## RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE CITY OF DANBURY

- Section 1. All party rules and regulations heretofore adopted by the Democratic Party within and for the City of Danbury, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.
- Section 2. The Town Committee shall consist of twenty-eight (28) members with four (4) members being selected from each of the seven (7) voting districts of the City of Danbury at district primaries as provided by the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut. In the vote in a primary for the election of Town Committee members, only persons on the last completed enrollment list of the Democratic Party, in such voting district, shall be allowed to vote. The term "voting districts" in Section 2 and Section 3 of these rules means those wards or districts from which members of the Common Council of the City of Danbury are elected, other than those elected at large.
- Section 3. Beginning in 1980, and every two years thereafter, the Town Committee shall fix the first Tuesday in March for the holding of a primary for the election of Town Committee members in each of the seven (7) voting districts of the City of Danbury and shall publish the same in a newspaper having a general circulation in the City of Danbury at least fifty-six (56) days before such primary is to be held.
- Section 4. The Town Committee members shall serve for a term of two (2) years, commencing on the day following the day established for holding a primary for election of said Town Committee members and ending on the day established for the holding of a primary for the election of the members of the succeeding Town Committee. The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding the lack of cause for a primary to elect such members.
- Section 5. The Town Committee, at a meeting called for the purpose, may, by a majority vote of those present and voting, increase its membership, provided that all new members shall be duly elected and begin their term as stated in Section 4 above.
- Section 6. Any vacancy on the Town Committee, arising from any cause including failure to elect, may be filled by the Town Committee, by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting, at a meeting called for that purpose.

Section 7. Within one (1) week after election, the members-elect of the Town Committee shall meet for organization and shall elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer from within their membership.

<u>Section 8.</u> Officers elected in accordance with Section 7 shall hold office for the term of the Town Committee electing them and until their successors have been elected.

Section 9. Each of such officers shall have the duties usually incident to his office and such other duties as the Town Chairperson may from time to time prescribe.

Section 10. The Chairperson of the Town Committee may appoint such committees as he may deem advisable, and shall designate one member of each committee as chairperson thereof. These committees shall serve at the pleasur of the Town Chairperson.

Section 11. Within one (1) week after organization of the Town Committee, the Secretary shall file with the Secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee a list of the names and addresses of the officers and members of the Town Committee, and the name and address of the Democratic Registrar of Voters.

Section 12. If there shall be a vacancy in the office of the Town Chairperson or any other office, arising from any cause, the Town Committee may fill the same by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting, at a meeting called for that purpose by the Secretary.

Section 13. The Town Committee shall meet at least four (4) times a year.

Section 14. Special meetings of the Town Committee shall be called by the Chairperson or upon written request signed by a majority of the members of the committee, presented to the Chairperson. Upon receipt of such request, the Chairperson shall instruct the Secretary to give reasonable notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting to all members of the committee.

Section 15. Two-fifths of the membership of the Town Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.  $2\beta = /2$ 

Section 16. The Town Committee, at a meeting called for the purpose, shall, by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting, select party-endorsed candidates for each municipal office and for delegates to Assembly, Senatorial, Probate, County, Congressional and State Conventions

Section 17. The party endorsement of candidates for delegates to Assembly, Senatorial, Probate, County, Congressional and State Conventions shall be by full slate composed of a number of persons equal to the number of delegates to which the City is entitled under the State Rules of the Democratic Party, and such slate shall be chosen at large and endorsed as a unit.

Section 18. Candidates for municipal office chosen as provided in Section 16 above, shall run in the primary for such office as party-endorsed candidate provided any such candidate shall be the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office for which he is a candidate if no valid opposing candidacy has been filed for nomination to such office by four o'clock p.m. on the twenty-fifth day preceding the day of the Democratic primary for such office.

Section 19. The slate of candidates for delegates to a convention chosen as provided in Section 16 and Section 17 above, shall run in the primare for delegates to such conventions as the party-endorsed slate; provided such slate of candidates shall be deemed elected as the delegates to such convention if no valid opposing candidacy by a complete slate including persons other than party-endorsed candidates has been filed by four o'clock p.m. on the twenty-fifth day preceding the day of the Democratic primary for delegates to such conventions.

Section 20. If for any reason sufficient endorsements of candidates for municipal office, or delegates to conventions are not made, the provisions of the State Primary Law, as the same may be amended from time to time, shall govern.

Section 21. The Chairperson and the Secretary or the presiding officer of the Town Committee shall certify to the municipal clerk the names and street addresses of the party-endorsed candidates selected as provided in Section 16 and Section 17 above, the title of the office or delegate for which each such person is endorsed, and the date upon which the primary is to be held.

Section 23. In the event that a vote taken on the selection of a party-endorsed candidate results in a tie, such tie vote shall be dissolved by the vote of the Chairperson of the Town Committee, but this provision shall not affect his right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee to which he is otherwise entitled.

