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| **Title:** | **Clark County Democrats Nonpartisan Candidate Support Policy** |
| **Adopted:** | **June 8, 2013 — Rev September 12, 2022** |
| **By:** | **Clark County Democratic Central Committee** |
| **Subject** | **Nonpartisan Candidate Support** |

It makes sense for the Democratic Party to support non-partisan candidates. This can be the case when the non-partisan candidate is a known Democrat and will be substantive if elected to office, or if the candidate is considered a good community citizen, would be beneficial in the office.

The Democratic Party will not "endorse" candidates in non-partisan races. Support may be given in the form of a recommendation to voters. Support might also include being listed as "Recommended" on social media and allowing the candidate to place campaign materials in the Democrats office. The amount of support given will be determined on an individual basis.

### A. General
1. The Chair of the Clark County Democrats (CCDCC) shall assemble an Endorsements and Recommendations Committee and from that Committee appoint a Chair.
2. The Endorsements and Recommendations Committee will research, interview and recommend candidates for elected office. The committee will try to have members from a wide geographic area of Clark County including from all LDs if possible.
3. Only candidates requesting support will be considered. That request will be considered as having been received by the candidate returning and answering a questionnaire sent by the Endorsements and Recommendations Committee.
4. More than one candidate for the same office may not be recommended. If the committee determines that two candidates are equally supportable, no recommendation will be given even if only one has requested support.

### B. Criteria for Support
1. The candidates will be required to complete the Candidate Support Questionnaire for Endorsements and Recommendations Committee review.
2. The Endorsements and Recommendations Committee will present a recommendation to the body at the next meeting following the closing of the candidate filing period. Approval of recommendation will require a vote of the body.
3. Candidates need not be present for the final vote.
4. The CCDCC may approve support by a simple majority vote of eligible voting members in attendance after other requirements are fulfilled. The voting members are defined in the CCDCC Bylaws Article VIII – Eligibility to Vote.

### C. Candidate Questionnaire
1. The Endorsements and Recommendations Committee shall prepare Candidate Questionnaires for each office as is deemed necessary.

2. The Candidate Questionnaire should incorporate basic questions based on Democratic values and specific questions based on the office or issue involved.

## D. Candidate Interviews
1. The Endorsements and Recommendations Committee will make all arrangements to interview all candidates who return and answer a Candidate Questionnaire.
2. Prior to the interview process, the Endorsements and Recommendations Chair shall communicate the anticipated process to the candidate. The process will be determined by the Endorsements and Recommendations Committee.

## E. CCDCC Candidate Support
1. Recommended candidates may use the Clark County Democrats name in any and all literature for the upcoming election cycle only (primary and general elections). They must use the term "Recommended" as opposed to "Endorsed".
2. Requests from "Recommended" candidates for PCO or other lists will be considered by the CCDCC Executive Board on an individual basis.
3. "Recommended" candidates' names and contact information may be posted on the CCDCC website. Candidate events may also be posted on the CCDCC website and/or announced in social media.
4. Monetary support from non-partisan candidates will be made on a case by case basis.
5. The CCDCC may publish "slates" or lists including recommended candidates as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board.

## F. CCDCC Final Recommend List (General Election)
To be responsible to Democratic voters, it is necessary for the CCDCC to be able to recommend candidates in all races whether a candidate has requested support or not. Due to the "top-two primary" regulations, it is possible that Democrats will want to support candidates who might not fully subscribe to all Democratic values but would be beneficial to the community if elected.

A full list of all races in the general election cycle will be prepared by the Endorsements and Recommendations Committee to cover races that have not previously been considered. In the event that no candidate in an election returns and answers a questionnaire, the Endorsements and Recommendations Committee may recommend a "Do Not Vote For" recommendation. This Final Recommend List is intended to aid in voter education rather than to provide party support. The committee will make determinations through whatever means deemed workable by the Endorsements and Recommendations Committee, but will not necessarily require questionnaires and interviews.

1. The Final Recommend List will be presented to the CCDCC body at the October meeting for approval.
2. The list will be considered as a whole unless requests are made in the meeting to discuss specific candidates separately.
3. The CCDCC will approve the list, and specific candidates, with a simple majority vote of eligible voters in attendance.

4. The CCDCC shall make the list available to voters through the website or upon request.