

# New York Prohibitionist



*Think NY Vote Dry*

*October 2020 and 2020 Election*

*Volume 3 #10*

## A Vision for the Future

In these trying times, the Prohibition Party of New York continues its work to advocate for positive policies and advance social reform. We offer a vision for a better future for New York. A vision for a new approach to governance focused on moral principle, public service, and advancing the public wellbeing. A vision of a state filled with healthy, prospering communities, and greater opportunity for all New Yorkers. If you are interested in helping to make a positive impact on your state and your community, consider joining the Prohibition Party of New York.

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"These words are addressed to the prohibitionists who believe in the principles here enunciated, and propose to support those principles at the ballot-box. We are enlisted for the war, and the struggle will be a long and desperate one before our principles can be fully engrafted upon the laws of the land." John N. Stearns

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## State Party News

Throughout October and up to election day, the Prohibition Party of New York worked to promote our presidential candidate, Phil Collins, and to conduct a write-in campaign in the state. We went through the process to get write-in certification for Phil Collins in New York state, sent emails, wrote letters to the editor to dozens of newspapers across the state, promoted the campaign online, helped provide information to people interested in voting for Phil Collins, and overall did what we could to encourage New Yorkers to vote. As it stands, we do not know how many New Yorkers cast their vote for Phil Collins in the state. We will likely have to wait until the state completes and publishes the state's official general election results. We may have to wait until late November or December to get the official vote results. Once we have the vote totals for Phil Collins in the state, we will report them. Meanwhile, we will continue our efforts to spread our message and build up the Prohibition Party in New York State.

## 2020 Presidential Election Results

With voting for the 2020 presidential election completed, states have begun counting and reporting the unofficial vote results. While it will likely take weeks for the full official results to be reported, the current reports give us some indication of Phil Collins' performance in the election.

Phil Collins was on the ballot in the states of Arkansas, Colorado, Mississippi, and Vermont. He was also a write-in candidate in the states of Alabama, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wyoming, as well as in certain counties in Tennessee and Illinois.

The most recent reported results show that Phil Collins has received at least 4,502 votes in the 4 states that he was on the ballot. The state of Arkansas reports 2,798 votes for Phil Collins, with 98% of the vote reported. The state of Mississippi reports 1,061 votes, with 77% of the vote reported. The state of Colorado reports 514 votes, with 92% of the vote reported. The state of Vermont reports 129 votes, with 95% of the vote reported. We do not have any results yet for any of the states and counties where Phil Collins was a write-in candidate.

These reported numbers indicate that Phil Collins may end up with fewer total votes than the 5,625 votes Jim Hedges received in 2016. Though the party has still done relatively well in the context of the 2020 election. In 2016, roughly 6% of voters voted for third party presidential candidates. Results so far indicate that less than 2% of voters voted for a third-party presidential candidate in 2020. Other parties, such as the Libertarian and Green Parties, appear to have only received a fraction of the votes they received in 2016. Meanwhile, the Prohibition Party has already received over 80% of the votes it received in 2016, and there are still more votes to be counted.

Sources: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/11/03/us/elections/results-president.html>  
<https://www.facebook.com/ProhibitionPartyUSA>



## Statement on the Results of the 2020 Election

Greetings,

We are here on the day after election day. Many millions of people have cast their votes to express their will and to select the people who will serve the public in many elected offices. It will take some time before the full results of the election will be completed. It is important that people respect the processes of our democratic republic and that we have a full and accurate account of the results of the election.

In this election, we had Phillip A. Collins run as our candidate for president. We thank him for his willingness to run for office and to help carry forward the torch of our party on the national stage. We also thank his running mate, Billy Joe Parker, for his service and contributions to the campaign.

We thank all those people who helped with our campaign, whether that be by organizing, helping with ballot access efforts, donating to our campaign, or spreading the word about our campaign. And we thank all those people who voted for Phil Collins in the presidential election. Together we helped to send a message to the nation: a message in favor of protecting the lives and wellbeing of people, of ethical public service, and building a better future for the American People.

As our party's 1884 presidential candidate John St. John stated, "Some people say our party, that it has not got

money nor uniforms nor 80,000 torchbearers. Very True. But we are lighting a torch that will burn forever... People say: 'oh we don't want to throw away our vote.' Let me tell you that no vote cast for principle ever was thrown away."

