



Free New York

Vol. 54, No. 10

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New York

October 2025

NOMINATING CONVENTION AND OTHER LPNY UPDATES

by Andrew Kolstee
LPNY Secretary

As the 2025 campaign season comes to an end, the 2026 campaign season begins.

NOMINATING CONVENTION

The nominating convention is set for Saturday, October 25, 2025 in Rochester. The venue is the the Homewood Suites by Hilton Rochester/Greece (400 Center Place Drive, Rochester, NY 14615). The convention will begin at 12:30 p.m. and adjournment is scheduled for 4:00 p.m.

For the first time, the cost to attend the convention is **FREE** although donations are welcome. Lunch will not be provided. A social event/dinner organized by the Monroe

County Libertarian Party will be held at 5:00 p.m. at Bill Gray’s at the Port of Rochester (1000 North River street, Rochester, NY 14612).

The business will include filling vacancies on the State Committee, nominations for statewide candidates (Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller), selection of the LPNY’s representatives and alternate representatives to the National Platform and Credentials Committees, and delegates to the 2026 Libertarian National Convention.

CANDIDATES

There are six Libertarian Party candidates running for office across the state. Matthew Morgan is running for New York City Council. Thom-

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Nominating Convention	1
A Just Immigration Policy.....	2-4
County Affiliates.....	6-7
LPNY Directory.....	8

as Babilon is running for Mayor of Syracuse.

Recently, the LPNY endorsed four candidates running for office in Niagara County in which State Chair Duane Whitmer has been working with. These candidates are: Tanya Barone, Vincent Cauley, and Donta Myles, all running for Niagara Falls City Council At-Large; and Charlotte Patterson, running for Cambria Town Board.

THE LIBERTY TEST

Episode #17 of *The Liberty Test* podcast is out! Check out the episode, “The Hate Speech Trap” on our platforms!

LPNY.org/donate

ADOPTING A JUST IMMIGRATION POLICY

by Vincent O'Neill
State Committee Member (JD10)

The immigration policy of the United States left a lot to be desired for quite a long time, but the antics of the Biden administration brought it to a series of new lows.

The ridiculous actions of the Biden administration at the southern border when it first assumed the presidency should have been countered immediately. Instead, an absurd downward spiral has been allowed to continue undisturbed, bringing us to the situation we face now.

Despite that fact, the situation we face is easily overcome. All that is necessary is for the U.S. government to finally adopt "A Just Immigration Policy". Once such a policy is proposed, the powers that be must either refute it or implement it. They won't be able to ignore it.

A Very Brief Description of "A Just Immigration Policy"

In general, A Just Immigration Policy consists of immigration that is invited, sponsored, and self-sufficient at least until citizenship is achieved.

The requirements to achieve citizenship will be the same for all immigrants.

There is a little more to it, however.

"You can't have open immigration and a welfare state."

- Milton Friedman

"It was not easy to become a citizen of Athens."

- Herodotus, "The Histories"

The only discussion of the immigration issue in this country occurs on a completely dishonest level. Immigration should be invited, sponsored, and reserved for those who do not require the assistance of U.S. taxpayers during their waiting period to become a U.S. citizen.

The most important issue to be addressed is whether or not illegal (or 'undocumented') immigrants, as well as those going through the legal citizenship process, should be entitled to any taxpayer-funded service.

The obvious answer is NO.

The response of far too many Democrat and Republican politicians is a resounding YES.

Amazingly enough, this is the one part of any immigration debate that Republicans and Democrats always avoid. Not surprisingly, resolving this one issue would lead to implementation of a reasonable policy. If someone is self-sufficient until they become a citizen, chances are they will continue to be self-sufficient.

The United States currently spends

\$180 billion per year on services for illegal immigrants.

Illegal (or 'undocumented') immigrants are entitled to receive nothing at taxpayer expense.

Americans should be more aware of the manner in which the immigration issue is being used.

Instead of a debate about human rights, responsibility and freedom, the issue of illegal (or 'undocumented') immigration is being used to expand the (misnamed) 'welfare state', judicial overreach and tyranny, the police state, the 'war on drugs', economic interventionism, harassment of employers, expanded government spending at all levels, expanded budget and responsibilities for the 'Department of Homeland Security', expanding the vote to additional 'welfare state' recipients, and every other 'bait and switch' you can think of.

