

Amendments to the JCDP Code of Ethics

1. Once a PCP, Executive or Standing Committee member of the JCDP declares an intention to be a candidate for office, that person shall be recused from all participation in the affairs of the committees or programs as listed below. This ethical obligation applies irrespective of whether or not the member has formally filed as a candidate pursuant to state law. Such formal filing automatically triggers the requirement for recusal.
 - Neighborhood Leader Program
 - Campaign Committee
 - Fundraising
 - Finance and Budget
 - Communications and Technology
2. When participating in official meetings of the JCDP at any level (Central Committee, Executive Committee, Standing Committee or Caucus), members should confine their remarks to the business at hand and the subject matter being discussed. Discussion of or reference to a policy or strategy of a member's campaign or campaign positions without the express invitation of the Chair, Vice-Chair of the Party or Administrative Committee is not within the scope of committee discussion and is out of order.
3. Any member (the Claimant), who believes there is a conflict of interest with respect to any other member of the Central Committee and that person's participation in any Committee or Caucus of the JCDP, should bring it forward. The basis for the allegation of conflict of interest shall be in writing on the grievance form found at Grievance@JCDemocrats.org. Within three business days of the receipt of the complaint the Rules Committee shall acknowledge receipt of the complaint. The Rules Committee, or any two or more of its delegated members, shall have five business days to review the complaint to determine if it meets procedural requirements. Furthermore, they shall conduct a review of the party's rules and bylaws and perform a brief investigation, not to include contacting the Claimant, to determine if the complaint demonstrates a prima facie basis for proceeding. If it does not, the Rules Committee investigators shall respond to the Claimant explaining the reason for its decision not to proceed. Included with that decision letter, the Rules Committee investigators shall offer the Claimant an opportunity to appeal their decision to the Administrative Committee. Also, the Rules Committee investigators may remand the complaint to the Claimant, if it is determined that there are procedural deficiencies which prevent any further forwarding of the Complaint. The Claimant will be given sufficient time to correct said deficiencies before resubmitting the complaint.
4. If, after the Rules Committee investigators have reviewed the complaint and found it worthy, the complaint shall be forwarded to the Respondent of the complaint. The Respondent shall reply in writing to the Rules Committee investigators only on the grievance form within seven days of receipt.
5. Once that response is received by the Rules Committee investigators and the Claimant has been provided with the Respondent's submission, there will be a three day period in which each party may reconsider its submission. If no written actions, up to and including withdrawal, are received by the end of the three day waiting period, the complaint and the response shall be forwarded to the Executive Committee for review and consideration. The Executive Committee will acknowledge receipt of the document within seven days. The Executive Committee then shall review the document for further action.

6. Robert's Rules shall provide the procedural guidelines for all actions taken by the Executive Committee in reviewing and acting upon any ethics complaint received.
7. Should the Executive Committee deem it appropriate, it may refer the matter to an ad hoc committee, it may take action on the document, or it may choose to dismiss. Pursuant to Robert's Rules, any Executive Committee member who finds themselves to have a conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from participation in the review.
8. If referred to an ad hoc committee, then Robert's Rules shall be the procedural guidelines for the conduct of the committee. The ad hoc committee shall report back to the Executive Committee with its findings and recommendations.
9. Any person who is recused from participation in committees or programs as a result of a declaration of candidacy is prohibited from using JCDP distribution groups or any JCDP social media for the purpose of advancing that person's candidacy or for soliciting contributions unless said person has been officially endorsed by the Central Committee of the JCDP .