TO:
Florida Division of Elections
Department of State
RA Gray Bldg. Room 316
500 S. Bronough St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250
January 3, 2017

FROM:
Independent Party of Florida
700 Starkey Rd.- Suite 365
Largo, FL 33771-2334

RE: **Letter Of Certification**
Request for recognition as a minor political party to be designated with state as Independent Party of Florida (INT)

On January 1st preceding a primary election, the proposed minor political party does not have registered as members 5% of the total registered voters of the state (s.97.012(18) F.S.

The group is organized for the general purposes of electing qualified persons to office and determining public issues under the democratic processes of the United States (s.103.095(1) F.S.

Each member of the party has the fundamental right to fully and meaningfully participate in the business and affairs of the party without any monetary encumbrance.

I certify the following:

1) The name of the minor party is the Independent Party of Florida (designate as INT)
2) The current officers of the State Executive Board of Directors are;
    a. Chairman: Ernest Wm. Bach, 700 Starkey Rd. Suite 365, Largo, FL 33771-2334
    b. Vice-Chairman: Matthew Falconer: 700 Starkey Rd. Suite 365, Largo, FL 33771-2334
    c. Secretary-Treasurer: Sadie Abrams, 700 Starkey Rd. Suite 365, Largo, FL 33771-2334
3) The party's state officers will be elected at the annual state meeting of the membership and the names, addresses and titles will be timely filed with the Department of State at that time. The state Executive Committee shall at said meeting elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (the Secretary and Treasurer can be the same person; others cannot hold more than one office), all who must be registered members in good standing of the Party.
4) The State Executive Committee shall be comprised of one voting member and one alternate of each state chapter in good standing and designated in writing by that chapter as their delegate with voting authority to the State Executive Committee. Names and addresses of new State Executive Committee members or changes of same shall be timely noticed to the State of Florida as they are designated.

Attached are copies of the party's proposed Constitution, By-laws and Rules and Regulations which will be reviewed and voted on for approval by the party membership at its meeting of the Florida voting membership.

Also attached are copies received from the specific county Supervisor of Elections offices of the Voter Registration Application forms for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer. When elected to their specific positions any additional Board of Directors or Executive Committee members will be filed with the Division of Elections, Department of State in a timely manner as required by Florida Statutes.

The party has had and continues to own the rights for its internet website which is currently active and being revised as to a change in officers as well as the format and messages to the party's constituency and for links to other sites and for interactive ability for the public and voters registered as Independents to the website. The web address is: **www.IndependentPartyFlorida.org**

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest Wm. Bach
Ernest Wm. Bach - Chairman

CONSTITUTION OF THE INDEPENDENT PARTY OF FLORIDA 2017

The name of the political organization is the INDEPENDENT PARTY OF FLORIDA.

PURPOSE:
The Independent Party of Florida is organized for the purpose of permitting the registered voters of Florida a voice, a high standard of representation and a base for voters who are not members of a current oligarchy comprised of two major parties and who do not represent the interests of a majority of American citizens. The efforts of the Party shall be to participate in the general purposes of electing qualified and true representatives into office at local, state and national levels and to actively participate in those issues affecting the general populace and to do so under the legal and permitted democratic electoral processes of the United States of America. (see Florida Statutes Ch. 103.095)

ADMINISTRATION:
The Independent Party of Florida will be administered by an Executive Board of Directors four (4) officers who shall be titled as Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and no officer shall hold more than one office at the same time with the exception of the Secretary-Treasurer who can be the same person. The term of office will be for two calendar years with elections held at the annual convention every second year. There will also be a standing Executive Committee comprised of a local officer elected from within each local district chapter who, with the Officers who shall comprise the state Board of Directors and who will all hold voting authority at the meetings so scheduled to address the business of the Party.
Nominations, elections of and removal of officers and the schedule of meetings of the statewide Executive Committee will be governed by the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the party. (see By-Laws, Rules and Regulations Articles referring to same).

RIGHTS OF MEMBERS:
Every legal and eligible Florida citizen may register to vote as an Independent and thereafter has a fundamental right to fully and meaningfully participate in the business and affairs of the Party without any monetary encumbrance. Any registered Independent voter who is in good standing may stand for office in the Party (see By-Laws, Rules and Regulations referring to same).

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS:
Changes to the legal and binding documents of the Party may only be permitted under the specific and strict guidelines as designated within the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and shall be a multi-step action and overview by the Executive Committee who shall appoint a By-Laws Committee to further review and present submitted potential changes to the general membership at the annual convention and which require a two thirds (2/3) majority of the voters present for approval and to become effective.

This initial Constitution may be reviewed, debated and by legal methods defined in the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations addressed for potential revision and changes as necessary by circumstance or under the laws of Florida and/or the United States of America.

Amended and submitted to the State of Florida this 3rd day of January 2017

Independent Party of Florida
Ernest Wm. Bach – Chairman

INDEPENDENT PARTY OF FLORIDA 2017

BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS

Article 1: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF MEMBERS
Under the language of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations or other equivalent documents, each properly registered Independent voter of the State of Florida has the absolute fundamental right to fully and meaningfully participate in the business and affairs of the Party without any monetary encumbrance.

Article 2: MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS
Any legal and eligible Florida citizen may register as Independent (INT) and thereafter participate in the business of the Party as prescribed in the business documents of the Party.

