



New Jersey Libertarian

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NJLP CONVENTION INFORMATION IS ON PAGE 7

Chair's Message

2016 is a critical year for the liberty movement. People have never been more ready to abandon the two party system. We need you to run for office and spread the message of liberty in your community!

Although there are big US House elections this year we also need more candidates at the local level. In 2015 Joe DeLong won 9.6% for Mayor of South Bound Brook and helped get a longtime incumbent out of office. Let's replicate this success statewide!

We hope to see you at the 2016 NJLP Convention March 12th at Tavern on the Lake in Hightstown. Buy tickets and renew your membership at NJLP.org.

We stand ready to support your campaign. The corruption in our state will not fix itself. Let's be the change we want to see in the world.

During our State Convention we will be selecting a new State Board. This includes filling the newly created VP Positions (VP of Membership, VP Programs, and VP Marketing) and the three Regional Representative positions. These new positions are the result of a major restructuring of the NJ Libertarian Party State Board approved at our last general meeting.

We will also be nominating delegates to represent New Jersey at the National Libertarian Convention in Orlando. Consider joining us in Orlando on Memorial Day weekend. The National Convention is always an exciting and fun event, but is especially exciting during a Presidential election year.

We need you to be a leader for liberty.

Patrick McKnight
Chair, NJLP

The NJLP Reorganizes Its Organizational Structure - Bylaws Change Proposals Approved

by Bylaws Committee

At our November 15th General Meeting approved a significant update to our Bylaws and Rules. This change reorganizes the leadership structure and replaces the County Organizations with three Regional Organizations.

The concept of a separate "Steering Committee" has been removed. Instead the State Board shall consist of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Treasurer, the following new positions: VP Membership, VP Programs, VP Marketing, three (3) Regional Coordinators. The At Large and the County Representative positions have been eliminated.

The County Committees have all been dissolved and replaced with three Regional Organizations. The assignment of counties to regions will be:

1. **Northern NJLP:** Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren
2. **Central NJLP:** Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset, Union

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3. **Southern NJLP:** Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, Salem

It is hoped that this new structure allows for better communication with our members and growth of the party. The key though is you! The NJ Libertarian Party depends on our members being active at any level they can afford. ♦

National Convention Planned for Orlando – Delegates Sought

by Numerous Authors

The Libertarian National Committee (LNC) and the LP headquarters staff invite you to join us for the 2016 Libertarian Party National Presidential Nominating Convention, to help us

The convention will be held from Friday, May 27, through Monday, May 30, 2016 (Memorial Day), with special committee meetings, candidate and activist training seminars, and a Welcome Reception on Thursday, May 26. Candidate and activist training seminars begin on Thursday, May 26. Visit our [Schedule](#) page for more information.

This biennial convention offers seminars, forums, debates, discussion groups, and Exhibits. The Party's delegates will elect its nominees for U.S. President and Vice President, consider proposed amendments to the Party's [Platform](#) and [Bylaws](#), and elect our [national leadership](#) for the next term.

All Libertarian Party members in good standing are encouraged to attend and help shape the future of the LP and the liberty movement. If you would like to join the NJ delegation, contact chair@njlp.org to learn how to become an official voting delegate from your state. ♦

NJLP Police Accountability Project Submits Amici Curiae Brief

by John Paff

The NJ Libertarian Party [Police Accountability Project](#) and the [New Jersey Foundation for Open Government](#) have submitted a joint Amici Curiae (Friends of the Court) Brief to the New Jersey Supreme Court concerning a lawsuit between the North Jersey Media Group and the Township of Lyndhurst.

In January 2015, the North Jersey Media Group was granted access to records of a police shooting where an unarmed man was shot and killed by police during a high speed chase. Several police agencies were ordered to turn over these records by a Superior Court Assignment Judge.

An appeal however has [resulted in a three judge panel reversing this order](#) and determining that the records are "within the criminal investigatory records exemption, because they are 'not required by law to be made, maintained or kept on file' and they 'pertain to [a] criminal investigation.'"

