

## **Pre-Election Convention Rules of Americans Elect**

### **[Draft Pending Public Comment and Rules Committee Adoption]**

#### Overview

*These Rules govern the process of drafting, qualifying and nominating a balanced Presidential and Vice Presidential ticket by secure internet convention to be included on the November 2012 election ballot. The field of drafted and declared Presidential candidates shall be reduced during three successive qualifying rounds of internet balloting to six Presidential candidates listed on the nominating ballot. Each Presidential candidate shall have time after completion of the qualifying ballots to select a Vice Presidential candidate from a different political party and to comply with all requirements of these Rules. Any Independent Presidential candidate must select a Vice Presidential candidate who balances the Presidential candidate's positions by reference to the Platform of Questions. The winning ticket shall be nominated by the majority of votes cast in the nominating round of internet balloting. If a majority is not achieved on the first round of internet balloting, the three tickets that received the most votes will advance to a second round of internet balloting. If a majority is not achieved on the second round of internet balloting, the two tickets that received the most votes will advance to a third and final round of internet balloting to reach a majority vote. The ticket that receives a majority vote shall be nominated by Americans Elect for inclusion on the November 2012 ballot for President and Vice President. These Rules shall not govern any post-election Convention called by Americans Elect in the event the Americans Elect ticket fails to receive sufficient votes to win the election, except that no person may join Americans Elect as a voting Delegate after the final nominating ballot until the newly-elected President takes office. These draft rules shall be posted on the Website for review and public comment. The Rules Committee shall consider all comments and suggestions before adopting and submitting the proposed Rules to the Delegates for ratification.*

**Rule 1.0**      Delegate Qualification and Eligibility to Vote. Any natural person who is a citizen of the United States, age 18 or older, registered to vote in any state or the District of Columbia on the date they cast a vote in the Americans Elect Convention, and entitled to vote in the election for President of the United States shall be qualified to be a voting Delegate of Americans Elect, upon submission of the following proof of qualification:

1.1      Voter Identification. His or Her\* full name as reflected on his or her voter registration; date of birth; residential address including street, apartment number if applicable, city or town, state and zip code that matches the public voter registration address; and such additional publicly available information to verify status as a citizen and registered voter as Americans Elect may request.

1.2      Acceptance of Delegate Pledge. Any Delegate shall submit via the Americans Elect website, [www.americansselect.org](http://www.americansselect.org) (“Website”) their acceptance of the Delegate Pledge substantially in the form attached in Table 1 below and shall conduct themselves in accordance with the requirements of the Delegate Pledge to remain eligible to vote as a Delegate.

Table 1: Delegate Pledge

<b><i>Americans Elect Delegate Pledge</i></b>	
<b>As an <i>Americans Elect</i> Delegate, I pledge to:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support the Mission of <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b>, which seeks to nominate a Presidential ticket that will campaign and govern with no regard to party affiliation in order to build the coalitions necessary to solve the challenges that face our Nation;</li><li>• Adhere to the official Rules of the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> nominating process; and</li><li>• Conduct myself with respect for opposing views in the same manner I demand of the candidates for the <i>Americans Elect</i> nomination to find the common ground necessary to solve the challenges that face our Nation.</li></ul>	
_____ Name/Signature	_____ Date

1.3      Cut-Off Date for Eligibility. Before each scheduled vote, Americans Elect shall determine and post on the Website a cut-off date, which shall be the last date on

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\* Where used in these Rules, the female pronoun shall include the male pronoun and vice versa.

which a person may qualify as a voting Delegate for that scheduled vote. The cut-off date shall be established sufficiently in advance of the vote to enable Americans Elect to verify the information provided by the Delegate and the cut-off date shall be included in any email notifications of an upcoming vote. Upon the completion of any scheduled vote, persons may qualify as voting Delegates until the cut-off date of the next scheduled vote. In any event, no person shall be permitted to newly qualify as a voting Delegate at any time after the final nominating ballot until the newly-elected President is sworn into office.

1.4 Membership in Political Parties. Delegates may maintain their memberships in any political party or as unaffiliated voters. Americans Elect shall not prohibit any Delegate from participating in the Convention because such person has participated in the primary or caucus of any political party.

1.5 Disqualification of Delegates. Any Delegates may be disqualified from voting and participation in Americans Elect for violation of the Delegate Pledge as provided by these Rules as follows:

1.5.1 Petition of Delegates or Board. Upon petition on the Website of 1,000 or more Delegates by flagging any Delegate for violation of the Delegate Pledge, or upon its own motion, the Board may disqualify any person as a Delegate with or without notice. The Board may, in its sole discretion, give warning to any Delegate that particular conduct violates the Delegate Pledge.

