



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Angelia O'Dell 918-504-1776

oklpchair@yahoo.com

Libertarian Presidential Nominee to Run as Independent in Oklahoma

Signatures to put the Libertarian Party presidential nominee, Bob Barr, on the ballot in Oklahoma as an Independent are beginning to be collected today.

Barr won the nomination at the Libertarian Party convention this Sunday. He said the following day on CNN, "The American people need a choice, they want a choice, they deserve a choice."

Barr will need 43,913 valid signatures from registered Oklahoman voters by July 15th to qualify for the Oklahoma ballot.

Angelia O'Dell, Chair of the Libertarian Party of Oklahoma, said, "Bob Barr's Independent candidacy will allow Oklahoman voters a real choice this November. Even though our state's antiquated ballot laws kept our party off the ballot this year, we expect Barr's conservative message of limited government and personal responsibility will resonate with Oklahomans."

Oklahoma Coalition of Independents Chair, Clark Duffe, said, "It would be great for Oklahoma voters to have three choices for president. Oklahoma was the only state limited to just two choices for president in 2004 and the last time we had an Independent presidential candidate was Ross Perot in 1992."

Mr. Barr visited Oklahoma last October for a fundraiser for Oklahomans for Ballot Access Reform (OBAR). Rather than seeking ballot access, which requires 46,324 signatures this year, the Libertarian Party of Oklahoma supported OBAR's unsuccessful initiative petition to return the requirement to form a party to 5,000 signatures.

Mr. Barr commented on ballot access, saying, "Liberty includes the freedom to choose a candidate of your choice without that freedom being arbitrarily limited by the status quo parties. All candidates' names should appear on voters' ballots regardless of that candidate's political party. Today's political parties are changing, 10-20 percent of Americans hold libertarian ideas, and those voters deserve every right to vote for a Libertarian candidate just like Republicans and Democrats do."

Libertarian Party spokesperson Andrew Davis, said, "While Republicans and Democrats will fight for their own power, Libertarians will fight for Americans. Bob Barr is one of the strongest candidates in the Party's 37-year history, and we look for him to have an enormous impact in the 2008 race."

Bob Barr served in Congress from 1995 to 2003 and is currently on the board of directors of the NRA. He has been a vocal opponent of the Patriot Act, viewing it as an infringement on the civil liberties of Americans.

The Libertarian Party is America's third largest political party, founded in 1971 to advocate smaller government, lower taxes, and more freedom. For more information on the Libertarian Party visit www.LP.org or www.OKLP.org and Barr's campaign site at www.BobBarr2008.org

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