The New Jersey Supreme Court has [agreed to hear an appeal](#) by the North Jersey Media Group. See the full [Amici Curiae Brief](#) on our website. ♦

Introducing:

Liberty Cafe

A weekly podcast of the
NJ Libertarian Party.

Learn more at libertycafe.us.

Proposed Bylaws Change

by Jay Edgar

I intend on introducing a Bylaws change at our Convention. Per our Bylaws I hereby give notice of the following proposal.

Paragraph 1 of our Convention Rules states:

1. Definition of Delegate to State Convention

Delegates to the NJLP State Convention shall consist of all NJLP members attending who were members on the first day of the month preceding the month when the Convention is held.

I'd like to modify this to allow for recent former members who renew prior to our convention. My proposal is to change this to:

1. Definition of Delegate to State Convention

Delegates to the NJLP State Convention shall consist of all NJLP members attending who were members on the first day of the month preceding the month when the Convention is held or were members of the party in the prior year.

The rationale for this rule is to prevent organized takeovers of our party by outsiders showing up at our convention. The problem with the original language is that it excluded members who expired on January 31st and didn't renew until right before the convention. (or perhaps even renewed on February 2nd). ♦

Emigrants Transform Institutions - For the Better

by Alex Nowresteh, CATO @ Liberty

The *potential* negative impact of immigrants on American political and economic institutions is the [best argument](#) against liberalized immigration and the [economic](#), [social](#), [national security](#), and [criminal](#) objections are not convincing. [Michael Clemens and Lant Pritchett](#) dig into this argument, which they call the “Epidemiological Case for efficient migration restrictions,” and find it mostly wanting (their [paper](#) is the best I’ve read in a long while). I’ve co-written an [academic journal article](#), [Cato policy paper](#), and [other work](#) about how immigration could affect institutions. There is more evidence that immigration *improves* institutions than that it worsens them although there is still much work to be done on this issue and [questions remain](#).

But there is evidence that emigration improves a source country’s institutions. Fredrik Segerfeldt summarizes some of the evidence in his new [book](#) for the Adam Smith Institute in the UK. In Chapter 6 of his book, Segerfeldt observes:

Mexican migrants play an important role in shaping political attitudes in the country, both through social remittances and after returning home. Political participation increases, democratic competition intensifies, it becomes more difficult for leading members of the party in power to enrich themselves and the chance that the ruling coalition will retain power decreases. In short, Mexico’s exodus makes it more democratic.

Although much of the research above deals with Mexico, there are other results indicating that emigration can strengthen democracy. In a macro study of a large number of poor countries, economists find that emigration increases both democracy and economic freedom in the sending country.

How does emigration improve Mexican economic and political institutions? By breaking up cronyist and interventionist political arrangements:

Emigration can also help to break up or at least weaken governance based on patronage. In such countries voters tend to vote for the ruling party, because otherwise they risk losing the benefits that the power distributes. Entire communities will be dependent on the ruling party, which impairs democracy. But when people in a community receive income that is

not from the state or the ruling party, citizens become more independent and can therefore vote for the opposition if they want to. In Mexico, remittances reduce the support for the PRI, the party which, with the help of patron-client methods, managed to retain control of the country during most of the 20th century (between 1929 and 2000).

Migration and remittances may also be a way to break up old hierarchies based on class and ethnicity. In San Pedro Pinula in Guatemala, for example, residents of the Mayan people, with the help of both returning migrants and remittances, have slowly but surely been able to challenge the ethnic underclass role they had for five centuries. In the oases of southern Morocco, the Haratin, poor black, landless workers, have enhanced their status thanks to remittances from abroad.

Segerfeldt’s summary of that research can help explain the important [finding](#) by Joshua C. Hall that the ability to emigrate is correlated with improvements in source country economic freedom:

Exitability, a variable created by Brown (2014) to capture how easy it is for citizens to “vote with their feet” is related to the change in economic freedom from 1980 to 2010 in a statistically significant manner across all specifications. This provides some indirect evidence to the importance of “exit” versus “voice” with respect to the question of institutional reform.

