



# Michigan Libertarian Newsletter

January, 2026

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## Go to YouTube for Libertarian Party of Michigan Meetings



YouTube is the place to find videos of the meetings of the Libertarian Party of Michigan Executive Committee (LEC). There is also a video of the January 17<sup>th</sup> convention. [Click here to see these videos.](#)

On Sunday, February 8th at 7:00, there is the regular meeting of the Libertarian Party of Michigan Libertarian Committee. All members are welcome to join this zoom meeting by [clicking here](#).

**Social Media:** [Follow us on Facebook](#) [Follow us on X](#) [YouTube Channel](#)



# **LIBERTARIAN** **PARTY OF MICHIGAN**

## **Valued Board Member John Jascob Passes Away, April Event Planned**

John Jascob, a long-time member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, recently passed away after a year-long battle with cancer.

John was the district 5 Representative on the Libertarian Executive Committee at the time of his death. He was also active in the Huron-Raisin Affiliate.

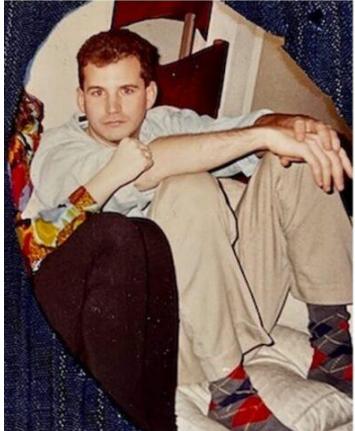
A moment of silence was held at the recent convention in John's memory

There will also be a "John Jascob Memorial Jam" on Sunday April 12th at 2:00 pm in Romulus. [Click here for more information about this event.](#)

[Click here to see John Jascob's obituary.](#)

## ***John Max Jascob***

**1964 - 2026**





## Convention Produces Senate Candidate, Delegates to National Convention

A successful convention for the 2026 Libertarian Party of Michigan was held on January 17, 2026 at the H Hotel, in Midland. [You can click here to watch a recording of the convention.](#)

The convention started with a moment of silence for John Jascob, a board member who recently passed away. He will be missed.

The first order of business was to have the delegates from Michigan's 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District select a



candidate for the upcoming special election in May. Congratulations to Ali Sledz, who was selected as the Libertarian Senate candidate! [Click here for more information about Ali Sledz.](#)

Following the Senate candidate selection, there was a nominating process to select delegates for the upcoming national convention. 34 national delegates and 50

alternates were selected out of 100 nominations. Our chair Tim Teagen is also a delegate. [Click here to see a complete list of delegates and alternates.](#)

The people on this list will represent the state party at the [National Libertarian Convention will be held on May 21-25 in Grand Rapids, Michigan](#). This is the first time the national convention has been in Michigan! All members as well as the public are welcome to attend the national conference.

During the afternoon session in Midland, members selected several new state party leaders and voted on some business matters and public statements. The evening was a lot of fun including a happy hour mixer, dinner with speakers, and Libby Awards.

Everyone who attended seemed to agree that this convention was a success. Soon we will begin planning a spring convention to nominate our candidates. We hope to make this spring convention convenient to more members, and less expensive since many of us will have three conventions to attend this year!

## Libertarian Delegates Oppose ICE, National Guard Beyond Disaster Relief

The following motion was approved by delegates attending the convention for the Libertarian Party of Michigan held on January 17, 2026 in Midland, Michigan:

"The Libertarian Party of Michigan supports the abolition of ICE and opposes the use of national guard for any reason other than disaster relief."

This statement has generated lots of discussion on our Facebook page. [Feel free to check out our page and give your opinion!](#)



## **Ali Sledz Selected as Senate Candidate for Special Election in 35<sup>th</sup> District**

Ali Sledz has been selected as the Libertarian Party of Michigan's candidate for Michigan's 35<sup>th</sup> District Senate seat! The election of Ali by voting delegates was held at the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 convention at the H Hotel in Midland.

You can [click here](#) see Ali explaining many of her views in a video interview with the Libertarian Executive Committee a few months ago by She also had a recent interview with WCMU, which can be found by [clicking here](#).

Ali will be one of three candidates on the ballot for the May 5<sup>th</sup> special election. The Democrats and Republicans will each select their candidate at a February 3<sup>rd</sup> primary.

Ali has been a voting Libertarian since 2012. She was active in the party when she lived in Georgia, and helped with the Gary Johnson campaign.

She believes that messaging needs to be more inclusive for people who are mostly libertarian, but may not agree with the party 100%.

Ali has a background in sales, and is skilled at talking to people. As a stay-at-home mom and Master's counseling student at Oakland University, she also has listening skills and feels that is important to voters. She wants to help people, be available and meet them where they're at.

