



Bylaws of the Northwest Arkansas Local Chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America

Adopted yyyy-mm-dd; approved by the NPC yyyy-mm-dd

Article I. Name

1.1 Northwest Arkansas Democratic Socialists of America (hereinafter “NWA DSA” or the “Organization”) is a local chapter of the national organization Democratic Socialists of America. NWA DSA is a registered Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation and is federally recognized as a 501(c)(4), non-charitable and non-tax-exempt nonprofit.

Article II. Purpose

1.1 NWA DSA seeks to facilitate the transition to a truly democratic and socialist society, one in which the means/resources of production are democratically and socially controlled.

SECTION 2. “DEMOCRATIC”

2.1 Our conception of socialism is a profoundly democratic one. It is rooted in the belief that human beings should be free to develop to their fullest potential, that public policies should be determined not by wealth but by popular participation, and that individual liberties should be carefully safeguarded. It is committed to a freedom of speech that does not recoil from dissent, a freedom to organize, and a freedom of religion that acknowledges the rights of those for whom spiritual concerns are central.

SECTION 3. “SOCIALIST”

3.1 NWA DSA rejects capitalism, a brutal economic order enforced through violence, which is based solely on private profit, alienated labor, gross inequalities of wealth and power, brutality and violence in defense of the status quo, and discrimination based on religion, national origin, race, color, sex, gender, age, occupation, citizenship status, ability, class and socio-economic status, or sexual orientation. Our rejection of capitalism is local as well as national:



- We reject the exploitation of renters by landlords who have taken advantage of government contracts to accumulate wealth.
- We reject the transit systems that rely on donations of the capitalist class.
- We reject the betrayal of our neighbors to Immigration and Customs Enforcement through the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.
- Lastly, we reject economic inequality in our communities and suppression of labor organizing.

3.2 Our vision for a better NWA is based on popular control of resources and production, economic planning, equitable distribution, gender and racial equality, and non-oppressive relationships.

SECTION 4. THEORY OF CHANGE

4.1 We are socialists because we are developing a concrete strategy for achieving that vision. In the present, we are building a visible socialist presence within the broad democratic left. In the long run, we hope to build a majority movement capable of making democratic socialism a reality in the United States.

4.2 We believe that the working class, when organized and conscious of its collective power, is the agent of historical change. However, spontaneous resistance alone is insufficient to dismantle capitalism. Instead, we must build durable, democratic institutions and movements that challenge capitalist hegemony at all levels—economic, political, and cultural.

4.3 Our key strategies for change include 1) prefigurative politics to model socialist values within our organization, 2) political education to develop class consciousness, 3) varied and dynamic base-building strategies to create forms of dual power, 4) electoral and policy engagement to weaken capitalist control and to strengthen democratic means of governance, and 5) mass mobilization for direct action—such as labor organizing—to disrupt capitalist accumulation and demonstrate the power of collective struggle.

Article III. Membership

SECTION 1. DEFINITION

1.1 Members of NWA DSA will be those individuals in good standing with ~~national~~ **National** DSA and who reside ~~and/or work~~ in the **Greater** Northwest Arkansas Area. The area shall include all cities and unincorporated townships situated within Benton, **Boone, Carroll, Madison, Newton, and Washington** ~~Washington, Madison, Carroll, Boone, and Newton~~ Counties.



1.2 It will be the responsibility of members to approve policies and guidelines for the operation of the local chapter, to elect delegates to the national convention, to vote on matters related to national policy, and to make recommendations on issues and other matters to the National Political Committee of DSA. Only members in good standing for at least 30-days prior may vote on chapter business or for officers.

1.3 Individuals who are employed by and assume the position of a Law Enforcement Officer by any agency will not be considered for membership. Following the passage of the 2019 DSA National Convention Resolution #11 on 2 July, 2020 by the DSA NPC, this will include “an individual who is sworn, badged, and armable by the government to enforce the law, or a prison guard (whether employed by the government or a private company).” This membership shall violate the National DSA Resolution and render the individual not valid for membership to DSA and will not be associated with NWA DSA.

1.4 No person whose primary income (over 50% for at least ninety (90) days) comes from being a landlord, shall be allowed membership, and any member who becomes one shall be expelled. Members who collect rent from housemates, renting out the other half of a duplex, and members who are renting out their second home while under the primary income threshold shall be exempt from this ban.

1.5 All members of NWA DSA will be held to the utmost importance to the National DSA Code of Conduct. Any member found to be in violation of this will be held to the standards in these bylaws stated in the Removal of Members section.

SECTION 2. ASSOCIATES

2.1 Members of the public may interact with and participate in non-voting roles of NWA DSA and contribute to the chapter.

2.2 These individuals will be known as Associates and may stand side by side with NWA DSA in our struggle.

2.3 Associates may observe the General Meetings of the NWA DSA and express interest in our struggle and interest in joining DSA.

2.4 Associates cannot represent DSA or NWA DSA in any official capacity.

2.5 Associates can be invited to public electronic chats that are open to the public but do not contain member only information.

2.6 Associates may not run nor hold any office within NWA DSA or DSA unless they become a member in good standing with National DSA National and be a member of NWA DSA for at least 30 days prior.



SECTION 3. RESIGNATION

3.1 A member may resign from the Chapter to become an at-large member of DSA by written notice to the Chapter Secretary and National DSA. A member may resign from DSA by notifying the national office of DSA.

SECTION 4. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

4.1 A member may be subject to removal if they are found to be in substantial disagreement with the political principles or policies of national DSA National, or if they engage in undemocratic, disruptive, or harmful behavior that violates the Code of Conduct.

4.2 Initiating a Complaint:

4.2.1 Any NWA DSA member may submit a grievance or complaint regarding another member's conduct by filing a report through the chapter's Harassment and Grievance Officers (HGO(s) HGOs) via the NWA DSA Grievance Report Form or by contacting the HGO(s) HGOs at NWAdemsoc.HGO@gmail.com.

4.2.2 The HGO(s) HGOs will assess the complaint and determine whether it falls under the scope of the grievance process, in accordance with DSA's Unified Grievance Policy National Harassment Policy (Resolution 33) and the chapter's internal grievance procedures.

4.2.3 If the complaint is determined to warrant further review, the HGO(s) HGOs will conduct an investigation, consult relevant parties, and provide a report with recommendations to the NWA DSA Steering Committee Group.

4.3 Petition Option for Member Removal:

4.3.1 If at least 25% of active members sign a petition requesting a removal vote, the Steering Committee Group must bring the matter before the membership at the next General Meeting, even if the HGO(s) HGOs decline to recommend removal.

4.4 Final Steps for Removal:

4.4.1 If disciplinary action, including removal, is recommended by the HGO(s) HGOs or triggered by a member petition, the Steering Committee Group will set a date for a membership vote at a General Meeting. The member in question must receive:

- A copy of the written charges, and
- At least two weeks' notice before the meeting.



4.4.2 A two-thirds (2/3) vote of attending members at the General Meeting is required for expulsion.

4.5 Expulsion from NWA DSA is treated as a suspension by DSA National and must be forwarded up to the National Grievance Panel to begin the national expulsion process.