Emigration benefits governance in sending countries, increasing the returns from liberalized immigration policies in the developed world. This is an exciting time to be working on how immigrants affect economic and political institutions. ♦

Haddon Township Police Officer Uses a Diploma Mill

by John Paff

I wrote the following letter to the Mayor and governing body of Haddon Township in Camden County.

February 16, 2016

Hon. Randall W. Teague, Mayor and Commissioners Paul Dougherty and John C. Foley
Township of Haddon

Dear Mayor Teague and Commissioners Dougherty and Foley:

Would you please add to tonight's Caucus Meeting agenda a discussion of Haddon Police Officer Jason Dement's compliance with the Education Requirement Policy contained within [Police Department General Order 95-3](#).

G.O. 95-3, which I obtained on February 1, 2016 by way of an Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request, requires all Township police officers to "have earned the minimum of a Baccalaureate Degree from an accredited college or university, having maintained a 2.0 minimum grade point average."

In response to my subsequent OPRA request for a copy of Officer Jason Dement's Baccalaureate Degree, I was provided with a [certificate](#) purporting that Officer Dement "successfully completed the Bachelor's Program from Rochville University in the year 2010" and earned a 3.19 GPA.

An Internet search for "Rochville University" leads to a May 17, 2015 New York Times article titled ["Fake Diplomas, Real Cash: Pakistani Company Axact Reaps Millions"](#) by Declan Walsh that states that Rochville University is owned by Axact, a Pakistan-based company. According to the article, "Axact's main business has been to take the centuries-old scam of selling fake academic degrees and turn it into an Internet-era scheme on a global scale." The article goes on to reference a 2007 case where a British court jailed a fake police criminologist "who claimed to have degree certificates from the Axact-owned Rochville University."

Further Internet searching turned up two articles from [Forbes](#) and [Fortune](#), published on October 23, 2013 and June 28, 2011 respectively, that report that Rochville University granted an MBA degree to a dog named Chester in 2009. According to the Fortune article, Chester earned his on-line degree and a 3.2 GPA (which, incidentally, is higher than Officer Dement's GPA) in a week at a cost of \$499. The Fortune article, which was written after Dement received his Rochville degree in 2010, goes on to state that "the folks behind Rochville are still willing to peddle empty degrees."

I hope that this information warrants an investigation by the Board of Commissioners.

Very truly yours,
John Paff ♦

Letters to the Editor

The NJ Libertarian Party encourages our members to write letters in the local newspaper espousing libertarian viewpoints. The following letters appeared in various publications in New Jersey in the past few months.

Stand Up For Your Inherent Rights

by Mark Richards

Published in Suburban Trends, Dec. 16, 2015

In your December 9, "Our View" editorial ("Our Take On Guns"), you state that you desire a discussion and debate on what the Second Amendment means.

I'm going to surprise you and your readers by saying the Second Amendment does not give you the right to own a firearm; in fact the entire Bill of Rights gives no rights whatsoever! If there was no Constitution and Bill of Rights, you would still have all the rights you possess by virtue of the fact that you exist as an individual human being.

Our individual liberties come from our humanity, as so eloquently stated by Judge Andrew Napolitano. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights only guarantee and protect those rights from government infringement; they don't grant them.

Even many pro-Second Amendment people fall into the trap of thinking that the Bill of Rights gives us liberty. What they didn't realize is that what a government "gives" or "grants" it may also take away.

So debating what the Second Amendment may mean or not mean is missing the point. All people as individuals have a right to defend themselves against force, regardless if that force comes from an individual criminal or a government.

This brings me to my next point, the greatest mass shootings in history haven't occurred at the hands of deranged people or "Islamic terrorists" (the latest media induced "boogeyman") but rather at the hands of government.

If you think I'm only referencing foreign dictatorships of the past, this would be in error. Two of the greatest mass shootings in American history happened in the 19th century. On Nov. 29, 1864, Major John Chivington of the Colorado Territorial Militia and his troops killed 150 Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians (mostly old men, women, and children) at Sand Creek Colorado Territory.

