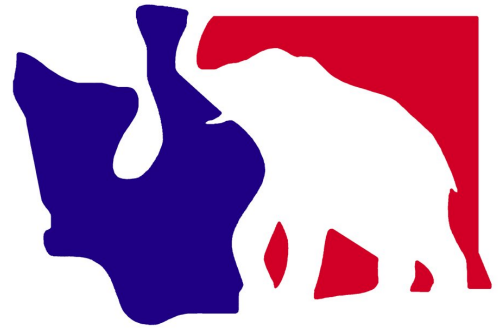


*WASHINGTON STATE
REPUBLICAN PARTY*

Election Year 2012



Caucus & Convention Manual

WASHINGTON STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Caucus & Convention Manual

WSRP
11811 NE 1st St, Suite A306
Bellevue, WA 98005
(425) 460-0570 www.wsrp.org

Table of Contents

Chapter 1

- The Precinct Caucus

- Location

- Agenda

- Results

Chapter 2

- The County Convention

- Committees

- Arrangements Committee

- Credentials Committee

- Rules & Order of Business

- Platform

Chapter 3

- Frequently Asked Questions

Appendix A

- 2012 Calendar

Appendix B

- WSRP Rules for Precinct Caucus
and for Election of Delegates to
State Convention

Appendix C

- National Delegate Allocation

Appendix D

- WSRP State Convention
Delegate Allocation

The Precinct Caucus

A gathering of Republicans at the local level

The county chairman, using the two methods described in WSRP Rule 2 of WSRP Rules for Precinct Caucus and For Election of Delegates to State Convention, will determine the allocation of delegates per precinct.

Precinct caucuses will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at 10:00 A.M. Any registered voter of the precinct in which the caucus is being conducted who is willing to state by signing a *REGISTRATION FORM and LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT PRECINCT CAUCUS* form that he/she considers him/herself to be a Republican and has not participated and will not participate in the 2012 caucus or convention system of any other party is eligible to participate in the caucus.

The purpose of a caucus is to:

1. Elect delegates and alternates to the county convention or legislative district caucus.
2. Discuss issues pertinent to the Republican platforms for county, state, and national organizations.
3. Vote in a non-binding straw-poll to gauge support for the Republican Presidential nomination.

The three-part form, entitled *REGISTRATION FORM and LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT PRECINCT CAUCUS*, will be printed and distributed by the WSRP to county chairmen prior to the caucuses. The caucus chairman will retain one copy of the form. The other two copies will be forwarded by the precinct committee officers to the county chairman no later than March 10, 2012.

Caucus Location

Each precinct committee officer is responsible for obtaining a location and making the necessary arrangements for a precinct caucus and advising the county chairman by December 15, 2011 of the caucus location. The location must be within a reasonable distance to the precinct, and of reasonable public access. "Reasonable" means that any Republican wishing to attend shall not be hindered as a matter of purpose. Precinct committee officers may

choose to hold caucuses at a joint location in order to create better attendance. In the event that there are two or more incumbent precinct committee officers due to the merging or realignment of precinct boundaries the county chairman will determine the caucus location and temporary presiding officers.

The county chairman is responsible for obtaining a location and making necessary arrangements for a precinct caucus in all precincts either managed by a nonresident precinct "chairman" or listed as vacant. The county chairman will determine the temporary caucus chairman.

Any precinct committeeman who neglects or refuses to establish a precinct caucus location by December 15, 2011 will forfeit the right to the county chairman, who will then establish the location of the precinct caucus.

Each county chairman will compile a list of caucus locations within their county. The compiled list will be forwarded to the state headquarters postmarked no later than January 15, 2012. This list must be organized in accordance with Rule 1 of the *WSRP Rules for Precinct Caucus and for Election of Delegates to State Convention*. The list must be made available for inspection, by the county chairman without cost, to anyone requesting and copies may be made available at cost.

Each county chairman will publish the complete compiled list of caucus locations (display advertising may be used) by January 22, 2012, in a newspaper of general circulation. Newspaper that are circulated within the county or portions of the county in question, which may include dailies, weeklies, and other community newspapers will be considered of general circulation. The list will be placed on file with the election department at the county courthouse by January 15, 2012.

Caucus Agenda

The precinct committee officer will call the caucus to order no earlier than 10:00 A.M. March 3, 2012. The precinct committee officer elected or appointed shall be the permanent chairman of the caucus. In vacant precincts, those that have been appointed by the county chairman to act as temporary chairmen of the caucus will do so until the election of a permanent chairman. No caucus will be recessed or moved to another location except where necessary for the holding of the caucus and after reasonable efforts under the circumstances to provide notice. The caucus agenda shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Appointment of temporary secretary
3. Election of permanent caucus chairman (if necessary)
4. Election of permanent caucus secretary (if necessary)
5. Resolutions, platform discussion
6. Nomination and election of delegate(s) *See WSRP rules 14 and 15*
7. Nomination and election of alternate(s) *See WSRP rule 16*

8. Such other business as may be appropriate for the caucus

9. Adjournment

A County Central Committee may elect to convene precinct caucuses in "pooled" or "town meeting" configuration consisting of all precincts in a region, town or selection of the county in order to provide a greater opportunity for caucus promotion and interaction among Republicans at the grass roots. If a county so elects, the county chairman shall notify the precinct committee officers no later than January 4, 2012 and the county chairman shall be responsible for obtaining locations and making necessary arrangements for said caucuses. The location shall be within the reasonable distance of the precincts served and of reasonable public access. The county chairman will designate a temporary chairman for a pooled caucus. The caucus agenda shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Appointment of temporary secretary
3. Election of permanent caucus chairman
4. Election of permanent caucus secretary
5. Resolutions and platform discussion
6. Such other business as may be appropriate for the caucus
7. Adjournment to individual caucuses

The Precinct Committee Officer, if any, shall preside over the caucus of his or her precinct. The caucus agenda shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Appointment of temporary secretary
3. Election of permanent caucus chairman (if necessary)
4. Election of permanent caucus secretary
5. Nomination and election of delegate(s) *See WSRP rules 14 and 15*
6. Nomination and election of alternate(s) *See WSRP rule 16*
7. Adjournment

In all cases, pooled or individual caucuses, nomination and balloting for delegates will not commence earlier than 10:30 A.M. nor later than 11:30 A.M. March 3, 2012.

