

## State Central Committee Appeal Cover Sheet

The Committee requests that appellants fill out this cover sheet and submit it with any appeal. It includes a checklist of items required for a proper appeal by the Party Plan and the Committee's policy, as well as a list of additional factors to consider before filing an appeal.

Name and contact info of appellant:

Date of Appeal filing:

### Checklist (Party Plan Requirements)

1. Timeliness—Are you filing within 30 days of the decision from which you are appealing?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No—Your Appeal is Time Barred.
  
2. Petition Signatures—Is your appeal accompanied by a petition with at least 25 Party members of the unit or district affected (For mass meetings, party canvasses or conventions with fewer than 125 participants, the petition need only have the signatures of 20% of all participants)
  - a. Yes
  - b. No—Your Appeal has insufficient support to be considered.
  
3. Adverse Affect—Does your appeal state the way in which you are adversely affected by the decision from which you appeal?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No—You are not qualified to Appeal unless you are adversely affected.

*For example, "The Faraway County Republican Committee purchased an Elephant costume to be worn by a volunteer in the Labor Day parade for \$1,000 on January 1, 2019. The 12th Congressional District Committee's decision to change our unofficial symbol from an Elephant to a Humpback Whale will force the FCRC, which I chair, to spend an additional \$1,000 on a Humpback Whale Costume."*

### Checklist (State Central Committee Policy)

1. Specific—Does your appeal include a specific statement of the decision from which you are appealing? Describing a circumstance or set of facts is not sufficient. Appeals must be made from decisions.

*For example, "I appeal the 12th Congressional District Committee's decision on March 25, 2019, when it adopted the following motion: 'that the Humpback Whale replace the Elephant as the unofficial symbol of the Republican Party'"*

2. Remedy—Does your appeal include a specific statement of the remedy you seek? The Committee may craft a different remedy, but having your proposal would be helpful.

*For example, "I ask that the State Central Committee overturn the 12th Congressional District Committee's decision so that the Elephant will continue to be the unofficial symbol of the Republican Party."*

3. Grounds for Appeal—Does your appeal include sufficient reasons for the State Central Committee to overturn the decision of the Congressional District Committee?

*For example, "The District Committee ignored the fiscal implications of its policies on local committees."*

4. Record—Have you included all relevant material with your appeal? You should include the complete record with your appeal, including materials prepared by both sides for review by unit, legislative district, and/or congressional district committees, as well as any written decision reached by those committees. If you are appealing to the State Central Committee because a Congressional District Committee failed to render a decision in writing within the time prescribed by the Party Plan, you should clearly indicate so in the appeal.

The appeal and complete record should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the State Central Committee meeting. Any rebuttal material should be submitted at least one week prior.

#### Other Factors to Consider

1. Impact of Decision—If your appeal is granted, will it change anything. For example, if the 12th District Committee used the term "Humpback Whale", but you believe that it's full species name, "*Meagtera novaeangliae*" would be more appropriate, even if the word changed, the unofficial symbol will look the same. Is there any utility to pursuing the appeal?
2. Timing—If your appeal will not be considered until the next State Central Committee meeting, will the decision come in time to make a difference?
3. Clear Error—Was there a clear error? If the District Committee's decision was reasonable, but not the outcome you hoped for, does it warrant appeal to the State Central Committee. Where reasonable people can differ about the correct decision and no clear error was made, do you have a compelling case for the State Central Committee to overturn a District Committee decision?
4. Precedent—Have you considered how similar matters have been resolved in the past? Have you considered whether any rulings or interpretations by a General Counsel are relevant to the resolution of the dispute? If your position runs against the weight of precedent or the conclusions of a General Counsel opinion, the State Central Committee is unlikely to grant your appeal.
5. New Matters—Does your appeal include any new matters not addressed at earlier proceedings? If your appeal includes facts or arguments not available at the unit, legislative district, or congressional district committees, you should not bring it to the State Central Committee. You may request that the relevant committee reconsider its decision based on that additional information, but the State Central Committee will not likely take an appeal that present new questions. It provides an appeal of last resort and has no jurisdiction to hear new questions.
6. Attempts to resolve—Have you made all possible efforts to resolve the dispute without resort to an appeal? Accommodations reached by unit, legislative district, or congressional district committees are more likely to be mutually satisfactory and to resolve issues in a more timely fashion than an appeal to the State Central Committee. The parties to any disagreement should make every effort to resolve differences without resort to further appeal.