"That's what I feel like I'm good at," Sledz said. "We [the district] haven't had a voice in months. The governor refused to call an election, and we haven't had a voice and that's a problem. So, who better to give a voice than me?"

Her number one issue would be the state budget, and her main focus is on lowering taxes for Michiganders, something she has referred to as "increasingly excessive."

"Taxation that has to happen needs to be more succinct," Sledz told WCMU.

"It cannot just be that we're spending money wherever we want. There has to be a reason. I want very clear direction in where money is going."

For more information or to communicate with Ali, please email her at [sledzforlp@gmail.com](mailto:sledzforlp@gmail.com) or go to her [Facebook page](#).



# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

## Districts Choose New Representatives/Straw Poll for Political Vice-Chair

Several elections for party leaders for the Libertarian Party of Michigan were held at the Convention on January 17, 2026 at the H Hotel in Midland.

The convention started with members objecting to holding a vote for the vacant seat for **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair** due to lack of a 60-day notice. The delegates voted to have a straw poll for the position, with the results to be voted on by the Libertarian Executive Committee at their February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Trevor Step won the straw poll.

**Congressional District 11** selected Dave Franklin to continue in his role as representative on the Libertarian Executive Committee. District 11 contains several communities in Oakland County

**Congressional District 12** selected Andrew Chadderdon as their representative. District 12 consists of parts of both Oakland and Wayne Counties.

**Congressional District 5**, which was represented by John Jascob who passed away, chose Larry Henneman as their representative. Because of lack of notice, the board has to vote whether to accept the members' recommendation for District 5. This vote will occur at the February 8<sup>th</sup> LEC meeting.

District 5 includes Branch, Cass, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee Counties as well as parts of Monroe, St. Joseph, Berrien, and Kalamazoo counties.





# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

## Libby Awards Presented at State Convention

Three individuals were awarded “Libby Awards” when Libertarians met for an awards ceremony at the end of their January 17, 2026 convention in Midland, Michigan.

Chris Clark, who ran an outstanding campaign and was elected as City Councilman for Taylor, won the **“Promoter of Liberty Award.”** This is awarded to a libertarian whose efforts have done the most to promote the Libertarian Party and Libertarian principles.

Attorney Nic Curcio, who has assisted members of the party through legal issues, was awarded the **“Spokesperson for Liberty Award.”** This is awarded to a member of the community whose patriotism and conviction have inspired contributions to the cause of liberty. Angela Thornton accepted the award on his behalf.

Donna Gundle-Krieg, Secretary and Communications Chair for the Libertarian Party of Michigan, won the **Producer of Liberty Award.** This award is for a dedicated, behind-the-scenes Libertarian whose quiet labors over the years exemplifies the backbone of the Libertarian Party.

Congratulations to the winners!





## **Libertarian Party of Michigan Seeks 2026 Candidates, Committee Volunteers**



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Have you ever considered running for political office as a Libertarian?

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is currently seeking candidates for all positions in the 2026 elections.

Local candidates will be selected at local Libertarian meetings this spring, and approved at a spring convention on a date to be announced. Statewide candidates will be chosen at this same convention.

The positions on the 2026 ballot are as follows:

### **Local Positions**

The Libertarian Party encourages people to consider running at the local level, where it is easier for a third-party candidate to win and have an impact.

Municipal, township, county and school board positions are on the ballot in every town. These include both partisan and non-partisan positions such as mayors, city/town council members, clerks, treasurers, and trustees in cities, villages, and townships. Please attend local township, council, or school board meetings in your area as a first step to determine where a Libertarian might make the most difference.

### **Statewide Positions on the Ballot**

Voters in Michigan will elect one member to the U.S. Senate to fill the Class II Senate seat held by Gary Peters (D), who announced in January 2025 that he would not seek re-election.

Voters will also elect 13 candidates to serve in the U.S. House from each of the state's 13 U.S. House districts.

Other statewide positions include Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Board of Education (2 seats), Michigan State University Board of Trustees (2 seats), University of Michigan Board of Regents (2 seats), and Wayne State University Board of Governors (2 seats)

The terms of two Michigan Supreme Court justices will expire on January 1, 2027. These two non-partisan seats are on the ballot in November, as well as 10 non-partisan positions for Michigan intermediate appellate court judges.

Please carefully consider which position might be best for you!

Email [leadership@michiganlp.org](mailto:leadership@michiganlp.org) if you are interested in running as a candidate on the 2026 Michigan

ballot.

Please click [here](#) for more information on running as a Libertarian.