Caucus Results

The precinct committee officer or the elected permanent chairman of each caucus shall cause to be postmarked or delivered to the place designated for return no later than March 10, 2012, the following results:

1. *Registration Form and List of Participants at Precinct Caucus*
2. *Report of Precinct Caucus*, showing the elected delegates and alternates to the county convention.

The County Convention

Putting it together

Fear strikes the heart of many new county chairmen when they realize that the county convention is just around the corner. Putting together a successful convention will be easier if you have a Convention Arrangements Committee that fully understands what needs to be done to prepare for the event. Of course, you can opt to prepare it all yourself (not recommended), if you have a great deal of spare time.

COMMITTEES

Each of the following committees needs a reliable chairperson. How your committees are put together is up to your county bylaws or tradition.

Arrangements

Credentials

Platform

Rules & Order of Business

ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Read the State Party *Rules for Precinct Caucus and For Election of Delegates to State Convention*.
Read the calendar.

Meet with the county chairman and set the date of the convention. The total number of delegates, alternates, speakers, and possible visitors will determine the size of the convention hall you will need. Remember, the year 2012 is a presidential election year, so you may have a better turnout than usual.

Is your county chairman going to chair the convention? If not, someone else must agree to be chairman.

Confer with the chairman to appoint a parliamentarian, secretary, and sergeant-at-arms.

Find a great keynote speaker.

You might want to ask the highest ranking elected Republican official in the county to give a short welcome.

Get a local minister, priest, or rabbi to give the invocation.

Contact an ROTC group, Boy or Girl Scout troop, or Campfire group to present the colors. Appoint someone to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Find young people to serve as pages.

If a lunch is to be served, check with your hall to see if they reserve the right to cater food services. If not, use theirs or find service elsewhere.

A set-up/clean-up committee is needed.

You may need an insurance certificate.

Determine the cost of delegate, alternate, and guest fees.

Mail the convention registration forms along with other information as soon as possible after the caucuses.

Send a press release to local media announcing the date, time, location, and keynote speaker for your county convention.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Prior to the precinct caucuses, the Credentials Committee should review the *Rules and Order of Business* and all materials to be given to each precinct caucus.

The Credentials Committee chairman and or his designees should be responsible for opening and removing materials from the packets returned from the caucuses. The credentials chairman or his designees should ensure that caucus reports relating to the election of delegates and alternates are kept in a secure place, accessible only to members of the credentials committee and shall act as swiftly as possible to get questionnaire reports to the platform committee and that any monies donated be given to the central committee treasurer.

Check the names and addresses of delegates and alternates against the list of registered voters in the precincts to make sure that they are registered in the precinct. If the current lists of voters are not available from your county committee you can check them at the Department of Elections in your county.

If the election of a delegate or alternate is challenged, then the best procedure is to call a meeting of the Credentials Committee and invite the precinct committee officer and all persons attending the caucus. If the caucus secretary took minutes, a copy needs to be made for all of the attendees. The decision to keep or reject a challenged delegate or alternate is voted on by the Credentials Committee, but the State Party Rules for Precinct Caucus and For Election of Delegates to State Convention will determine if a violation has occurred. All delegates and alternates must be elected by the state rules.

If the violation is due to an elected delegate not being a registered voter in the precinct, then they must be removed. Another election to replace a delegate or alternate is not permitted.

If the violation concerns an illegal voting procedure, then the committee must refer to the rules. If the election was held illegally the caucus delegation cannot be seated. Remember that in a Presidential election year; where there are a number of candidates running, their supporters in the precinct will be diligently watching how the election is being conducted. Challenges at a county or state convention are time consuming and often bitter. If rules are observed, there will be no reason for challenges.

When the Credentials Committee has completed checking out the credentials of the delegates and alternates, then a letter should be sent immediately to the county chairman notifying him that the election of the delegates and alternates has been certified.

The Credentials Committee should keep a copy of the delegate and alternate precinct reports.

The Credentials Committee will then begin to prepare for their duties at county convention.

Prepare lists of delegates and alternates by legislative district and precinct by precinct. The delegates can be listed by alphabetical order, but the alternates must be listed by the number of votes cast. The alternate receiving the largest number of votes is listed first and so on.

Prepare badges for delegates and alternates. Make badges for speakers, volunteers, and all guests attending. People cannot get into the actual convention area without a badge.

Each legislative district member of the credentials committee should have enough volunteers from his district on hand on the day of the convention so that the check-in can be handled efficiently. Your county may choose to use one credential report or two.

When the convention chair calls for the first report of the Credentials Committee, the committee chair should be ready with the total number of delegates seated at that time, district by district, and then give the grand total. They then ask that all tardy delegates and alternates present meet with him/her to sign and to replace absentee delegates. Please complete this as quickly as possible so that the convention may proceed with the business at hand.

The second report will consist of the total number of delegates seated. The Credentials Committee chair then moves that the report of the Credentials Committee be adopted.

The Credentials Committee will meet again to check the credentials of the delegates and alternates elected to the Republican state convention. The State Party Rules for Precinct Caucus and For

Election of Delegates to State Convention has specific rules for the election of the state convention delegates and alternates. If these delegates and alternates have been elected in the proper manner, then their names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, fax numbers, legislative district, and congressional district numbers should be emailed and sent to the Republican State Headquarters and to the state convention chairman by April 29, 2012.

* If you do not have access to a computer, then type or write an alphabetical list for the delegates and a numerical list for the alternates who were elected, along with all of the information requested in the above paragraph. Either mail or fax it to the state headquarters in time to observe the calendar.

CONVENTION RULES & ORDER OF BUSINESS

The county chairman selects a chairman and additional members of the Rules and Order of Business Committee according to your county bylaws and traditions.

If you have rules from previous conventions that you plan to use, please check them carefully to avoid conflict with the Washington State Republican Party Rules.

