



Legislative District 28

- - Democratic Party - -

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The Bylaws of the Legislative District 28

Democratic Party

**As adopted by the Legislative District 28
Democratic Party Committee May 20, 2025**

**LD 28 Bylaws Committee
Annarose Lilly, Chair**

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The Bylaws of the Legislative District 28 Democratic Party

Bylaws Committee Chair, Annarose Lilly

Board Approved on 4/4/2025.

Preamble

We, the democrats of the Legislative District 28 Democratic Party, Arizona, believe that clarity of responsibility and authority are beneficial to the fulfillment of the Mission of the Democratic Party, and that trust is built on a foundation of clear expectations. These Bylaws are intended to create a framework for transparency, effective operation, and decision-making and we hereby adopt them.

The term Committeeperson(s) used throughout these Bylaws will equate to the term Committeeman in the statutory title. [A.R.S. § 16-822, Article 2, Chapter 5]

Article I: Name

The name of this organization is Legislative District 28 Democratic Party, hereinafter referred to as the District Committee. It has an Internal Revenue Service trade name of “North by Northwest Dems” for branding purposes on literature and social media.

Article II: Mission

The mission of the District Committee is to elect Democrats to public office who embrace the values of the Democratic Party.

Article III: Members

Unless otherwise prescribed by law, the LD 28 District Committee shall consist of all Democratic PCs and volunteers residing within the boundaries of LD 28 who have been elected or appointed pursuant to the laws of the state of Arizona. All members shall have the right to fully participate in the meetings, discussions, and other activities of LD 28 as provided by law and these bylaws.

Article IV: Organization and Governance

Section 1: Legal environment

The District Committee operates within the laws of the United States and the State of Arizona and under the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic National Committee, the Arizona Democratic Party (ADP) [<https://azdem.org/governingdocs>]. The District Committee is registered as a political party for campaign finance disclosure purposes with the Arizona Secretary of State [www.seethemoney.az.gov] and has a Federal Identification Number..

Section 2: Governance and Overview

The District Committee was established on March 2, 2022, at the reorganizational meeting that implemented structural changes resulting from redistricting required by the U.S. Constitution. We are an independent political party organization sponsored under Arizona law by MCDP [A.R.S. § 16-823, Article 2]. PCs are elected and serve as members of the District Committee. The District is allocated 1 SCM for every 3 elected PCs. Their role at the Arizona state level is further described in Article XI of this bylaw.

The District Committee is governed by its officers who constitute the District Executive Board. Only elected and appointed PCs may serve as officers.

Article V: Precinct Committee

Section 1: Membership

In each precinct there shall be a precinct committee consisting of elected and appointed PCs and Democratic volunteers. These members may elect a Precinct Captain.

Section 2: Overview

PCs are ballot-elected according to A.R.S. § 16-821 during primary elections and serve a two-year term beginning October 1st of even numbered years [A.R.S. § 16-822, Article 2]. PC vacancies are filled by District Chair appointment following the organizational meeting and serve a term ending on September 30th immediately preceding the General Election. The MCDP Chair may appoint PCs if the District Chair is unable or fails to do so [A.R.S. § 16-821, Article 2]. A PC may resign at any time by providing written notice to the District Chair who shall forward the notice to the MCDP Chair. A vacancy shall exist in the office of precinct committee person when a PC moves from the precinct from which elected or the PC changes political party [A.R.S. § 16-822(D), Article 2].

The election and appointment of PCs for a two-year election cycle is described in this chart. This process takes longer than two years so the process for the subsequent two-year cycle will overlap the first cycle.