Later on Dec. 29 1890, the Seventh Cavalry killed over 200 Lakota Sioux (again mostly the elderly, plus women and children) at Wounded Knee, South Dakota. The guns used were issued by government to its agents (the military) not private firearms purchased at a gun show, nor to the best of my knowledge were any of the cavalry troopers or their officer followers of Islam!

We Libertarians have often stated (and it bears repeating!) "fear any government that fears and armed citizenry." Second Amendment or no Second Amendment, stand up for your rights. ♦

Pot laws do more harm than good

by Jim Tosone

Published in the Bergen Record February 12th

Regarding "U.S. pot laws are not enforced" (Your Views, Feb. 5, 2016):

The writer claims that marijuana is a stepping stone to harder drugs like heroin or cocaine. To the extent this is true, it is precisely because marijuana is illegal.

In states where marijuana is legal, the stores that sell it have no incentive to encourage their customers to try harder drugs. In contrast, drug dealers in states where marijuana is illegal have a strong incentive to entice their clients to try to use harder drugs, because those drugs are more profitable for the dealers.

What's also true is that only a very small percentage of people who use marijuana go on to use harder drugs. Most of the people who wind up using heroin begin not with marijuana, but by first becoming addicted to legal prescription opiates like OxyContin. What we are finally learning from the failed war on marijuana is that more harm is caused by marijuana's being illegal than is caused by marijuana itself.

Presidents need to be well-rounded

by Jim Tosone

Published in the Bergen Record January 14th

Regarding "Presidents should serve in the military" (Your Views, Jan. 7, 2016):

There are two problems with the proposal to require all presidential candidates to have served in the military.

First, it would require a constitutional amendment to change Article II, Section 1, which specifies the

requirements for the presidency. The probability of such an amendment passing: zero.

Second, the president has many other areas of responsibility. If we apply the same logic to those areas, we should require that the president have been a diplomat to oversee the State Department, a financier to oversee the Treasury Department, a businessperson to oversee the Department of Commerce, and about 11 other jobs to oversee the rest of the Cabinet-level departments.

Company moves for tax purposes

by Jim Tosone

Published in the Bergen Record December 1, 2015

Regarding "Pfizer-Allergan deal spurs political outcry" (Page L-7, Nov. 24, 2015):

The article failed to point out the real reason U.S. companies are relocating overseas. It is because the United States is the only country in the world that taxes its companies based on worldwide income, rather than on the income earned solely within its jurisdiction. If Congress changed the tax code to match what other countries do, these tax-driven relocations would end. And the cash that U.S. firms are holding overseas could then be brought back to invest and create jobs.

Sadly, to score political points, politicians would rather demonize companies for exercising their fiduciary responsibilities. Instead of addressing the problem they created, politicians are now planning to compound it by passing laws making it harder for companies to leave. Building such legal walls is a sure sign of policy failure.

Keeping retirees in New Jersey

by Jim Tosone

Published in the Bergen Record November 11, 2015

Regarding "How to make New Jersey more affordable for retirees" (Other Views, Nov. 4, 2015):

This column could just as well been headlined, "How to increase costs to New Jersey businesses and shift the tax burden to other New Jersey taxpayers."

Nowhere in the article do the authors mention any cuts in government spending, which is the only way to achieve their goal. Their plan may help more retirees to stay in New Jersey, but it will result in

more businesses and working taxpayers leaving. That will be a double hit on our chronically struggling state economy.

**From the NJ Libertarian News Archives,
February 1976: “LP Platform:
Addendum”**

Author unknown

The systematic crisis of statism in America is nowhere more evident than here in New Jersey.

Cancerous government, a collapsing economy, confiscatory taxation, and massive unemployment all lead to the conclusion that politics as usual, the politics of spend, spend, elect, elect (tax, tax) has failed. It is time to see solutions to social problems which remove the deadening hand of government control from our lives.

We propose to move forward on four broad fronts: the crisis of state spending, the crisis of local autonomy, the crisis of accountability, and the economic crisis.

First, total state spending in New Jersey has exploded by over 2,500% in 30 years: we call for a constitutional limit to state spending and a yearly reduction of the budget by at least 1% (our “One Percent for Freedom” program). State taxes on a per capita basis have soared by more than 250% in a decade (while per capita income was up only 97%). We call for a freeze on higher taxes with meaningful tax-rollback in 1976, including the repeal of the so-called “unearned” income tax.