1.5.2 Appeal of Disqualification. Any Delegate who has been disqualified in accordance with this Rule may file a written appeal with the Board together with a statement of reasons why the Delegate should not be disqualified. After review of the statement as well as review of Website posts of the Delegate, and after hearing in person or by telephone if the Board or its designee desires, the Board or its designee shall decide whether the disqualification should be overturned. The decision of the Board or its designee shall be final and binding, subject only to reversal by vote of 2/3 of all Delegates.

1.6 Privacy and Communication. Personal information obtained by Americans Elect to verify a person's eligibility to vote as a Delegate shall not be given or transmitted to third persons without the Delegate's express consent. Americans Elect shall not request, retain and store on any database any Social Security numbers or driver's license numbers, except Americans Elect may request the last four digits of such numbers for verification purposes. Americans Elect shall not retain or store on any database any credit card information submitted by any person. All communications to Delegates by Candidates or Draft Committees shall be conducted through Americans Elect.

**Rule 2.0**      Declared Candidates. Any person who publicly declares himself or herself to be a Candidate for President shall meet the following requirements to be listed on the Website and then to be listed on the Qualifying Ballot. Declared Candidates who are qualified for the Qualifying Ballot shall be qualified for the Nominating Ballot in accordance with these Rules. *See* Table 2 for Summary of requirements.

Table 2: DECLARED CANDIDATES

		Automatically Qualified	Contingently Qualified
Website Requirements	Statement of Candidacy	Required for Posting on Website	Required for Posting on Website
	Submission of Candidate Pledge	Required for Posting on Website	Required for Posting on Website
	Submission of True Colors and Core Questions Responses	Required for Posting on Website	Required for Posting on Website
Qualifying Ballot Requirements	Statement of Support by Delegates After Posting on Website	1,000 Each from 10 States Before Date of Any Ballot	10,000 Each from 10 States Within 30 Days After Posting on Website
	Certification by Candidate Certification Committee for Ballot	Automatic Certification	Discretionary Certification Subject to Delegate Reversal
	90 Second Candidate to Camera Video Answering Platform of Questions with Written Responses	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot
	Biography of 1,500 Words or Less	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot
	Contact Information	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot
	Formation of FEC Presidential Committee	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot

2.1 Website Requirements. Any natural person who is constitutionally qualified for the office of President of the United States shall be listed on the Website as a Declared Candidate in alphabetical order upon submission of the following to the Candidate Certification Committee:

2.1.1 Statement of Candidacy. The Statement of Candidacy of Declared Candidates shall include the following information submitted via the Website or by hand-delivery for verification purposes which shall not be made public: full name, date of birth, resident address at which the Candidate is registered to vote, mailing address if different from resident address, email address, contact telephone number, and an uploaded true copy of a government-issued photo identification such as driver's license or passport. The Statement of Candidacy shall also include verification by electronic signature under the penalty of perjury that the Declared Candidate is the person submitting the Statement or submitting the Statement with such person's express authorization. Americans Elect shall verify the authenticity of each Statement of Candidacy.

2.1.2 Submission of Candidate Pledge. A signed and notarized copy of the Americans Elect Candidate Pledge, substantially in the form of Table 3 below, a copy of which shall be posted or linked on the Website.

Table 3: Candidate Pledge

<b><i>Americans Elect</i> Candidate Pledge</b>	
<b>As a condition of candidacy for <i>Americans Elect</i> nomination for President of the United States, I agree to accept the nomination and I pledge to:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support the Mission of <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b>, which seeks to nominate a Presidential ticket that will campaign and govern with no regard to party affiliation in order to build the coalitions necessary to solve the challenges that face our Nation;</li><li>• Adhere to the Rules of the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> nominating process;</li><li>• Accurately represent my political views and history;</li><li>• Provide in print and streaming video format on the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> website direct answers to all questions asked by the Delegates in the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> Platform of Questions;</li><li>• Campaign and govern without concern for the partisan interest of either major party by advancing competently crafted policies regardless of where on the political spectrum they originate; and</li><li>• Build the first coalition of my Presidency by selecting a Vice-Presidential running mate who will help me forge the essential coalitions of members of the major parties to meet the crucial issues identified by the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> Delegates in the Platform of Questions.</li></ul>	
_____ Name/Signature	_____ Date

2.1.3 Submission of True Colors and Core Questions Responses. The True Colors and Core Questions posted on the Website at the time a Candidate declares his/her candidacy and as may be updated for response by Delegates and Candidates from time to time shall be completed and submitted by the Declared Candidate. The Candidate's submission shall be posted or linked on the Website and may be searchable to allow Delegates to identify which Declared Candidates' True Colors and responses to Core Questions most closely resemble the Delegates' True Colors and Core Questions responses.

