

CALL

THE CHESAPEAKE VIRGINIA DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION ASSEMBLED CAUCUS TO ELECT MEMBERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

1. **Authority:**

Pursuant to the authority provided by the Democratic Party of Virginia Democratic Party Plan, The Chesapeake Democratic Committee hereby calls a reorganization Assembled Caucus. This Caucus will be held from 6PM-8PM on **Thursday January 8th, 2026**, at the Indian River Community Center 2250 Old Greenbrier Rd, Chesapeake VA 23325. **Doors will close at 6:15 PM.** The assembled Caucus will be overseen by Dr. Winston Odom, Les Smith and Annette Kelley. Dr. Winston Odom will serve as the Committee temporary Chair. All appropriate provisions of the Virginia Democratic Party Plan ("State Party Plan"), as amended, and the Bylaws ("Bylaws") of the Chesapeake Democratic Committee are incorporated into this Call by reference and made a part hereof.

2. **Purpose:**

The sole purpose of this reorganization shall be to elect members of the Chesapeake Democratic Committee (CDC) for two-year terms, in accordance with the State Party Plan and Bylaws.

3. **Membership Filing Deadline and Requirements:**

Any registered voter living in the city of Chesapeake may submit a CDC Membership Application along with the \$40.00 membership dues. Registered voters between the ages of **18-25** membership dues are \$20.00 The applicant must meet the requirements specified by the State Party Plan and the Bylaws. Application forms may be obtained from the attachment for completion and submission by e-mail. Payment can be made by clicking on this link to submit it online: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/cdcreorg2026> (no other links are valid)

Once the paper application is completed, applicants may submit their form and payment using any of the following options:

- **Mail the application to:
Chesapeake Democratic Committee**

**P.O. Box 2691
Chesapeake, VA 23327**

- **Hand-deliver or mail** the application to one of the following:
 - **Dr. Winston Odom** – 1002 Rabbit Run, Chesapeake, VA 23320;
drwool1998@aol.com
 - **Les Smith** – 727 Meta Pointe Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23323;
lessiesmith06@gmail.com
 - **Annette Kelley** – 2308 Broadnax Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23323;
annette.p.kelley@gmail.com

Applications can be accepted as early as **Monday, December 1st at Noon.**

Individuals seeking membership are highly encouraged to submit their application via email to a committee member. All information should be typed or neatly printed.

The deadline for turning in applications will be Wednesday, December 31st at 5PM.

Individuals that have filled out a paper application, submitted it to a committee member and have met the eligibility requirements will receive an email from the member you submitted your application to on or before **Monday, January 5th.**

Committee members must give all membership applications he/she collects along with any payment of dues directly to Reagan Davis for processing on or before **January 5th.** Reagan Davis will notify Dr. Odom, Les Smith and Annette Kelley via email confirming all applications are in his possession on **Tuesday, January 6th.**

Dr. Winston Odom, Les Smith, Annette Kelley, and Reagan Davis will be the only individuals allowed to see the official list of individuals that have completed the application for membership.

Any request for a copy of the membership list prior to the election will be denied.

Individuals who cannot afford the membership fee may obtain a confidential waiver by submitting a financial hardship application along with their membership application to temporary Chair Dr. Winston Odom. The financial hardship application is attached to this email.

4. Candidate Filing Deadline and Requirements:

All candidates running for office (Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, 3rd Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Financial Secretary and Sergeant at Arms) must meet the requirements specified by the State Party Plan and the Bylaws and must submit a candidate filing form. Filing Forms may

be obtained from the attachment to this e-mail. The Candidate Filing Form will be available on **December 1st at Noon**. A job description for each position will be a part of the Call to Caucus announcement.

The candidate filing form must be received by **5:00 PM on Wednesday, December 31st** to the temporary Chair Dr. Winston Odom via email, by mail or by hand. The temporary Chair will email the candidate a receipt acknowledging to the candidate the filing form has been received. Les Smith and Annette Kelley will be cc'd on the email sent to the candidate. The temporary Chair will make the names of all candidate's public along with their contact information to the committee no later than **Monday, January 5th, 2026**.