4.6 Decisions on expulsion by either the Chapter or National Organization may be appealed to the National Political Committee or to the National Convention.

4.7 A removed member may appeal their removal to the National Political Committee of DSA, in accordance with DSA's national guidelines.

SECTION 5. RECALL OF OFFICERS

5.1 The process for initiating a complaint against an officer follows the same grievance procedure outlined in Section 2: Removal of Members. Any grievances must be filed through the Harassment and Grievance Officers (HGO(s) HGOs), who will assess, investigate, and make recommendations in accordance with DSA's Unified Grievance Policy National Harassment Policy (Resolution 33) and chapter policies.

5.2 Petition Option for Officer Recall: If at least 25% of active members sign a petition requesting a recall vote, the Steering Committee Group must bring the matter before the membership at the next General Meeting, even if the HGO(s) HGOs decline to recommend removal.

5.3 Final Steps for Recall:

5.3.1 If removal is recommended by the HGO(s) HGOs or triggered by a member petition, the Steering Committee Group must schedule a Special Meeting or address the recall at the next General Meeting.

5.3.2 The officer in question must receive:

- A copy of the written charges, and
- At least two weeks' notice before the meeting.

5.3.3 A two-thirds vote of attending members at the meeting is required to remove the officer.

5.4 If an officer is removed, the Steering Committee Group will oversee a special election to fill the position as soon as possible.

SECTION 6. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION



6.1 Unless members indicate otherwise to the Steering Committee, all communication with members required in these bylaws, including meeting notices, may be sent electronically.

~~SECTION 7. LOCAL DUES~~

~~7.1 NWA DSA may establish a system of voluntary local dues for its members.~~

Article IV. Chapter Meetings

SECTION 1. GENERAL MEETINGS

1.1 A General Meeting is the operating legislative body of NWA DSA.

1.2 The General Meetings will set NWA DSA policy and work priorities. The NWA DSA Steering Committee Group will set the agenda for General Meetings.

1.3 General Meetings will be open to the public, and time will be allotted at the end of each General Meeting for comments and questions from participants.

1.4 NWA DSA will hold monthly General Meetings.

1.5 General Meetings will be scheduled by the Steering Committee Group and published via email (and/or any other channel of communication regularly used by NWA DSA) at least two weeks before the scheduled date.

1.6 General Meetings will be confirmed to have a Quorum by the Secretary or other officer holding rank at the meeting according to Article IV § 4(1) of the NWA DSA Bylaws.

SECTION 2. LOCAL CONVENTION CAUCUS MEETINGS

2.1 Every calendar year, NWA DSA may hold a Local Convention Caucus Meeting of no more than once per year and may decide to forfeit the meeting for a General Meeting.

2.2 A Local Convention Caucus Meeting will be decided by the sitting Steering Committee Group at a regular meeting of the Steering Committee Group or a valid Emergency Steering Committee Group Meeting voted for during a quorum met membership.

2.2.1 This vote will also include the location of the meeting, day of the meeting, and time of the meeting.

2.2.2 The meeting will include the creation of a Local Convention Caucus Committee to plan the Local Convention Caucus.



- A. Local Convention Caucus Committee members will be offered the spots by the Steering Committee Group.
- B. The Committee will remain active until the Local Convention Caucus is held.
- C. The Committee will have a minimum of three (3) standing members and a maximum of six (6) standing members.

2.2.3 The Local Convention Caucus Meeting will last no less than 3 hours and no more than 6 hours with 45 minutes pre and post meeting for setup and cleanup.

2.2.4 The Steering Committee Group will also vote on how to fund the Local Convention Caucus, whether through Chapter Funds or a special funding initiative.

- A. The Local Convention Caucus Committee will bring a vote to a General Meeting within thirty (30) 30 calendar days to approve an amendment to the yearly budget that will include the estimated cost.
- B. This meeting will also ask the General Meeting of members if they approve of using Chapter funds, if that is what was voted on, or if they disapprove and prefer a special funding initiative.

2.2.5 A Local Convention Caucus Meeting can be called no later than three (3) 3 months from the date of the Steering Committee Group meeting and no more than eight (8) 8 months from the date of the meeting.

2.3 The Local Convention Caucus Meeting will be open to the entire public.

2.3.1 Members of NWA DSA that are in good standing, and have been for at least thirty (30) days, will be allowed to vote on provisions at the Local Convention Caucus Meeting.

2.3.2 The Local Convention Caucus Meeting will allow members of NWA DSA to vote on the election of officers for the upcoming year and members will vote on the annual budget for the upcoming year.

2.3.3 The Local Convention Caucus Meeting will also be open to other groups outside of NWA DSA who would like to have a working relationship and conduct mutual aid with our chapter.

2.3.4 Those who do not meet the criteria will not be allowed to vote.

2.4 The Local Convention Caucus Committee will decide on what provisions that the Local Convention Caucus will have and what workshops will be available to members.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY MEETINGS



3.1 The Steering ~~Committee~~ ~~Group~~ may call an emergency meeting of NWA DSA on 24 hours' notice when an urgent and important matter requires deliberation.

SECTION 4. QUORUM

4.1 Meeting Quorum for any General Membership Meeting, or for a Local Convention will require 10 percent of the chapter members in good standing in attendance or, 100 members in good standing, whichever is lower. But not fewer than six members. All members in good standing must have been in good standing with NWA DSA for at least thirty (30) days prior to the vote.

4.2 If members are unable to attend a meeting (either virtually or in person), they can request to vote by proxy no later than 48 hours before the aforementioned meeting.

4.2.1 This request must be made in writing to the Steering Committee or through alternative means set out by the chapter.

4.2.2 The proxy must be a member in good standing and have been a member of NWA DSA for at least thirty (30) days prior to the vote.

4.2.3 A member may not be a proxy for more than two other members.

4.2.4 Proxy ballots and votes cast electronically shall count as attendance for the purpose of attaining quorum.

~~4.3 A quorum of three Members is required for General or Emergency Meetings to transact business. Once NWA DSA achieves a sustained increase in interest and participation, this number will be increased. An initial recommendation is 10% of all Members, but not fewer than five.~~

4.4 Quorum will be affirmed by the Secretary, ~~or Chair of Meeting~~, prior to any vote.

Article V. Chapter Officers: Powers and Duties

SECTION 1. OFFICERS AND TERMS

1.1 NWA DSA will have four permanent officers for each Term (each an "Officer"). These will be two ~~Co-Chairs~~ ~~Co-chairs~~, one Secretary, and one Treasurer. If a ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ resigns, the remaining ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ may act as a chair until a new ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ is elected.

1.2 Each officer must be a member of the Chapter and be current in their dues by thirty (30) days before the election and throughout the duration of their term.



1.3 The term of office for each Officer shall be one year (the “Term of Office”). The Term of Office will run from December to December or until their successors can be elected according to these Bylaws.