2.1.3.1. Definitions. The following terms in these Rules shall be defined as noted: "True Colors" shall mean the priority assigned to various categories of issues (i.e. Economy, Education, etc.) by Delegates and Candidates; "Comprehensive Questions" shall mean the detailed questionnaire posted on the Website to be answered by Delegates that shall be considered by the Platform of Questions Committee in preparing the Platform of Questions; "Core Questions" shall mean the single question in each category of issues that defines Candidates' most fundamental position regarding such issue; and "Platform of Questions" shall mean the Delegate-driven, and Platform of Questions Committee-refined, questions posed to and answered by all Delegates and Candidates to ensure informed decisions by Delegates and unambiguous positions by Candidates.

2.1.3.2. Development of True Colors and Questions. The True Colors, Core Questions and Platform of Questions shall be determined by the Platform of Questions Committee in accordance with the Americans Elect Bylaws after consideration of Delegates' responses to the Comprehensive Questions and may be supplemented from time to time before the nominating round of voting. Candidates shall be required to supplement their responses to the True Colors, Core Questions and Platform of Questions as revised to maintain their listing on the Website.

2.2 Qualifying Ballot Requirements. No Declared Candidate shall be listed on the Qualifying Ballot unless each of the following requirements has been completed for the Candidate Certification Committee:

2.2.1 Certification By Candidate Certification Committee: The Candidate Certification Committee has certified to the Board that the Declared Candidate is qualified to seek and serve in the office of President of the United States either as a candidate who is automatically qualified or contingently qualified upon determination of the Candidate Certification Committee as follows:

2.2.1.1 Automatic Qualification. The Candidate Certification Committee shall automatically certify as qualified any natural person who is eligible to serve as President and who has served in any of the following positions without removal from office or current criminal indictment or conviction: Vice President, United States Senator, Member of Congress, Presidential Cabinet Member, Head of a federal agency, Governor, Mayor of any of the largest 100 cities in the United States, Chairman or Chief Executive Officer or President of any corporation or non-profit corporation or philanthropic organization with 1,000 or more employees, President of a national labor union with 100,000 or more members, military officer who has attained flag rank, Ambassador, and President of an American-based university with more than 4,000 students.

2.2.1.2 Contingent Qualification. Any Declared Candidate who is not automatically qualified in accordance with the preceding section shall be presumed to be unqualified to be listed on the Qualifying Ballot, unless the Candidate Certification Committee finds that the candidate is capable of competent service as President in view of the Contingently Qualified Candidate's equivalent experience and demonstrated capability after review of any information submitted by the Declared Candidate. Any Contingently Qualified Candidate who is not certified by the Candidate Certification Committee may seek reversal of the Committee's decision by vote of 2/3 of all Delegates.

2.2.2 Statement of Support by Delegates. Each Declared Candidate shall demonstrate public support by Delegate Support Clicks on the Website.

2.2.2.1 Automatically Qualified Candidates. Each Automatically Qualified Candidate shall receive at least 1,000 Support Clicks on the Website in each of 10 states before his/her name may be included on the Qualifying Ballot.

2.2.2.2 Contingently Qualified Candidates. Each Contingently Qualified Candidate shall receive at least 10,000 Support Clicks on the Website in each of 10 states within 30 days, inclusive, after his/her name is posted on the Website.

2.2.3 Platform of Questions and Video. The Declared Candidate shall submit to the Candidate Certification Committee complete and responsive answers to the Platform of Questions, which shall be posted or linked on the Website and may be searchable for ease of reference by Delegates. The Declared Candidate also shall submit to the Candidate Certification Committee a 90 second Candidate-to-camera high definition video answering each of the Platform of



Questions. Additionally, each Declared Candidate may submit a two-minute Candidate-to-camera video stating why he/she should be elected President

2.2.4 Biography. The Declared Candidate shall submit a biography of 1,500 words or less, which shall be posted or linked on the Website.

2.2.5 Contact Information. The Declared Candidate shall submit contact information for persons interested in learning more about the campaign, provided that no fundraising information or campaign finance solicitation is posted on or linked to the Website.

