



The Democratic Women of North Carolina invite you to attend our

DWNC 64th Annual Convention

Durham, NC | September 13-15, 2024 Sheraton Imperial

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Dear Democratic Women,

On behalf of the DWNC Board and the 2024 DWNC Convention Committee, it is my honor to issue this call to our 64th Annual State Convention, taking place September 13th - 15th at the Sheraton Imperial in Durham.

This year, our DWNC slogan has been:

Defend Democracy, Secure Our Rights, Vote to Protect Our Future.

Democratic women across the state have dedicated their time and energy to "Defend Our Democracy," knowing that the outcome of this year's election will shape our future.

We must also "Secure Our Rights." What's at stake?

- Our voting rights
- Our reproductive rights
- Our global relationships
- The future of our country

Our very democracy is on the ballot, and we are fully aware of its importance. Our DWNC members are a force to be reckoned with. Not only are we a formidable organization, but we are also the backbone of the North Carolina Democratic Party. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have canvassed, made phone calls, and written letters to secure the "Votes to Protect Our Future."

The DWNC Board and the 2024 DWNC Convention Committee have been tirelessly preparing for this year's convention. We are excited to provide an event where we will network, share ideas, and celebrate those among us who have led the way.



Get ready to kick off Friday night with a lively reception for candidates, featuring Kimberly Bassett, Secretary of the District of Columbia, as our dynamic keynote speaker! Saturday promises even more excitement with keynote speeches from our statewide candidates during both Breakfast and the Star Banquet. You won't want to miss our Saturday lunch—it's like speed dating with our candidates, giving you the chance to chat directly with each one at your table. In the afternoon, we'll dive into engaging breakout sessions covering everything from treasurer's training, to Voter Protection, to Get Out The Vote (GOTV), and the Chapter President Roundtable.

The DWNC Board and I can't wait to host you and share some serious fun and fellowship at our 2024 DWNC Convention!

With gratitude, Paula

Paula Shelton
President, DWNC

2024 Convention Registration
Reserve a Discounted Room

REGISTRATION & HOTEL INFORMATION



Join us for the convention at the Sheraton Imperial in Durham. The hotel is newly renovated with limited rooms available at \$139/night plus tax. Reserve yours soon!

Early bird registration is \$185.00 until August 13th, increasing to \$200.00 thereafter. VIP-All-inclusive is \$250, covering meals, sessions, & a VIP reception before the Stars Banquet.



TENTATIVE AGENDA



Friday, September 13

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm: Registration Opens

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm: DWNC Board Meeting

6:00 pm: Welcome Reception & Heavy Hors d'oeuvre
Secretary of District of Columbia- Kimberly Bassett

8:30 pm - 10:30 pm: Hospitality Suite Opens

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm: Featured Movie- "Bad Faith"



Saturday, September 14

7:30 am: Registration Opens

7:30 am - 8:30 am: President Round Table

8:30 am - 12:00 pm: Breakfast Plenary & Business Meeting

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm: Lunch and Candidate Speed Dating

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm: Breakout Sessions

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm: VIP Reception

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm: Stars Banquet

Hospitality Suite will be open after the Banquet

Sunday, September 15

9:00 am - 10:00 am: Breakfast - Woman of the Year

10:00 am - 11:30 am: Closing & Call to Action



AWARDS: STARS, MEMBERSHIP, COMMUNICATION, & WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Recipients are deserving individuals sponsored by their DW Chapter, County Party, or fellow volunteers, in recognition of their outstanding work in energizing the party and helping elect Democrats. Stars will be recognized Saturday night with a certificate, a pin, and a picture in the evening's commemorative program. The deadline to sponsor your star is Friday, 5:00 pm, August 23, 2024.

Submit your STAR nominations here: [2024 STARS](#)



Updated rosters AND dues for memberships paid should be submitted by August 23, 2024. Rosters should be submitted to MembershipDWNC@gmail.com and payment must be received.

Pay your dues online here: [2024 DWNC Membership Dues](#)

Awards are presented to the largest chapter and the chapter with the greatest percentage of growth.



This award goes to a chapter that has demonstrated excellence in communicating with its members and with the general public about its mission and its activities. The deadline for nominations is September 23, 2024.

Submit your nomination here: [2024 Betty Ray McCain](#)



Nominees are active members of the DWNC in good standing for a minimum of five years who have served Democratic Women at the county, regional, and state level, and/or served in an elected or appointed leadership role. Deadline for Woman of the Year nominations is August 23, 2024.

Submit your nomination here: [2024 Woman of the Year](#)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO OUR CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

The Democratic Women of North Carolina Constitution and Bylaws Committee put forth the following amendments:



1. Amendment to Transition the Treasurer role from elected to appointed, with a focus on defining and enhancing its responsibilities.

Rationale:

The role of Treasurer is difficult to fill due to the time commitment required, the complexity of SBOE regulations, and the associated political scrutiny. Transitioning the role from elected to appointed will allow us to choose a treasurer based on merit and qualifications, rather than an electoral process that may prioritize popularity over competence in financial matters.