If illegal immigrants were in this country but outside the law and the welfare state, they would have to rely on voluntary human action. They would have to recreate the voluntary associations and human interdependence which (largely) prevailed in this country before the institution of the income tax.

Recreating these voluntary associations will happen to all those who

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)

become citizens through a just immigration policy that treats all potential citizens the same.

Getting them to rely on the 'welfare' state destroys this.

And it gets worse.

The Ballot Box

"On another level, the effort to cleanse the system of politically incorrect tendencies is taking on a mass character with a campaign to replace the electorate."

"How is this being done? Simple. Legalize voting by illegal aliens."

- Justin Raimondo, Chronicles,
November, 2017, p.42

That insight is from 2017. The situation is much worse today. The main concern of most Democrats and Republicans is to provide a path to the welfare state and the ballot box.

Immigrants, legal or not, are therefore considered more likely to vote for the welfare state and its politicians. This is the same way the vote-buying 'welfare' state was created and spread in the first place, and that most current voters have seen through.

1. The Ultimate Democracy Solution

Rather than relying on the Ballot Box, the question should be removed from the political process and its endless posturing, and

transferred directly to the citizen.

Your vote will be expressed by either becoming a sponsor, or declining to do so. Ultimate democracy therefore becomes the purest expression of one man/one vote.

Voting on the issue of expanded immigration, or to provide a 'path to citizenship' for currently illegal immigrants, becomes a simple and inexpensive process.

Every adult citizen will control 100% of their vote on the issue of immigration, 100% of their time as a U.S. citizen.

2. Defining a Path to Citizenship

The path to citizenship will be the same for all prospective immigrants.

The process will not be expensive.

Immigrants will have to pay a filing fee, go 5 years without U.S. taxpayer assistance, and go 5 years without being convicted of a felony or spreading infectious disease. If they accomplish this goal, they become a U.S. citizen.

They are not permitted to vote in an election until they become a citizen.

3. Sponsorship Limitation

There is one important limitation.

Any U.S. citizen would only be permitted to sponsor one prospective citizen at a time.

If this person then successfully becomes a citizen after 5 years, the sponsor will be permitted to do the same for another potential citizen.

4. Voting on the issue of a 'Path to Citizenship' for Illegal Immigrants

There were an estimated 10-12 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. as of 2020. There are many more now, but the number is unknown. Therefore, the following shows how easily this situation could have been taken care of in 2020. The same formula applies, but with a much higher number of applicants.

There are roughly 320 million citizens in the U.S. If half of them are above the age of 18, that means there are 160 million adult citizens with a vote on the issue in the coming year.

10 million of 160 million
=1/16, or 6.25%.

12 million of 160 million
=3/40, or 7.5%

Providing a 'path to citizenship' legalizing 10-12 million illegal immigrants would therefore have required the approval of less than 10% of adult U.S. citizens. That would have been no problem.

The same formula should be applied to the much larger number of illegal immigrants who are now in the country.

U.S. citizens will vote by putting their money where their mouth is, and taking responsibility for their actions.

(continued from page 3)

Politicians who favor expanded immigration should lead by their own example, and sponsor a (legal or currently illegal) immigrant for U.S. citizenship.

4A. Addressing Currently Illegal/'Undocumented' Immigrants

For the illegal immigrants currently in the country, there will be two choices.

A cutoff date is necessary, and will be one year from the adoption of this proposal.

**Option #1.
In time for the Cutoff Date**

The time limit is one year from now. 'Now' will start the day "A Just Immigration Policy" is enacted.

Currently illegal immigrants will have to find ONE U.S. citizen willing to sponsor them and satisfy the terms described above.

They must then go 5 years without U.S. taxpayer assistance, pay a filing fee, and go 5 years without being convicted of a felony or spreading infectious disease. If they accomplish this goal, they become a U.S. citizen.

They are not permitted to vote in an election until they become a citizen.

A sponsor provides an endorsement of the prospective citizen's character. If someone can't find even one U.S. citizen to sponsor them, this tells you all you need to know about them.

Until or unless they find a sponsor, they have chosen to be outside the protection of the law, and no laws (beyond obvious situations - they cannot be murdered, a victim of theft, etc.), such as minimum wage laws, apply to them.