If you do not have any rules, here are some suggestions:

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Call to order and opening ceremonies
2. Appointment of temporary chairman, secretaries, and sergeant-of-arms and parliamentarian
3. First report of credentials committee
4. Final report of credentials committee. (*If two are used*)
5. Rules committee report
6. Election of permanent chairman
7. Election of permanent secretaries, sergeant-of-arms and parliamentarian
8. Election of delegates and alternates to State Convention
9. Report of platform committee
10. Miscellaneous Business
11. Announcements and adjournment

* All of your speakers may be given time between the above business

If you are electing delegates and alternates to the state convention then lunch will be a convenient time to do this. If you are a large county and especially during a presidential year, then the rules allow you to hold the election of your state convention delegates and alternates on a different day, time, and location, but you must still observe the calendar.

The rules pertaining to the election of the state convention delegates and alternates are contained in the *State Rules for Caucus and for Election of Delegates to State Convention*. The manner in which they are elected should be incorporated into your own Rules and Order of Business.

The Republican State Party has determined the number of delegates to the State convention that have been allocated to your county. It is based on the total GOP vote total in your county for President, Governor, and Attorney General in the 2008 General Election and the entire total is 1,500 delegates and 1,500 alternates. An additional 123 automatic delegates are the county chairmen and the two state committee persons from each of the 39 counties along with the State Chairman, Vice Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman and 3 Executive Board Members from King County. There are no alternates for automatic delegates.

PLATFORM COMMITTEE

The committee should meet far enough in advance of the precinct caucus that they are able to create a questionnaire to be presented to the precinct caucuses. There will also be a questionnaire sent by the Washington State Republican Party. You can use both, only one, or incorporate the two of them together.

You may assign a member of the committee a section of the platform that they are comfortable with or the entire committee may work on all sections together.

Make sure the questionnaire is finished in plenty of time for the Arrangements Committee to get it printed and put into the caucus materials.

The committee then studies the results of the precinct caucus questionnaire and other suggestions or resolutions coming from the caucuses. The results appropriate to the platform should be incorporated in the platform.

When the platform is finished, it goes to the county chairman or the Arrangements committee, who will print enough copies for all persons attending the county convention.

The final meeting of the platform committee is usually called to recommend “do pass”, “do not pass” or “no recommendation” on amendments to the platform and resolutions submitted by the delegates and alternates to county convention. They are printed and distributed for the delegates at the county convention to act upon.

At the county convention, the Platform Committee chairman is called upon to present the platform and asks for passage. It is seldom that immediate passage is granted, and the debate may be lengthy.

The person who will represent your county on the State Platform Committee will give a copy of the amended platform to the State Platform Committee.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is observing the calendar so important?

A: Good question! In the presidential election year, the Republican National Committee has certain rules regarding cutoff dates that affect our national convention delegates and alternates. The State Party also must have enough time to get the registration forms and other information concerning the convention to the delegates and alternates. We need to have as accurate a count of the attendees as possible in order to meet the needs of the delegates and alternates and to prepare for the convention.

Q: My County has rural precincts that always vote by mail. I have been told that it is not necessary to have a caucus for these precincts. Is this true?

A: NOT true! The State Party has always maintained that there is a caucus for every Republican voter. The caucus locations for military personnel and family members are held nearby off base.

Q: The rules say that we must advertise the caucuses. What kind of advertising do you recommend?

A: Advertising in local newspapers, posting notices on bulletin boards in libraries, supermarkets, your county website, etc. The precinct committee officer should call or send out invitations to known Republicans in his precinct. Remember, some local newspapers give free space as a public service.

Q: Is it true that elected Republican officials are automatic delegates to their county conventions?

A: Yes; if your county wants to give them this privilege. This only applies to Republicans elected in partisan races.

Q: Is it true that automatic delegates are not allowed alternates?

A: Yes.

Q: Do I have to attend my precinct caucus to be elected as a delegate to county convention?

A: No; but you will need an attendee to nominate you.

Q: I attended my precinct caucus and was elected caucus chairman because we do not have a precinct committee officer in the precinct. I was told that it was against the rules to make myself the automatic delegate. Why is this so?

A: Only the elected precinct committee officer or a previously appointed precinct committee officer has the privilege to be an automatic delegate.

Q: The rules state that the election of delegates at the precinct caucus must start after 10:30 A.M. and before 11:30 A.M. If we are not finished electing by 11:30 A.M., what do we do?

A: You may continue electing until you are finished. Don't panic!

Q: I am the automatic precinct committee officer delegate in my precinct. Only my spouse and I attended the last caucus and we were allocated four (4) delegates. Someone told me to call around the precinct after caucus to get more delegates. Is this ok?

A: NO! Delegates and alternates must be elected at the precinct caucus. Caucus attendees may nominate and elect delegates not in attendance but this must be done during the caucus.

Q: My teenage son would love to observe our caucus, but he is not old enough to vote. Can he attend?

A: Yes; please bring him. It is a good way to get acquainted with our political system. He will not be able to participate, but at least he'll be able to observe.

Q: A lady was elected delegate in my caucus and later the Credentials chairman discovered that she had attended the wrong caucus. She was not allowed to be a delegate. We all were upset and thought the rules could be bent just a little in her case; why not?

A: You must be a registered voter in the precinct to be elected. It is always a good idea for the precinct committee officer or caucus chairman to have a list of the registered voters in the precinct at the caucus or to check voter ID cards.

Q: I plan to run for the position of delegate to State Convention, but my job takes me out of town on the day of my Legislative District caucus. What do I do to get my name on the ballot?

A: Call your county chairman. There will be a form available to fill out that will guarantee that your name will appear on the ballot in alphabetical order. However, this form must be returned no later than 72 hours before the opening gavel of the meeting to elect delegates and alternates. You can also have a friend nominate you from the floor as a write-in after the alphabetized names. It is much better to be on the alphabetized list.

Q: The last time I ran for delegate to State Convention, I was asked what Presidential candidate I was supporting. I refused to answer and was not elected. Do I have to divulge this information?

A: No; but remember the delegates at State Convention will be electing delegates to National Convention, who will help choose a presidential candidate. This may be why you were rejected.

Q: In my legislative district caucus, it took seven hours to elect 25 delegates and 25 alternates. Why can't we find a better way of electing these people, or at least set aside the rules and elect by a simple plurality?

A: The rules absolutely cannot be set aside! They are designed to elect in four ballots. The counting can be time consuming if there are many ballots, so your district chairman should make sure that he appoints enough people to count ballots to get it done quickly.