Timeline	Activity	Process
January to April; even numbered year #1	Gather PC Nomination Petition signatures; sign affidavit	Submitted through District Board to MCDP then to Secretary of State
April – May; even numbered year #1	Sign write-in Nomination Petition; sign affidavit	Submitted through District Board to MCDP then to Secretary of State
October 1st; even numbered year #1	Elected PC term of office begins	Secretary of State certified primary election winners
January through December; odd numbered year that follows	Vacant PC positions filled by District Chair appointment Term begins on date PC position filled by Board of Supervisors.	Candidate completes application. District Chair approves and forwards to MCDP Chair. MCDP approval sent to Board of Supervisors who fills vacant position.
September 30th; even numbered year #2	Term of office ends for elected PCs whose term started two years ago and for PCs appointed to fill vacancies	Elected and appointed PCs who were elected to the State Committee and/or District Board continue to serve until term(s) expire

Whether or not the quota for PCs in a precinct has been met, Democratic precinct volunteers are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the district, MCDP meetings and state party meetings. PCs and volunteers are to assist the party in voter registration and assist Democratic voters on Election Day. In addition, PCs are expected to attend meetings, support Democratic candidates, and assist with fundraising activities.

Section 3: Removal from Office

Precinct Committeeperson. A PC may be removed from office for cause. Cause for removal includes the following:

1. Failure to fulfill the duties of the office under Arizona law or the bylaws of the county of residence.
2. Malfeasance in office.

3. Willful or corrupt misconduct in office.
4. Harassment, bullying, or other behavior inconsistent with the expectations outlined in the Arizona Democratic Party's Code of Conduct.
5. Public support of an opposition party candidate in a partisan election; or
6. Conviction of a felony.

A. The procedures for removing a PC shall be as follows:

1. **Vote to Recommend Removal by a District Executive Committee.** A majority of the LD28 Executive committee may vote to recommend the removal of a PC whose precinct falls within the District. No fewer than thirty (30) days before the meeting when the recommendation for removal will be discussed and voted on, the LD28 Secretary must send written notice to the PC whose removal from office is being sought. The written notice must include: (1) a specific reference to this Article (V) and subsection(s) that are relied upon as authority for removal; (2) a summary of the essential facts constituting the basis for removal, including any supporting documentation; (3) the date, time, and location of the meeting where the matter will be discussed and voted on; (4) a statement that the PC whose removal is being sought may respond in writing only and/or by appearance, will have an opportunity to respond at the meeting, and has the right to present documents or call witnesses to testify on their behalf at the meeting; (5) a statement that the PC has the right to be represented by a designated representative; (6) a statement that any request for an extension of time of the meeting to discuss the removal must be submitted to the LD28 Secretary no less than ten (10) days in advance of the date designated for the meeting. If the LD28 Executive Committee determines that a request for an extension of time is made in good faith and is timely, it may extend the meeting date to discuss removal for an additional 30 days unless good cause is given by the PC for a longer extension of time.
2. **Meeting of the District Executive Committee.** The LD 28 Chair may preside over the meeting where the recommendation for removal is discussed and voted on. If the LD 28 Chair is a potential witness to the behavior alleged as the basis of removal, or otherwise has a conflict of interest, the meeting should be presided over by LD 28 Officers in the following order: First Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair. If neither the Chair nor Vice-Chairs are able to preside, the meeting should be conducted by a District Chair of another District. Any request by the PC for an extension of time of the removal meeting must be submitted to the LD 28 Secretary no less than ten (10) days in advance of the date scheduled for the meeting. If the LD 28 Executive Committee determines that the request for the extension of time is made in good faith and is timely, they may extend the meeting date for an additional thirty (30) days, unless good cause is given by the PC for a longer extension of time. The meeting should be recorded or transcribed verbatim. A representative of the LD 28 Executive Committee must present the reasons for potential removal and give the PC whose removal is sought a chance to respond. The PC may respond orally and/or in writing and must be given the opportunity to present documents or call witnesses to testify on their behalf before any vote on a recommendation for removal. The LD 28 Executive Committee may then vote to recommend the removal of the PC by majority vote.