While the full and official vote totals have not been completed, the four states that where Phil Collins was on the ballot have reported most of their unofficial results. Currently, we have a reported total of 4,502 votes. As it stands, 98% of the unofficial vote total of Arkansas has been reported, along with 95% of Vermont, 92% of Colorado, and 77% of Mississippi. We can expect that we may get more votes from these states once the full total is reported. In addition, we have not yet received the numbers for the votes for Phil Collins in states and counties where he had write-in status. We will work to ensure that all votes for Phil Collins are counted and we will report the full total once the election results are completed.

From the results that have currently been reported, it seems that our vote total might be a bit below the over 5,600 votes that we received in the 2016 presidential election. Even that proves to be the case, we should understand our results within the context of this election, and see the reasons why we can be proud of our performance.

This election has been a challenging one for third parties. The novel coronavirus outbreak and social distancing made it difficult for parties to gather the (often large) number of petition signatures required to get on the ballot in various states. While some states made accommodations to ease the petition requirements, various states did not or only gave accommodations to the candidates of major parties. For our party, these factors undermined our efforts to get on the ballot in states such as Louisiana and Tennessee. Still, we were able to increase the number of states we were on the ballot from 3 to 4 and were able to get on the ballot in Guam's presidential straw poll for the first time.

The Democratic and Republican parties have been ramping up hyper-partisan tensions, and have sought to use fear of the other party to try to pressure people into voting for them. Both major parties have sought to stir up antagonism against

third parties and those who would consider voting for them. Democratic and Republican messengers have falsely accused third party candidates of "stealing votes", when in reality votes belong to voters, who are free to choose who they wish to vote for, and they are trying to cast blame on third parties for their own party's failure to convince enough voters to support their candidates.

In 2016, roughly 6% of voters cast their votes for a presidential candidate other than the Democratic and Republican candidates. The current unofficial results indicate that less than two percent of voters voted for third party presidential candidates this year. Parties such as the Libertarian Party and the Green Party have received only a fraction of the votes that they received in 2016.

When looking at the results in context, we have done relatively well. So far, the reported results show us with over 80% of our 2016 results. Our decrease in overall results has come from not getting as many votes in Arkansas as we did in 2016. In every other state we were on the ballot, we received more votes than we did in 2016. In Mississippi, we received over 1,000 votes. Thus, we have two states where we received over 1,000 votes, as compared to one in 2016. In Colorado, we have received over twice the number of votes. In Vermont, the over 100 votes we received exceeded expectations for the state. In spite of the challenges faced, we still did relatively well and got our second-highest vote result of the 21st century.

With the votes for the 2020 election cast, the Prohibition Party will continue to move forward in order efforts to build up our party and to be engaged in the issues affecting our country. In the years going forward, we have a great opportunity to build up our party on the grassroots level and to lay the groundwork for 2024. In the years going forward, we can look towards expanding our messaging, recruiting new members, helping members be more engaged both in party efforts and their communities, improving fundraising, building up state and local level party organization, and running candidates for state and local offices. We will continue to advocate for good governance, community, social reform, the protection of life against selfishness and greed, and the advancing the public welfare. We will

carry forward a light that will grow brighter.

Jonathan Makeley, National Secretary of the Prohibition Party

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"Civic virtue is the cultivation of habits of personal living that are claimed to be important for the success of the community. Closely linked to the concept of citizenship, civic virtue is often conceived as the dedication of citizens to the common welfare of their community even at the cost of their individual interests." Definitions.net

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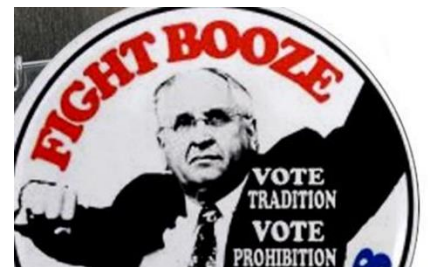
## Barron Reelected to State Assembly

State Assemblyman Charles Barron (District 60) has reportedly won reelection to the New York State Assembly. In recent years, Charles Barron has been the assembly's strongest opponent of state support for the alcohol industry, on multiple occasions has supported proposed bills to help address some of the problems related to alcohol. Earlier this year, he survived the coronavirus and was able to move forward with seeking reelection. Hopefully, he will continue to do good work in next year's state legislative session.

