

36th District Democrats

Data Policy

This Policy is the official “public data policy” of the 36th District Democrats, as provided for in Article XIV, Section 3 of the Bylaws. This Policy supplements the requirements in the Bylaws and to the extent this Policy contradicts the Bylaws, the Bylaws shall govern.

Purpose of Data Collection: The 36th District Democrats is a political organization that works to elect our endorsed candidates, support endorsed ballot measures, advocate for our policy priorities, and engage our neighbors through community events and community service activities. To reach these goals, we collect and use information about how to communicate with and identify individuals, including such “enhanced data” as their spouses/partners, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses. We may also collect additional information, such as issues of interest to these individuals, their past voting history, and involvement in political campaigns and advocacy efforts.

Policy for Release of Data: To respect the privacy of individuals and to promote the collection of data, the data shall not be released except as provided for in this Policy or the Bylaws. Use of the data by the Chair or other Executive Board Officers in the normal course of business of the organization is not “release” of data under this Policy. The rules governing release of data vary based on the class of the individual whose data is collected (PCO, Executive Board Officer, Member, or Non-member); the type of data (Name, Address, Precinct, Phone, Email, etc.); and the individual or organization requesting the data (Member, Endorsed candidate, etc.)

Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs): The Name, Precinct, and PCO Status (whether Elected, Appointed, or Acting) of all PCOs (as defined in Article III, Section 1 of the Bylaws) shall be publicly available and may be published on the website. Additional PCO data, including contact information, may be released to the King County Democrats and the Washington State Democratic Party. Contact information for an individual PCO may be released to a voter in that PCO’s precinct upon request. In the event of a potential legislative vacancy where Elected and Appointed PCOs select nominees for Appointment to fill the seat, full contact information for eligible PCOs shall be released to all candidates who submit a King County Democrats’ questionnaire for their candidacy for the Appointment and sign a written pledge to solely support the PCOs’ first choice with the County Council. Data shall be made available to candidates after the PCOs have been notified of the potential vacancy. (Note: All PCOs are automatic members of the organization, so their data may also be released pursuant to the Members section below.)

Executive Board Officers: The Name, Officer Position, Phone, and Email of all Executive Board Officers (as defined in Article VII of the Bylaws) shall be publicly available and may be published on the website and in the newsletter. An Officer may request that only their Phone or only their Email be published.

Members: (1) Data regarding Members of the organization (as defined in Article III of the Bylaws) shall be released in electronic form to other Members for the purpose of advancing the principles and goals of the organization. Such activities shall include promoting the election of candidates endorsed by the organization; supporting ballot measures endorsed by the organization; organizing precinct gatherings for the purpose of soliciting membership, PCOs, or volunteers for the organization; and for other purposes as approved by the Executive Board. Members using data for purposes of supporting endorsed candidates may only use the data for their own personal organizing and shall not share electronic data with the campaigns. The approval for Member use of data expires one year from the date of the request.

(2) Data regarding Members of the organization shall be released in electronic form to the campaigns of endorsed candidates and ballot measures. The approval for endorsed campaign use of data expires one month after certification of the election for which the candidate or ballot measure was endorsed. An endorsed campaign shall not share the data with any organizations or individuals outside of the campaign. An endorsed campaign shall not use the data for the purposes of assisting other campaigns or for races that are different than the race for which they were endorsed. Endorsed campaigns shall keep the released data separate from their own data and delete the released data upon the expiration of approved use.

Non-Members: Data regarding individuals who are not members of the organization (such as caucus attendees) may be released in electronic form to PCOs for the purpose of organizing their precinct or additional precincts as approved by the Political Director.

Data Release Procedure: All data requests shall be processed through the Communications Director, or another Executive Board Officer designated by the Communications Director with approval of the Chair, with the specific request for data and the proposed use of the data. The Communications Director or designee is responsible for receiving signed agreements from those soliciting data and must notify the Executive Board by email of any data requests at least 24 hours prior to releasing the data. The Communications Director or designee shall provide technical assistance to campaigns, as necessary and as appropriate, regarding keeping released data separate from other campaign data and deleting the released data upon expiration.

Violations of this Policy: Violations of this Policy shall be reviewed by the Executive Board and may be reported at the next general meeting. In extreme cases, the Executive Board may recommend revocation of endorsement of a violating campaign or recall of a violating Executive Board Officer.

Passed by Executive Board, June 12, 2011
Amended by Executive Board, December 7, 2011
Renewed by Executive Board, March 6, 2013
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