3. Removal Vote by MCDP Executive Committee. If the LD 28 Executive Committee recommends the removal of a PC, the LD 28 Chair shall send all materials related to the removal recommendation to the Chair of MCDP, who shall promptly schedule a meeting of the MCDP Executive Committee to vote on whether to remove the PC from office. If the county does not have an Executive Committee, the Chair of MCDP shall convene a special committee to meet and vote in the same manner as a county Executive Committee for purposes of PC removal. No fewer than fourteen (14) days before the meeting of the MCDP Executive Committee at which that vote will be held, the MCDP Secretary must send written notice to the LD 28 Chair and the PC whose removal from office is being sought. The written notice must include: (a) all documentation related to the recommended removal, including the recording or transcript of the LD 28 Executive Committee meeting during which removal was recommended, (b) the date, time, and location of the meeting where the matter will be discussed and voted on, (c) a statement that the PC whose removal is being sought may provide an additional written statement in advance of the meeting and will have an opportunity to speak at the meeting, and (d) a statement that the LD 28 Chair (or their designee) may provide an additional written statement in advance of the meeting and will have an opportunity to speak at the meeting. The MCDP Executive Committee removal proceeding must be recorded or transcribed verbatim. After the PC and LD 28 Chair (or their designee) are provided a reasonable opportunity to speak, the PC may be removed by a majority vote of the MCDP Executive Committee.

B. If the MCDP Executive Committee removes a PC.

The MCDP Chair must promptly send a written notice and recommendation to the County Board of Supervisors pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-821(B).

1. Suspension pending removal. A PC may be suspended from all official duties and activities of LD 28 and any committee of MCDP pending the completion of removal proceedings under Subsection B of this Section by a majority vote of the LD 28 Executive Committee if it determines that a suspension is immediately necessary to prevent a risk of ongoing harm to MCDP, LD 28, or any third person and:
2. The reason for the suspension was specified by written notice to the PC describing with specificity the conduct under this Section that presents a risk of ongoing harm to MCDP, LD 28, or any third person;
3. The PC was provided with no less than forty-eight (48) hours of written notice (via email or mail when email is not available) of the LD 28 Executive Committee's intent to hold a suspension vote, including notice of the date of the suspension meeting;
4. The PC was provided an opportunity to address the LD 28 Executive Committee in writing prior to the vote to suspend the PC. The PC's written response may be submitted by their designated representative.
5. The LD 28 Executive Committee must hold a removal meeting as set forth in Section 2(B) of this Article no later than thirty (30) days after the effective date of the suspension unless the PC presents the LD 28 Executive Committee with good cause for an extension of time. If good cause is presented by the PC for an extension of time, the

meeting to determine removal should be rescheduled within thirty

- a. (30) days, unless the PC presents good cause for a longer extension of time.
6. Any meeting at which a vote to suspend a PC is discussed or taken must be recorded or transcribed verbatim.
 7. A suspension under this Subsection will terminate upon the earlier of the following:
 - a. The LD 28 Executive Committee voting not to recommend the PC's removal under Subsection B of this Section;
 - b. The MCDP Executive Committee voting not to remove the PC under Subsection B of this Section;
 - c. The LD 28 Executive Board's failing to hold a removal proceeding under Subsection 2 of this Article within 30 days, excluding any extension of time granted upon request of the PC;
 - d. The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors determining that the PC's office is vacant under A.R.S. § 16-821(A).

Article VI: Legislative District Committee

Section 1: Membership

Democratic PCs, activists, and volunteers who reside in the legislative district are members of the District Committee. Democratic activists and volunteers have voting rights at regular meetings only.

Section 2: Elected Officers

Elected District Committee officers are the Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms. One person may serve as Secretary and Treasurer. Together these officers constitute the Executive Board hereafter referred to as the District Board. District Officers are elected at the Organizational Meeting [See Article VIII, Section 1].

Section 3: District Officer Vacancies

If a District Officer resigns, is removed from office or dies in office, the position shall be filled by a majority vote of the members of the District Committee at the next regular meeting unless that meeting is less than 30 days from the date the seat was vacated. In such a case the vacancy will be announced at the next meeting and the election to fill the vacancy will be the following regular meeting. [See Article VIII, Section 2, Regular Meetings]

If the Chair's position is the vacancy, the First Vice Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair until an election can be held. If the First Vice Chair is elected Chair, then on that day the First Vice Chair seat will be considered vacant and filled through the regular process.

If a District Officer is absent for three consecutive monthly meetings without cause, such absence shall be deemed a resignation.

Section 4: Duties of Officers

A. District Chair

1. Lead the district on behalf of the Democratic Party and its candidates.
2. Hold regular and special meetings. Preside over the District Board.
3. Attend all MCDP Executive Committee meetings or send a statutory officer who will have voting rights as a designee.
4. Assist in the organization, maintenance, and support of Democratic Clubs.
5. Organize and promote voter registration drives within the district.
6. Encourage financial support of the District, MCDP and State Committee.

