



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION
TUBMAN BOULEVARD, 9th & 10th STREETS, SINKOR – P. O. BOX 2044
MONROVIA, LIBERIA
Email: info@necliberia.org



CAMPAIGN FINANCE REGULATIONS

October 2022

Table of Contents

1.0. Authority	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2.0. Applicability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
3.0. Citation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4.0. Definitions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5.0. Personal Expenses			-	-	-	-	-	-	2
6.0. Designation of Treasurer & Bank Account								-	3
7.0. Accounting & Post Election Audit						-	-	-	3
8.0. Violations & Penalties				-	-	-	-	-	3
9.0. Entry into Force			-	-	-	-	-	-	4

§ 1.0. Authority

The National Elections Commission, pursuant to authority granted it by the Liberian Constitution as well as the Elections Law, hereby adopts and issues the following Campaign Finance Regulations.

§ 2.0. Applicability

2.1. These Regulations shall apply to all Campaign Financing activities conducted by political parties, alliances, coalitions and candidates.

2.2. These Regulations shall not be construed to limit additional requirements imposed by any provisions of the Elections Law and/or relevant decisional law.

§ 3.0. Citation

3.1. These Regulations may be cited as the "Campaign Finance Regulations of 2022".

§ 4.0. Definitions

4.1. The following words, terms and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to them herein, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

a)"Candidate" means any individual who has been endorsed by a political party or who runs as an independent candidate for an elective public office and has been duly registered by the NEC.

b)"Contribution" means anything having pecuniary value (cash or in-kind), which is donated to a political party, coalition, alliances, or an independent candidate for use during an election campaign. It includes:

- a. Donations by a political party, coalition, or alliance to the campaign of one or more candidates supported by the party,
- b. Donations by any candidate to his/her own campaign, and

- c. Donations in-kind (gifts, goods or services), except:
 - i. The value of services of individuals who volunteer without compensation; and
 - ii. The value of loans made in the ordinary course of business where repayment is required and interest is charged.

c) "**Expense**" means any payment made by an independent candidate, political party, coalition, or an alliance for an election campaign which is made with their knowledge. An Expense shall also include disbursement for any media publication (print, electronic, social media, etc.) including those owned or controlled by a candidate, a political party, an alliance, or coalition;

d) "**Elections Law**" means New Elections Law of 1986.

e) "**NEC or Commission**" means the National Elections Commission;

f) "**Personal Expense**" means all expenses that a candidate would have incurred in his or her candidacy, such as payments for personal clothing, rent, mortgage, utilities, vacations, personal expenses of family members, and other expenses that are not related to campaigning for office.

g) "**Political Party**" means an association that has been duly registered/accredited by the NEC to function as a political party.

h) "**Alliance or Coalition**" means two (2) or more political parties accredited by the National Elections Commission (NEC) as a single entity for the purpose of participating in an election, while maintaining their individual identities;

§ 5.0. Personal Expenses

- 5.1. A candidate may not utilize funds contributed to her or his campaign for personal expenses.

§ 6.0. Designation of Treasurer and Bank Account

- 6.1. Every political party, coalition, alliance, or independent candidate for an elective public office shall designate a campaign treasurer, who should have at least basic knowledge of accounting or bookkeeping.
- 6.2. Each political party, coalition, alliance, or independent candidate shall:
- a) Open an account at a depository bank to receive, hold and disburse campaign funds;
 - b) Report to the NEC the name and address of the campaign treasurer, the name and address of the depository bank and the number of the account as specified in the designated form.
- 6.3 The information referred to in Section 6.1 and 6.2(b) shall be submitted by candidates together with their candidate nomination documents, and by political parties, alliances, coalitions during candidate nomination of an election year.
- 6.4 In the event a treasurer is terminated, dies or retires, the party or candidate shall notify the NEC within 72 hours of the event and the name of the replacement.
- 6.5 A Political party, coalition, alliance, or independent candidate is jointly responsible with its campaign treasurer for recording and reporting on its campaign finances.

§ 7.0. Accounting & Post Election Audit

- 7.1. The NEC, in keeping with 82(c) of the 1986 Liberian Constitution, may order an independent audit of the financial transactions of any political party or independent candidate.

§ 8.0. Violations & Penalties

- 8.1. In keeping with Section 7.1 of the New Elections Law, which prohibits corporation, business or labor unions from contributing to the funds or election expenses of a political party

or independent candidate, the NEC shall declare as forfeited any contributions received in violation of the said Section 7.1.

- 8.2. In keeping with Section 7.2 of the New Elections Law, which states that only Liberian citizen 18 years or above may contribute funds or other assets to a political party or independent candidate, a political party or independent candidate shall within seven (7) days of receipt of any contribution in violation of Section 7.2 transfer said contribution to the NEC, which shall place same in an escrow account and investigate the source. If the investigation shows that the contribution was made in violation of the said Section 7.1, the NEC shall return the contribution to the source or deal with it as ordered by a Liberian court.
- 8.3. In keeping with Section 7.10 of the New Elections Law, which requires all candidates that participated in an election to submit a final report of Contributions and Expenses to the NEC, the NEC shall impose the following on candidates who fails to submit their reports:
- a) Any candidate (whether he or she contested on a political party, alliance, or coalition ticket or as an independent candidate), who fails to submit a final contribution or expense report to the NEC, shall be fined an amount no less than US\$1,000.00 or no more than US\$5,000.00 or its equivalent in Liberian dollars.
 - b) In the case of a defeated candidate, he or she shall be barred from participating in subsequent elections until the reports are submitted to the NEC.
 - c) Any other violation of the Campaign Finance Limitation shall be dealt with as prescribed by law.

§ 9-0. Entry Into Force

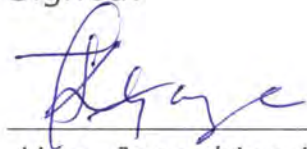
- 9.1. These Regulations shall take effect immediately upon publication by the NEC on its website at: www.necliberia.org

DONE UNDER OUR HANDS AND SEAL OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC), IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, THIS 7th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022.

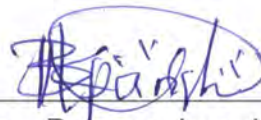
Signed:

DONE UNDER OUR HANDS AND SEAL OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC), IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, THIS 7th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022.

Signed:



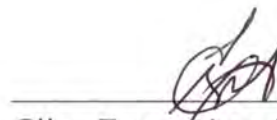
Hon. Josephine Kou Gaye
COMMISSIONER



Hon. Barsee Leo Kpangbai
COMMISSIONER



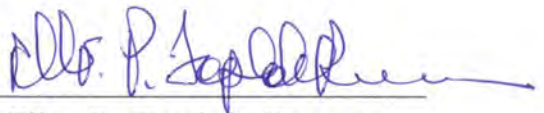
Hon. Floyd Oxley Saylor
COMMISSIONER



Cllr. Ernestine Morgan-Awar
COMMISSIONER



Boakai Amadu Dukuly, Esq.
COMMISSIONER



Cllr. P. Teplah Reeves
CO-CHAIR



Hon. Davidetta Browne Lansanah
CHAIRPERSON