All individuals who have properly submitted their names for candidacy will be on the ballot for the Assembled Caucus on **Thursday, January 8th**.

5. Notice Requirements:

It shall be the duty of the Chesapeake Democratic Committee and its officers to ensure this call receives the widest possible dissemination.

6. Voting Eligibility and Requirements:

Any Democrat who is registered to vote in the City of Chesapeake Virginia and has submitted an application on or before December 31st at 5PM may attend and vote in the reorganization, provided that he or she signs a declaration that he or she is a Democrat, is a registered voter in the City of Chesapeake Virginia, believes in the principles of the Democratic Party, and does not intend to support any candidate who is opposed to a Democratic endorsed or nominated candidate in the next ensuing election.

7. Outreach:

Participation in the Caucus is open to all registered voters who wish to participate as Democrats. The Chesapeake Democratic Committee shall conduct a vigorous outreach effort to ensure that all members of the Democratic community are aware of the reorganization and how to participate. Such outreach shall be directed to all Democratic constituencies, including groups such as ethnic minorities, young people, persons over 65 years of age, lesbians and gay men, persons with a high school education or less, persons with differing abilities, and persons of low and moderate income.

8. Election of Chesapeake Democratic Committee Officers:

The officers of the Committee shall be elected by the newly organized Committee. Voting shall be by secret ballot of the members that have met the requirements for membership. The Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) has mandated the temporary Chair to come up with a system that allows the party to track each individual vote to the voter that cast that vote. In the event of a tie, the vote shall be retaken by secret ballot at the following meeting on **Thursday, February 12th**. If there is still a tie, a coin shall be tossed to determine the winner. If on **Thursday, February 12th** an open position is still available on the Executive Board nominations will be taken from the floor.

If only one person qualifies to run for an Executive Board position by the December 31st deadline, that individual will be the presumptive winner.

If only one person qualifies to run for each Executive Board position, Dr. Winston Odom, Les Smith and Annette Kelley are authorized to cancel the election and notify the winners and the newly organized committee on or before **Monday, January 5th**.

January 8th will then turn into a regular meeting for the newly organized executive board and body.

9. Prohibited Use of Party Data and Communication Systems

The use of any data, contact lists, or communication resources that were created or intended for Chesapeake Democratic Committee (CDC) business is strictly prohibited for campaign purposes in the reorganization process.

This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Past or current CDC email lists, including lists used for internal communication, general body meeting notices, subcommittee communication, or volunteer coordination.
2. Vote Builder or any data extracted from Vote Builder.
3. Any login-protected or privileged party resources accessible only through a CDC role or committee assignment past or present.

Candidates for any CDC office are prohibited from using these materials to contact voters, solicit support, or engage in any form of campaign outreach.

Any candidate who is discovered to have used CDC data or communication systems for campaign purposes shall be subject to immediate review by the Reorganization Board. Upon confirmation of such a violation, the three-member Reorganization Board may vote to disqualify the candidate from seeking office in the 2026–2028 reorganization cycle.

10. Meet the Candidates

Dr. Winston Odom, Les Smith and Annette Kelley will oversee a zoom Meet the Candidates night. The date and time will be at their discretion. Meet the Candidates is NOT a debate but an opportunity for each candidate to share their background and vision for the position they are seeking, the only individuals that will be permitted on the zoom will be those that have meet the membership requirements to participate in reorganization. Questions from the body will be permitted to be asked to the candidates. However, endorsement statements and/or speeches along with personal attacks from the candidates or the body will not be permitted.

11. Candidates Speeches on Election Night

The Candidates that are involved in a contested election for Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, 3rd Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Financial Secretary and Sergeant at Arms will have the opportunity to speak to the new membership for up to 5 minutes before the vote. One of the Board Members will serve as the timekeeper.

Best Regards,

CDC Reorganization Committee

Winston Odom, Chair

Les Smith, Member

Annette Kelley, Member