**Option #2.
After the Cutoff Date**

After the cutoff date, the process is almost the same. The only difference is that they will have to return to their country of origin in order to apply for citizenship.

5. NO AMNESTY

There will be NO AMNESTY now or ever again.

And unless someone is being sponsored for U.S. citizenship and receiving NO U.S. taxpayer assistance, they are not entitled to 'work permits' either.

All current Visa programs, particularly the H-1B Visa, will end immediately. There is no shortage of American citizens available to do these jobs.

(On a related topic, there is no such thing as "a job Americans won't do." There are, however, jobs Americans aren't allowed to do because of 'minimum wage' laws.)

Private contractual terms between employer and employee will replace the current government terms. The terms must include sponsorship for U.S. citizenship by an individual U.S. citizen, and acceptance of Potential Liability by the sponsor.

If a U.S. citizen sponsors someone for citizenship, they must also accept liability if this person fails to complete the terms required to attain citizenship.

If this occurred, the sponsor in question would no longer be an acceptable sponsor, and they would never again be permitted to sponsor a person for U.S. citizenship. The possibility of anyone sponsoring a terrorist or disreputable person would be quickly reduced to almost zero. All that will be required is for currently illegal immigrants to be given one year to find sponsor, go five years without taxpayer assistance, not commit a felony and not spread infectious disease.

That's not asking too much.

Mass deportations will therefore end since they become unnecessary when taxpayer-funded services end.

Conclusion

This proposal creates a system which allows the maximum area for Human Action based on justice and responsibility to flourish. It is the alternative to the continual abdication of responsibility by the Republican and Democrat political class.

See pages 6-7 for County Reports

Don't see your county listed?

**We are looking for Libertarians
to organize new County Affiliates!**

Contact us for more details!

affiliates@lpny.org

COUNTY AFFILIATE NEWS

BRONX

CONTACT:

Kim Antonio,
Acting County Chair

CHAUTAUQUA

NEXT MEETING:

Tues., Oct. 14, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
on Zoom
(second Tuesdays)

CONTACT:

Andrew Kolstee, Chair
akolstee@lpny.org

LEARN MORE:

www.chautauquaLP.org
fb.com/chautauquaLP

CHEMUNG

CONTACT:

Nick Grasso, Chair
ngrass89@yahoo.com

LEARN MORE:

lpchemung.org

COLUMBIA

NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025 @ 7 PM
Google Meet
(third Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Scott Hoskins, Chair
scottdhoskins@gmail.com

DUTCHESS

NEXT MEETING:

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025 @ 5 PM
Village Restaurant
& Pancake Factory
1540 Route 44, Pleasant Valley
(3rd Saturdays)

CONTACT:

Robert Cocomello, Chair
Catrina Rocco, Vice-Chair
info@dutchesscountylp.org

LEARN MORE:

dutchesscountylp.org

ERIE

CONTACT:

Duane Whitmer, Chair
chairman@eriecountylp.org

KINGS (BROOKLYN)

NEXT MEETING:

Tues., Oct. 21, 2025 at 3 PM
@ Fourth Avenue Pub
76 4th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11217
(3rd Tuesdays)

CONTACT:

Christopher Skelly, Chair
cskelly@lpny.org

MADISON

CONTACT:

Mark Braiman, Chair
mbraiman@lpny.org

MONROE

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Oct. 2, 2025 @ 7 PM
(first Thursdays)
Contact us for the link.

CONTACT:

Steve Becker, Chair
drsbecker@aol.com

LEARN MORE:

monroecountylp.org
Ask about the Google Group
and social meetings

NASSAU

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Oct. 9, 2025 at 7 PM
@ Landmark Diner
(2nd Thursdays)

CONTACT:

Jon Gunther,
Executive Committee Chair
jonguntherlibertarian@gmail.com

Blay Tarnoff,

County Committee Chair
LPNY@eblay.com

NEW YORK (MANHATTAN)

CONTACT:

Chance Haywood, Chair
chaywood@lpny.org

ONEIDA

CONTACT:

Keith Redhead, Chair
kredhead@lpny.org

ONONDAGA

NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Liverpool Public Library
(3rd Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Rachel Becker, Chair
reb4128@rit.edu
onondagacountylp@gmail.com

ONTARIO

CONTACT:

Nathan Dingey,
Acting County Chair

ORANGE

NEXT MEETING:

Held 4th Thursdays. Location
varies. Contact us for details.

