



GPVA LISTSERV PROTOCOL

as adopted

September 8, 2012, Front Royal, VA.

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Section 1: Listserv Organization

1.1 Definition

List / Listserv / Forum are terms used interchangeably to refer to a group of people (members) who can send emails to a common email address and have those emails disseminated to the other people who are in the group.

1.2 GPVA Listservs

1.2(a) The GPVA maintains various listservs to facilitate party business, including: three general listservs designated as the Announcement, Business, and Discussion lists, as well as, several committee listservs dedicated to committee business, and other listservs as the co-chairs create from time to time.

1.2(b) The Announcement list is a read only listserv that is reserved for use by the co-chairs in disseminating announcements of meetings, events and other important business.

1.2(c) The Business list is reserved for use by the members in corresponding about formal party business.

1.2(d) The Discussion list is reserved for use by the members in corresponding about political matters generally and issues of interest to GPVA.

1.2(e) Subscription to the aforementioned listservs is generally limited to the members of the GPVA.

1.2(f) Subscription to committee listservs is generally limited to the members of GPVA.

1.2(g) Except as otherwise indicated herein, all GPVA members are permitted to post to the general GPVA listservs, and all committee members are permitted to post to the committee listservs.

1.2(h) Private correspondence should not be sent to any official GPVA listserv.

1.3 Listserv Moderator

1.3(a) The GPVA shall elect as Moderator a GPVA member in good standing who is not a co-chair, who shall serve for a term of one year. In the event of resignation or other vacancy, the co-chairs will appoint an interim Moderator to fill the balance of the term.

1.3(b) The Moderator shall provide annual reports to GPVA via the Business list. These reports shall include the number of: informal advisories, official warnings and probations.

Section 2: Listserv Protocol

2.1 Posts Must Be Identified By Author

2.1(a) All list posts should be signed at the bottom of every message to identify the author.

2.2 General Netiquette

2.2(a) In general, when quoting other messages, the person quoted should be properly cited, and extraneous text (including headers, footers, irrelevant messages to the section being responded to when replying to a digest, and the like) should be deleted.

2.2(b) Non-substantive one-word replies should be sent off-list.

2.2(c) Violations of General Netiquette guidelines can result in written informal reminders from the Moderator.

2.2(d) Repeated off topic posting, over posting and other disregard for the purpose of the lists can be grounds for an official warning.

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2.3 Verbal Abuse Prohibited

2.3(a) Insults, name-calling, sexist/sexual, racist, homophobic, or otherwise belittling, demeaning or degrading comments will not be tolerated.

2.3(b) Personal, one-on-one arguments are inappropriate and should be taken off list for one-on-one communication.

2.3(c) Hateful, abusive, and threatening language directed at other Green Party members is prohibited.

2.3(d) Unwarranted attacks of an ad hominem nature are prohibited.

2.3(e) Making false and defamatory accusations on the listserv against another list member, a Green Party officer, delegate, candidate, committee, caucus or the Green Party itself that can be clearly and objectively disproven, is prohibited. If such accusations are made unintentionally, a retraction is called for. Failure to retract such allegations can result in an action by the Moderator.

2.3(f) All listserv members are strongly encouraged to bear in mind the official nature of the lists and refrain from the use of obscene or profane language.

Section 3: Enforcement of Listserv Protocol

3.1 The Moderator may send informal advisories to posters to encourage protocol compliance. The Moderator must make every attempt to address individual complaints regarding offending posts. This may include contacting the author of the offending post and counseling the author on constructive, neutral, and effective ways to communicate.

3.2 List members may file a complaint about a specific post directly with the Moderator. Complaints will not be publicly posted to the listserv. List members are encouraged to send informal complaints privately to offending members to encourage cooperation. If filing a complaint with the Moderator, a list member should include copies of complaints sent directly to the offending member.

3.3 After two informal advisories within a six month period, if the Moderator determines that the listserv protocol has been violated a third time by the offending member, an official private warning will be sent to the member by the Moderator. The Moderator will respond to complaints in a uniform fashion and maintain electronic records of all official warnings. Official warnings remain in effect for six months.

3.4. List members who receive a second official warning within six months will be placed on probation, including moderation of the messages they post. The local representative of the member placed on probation will be notified immediately of this occurrence. The Moderator will review all proposed submissions from the probated member and will only forward those posts that do not violate the listserv protocol. Probation shall be for a term not to exceed three (3) months. Completion of probation clears the record of official warnings.

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Send your comments & suggestions to the [Webmaster](#).

The Green Party of Virginia

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