Q: I am running for an office and asked my county chairman for a list of elected delegates and alternates and he told me that I would have to wait until after the Credentials committee checked them out. Why?

A: Credentials committee members should be left alone to do their work without distractions. The list of delegates and alternates will only be made available when it is certified as correct by the chairman of the committee.

Q: Why is it so costly to be a delegate or alternate to the State Convention?

A: Our state policy says that the delegates and alternates shall pay for all state convention expenses.

Q: I was elected to be a delegate to the State Convention. When must my registration form and payment be submitted?

A: Registration form and payment must be submitted to the State Headquarters within 10 business days of being elected a delegate to the State Convention. If you fail to submit the form and payment, you will have an additional 5 business days to submit, but the cost will be 50% more than the normal registration cost. If you fail to fully register within the 15 business day window, you become the last alternate in the delegation, and the first alternate becomes the delegate, and the process is repeated for the new delegate.

Q: How do you determine where the State Conventions shall be held?

A: The State chairman picks a Site Selection Committee to find locations that can accommodate the needs of the convention. We operate on a four year cycle that gives two conventions in a row on the west side of the state and two conventions in a row on the east side of the state. This gives each side of the state the opportunity to have a presidential convention on their side of the state. (For reference – the 2006/2008 conventions were in E. WA, and 2010/2012 conventions are in W. WA)

Q: I have always wanted to be elected as a delegate or alternate to the Republican National Convention, but was told we only elect three delegates and three alternates from each congressional district and a small number of at-large delegates and alternates. Why is this?

A: Republican National Committee rules determine how many delegates and alternates are elected from the congressional districts. According to RNC rules, Washington received three delegates and alternates per congressional district, plus 10 statewide (at-large) delegates and alternates, and three automatic delegates (State Party Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman).

Q: Is it true that if I am elected as an alternate to the Republican National Convention that I must attend even if all of the delegates go?

A: Yes. Each delegate is assigned an alternate. If the delegate leaves the floor for any reason for any amount of time, the alternate replaces him on the floor until he returns. It is desirable to have a full delegation on the floor at all times.

Q: I was told that if I am elected to be a delegate or alternate to the National Convention that I must pay my fee at the closing of the State Party Convention. Is this true?

A: Yes. Delegates and alternates will meet immediately after the closing of the State Convention. Among them, they will elect people to represent our state on the Platform and Rules and Credentials committee of the national convention and also elect a delegation chairman. The fee will also be paid at this time.

Q: Besides the fee, what other expenses do I expect to incur if I am elected to National Convention?

A: All expenses; which include transportation to and from the convention site, room, meals, sightseeing, and all other miscellaneous expenses.

Q: Will I be able to take my spouse and/or children as guests?

A: Each state will be given some guest passes. It will be determined at a later date when we find out how many we get as to who will be able to go as a guest. Guests pay the same fee as the delegates and alternates.

Q: If I become a delegate or alternate to the National Convention will I get a list of hotels so that I can choose my accommodations?

A: No. The Republican National Committee assigns a hotel to each state delegation. All guests, Washington State press and any staff we send are expected to stay at the assigned hotel. If you have relatives or friends in the vicinity you can stay with them but shuttle service to and from the convention center will not be available to you.

Q: Will I be able to stay in my motor home?

A: Yes, but shuttle service may not be available. Also parking at the convention center will be nearly impossible. You will also need to make reservations at the RV Park far in advance of the convention.

Q: I am interested in becoming a Presidential Elector. Explain the method used to determine who the electors are.

A: Each state is allocated the number of electors equal to the number of congressmen and senators elected. Because of new census numbers, Washington will have 10 congressional districts and two senators. Therefore we have 12 electors. Washington presidential electors are selected at the state convention held during Presidential election years. One elector will be chosen from each congressional district caucus. The two senate electors will be chosen by the all of the convention delegates (RCW 29.71.040). Members of Congress and federal employees may not serve as electors.

2012 Calendar

December 1, 2011	First day for County Chairmen to compile PCO list
December 14, 2011	Last day to appoint PCO's to qualify as automatic delegate to county convention for caucus or legislative district caucuses
December 14, 2011	Last day for County Chairmen to file PCO list with State Party
December 15, 2011	Deadline for PCO's to notify County Chairmen of caucus location
December 15, 2011	County Chairmen assume responsibility for caucus locations
December 31, 2011	Deadline for County Chairmen to file delegate allocation plan with State Party
January 4, 2012	Last day for County Chairmen to notify PCO's of locations for pooled caucuses
January 15, 2012	Deadline for State Chairman to notify counties of problems with delegate allocation plan
January 15, 2012	Last day for County Chairmen to send caucus locations to state headquarters and file with county courthouse
January 22, 2012	Deadline for counties to advertise caucus locations
January 22, 2012	Last day for State Executive Board to handle final disposition of any differences in delegate allocation plans
March 3, 2012	2012 Republican Precinct Caucuses
March 10, 2012	Deadline for PCO's to mail results of caucus to County

	Chairmen
March 10, 2012	Last day for County Chairmen to certify list of automatic delegates
March 10, 2012	Last day for County Chairmen to send copy of Registration Forms and List of Participants at Precinct Caucus to State Chairman in counties with legislative district caucuses that begin before March 24, 2012
March 17, 2012	First day to hold legislative district caucuses
March 17, 2012	Last day for County Chairmen to send copy of Registration Forms and List of Participants at Precinct Caucus to State Chairman
March 24, 2012	First day to hold county conventions or legislative district caucuses to elect delegates to State Convention
April 21, 2012	Last day to hold county conventions or legislative district caucuses to elect delegates to State Convention
April 28, 2012	Last day for counties to elect or appoint State Convention Committee Members
April 29, 2012	Last day for County Chairmen to submit Certification of 2012 Delegates to State Headquarters
May 4, 2012	State Chairman certifies list of automatic delegates to State Convention
May 11, 2012	Deadline for all Delegate and Alternate registration forms and payment for State Convention
May 30 – June 2, 2012	STATE CONVENTION, TACOMA
August 27 – 30, 2012	REPUBLICAN NATION CONVENTION, TAMPA, FLORIDA

WSRP Rules for Precinct Caucus and for Election of Delegates to State Convention

RULE 1 -- Inventory of Precincts

No earlier than December 1, 2011 nor later than December 14, 2011 the chairman of each county central committee shall submit a list of all precinct committee officers, all non-resident precinct "chairmen", and all vacant precincts. In counties with three (3) or more legislative districts the list shall be organized by legislative district; in counties with less than three (3) legislative districts the list shall be organized in logical fashion. The list shall be coded in such a manner as to show (A) precinct committee officers, (B) non-resident precinct chairmen, and (C) vacant precincts. Such list shall be made available for inspection by anyone requesting the same from the county chairman without charge or copies made available at cost. Such list shall be forwarded to the Washington State Republican Party, 11811 NE 1st St, Suite A306, Bellevue, WA 98005, or email JenniferBontrager@wsrp.org, postmarked or submitted no later than December 14, 2011.