Summary of Changes:

- The Treasurer's role would be appointed by the President and switched

2. Amendment to introduce the position of Assistant Treasurer among our appointed officers and to clarify its responsibilities.

Rationale:

The introduction of an Assistant Treasurer is a strategic investment in fostering continuity, strengthening our reporting capabilities, and enhancing accountability within our organization. It underscores DWNC's dedication to prudent financial stewardship and positions us well for continued success.

Summary of Changes:

- The Assistant Treasurer position is added
- Assistant Treasurer serves on the Credentials Committee
- Assistant Treasurer, like the Treasurer, shall be able to continue holding office longer than two consecutive terms
- Treasurer duties updated to include working with Assistant Treasurer

3. Amendment to clarify the composition of our Executive Committee.

Rationale:

The current size of our Executive Committee, comprising 22-24 members, including elected officers and appointed committee chairs, presents logistical challenges that hinder effective governance and participation. Removing the appointed chairs of our various standing committees is essential for quicker decision-making processes and more efficient meetings. Decisions of the Executive Committee will remain subject to review and approval by the full DWNC Board.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO OUR CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS



The Democratic Women of North Carolina Constitution and Bylaws Committee put forth the following amendments:

3. (Continued...) Amendment to clarify the composition of our Executive Committee.

Summary of Changes:

- The Executive Committee would be composed of the elected officers, the Regional Directors, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, and the Parliamentarian.

4. Amendment to add conduct language to our Standing Rules.

Rationale:

The proposal to include conduct and etiquette language in our bylaws aims to strengthen the standards of professionalism and respect within our organization. This addition is necessary to clearly define expected behavior, promote respectful discourse, and uphold high ethical standards. It ensures that all members conduct themselves in a manner that reflects our organizational values and fosters a positive and inclusive environment for collaboration and growth.

Summary of Changes:

Addition of language: "2. Etiquette. "All members of DWNC shall conduct themselves in ways that are respectful, lawful, and courteous. Civil discourse shall guide all interactions."

5. Amendment to clarify that no state officers, elected or appointed, may endorse in a contested election with multiple Democratic candidates.

Rationale:

Our present bylaws make it clear that elected officers may not endorse in a contested election. This clarification ensures that all officers, elected and appointed, are held to the same standard.

Summary of Changes:

We would add language naming the appointed Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer positions as state officers. (Presently, state officers are all elected, and if we move the Treasurer positions to appointment we will need to clarify that they're still officers.)

We would strike the word "elected" from Article 1, Section 1, number 5 of the Bylaws which means that NONE of our officers may endorse in contested elections.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO OUR CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS



The Democratic Women of North Carolina Constitution and Bylaws Committee put forth the following amendments:

6. Amendment to clarify the time frame for transferring records, including digital work and passwords, from outgoing to incoming officers.

Rationale:

Past record transfers between outgoing and incoming officers have unfortunately resulted in lost materials. By clarifying the time frame for transfer, we aim to prevent delays that hinder our new officers from beginning their duties. Additionally, in today's digital age, our definition of records must evolve beyond paper copies to encompass digital work, emails, passwords, and social media accounts--integral components of DWNC's intellectual property. The assets must be maintained and transferred promptly to ensure continuity and safeguard our organizational integrity.

Summary of Changes:

- Adding this language: "Transmit all appropriate records & intellectual property pertaining to the office, including usernames & passwords, to her successor within ten (10) days of vacating her office."

7. Amendment to rectify a 2020 Scrivener's error and confirm that regional appointments to the Legislative Committee and the Resolution Committee shall occur exclusively in even-numbered years.

Rationale:

In 2020, the DWNC membership voted to change our elections and appointments of officers from the even year to the odd year. A few clerical errors were made when we edited the bylaws. In summary, we forgot to switch some of the odd's to the even's. This amendment will rectify the error and standardize the language used in Article V: Committees where the appointment process is outlined.

Summary of Changes:

- Switching Odds to Evens
- Standardizing language in Article V: Committees

You may track all of these proposed changes here.

Please note that editorial changes have been **made in blue** and do not require approval of the general membership. Proposed amendment changes are noted with **strike-through** of the current language, and **the replacement language is in red.**

IN MEMORIAM

Each year, the Democratic Women of North Carolina pauses during our Annual Convention to honor those who have gone on before. It is only because of those who paved the way before us, women, men, and friends with the courage to fight for equality and justice, that we are where we are today. We honor their work as Defenders of Democracy through a video we produce each year.



Honor someone by uploading their picture here: [2024 In Memoriam](#)

WE NEED YOUR PICTURES

Remember to send us pictures of your Chapter from this past year so we may showcase your work at the convention. Email those to Julia at buckner.julia@gmail.com. Use the subject: DW (Your County) Pics



DWNC SILENT AUCTION

Each DW Chapter is requested to contribute a gift basket or items valued at a minimum of \$50. Please attach a tag to each basket or item indicating the donor's name, address, or DW Chapter name, a brief description of the item(s), and their monetary value.

**CHECK OUT
OUR ONLINE STORE**

bit.ly/DWNCstore