2.2.6 Federal Elections Commission Compliance. Any Declared Candidate shall submit to the Candidate Certification Committee proof of formation of a Presidential Campaign Committee before inclusion as a Declared Candidate on the Qualifying Ballot.

2.3 Memberships in Political Parties. No person otherwise eligible and qualified to serve as President shall be disqualified from seeking the nomination of Americans Elect because of membership in, or seeking or having secured, or having failed to secure the nomination for President or Vice President in any political party or candidacy.

2.4 Declared Candidate Pledge Compliance. If the Board has reason to believe that a Candidate has violated the Candidate's Pledge, the Board shall so notify the Candidate in writing and give him or her an opportunity to show cause why the conduct in question did not violate the Candidate Pledge. If the Board finds a violation, it shall give the Candidate a written warning that any further violations shall result in a posting of such finding on the Website, or immediately post such finding on the Website at the Candidate's ballot position, or both, in the sole discretion of the Board. The citation of any Candidate for violation of the Candidate Pledge shall be reversed upon a 2/3 vote of all registered Delegates.

**Rule 3.0** Drafted Candidates. Delegates may draft any person eligible under the United States Constitution to serve as President by filing with the Candidate Certification Committee a Statement of Draft ["X"] Committee Organization where the name of the person to be drafted is inserted at "X" and shall satisfy the following requirements to be listed on the Website and on the Qualifying Ballot. Drafted Candidates who are qualified for the Qualifying Ballot shall be required to declare their candidacy for President and to meet all requirements of Declared Candidates within 14 days after the final Qualifying Ballot to be listed on the Nominating Ballot, except shall not be required to submit any further Statement of Support by Delegates. *See Table 4 for summary of requirements.*

Table 4: Drafted Candidates

		<b>AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFIED</b>	<b>CONTINGENTLY QUALIFIED</b>
<b>Website Requirements</b>	<b>Statement of Draft Committee Organization</b>	Required for Posting on Website	Required for Posting on Website
	<b>Submission of Principal Supporter(s) Pledge</b>	Required for Posting on Website	Required for Posting on Website
<b>Qualifying Ballot Requirements</b>	<b>Statement of Support by Delegates After Posting on Website</b>	1,000 Each from 10 States Before Date of Any Ballot	10,000 Each from 10 States Within 30 Days After Posting on Website
	<b>Certification by Candidate Certification Committee for Ballot</b>	Automatic Certification	Discretionary Certification Subject to Delegate Reversal
	<b>90 Second Supporter to Camera Video Stating Reasons for Draft and Answering Platform of Questions</b>	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot
	<b>Biography of 1,500 Words or Less</b>	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot
	<b>Draft Committee Contact Information</b>	Required for Inclusion on Ballot	Required for Inclusion on Ballot

Delegates may support more than one Declared or Draft Candidate. The agreement or assent of the person subject to the draft is not required and the disagreement or objection of the person subject to the draft shall not preclude the draft effort.

3.1 Website Requirements. The Draft Committee of any natural person who is constitutionally qualified for the office of President of the United States shall be listed on the Website as a Drafted Candidate in alphabetical order upon submission of the following to the Candidate Certification Committee:

3.1.1 Statement of Draft Committee Organization. The Statement of Draft Committee Organization shall provide the name, address, email address and other contact information of the person(s) who shall serve as the principal contact for the Draft Committee and such person(s) shall be designated the Principal Supporter(s). The Principal Supporter(s) may change from time to time upon filing an updated Statement of Draft Committee Organization with the Candidate Certification Committee. The Candidate Certification Committee shall verify the authenticity of each Draft Committee.

3.1.1.1 Multiple Draft Committees. Multiple draft committees in support of a single Drafted Candidate are permitted, although each such Committee shall be responsible for collecting the Statement of Support in total and such Committees are strongly encouraged to combine efforts where possible. Any dispute regarding the person(s) to serve as Principal Supporter(s) shall be finally resolved by the Candidate Certification Committee.

3.1.2 Submission of Draft Committee Pledge. A signed and notarized copy of the Americans Elect Draft Committee Pledge, substantially in the form of Table 5 below, signed by the Principal Supporter(s), a copy of which shall be posted on the Website.