1.3.1 The General Chapter Membership may call for a referendum to change the Term of Office for officers.

A. The referendum will last for one (1) month and be shared widely with all chapter members.

B. The new Term of Office shall not exceed more than two (2) years and may not be less than one (1) year.

C. Once the referendum has been completed, any new Terms of Office will take effect after the next officer election.

D. The referendum will go into effect and the bylaws will be automatically changed to reflect this.

1.4 No more than three Officers may share the same racial and gender identity.

~~1.5 One Officer will be appointed Grievance Officer for NWA DSA. This role may be assigned to one or more full Members (approved by majority vote) for the rest of the Term of Office.~~

1.6 Once NWA DSA has the necessary interest and participation, a Chair of Communications and/or a Chair of Education will be elected to serve as Officer(s) for the rest of the Term of Office. This will follow the standard Nominations process.

1.7 If the role of ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ becomes vacant, NWA DSA will elect a new ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ as soon as is reasonably possible. If the both roles of ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ become vacant, the Secretary will assume the office of chair until NWA DSA can elect replacements. NWA DSA may elect a replacement Officer by majority vote, without the regular Nominations requirements.

1.8 If the role of Secretary or Treasurer becomes vacant, the Steering ~~Committee~~ ~~Group~~ will appoint (by majority vote) a replacement for the remainder of the Term of Office.

1.9 Officers may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

1.9.1 Officers must have one term of no positions to be eligible to run for office again.

A. If an officer served two terms as a permanent officer, they may serve one (1) term as Chair of Communications ~~or~~ Chair of Education, ~~or Harassment and Grievance Officer.~~



- a. This term will not count towards the term off of positions for eligibility.
- b. The member must still continue with a term of office away from elected positions to maintain eligibility.

1.9.2 If there is decreased interest in officer elections, a vote may be called at a monthly General Meeting to allow a permanent officer to run for a third term if deemed necessary.

A. If an officer is voted to continue into a third term, they will not be eligible to run for any permanent officer position nor Chair of Communications **or** Chair of Education, ~~or Harassment and Grievance Officer~~ for one term after the end of their third term.

1.9.3 To these subsections, a member cannot serve more than three (3) consecutive terms under any circumstance.

1.9.4 If an officer is voted on by the general chapter members to serve a third term, an internal campaign must be created within six (6) months to push for more membership interest in officer positions, including training for officer positions and observations of **open** Steering **Committee** ~~Group~~ meetings if needed.

1.10 Once new officers are elected, NWA DSA will report the new leadership to DSA National through the officer update form

SECTION 2. CO-CHAIR

2.1 The **Co-Chairs** ~~Co-chairs~~ will be joint chief executive officers of NWA DSA.

2.2 The **Co-Chair(s)** ~~Co-chair(s)~~ will preside over NWA DSA and Steering **Committee** ~~Group~~ meetings (or will appoint a substitute).

2.3 The **Co-Chair(s)** ~~Co-chair(s)~~ will be the official public spokesperson(s) for NWA DSA.

2.4 The **Co-Chair(s)** ~~Co-chair(s)~~ will initiate such actions and policies as NWA DSA's general welfare may demand.

2.5 The Co-Chair(s) shall be responsible for coordinating the day-to-day operations and political work of NWA DSA's branches, committees, and working groups, and coordinating the fulfillment of policies and practices required by DSA National and by law.

2.6 The Co-Chair(s) shall have the ability to veto any decision if deemed by that Co-Chair that the decision is detrimental to the survival of the organization.



2.6.1 This veto may be overturned by a majority in a regular or emergency meeting of the NWA DSA Steering Committee or;

2.6.2 Be vetoed by a two-thirds majority of votes by voting members in good standing during a General, Emergency, or Convention meeting.

2.7 Co-Chairs should regularly seek public input from the general membership on the running of meetings and implement the feedback if practical.

2.8 The Co-Chairs shall have responsibility for overall direction and management of the organization, and shall interpret the National DSA Constitution and both National and Local Bylaws, subject to appeal by the Steering Committee.

SECTION 3. SECRETARY

3.1 The Secretary will be responsible for maintaining an up-to-date membership list of NWA DSA.

3.2 The Secretary will be responsible for the taking of minutes of all NWA DSA ~~Caucus and General~~ Meetings.

3.3 The Secretary will maintain custody of the minutes, along with any resolutions, reports and other official records of NWA DSA (including member lists). The Secretary shall transfer these official records in good condition to their successor.

3.4 The Secretary will temporarily assume the responsibilities of the ~~Co-Chairs~~ ~~Co-chairs~~, if no ~~Co-Chair~~ ~~Co-chair~~ is able to do so.

3.5 The Secretary shall ensure effective communication with DSA National, including reports from the chapter to the national organization, and circulation of national communications to chapter officers and to branches, committees, and working groups when relevant to their work.

3.6 The Secretary shall be responsible for providing chapter meeting minutes to DSA National.

3.7 The Secretary is also responsible for transmitting and certifying elections and appointments to state and national bodies on behalf of NWA DSA, such as delegates to National Convention.

3.7.1 If the Secretary is a nominee on the ballot, the duties to certify and transmit the elections and appoints will then fall unto the NWA DSA Co-Chairs or Treasurer.

SECTION 4. TREASURER



- 4.1 The Treasurer will be responsible for the funds and financial records of NWA DSA.
- 4.2 The Treasurer will prepare and deliver a chapter financial report to the General Meeting of NWA DSA, as well as periodic progress reports as requested by the Steering Committee Group.
- 4.3 All funds collected by NWA DSA will be turned over to the Treasurer, who will deposit them in a bank account under the name of NWA DSA.
- 4.4 In cooperation with the Secretary, the Treasurer will be responsible for ensuring that membership dues are paid up-to-date.
- 4.5 The Treasurer will be responsible for any reporting to state and national government agencies required for NWA DSA to continue to operate as an independent business entity.
- 4.6 The Treasurer will follow all policies and procedures set forth by the NWA DSA *Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual*.
- 4.7 The Treasurer shall ensure that the NWA DSA finances reflect well and will follow all recommendations by DSA National to stay legally compliant.

SECTION 5. CHAIR OF EDUCATION

- 5.1 When feasible, NWA DSA will elect a Chair of Education.
- 5.2 The Chair of Education will be a member of the Steering Committee Group and will be the chief executive officer of the Education Committee of NWA DSA.
- 5.3 The Chair of Education will preside over Education Committee meetings (or will delegate this responsibility).
- 5.4 The Chair of Education will be responsible for coordinating political education material with the national DSA National and for coordinating and implementing all internal educational programs for the local leadership.

SECTION 6. CHAIR OF COMMUNICATIONS

- 6.1 When feasible, NWA DSA will elect a Chair of Communications.
- 6.2 The Chair of Communications will be a member of the Steering Committee Group and will be the chief executive officer of the Communications Committee of NWA DSA.
- 6.3 The Chair of Communications will preside over Communications Committee meetings (or will delegate this responsibility).



6.4 The Chair of Communications will be responsible for coordinating responses to all correspondence of the local chapter and will ensure effective communication with the national DSA National.

SECTION 7. ELECTORAL CHAIR

7.1 When feasible, NWA DSA will elect an Electoral Chair.

7.2 The Electoral Chair will be a member of the Steering Committee and will be the chief executive officer of the Electoral Committee of NWA DSA.

7.3 The Electoral Chair will preside over Electoral Committee meetings (or will delegate this responsibility).

7.4 The Electoral Chair will be responsible for coordinating electoral propositions, creation of sub-committees for the advancement of electoral politics.

