

Official By-Laws of the  
Cape May County Regular Republican Organization

I. NAME

The name of the organization shall be the “Cape May County Regular Republican Organization” herein referred to as the “organization.”

II. OBJECT

The object of this organization is to promote capable candidates seeking municipal, countywide, state and national office in all elections; and to recommend the endorsed candidates to the Republican Party and the electorate. It shall be the further object of this organization from time to time to take a stand on various issues and/or projects effecting Cape May County, the State of New Jersey and the United States.

III. MEMBERSHIP

The total membership of the organization shall be sixteen (16) members, one member from each municipality of the county; membership to change in number in the event of a change in the number of municipalities in the county. The voting membership shall hold a meeting of its elected committee men and women on or before seven (7) days following the primary election, at which time the municipality elects its representative in the Cape May County Republican Organization for that particular municipality. The county committee men and committee women shall sign a letter directed to the County Chairperson of this organization showing a majority of the county committee members as having elected a voting member and an alternative member in the organization.

Voting members in this organization shall be known as the “Republican Leader” of the municipality from which he or she was elected.

Every two years in June, following the primary election, leaders must be re-elected or succeeded by majority vote of the elected County Executive Committee in her or her particular municipality. In the event a leader becomes County Chairperson, committee members of his or her municipality shall meet within seven (7) days to elect a new leader.

In the event of an unresolved tie vote in any municipality, a vote of the remaining leaders in this organization shall determine who, if anyone, from that municipality shall be seated as a voting member until such time as a new leader is elected by the County Executive Committee of that municipality.

In the event that a vacancy occur in the membership of this organization due to sickness, death or resignation of a leader or for any other cause, the County Executive Committee for that municipality in which the vacancy occurs shall select a person to fill the un-expired term. Election shall occur within thirty (30) days of vacancy.

It shall be mandatory that each municipality select an alternate voting member in the event that a leader cannot attend a certain meeting or a leader is elected County Chairperson.

#### IV. OFFICERS

There shall be a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the organization. Each officer shall serve for a period of two (2) years. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee of Cape May County. The Recording Secretary shall poll the municipal leaders for the exact vote of their individual municipality. The meeting shall be held seven (7) days following the June primary election in which the County Committee Members are elected. The duly elected Chairperson of the Cape May County Executive Committee shall automatically become Chairperson of the Cape May County Regular Republican Organization, which other officers elected as described above. The Chairperson shall nominate a Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian with ratification by the voting members present.

The Chairperson shall also, at the biennial June reorganization meeting, appoint committees from among the leaders, to include By-Laws, Ways and Means and any other committees the Chairperson feels are for the good of the organization.

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the organization and, in her or her absence, the Vice Chairperson shall preside.

The Recording Secretary shall keep all records of meetings.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondences concerning the County Executive Committee.

The Treasurer shall record all monies of the organization and report same to the membership at all regular meetings.

The Parliamentarian shall be called on from time to time to interpret, update and/or inform the membership of the contents and integrity of this document.

## V. VOTING

In all routine matters and non-endorsement policy to be decided by the organization, the voting shall be by municipality, each leader having one (1) vote. A simple majority shall prevail.

The Chairperson or presiding officer shall have the right to vote in this organization in case of a tie.

## VI. ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES

### NOTICE

The organization shall call for a preference vote for any election, however such action may be taken only after five (5) days written notice to all leaders stating the time, place and purpose and setting forth the offices for which preference shall be made.

### LETTER OF INTENT

Candidates for county, state or federal offices seeking the preference vote of this organization shall file a letter of intention to seek an office, with BOTH the County Chairperson and their Municipal Leader, no later than February 15. The Chairperson shall give due public notice of said procedure no later than January 15.

### PREFERENCE OF CANDIDATES

All candidates seeking support of this organization, having filed all letters of intent, shall present themselves to a Republican forum presided over by the County Chairperson. On that occasion, the County Chairperson shall ask the leaders to cast a preference vote.

### SPECIAL ELECTIONS

The procedure used for the preference vote of candidates for a primary election shall also apply to candidates for special election. Date of letters of intent and preference vote meetings shall be scheduled by the Chairperson.

### SUPPORT OF CANDIDATES

The preference vote in support of candidates shall be by weighted actual vote per municipal county committee member. The Recording Secretary shall tally the vote. The tally of votes of all municipalities shall represent the preference vote for each office.

Candidates receiving the preference vote of this organization shall pledge in writing their total support for all municipal, county, state and federal candidates of this organization, within five (5) working days. If written pledge is not received within five (5) working days the preference selection of the candidate shall be considered null and void causing a new preference candidate to be selected.

Should a candidate receive the support of this organization, it is understood that he or she, in the event that their campaign costs exceeds the organization treasury, he or she shall be asked and he or she will be responsible by signing for a loan or notes incurred due to those campaign costs. This is in lieu of posting bonds or cash at the time of preference vote.

In addition to any action set forth above, and candidate seeking support of this organization who does not choose to abide by the majority rule, after a preference vote, shall forfeit his or her eligibility to receive any endorsement of campaign support of this organization for any elected or appointed position for two (2) years from the date said failure is determined by a simple majority of the leaders at a duly called meeting of this organization.

Any leader, candidate, elected official or member of the Republican Party who does not choose to abide by the preference vote shall be suspended and removed from the organization until after the primary or special election.

## VII. MEETINGS

The reorganization meeting will be held biennially seven (7) days after the primary election in which the County Committee Members are elected.

This organization shall hold a regular monthly meeting; date to be at the convenience of the membership. In addition, a meeting may be called at the discretion of the County Chairperson or at the request of five (5) voting members.

All leaders are required to attend meetings. Alternates may attend in place of leaders. Any leader who fails to attend, without excuse of the County Chairperson, three

consecutive meetings may be removed from the organization by majority vote of its membership.

In addition, any Republican elected state or Cape May County office holder, who prior to his or her election, received the preference vote of this organization is required to attend three (3) regular meetings a year for the expressed purpose of giving and gaining input from the Chairperson and leaders of this organization. It is important to maintain lines of communication between Republican municipal leaders and Republican officials.

A voting quorum shall consist of the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and one-half the voting membership.

Any Republican resident of Cape May County holding any of the following elected offices shall receive notice of all meetings of this organization and may attend and participate in meetings as ex-officio members without a vote. Any of the officials listed below, however may have a vote if he or she is an elected municipal leader as described in these by-laws:

U.S. Senator, U.S. Congressman, N.J. Senator, N.J. Assemblyman, Member of the Republican State Committee, Freeholders, Sheriff, County Clerk, Surrogate, Chairperson of the Young Republicans, President of the County Women's Republican Club, President of the County Men's Republican Club, V.P. of the County Republican Executive Committee.

#### VIII. PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the procedure of all meetings.

#### IX. AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of this organization called on then (10) days notice in writing, setting forth the time, place and suggested amendments. The by-laws shall be amended only in the event that the proposed amendment or amendments carries a two-thirds vote of the leaders.

#### X. MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS

These by-laws are not intended to replace a municipal organization's own by-laws. They may be used as a guide in forming a municipal organization's by-laws. No municipal organization shall create by-laws in conflict with this document.