Second, local communities are losing even the semblance of local autonomy: we call for a reversal of this trend by (1) repealing any legislation which

denies local citizens control of their schools, such as the “thorough & efficient” Education Act of 1975 as a step toward the abolition of government control of schools; (2) re-enacting and expanding the recently repealed provisions of N.J.S. 40A:9-165 that permitted local voters to challenge local government salary increases by referendum; and (3) repealing all state and regional land and sea use restrictions as a first step toward a free market in real property.

Third, that the governor and state legislature be held more directly and immediately accountable for their actions, especially in the areas of taxation and spending, by amending the state constitution to allow broad uses of the citizen powers of initiative, referendum, and recall.

Fourth, though the economic crisis is largely a creation of the federal government’s debasement of the dollar, New Jersey’s unsound policies have caused the depression to be more serious here than in other, less regulated state economies. We call for the repeal of victimless crime laws, of taxes and restrictions, of subsidies and monopolies – especially on trade and production – so that New Jersey becomes a center of liberty, a tax and free trade haven to attract an expanding commerce and production to improve the quality of life for all of us.

With steps such as these, it is possible to begin return control over our lives to all New Jerseyans during this bicentennial year. In 1776, New Jerseyans raised the banner of Liberty against the citadel of Power: we too stand ready to struggle as ceaselessly as they to regain the Liberty they won and lost.

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Editor, **Vacant**

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NJ Libertarian Party Convention Announcement

March 12, 2016 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Tavern on the Lake
101 N. Main Street
Hightstown, NJ 08520

The Party's Business Meeting will be held from 9:00 AM until Noon and will be open to all. Registration will be required for the afternoon events which will include lunch and guest speakers. Our convention package will also include coffee and refreshments that will be available all day. We have a top notch selection of speakers this year!

Registration for the Convention will be \$50 until March 8th. After March 8th (including at the convention), registration will be \$55.

Tentative Agenda:

- 8:30 – 9:00 Gather for Continental Breakfast
9:00 – Noon NJLP Business Meeting (all our welcome, only NJLP members may participate)
- Nomination of 2016 Candidates
 - Election of NJLP officers
 - Nomination of National Convention delegates
 - Discussion of NJLP Business
- Noon – 1:00 Luncheon
1:00 – 5:30 Speakers including:

John Vibes
Rick Short
John McAfee
Carla Howell
Ken Wolski, RN, MPA

Note that the morning business meeting is free. You do not need to register for the meeting. Full speaker biographies and online registration is at <http://njlp.org/convention>. Contact Email: convention@njlp.org



NJLP Convention Form

Check here to use address from mailing label on reverse

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email Contact: _____ Phone Contact: _____

Full Convention Package (\$55; \$50 if paid prior to March 8th) _____

Additional Donation: _____

Reserve your place by sending payment to: NJLP Convention, P.O. Box 56, Tennent, NJ 07763



New Jersey Libertarian Party

The **NJ Libertarian Party** needs your contributions, both money and time. Donations to the Federal Fund shall be used for support of our federal candidates. Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated.

All donations to the NJLP Federal Fund must meet the requirements for a State Political Party Committee. You must be a US citizen or a permanent resident alien. All donations to the federal fund must come from your personal funds.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Employer: _____

Occupation: _____

I wish to support the NJ Libertarian Party by donating to the NJLP Federal Fund. Enclosed is my contribution of:

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$10 Other: \$ _____

Make checks payable to "NJLP Federal Fund."

Send checks to: NJLP Treasurer

PO Box 56

Tennent, NJ 07763

NOTE: We respect your privacy and will keep the identity and amount of our supporters' donations confidential to the extent permitted by law. Individual annual contributions to State Party Committees like the NJLP Federal Fund are limited to \$2,100 per calendar year, and contributor information for donations over \$200 must be reported. We do not report contribution information for any donation unless required by law



New Jersey Libertarian Party

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