



**Frequently Asked Questions  
Leon County Democratic Executive Committee (LCDEC)**

**What is the LCDEC?**

The LCDEC is the official representative body of registered Democrats in Leon County. It is the decision-making body that sets the party's overall direction and supports the candidacy of Democrats in local, state and national elections.

**What are LCDEC's priorities?**

In 2020, our priority is to mobilize Leon County Democrats to vote in the Primary and General elections to elect Democrats to local, state, and congressional offices and the White House.

**What is required of LCDEC members?**

Members are precinct leaders who help register voters and get out the vote in their precincts. Members are required to attend monthly meetings that are generally held at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th Monday of each month. We usually meet at City Hall, but are currently meeting on Zoom. At our meetings we make decisions on running the county party and often engage speakers on various topics.

**What else can LCDEC members do?**

- Participate in committees, caucuses, and clubs (see page 2 of this document)
- Call Democrats and Independents with voter information
- Share our message at issue forums, and commission and legislative meetings
- Serve as liaison to other kindred political clubs and organizations
- Fundraise
- When it is safe again, go door-to-door to register voters and provide election information

**Is there a membership fee for the LCDEC?**

No, membership is free.

**If my precinct already has a LCDEC member, can I still join?**

Even if your precinct has a representative on the DEC, there may be an opening. And, even if all committee person slots are filled in your precinct, you may be appointed as an At-Large member.

**How do I join?**

Please fill out the four forms at the Application link on this webpage.

The oath needs to be notarized; Credentials Chair Kathy McGuire can notarize it for you after watching you sign the form. She can also answer any questions you have as you fill out the forms, as well as help you with your precinct number and voter registration number. Contact her at 850-264-9558 or [kathyi.mcguire@gmail.com](mailto:kathyi.mcguire@gmail.com).

**Who should I contact for more information?**

Credentials Chair Kathy McGuire, 850-264-9558 or [kathyi.mcguire@gmail.com](mailto:kathyi.mcguire@gmail.com)

## **MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Precinct Committee persons.** Democrats can elect 1 committeeman and 1 committeewoman in each precinct; if there are more than 1,000 total registered voters (of all parties) in a precinct, they may elect 2 Democratic committeemen and 2 committeewomen. Most precincts have committee person slots open and waiting for you; Credentials Chair Kathy McGuire at [kathyi.mcguire@gmail.com](mailto:kathyi.mcguire@gmail.com) can tell you if there is an opening in your precinct. Terms last until the next United States Presidential election.

**At-Large members.** The DEC Chair is authorized to appoint At-Large members, subject to approval by the DEC. At-Large members have essentially the same responsibilities as precinct committee persons, but serve only until the next December after appointment. Bylaws allow as many At-Large members as 10% of all precinct committee person slots; for Leon, that means we can have up to 47 At-Large members now.

**Officers.** The DEC elects 5 officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary for a two-year term. In addition, it elects a State Committeeman and a State Committeewoman who serve four-year terms; with the Chair and Vice-Chair they represent our DEC at the State Party level.

**District Representatives.** Leon County precinct numbers reflect the 5 county commission districts. For example, all precincts that start with the number "1" are in County Commission District 1. Every year, when the DEC convenes as a whole to elect officers, the group also divides into 5 groups, one for each district. All members in each district elect a District Representative to serve on the Steering Committee to coordinate activities in the district and liaison with the precinct DEC members in the district.

**Steering Committee.** This group assists the Chair with planning and coordinating DEC activities. The Steering Committee includes the 5 elected officers, the Past Chair, the 2 State Committee Persons, the 5 District Representatives, and the 8 Chairs of the DEC Standing Committees.

**Committees.** Members are encouraged to participate in committees, and the chair of each sits on the Steering Committee. Our bylaws establish the following Standing Committees:

- Ways and Means- financial affairs and fundraising
- Credentials- membership
- Publicity- traditional and social media
- Elected Official Liaison- liaison with elected officials
- Party Organization- strengthen precincts and develop the political potential of all Democrats
- Diversity and Inclusion- broaden membership and explore issues pertaining to diversity and inclusion
- Young Democrats- work on issues of importance to young Democrats and work to get out the vote
- Constitution and Bylaws- address needed revisions to Leon County DEC constitution and bylaws

**Caucuses.** Democrats, whether or not they are members of the DEC, are encouraged to participate in caucuses. The caucuses hold local meetings and work on issues determined locally, but also network statewide. Our active caucuses are:

- Black Caucus
- Environmental Caucus
- Equality Caucus (LGBTQ+)

**Clubs.** Democrats, whether or not they are members of the DEC, are encouraged to participate in clubs. Many clubs offer an opportunity to socialize as well as learn and take action on issues. These Democratic clubs are active in Leon:

- Capital City Democratic Women's Club
- Democratic Club of North Florida
- Progressive Democrats' Club