SECTION 8. ADDITIONAL DUTIES

8.1 The NWA DSA Steering Committee may assign additional temporary duties to an officer, so long as such assignments do not conflict with the designation of responsibilities outlined in these bylaws.

SECTION 9. RESIGNATION

9.1 Any officer of NWA DSA may electronically or physically submit their resignation to either the Steering Committee or Chapter Meeting.

9.2 Upon resignation, the Steering Committee shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term either by scheduling an election no less than thirty (30) days away from a meeting or by appointment via simple majority vote of the Steering Committee.

SECTION 10. SUSPENSION

10.1 Any officer of the Chapter may be temporarily suspended for thirty (30) days at a general membership meeting.

10.2 Any member may motion to suspend and shall state with particularity the acts of malfeasance, nonfeasance, gross negligence, or undemocratic or uncomradely behavior comprising the grounds for removal and must be seconded.

10.3 The Chapter Meeting may adopt such a motion by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.



SECTION 11. ESTABLISHING NEW OFFICERS

11.1 In the event of the addition of a new Officer position via bylaw amendment, the Steering Committee shall call for a special election to fill the unexpired term.

11.2 Such election shall be held at the second general member body meeting after the passage of the bylaw amendment.

SECTION 12. GRIEVANCE OFFICERS

12.1 ~~Grievance Officers responsible for handling formal complaints of harassment or other prohibited behavior, to serve for the remainder of the Term of Office.~~

12.2 ~~Each Grievance Officer will act independent of the Steering Committee Group and in accordance with DSA's Harassment Policy (Resolution 33), as may be amended by national DSA from time to time.~~

Article VI. Appointed Positions

SECTION 1. RULES FOR APPOINTEE

1.1 All of the following positions shall be appointed by the Steering Committee of the NWA DSA during a regular or emergency meeting by majority vote.

1.1.1 Any appointee may be dismissed at anytime for any reason by a majority vote of the NWA DSA Steering Committee during a regular or emergency meeting.

1.2 The NWA DSA Steering Committee may ask for recommendations and volunteers prior to appointing a member.

1.3 The appointed members are subject to the rules laid forth in these bylaws as pertaining to any vote for removal by the general membership and are subject to all grievances and corrective actions taken by the local Steering Committee and DSA National.

1.4 The appointee shall not be appointed to more than one appointed position.

1.5 Appointees may sit in Steering Committee meetings at their own discretion and when requested.

1.5.1 Appointees shall not have a vote on the NWA DSA Steering Committee but may vote as a member of the general membership during regular, emergency, and convention voting.



SECTION 2. HARASSMENT AND GRIEVANCE OFFICERS

2.1 Harassment and Grievance Officers responsible for handling formal complaints of harassment or other prohibited behavior, to serve for the remainder of the Term of Office.

2.2 Each Harassment and Grievance Officer will act independent of the Steering Committee and in accordance with DSA's Unified Grievance Policy, as may be amended by DSA National from time to time.

SECTION 3. IT SECURITY LEAD

3.1 The IT Security Lead shall keep the chapter and Steering Committee up-to-date on digital and cybersecurity threats.

3.1.1 This includes, but not limited to, attending trainings hosted by DSA National.

3.1.2 Learning from educational material about cybersecurity and best practices for securing digital information.

3.2 The IT Security Lead shall develop best practices and recommendations on software, physical technology, cybersecurity concerns and decisions.

3.3 The IT Security Lead will assist in the transition between Steering Committees and help to ensure prompt access to all digital platform securely and remove positions of the outgoing members.

3.4 The IT Security Lead will maintain chapter electronic devices and chapter password both digitally and physically.

3.4.1 One or both of the Co-Chairs for the NWA DSA will maintain the same admin access as the IT Security Lead during the tenure of the appointee.

3.5 The IT Security Lead may create and maintain a Technology Committee when the work is deemed necessary by the Lead to need additional help.

SECTION 4. MEMBER ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

4.1 The Member Engagement Coordinator (MEC) will be the head of the Member Engagement Committee.

4.2 The MEC will act as the lead for all committee decisions and chair all committee meetings, unless another member is authorized to chair by either the Steering Committee or the MEC.



4.3 The MEC will ensure that proper protocols are taken to introduce new members in NWA DSA.

4.4 The MEC will set the duties for the committee and ensure the documents that committee members herald to are created for the advancement of NWA DSA.

4.4.1 The MEC will create these documents themselves, where the documents may be vetoed by a simply majority vote of the NWA DSA Steering Committee where the MEC will then be instructed to re-write the document.

4.5 The MEC shall be responsible for the overall health and growth of the NWA DSA membership by coordinating the outreach, recruitment, and engagement activities of the Chapter.

4.6 The MEC shall oversee initiatives concerning membership growth, retention, engagement, participation, and leadership development.

4.7 The MEC shall organize their activities to be inclusive, culturally competent, and non-oppressive to marginalized groups.

4.8 Special attention shall be devoted to the recruitment of members from marginalized groups.

SECTION 5. RED RABBITS COMMISSAR

5.1 The Red Rabbits Commissar (Commissar) shall be the commanding person over the Red Rabbits Security Committee.

5.2 The Commissar will organize the Red Rabbit Security Committee as seen fit to ensure proper protocol is taken for the safety of NWA DSA, members, and the community.

5.3 The Commissar will have the duty to set Standard Operating Protocols, Codes of Conduct for members of the Red Rabbits Security Committee, and ensure that members of the Committee are trained.

5.4 The Commissar will oversee all events, or assign another member in lieu of attendance, and report back to the Steering Committee.

5.5 The Commissar will be the highest ranking Marshal and issue commands to the Committee members to follow.

5.6 The Commissar will be trained in deescalation, unarmed community defense, marshaling, firearm awareness and safety in the presence of, and first aid.



5.7 The Commissar will host and co-host training on deescalation, community defense, marshaling, firearm awareness and safety in the presence of, and first aid.

5.8 Reports from Committee members will pass through the office of the Commissar and be presented to the Steering Committee.

5.9 The Commissar will have the duty to promote and demote members of the Committee as necessary to ensure that the Committee commits itself to the NWA DSA.

5.10 The Commissar will work with members of the Committee and the Steering Group to create safety plans that are to be put in place during events and meetings.

Article VII. Steering Committee Group

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION

1.1 The Steering Committee Group will be composed of the Officers, Volunteer Members, and Chairs (defined below).

1.2 Volunteer Members may join and share the responsibilities of the Steering Committee Group until the end of the then-current Steering Committee Group Term. Volunteer Members need to be approved by majority vote of a General Meeting.

1.3 An Ad Hoc Chairs (a "Chair") may be appointed by a majority vote of any meeting a General Meeting to join the Steering Committee Group (like a Volunteer Member) and oversee a limited project and its related activities. The Chair may form an Ad Hoc Committee (according to Ad Hoc Committee bylaws in Article VII).

SECTION 2. DUTIES

2.1 The Steering Committee Group is the regular executive body of NWA DSA, and is thus subject to legislative action by Member votes at General meetings.