Table 5: Draft Committee Pledge

<b><i>Americans Elect</i> Draft Committee Pledge</b>	
<p><b>As a condition of organizing a Draft Committee for <i>Americans Elect</i> nomination for President of the United States, I agree and pledge to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the Mission of <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b>, which seeks to nominate a Presidential ticket that will campaign and govern with no regard to party affiliation in order to build the coalitions necessary to solve the challenges that face our Nation;</li> <li>• Adhere to the Rules of the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> nominating process;</li> <li>• Accurately and actively advocate to secure the nomination of the Drafted Candidate;</li> <li>• Provide in print and streaming video format on the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> Website direct and accurate answers to the Platform of Questions and a statement detailing the reasons why the Drafted Candidate should be elected President;</li> <li>• Campaign and urge the Drafted Candidate to govern without concern for the partisan interest of either major party by advancing competently crafted policies regardless of where on the political spectrum they originate; and</li> <li>• Urge the Drafted Candidate to build the first coalition of his/her Presidency by selecting a Vice-Presidential running mate who will help forge the essential coalitions of members of the major parties to meet the crucial issues identified by the <b><i>Americans Elect</i></b> Delegates in the Platform of Questions.</li> </ul>	
<hr/> Name/Signature	<hr/> Date

3.2 Qualifying Ballot Requirements. No Drafted Candidate shall be listed on the Qualifying Ballot unless each of the following requirements has been completed for the Candidate Certification Committee:

3.2.1 Certification By Candidate Certification Committee. The Candidate Certification Committee has certified to the Board that the Drafted Candidate is qualified to seek and serve in the office of President of the United States either as a candidate who is Automatically Qualified or Contingently Qualified upon determination of the Candidate Certification Committee as follows:

3.2.1.1 Automatic Qualification. The Candidate Certification Committee shall automatically certify as qualified any natural person who is eligible to serve as President and who has served in any of the following positions without removal from office or current criminal indictment or conviction: Vice President, United States Senator, Member of Congress, Presidential Cabinet Member, Head of a federal agency, Governor, Mayor of any of the largest 100 cities in the United States, Chairman or Chief Executive Officer or President of any corporation or non-profit corporation or philanthropic organization with 1,000 or more employees, President of a national labor union with 100,000 or more members,

military officer who has attained flag rank, Ambassador, and President of an American-based university with more than 4,000 students.

3.2.1.2 Contingent Qualification. Any Drafted Candidate who is not automatically qualified in accordance with the preceding section shall be presumed to be unqualified to be listed on the Qualifying Ballot, unless the Candidate Certification Committee finds that the Drafted Candidate is capable of competent service as President in view of the Contingently Qualified Candidate's equivalent experience and demonstrated capability after review of any information submitted by the Draft Committee. Any Draft Committee of a Drafted Candidate who is not certified by the Candidate Certification Committee may seek reversal of the Committee's decision by vote of 2/3 of all Delegates.

3.2.2 Statement of Support by Delegates. Each Draft Committee shall demonstrate public support of the Drafted Candidate by Delegate Support Clicks on the Website.

3.2.2.1 Automatically Qualified Candidates. Each Automatically Qualified Candidate shall receive at least 1,000 Support Clicks on the Website in each of the 10 states before his/her name may be included on the Qualifying Ballot.

3.2.2.2 Contingently Qualified Candidates. Each Contingently Qualified Candidate shall receive at least 10,000 Support Clicks on the Website in each of 10 states within 30 days, inclusive, after his/her name is posted on the Website.

3.2.3 Supporter Video. The Draft Committee shall submit to the Candidate Certification Committee a 90 second principal supporter-to-camera high definition video stating the reasons why Delegates should vote for the Drafted Candidate, as well as 90 second supporter-to-camera videos answering each of the Platform of Questions on behalf of the Drafted Candidate. In the event of multiple qualified draft committees for a single Draft Candidate, multiple 90 second supporter-to-camera videos may be included on the Website and rank-ordered based on Delegate Support Clicks.

3.2.4 Biography. The Principal Supporter(s) shall provide a full biography of personal, professional and public service information regarding the Draft Candidate of 1,500 words or less to be posted on the Website. In the event of two or more qualified draft committees for a single Draft Candidate, the committees shall agree on the combined form of a biography or each biography shall be posted on the Website.

3.2.5 Contact Information. The Draft Committee shall submit contact information for persons interested in learning more about the Drafted Candidate, provided that no fundraising information or campaign finance solicitation is posted on or linked to the Website.

3.3 Memberships in Political Parties. No person otherwise eligible and qualified to serve as President shall be disqualified from being drafted for the nomination of Americans Elect because of membership in, or seeking or having secured, or having failed to secure the nomination for President or Vice President in any political party or candidacy.