RULE 2 -- County Convention Delegate Allocation Formula

Each county shall conform to the spirit and letter of the "one-man-one-vote" concept with reference to county convention/legislative district caucus delegate allocation to each precinct caucus. Each county shall determine for its convention the minimum number of potential delegates provided that each county shall allocate among the precincts a number of potential delegates to be elected which is at least two (2) times the number of precincts in its county. Automatic delegates under Rule 14 shall be in addition to the number of delegates allowed for election under this rule. On the basis of such determination, it shall allocate those delegates to the various precincts in that county on a uniform basis on either registered voter information or the 2008 Republican vote. Registered voter information shall be based on the latest information available at the county elections department. Republican vote shall be determined by adding the Republican vote in each precinct in the 2008 general election for the offices of President, Governor, and Attorney General. Every delegate from a multi-delegate precinct

shall represent substantially the same number of voters as each other delegate. "Substantially the same" shall mean a disparity no greater than fifty percent (50%) of the established voter value of a single delegate. In the case of precincts which have been created, or whose boundaries have been materially altered since the 2008 election, each county shall allocate delegates on the basis, which in the county's judgment best reflects the principles of this rule. Any precinct, however, which has less than a fifty percent (50%) voter value, shall be entitled to a single delegate to the county convention.

EXAMPLE: A county has 100 precincts and wishes to allocate for 200 potential delegates to the county convention based on Republican vote. In 2008, the Republican vote in the county was: President 23,000, Governor 22,000, and Attorney General 20,000, for a county-wide total of 65,000. The average precinct cast 650 Republican votes [total of all three positions]. A precinct which cast 487 Republican votes or less is entitled to one delegate; (3/4 of 650); a precinct which cast 488 total but not more than 812 Republican votes is entitled to two delegates; a precinct which cast 813, but not more than 1138 Republican votes is entitled to three delegates.

RULE 3 -- Allocation Validity

Each county chairman shall cause to be submitted to the state chairman, postmarked no later than December 31, 2011 a statement showing the allocation of delegates to the county convention/legislative district caucus among the various precincts. Should the state chairman raise questions of validity, the county chairman shall be notified by January 15, 2012 and the State Executive Board shall handle final disposition of any differences by January 22, 2012.

RULE 4 -- Precinct Committee Officers Shall Determine Caucus Location

Each precinct committee officer shall be responsible for obtaining a location and making necessary arrangements for a precinct caucus and so advising the county chairman by December 15, 2011. The location shall be within a reasonable distance to the precinct, and of reasonable public access. "Reasonable" shall mean that any Republican wishing to attend shall not be hindered as a matter of purpose. Precinct committee officers may choose to hold caucuses at a joint location with others where communities in the same area will serve to create better attendance. In the event that there are two (2) or more incumbent precinct committee officers as the result of merged precincts or realignment of precinct boundaries, the county chairman shall determine the caucus location and temporary presiding officers.

RULE 5 -- County Chairman Shall Determine Vacant Precinct Caucus Location

The county chairman shall be responsible for obtaining a location and making necessary arrangements for a precinct caucus in all precincts listed as vacant. The county chairman shall determine who will act as the caucus temporary chairman.

RULE 6 -- Precinct Committee Officer's Failure to Comply

Any precinct committee officer who neglects or refuses to establish a precinct caucus location by December 15, 2011 shall forfeit such right to the county chairman, who shall then establish such precinct caucus under the guidelines of Rule 5.

RULE 7 -- List of Precinct Caucus Locations

Each county chairman shall cause to be compiled a list of caucus locations within the county. Such list shall be compiled and forwarded to the State Headquarters postmarked no later than January 15, 2012. Such list shall be organized in such a manner as required by Rule 1. Such list shall be made available for inspection by anyone requesting the same from the county chairman without charge, and copies shall be made available at cost.

RULE 8 -- Publishing of Caucus Locations

Each county chairman shall make every reasonable effort to publish in a newspaper of general circulation or electronic media the complete compiled list of caucus locations (display advertising may be used) before January 22, 2012. "General circulation" shall mean any newspaper circulated within the county or portions of the county in question, which may include dailies, weeklies, and other community newspapers. "Electronic media" shall mean any website appropriate to such county, including county and state party websites. Such list shall be placed on file with the election department at the county courthouse by January 22, 2012.

RULE 9 -- Precinct Caucus Date

The precinct caucus shall be held on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at 10:00 A.M.

RULE 10 -- Who May Participate in the Precinct Caucus

Any registered voter of the precinct in which the caucus is being conducted who is willing to state by signing a Registration form and List of Participants at Precinct Caucus form that he/she considers him/herself to be a Republican and has not participated and will not participate in the 2012 caucus or convention system of any other party shall be eligible to participate in the caucus. Said form shall be in triplicate, one copy to be retained by the caucus chairman and the remaining two (2) to be forwarded to the county chairman by March 10, 2012. The county chairman shall forward one (1) of his two (2) copies to the state chairman seven (7) days prior to a Legislative District Caucus, or no later than March 17, 2012.

