

The Office of Precinct Committee Officer

The job of a Republican Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) is an extremely important one. PCOs, elected to serve their Republican neighbors as representatives to the party, are the first building block in the foundation of the Republican Party. You represent the Republican voters in your precinct, playing a pivotal role in selecting and electing Republican candidates for a wide variety of responsible positions, ranging from United States Congress to city to school board.

Who is Eligible

Any person who is a registered voter, and a member of a major political party may become a candidate. A candidate must file a declaration of candidacy form and pay a \$1 filing fee to the county auditor. Since voters do not register by political party in Washington, a candidate declares himself/herself to be a member of a major political party at the time of filing.

Election of Precinct Committee Officer

Candidates do not appear on the primary ballot, but rather are placed directly on the general election ballot. The candidate receiving the most votes in the precinct for each party is elected. However, to be declared elected, a candidate must receive at least 10% of the number of votes cast for the candidate of his/her party receiving the greatest number of votes in that precinct.

Term of Office and Vacancies

The term of office is two years. The term begins upon the official certification of the election results by the county canvassing board. Should a vacancy occur in the office (caused by death, disqualification, resignation, or failure to elect), the chairman of the County Central Committee fills the vacancy by appointment.

Duties of a Precinct Committee Officer

Each officer is a member of the County Central Committee. The committee has the authority to nominate persons or fill vacancies on the party ticket for a state, legislative or county office that is entirely within the county. Also, they elect members to the State Central Committee. The following duties are commonly assigned by the party organization:

- Attend meetings of the County Central Committee
- Actively participate in fund-raising activities
- Distribute party election materials during election campaigns
- Recommend party members to work as election poll workers
- Hold precinct caucuses for the purpose of adopting resolutions, which are the building blocks of the party platform, and to select delegates to the county convention
- Establish and maintain a record of eligible voters and party members within the precinct

If you are interested in serving as a PCO, please contact the Island County Republican Party Chairman