Sources: <https://www.facebook.com/ProhibitionPartyNY/posts/2142909092694361>

<https://eastnewyork.com/2-brooklyn-lawmakers-test-positive-for-coronavirus-assembly-members-charles-barron-helene-weinstein/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/11/03/us/elections/results-new-york.html>



## Some New York Bars Have Liquor Licenses Suspended

In October, it was reported that state authorities suspended the liquor licenses of 21 bars and restaurants throughout the state, for violating state rules to protect against the coronavirus. These offenses included things such as not following social distancing guidelines, having large groups of people without masks, and selling alcohol without selling food with it.

Source: [https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/business/2020/10/23/tiki-bar-north-liquor-license-suspended-for-alleged-coronavirus-related-violations?fbclid=IwAR2iff\\_uylQIDiVhYkziXtXxukMurVammmsCPVogm37rtITnIxxnPvc1cM](https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/business/2020/10/23/tiki-bar-north-liquor-license-suspended-for-alleged-coronavirus-related-violations?fbclid=IwAR2iff_uylQIDiVhYkziXtXxukMurVammmsCPVogm37rtITnIxxnPvc1cM)

## New York to Purge Multiple Parties from the Ballot

This year's election has seen a great loss for democracy and electoral freedom in New York state. Four of the political parties which currently have statewide ballot access in New York may soon be thrown off the ballot.

As we have reported in previous issues, elements within state government snuck changes to the state's ballot access laws into the state's 2020 budget. Under previous election laws, if a party's candidate for governor received at least 50,000 votes, then the party gained statewide ballot access for the next 4 years. This status had the benefits of ensuring a party's ability to place their candidate for governor on the ballot in the next gubernatorial election, ensuring their ability to place their candidate for president on the ballot for the next presidential election, and significantly reducing the number of signatures they would need to place candidates on the ballot for various offices, such as the state senate and state assembly. Parties that did not have statewide ballot access could gather 15,000 signatures on an independent nominating petition to place a candidate on the ballot for governor, and try to get the 50,000 votes needed to gain statewide ballot access status. The changes tripled the required number of signatures to place a candidate on the ballot for governor from 15,000 to 45,000. The required number of votes to acquire or retain statewide ballot access mass raised from 50,000 votes to 130,000 of 2% of the total vote (whichever is more) for governor or president. Instead of gaining statewide ballot access for 4 years, it is only gained for two years. These changes make it extremely harder for parties to gain and retain statewide ballot access.

The changes that were made to the state's ballot access laws are blatantly anti-democratic. These changes were made by a group of anti-democratic political elites, so that most of the parties that currently have statewide ballot access would lose their status, and thus be largely prevented from putting candidates on the ballot who could compete for votes against the major parties. By removing many of the options which are currently available on the ballot, they are not only engaging in electoral suppression against

minor parties, they are taking choices away from voters.

The unofficial election results that have so far been reported indicate that the Green, Libertarian, Independence, and SAM (Serve America Movement) Parties did not receive 130,000 votes, and thus the state government will likely attempt to remove them from the ballot. The Conservative and Working Families Parties report that they expect to have enough votes to retain their statewide ballot access status for the next two years.

Even before the election, multiple parties had started taking legal action to challenge these anti-democratic changes to the state's ballot access laws. Hopefully, the courts will rule in their favor, strike down the changes to the state's ballot access laws as unconstitutional, and order the state to restore the ballot access status of those parties that have been wronged by these changes.

Sources: <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/buffalo/ny-state-of-politics/2020/11/04/wfp-conservative-party-claim-threshold>

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/11/03/us/elections/results-new-york.html>

[https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be\\_1c5e39df0fa24f1189f07f5824eeb2\\_25.pdf](https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_1c5e39df0fa24f1189f07f5824eeb2_25.pdf)

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"Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out, because this is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on." Thurgood Marshall

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## Research on Minimum Unit Pricing as a Tactic for Reducing Alcohol Harms

Researchers with the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Other Drugs have released research on the effectiveness of minimum pricing as a tactic for reducing the harms of alcohol. Minimum pricing refers to policies requiring that companies selling alcohol to consumers have to sell it for at least a certain minimum price per unit (the amount of standard unit of alcohol within a drink). Such policies would prevent companies from selling large amounts of alcohol at cheap prices. Minimum Unit Pricing policies have been implemented in some parts of the world, such as Scotland, Wales, and some provinces in Canada, with some success in reducing the cumulative effects of alcohol-induced harms.