RULE 11 -- Caucus Agenda

No earlier than 10:00AM, March 3, 2012 the precinct committee officer, or in the case of vacant precincts the temporary caucus chairman designated by the county chairman, shall cause the caucus to be called to order. The precinct committee officer elected or appointed shall be the permanent chairman of the caucus. In vacant precincts, those that have been

appointed by the county chairman to act as temporary chairmen of the caucus shall do so until the election of a permanent chairman. No caucus shall be recessed or moved to another location except where necessary for the holding of the caucus and after reasonable efforts under the circumstances to provide notice. The agenda shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Appointment of temporary secretary
4. Election of permanent caucus chairman, if necessary
5. Election of permanent caucus secretary, if necessary
6. Resolutions, platform discussion
7. Nomination and election of delegate(s)
8. Nomination and election of alternate(s)
9. Such other business as may be appropriate for the caucus
10. Adjournment

RULE 12 -- Pooled Caucuses and "Town Meetings"

A county central committee may elect to convene precinct caucuses in "pooled" or "town meeting" configurations consisting of all precincts in a region, town or section of the county. If a county so elects, the county chairman shall notify the PCOs not later than January 4, 2012 and the county chairman shall be responsible for obtaining locations and making necessary arrangements for said caucuses. The location shall be within a reasonable distance of the precincts served and of reasonable public access.

The county chairman shall designate a temporary chairman for the pooled caucus who shall convene the caucus. The caucus agenda shall be as follows:

1. Call to order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Appointment of temporary secretary.
4. Election of permanent caucus chairman.
5. Election of permanent caucus secretary.
6. Resolutions and platform discussion.
7. Such other business as may be appropriate for the caucus.
8. Adjournment to individual caucuses.

The precinct committee officer, if any, shall preside over the caucus of his or her precinct. The agenda of the caucus shall be:

1. Call to order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Appointment of temporary secretary.
4. Election of permanent caucus chairman if necessary.
5. Election of permanent caucus secretary.
6. Nomination and election of delegate(s).

7. Nomination and election of alternate(s).
8. Adjournment.

RULE 13 -- When Balloting Shall Commence

Nomination and balloting for delegates shall not commence earlier than 10:30 AM. nor commence later than 11:30 AM. March 3, 2012.

RULE 14 -- Automatic Delegates

All precinct committee officers duly elected or appointed no later than December 14 , 2011, and who remain precinct committee officers and residents of their precinct through the date of the county convention shall automatically serve as delegates to the county convention in addition to delegates allocated to the precinct. Any precinct committee officer who neglects or refuses to carry out his duties as established in Rule 4, Rule 11, and Rule 17 shall forfeit his eligibility to serve as an automatic delegate to the county convention. If a precinct caucus is scheduled to be held pursuant to Rule 12, the precinct committee officer shall forfeit his eligibility to serve as an automatic delegate to the county convention if he neglects or refuses to preside, or make arrangements for someone to preside temporarily, at his individual precinct caucus. In addition, in order to encourage participation by all Republican elected officials, the county central committee may seat as automatic delegates in the county and district in which they reside, all Republicans holding elected partisan county, legislature, state-wide or federal office. The county chairman shall certify to the Credentials Committee of the county convention the list of individuals eligible to serve as automatic delegates no later than March 10, 2012.

RULE 15 -- Election of Delegates to the County Convention

To be eligible for election, as a delegate to the county convention, an individual must be a registered voter in the precinct from which elected. Nomination for delegates, other than the precinct committee officer, to the county convention shall be made from the floor of the caucus. Nominations shall remain open until the caucus chairman shall have called for further nominations three (3) times with no response. Each nominee shall be given a reasonable period of time to express the nominee's views concerning the nominee's candidacy. Nominees shall indicate Presidential preference or declare themselves uncommitted.

If the number of nominees exceeds the number of delegate positions, the chairman shall appoint an election teller to supervise the election. Those nominees receiving majority vote shall be deemed elected with succeeding ballots conducted until all delegate positions are filled by majority vote. If more candidates receive a majority vote than there are delegate positions, those candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. Following the second ballot, the nominee receiving the least votes shall be removed from consideration. In the event of ties for election or elimination, the winner shall be decided by lot. Each delegate to the county convention, other than the precinct committee officer, must be elected from a precinct caucus but need not have been in attendance at the caucus for election.

RULE 16 -- Election of Alternates to the County Convention

Alternates shall be elected by position number for each elected delegate with separate nominations and elections for each position. In each alternate election the candidate receiving the most votes shall be deemed elected. In the absence of a delegate at the county convention, alternates shall be seated in the order of their position number.

RULE 17 -- Custodian Reports

The precinct committee officer or the elected permanent chairman of each caucus shall become the custodian of the permanent records of the caucus and shall be responsible for forwarding caucus reports to the county organization as may be required in these rules.

RULE 18 -- Caucus Results

The precinct committee officer or the elected permanent chairman of each caucus or “pooled” caucus shall cause to be postmarked or delivered to the place designated for return no later than March 10, 2012 the following results:

1. Registration Form and List of Participants at Precinct Caucus
2. Report of Precinct Caucus, showing the elected delegates and alternates to the county convention.

Should the precinct committee officer or caucus chairman fail to file the report of the precinct caucus, any participant in the caucus may cause it to be filed by March 10, 2012. Caucus results filed after the deadline shall not be invalidated unless the late filing in fact prevents the credentials committee from investigating and evaluating them. If the caucus results are not filed in a timely manner, but are received in time for the credentials committee to investigate and evaluate them, the credentials committee may include the elected delegates and alternates on the role of the convention.

The county chairman shall forward copies of the registration forms, list of participants and report of precinct caucus showing the elected delegates and alternates to the county convention to the State Chairman no later than March 17, 2012.

RULE 19 -- Time of County Convention/Legislative District Caucus

Each county convention at which delegates to the State Convention are to be elected shall be held not earlier than March 24, 2012 and not later than April 21, 2012. The state chairman shall receive notice of such convention.

In case a County has more than seven (7) Legislative Districts and elects delegates to the State Convention at each legislative district caucus, said legislative caucus shall be held not earlier than March 17, 2012 and not later than April 21, 2012. The state chairman shall receive notice of such convention.

RULE 20 -- Counties Containing Three or More Whole Legislative Districts

In counties which have solely contained within their borders more than three (3) state legislative districts, each legislative district's proportionate share of the county delegates to the state convention shall be apportioned to the legislative district, and shall be elected at a caucus of the precincts within that legislative district. (This rule currently applies to the following counties: King, Pierce, Snohomish and Spokane. **Because these rules are submitted prior to Redistricting Boundaries drawn, counties may be added or deleted from this count.**) Any partial legislative district too small to be entitled to at least one (1) delegate at the state convention shall be combined with an adjacent district as determined by the county central committee for the purpose of electing delegates.