3.4 Draft Committee Pledge Compliance. If the Board has reason to believe that a Drafted Candidate or committee has violated the Draft Committee Pledge, the Board shall so notify the Drafted Candidate and committee in writing and give him or her an opportunity to show cause why the conduct in question did not violate the Draft Committee Pledge. If the Board finds a violation, it shall give the Drafted Candidate and committee a written warning that any further violations shall result in a posting of such finding on the Website, or immediately post such finding on the Website at the Drafted Candidate's ballot position, or both, in the sole discretion of the Board. The citation of any Drafted Candidate or Committee for violation of the Draft Committee Pledge shall be reversed upon a 2/3 vote of all Delegates.

**Rule 4.0** Prohibition of Political Fundraising. The Website shall not include any fundraising links or content seeking contributions for any Declared or Drafted Candidate or Draft Committee.

**Rule 5.0** Voting Procedure Generally.

5.1 Types of Voting. Voting Delegates shall be eligible to indicate their preferences on the Website in five ways:

5.1.1 "Support" Clicks. Delegates may indicate they support a particular Candidate. Delegates may indicate they support one or more Candidates, but shall be limited to supporting a particular candidate only one time.

5.1.2 Questionnaires. Delegates may indicate their preferences in multiple choice survey and polling responses;

5.1.3 Flagging. Delegates may flag any Delegate who posts comments or engages in conduct in violation of the Delegate Pledge. Flagging without good cause may itself constitute violation of the Delegate Pledge, so Delegates are encouraged to use this mechanism sparingly. Delegates may flag another Delegate only once to register their complaint for further review by the Board in accordance with these Rules and the Bylaws;

5.1.4 Reversal or Ratification. When a Committee issues a report or takes any action that may be reversed by negative vote of the Delegates, each Delegate may vote once in the negative regarding such action in accordance with the Bylaws. Americans Elect shall give all Delegates at least three days' notice of ratification or reversal votes and invite Delegates to vote during a 24-hour period;

5.1.5 Candidate Votes. Only Delegates who have been qualified in accordance with Rule 1.0 may participate in Candidate Votes. Each Delegate shall be entitled to cast one vote for one Candidate in each of the Qualifying and Nominating Rounds of voting. Votes cannot be assigned or cast by proxy.

5.2 Running Tallies. The unofficial tally of Candidate Votes, Support Clicks, Flags, Survey/Poll Responses, and Reversal or Ratification Votes shall be displayed on the Website in real time at all times that Delegates may vote on a particular matter. The running tally shall not constitute the official vote, pending completion of voting integrity audit and certification.

5.3 Official Tallies. All vote tallies shall be unofficial until completion of a voting integrity audit by an independent auditor and declaration by the Chairman of the Board. The Chairman of the Board shall declare all official vote tallies on the Website.

5.4 Independent Candidate Vote Integrity Compliance. The voting integrity audit shall be conducted by an independent auditor in accordance with standards published by the Technology Integrity Committee to be completed within 48 hours after any candidate votes, or such additional time as the Board may allow for good cause. The Board shall have the ability, on recommendation of the independent auditor, to declare any vote a nullity in the event of a material breach of voting security and to order a re-vote upon email notice to all Delegates.

5.5 Time for Candidate and Ratification/Reversal Voting. All Candidate Votes and Reversal or Ratification Votes may be cast in a consecutive 24-hour period from midnight to midnight, Eastern time, on the date of the scheduled vote. Such hours for voting shall be posted on the Website and shall be included in any notice of voting sent to Delegates.

5.6 Tie Breakers. In the event of a tie vote for candidate voting that could affect the outcome of the vote, the Board shall, on at least three days' notice to all Delegates, convene a tie-breaker vote between such candidates to determine the winner. The cut-off date for Delegate eligibility to participate in the tie-breaker vote shall be the same date as the eligibility date for the underlying tie vote.

5.7 Scheduled Dates of Voting. The dates for voting specified in these Rules shall be the dates on which candidate voting occurs. However, in the event of an emergency declared by the Board, the Board may change or extend the date for voting

provided that all Declared and Drafted Candidates are treated equally and that all Delegates receive email notice of the date of any rescheduled or extended date of voting.

**Rule 6.0**      Ballot Position. The ballot position of candidates as displayed on the Website shall be as follows:

6.1      Qualifying Ballots. Candidates shall be listed on the Qualifying Ballot in alphabetical order based on last name. All Declared Candidates shall be listed before all Draft Candidates.

6.2      Nominating Ballots. Candidates shall be listed on the Nominating Ballot in alphabetical order based on last name of the Presidential candidates.

