1000 shall require the prior approval of the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(c) An Audit Chairman and a three member Audit Committee responsible for approving financial systems and procedures in compliance with the NC State Board of Elections Campaign Finance regulations, that are to be used by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer or others with respect to ensuring accountability for Republican Party's funds. The Audit Committee shall conduct at least one audit annually of the financial records and procedures of the Guilford County Republican Party and shall report the findings of the audit to the Guilford County Executive Committee for approval.

(d) Other committees may be appointed by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman and approved by the Guilford County Executive Board that may include the following:

(1) Precinct Organization Chairman - works in coordination with the Vice-Chairman to achieve a strong viable organization. Other duties may be assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Guilford County Executive Committee.

(2) Candidate Recruitment Chairman - responsible for recruiting a full slate of viable candidates; coordinating and supervising a candidate training program; and coordinating the efforts of local candidates with those of the Guilford County Republican Party. Other duties may be assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Guilford County Executive Committee.

(3) Voter Registration Chairman - responsible for planning, organizing, promoting and supervising the voter registration efforts of the Guilford County Republican Party. Other duties may be assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Guilford County Executive Committee.

(4) Special Events Chairman - responsible for general supervision over all special events sponsored by the Guilford County Republican Party; maintaining and distributing a calendar of events; coordinating activities of non-local candidates; and performing other duties as assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Guilford County Executive Committee.

(5) Voter Turn-Out Chairman - responsible for working closely with the Precinct Organization Chairman in organizing people to staff telephone banks; erecting or removing signs at polling places; providing transportation to the polls on election days; recruiting poll observers for all elections; providing necessary ballot security, and performing other duties assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(6) Issues Chairman - responsible for developing issues for all candidates to use in their campaigns; developing a plan for publication of information including the cost and distribution methods; and performing other duties assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(7) Public Information Chairman - responsible for providing notice to the media of Republican events; assisting the Candidate Recruitment Chairman in the training of candidates; assisting the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman in media affairs; and performing other duties assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(8) Fundraising Chairman- responsible for proposing a plan for raising funds. Also works with the Finance Chairman to ensure compliance with NC Campaign Finance Laws for all fundraising proposals. Performs other duties assigned by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(9) Plan of Organization Chairman and Committee - composed of not less than five members of the Guilford County Executive Committee. Responsibilities include proposing amendments to the current Plan of Organization, or to propose a new plan that must be in compliance with the NC Plan of Organization. Amendments must be distributed in accordance with Article V. A. (page 24).

(10) Resolutions Chairman - responsible for researching legislative issues requiring resolutions that serve to highlight Republican Party interest. The Chairman also prepares the written Resolutions for appropriate signatures before disseminating to state members of the General Assembly or to

Members of the U.S. Congress in consideration of voting on legislative matters.

(11) Parliamentarian - Is knowledgeable of Roberts Rules of Order and attends each meeting to assist the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman and other members in understanding the propriety of motions, questions and procedures, in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

(12) Certification Committee Chairman - responsible for ensuring that Delegates and Alternates to the Guilford County Convention and the NC Republican Party Convention meet written criteria for representation at the conventions.

b. Vice-Chairman shall:

(1) Perform the duties of the Chairman in his/her absence.

(2) Supervise the Precinct District Chairmen and the High Point Township Chairman in obtaining and sustaining a strong and viable precinct organization.

(3) Provide an effective grassroots organization for the election of viable Republican candidates.

(4) Develop and maintain Precinct Handbooks in coordination with the Precinct Organization Chairman.

(5) Act as an "ex-officio" member of all county committees, unless otherwise designated in the Guilford County Plan of Organization.

(6) Perform other duties assigned by the Chairman or the Guilford County Executive Committee.

c. Secretary shall:

(1) Take and maintain minutes of all Guilford County Republican Party and Guilford County Executive Committee meetings.

(2) Develop and maintain a listing of all Guilford County Republican members, Precinct Officers, and Guilford County Executive Committee members, and Credentials Lists.

(3) Any county records shall be available to any registered Republican within Guilford County, not to be disseminated in consideration of privacy laws.

(4) Furnish to the Precinct District Chairman and to State Headquarters a listing of current Precinct Chairmen.

(5) Performs duties of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman if both are absent at a called meeting.

(6) Perform other duties as assigned by the Chairman or County Executive Committee.

d. Treasurer shall:

(1) Adhere to finance procedures involving receipts and disbursements of funds for the Guilford County Republican Party that are in compliance with NC Board of Elections Campaign Finance regulations and pursuant to authority delegated by the Guilford County Executive Committee.