A group of researchers, headed by Dr. Adam Sherk of the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research at the University

of Victoria, conducted a study to see how enacting a minimum unit pricing policy could impact the province of Quebec, Canada. For the study, they used the International Model of Alcohol Harms and Policies (a model which can be used to estimate alcohol harms and the potential health impact of policies designed to limit those harms), data from the Canadian government hospitalizations and deaths, and data on alcohol sales in the province of Quebec.

In 2014, the Province of Quebec had 2,850 deaths and 24,694 hospitalizations as a result of alcohol. Researchers determined that if a minimum unit price of CAD \$1.50 (\$1.12 USD) per standard drink were in place, an estimated 169 deaths a year could be prevented (reducing annual deaths from alcohol by 5.9%). The number of people hospitalized as a result of alcohol would be reduced by 2,063 (an 8.4% decrease). If a minimum price of CAD \$1.75 per standard drink were in place, annual deaths would be reduced by 327 deaths/year (an 11.5% decrease), and annual hospitalizations would be reduced by 4,014 (a 16.3% decrease).

Dr. Sherk contends that minimum unit pricing would "result in a substantial and lasting reduction in the harms caused by alcohol in society". In regards to broader issues of public health, Sherk states that, "As we continue to weather the COVID-19 pandemic and hear concerns about overwhelming our health care systems, this study shows that a minimum unit price for alcohol would help to free up valuable resources by decreasing alcohol's burden on our health care systems". He further states that "This report adds to the growing body of evidence that minimum unit pricing policies are an effective way for governments to reduce alcohol-related hospital visits and save lives," and that "National and jurisdictional governments, including Québec, should consider following the lead of countries like Scotland and implementing these policies."

Source: [https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2020-10/jos-iam100820.php?fbclid=IwAR0NyYv3TjGx3yPQnLqMYHrQYwZxvMPAnSTdfj5xyr9ww52UGQ1ggY7D9o#X46DU-gi3lY.facebook](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-10/jos-iam100820.php?fbclid=IwAR0NyYv3TjGx3yPQnLqMYHrQYwZxvMPAnSTdfj5xyr9ww52UGQ1ggY7D9o#X46DU-gi3lY.facebook)

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"If someone is able to convince me that what I do or think is not right, I will gladly change; for I seek the truth, by which no one was ever injured. But those who abide in their error and ignorance are always injured." Marcus Aurelius



## OxyContin producer Purdue Pleads Guilty for Opioid Practices

In October, it was announced that Purdue Pharmaceuticals, the company that created Oxy Contin has pleaded guilty to three federal criminal charges for its role in contributing to the nation's opioid crisis, and has reached an 8.3-billion-dollar settlement with the justice department. As of this settlement, Purdue admitted to selling opioids to over 100 doctors who the company had good reason to believe were diverting opioids for misuse, admitted to bribing doctors to prescribe more opioids to patients, and admitted to conspiracy to defraud the United States. The 8.3-billion-dollar settlement includes 3.5 billion dollars in criminal fines, 2 billion dollars in criminal forfeitures, and a 2.8-billion-dollar civil settlement. The Sackler Family, who founded and played a major role in running Purdue Pharmaceuticals have agreed to pay 225 million dollars and give up control of their company. As part of the settlement, the Purdue Pharmaceuticals company will be dissolved and converted into a public trust company, with proceeds from pharmaceutical sales going towards paying for programs to address opioid addiction.

On the one hand, this settlement marks one of the largest actions taken by the Justice Department to hold opioid manufacturers accountable for their role in creating the nation's opioid crisis. Though there is some controversy over the deal. None of the officials involved in running Purdue were given criminal charges as part of this action. Though there remains the possibility that some might face criminal charges as further criminal investigations advance. The amount of money paid by the Sackler family is relatively small compared to their roughly 13-billion-dollar net worth, and the large amount of money that they likely made off Purdue's efforts to popularize the use of opioids as a common prescription for pain. Given that Purdue declared bankruptcy last year, it uncertain whether Purdue will actually be required to pay the full 8.3 billion dollars. It is uncertain how much money the public trust company would be generated for funding programs to address opioid addiction and whether it will come anywhere close to the vast amount of

money needed to treat the high levels of addiction their products have created.

