

Election Committee Report for December, 2021

Congratulations to all the winners from the general election! Write-in wins have been slowly trickling in over the last month. We are up to 157 wins (on ballot + write-in).

The election committee is preparing for even year candidate recruitment. We want to run as close to a full slate as possible for general assembly and state senate. To that end we sent a mailer out to all state and national party members encouraging them to run for office in 2022.

We need to prepare for even year statewide petitioning. Every election cycle we hope an all-volunteer drive will be sufficient. Every election cycle we need to scramble last minute with paid petitioning. It is the strong recommendation of the election committee that the board allocate sufficient funds to complete the lion's share of the 5,000 statewide signature requirement with paid petitioning. I suggest estimating \$3 per signature (which may be optimistic), which would be \$15,000. That paid petition drive should start ASAP (a week after the state convention – as soon as petitions can be prepared), not wait until the last minute. We should hard stop at 5,000 paid petition signatures (or less if we end of having to pay \$3.50 or \$4 per signature). 5,000 raw signatures won't meet a 5,000 valid signature requirement, but the volunteer drive will more than make up the difference. Paid petitioners would be sent to areas where they can help down ballot candidates, so counties are encouraged to nominate their legislative candidates as early as practical. I can't emphasize enough that this way of doing things will save us a lot of headaches. I do not have a motion to allocate \$15,000 yet; however, I want to make such a motion before our state convention and I want to alert our fundraising team to that budget priority.

In liberty,
Dr. Chuck Moulton