(2) Prepare financial reports for all Guilford County Executive Committee meetings, pursuant to all State and Federal election and campaign finance laws.

(3) Perform duties of the Chairman at meetings if the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary are absent.

(4) Perform other duties as assigned by the Chairman or County Executive Committee.

e. Guilford County Executive Board - composed of the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Director. The Executive Board shall meet prior to each scheduled Guilford County Executive Committee meeting, and at other times designated by the Chairman. The Board shall assist the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman in executing the business of the Guilford County Republican Party and the Guilford County Executive Committee.

f. Ex-officio members of committees have the same voting rights as other committee members, and are not counted in determining a quorum. If an office holder is considered to be an ex-officio member of a committee, designation as an ex-officio member terminates immediately when the person no longer holds office.

5. Vacancies and Removals

a. Vacancy due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the county, removal of any officer or member of the Guilford County Executive Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining members of the committee unless the position is considered for appointment by the Chairman.

b. The procedure for removal of any member or officer is that any member of a committee organized under this Plan of Organization may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the respective committee after being furnished with notice of the charges against him or her, and signed by not less than 50 of the members or one-third of the members of the Committee, whichever is the fewest.

Any Republican against whom charges are brought shall be furnished with two weeks notice of said charges and be given an opportunity to present a defense. Removal shall be confined to gross inefficiency; Republican Party disloyalty (defined below); or failure to comply with the County, District, or State Party Plans of Organization. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within 20 days of notice, and that committee's decision will be final.

c. Party Disloyalty - For this Plan of Organization "party disloyalty" is defined as actively supporting a candidate of another Party or an Independent candidate running in opposition to a Republican Party candidate, or a Republican endorsed by the Guilford County Executive Committee in a non-partisan election.

ARTICLE IV. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

A. CONVENTION PROCEDURES

1. Annual Conventions and Presidential Election Year Conventions

a. The Guilford County Convention (s) shall be called to order by the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman, or if absent by the Vice-Chairman or Secretary, in order stated, who shall have the authority to appoint the necessary Convention Committees and Temporary Officers at or before the convention begins.

b. No member of a Credentials Committee created by this Plan of Organization shall be eligible for election to an Officer or Guilford County Executive Committee position at the convention for which the Credentials Committee serves.

Also a Credentials Committee member cannot publicly support anyone for an office to be elected during said convention. All members of the Credentials Committee shall maintain the integrity of the convention and the committee by conducting the business of the committee with impartiality and strict neutrality.

2. Voting Procedures

a. No Precinct shall cast more votes than it has duly elected Delegates on the floor at the Guilford County Convention.

b. No person shall be seated as a Delegate at the Guilford County Convention unless such person shall have been duly elected as a Delegate or Alternate at the

appropriate Precinct Meeting; except for registered Republican (s) present at a County Convention from an unorganized precinct, which has not had its credentials accepted and shall have the right to vote one vote per precinct.

c. No Delegate, Alternate or any other member of a Guilford County Convention shall cast any vote by proxy.

3. Special Meetings and Conventions

a. The State Central Committee, at any time, in the interest of the Republican Party, may direct the State Chairman or the Congressional District Chairmen to issue a call for a special County Convention in Guilford County.

b. The procedures for calling regular meetings and conventions shall also apply to the calling of special meetings and conventions as noted in the Plan of Organization.

4. Notices of Information

a. Notices of information can be disseminated electronically or published in newspapers of general circulation in Guilford County for the purpose of this Plan of Organization, and can include unpaid notices or paid advertisements that include time, date, location, and purpose of the meeting. Such notices shall be given at least 10 days in advance of the meeting or convention.

b. The Guilford County Republican Party Chairman remains responsible for providing written notice to party officers or others as indicated in the Plan of Organization.

5. Challenges to Election of Delegates and Alternates

a. Challenges made to Delegates and Alternates must be in their capacity as individual delegates.

b. Successful challenges of individuals in their capacity as Delegates or Alternates shall not affect the seating of other Delegates or Alternates serving in the same Precinct or of Guilford County Delegates unless it is demonstrated by a preponderance of evidence that the election of the challenged Delegates or Alternates shows that unqualified votes resulted in their election, and that other Delegates or Alternates were rightfully elected instead.

6. General Election Procedures

a. The allocated Delegate and Alternate positions addressed in this Plan of Organization for Precincts or Guilford County Commissioner's Districts shall be filled first by the election of duly qualified registered Republicans, eligible to vote,

present at such Precinct Meeting (s) or Guilford County Convention (s), and desiring to be elected to fill such positions. All duly qualified Republicans registered to vote may be elected by qualified Republicans attending the meeting (s) to fill the positions that have not been filled by Republicans attending the meeting(s) or convention(s).

b. When the number of Delegates and Alternates is based on the votes cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the last General Election, the "votes" shall be the total votes cast.

