



Precinct Delegate Overview

What is a Precinct?

The precinct is the smallest political unit in the country and all voters in a precinct vote at one location. The precinct is where elections are won and lost. It is your neighborhood; you know the people and what issues are most important to them.

What is a Precinct Delegate?

A precinct delegate (PD) is elected directly by the voters in each precinct and is elected to serve as a liaison between the Republican Party and voters in their neighborhood. PD's also represent their neighborhood at various Republican meetings throughout their two-year term and are the grass-roots activist that can help win elections.

Responsibilities of a Precinct Delegate:

PD's are responsible for helping the Party register people to vote, distribute literature, identify Republican supporters and ensure they vote on Election Day. PD's elect citizen members of the Ottawa County Republican Executive Committee and delegates to State Conventions.

These bodies are responsible for choosing leadership in the County, Congressional District, and State Parties. State Conventions select some Party nominees that appear on the General Election ballot in November. These are offices such as MI Supreme Court Justices, Lt.

Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and university and state education boards.

During Presidential election years, Congressional District and State Parties also elect delegates to the National Convention and Presidential Electors.

How to Become a Precinct Delegate:

A person wishing to become a Republican PD must be a registered voter in the precinct in which they are running. The candidate must fill out an "Affidavit of Identity" and turn it in to the Ottawa County Clerk's Office before 4pm on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Affidavits can be found at the Clerk's office, the Ottawa GOP Headquarters, or on our website. These affidavits need to be notarized before being turned in. Notary publics can be found at any local clerk's office and local banks. Once an affidavit is completed it needs to be turned in to the Ottawa County Clerk's Office—NOT Township Offices. This will put you on the ballot for the August 2018 Primary in your precinct with your name appearing under the heading "Candidate for County Convention Delegate." Only those voting in your precinct and voting on the Republican side of the ballot will be able to vote for you.

Benefits of Being a Precinct Delegate:

PD's have access to current and relevant Party, candidate and issue information and can help provide facts to help inform family, friends, co-workers, or church members. This is important as we need more educated voters. PD's have multiple opportunities to meet elected officials from County, State, and even Federal levels of government and will often find themselves helping on the campaign trail. PD's have more opportunities to join in parades, fairs, and other fun activities throughout their tenure. In addition, if anyone is ever interested in running for political office, being a PD is the best place to start to better understand the process.

Interested?

If you are interested in becoming a PD you can find a copy of the Precinct Delegate Affidavit of Identity on our website at www.ottawagop.org or contact us at 616-396-3791. PLEASE NOTE: It must be NOTARIZED before being turned in with the County Clerk.