Section 24. If a party-endorsed candidate for nomination to a municipal office or delegate to Assembly, Senatorial, Probate, County, Congressional and State Convention, prior to twenty-four hours before the opening of the polls at the primary, dies, or, prior to ten days before the day of the primary, withdraws his name from nomination, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office or position for which he is a candidate, an endorsement may be made to fill such vacancy by the Town Committee, by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose. The Chairperson of the Town Committee may cast a vote on such endorsement to break a tie, but this provision shall not affect his right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee, to which he is otherwise entitled. The Secretary of the Town Committee shall immediately certify the endorsement to fill such vacancy to the Democratic Registrar of Voters, or Municipal Clerk, or State Central Committee or Secretary of State, as the same may be provided by law.

NOMINATIONS: ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

AND DELEGATES TO ASSEMBLY, SENATORIAL, PROBATE,

COUNTY, CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE CONVENTIONS.

Section 25. The nominations of the Democratic Party to all offices and the election of members of the Town Committee and delegates to conventions shall be made in all respects as provided in the State Primary Law, as the same may be amended from time to time. Whenever a primary for nominations to municipal office or for election of Town Committee members or delegates to Assembly, Senatorial, Probate, County, Congressional and State Conventions is to be held under the provisions of said Act, the nominee of the Democratic Party for such office, and the members of the Town Committee and delegates to Assembly, Senatorial, Probate, County, Congressional, and State Conventions shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast.

Section 26. If a nomination has been made for a municipal office and the nominee thereafter but prior to twenty-four hours before the opening of the polls on the date of the election for which such nomination has been made, dies, withdraws his name, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office for which he has been nominated, a nomination to fill such

vacancy may be made by the Town Committee, by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting, at a meeting called for that purpose. The Chairperson of the Town Committee may cast a vote on such nomination to break a tie, but this provision shall not affect his right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee to which he is otherwise entitled. In the case of a withdrawal, said nomination shall not be valid until the candidate who has withdrawn has filed a letter of withdrawal signed by such candidate with the Secretary of State and has also filed a copy with the municipal clerk. The Chairperson of the Town Committee shall certify the nomination to fill such vacancy to the Secretary of the State, and shall file a copy with the municipal clerk. Such certification of a nomination to fill a vacancy due to death or disqualification shall include a statement setting forth the reason for such vacancy.

Section 27. Each delegate to an Assembly, Senatorial, Probate, County, Congressional and State Convention elected in conformity with law and with these rules may, in writing, designate an alternate delegate to act for him in his absence. In the absence of such alternate delegate, the Town Chairperson shall fill any vacancy arising for any cause in the delegation to said convention.

Section 28. On the day of any Democratic primary held under the provisions of the Primary Act, as the same may be amended from time to time, the polls shall remain open for voting from 12 Noon until 8 p.m., unless the Town Committee by majority vote at a meeting called for that purpose, elects to open the polls for voting earlier than 12 Noon as permitted by State Statute.

Section 29. If any provision of these rules is found to be in conflict with the provisions of any law, the provisions of such law shall govern.

Section 30. As used these rules, "municipal office" means any office for which the electors of the City of Danbury may vote, and includes Justices of the Peace and State Representatives. The other terms used in these rules shall have the same meanings as in the State Primary Law, as the same may be amended from time to time.

## AMENDMENTS

Section 31. These rules may be amended by the Town Committee at a meeting called in the same manner as a Town Committee meeting for selecting party-endorsed candidates as provided in Section 16 of these rules.

Section 32. Within seven days after party rules or any amendments to party rules are adopted by the Democratic Party, a copy of the same shall be filed with the Secretary of the State, and with the Town Clerk and City Clerk and with the Secretary of the State Central Committee.

## PROCEDURE AND ISSUES

Section 33. In all situations not covered by these rules, the party rules as adopted by the Democratic State Central Committee shall prevail and control.

<u>Section 34.</u> Robert's Rules Order (Latest revision) shall be construed as applicable, controlling and conclusive on all parliamentary issues, except as herein otherwise provided.

Section 35. The Town Committee, in the event of any dispute as to the interpretation of these rules, shall be the final arbiter and the action of said Committee shall be binding upon all parties to the dispute.

<u>Section 36.</u> These rules are to regulate all nominations and endorsements for all municipal offices for the City of Danbury, and for endorsement and election of delegates to the various conventions of the Democratic Party, and all matters pertaining to the Democratic Party in the City of Danbury.

Section 37. The term "State Primary Law" as used in these rules and in the sections in connection therewith refer to Title 9, Chapter 153, of the General Statutes. Parts I through V, entitled "Nominations and Political Parties"; the terms used in these rules shall have the same meaning as set forth in Section 9-372 of said Title and Chapter.

These rules shall be effective sixty (60) days after their filing with the Secretary of State.

The foregoing rules governing the Democratic Party of the City of Danbury, Connecticut were adopted by a majority vote at a duly warned and held meeting of the Democratic Town Committee of Danbury on March 8, 1993, at 7:30 p.m. at the Democratic Town Committee Headquarters, Main Street, D Danbury, Connecticut 06810.

ATTEST:

LAWRENCE M. RIEFBERG, CHAIRPERSON Democratic Town Committee of Danbury Dated March 10, 1993

LINDA B. DASILVA, SECRETARY

LINDA B. DASILVA, SECRETARY Democratic Town Committee of Danbury Dated March 10, 1993