

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTERNAL ELECTIONS IN THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY

In order to protect the integrity of the internal election process and the Party's reputation for the highest standards of moral and ethical expectations of aspirants who offer themselves for office in the Party the following Code of Conduct has been issued, to which every Applicant, his/her campaign team and his/her supporters shall adhere and comply.

1. INTERNAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN RULES

- a) Every aspirant shall uphold and strictly act in accordance with the Constitution of the Party and this Code of Conduct.
- b) On no account shall any Aspirant act in contravention of the laws of Jamaica.
- c) No Aspirant shall engage in conduct tending to create tension between Party members, personal attacks, defamation, acts of deliberate misinformation, malicious statements or vulgar abuse of or against other aspirant, their campaign teams and supporters. Aspirants shall make every effort to prevent members of their campaign team from engaging in such conduct.
- d) Aspirants and their campaign team shall conduct a fair campaign and refrain from seeking or suppressing any votes by threat, bribery, intimidation, violence, material inducements or other improper actions.
- e) Aspirants shall strictly comply with and ensure that their campaign team complies with the following Social Media Policies, which shall govern the conduct of Aspirants and campaign team members in digital and online communication, including but not limited to the use of messaging platforms, social networking services and third-party content. Aspirants shall ensure that: -
 - (i) Their postings are consistent with this Code of Conduct and are unfailingly courteous and respectful of others.
 - (ii) They avoid making statements or using photographs, video or audio that could be reasonably regarded as malicious, obscene, intimidating, disparaging or damaging to another's character or reputation.
 - (iii) They avoid posts that could contribute to a hostile Party environment.
 - (iv) They only post content that is accurate, appropriate, respectful and is not prejudicial to Party cohesion.
 - (v) They only express personal opinions for which they are willing to be held accountable.

- (vi) They never criticise any aspect of an aspirant's private life, not connected with his public activities.
- f) The Social Media Policy set out above shall apply to the conduct of Aspirants in general.
 - g) No Aspirant shall engage in or undertake a national media campaign or promotion, paid or otherwise, (inclusive of television, radio, newspapers, billboards and cable) of his/her candidacy, or permit his/her campaign team or encourage or condone any other person to do so in support of his/her candidacy, save and except for announcements of meetings.
 - h) No Aspirant shall hold or cause or permit to be held any public mass meetings in public places in support of his/her campaign/candidacy, with the exception of meetings in 'school room' and 'school yard' type meetings.
 - i) No Aspirant shall organize or permit to be organized or participate in any motorcade in support of his/her candidacy.
 - j) Aspirants shall make reasonable efforts and take all possible steps to ensure that all their campaign team members and supporters comply with the Code of Conduct, these Rules and all other guidelines, codes and rules applicable to the campaign and the elections and shall promptly remove from their campaign any member of their campaign team who acts or is found by the Election Monitoring Committee, after due process, to have acted in breach thereof or to have otherwise brought the Party or any Aspirant into disrepute and in any such event the Aspirant shall make an immediate public denunciation and repudiation of such action.
 - k) Aspirants may be held responsible for the actions of any member of his/her campaign team or other person authorised by the Aspirant and shall publicly disassociate their campaign from any comment, statement or action of any person, whether or not such person is a member of his/her campaign team, if requested by the Election Monitoring Committee to do so, if in the opinion of the Committee any such comment, statement or action appears to be in support of the Aspirant or his/her campaign and violates the standards of conduct which these Rules and the Code of Conduct seek to uphold.
 - l) Aspirants and their campaign teams shall utilise the internal processes and procedures provided by the Party to address complaints, protests and appeals relating to or arising from campaign or electoral matters; cooperate with the General Secretary and the Election Monitoring Committee in any enquiry into such complaints or protests; accept the decision taken thereon and refrain from initiating or otherwise engaging in any public discourse in relation to such matters.

- m) Aspirants and their campaign team shall cooperate with all election officials and do their part to ensure a peaceful and orderly election process.