If there are votes within Guilford County that cannot be accurately attributed to specific precincts, the unattributed votes shall be apportioned to the county precincts or sub-precincts in the same proportion as the votes initially identified respectively and in accordance with the votes cast for the Republican candidate for Governor.

7. Vacancies and Removals

See page 17, paragraph 5. Vacancies and Removals.

8. Non-Partisan Candidates and Office Holders

No Committee of the Guilford County Republican Party shall offer an opportunity for a candidate for, or current office holder of, a "non-partisan office" who is not a registered Republican to address a Republican Convention or other function sponsored by the Guilford County Republican Party or any of its subdivisions.

B. OFFICIAL RECORDS

Minutes shall be taken and maintained by all Committees and Conventions of official actions taken, and a copy shall be filed with the Chairman of the appropriate Committee or Convention and with the Guilford County Republican Party.

C. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

1. Records - the Chairman, Treasurer, and Finance Committee Chairman of Guilford County; District; and State committees shall keep faithful and accurate records including reports of all money received and disbursed during the course of official business of same, in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures, and pursuant to NC Board of Elections Campaign Finance laws.

2. Loans - No officer, staff or member of the Party shall cause the Party to undertake a loan without the prior approval of the Guilford County Executive Committee.

3. Budgeted Expenses - No Guilford County Republican Party officer shall exceed approved budgeted expenditures without approval from the Guilford County Executive Committee.
4. Leases - The Guilford County Republican Party Chairman shall have sole authority to commit the Republican Party to a lease and it shall not be in excess of \$1000 or a time period of 90 days without the approval of the Guilford County Executive Committee.

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. Notification - It is the duty of the State Republican Party Chairman to transmit notice of known vacancies on a County, District or State level to those persons having jurisdiction over such appointments.

2. Filling Vacancies

a. When a vacancy occurs in a government office for which a Republican Party recommendation is required, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with NC state laws and the terms of this Plan of Organization.

b. In multi-county offices or state legislative offices, the responsibility for calling the meeting rests with the State Chairman who may delegate this authority to the appropriate District or County Chairman or to the Congressional District Chairman if the County or Congressional District encompasses the entire district or county in which the vacancy occurs.

c. Unless otherwise provided by law, notice to committee members of the time, date, location and purpose of the meeting at which a recommendation for filling the vacancy will be considered, must be made electronically or by mail to the last address of the committee member(s). Notice must be made at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for a shorter timeframe. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a date and time less than 5 days after the notification of the meeting to committee members.

d. In those cases where the State Republican Party Chairman, or by appointment the County or Congressional District Chairman calls the meeting, the State Chairman shall designate the Chairman for the meeting. The decision must be made in accordance with fairness to all potential candidates considered for the position as Chairman.

e. If any provision in this Plan of Organization is inconsistent with NC laws or the NC Republican Plan of Organization; both state laws and the NC Plan of Organization have precedence.

E. FOREFEITURE OF OFFICIAL PRIVILEGES

1. Removal or Resignation from Committees - Any current or former officer or member of a Precinct Committee or the Guilford County Executive Committee, who for any reason is removed or resigns from said position shall forfeit all rights and privileges to the position.

2. Party Disloyalty

a. Any registered Republican attempting to influence the outcome of any election against a Republican candidate or Republican endorsed by the appropriate Republican Executive Committee or Legislative Caucus may be declared ineligible to hold office under the State Plan of Organization at the State, District, and County Precinct levels. Party disloyalty is determined by a two-thirds vote of the State Executive Committee.

b. Charges of Party disloyalty may be brought by petition of 50 members of the State Executive Committee, or by resolution of the Guilford County Executive Committee, or by the Congressional District Executive Committee.

c. The State Executive Committee may declare a Republican found to have engaged in Party disloyalty as ineligible to serve in any office under the Plan of Organization for a period of time that is between 6 months and 5 years.

F. ELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

1. Compliance requirements with the National Republican Party rules and North Carolina Statutes, specifically Section 163-213.8, must be followed immediately after the Presidential Preference Primary. The State Republican Party Chairman, after consultation with the NC Chairman for each Candidate receiving votes in the primary, shall allocate Delegate positions among the Candidates.

The allocation must accurately reflect the division of votes in the state-wide primary, thereby requiring the election of three (3) Delegates and three (3) Alternates at the District Congressional Convention and the remaining Delegates at the State Convention, in such allocated numbers as to accurately reflect the results of the state-wide primary.