Article 3: MEETINGS
The Party shall hold an Annual Membership Convention (Meeting), the agenda for which will include a listing of all business to be addressed at same.
Local County Chapter meetings shall be scheduled as necessary but should not be a number less than six (6) per calendar year.
Any and all meetings of the state Party or local Chapters shall notify its members in a timely manner as to the date, time and place of its meetings. The State Executive Committee shall give notice no less than two (2) calendar weeks prior to its meetings and local Chapters shall give notice no less than one (1) week prior, such notices to be posted on the state website and by the use of available electronic communications.
All local membership meetings and/or State Executive Committee meetings shall be conducted according to the generally accepted rules and parliamentary procedure practices.
The state Party shall publish notices of meetings on a public and functioning website as to the above rules and the Party website shall remain updated and interactive.

Article 4 (a): ELECTION OF OFFICERS
The Party Executive Committee shall be elected by a majority vote (50% plus one) of the membership at its Annual Convention (Meeting) from a list of submitted names or volunteers, such submittal to be open to any eligible member in good standing statewide.
The Party Executive Committee shall at the Annual Convention (Meeting) elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer from a previously submitted list of names or volunteers, such list of candidates to be open to any eligible member in good standing statewide. Party Officers may not hold more than one elected office at the same time except as to the combining the office of Secretary-Treasurer if necessary.
Article 4 (b): POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PARTY
The actions, powers and duties of the Independent Party of Florida shall be directed and adhered to by the language of the Florida Statutes including but not limited to Chapters 103 and any additional chapters pertaining to a minor political party.

Article 5: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS
The removal of a state or local officer for cause will be the purview and responsibility of the State Executive Committee, such action to be preceded by the right to a hearing by the officer whose removal is being sought, and will be held at a meeting of a quorum of the State Executive Committee. Public Notice of this action will be submitted by electronic means posted to the party website no less than thirty (30) days prior to its action. The hearing will be open to all members in good standing of the Party with the decision of the State Executive Committee to be made and publicized within forty-eight (48) hours after the hearing. The vote for removal shall require a super-majority vote of the State Executive Committee present and voting.

The appointment of a replacement officer by the State Executive Committee will be completed within one week (7 days) of the above action.

Article 6: PARTY CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS
All members of the statewide Independent Party in good standing may submit the name of potential candidates running for public office as an Independent Party candidate to the State Executive Board of Directors for consideration. The Executive Board of Directors shall have the sole authority and responsibility to make such endorsements of potential candidates by a super majority vote of approval of the Executive Board of Directors; to conduct campaigns for candidates, to raise and expend party funds and to all such decisions which shall be publicized to the state membership via electronic or other means and the party website. The candidate's campaign shall be responsible for costs involving campaign ads using the party website.

Article 7: STATE DELEGATES TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Delegates to the Annual State_Convention (Meeting) or other necessary public meetings or events called by the Board of Directors or State Executive Committee shall present authorization in writing and signed by all officers of their local chapter for those delegates to be recognized by the State Executive Committee to represent that chapter and to entitle that delegate with voting rights on the business of the Party. Should future action by the Independent Party of Florida ally with any other state or national Independent Party organization, delegates may be elected by each active and functional local chapter in a number not to exceed two (2), that number which shall include one male and one female delegate.

Article 8: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS
A candidate campaigning to run for President of the United States as an endorsed candidate of the Independent Party of Florida and placed on the Florida ballot for that office shall initiate the need for a slate of Presidential Electors and which shall be implemented as required by Florida Statutes Chapter 103.021(4)(b) which describes the electoral process for same as prescribed to minor political parties that are not affiliated with a national party.

Article 9: DOCUMENTS; ALTER AND OR AMEND
In order to make any alterations, amendments or changes to any Party documents, the State Executive Committee shall appoint a committee titled the By-Laws Committee which shall be comprised of no less than three members attending and participating and whose responsibility will be to review suggested changes and to submit such considerations to any of the pertinent documents of the Party, specifically those documents being the Constitution, By-Law and Rules and Regulations

a) Such submittal shall be approved by a super majority vote of the By-Laws Committee.
b) Such changes may be submitted by any eligible member of the state Party in good standing, in writing to the By-Laws Committee.
c) (1) Such considerations for change by the By-Laws Committee shall supply copies of those submittals for review by the State Executive Committee.
   (2) Considered changes approved by the State Executive Committee by a super-majority vote for advancement shall then be publicized to the statewide membership through the Party website for a thirty (30) day comment period by the general membership at which time the State Executive Committee shall render its approval or objection with no less than a super-majority vote for approval to place on the agenda the proposed change for general membership approval.
   (3) The State Executive Committee approved changes will then be publicized to the general membership by electronic or mail media no less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Convention (Meeting).

(4) At the Annual Convention (Meeting), all State Executive Committee approved changes will be placed on the business agenda and voted upon by the general membership with approval requiring a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting members present.

(5) At the first Annual State Convention (Meeting) only, a proviso may be taken under consideration which would accord the State Executive Committee the authority to effect changes to the Constitution, By-Laws or Rules and Regulations without the above rules as necessary to complete the business of the agenda, but only by a super-majority of no less than a 75% (percent) unanimous vote of the full State Executive Committee Members and a public notice to all state chapters and their officers of the action taken.

Amended and Submitted January 3, 2017