RULE 21 -- Counties Which Contain More than One but not more than Two Whole Legislative Districts

Counties which contain one (1) or two (2) whole legislative districts may elect delegates to the state convention based on legislative district, county commissioner or county council districts, whichever the county central committee provides in its bylaws or in its call for the convention or, if the central committee fails to specify, then as determined by the county convention. (This rule applies to the following counties: Benton, Clark, Kitsap, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima. **Because these rules are submitted prior to Redistricting Boundaries drawn, counties may be added or deleted from this count.**) Any partial legislative district too small to be entitled to at least one (1) delegate at the state convention shall be combined with an adjacent district as determined by the county central committee for the purpose of electing delegates.

RULE 22 -- Other Counties

Counties not governed by Rule 20 or Rule 21 may elect delegates to the state convention at large or by county commissioner or county council districts as the county central committee provides in its bylaws or in its call for the convention, or if the central committee fails to specify them as determined by the county convention.

RULE 23 -- County Convention/District Caucuses Notice

Notice of the time and place of the county convention/district caucus shall be postmarked by the county central committee no later than ten (10) days prior to the county convention/legislative district caucus to every delegate and alternate elected at the precinct caucus. Nothing herein shall prevent counties from convening district caucuses on a date other than the date on which the county convention is held.

RULE 24 -- County Convention Committee

The county chairman shall cause to be appointed such convention committees as deemed appropriate, which shall include a committee on rules and a committee on credentials.

RULE 25 -- Automatic Delegates to State Convention

Voting members of the State Committee and of the Executive Board, Elected officers of the State Committee, and County Chairmen, who are in office on the opening date of the State Convention, shall automatically serve as delegates to the State Convention in addition to the elected delegates. No alternates shall be designated for Automatic Delegates. Any county failing to hold a county convention and elect delegates shall forfeit its automatic delegates. The State Chairman shall certify to the credentials committee no later than May 4, 2012, the list of individuals then eligible to serve as automatic delegates.

RULE 26 -- Declaration of Candidacy for Delegate to the State Convention

In any county which is required or elects to have a printed ballot under Rule 27, any Republican who is a registered voter within the County/District he seeks to represent, wishing to be considered for the position of delegate to the state convention and wishing to have his/her name appear on an alphabetized printed ballot for such post shall notify the county chairman or the chairman's designated representative in writing at least 72 hours prior to the opening gavel of the county convention/legislative district caucus. Notice of this procedure shall be contained in the convention/caucus call.

RULE 27 -- Printed State Delegate Ballot

In the case of any district election or any at-large county election in which five (5) or more delegate positions are to be elected, the county chairman shall cause to be printed a ballot listing each declared candidate for delegate to the state convention in alphabetical order. Said ballot shall be used in the first ballot only for delegates to the state convention. Said ballot shall contain blank spaces equal to the number of delegates allotted for the purpose of write-in candidates or those nominated from the floor.

RULE 28 -- Nominations From the Floor to Be Allowed

Unless otherwise provided by county rule, nominations from the floor for delegates to the state convention shall be in order and remain open until the chair has called for further nominations three (3) times without response. The county organization shall not be responsible for publishing, posting or alphabetizing nominations from the floor on the first ballot.

RULE 29 -- Majority Vote Required for State Convention Delegates

Where there are more nominees than positions to be elected, all voting shall be by written ballot. Each delegate may vote for as many candidates as there shall be positions to be voted for on that ballot. There shall be no cumulative voting. Those candidates for delegate to the state convention who receive a majority of the votes cast (over fifty percent [50%] of the amount of delegates voting, EXAMPLE: fifty [50] voting delegates, twenty-six [26] votes

represents a majority) shall be deemed elected with succeeding ballots being conducted until all delegate positions have been elected by a majority of the votes cast except as provided in subsection 3 below.

The following rules of elimination shall be used:

1. On the second ballot, each candidate who received less than 10% of the total vote on the first ballot shall be eliminated.
2. On the third ballot, each candidate who received less than 20% of the total vote on the previous ballot shall be eliminated.
3. On the fourth ballot, sufficient candidates receiving the lowest number of votes on the previous ballot shall be eliminated so that the ballot includes twice the number of unfilled positions to be voted on. These candidates receiving the most votes shall be elected without regard to whether they have a majority of the votes cast.
4. However, regardless of the foregoing rules for elimination, every ballot shall include a number of candidates not less than twice the number of unfilled positions to be voted on if sufficient candidates have been nominated. When this requirement conflicts with the above rules, the candidate receiving the highest votes on the previous ballot who was eliminated shall be included until the number of candidates remaining is twice the number of unfilled positions.
5. In the event of ties for election or elimination, the result shall be determined by lot.
6. Delegates must complete registration and payment for the convention within ten (10) business days of their election. If registration and payment is not submitted, an additional five (5) business days will be given, but a late payment penalty will be enforced of at least 50% more than registration cost. Should any elected delegate fail to complete registration and payment within said time, their position is forfeited, and delegate status awarded to the first alternate. Said elected delegate will be moved to the last alternate position slot available. The State Party Chairman will notify the county chair and alternate within 24 hours. Said newly designated delegate shall complete registration and payment within five (5) business days, and shall forfeit their delegate position if they do not. The newly designated delegate shall receive a credit towards delegate registration any amount paid for alternate registration.
7. If the first ranked alternate declines the delegate position, the next ranked alternate shall be the designated delegate and notified in the same manner as above (see Rule 29 section 6); provided that all registration fees and forms shall be paid and completed for the newly designated delegate(s) not later than May 11, 2012.
8. State Headquarters shall make Delegate/Alternate Registration Packets available to all counties prior to their county or legislative district conventions.

For purposes of this Rule and Rule 30, "business day" shall mean any day excluding Saturday, Sunday, or holiday recognized by the State of Washington.

RULE 30 -- Election of State Convention Alternates

Alternate delegates shall be allocated in the same manner as delegates under Rules 20, 21, and 22. Nominations for alternate delegate to the state convention shall be made from the floor. There shall be two ballots, if necessary, for the position of alternate delegate. On the first ballot all candidates receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be elected to position numbers in accordance to the highest vote-getter following in a diminishing order. The second ballot shall fill the remaining vacant alternate delegate positions by a plurality vote, also in diminishing order. If fewer candidates are nominated than the number of positions allocated, a single ballot shall suffice. Alternates shall complete and pay registration fees to be received by the state headquarters by May 11, 2012.