CONTACT:

Juan Ayala, Chair
livefree@juanrayala.com

QUEENS

NEXT MEETING:

Sat., Oct. 11, 2025 at 12:00 PM
Stamatis Greek
and Mediterranean Restaurant
29-09 23rd Ave., Astoria

CONTACT:

John Clifton, Chair
mrjclifton@yahoo.com

RENSSELAER

NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Oct. 1, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Alexis Diner, North Greenbush
(1st Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Jennifer O'Connor,
Acting County Chair
joconnor@lpny.org

RICHMOND (STATEN ISLAND)

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Oct. 16, 2025 @ 7 PM
@ Coffee and Collectibles
(3rd Thursdays)

CONTACT:

Susan Overeem Cummings,
Chair
susanovereem@gmail.com

SARATOGA

CONTACT:

Naz Garabedien, Chair
nazareth.garabedian
@lawsonproducts.com

SCHOHARIE

CONTACT:

Mason Hovack,
Acting County Chair

SUFFOLK

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Panera Bread, Deer Park
(4th Thursdays)

CONTACT:

Robert Schuon, Chair
rschuon@mindspring.com

ULSTER

NEXT MEETING:

Mon., Oct. 13, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Hickory BBQ, Kingston, NY
(second Mondays)

CONTACT:

Sam Kniffen, Chair
samkniffen01@gmail.com

LEARN MORE:

www.UlsterLP.org

WAYNE

MONTHLY SOCIAL:

Sat., Oct. 25, 2025 at 10 AM
Yellow Mills Diner
2534 NY-31, Palmyra, NY 14522
(last Saturdays)

CONTACT:

Jim Dayton, Chair
jdayton@lpny.org

LEARN MORE:

lpwaynecounty.org

WESTCHESTER-PUTNAM

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Oct. 9, 2025 at 7 PM
McCarthy's Pub
374 NY-52
Carmel Hamlet, NY 10512

CONTACT:

Rajib Maitra, Chair
rajib.maitra1@gmail.com

LPNY DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
<p>Duane Whitmer Chair Daniel Castello Vice Chair Andrew Kolstee Secretary Chance Haywood Treasurer Christopher Skelly Communications Director Mark Axinn Fundraising Director Justin Carman IT Director Richard Purtell Legislative Affairs Director Pietro Geraci Outreach Director Paul Grindle Political Director Catrina Rocco Volunteer Director</p>	<p>Daniel Castello Platform Committee Chair Andrew Kolstee Rules Committee Chair Daniel Castello Strategic Planning Committee Chair</p>	
STATE COMMITTEE		
<p>Mark Axinn (JD1) Morry Davis (JD1) Paul Grindle (JD2) Gary Popkin (JD2) Evan Lebrecht (JD3) Justin Carman (JD3) <i>Vacant</i> (JD4) <i>Vacant</i> (JD4) <i>Vacant</i> (JD4) Daniel Castello (JD5) James Fitch (JD5) E. Rose Leatherman (JD5) Mark Braiman (JD6) Charles Dorgan (JD6) Samuel Hordeski (JD6) Steven Becker (JD7) Justin Pelletier (JD7) Sean Phelan (JD7) James Ziobro (JD7) Maura Botsford (JD8)</p>	<p>Andrew Kolstee (JD8) Wendi Szabo (JD8) Duane Whitmer (JD8) <i>Vacant</i> (JD8) Pietro Geraci (JD9) Catrina Rocco (JD9) William Schmidt (JD9) Jeffrey Denecke (JD10) Jonathan Gunther (JD10) Vincent O'Neill (JD10) Christian Padgett (JD10) Robert Schuon (JD10) Blay Tarnoff (JD10) Francisco Olvera (JD11) Irwin Mark Weinblatt (JD11) <i>Vacant</i> (JD12) Susan Overeem-Cummings (JD13) Chance Haywood (ex-officio) Richard Purtell (ex-officio) Christopher Skelly (ex-officio)</p>	
info@lpny.org	www.LPNY.org	866-336-3120