7. Hold District Board meetings at least three times per year to set district goals and priorities.
 8. Identify and nominate Democrats to be Election Board workers (poll workers) from each precinct if not done by the PCs in a timely manner.
 9. Encourage participation in district and MCDP committees and activities.
 10. Appoint Chairs of the Standing Committees and ad hoc committees. Standing Committee Chairs serve at the pleasure of the District Chair.
- B. Vice Chairs
1. The vice chairs shall assist the Chair in the performance of their duties.
 2. Serve as Chair in their absence.
 3. Perform other duties as assigned by the Chair.
- C. Secretary
1. The Secretary shall record and archive minutes of all meetings of the District and District Board Committees.
 2. Keep records of the District Committee, including the names of all precinct captains, PCs, and other party volunteers.
 3. Perform other duties as assigned by the Chair.
- D. Treasurer
1. Supervise receipt of all monies and make deposits in such banks as approved by the District Committee and/or the Executive Board
 2. Disburse funds in the amounts and manner approved by the District Committee and/or the Executive Board and shall keep a record of all receipts and disbursements for the purposes of filing a monthly written report of these transactions to the District Committee.
 3. Register the district as a continuing political organization and prepare and submit the required financial reports to the Secretary of State.
 4. Treasurer shall be removed from office for dishonesty, malfeasance, or the failure to timely perform statutorily required duties.
 5. The Treasurer shall not permit unlawful political contributions and shall have final veto power over the authorization or disbursement of any expenditure, including overriding a directive from the Chair or a vote of the District Board or District Committee.
 6. May serve on the Fundraising Committee.
 7. The Treasurer, with the assistance of the District Board and the Advisory board, will develop a budget for a period of not less than 18 months and submit in a timely manner to the District Committee for approval.
 8. Make reports to the Internal Revenue Service as needed.
 9. Maintains an active inventory of all the property of the District Committee.
- E. Sergeant at Arms

1. At all meetings shall ensure all bylaws, rules and traditions are respected by everyone and that parliamentary procedures are followed. This person may also call meetings to order as well as adjourn meetings.
 2. The Sergeant at Arms is responsible for security at meetings and ensures that attendees do not disrupt meetings.
 3. Performs other duties as assigned by the Chair.
- F. Designated Executive Board Member.
1. Ensures that meeting space is properly set up with desired furniture, audio/visual equipment, and materials.

Section 5: Duties of the District Board

- A. Approve the District Budget after coordination with all members of the District Board and selected members of the District Committee.
- B. Make spending decisions on items not budgeted or items which are contingency in nature relative to the approved budget.
- C. Planning and scheduling regular and other meetings of the District Committee.
- D. Coordinating joint activities with clubs, groups, or other organizations.
- E. Make recommendations to the District Committee regarding resolutions to be adopted by the District Committee or submitted to the MCDP or ADP Resolutions Committee.
- F. Set District Committee goals and priorities.

Section 6: Duties of the District Committee

- A. Adopt and modify the District Budget.
- B. Vote to fill vacancies on the District Board.
- C. Adopt resolutions in support of or opposition to an issue or person.
- D. Adopt and amend the Bylaws of the District Committee.

Section 7: Removal from Office

Elected LD 28 Officers

- A. Any LD 28 officer elected other than the Chair may be removed for cause by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the current membership of the LD 28 Executive Committee.
- B. The Chair may be removed from office if a special meeting is called per Article III, Section 1.C and two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members in attendance vote in favor of the motion to remove the Chair. The office shall be deemed vacant, and the vacancy shall be filled per Section 4 of this Article.
- C. Causes for which any officer of LD 28 may be subject to removal from office shall

include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Public support of an opposition party candidate in a partisan election.
2. Malfeasance in office.
3. Failure to carry out the duties of the office.
4. Violation of the ADP Code of Conduct.
5. Violation of local, state, or federal law that causes unfavorable publicity to LD 28 and the Arizona Democratic Party or impairs the ability of the officer to perform their duties.
6. Acts of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion.
7. Conduct towards others that could endanger anyone's safety; that could be considered bullying, abusive, threatening, or coercive; or that could be considered sexual harassment, assault, or violence.
8. Conviction of a felony.
9. Failure to report or remedy a conflict of interest as described in Section 5 of these Bylaws.
10. Any other offense of equal magnitude to the above