**Rule 7.0**      Convention Qualifying Ballots.

7.1      General. If there are ten or more Declared Candidates and Draft Candidates in total, three qualifying rounds of voting for the office of President of the United States shall be held on the Website. Fewer Qualifying Rounds may be held in the event of fewer than ten Declared or Drafted Candidates to attain six candidates for the office of President in the Nominating Round of voting. The qualifying rounds shall be held on 17 April 2012, 24 April 2012, and 8 May 2012. In order to advance to the Nominating Round, a Drafted Candidate shall comply with the requirements of a Declared Candidate under Rule 2.0 within fourteen days after the final Qualifying Ballot, except that a Drafted Candidate who has advanced to the Nominating Round shall not be required to submit a Statement of Support from 10,000 Delegates. If a Drafted Candidate does not comply with the requirements of a Declared Candidate in this period, his or her place on the final Nominating Ballot shall be forfeited and assigned to the qualified candidate receiving the next highest total of votes at the Final Qualifying Ballot.

7.2      The First Qualifying Ballot, 17 April 2012. On this date, the Delegates may cast their vote for their top Declared Candidate or Draft Candidate on the Website. The Candidate who receives the largest plurality of the vote shall advance automatically to the Nominating Ballots and will not participate in the subsequent Qualifying Ballots.

7.3      The Second Qualifying Ballot, 24 April 2012. On this date, the Delegates may cast their vote for their top Declared Candidate or Draft Candidate on the Website excluding the winner of the First Qualifying Ballot. The Candidate who receives the largest plurality of the vote shall advance automatically to the Nominating Ballots and will not participate in the subsequent Qualifying Ballots.

7.4      The Final Qualifying Ballot, 8 May 2012. On this date, the Delegates may cast their vote for their top Declared Candidate or Draft Candidate on the Website excluding the winners of the First and Second Qualifying Ballots. The four Candidates who receive the largest plurality of the vote shall advance to the Nominating Ballots. The



remaining Declared Candidates and Draft Candidates will fail to advance as Presidential Candidates and will no longer be in the running for the Americans Elect Presidential nomination except that spots on the Nominating Ballots shall be reserved for the next-highest vote recipient of the final qualifying round in the event any candidate drops out or is disqualified before completion of the Nominating Rounds.

7.5 Final Six Candidates for President. The six candidates who pass through the Qualifying Ballots will be the only persons who may run for the office of President of the United States through Americans Elect, unless other candidates advance to their place on the Nominating Ballots in accordance with the preceding rule.

7.6 Vice Presidential Candidates: Generally. All Vice-Presidential Candidates shall be required to meet the requirements set forth in Rule 2.0 and Rule 8.0 for their candidacy within fourteen days after the final Qualifying Ballot in order to be eligible to run on a Presidential Ticket through Americans Elect, except that any person selected as a Vice Presidential running mate by a Presidential candidate who has advanced to the Nominating Round shall not be required to submit a Statement of Support from 10,000 Delegates. Any Presidential candidate who fails to advance from the Qualifying Round to the Nominating Round shall be eligible to be selected as a Vice Presidential candidate if otherwise in compliance with these Rules. Presidential candidates may choose from Declared or Drafted Candidates for Vice President, or choose any qualified person if such Vice Presidential Candidate timely complies with Rule 2.0 and Rule 8.0.

**Rule 8.0** Balanced Ticket Obligation. The Presidential and Vice Presidential ticket nominated by Americans Elect shall, as nearly as practicable, consist of persons of differing ideological perspective or positions on the Platform of Questions to result in a balanced coalition ticket responsive to the vast majority of citizens while remaining independent of special interests and the partisan interests of either major political party. Subject to reversal by vote of 2/3 of all Delegates, the Candidate Certification Committee shall determine whether any proposed ticket is balanced by reference to candidates' responses to the Platform of Questions within fourteen days after the final Qualifying Ballot, or such further time as the Board may allow. A ticket with two persons consisting of a Democrat and a Republican shall be deemed to be balanced. A ticket with two persons of the same political party shall be deemed to be imbalanced. For purposes of this Rule, a candidate shall be deemed to be a member of any political party if enrolled in that party for the majority of time from January 1, 2008 to the present.

**Rule 9.0** Convention – Nominating Ballots.

9.1 The Americans Elect Convention will be held between 5 and 26 June 2012 with the first vote conducted on June 5, and any subsequent votes necessary to achieve a majority vote conducted on June 12 and June 26. During this period a series of up to

three ballots will be cast by the Americans Elect Delegates until one ticket receives a majority of all votes cast. Prior to the first ballot at the convention, all Presidential Candidates and Vice-Presidential Candidates shall be required to have complied with the requirements set forth for Candidates and Vice-Presidential Candidates in these Rules. If at any point during the Nominating Round a ticket receives more than fifty percent of the votes cast, that ticket shall be the Americans Elect nominees.

