Results of Platform Vote #6

Vote Conducted on November 11-17, 2017
Results Tabulated by Gennady Stolyarov II, Chairman
Results Published on November 19, 2017

Official ballot options can be found [here](#).

The resulting platform planks have been incorporated into the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution, Article III, [here](#).

Note: The nomenclature of the Sections in the compiled Article III of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution differs from the nomenclature on the ballot to reflect the numbering conventions within the Constitution. However, the substance of the adopted Sections is reflective of the votes of the membership. Also, the titles of the ballot questions were intended for informational purposes only during the vote and will not become part of the official Platform.

Total Ballots Cast: 69

Navigate to the results for individual questions:

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Question I. Section E6-A. Minimum Timeframe for Voting on a Bill

Yes: 62 votes – 89.9%
No: 3 votes – 4.2%
Abstain: 4 votes – 5.8%

The result of the Question I vote is “Yes”.
Question II. Section E6-A. Minimum Timeframe for Voting on a Bill – Ancillary Provision Options

The text of Article III, Section LXIV of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to create a reasonable minimum timeframe between the proposal of a bill and the voting procedure. To ensure a reasonable timeframe is proportional to the number of pages of a proposed bill, a time period per each specified amount of pages could be adopted. For example, and without committing to specific numerical magnitudes, a 24-hour period within a working week per every 20 pages could be adopted to ensure all members of Congress involved have sufficient time to read through and study a proposed bill’s implications. Such measures would prevent a bill from being introduced shortly before the voting process. They would also have the added side effect that proposals might become more concise, as the length of a bill would influence the consideration time.

“In addition to this, after the proposal has been submitted, any amendments must be explicitly discussed in a public forum with the same degree of thorough consideration and same rules pertaining to the timeframe of consideration as allowed for the original proposal.”
Question III. Section E6-B. Fully Informed Juries

Yes: 63 votes – 91.3%
No: 2 votes – 2.9%
Abstain: 4 votes – 5.8%

The result of the Question III vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXV of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to ensure a jury is fully informed on its rights and responsibilities, including jury nullification. The United States Transhumanist Party also supports efforts to prevent false claims being made regarding the rights and responsibilities of the jury.”
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Question IV. Section E6-C. Elimination of Stationary Nuclear Stockpile

The result of the Question IV vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXVI of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“As an intermediate step toward the goal of complete nuclear disarmament and a potential pragmatic compromise in any future negotiations for disarmament, the United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to significantly reduce the United States nuclear stockpile, and to replace or transfer a small part (between 1 percent and 10 percent) of this stockpile, to mobile nuclear platforms such as submarines. An enemy may currently target the stationary nuclear bombs directly. Having a largely hidden mobile fleet of nuclear bombs would render it much more difficult for any enemy to target the nuclear arsenal, while still maintaining the nuclear deterrent option in sufficient capacity. This would further have the effect of lowering the budget required to maintain the nuclear stockpile, as it could be drastically downsized.”
Question V. Section E6-D. Legalization of Prostitution

Total votes: 66

**Round 1: Tally of First Choices**
- Option E6-D-1: 9 votes – 13.6%
- **Option E6-D-2**: 47 votes – 71.2%
- Option E6-D-NO: 10 votes – 15.2%

After Round 1, Option E6-D-2 wins.
Question VI. Section E6-D. Legalization of Prostitution – Ancillary Provisions

Question VI was posed within the structure of *acceptability voting*, where voters were asked to select all of the wording choices that were acceptable to them. In this situation, any option that was acceptable to a majority of the voters will be adopted as part of the text of the platform plank regarding the legalization of prostitution.

Total votes: 69

Ancillary Provision E6-D-i. Opposition to Human Trafficking and Exploitation – 44 votes (69.8%) in favor – *will be included*

Ancillary Provision E6-D-ii. Legalization of Prostitution as Enabling More Effective Combating of Human Trafficking and Exploitation – 44 votes (69.8%) in favor – *will be included*

The text of Article III, Section LXVII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports the right for individuals to have autonomy over, and utilize their bodies to earn money, including through activities such as prostitution, as long as such activities arise from a person’s own free will (e.g., not under duress), and the person is not endangering the health or well-being of others, including but not limited to the communication of sexually transmissible diseases.

