

Charter of the Democratic Party of Virginia Voter Protection Council

The Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) hereby establishes a Voter Protection Council. The Council is dedicated to protecting the rights of Virginians to vote and ensure that their votes are counted.

Article 1: Purpose

The DPVA Voter Protection Council has the following purposes:

- A. To establish within the DPVA a continuing voter protection function;
- B. To recruit and train volunteers for Virginia Democratic campaign voter protection efforts;
- C. To provide voter protection resources for national, state, and local Democratic campaigns;
- D. To coordinate voter protection efforts with the Democratic National Committee, and affiliate with the DNC's National Lawyers Council;
- E. To coordinate voter protection efforts with the DPVA Central Committee, Virginia Democratic Congressional District committees, and city and county Democratic Committees;
- F. To provide a resource to the DPVA entities involved in Voter Expansion efforts, including voter registration, voter education, and restoration of voting rights;
- G. To work with the DPVA State Party Legal Counsel in advancing voter protection concerns;
- H. To prepare training manuals and other guidance materials for voter protection efforts;
- I. To maintain within the DPVA voter protection resources, including guidance materials, volunteer lists, and incident tracking databases;
- J. To conduct training of voter protection volunteers, potentially including Continuing Legal Education-approved courses for attorneys;
- K. To work with federal, state, and local legislators to advance legislation that expands voter access and monitor and respond to legislation relating to voter protection issues;
- L. To work with federal, state, and local election agencies to advocate, monitor, and respond to regulations and guidance relating to voter protection issues;
- M. To share information about voter protection efforts with Democrats from neighboring and other states;

- N. To raise funds to support voter protection efforts and Democratic candidates;
- O. To support Democratic legal initiatives, including, for example, bipartisan redistricting and campaign finance reform;
- P. To participate in litigation efforts in support of voting rights; and
- Q. To otherwise advance expansion and protection of the right to vote and ensure that votes are counted.

II. Membership

- A. Membership in the DPVA Voter Protection Council shall be open to all Democrats who wish to support the organization's purposes.
- B. Members may be, but are not required to be, members of the Virginia Bar.
- C. Members may be asked to contribute voluntary dues.

III. Governance

- A. The DPVA Voter Protection Council shall be governed by an Executive Committee elected by its members. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the organization, one member representing each congressional district, at least one Democratic member of the Virginia General Assembly, two members who also serve on the DPVA Steering Committee, and additional at-large members. The Executive Committee shall represent the diversity of the Commonwealth.
- B. The Officers of the DPVA Voter Protection Council shall consist of a Chair (or Co-Chairs), one or more Vice Chairs as determined by the Executive Committee, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- C. The first Chair or Co-Chairs shall be appointed by the Chair of the Democratic Party and they shall select the additional officers, at large members, and General Assembly member(s). The DPVA Steering Committee shall select the Steering Committee members and the DPVA congressional district committees shall select the congressional district representatives. Thereafter the DPVA representatives and officers shall be elected by the membership in the year of the Governor's election and serve four year terms.
- D. The DPVA Voter Protection Council shall establish committees or task forces as it determines are appropriate.

IV. Amendments

This charter may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the DPVA Democratic Voter Protection Council.