2.2 The Steering Committee Group administers the affairs of NWA DSA and oversees implementation of the decisions that result from all General and Caucus meetings. This may include proposing policy to the General and Emergency Meetings and acting on NWA DSA's behalf in between Local Convention Caucus Meetings.

2.3 The Steering Committee Group will have the power to receive reports from any NWA DSA Committee and advise thereon.



2.4 The Steering Committee Group will have the power to call Emergency Meetings emergency meetings of NWA DSA and to act (based on majority vote) on any matter that requires immediate and urgent action.

2.5 Only a limited number of Steering Committee responsibilities are permanently assigned to each Officer based on their role. All other Steering Committee responsibilities can be shared with, and delegated to, Volunteer Members.

SECTION 3. STEERING COMMITTEE GROUP MEETINGS

3.1 Steering Committee Group meetings will be held at the call of a Co-Chair Co-chair at such intervals as may be determined by a prior Steering Committee Group meeting or, when not feasible, by mutual agreement between at least four (4) members of the Steering Committee Group.

3.2 All members of the Steering Committee Group must (ordinarily) be given at least seven (7) days' oral or written notice of regular Steering Committee Group meetings. A 24-hour notice may be given under special emergency circumstances.

3.3 Meetings of the Steering Committee Group will be open to all full members and time will be allotted at the end of each Steering Committee Group meeting for comments and questions. However, the Steering Committee Group may call a closed meeting under special emergency circumstances.

3.4 In operating Steering Committee Group meetings, members will seek consensus building in every decision, even if a consensus is ultimately unattainable.

SECTION 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1 For the purposes of meeting the requirements of local and state incorporation laws, the NWA DSA shall have a "Board of Directors" consisting of the permanent members of the Steering Committee assigned for the purpose as logical and required by law.

SECTION 5. QUORUM

5.1 A quorum of three (3) Steering Committee Group members is required for the transaction of Steering Committee Group business.

Article VIII. Branches

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION



1.1 A branch is a subgroup of NWA DSA consisting of at least five (5) members in good standing with DSA National. Branches may be defined by city, county, and geographical lines.

1.2 The Chairs of branches shall report to the NWA DSA Steering Committee. Branches must be approved by a General or Emergency Meeting.

1.3 Branches are to develop their own relevant bylaws prior to approval to be reviewed by the NWA DSA Steering Committee.

1.3.1 Approval of the bylaws must take place during a regular or emergency meeting of the NWA DSA Steering Committee.

1.3.2 The approval must be by simple majority vote and follow all applicable quorum rules as defined in these bylaws.

SECTION 2. OFFICERS-STEERING COMMITTEE

2.1 Officers within the development of a branch will be defined by the bylaws within that branch and thus be called the Steering Committee of that branch.

2.1.1 Officers MUST include the following positions: two (2) Co-Chairs, a Secretary

2.1.2 Officers MAY include the following positions when permitted: Chair of Education, Chair of Communications, Electoral Chair, Harassment and Grievance Officers.

2.2 Officers within a branch will be elected by the members of the branch and will be subject to any of the recalls held by these chapter bylaws.

2.3 The NWA DSA Steering Committee has the power to override the vote of a branch Steering Committee by majority vote during a regular or emergency meeting of the NWA DSA Steering Committee.

SECTION 3. SUPREMACY CLAUSE

3.1 Any branch's bylaws may be overridden by these NWA DSA chapter-wide bylaws if any of the branch bylaws are determined to conflict with these bylaws by way of a majority vote of the NWA DSA Steering Committee during a regular or emergency meeting. There is no vote to override this and must be followed by the branch and branch members.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 The membership of any DSA member in good standing in the running of the day-to-day operations shall be maintained by the branch Secretary.



4.2 All branch members will be subject to any of the membership details provided in the NWA DSA bylaws.

SECTION 5. DISSOLUTION

5.1 A motion to dissolve a Branch must be made by written resolution, endorsed by five (5) members in good standing who have been members of NWA DSA for at least thirty (30) days prior.

5.2 The general membership meeting may dissolve a Branch under this article by a simple majority vote.

Article IX. Committees

SECTION 1. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1.1 NWA DSA will have a permanent Communications Committee. The Chair of Communications will serve as an officer of the Local and will be elected during the General Meeting. The term of office will be set by the standard term of office for all officers one year, and shall run from January 1st to December 31st ~~November to October~~ or until their successors are elected. ~~See Article V, Section 1.~~

1.2 The Communications Committee will be responsible for establishing and coordinating internal communications protocols for NWA DSA.

1.3 The Communications Committee will be responsible for developing and implementing a social media strategy for NWA DSA, and for maintaining all social media accounts. The Committee will also be responsible for all public relations for NWA DSA.

1.4 The Communications Committee will develop messaging strategies for NWA DSA in coordination with the Education Committee.

1.5 The Local Steering Committee Group may assign additional temporary duties to the Communications Committee, so long as such assignments do not conflict with the designation of responsibilities outlined in these Bylaws.

SECTION 2. EDUCATION COMMITTEE



2.1 NWA DSA will have a permanent Education Committee. The Chair of Education will serve as an officer of the Local and will be elected during the General Meeting. The term of office will be set by the standard term of office for all officers one year, and shall run from January 1st to December 31st June 1 to May 31 or until their successors are elected. See Article V, Section 1.

2.2 The Education Committee will be responsible for developing all internal political education programs for the leadership of NWA DSA, and for implementing political education programs for the membership of NWA DSA.

2.3 The Education Committee will be responsible for organizing an ongoing reading group for NWA DSA, and will be responsible for coordinating any additional committee-specific reading group(s) with the chair(s) of any Ad Hoc Committee(s) ad hoc committee(s).

2.4 The Education Committee will develop messaging strategies for NWA DSA in coordination with the Communications Committee.

2.5 The Local Steering Committee Group may assign additional temporary duties to the Education Committee, so long as such assignments do not conflict with the designation of responsibilities outlined in these Bylaws.

SECTION 3. ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

3.1 The Electoral Committee operates under the guise that we must lead struggles for reforms, while still acknowledging that reform offers no path out of capitalism, and achieving elected office can provide socialists with a megaphone to distribute our message even more widely, allowing us to point out the limitations of capitalism to audiences who may otherwise have never encountered this perspective before.

3.2 The Electoral Committee shall have a scope equal to but not limited to the following:

3.2.1 Conduct regional outreach, coalition building, and electoral impact.

3.2.2 Advise candidates campaigns in strategies that are proven to help elect Socialist candidates.

3.2.3 Canvass for candidates.

3.2.4 Establish an identity that is distinct, acting as an independent organization in local politics both city and county.



3.2.5 Act as a delegate to the chapter, NOT as a representative, in the area of endorsements. It shall be the duty of the Electoral Chair to report to general membership meetings in their “report of committees” on the decision on yes or no on endorsement of a prospective candidate for NWA DSA.

3.3 The Electoral Committee shall maintain an Endorsement Process as set forth in these bylaws.

3.3.1 Candidates seeking NWA DSA endorsement have until January 16th, of a new year to submit a petition to NWAdemsoc@gmail.com, signed by:

A. 3% of NWA members in good standing if the campaign is below state level office (ex: Fayetteville City Council, Washington County Quorum Court).