RULE 31 -- Custodian of Convention/Legislative District Caucus Records

The county chairman of each county shall be the custodian of the permanent records of the county convention/legislative district caucus and shall be responsible for forwarding required reports and certifications to the state organization.

RULE 32 -- Proxies; Unit Rule; Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised

At the county convention/district caucus, the unit rule shall not be permitted nor shall any county convention or District caucus adopt a resolution binding its delegates to vote as a unit at the State Convention. Proxies shall not be accepted. All business shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, and the county bylaws or rules, except where either is inconsistent with these rules.

RULE 33 -- Certification of Delegates and Alternates

The county chairman of each county shall cause to be postmarked no later than April 29, 2012 a Certification of Delegates and Alternates form to the State Headquarters. Such form shall contain the legal address, including zip code, congressional and legislative district designations of each delegate and alternate elected. It shall contain the position number of each alternate elected to the state convention. Attached shall be the minutes of the county/district caucus attested to by the permanent chairman and secretary of such convention or district caucus. The minutes shall include the report of the rules committee and credentials committee.

RULE 34 -- State Convention Committees

Each county shall select a chairman of its delegation and one person to serve on the State Convention Platform Committee, one person to serve on the State Convention Rules and Order of Business Committee, and one person to serve on the State Convention Credentials Committee. The chairman of the delegation and members of the above committees shall be

chosen in such a manner as the county convention rules provide or, in the absence of a rule, as the county convention determines. Each county may choose a vice chairman of the delegation and alternate members of the above committees in such a manner as the county convention rules provide, or in the absence of a rule, as the county convention determines. The last day to elect or appoint members to the State Convention Committees is April 28, 2012. The names of those selected to the above committees and the chairman of the delegation shall be forwarded with the Certification of 2012 Delegates and Alternates form, postmarked no later than April 29, 2012 to the State Headquarters. The chairmen of the State Convention Platform Committee, Rules and Order of Business Committee and Credentials Committee shall be designated by the State Committee not later than its January 2012 meeting.

RULE 35 -- Credentials Challenges

Any Republican within a county, commissioner district or legislative district (the original electing unit) that wishes to challenge the certifications of delegates and alternate delegates elected to the state convention or elected to be a member of a state convention committee shall cause to be postmarked or delivered to the State Headquarters a Notice of Challenge no later than ten (10) days following the election in question. Upon receipt of a Notice of Challenge, the State Headquarters shall promptly notify the Chairman of the County of the challenged delegates. Not later than twenty (20) days after the election in question, or ten (10) days prior to the commencing of the state convention, (whichever shall occur first), the person filing the challenge shall file with State Headquarters all documents and statements (which may be in the form of affidavits) supporting the challenge and setting forth the facts upon which the challenge is made accompanied by a statement of position giving fair notice to all of the nature and grounds of challenge. Documents and written statements in response (which may be in the form of affidavits) shall be filed with State Headquarters not later than five (5) days prior to the meeting of the Credentials Committee. A non-resident of the county, commissioner's district or legislative district may not initiate challenges in question. The state convention credentials committee shall consider each challenge in the order that it was received.

RULE 36 -- Delegate Allocation Formula

There shall be 1500 elected delegates and 1500 alternates to the state convention in addition to the automatic delegates. The elected delegates shall be apportioned to the respective counties and districts on the basis of the Republican vote therein. Republican vote shall be determined by adding the Republican vote in each county in the 2008 general election for the offices of President, Governor, and Attorney General.

The 2008 results of precincts, which now fall, in two separate legislative or commissioner/councilman districts shall be apportioned equally between the two new districts.

RULE 37 – ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

The ten (10) at-large delegates shall be elected to represent the State of Washington at the 2012 Republican National Convention from the floor at the State Convention. Candidates for National Convention Delegate will declare at their nomination their Presidential preference, or that they are uncommitted, and be bound on the first ballot to their commitment at the 2012 Republican National Convention.

Three (3) delegates from each Congressional District Caucus shall be elected to represent the State of Washington at the 2012 Republican National Convention. Candidates for National Convention Delegate will declare at their nomination their Presidential preference, or that they are uncommitted, and be bound on the first ballot to their commitment at the 2012 Republican National Convention.

RULE 38 – Candidate Qualification and Nomination

Any convention or caucus nominating or qualifying a candidate for the ballot shall follow the rules for nomination of Republican candidates as adopted by the state committee.

WASHINGTON STATE ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Washington State is allocated 43 delegates to the national convention in Tampa – Florida, August 27 – 30, 2012. The Republican National Committee determines this number.

How do they come up with this number?

Many variables go into this number – population, number of Republicans in office, etc.

Washington State is allocated 43 delegates:

10 at-large delegates

30 delegates from Congressional District caucus (3 per Congressional District)

3 Automatic Delegates (State Party Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman)

How, as a state, do we allocate?

The 10 at-large delegates will be elected from the floor of the convention, and 30 delegates from the Congressional Districts will be elected at their Congressional District caucus. At the time of the persons nomination they will be asked to state their Presidential Preference (uncommitted is allowed), and will be bound to their preference for the first round of balloting at the 2012 Republican National Convention. *See Rule 37.*

Does the Presidential Preference Straw Poll at the Precinct Caucuses determine the delegate allocation to National Convention?

The Presidential Preference Straw Poll at the precinct caucuses are more of a “cosmetic” snap-shot of who the grassroots in WA support for President. Regardless of whom a delegate selects as their “preferred” candidate at the precinct caucus, the overall legislative,

congressional, or statewide results do not determine delegate allocation to the National Convention. Delegates who wish to go to the County or State Conventions may be asked who they support, but this in no way binds them to their candidate. However, delegates are usually elected because of their affiliation with a Presidential campaign.

Delegates who make it to the State Convention and wish to be a delegate at the National Convention are, however, asked at their time of nomination of their Presidential Preference (uncommitted is allowed). Delegates who are elected to the National Convention are bound by their selection on the first ballot.

WSRP State Convention Delegate Allocation

[illegible]