Article VII: Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees

- A. Strategic and Long-Term Planning Committee
- B. Social Media and Communications Committee
- C. Fundraising Committee
- D. Voter Registration Committee
- E. VAN Committee
- F. Bylaws Committee
- G. Advisory Committee
- H. Peoria Affairs Committee

Section 2: Membership

Membership on each standing committee shall be open to registered Democrats who are willing to serve as members.

Section 3: Duties of the Committees

- A. Strategic and Long-Term Planning Committee: Assist the District Board by analyzing voting patterns and identifying opportunities for improving election outcomes.

Recommend how to use human and financial resources in the most effective manner. Maintain records of each significant initiative that includes an executive summary, description of the voter universe targeted, materials used, financial and human resources consumed, methods employed, and results of identified measurement tools. Prepare a report following each general election summarizing the major initiatives conducted by the District Committee over the past two years including a judgment of what worked well and what did not. Maintain a history of these bi-annual reports and make recommendations to the newly elected Board not later than March 31st of odd numbered years.

- B. Social Media and Communications Committee: Assist the District Board by coordinating social media activity using digital platforms such as Facebook, X, Bluesky, Instagram, the District Committee website, and email. Coordinate any activity with the Treasurer to ensure adherence to election laws.
- C. Fundraising Committee: Propose and execute fundraising activities. All activities are to be approved by the Treasurer.
- D. Voter Registration Committee: Plan and execute events, activities, and programs to register voters.
- E. VAN (Voter Activation Network) Committee: All members of the committee shall be PCs unless otherwise approved by the District Chair and will have access to the VAN. Assist the District Secretary in the maintenance of records that identify precinct captains, PCs, and volunteers. Prepare lists of voters and/or volunteers for use in canvassing, phone banking, and other activities.
- F. Bylaws Committee: Maintain the Bylaws of the District Committee consistent with the aims and policies of the Party and propose changes. Proposed changes to the District Bylaws must be submitted to the District Board 30 days in advance of the District Committee meeting so they can be reviewed, recommended actions executed, and distributed to the PCs.
- G. Advisory Committee: Past leadership members of the District Committee are invited to join the Advisory Committee. The Committee is invited to attend executive board meetings to provide past experience concerning policy matters involving the District Board and District Chair.
- H. Peoria Affairs Committee. Monitors candidates for local down ballot elections.

Section 4: Ad Hoc Committees

Ad hoc Committees may be established by the District Chair.

Article VIII: Meetings of the District Committee

Section 1: Organizational Meeting

The ballot-elected PCs shall meet no earlier than the second Saturday after the General Election in November and no later than the first Saturday in the following December for the purpose of electing from their number the District Officers. No additional agenda items are permitted except as provided under Article XIII of these Bylaws. District Officers will serve a two-year term beginning January 1st following election.

No later than fifteen (15) days before the district organizational meeting, the Chair shall designate a date, time, and place for the meeting.

The District Chair or Chair's designee on the Board shall mail written notice of the date, time, and place of the organizational meeting 10 days in advance, to all PCs who were elected at the primary election.

Section 2: Regular Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held at least every other month in off election years and each month during election years unless canceled in advance at a regular.

Section 3: Special Meetings

The District Board may call special meetings of the PCs from time to time and fix the date, time, and place of such meetings. The District Board shall call a special meeting of the PCs upon receipt of a petition signed by not fewer than 15 ballot elected or appointed PCs. The petition must include an agenda for the special meeting. The District Board shall call said meeting for a time not more than thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the petition.

Section 4: Notice of All Meetings Authorized by this Article

Except when a 30-day notice is required under Article VI, Section 3, no later than fifteen (15) days before the meeting, the Chair shall designate a date, time, and place for the meeting and notify members. District Committee members shall receive notice of a meeting either by mail, by posting on the District Committee website, by including notice in the District's newsletter, or by announcement at the prior month's regular meeting. Such notice shall include a tentative agenda and whether the meeting will be in-person or held remotely.