B. 5% of NWA members in good standing if the campaign is at or above state level office (ex: AR State Assembly).

a. Signatures must be collected by any number of NWADSA members in good standing (including the candidate) not formally involved in or employed by the campaign and cannot be collected while official DSA business is happening (ex: no collection during General Meeting, Committee Meetings, Working Group Meetings – excluding pre and post meeting socials). Petitions must include a checkbox with the following language: “I commit to contributing an average of 1 hour a week to this campaign or at least 5 hours per month to chapter-endorsed campaigns.

3.4 The Electoral Committee shall maintain criteria and processes for the identification and endorsements of political candidates by NWA DSA as set forth in these bylaws.

3.4.1 The Electoral Committee along with general membership will form a list of questions for a candidate survey asking questions that are a mixture of both candidate decision making on policy and practical questions.

3.4.2 After completion, present Q&A as a first step in the candidate endorsement process.

A. The Electoral Committee shall not make a recommendation opinion on the candidate to prevent bureaucratic pressure on membership decision making.

B. After completion of survey by the candidate, the Electoral Chair shall report to the chapter for immediate consideration.

C. During the first general meeting or special meeting after consideration, the chapter may have breakout groups, if allowed by the meeting chairperson, to discuss what kinds of questions we would want to ask candidates, where each breakout group will have a notetaker that will write the questions down.



a. A member of each breakout group shall speak and list the top 3 questions in their group that they were interested in. Notes taken up and condensed into a list of questions by the Electoral Committee.

D. The second general meeting or special meeting after consideration shall be a sign-in for voting limited to members in good standing. Candidates shall speak and introduce themselves and their goals. The Electoral Committee will ask a selection of the questions that were collected during the last meeting. After introduction and formal Q&A, everyone shall have the opportunity to ask the candidates questions directly as time permits.

E. Breakout groups may again be utilized, if allowed by the meeting chairperson, and discuss their thoughts on the candidates. There will be a period for members to speak at the mic if they are for endorsing or against endorsing and why as following the process of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

F. An endorsement threshold of 60% of members in good standing shall be used to confirm the vote in a general or special meeting.

SECTION 4. MEMBER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

4.1 The Member Engagement Committee shall be overseen by the Member Engagement Coordinator.

4.2 All actions taken by the Member Engagement Committee will be subject to change based on the change of DSA politics and by order of the NWA DSA Steering Committee

4.3 The theory of change behind this committee is that it will grow the chapter, improve engagement within the chapter, and will increase efficiency within the chapter regarding improved interaction and capacity.

4.4 The Member Engagement Committee shall host office hours when plausible and will help new members gain interests and experience within chapter volunteer positions.

4.5 The Member Engagement Committee will have the following duties:

4.5.1 On-boarding and orienting new members.

4.5.2 Engaging and building rapport with general membership regularly, so as to improve their integration and engagement with the chapter.

4.6 Working with other chapter committees and bodies to coordinate and find members volunteer opportunities that they can participate in for the chapter.

SECTION 5. RED RABBITS SECURITY COMMITTEE



- 5.1 The Red Rabbits Security Committee (RRSC) shall be led by the Red Rabbits Commissar.
- 5.2 The RRSC will be a Committee that runs independent of the general membership to ensure that security and political integrity is held among the membership.
- 5.3 The RRSC will train in deescalation, unarmed community defense, marshaling, firearm awareness and safety in the presence of, and first aid.
 - 5.3.1 These trainings will be hosted by members of the DSA National Red Rabbits Security Commission, RRSC officers, and outside resources.
 - 5.3.2 In-house trainings will be hosted by the Commissar and other officers of the RRSC.
 - 5.3.3 First aid training will consist of the Stop the Bleed training and other trainings to help with community first aid.
- 5.4 RRSC will provide marshaling and street medics for all NWA DSA events and work closely with other marshals and street medics in tandem when attending large events with multiple organizations.
- 5.5 RRSC will be the NWA DSA point of contact for law enforcement and other government sanctioned security forces when providing marshals and street medics to events.
- 5.6 RRSC will operate as a non-violent committee that focuses on deescalation tactics and ensure the safety of all members and others in the community when confronted with such actions.
- 5.7 The RRSC will be in-charge of security and safety at NWA DSA events.
 - 5.7.1 Including, but not limited to:
 - 5.7.2 Requesting attendees to leave if a disruption occurs by said attendee and escorting them from the meeting and/or property.
 - 5.7.3 Asking members for membership cards or confirming their membership with the Secretary or assigned membership taker.
 - 5.7.4 Ensuring that outside individuals are not attempting political unrest within the NWA DSA.
 - 5.7.5 Asking members who have been expelled from NWA DSA or DSA National to leave events and escort them from the event.



5.8 The Red Rabbits Commissar will compile and write all Standard Operating Procedures, Code of Conducts, and other internal governing documents for the RRSC.

5.9 The RRSC will conduct itself with the following member titles:

5.9.1 Red Rabbits Commissar, also known as Commissar.

A. Head of the RRSC and only to be overruled by the NWA DSA Steering Committee.

5.9.2 Red Rabbits Vice-Commissar, also known as Vice-Commissar.

A. Second-in-charge of the RRSC and will answer to the Commissar and the NWA DSA Steering Committee.

B. Appointed by the Commissar.

5.9.3 Captain, can also be referred to as Section Captain.

A. This title may hold either as command of a branch Section of RRSC or as an officer in the RRSC.

B. Appointed by the Commissar or Vice-Commissar.

5.9.4 Field Organizer.

A. The Field Organizer will work as leaders with up to four (4) Cadre in their Field Team.

B. Appointed by the Commissar, Vice-Commissar, or a Captain/Section Captain.

5.9.5 Cadre.

A. A Cadre is a member of the RRSC that is of the rank and file for marshaling and other roles defined within these bylaws.

B. Must be approved by the Commissar, Vice-Commissar, or a Captain/Section Captain before joining the RRSC.

5.10 The RRSC will be made up of the following groups of members:

5.10.1 Commissariat.

A. The Commissariat consists of the Commissar and Vice-Commissar.

B. The Commissariat is the highest authority within the RRSC.



C. The Commissariat may include Secretaries within their roles to help with documentation when either the Commissar or Vice-Commissar deem it necessary.

5.10.2 Section.

A. A Section will be made up of the group of RRSC members who reside within a specific county or branch of the NWA DSA.

B. Sections will be managed by Captains of the RRSC and will have first choice for marshaling events within their section.

5.10.3 Field Team.

A. Field Teams are groups of Cadres, no more than four (4) Cadres per Field Team.

B. Each Field Team will be organized by a Field Organizer and fall under the actions given by their Field Organizer.

5.11 The RRSC will not participate in violent encounters and shall not carry any lethal weapons, even when such weapons are legal by state/federal law.

5.12 The primary goal of the RRSC will be to keep safety and order among individuals participating in NWA DSA events and meetings through deescalation tactics and nonviolent means.

5.13 The RRSC will also provide street medics to events and meetings when available.

5.14 Any non-NWA DSA associated event can have the RRSC help with marshaling, where the RRSC members will fall under the aforementioned system of hierarchy.