## Libertarian Party of Michigan Elected Officers

Chair Tim Teagan [chair@michiganlp.org](mailto:chair@michiganlp.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair / Affiliate Director Scotty Boman [vcaffiliates@michiganlp.org](mailto:vcaffiliates@michiganlp.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair / Political Director vacant [vcpoliticaldirector@michiganlp.org](mailto:vcpoliticaldirector@michiganlp.org)

Treasurer Andrew Duke [treasurer@michiganlp.org](mailto:treasurer@michiganlp.org)

Secretary Donna Gundle-Krieg [secretary@michiganlp.org](mailto:secretary@michiganlp.org)

District 1 Rep. Dana Carver [dist1rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist1rep@michiganlp.org)

District 2 Rep. Jay Gillotte [dist2rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist2rep@michiganlp.org)

District 3 Rep. Tori Hinrichs [dist3rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist3rep@michiganlp.org)

District 4 Rep. Rafael Wolf [dist4rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist4rep@michiganlp.org)

District 5 vacant [dist5rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist5rep@michiganlp.org)

District 6 Rep Lawrence Johnson [dist6rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist6rep@michiganlp.org)

District 7 Rep. Leah Dailey [dist7rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist7rep@michiganlp.org)

District 8 Rep. Angela Thornton [dist8rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist8rep@michiganlp.org)

District 9 Rep. Charles Essner [dist9rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist9rep@michiganlp.org)

District 10 Rep. Mike Saliba [dist10rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist10rep@michiganlp.org)

District 11 Rep. Dave Franklin [dist11rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist11rep@michiganlp.org)

District 12 Rep. Andrew Chadderdon [dist12rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist12rep@michiganlp.org)

District 13 Rep. Collin Fitzgerald [dist13rep@michiganlp.org](mailto:dist13rep@michiganlp.org)

**IT Director:** Jami Van Alstine Email: [ITDirector@michiganlp.org](mailto:ITDirector@michiganlp.org)

**Newsletter Director:** Donna Gundle-Krieg Email: [Secretary@michiganlp.org](mailto:Secretary@michiganlp.org)



Featured image by Chet Essner. From Left to Right, Back Row: Tori Hinrichs, Leah Dailey, Tim Teagan, Angela Thornton, Andrew Duke, John Hudak & Jay Gillotte. Middle Row: Charles Essner, Justin Miramonti, Donna Gundle-Krieg & Dana Carver. Front row: Scotty Boman, Dave Franklin, Larry Johnson & Mike Saliba.



## Affiliate Contacts:

Please contact local affiliate officers to learn how to become involved in your community!

**Capital Area:** Chair - Ben DeJong Phone: 616-916-6031 Email: [capitalarea@michiganlp.org](mailto:capitalarea@michiganlp.org)

**Huron-Raisin:** Chair - Carley Baker Email: [chair.hrlp@gmail.com](mailto:chair.hrlp@gmail.com)

**Livingston County:** Chair - Trevor Step Email: [Livingstonlibertarians@gmail.com](mailto:Livingstonlibertarians@gmail.com)

**Macomb County:** Chair - Mike Saliba Email: [themikesaliba@yahoo.com](mailto:themikesaliba@yahoo.com)

**Northern Michigan:** Chair - Stephanie Dean Phone: 231-620-5280 Email: [cory0269@yahoo.com](mailto:cory0269@yahoo.com)

**Oakland County:** Chair - Leah Dailey Email: [fuleahrd@gmail.com](mailto:fuleahrd@gmail.com)

**Southwest Michigan:** Chair – Rafael Wolf Email: [rwolf@gmail.com](mailto:rwolf@gmail.com)

**Straits Area:** Chair - Andy Evans Phone: 231-625-8403 Email: [amevans\\_1968@yahoo.com](mailto:amevans_1968@yahoo.com)

**Thumb Area:** Chair - Connor Nepomuceno Email: [info@thumblp.org](mailto:info@thumblp.org)

**Upper Peninsula:** Chair - Ryan Roberts Phone: 906-420-2995 Email: [ryan\\_r03@hotmail.com](mailto:ryan_r03@hotmail.com)

**Wayne County:** Chair - Jami Van Alstine Email: [jamiracquel2004@yahoo.com](mailto:jamiracquel2004@yahoo.com)

**West Michigan:** Chair - Jordan Martin Email: [jord.martin02@protonmail.ch](mailto:jord.martin02@protonmail.ch)

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The Libertarian Party is committed to America's heritage of freedom: individual liberty and personal responsibility, a free-market economy of abundance and prosperity, a foreign policy of non-intervention, peace, and free trade.

Are you inspired by our ideals? [Click here](#) to join the party today, and consider running for office under our banner to get these ideals enacted in your community. [Click here](#) to donate to the party.

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<https://michiganlp.org/?p=64336>Executive Committee.