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

G. REFRAIN FROM USING POWERS OF OFFICE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Each officer and each member of the Guilford County Executive Committee shall refrain from utilizing the authority of his or her office or position in any Republican Primary in which Republican candidates are competing for election to public office at any level.

H. PARTY CHAIRMAN OR VICE-CHAIRMAN RUNNING FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

If the Guilford County Republican Party Chairman or Vice-Chairman announces his/her intentions to run for public office or shall file a notice of candidacy with the Board of Elections, that person shall be deemed to have resigned his/her office within the Party and the existing vacancy shall be filled as provided herein.

The Party official may petition the Guilford County Executive Committee for exemption from this provision and the committee may grant such an exemption with a two-thirds affirmative vote. This exemption shall be deemed void if any other Republican files with the Board of Elections for the same public office within the same election cycle.

I. ENDORSEMENTS IN NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS

1. In non-partisan elections, the Guilford County Executive Committees shall have exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans running in Guilford County. However, the Guilford County Executive Committee shall not issue endorsements in non-partisan races unless the Congressional District resides entirely within Guilford County. All members of the Guilford County Executive Committee may vote on the non-partisan endorsements for districts wholly encompassed within that county, regardless of whether or not committee members live within the district in question.

2. In non-partisan, state-wide judicial elections, the NCGOP State Executive Committee shall have the exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans.

Political subdivisions of Executive Committees such as the Guilford County Executive Committee, and the Congressional District Executive Committees shall not issue endorsements of non-partisan state-wide judicial candidates that are inconsistent with the State Executive Committee endorsements.

3. Any endorsement language provided for in this section, unless contradicted by law, must provide notice to committee members of the time, date, location, and purpose of meetings at which such endorsements will be considered and must be made electronically or by mail at least 10 days prior to the meeting date, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. No notice of meeting(s) should be less than five (5) days prior to the meeting(s) in any circumstances. Notice shall

be provided to all registered Republicans who are candidates seeking the office for which the endorsement is made.

ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN

A. AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

1. The Plan of Organization may be amended, consistent with the rules of the State Executive Committee, by majority vote of the delegates present and voting at the Guilford County Convention provided, that the proposed amendment was sent electronically or mailed to the membership of the Guilford County Executive Committee, elected at the preceding Guilford County Convention, at least 30 days prior to convening the Guilford County Convention. The notification requirement does not apply to the report of the duly appointed Plan of Organization Committee.

2. Amendments to the Plan of Organization obtained from the Convention floor must receive two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at any Guilford County Convention. This applies only to amendments to existing amendments to the Plan of Organization discussed in paragraph 1 above.

3. Proposed amendments to the Plan of Organization not sent to the Guilford County Executive Committee 30 days prior to the Guilford County Convention must receive a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at the Guilford County Convention.

4. Plan of Organization Committees shall have authority to correct any spelling or typographical errors in the Plan of Organization, as a routine matter, that do not change the substance of the Plan.

B. APPLICABILITY

1. Rules on Towns and Cities - This Plan of Organization is not intended to extend to or establish organizations for the Republican Party of various towns and cities of the state of North Carolina as separate entities from Precinct and County organizations. Qualified and registered Republican voters of the towns and cities of the state may organize and promulgate their own rules consistent with these rules and the organizations herein established.

2. Rules on Counties and Districts - The Precinct and Guilford County Committees and County Conventions are authorized to promulgate such additional rules and establish such additional Party Officers or Committees for their respective organizations, consistent with these rules, as shall be deemed necessary. Guilford County may establish Executive Boards to transact the business involving Party County Executive Committees.

C. AUTHORITY

1. Controversies - Disagreements in Guilford County or any Congressional District concerning the organizations established/authorized under this Plan shall be referred to the State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, National Committee Representative and General Counsel for arbitration. A ruling should be made within 60 days and will be final.
2. Parliamentary Authority - The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern all proceedings, except when inconsistent with the State Plan of Organization or Convention Rules, properly adopted.
3. Gender - The term Chairman is defined as the highest office of an organized group such as a board, committee, or deliberative assembly. As such Chairman is not gender specific. Personal pronouns are addressed as his/her.

D. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Plan of Organization is immediately effective and supersedes all other rules, following adjournment of the Guilford County Convention in Greensboro, North Carolina on March 14, 2011. This does not invalidate any pending action taken under the previous rules prior to the date above. The adoption of this Plan shall not affect the term of office holders serving at the effective date of this Plan.