5.14.1 Whereas this hierarchy will take consideration of the event planners and organizer to direct the RRSC in favorable ways to them.

5.15 The RRSC will promote nonviolence and safety among members of NWA DSA.

5.16 The RRSC will attempt to deescalate when NWA DSA members and community members are being held by law enforcement.

5.16.1 Including asking for their release, RRSC members will be trained in various penal codes and laws to ensure that NWA DSA members and community members do not commit illegal actions.

5.17 The RRSC will help to provide resources for NWA DSA members and community members if they are detained and held in jail by law enforcement.



5.18 Expulsion of RRSC members will be at the discretion of the Red Rabbits Commissar and the Steering Committee.

SECTION 6. AD HOC COMMITTEES

6.1 NWA DSA may have Ad Hoc Committees, also known as Working Groups, which will exist for a limited and explicit duration, not to exceed one year. A Committee may propose that its duration be extended for terms of no more than one year.

6.1.1 The extension for an Ad Hoc Committee will be decided by the current sitting Steering Committee Group as the committee has been previously voted on and passed in a General Meeting.

6.1.2 Every extension must have a new document that states the accomplishments of the previous duration and future projects that the committee will pursue.

6.2 Every Committee will have a founding document that expresses the length, scope of the Committee, and hopeful accomplishments within the proposed life of the Committee.

6.3 Ad Hoc Committees must contain no less than three Members and may be established by a vote of full members at a General Meeting of NWA DSA.

6.3.1 The Committee creation documents must first be brought to the Steering Committee Group for a vote to decide on if the Committee aligns with the values of NWA DSA.

6.3.2 These creation documents must be signed by two permanent officers of NWA DSA.

6.3.3 All documents will be stored by the Secretary and kept within normal business documents in the current storage of NWA DSA documents.

6.4 Chairs of Ad Hoc Committees will keep the Steering Committee Group and the General Meetings of NWA DSA informed on the activities of the committee, including records of any financial expenditures.

6.5 Each Committee must elect an official chair. No Member may serve as chair of more than one committee at any given time.

6.5.1 The elected chair of the Committee will have the powers to fill Committee officer positions without a vote from the Steering Committee Group nor General Chapter Members.



6.5.2 The first chairperson of a Committee will be decided by the Steering Committee Group as the member who brings forth the opinion to create said Committee.

6.5.3 Committee Chairs will serve one year for each term, thereafter the Committee members will vote amongst themselves to decide on the next Committee Chair.

6.6 Committees are only authorized to act within the purview of their creation.

6.7 The creation of an election committee shall be within all Ad-Hoc Committee rules for the election of officers per-term.

Article X. Young Democratic Socialists of America Chapters

SECTION 1. DEFINING RELATIONSHIPS

1.1 Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) chapters within the geographic area defined by the bylaws and recognized zip codes may affiliate as a branch of the NWA DSA, in which case the local YDSA chapter may send a representative to the NWA DSA Steering Committee.

Article XI. Campaigns

SECTION 1. CAMPAIGN DEFINITION

1.1 A Campaign will be an active movement by the chapter to succeed in setting goals for a future or current cause.

1.2 Campaigns will have no special committees working as heads and will instead involve the entire chapter and the Steering Committee Group.

SECTION 2. CREATION OF CAMPAIGNS

2.1 To signal the creation of a campaign, the members attending a General Chapter meeting or a Local Convention Caucus Meeting will vote in favor of a proposed Campaign.

2.1.1 Any proposed Campaign will have a document associated with the Campaign, the goals that are within achievable range of the chapter, and how long the Campaign will last.

2.1.2 Campaigns may last throughout a term of office, until the conditions set forth for the Campaign are no longer valid or have changed, or may be indefinite until the membership of NWA DSA calls for the end of a Campaign.



- A. Conditions that are no longer valid can include the disbandment of the active reason for the Campaign, such as a bill or political/societal change being moved into the goals that the Campaign set.
 - a. The Campaign will attempt to disband any process that it faces as the goal.
- B. A Campaign may last until a new set of Officers are elected upon the next set election.
- C. An indefinite Campaign will last until the membership of NWA DSA votes for the Campaign to end.
 - a. An indefinite Campaign may include societal and material conditions that will not change without a total redistribution or change in a particular system.
 - b. This can include funded services that will continue without the possibility of change from active protests.
 - c. An indefinite Campaign will be decided upon in dire circumstances and must not have goals that will be short term in nature and must be active throughout the lifetime of either the chapter or the change that is being sought.
 - i. These Campaigns can include the inclusion of groups that have historically been oppressed and are continuing to be oppressed by society.
 - ii. Community changes that redistribute the power throughout neighborhoods can be considered an indefinite Campaign.

2.2 All Campaigns will envelop the entirety of NWA DSA and will run upon an indefinite or previously defined time limit.

2.2.1 All Campaigns will be run as such movements within NWA DSA.

2.2.2 A Campaign will not have a single lead upon its creation and will have an active place within the confines of the goals of NWA DSA.

2.2.3 Along with the expansion of the chapter, Campaigns will take an equal precedent in the active movements that the chapter takes.

SECTION 3. CAMPAIGN FUNDING

3.1 Campaigns must be funded with the chapter general funds unless decided by a majority vote at a valid **meeting** ~~General Meeting or Caucus Meeting~~.



3.2 If a Campaign is to need large amounts of funds for resources, the Steering Committee Group will bring forth a budget to a meeting General Meeting or Caucus Meeting to plan for the future of the said Campaign.

3.3 Alternative means for funding can be held with fundraiser drives and other special donations.

SECTION 4. RESOURCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 Upon the completion of a campaign, the Ad Hoc team shall present a comprehensive report to the Steering Committee, evaluating the campaign's effectiveness in meeting its established objectives.

4.2 The report must not only assess performance based on defined metrics but also include insights on lessons learned and recommendations for enhancing future campaigns.

4.3 All reports shall be archived in a centralized repository, creating a reference library for ongoing analysis and strategic development.

Article XII. Delegates and Officers to National, Regional, and State Bodies and Conventions

1.1 NWA DSA delegates and alternates to the DSA National Convention, Arkansas statewide DSA Convention or officer in a state DSA body, Regional DSA events, and any other DSA affiliated body or convention will be elected by Scottish Single Transferable Vote (Scottish STV) by members in good standing with DSA who have been a member of NWA DSA for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

1.1.1 These elections will be headed by Ad Hoc Committees that are created for the duration of the election only and will not be a permanent committee.

1.1.2 In the event of no member willing to run as a delegate, the Steering Committee of NWA DSA will hold a vote at the next all members meeting to ask the chapter membership if the Steering Committee may appoint delegates and alternates instead.

1.2 Any member that would like to run for delegate, alternate, or officer in DSA affiliated conventions or bodies, must be a member in good standing and have been a member of the NWA DSA chapter for at least 30 days prior to the cutoff for nominations.



1.2.1 Any member that is eligible to be nominated in one of the aforementioned positions must have at least 5% of the NWA DSA membership sign a local petition stating their support for your nomination. Members may sign multiple petitions. No prospective nominee may pay, give favors, nor ask for their sole vote when soliciting signatures for their petition. Any member of NWA DSA who signs a petition must be a member in good standing who have been in NWA DSA at least 30 days prior to submittal of the petition.