2. CAMPAIGN FINANCING

a) Restrictions on sources of funding:

No person shall accept funds for a campaign from the following:

- (i) Any foreign government or agent thereof
- (ii) A public body
- (iii) An entity whose existence is or activities are illegal
- (iv) A person or entity whose identity is undisclosed to the recipient
- (v) A person or entity who makes contribution through a “middleman”, and
- (vi) A person or entity using a false identity
- (vii) Any other political party

- b) Aspirants are mandated to return any such contributions that may be received from any such restricted source immediately they become aware thereof. Failure to do so may result in disqualification as an aspirant or other disciplinary action, even if the aspirant is elected.

c) Restrictions on spending

- (i) No spending on advertisements in any national public media (including television, radio, newspapers and cable) (other than for transmitting information advising of meetings); and on publicly erected billboards and signs.
- (ii) No payment to delegates directly or indirectly with a view to influencing or gaining their support or to discouraging them from voting.
- (iii) No expenditure on meetings in public spaces, with the exception of schoolroom type meetings.

d) Record keeping

Aspirants must keep and maintain records of all receipts, contributions and other income and of expenditure relating to or associated with the campaign and to have such records available for inspection by the Election Monitoring Committee or its nominee, if requested.

e) Reporting

Within forty- five (45) days of the election being held, each aspirant shall submit a Report to the Election Monitoring Committee detailing his/her income,

receipts, expenditure and contributions received during the Campaign Period or if there are no contributions or expenditure, to declare that to be the case.

f) Campaign Period

This shall be the period beginning with submission by the aspirant of his/her application for nomination, whichever is earlier and ending 30 days after the election.

3. The Election Monitoring Committee

- a) An Election Monitoring Committee (the “Committee”) shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Party, in each region, to monitor the campaign and election activities, including compliance with these Rules and to hear appeals from decisions of the General Secretary and the Region. The Committee is entitled to determine its rules of procedure and will ensure that deliberations and decisions are expeditiously done. The Committee will have the right to take any action it considers appropriate to preserve the integrity of the campaign and protect the interests and reputation of the People's National Party. The Committee shall remain in existence until 60 days after the election.
- b) The Committee shall comprise five (5) members who are entitled to vote, one of whom shall be appointed Chairman. Any three members shall comprise a quorum for meetings of the Committee.
- c) The General Secretary shall be an ex officio, non-voting member of the Committee.
- d) Each aspirant shall provide the Committee with the name and contact information of his/her representative with whom the Committee can communicate.
- e) Members of the Committee are prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in the campaign of and/or endorsing an aspirant.
- f) The Committee shall be entitled to request information and records from any aspirant at any time during the existence of the Committee and must receive it within seven (7) working days of such request being made.
- g) Decisions of the Committee shall be final, save and except that decisions recommending disciplinary action against any person will be subject to a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee of the Party and decisions of the Disciplinary Committee will be further subject to the applicable provisions of the Party's Constitution. The Committee will also refer, to the Party's Integrity Commission, any aspirant whose candidacy may be jeopardized due to issues of integrity. The Integrity Commission's decision will be final in this case.

4. Disciplinary Proceedings

- (a) The Disciplinary Committee will act expeditiously and sanctions which may be recommended by the Disciplinary Committee include, but are not limited to, suspension of membership or expulsion as provided by the Party's Constitution and/or the imposition of a fine or disqualification from holding an office in the Party or representing the Party. It should be noted that suspension of membership would result in the affected person being deprived of the right to vote while on suspension. The Disciplinary Committee shall be entitled to proceed if, after due notice, the member summoned fails to attend on the Disciplinary Committee.

5. Interpretation

For the purposes of the Code of Conduct and these Rules, the term "aspirant" shall where appropriate include his or her agent(s) or representative(s) and "campaign team" shall include an aspirant's campaign committee and any other person involved in the execution and operations of his/her campaign.

I _____, an Aspirant for the office Councillor for the Peoples National Party

DO HEREBY DECLARE that I have read and fully understood the Code of Conduct for internal elections in the Peoples National Party set out above, and that I agree to adhere to and comply fully with the said Code, and that I accept that any breach of the said Code may attract disciplinary proceedings and sanctions.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____ 2026

ASPIRANT

CAMPAIGN MANAGER

WITNESS