9.2 The First Nominating Ballot, 5 June 2012. On this date, the Delegates may cast their votes among the field of six Tickets on the Website. In the absence of a majority vote, the three Tickets that receive the most votes from the Delegates will advance to the second ballot.

9.3 The Second Nominating Ballot, 12 June 2012. On this date, the Delegates may cast their votes among the field of three Tickets on the Website. In the absence of a majority, the two Tickets that receive the most votes from the Delegates will advance to the final ballot.

9.4 The Final Nominating Ballot, 26 June 2012. On this date, the Delegates may cast their votes among the field of two Tickets on the Website. The Ticket that receives the majority of votes cast from the Delegates will receive the Americans Elect nomination.

**Rule 10.0** Free Speech and Neutrality. Until the Americans Elect ticket has been selected by majority vote of participating Delegates in the Nominating Round of voting, Americans Elect shall be neutral with respect to all Candidates and shall not endorse, oppose, advance or advocate any particular Candidate. Neither Americans Elect nor the Website shall engage in any fundraising for any Candidate before such date. Americans Elect facilitates political discourse as permitted by the First Amendment by allowing Declared and Drafted Candidates and their supporters to introduce themselves and their ideas into the public domain. Any voting or preferences expressed by Delegates before the final Nominating Ballot shall not reflect the position or views of Americans Elect. Americans Elect shall provide an equal opportunity for participation by all Delegates and nomination of all candidates in accordance with these Rules.

**Rule 11.0** Convention Committees. The operation of the Americans Elect internet convention shall be conducted in accordance with rules and procedures proposed by the Rules Committee, Platform of Questions Committee, Candidate Certification Committee, and Technology Integrity Committee, subject to ratification by the Delegates. Each Committee shall consist of Delegates appointed by the Board and shall have the purposes and responsibilities described in the Bylaws.

11.1 Schedule of Appointment. The convention committees shall be appointed no later than December 31, 2011. Upon appointment of at least two members, any such

Committee may commence operations to advance the purpose of the Committee, subject to further decisions of the entire Committee membership later appointed.

11.2 Public Notice and Consent. Unless otherwise decided by the Board, all proposed rules and procedures shall be posted for review and comment by Delegates before adoption by the Committee. Nothing in these rules shall prevent a Committee from amending or incorporating changes during such public review and comment period.

11.3 Ratification by Delegates. All rules and procedures of the convention committees shall be subject to ratification by vote of the Delegates in accordance with the Bylaws.

**Rule 12.0** Rules, Reversal and Ratification.

12.1 Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall have final authority regarding all interpretation and enforcement of these Rules, subject only to reversal by vote of 2/3 of all Delegates. Any Delegate who wishes to call any matter to the attention of the Rules Committee may do so via the Website. The Rules Committee may waive or excuse de minimus violations of the Rules, consistent with the purpose of Americans Elect.

12.2 Reversal Votes. Any Delegate who wishes to reverse any decision of any Committee or Board by sending a statement of 500 words or less by email to [insert board reversal email address here] within 72 hours after notice of any decision is posted on the Website. The Board shall then post the statement on the Website with instructions that any Delegate who agrees with reversal shall “Support Click” the statement. If 10,000 or more Delegates Support Click the statement within 48 hours after its posting, the Board shall give three days’ notice to all Delegates of a reversal vote and post a statement of no more than 500 words in support of the decision and the statement in opposition to the decision on the Website after such notice. If 2/3 of all Delegates vote in favor of reversal, the decision shall be reversed and the Committee or Board shall make a different decision. This process of Reversal Votes shall be the sole and exclusive remedy for any Delegate aggrieved by any action, conduct or failure to act of Americans Elect.

12.3 Ratification. Any Ratification Vote shall proceed on the same basis as a reversal vote, except that Support Clicks from 10,000 Delegates shall not be necessary for Ratification.

12.4 Reconsideration. No vote by the Delegates may be reconsidered.

12.5 Amendment. The Rules Committee may from time to time propose amendments to these Rules, provided that all proposed amendments shall be posted for Delegate review and comment and that no Candidate is unfairly disadvantaged by any

amendment. All amendments shall be effective upon adoption by the Rules Committee, subject to ratification by the Delegates.