



## **2024 Presidential Delegate Plan & Options**

### **COVER MEMORANDUM**

The RNC has scheduled our 2024 Republican National Convention for July 15, 2024 to allow our Republican Presidential Nominee to compete most effectively with the Democrats. The RNC by-laws require that all state delegation selection processes be completed no later than 45 days prior to the Convention (by May 31, 2024).

Therefore the New Jersey Primary Election, which is scheduled for June 4, 2024, will not enable us to select our 49 delegates for the 2024 Republican National Convention.

**As a result, we must select our 49 national delegates prior to May 31, 2024.**

We do not believe that it is financially feasible for us to conduct a statewide Republican-only Presidential Primary Election before May 31, 2024. Accordingly, we must find another solution for selecting our delegates that will energize our Republican Party here in New Jersey, raise the state party profile in the national arena, and maximize the fundraising opportunity.

#### **The issues we must resolve:**

We must submit a plan to the RNC by October 1, 2023 that:

1. Details a specific time and location for our New Jersey State Convention
2. Details a specific method for how our state delegates will be allocated

#### **In doing so, the questions we must answer:**

1. When and where should our State convention take place, and how will it be funded?
2. How do we select delegates to participate in our State convention?
3. How should the 49 delegates be allocated?

#### **We have 49 delegates to the 2024 Republican National Convention:**

- **3 RNC Members (NJGOP Chairman, RNC National Committeeman, RNC National Committeewoman)**
- **10 Statewide At-Large Delegates**
- **3 Delegates for each of the 12 Congressional Districts in New Jersey**
- **We must provide alternate delegates**



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**I. DATE, LOCATION AND FINANCING**

**Option 1: Statewide Convention**

*Description:* Combining the existing NJGOP Statewide Leadership Summit with the New Jersey State Convention to elect delegates

**Date:** March 8 - 10, 2024

**Location:** Harrah’s Resort & Casino, Atlantic City

**NJGOP Statewide Leadership Summit**

Begins: Friday, March 8, 5:00pm

Ends: Saturday, March 9, 5:00pm

**NJ Presidential Convention**

Doors open: Sunday, March 10, 9:00am

Begins: Sunday, March 10, 12:00pm

Ends: Sunday, March 10, 5:00pm

**Finances:**

Budgeted Profit 2024: \$175,000 est. (2023 Actual Profit: \$140,000)

Extra day costs: \$50,000 est.

Voting machines costs: \$2,500 est.

Participation: an additional \$37,500 estimated due to State Presidential Convention activities

Sponsorships: an additional \$75,000 estimated due to State Presidential Convention activities

Presidential candidate speaking fees: \$75,000 estimated

Net Profit with State Convention in March: \$310,000 estimated

**Option 2: Statewide Convention Post NJ Filing Deadline**

**Description:** Combining delayed NJGOP Statewide Leadership Summit with a New Jersey State Convention subsequent to NJ filing deadline

**Date:** April 5-7, 2024 (previous weekend is Easter weekend)

**Location:** Harrah's Resort & Casino, Atlantic City

NJGOP Statewide Leadership Summit

Begins: Friday, April 5, 5:00pm

Ends: Saturday, April 6, 5:00pm

NJ Presidential Convention

Doors open: Sunday, April 7, 9:00am

Begins: Sunday, April 7, 12:00pm

Ends: Sunday, April 7, 5:00pm

**Finances:**

Budgeted Profit 2024: \$175,000 (2023 Actual Profit: \$140,000)

Extra costs by moving to April: \$25,000 est.

Extra day costs: \$60,000 est.

Voting machines costs: \$2,500 est.

Participation (\$15,000 less than option 1 est.) due to decreased Presidential Primary relevance & Summit timing

Sponsorships (none additional)

Presidential candidate speaking fees (\$0)

Net Profit with State Convention in April: \$110,000 estimated

We believe that either option 1 or 2 can be executed, though certain issues need to be addressed and resolved at our Tuesday, September 26, 2023 State Committee Meeting. Should we choose option 2, we must have a committed plan to handle the \$200,000 shortfall created by delay in the NJGOP Statewide Leadership Summit.

Option 1 provides advantages as far as cost, participation, and national attention. We will have the opportunity to capitalize on the post-Super Tuesday national excitement to maximize attendance and revenue at the Statewide Leadership Summit. We believe the benefits of this timing outweigh the challenges, and thus recommend Option 1.

**II. 2024 NEW JERSEY STATE CONVENTION PARTICIPANTS**

*Description:* We must detail the specific selection of delegates eligible to participate to vote in our New Jersey State Convention.

We have eliminated the extreme options for this portion of the process. We have eliminated the option of allowing the State Committee only to choose our 49 delegates to the Republican National Convention due to the lack of participation of Republicans more broadly and the PR challenges this path would create.

We have also eliminated the option of opening the convention to all registered Republicans in the State of New Jersey due to the challenges that would present from an execution perspective. We do not believe we could successfully manage an event without proper planning for potentially tens of thousands of participants.

Therefore, our recommendation is a convention that is large but manageable, between 400-750 delegates. We are providing you with a “strawman” on the following page that we will specifically vote on at the State Committee meeting on September 26. Prior to that, if you would like to make any changes to this approach, please contact Theresa Velardi (tvelardi@njgop.org).

# 2024 RNC PRESIDENTIAL CONVENTION

<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>GUEST COUNT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
RNC MEMBERS	3	+20	23
STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS	42	+126	168
NEW JERSEY COUNTY CHAIRS	21	+63	84
REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMEN	3	+15	18
FORMER GOVERNORS	5	+10	15
NJ STATE LEGISLATORS	62	+124	186
NJ REPUBLICAN SENATE & ASSEMBLY LEADERS	2	+10	12
NJGOP COALITION LEADERS	3	+6	9
NEW JERSEY FEDERATION GROUP LEADERS	25	+50	75
GRASSROOTS ACTIVISTS & AT-LARGE DELEGATES	TBA	TBA	50
<b>TOTAL DELEGATES:</b>			<b>450-750</b>
			<b>640</b>

\*If any individuals fit into more than one category above, that individual only has ONE delegate vote.  
The individual is NOT able to choose additional delegates\*

### III. NEW JERSEY PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATE ALLOCATION

*Description:* The state plan presented to the RNC on October 1st, 2023 must include a specific strategy to allocate New Jersey's 49 Presidential delegates depending on the results of our New Jersey State convention.

#### OPTIONS FOR NEW JERSEY PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATE ALLOCATION

- Option 1: *Proportional:*** Under this approach, we would allocate our 49 delegates proportionally based on the results of the convention. We can choose to allocate based either by statewide convention results or by congressional district results with a minimum support of 10%.
- Option 2: *Winner-take-all:*** Under this approach, if one candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, we would allocate all of the delegates and alternates to that candidate.
- Option 3: *Hybrid:*** Under this approach, we could award at-large delegates on a winner-take-all basis according to the statewide vote and congressional district delegates on a winner-take-all basis according to the vote within the district.

***\*NOTE: Per RNC rules, any delegate selection process that occurs prior to March 15 must be allocated proportionally. If we decide on our recommendation of a Convention on March 10, 2024, our delegate allocation must be proportional.\****

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NOTE: Consistent with our recent previous practice - at our State Committee Meeting on Tuesday, September 26th, 2023, the State Committee will be asked to ratify the requirement that all delegates who vote in the first ballot at the Republican National Convention do so in accordance with the results of our New Jersey State Convention.