Section 5: One Person, One Vote

Notwithstanding that an individual may occupy more than one office of the District Committee or District Board, only one vote shall be exercised by each person on any action or decision.

Section 6: Programs for Meetings

The District Board shall approve the program and agenda for regular and special meetings. The agenda shall be presented online, in the district's newsletter, or at the beginning of such meetings, except that the agenda for special meetings requested by petition shall be supplied with the petition.

Section 7: Debate

Reports of committees, communications to the members of a meeting, resolutions presented, and all motions may be debated unless by a two-thirds vote the meeting body decides to dispose of them without debate. No member shall speak longer than three minutes at one time except as provided in the order of the day or by a majority vote of the members present.

Section 8: Rules of Order

At all meetings prescribed by or held under the auspices of these Bylaws, unless otherwise specifically provided in these Bylaws, Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the conduct of business and other procedures. Majority rules except as provided in Article XIII and Article VIII, Section 7.

Section 9: Open Meetings

All meetings of the District Committee shall be open to the public.

Article IX: Election of District Committee Officers

Section 1: Nomination

All nominations shall be made from the floor of the District Committee meeting. Any ballot-elected or subsequently appointed PC may be eligible for any elective office, but no person shall be submitted as a candidate without the consent of such person.

Section 2: Manner of Election

If there is one candidate for an office, that candidate may be elected by acclamation. If there are two candidates for an office, the winner must have a majority vote. If there are three or more candidates, they shall be elected using Ranked Choice Voting System.

Section 3: Proxies

No proxy voting shall be permitted.

Article X: Affiliated Organizations

Section 1: Organizations

Clubs, groups, or organizations are encouraged to become an affiliated member of the District Committee so that they may participate in the services and resources of the District Committee. Affiliation requirements:

- A. District Board approval.
- B. Bylaws of the organization do not conflict with these Bylaws, the ADP or conflict with State or National laws.
- C. Financial reports and Statement of Organization are filed with the Secretary of State as required by Arizona Revised Statutes

Section 2: Termination of Affiliation

The District Board may terminate an organization's affiliation by a majority vote.

Article XI: State Committee

Section 1: Membership

The District Committee's delegation to the State Committee of the Democratic Party shall consist of the number of PCs from the legislative district as prescribed under State law (one State Committee member for each three duly elected PCs) [A.R.S. § 16-825, Article 2]. These members shall be elected in an open nomination and election process at the District Committee's organizational meeting.

Section 2: Vacancies

A vacancy in the State Committee shall be filled by appointment made by the State Chair.

Article XII: Campaign Work and Candidacies

Section 1: Paid Campaign Work

District Board officers cannot be paid for campaign work for any candidate while currently serving on the District Board.

Section 2: Running for Office

If a District Board officer files to run for a salaried Democratic Party office, they have fifteen days from the date of filing to resign their position. If they fail to do so, they shall be automatically considered resigned after fifteen days and their seat will be vacated.

Article XIII: Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1: Amendment Action

These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the District Committee members present at a regular meeting of the District Committee.

Section 2: Amendment Process

The proposed Bylaw change(s) shall be referred to the District Bylaws Committee who must ensure that the proposed changes comply with Arizona Revised Statutes and ADP. The proposed change(s) are then added to the agenda of a regular meeting of the District Committee. All PCs shall be mailed a copy of the proposed Bylaw amendment with the notice of the District Committee meeting.

Section 3: Termination

A motion to terminate these Bylaws may be made at the organizational meeting during 'New Business'. Such motion shall require an approval of 75 percent of members present.

Section 4: Duration

These Bylaws shall become effective upon approval and shall continue in force subject to amendment or termination as defined in Sections 2 and 3 of this Article.

Section 5: Severability

Any provision in the Bylaws determined to be unconstitutional or unlawful following legal or administrative review shall be considered null and void but all remaining provisions remain in effect. These Bylaws are subordinate to Arizona Revised Statutes and the ADP Bylaws.