

Outline: Running for Office

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I. Selecting an Office

- a) Run for an office that reflects your passion and expertise
- b) Understand the exact responsibilities of the office and employment details
- c) Have a basic understanding of the constitution or laws applicable to the position
- d) If possible, attend a meeting or public gathering

II. Filing to Run

- a) Check your county/state website and research what you need to do to file
- b) If you are required to gather signatures, gather well over the required number of signatures as many will be invalidated; you may choose a filing fee for most seats
- c) Contact your local party and inform them of your desire to run or filing

III. Campaign

- a) Develop a plan, research the previous cycle by accessing your county website, look at voting patterns by precinct to develop your plan
- b) Put a team together: manager, volunteer coordinator, communications person, etc
- c) Put together a financing plan
- d) Work with your local party for support (understand that parties DO NOT run campaigns)
- e) Set goals for everyone on your team: let the candidate concentrate on being the candidate
- f) Set realistic goals

IV. Campaigning

- a) Canvass as much as humanly possible. Meet constituents.
- b) Raise as much money as possible (devote a specific number of hours per week to dialing for dollars)
- c) Have three issues on which to campaign and have concrete solutions to the problems you see. Be articulate on your issues, give people a reason to vote FOR you
- d) 30 second, 2minute, 5 minute and 15 minute speech/door pitch memorized.
- e) Prepare your family and friends for you to be absent for the course of the campaign
- f) Take physical care of yourself
- g) Enjoy it! Be positive, you will make a difference regardless of vote outcome