

**For Immediate Release
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Libertarians Win Lawsuit: U.S. Court Strikes Down Full Slate Law

It is now easier for new parties to run for County and Statewide Office

Lemont, IL— February 15, 2016 — On February 12, U.S. District Court Judge Andrea R. Wood issued a one-page order, granting the Illinois Libertarian Party’s motion for summary judgment that the Illinois full-slate law is unconstitutional. The lawsuit was filed in 2012 by Kane County Auditor candidate Julie Fox, her campaign manager John Kramer, and then Libertarian Party of Illinois chair Lupe Diaz, along with the Libertarian Party of Illinois. Ms. Fox was not put on the ballot by the Kane County Clerk. This was due to Illinois’ requirement that a full slate Libertarian candidates for all county board offices must be on the petition. Republicans and Democrats have no such full slate requirements.

Libertarians, and other legally unrecognized political parties in Illinois, faced the same hurdle when running for statewide office. Unlike the two established parties, who can run each office independently, the Libertarians have always been required to field a slate that includes all executive offices.

With this ruling, thousands of county offices around the state have been opened up for Libertarians which have previously been difficult to attain. The effect of this law has been that there are currently no Libertarian county officials in Illinois. According to Lex Green, the chair of the Libertarian Party of Illinois, “Now that this hurdle is removed, we can effectively become part of the political dialog in every county in Illinois. This is a victory for responsible government and for the voters in Illinois.”

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For more information email Chair@LPillinois.org