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Robert E. Corbin

June 1, 1987

The Honorable Leslie Whiting Johnson
Arizona State Representative
State Capitol - House Wing
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: I87-078 (R87-015)

Dear Representative Johnson:

You requested an opinion asking what the term of office is for a precinct committeeman as that office is described in A.R.S. §§ 16-821 to -824.

Precinct committeemen are elected at each primary election. A.R.S. § 16-821(A) mandates their election as follows:

At the primary election the members of a political party entitled to representation pursuant to § 16-804 residing in each precinct shall choose one of their number as a county precinct committeeman, and the members shall choose one additional precinct committeeman for each one hundred twenty-five voters or major fraction thereof registered in the party in the precinct as reported pursuant to § 16-168, subsection G on March 1 of the year in which the general election is held. The whole number of precinct committeemen of a political party shall constitute the county committee of the party.

(Emphasis added). All precinct committeemen are elected in this manner. The term of office for any precinct committeeman is then determined by the length of time between primary elections.

A.R.S. § 16-201 directs that a primary election shall be held "[o]n the eighth Tuesday prior to a general or special

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election at which candidates for public office are to be elected" Pursuant to Ariz. Const., art. VII, § 11 and A.R.S. § 16-211, a general election is held biennially on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every even-numbered year.

Since the office of precinct committeeman is filled by election every two years, it is our opinion that a precinct committeeman's term of office is a two-year term.

Sincerely,



BOB CORBIN

Attorney General

BC:LTH:mmm