

## **Domestic**

### *Gun Control*

The Libertarian Party supports the second amendment and the right to bear arms. Arms are fundamental to each citizen's personal protection. The Libertarian Party believes that an armed populace keeps the Government in check.

### *Crime*

The Libertarian Party calls for the softening of criminal charges and convictions, as well as a shift of focus from punishment towards rehabilitation. We believe the current lack of focus on rehabilitation has kept many former criminals from ever becoming fully-functioning members of society. Additionally, we discourage mandatory-minimum sentences for non-violent crimes as they nullify the judgement of judges, leaving little room for discernment and discretion.

### *Drugs*

The Libertarian Party recognizes that the American War on Drugs has failed. We call for ending of the War on Drugs, and would like to instead realign our focus on rehabilitation of drug addicts. The Party also stresses the decriminalization of drug activity that does not impose upon anyone else's Liberty. The Party holds that the growth and sale of Marijuana should follow a system similar to that of alcohol, where individuals may grow and consume a small amount without a license, while larger production and sale must be done with a license.

### *Civil Rights*

The Libertarian Party seeks to maximize each individual's personal freedom. We defend Liberty in all aspects, and will stand against any force that tries to remove or limit Liberty.

### *Local Environment*

The duty of Government is to stay out of regulation of the free market, except when pollution presents a direct and immediate threat to the liberties of others. If a factory were to pollute a lake or river where a person lives off of the fish in the river, the factory would be harming the fisherman. Therefore, the government has a duty to ensure that waste and pollution are handled in a non-harmful way.

#### *Global Environment*

A combination of science and the free market will fix the greenhouse gas problem long before any drastic harm comes to humanity. Carbon emission should be unregulated.

#### *Homeland Security*

While the Libertarian Party believes that protecting the American homeland is a top priority, security does not supersede the sanctity of our fundamental liberties. It is the Party's belief that the National Security Agency must be abolished, as its phone and Internet data collection programs are abhorrent to the unalienable right to privacy. The Libertarian Party supports the repeal of other legislation used to justify these programs, including the FISA Amendments and Executive Order 12333.

#### *Campaign Finance*

The Libertarian Party believes that money equals speech. It is not the place of Government to declare how much money a person can or cannot donate to a cause they believe in.

### **Economy**

#### *Economic Philosophy*

Wealth is created when individuals freely apply talents, hard work, and ingenuity to the world around them. When these people freely make trades in the free market, their standard of living increases far beyond what could have been accomplished alone, and all parties to the trade are left better off. In order to ensure as much wealth as possible in an economy, it is optimal for the government not to hinder these individuals seeking to better themselves. Government intervention has caused far more problems to industry than it has solved. The only true role of Government in economics is to protect

property rights, adjudicate disputes, and provide a legal framework in which voluntary trade is protected.

### *Budget*

The party supports reduction of taxes and wasteful Government programs, with an increased focus on establishing a balanced budget.

### *Tax Reform*

The Libertarian Party supports the simplification of the tax code and removal of the many loopholes that big businesses use to get out of paying taxes. The Party recognizes that it is under-the-table agreements between Big Business and the Government that causes these loopholes.

### *Business & Workers' Rights*

The Libertarian Party is a firmly capitalist party that supports growth and aiding of small businesses in America, which we recognize as one of the driving forces behind America's success. As well, we recognize the American worker's right to unionization and collective bargaining. It is the Party's belief that workers and small businesses have been overshadowed by Big Business and Wall Street for too long. The Libertarian Party is for a realignment towards workers' rights expansion and away from Wall Street to Main Street.

### *Minimum Wage*

The Libertarian Party believes that the market determines fair wages, and that Government intervention in this area has been a catalyst for inflation, joblessness, and closing of small businesses. Although well-intentioned, the minimum wage hurts those who it seeks to help.

### *Earned Benefits & Welfare*

The Libertarian Party believes that Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid are broken. The Party recognizes that complete dismantling of these programs will simply crash the system and harm the

people who need help the most. As such, The Party supports slow reduction in spending and transition into a new, simpler system which has less Government involvement.

### *Technology & Infrastructure*

The Libertarian Party holds that infrastructure has been one of the few programs the Government has gotten mostly right. Sound infrastructure is conducive to economic growth, so it is important that we maintain our roads and bridges. Infrastructure maintenance is the only field in which the Government should create jobs as a direct solution to high unemployment. Additionally, we believe that access to the Internet is a boon to free speech, making it possible for voices to be heard who could not afford to publish on older technologies, and as such it is a human right. We fully support the reclassification of the Internet as a public utility and the preservation of net neutrality.

## **Social Issues**

### *Education*

The Libertarian Party believes that education is not just a fundamental right for all human beings, but also a necessity for a healthy society wary of the schemes and machinations of Big Business and the Government. The Party firmly believes in school choice. For higher education, we believe that the free market will force colleges to lower tuition and improve quality or face bankruptcy. To this end, we believe that Government subsidies and loans should end.

### *Health Care*

Government intervention in the Health Industry has thoroughly broken it. Insurance companies have too much power because Government mandates that hospitals must provide services before negotiating the cost of that service. This skips a vital step in the health of the free market and places an important service in a vulnerable position. FDA regulations drive up the price of medicine, making cures for some diseases far too costly for patients to afford. For example, during a 10-year delay in approving Propranolol (a heart medication for treating angina and hypertension), approximately 100,000 people died who could have been treated with this lifesaving drug. Bureaucratic roadblocks kill sick Americans. Government regulation of the Health Industry must be reigned in.

## **Foreign Affairs**

### *Philosophy*

The four pillars of a sane foreign policy are:

1. Building positive relationships and avoiding negative ones,
2. Emphasizing free trade,
3. Supporting our allies, and
4. Non-interventionism.

### *Middle East*

The Party holds that the turmoil is directly caused by the West's drawing of arbitrary political lines and that the only true solution to the turmoil is to let the citizens of the Middle East sort the chaos out themselves. The Party holds that the US must withdraw from the Middle East and remain only in an advisory role.

### *Trade*

The Libertarian Party supports responsible free trade. Free trade helps all people, but any trade agreement must be done in a way that does not hurt workers in America or encourage businesses to outsource their jobs.

### *Immigration*

As a nation consisting a great part of descendants from immigrants, we welcome new immigrants that strengthen our community and contribute their part to our society. The Libertarian Party supports the free movement of people. The regulations and complicated procedures leading to citizenship must be simplified. However, borders should be strengthened to prevent drug and human trafficking. The Libertarian Party also supports background checks on prospective immigrants.

### *Homeland Security*

All practices outside of the Bill of Rights must be halted. The Party opposes the use of torture and calls for an end to indefinite detentions of terror suspects and the closure of the Guantanamo Bay facility. All detainees must be granted the right to a fair trial or be released. The Party believes that ISIS is not a threat to the United States.