It will take time to see what the long-term effects of this settlement will be. Though it is clear that our nation needs to take stronger actions to hold pharmaceutical companies accountable for their role in the opioid crisis and to address the problem of opioid addiction.

Sources: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oi\\_N7\\_TWnk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR0DcLa2iB\\_bnDGyxr8OKkimoPp0r8C6mulRhClpkhg5sXr-DID9lbc9Mxg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oi_N7_TWnk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR0DcLa2iB_bnDGyxr8OKkimoPp0r8C6mulRhClpkhg5sXr-DID9lbc9Mxg)

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/21/business/purdue-pharma-guilty-plea/index.html>

<https://www.vox.com/2020/10/21/21526868/purdue-pharma-oxycontin-opioid-epidemic-department-of-justice>






<https://apnews.com/article/virus-outbreak-business-criminal-investigations-opioids-epidemics-5f0679fee14577b1696a94b64ab9c2>

<https://www.npr.org/2020/10/21/926126877/purdue-pharma-reaches-8b-opioid-deal-with-justice-department-over-oxycontin-sale>

<https://fordhamram.com/77881/opinion/purdue-pharma-settlement-does-not-provide-justice/>

"If there is to be civilization, if people are to live and make their homes here, there must be law. People often think of the law as restrictions, but it needn't be, unless it's carried to extremes. Laws can give us freedom, because they offer security from the cruel, the brutal, and the thieves of property... There has to be law, or there can be no growth, no security." Louis L'Amour

## New York Prohibition Party History

GOVERNOR.		Vote for ONE
Jacob Sloat Fassett—of Elmira		Republican
Daniel DeLeon—of New York		Socialist
Joseph W. Bruce—Canastota		Prohibition
Roswell P. Flower—of New York		Democratic
		Labor

## Joseph W. Bruce

Joseph W. Bruce was a farmer, businessman, and prohibition party politician, who was the Prohibition Party's candidate for governor of New York in 1891.

Joseph W. Bruce was born on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1821. He was the son of Joseph Bruce Sr. and Maria Bruce. He seems to have spent most of his life living in the town of Lenox and the village of Canastota (which is in Lenox) in Madison County, New York. Sometime before 1858, he married Caroline Starr Bruce. In 1858, his daughter Nancy was born.

Joseph Bruce mainly made a living as a farmer in Lenox. In 1888, Joseph and E.N. Bruce opened Bruce Theater in Canastota. Bruce Theater showed films until it was damaged by a fire in 1909, and went out of business.

Bruce was involved with the Prohibition Party at least as early as the early 1880's. In 1882, Bruce ran as the Prohibition Party's candidate for State Assembly in Madison County's 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly District. He received 641 votes and 7.21% of the total vote. In 1884, he ran for Congress in New York's 26<sup>th</sup> district, received 1,534 votes and 3.48% of the total vote. In 1888, he was selected as one of the electors for the party's presidential ticket in New York. In 1889, Bruce was the Prohibition Party candidate for State Treasurer. He received 26,527 votes and 2.61% of the total vote.

In 1891, the Prohibition Party nominated Bruce as its candidate for Governor of New York. The party campaigned on a platform which included support for state and national prohibition laws, support for adding a prohibition amendment to the U.S. Constitution, support for women's suffrage, support for a national currency backed by gold and silver, and strict enforcement of the civil service law. Bruce held campaign events in communities throughout the state. In the end, Bruce received 30,353 votes and 2.61% of the total vote. This was the largest percentage that the Prohibition Party has so far received in a New York governor's election.

Joseph W. Bruce died on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1907, and was buried in Lenox Memorial Cemetery.

Source: [https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be\\_77e102d8ff5a498d84d3a88a6cc85459.pdf](https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_77e102d8ff5a498d84d3a88a6cc85459.pdf)

## Interested in Running For Local Office? Consider Running With The Prohibition Party of New York

Contact: [newyorkprohibition@aol.com](mailto:newyorkprohibition@aol.com)  
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## The Prohibition Party of New York

The Party of Equality, Justice, and the Public Wellbeing

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