~~1.3 NWA DSA delegates and alternates to the National Convention will be elected by full members of NWA DSA. Elections for the National Convention delegation shall be held on the schedule announced by the national organization. Delegates to the Regional DSA events shall be appointed by the Steering Group and approved by a Member vote at the next General Meeting.~~

Article XIII. Prohibited Activity

1.1 NWA DSA shall not engage in activity prohibited by the IRS guidelines established for 501 (c) 4 organizations or similar rules established by the state of Arkansas. Nor shall NWA DSA engage in any activity prohibited by resolutions **or the Code of Conduct** adopted by DSA's National Convention or DSA's National Political Committee.

Article XIV. Nominations

SECTION 1. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

1.1 A Nominations Committee shall be established at least one month prior to every election by vote of a **meeting** ~~General Meeting~~. It shall solicit and receive nominations for the positions to be elected.

SECTION 2. NOMINATIONS PROCESS

2.1 Nominations for NWA DSA officers and delegates to **other DSA bodies and conventions** ~~the National Convention~~ shall be opened **30 14** days before and closed **at least** 1 day prior to the next **meeting** ~~General Meeting~~. The call for nominations shall be announced to full members of NWA DSA in advance of the **meeting** ~~General Meeting~~ via email and public posting.

SECTION 3. UNCONTESTED POSITIONS



3.1 If a position is uncontested, the nominee will be declared elected by acclamation. If any member objects to such election by acclamation, members must vote “yes” or “no” for the nominee. Should the candidate be rejected for the position, a special election shall be provided.

SECTION 4. VOTING SYSTEM

4.1 All votes for nominations shall use the DSA Nationally accepted system of Scottish Single Transferable Vote (Scottish STV).

4.1.1 Defined as (blank)

4.2 The software that may be primarily used is that of OpaVote, as in-line with DSA National.

4.2.1 If a cheaper alternative that ensures voter security and proper voting ethics is found, the IT Security Lead shall investigate and report back to the NWA DSASteering Committee and Election Committee.

4.3 Following Article III, Section 5 of National DSA’s Bylaws, no candidate may run their own election.

Article XV. Amendments

1.1 Proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be made by written resolution, endorsed by five members of the NWA DSA, and submitted to the Local Steering Committee Group one month in advance of a General Meeting. The Local Steering Committee Group is required to provide the NWA DSA membership with at least 30 days two weeks’ written notice of the proposed amendments. The amendment must be approved by a three-fifths (3/5) majority vote of two consecutive Local Convention Caucus or General Meetings.

1.2 No amendment to these bylaws may be in conflict with the National DSA Constitution and Bylaws.

1.3 Once per year, the Steering Committee of NWA DSA will ensure that the bylaws for the chapter are in compliance and will suggest amendments to put the chapter into compliance.

Article XVI. Offices

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT

1.1 The Steering Committee of the NWA DSA shall establish one or more local offices by a majority vote of the Steering Committee.



1.2 These offices will be budgeted by the general membership during the annual budget or during a special vote to amend the annual budget.

SECTION 2. BRANCH OFFICES

2.1 Branches may establish offices at the direction of the NWA DSA Steering Committee and the general body membership by majority vote during a meeting.

2.2 These branch offices may be used by the entire NWA DSA as offices when needed.

Article XVII. Staff

SECTION 1. ROLE OF STAFF

1.1 The Steering Committee may hire staff to help conduct the day to day business of NWA DSA.

1.2 The duties of the staff member will be prescribed by the NWA DSA Steering Committee and be set forth in contracts.

SECTION 2. HIRING OF STAFF

2.1 When a position has been opened, an Ad Hoc Personnel Committee will be established during the duration of hiring.

2.1.1 This Committee shall make recommendations to the Steering Committee on applications.

2.2 Once a position has been opened, the NWA DSA will publish the staff position in the approved hiring system used by NWA DSA and set forth by guidelines enacted by the Steering Committee.

2.3 All staff have the right to organize and engage in collective bargaining in accordance with applicable law.

2.4 No staff member shall be required, pressured, discriminated against, or retaliated against for joining or refraining from joining any labor organization.

SECTION 3. DISCHARGE OF STAFF



3.1 The NWA DSA Steering Committee shall have the authority to discharge any staff person for nonfeasance, malfeasance, or misfeasance as of office with proper notice as provided for in any contract.

3.2 Discharging of staff will be made with the utmost respect for federal labor laws and Arkansas labor laws.

Article XVIII. Rules of the Local

SECTION 1. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY RULES

1.1 The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern NWA DSA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws. Consensus decision-making is desirable where feasible, but meetings must submit to *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* upon the request of a member.

1.2 The highest decision-making body of NWA DSA is a time-bounded general meeting or local convention that is open to all members in good standing.

SECTION 2. ACTION OUT OF ORDER

2.1 Any action taken by an officer or member of NWA DSA in contravention of these Bylaws is null and void.

SECTION 3. DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER

3.1 A proposal to dissolve the NWA DSA must be made by written resolution, endorsed by five (5) members in good standing and have been members for at least thirty (30) days prior of the NWA DSA, and submitted to the Steering Committee at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of a general membership meeting.

3.1.1 The Steering Committee is required to provide members with at least ten (10) days physical or electronic notice of this resolution.

3.1.2 The meeting may adopt a resolution to dissolve the NWA DSA under this article by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

3.2 In the event that the chapter must be dissolved, the assets will be divided as follows;



3.2.1 Any monetary balance including, but not limited to, bank accounts, cash, and Stripe accounts owned by NWA DSA will be facilitated by the most recent treasurer or other elected officer and be returned to the DSA National through the means they give us as options.

3.2.2 Contact to DSA National in regards to the equipment and material will be made as soon as possible. DSA National will be consulted on what to do with the equipment;

A. If DSA National would like to retain all physical items, the final officers or other delegated members will facilitate the transfer of the equipment to DSA National or any proxies of.

B. Otherwise, all physical equipment and other materials that were purchased or owned by NWA DSA will be sold at fair market price or by means of a local auction. The monetary gain will be transferred into the final balance of NWA DSA.

3.2.3 Any rented spaces or areas will cease to exist as locations for NWA DSA.

3.2.4 If any contracts are signed and valid by NWA DSA, these contracts will only exist in future reference as set forth in said contract and all necessary attempts to annul and void these contracts will be taken.

3.3 DSA National will be contacted immediately or as soon as possible regarding the dissolution of the chapter.

3.4 All necessary actions will be taken to unincorporate the chapter with the Arkansas Secretary of State's office and all financial ends will be followed as set forth by law.

3.5 All files, lists, logins, accounts, and other virtual assets owned by NWA DSA will be transferred to DSA National and be facilitated by the final Secretary or any other officer.

Article XIX. Appendix

SECTION 1. RULES

1.1 This section will include all of the past and present policies and resolutions that are approved by the general membership and include links to each of these.

1.1.1 This will be a running list that may be updated without changes to prior Articles in these bylaws and will not be subjected to the Amendments Article in these bylaws unless other Articles will be changed during the same time.



Co-Chair

Secretary