“Legalization would give those who wish to engage in prostitution the safety and protection of the law – for example, so that they may report abuse and would be prone to being exploited. It would also open the possibility for such individuals to unionize if they wish to do so. Furthermore, legalization would decrease government spending on what is ultimately a ‘moral crusade’.

“However, the United States Transhumanist Party unequivocally condemns any manner of human trafficking, child exploitation, and other abuse that involves a violation of the autonomy and consent of any individual. The legalization of prostitution should be combined with stronger efforts to combat these dangerous and exploitative practices.

“The legalization of prostitution could furthermore enable more effective action against human trafficking and involuntary exploitation, as, when prostitution is legalized, employees in this industry would become subject to the protections of the law. Legalization would help focus resources on combating the trafficking of humans rather than catching workers who chose this profession voluntarily.”
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**Question VII. Section E6-E. Public Records of Official Statements**

**Total votes: 64**

**Round 1: Tally of First Choices**
- Option E6-E-1: 18 votes – 28.1%
- **Option E6-E-2: 36 votes – 56.3%**
- Option E6-E-NO: 10 votes – 15.6%

**After Round 1, Option E6-E-2 wins.**

The text of Article III, Section LXVIII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party holds that any statement made by an elected official and/or public servant to members of the public in a public forum as part of that official’s or public servant’s job duties, and available to be heard, read, or otherwise understood in a public setting, physical or digital, should be considered a part of the public record and treated as an official statement of their office and position. This requirement does not extend to statements made by an elected official and/or public servant in the capacity of a private citizen or in the expression of a personal opinion or other position unrelated to the exercise of the official’s or public servant’s job duties.”
Total votes: 66

Round 1: Tally of First Choices
Option E6-F-1: 27 votes – 40.9%
Option E6-F-2: 21 votes – 31.8%
Option E6-F-NO: 18 votes – 27.3%

In Round 1, no option receives a clear majority. **Option E6-F-NO is eliminated, and its votes are re-assigned to the #2 preferences selected by the voters who favored that option. All voter preferences ranked below Option E5-F-NO are shifted up by one ranking. Any ballots that have no remaining preferences are not considered beyond this round.**

Total votes: 62 (Round 2 had 62 ballots considered, since four ballots only indicated the eliminated Option E6-F-NO as the revised first preference, and had no other preference indications.)

Round 2: Tally of First Choices
Option E6-F-1: 36 votes – 58.1%
Option E6-F-2: 26 votes – 41.9%

After Round 2, Option E6-F-1 wins.

The text of Article III, Section LXIX of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:
“The United States Transhumanist Party holds that state and federal governments should establish an artificial intelligence (AI) analysis system for measuring risk of proposed legislation. Such a system could provide an impartial look at what legislation could cause harm or unintended consequences. Submitted policies would receive a score from 0 to 100, and the AI system would state what possible negative impacts may result. This system should be publicly accessible for submissions and for security audit. This is not intended to create or enact laws, but simply to serve as a tool to measure risk versus reward.”

**Question IX. Section E6-G. Opposition to Partisan Determination of Voting Districts**

**Question IX. Section E6-G. Opposition to Partisan Determination of Voting Districts**

69 responses

Yes: 60 votes – 87.0%
No: 5 votes – 7.2%
Abstain: 4 votes – 5.8%

The result of the Question IX vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXX of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party strongly opposes the possibility for any political party to determine the boundaries and borders of any voting district. The United States Transhumanist Party supports measures that require any efforts to have the districts potentially redrawn, when necessary due to migration for example, to be left to an automated system such as an artificial intelligence (AI) designed for this task.”
Question X. Section E6-H. Limitation of Presidential Authority over International Agreements

Yes: 54 votes – 78.3%
No: 7 votes – 10.1%
Abstain: 8 votes – 11.6%

The result of the Question X vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXI of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to remove the possibility for a President to sign an international agreement among two or more nations by executive order. This would prevent a President from engaging in international affairs without support from the Congress, and likewise would make it more difficult to exit an international agreement, as support from Congress would need to exist in order for such an exit to occur. This would furthermore ensure that the United States becomes a more trustworthy nation in the eyes of the international community.”
Question XI. Section E6-I. International or World Passport

The result of the Question XI vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to create a framework for an international or world passport. This framework could, for example, be administered through the United Nations, and the passport could be valid only for those countries who have proven to meet the standards, set by participating countries, required to ensure safety. Given that the European Union has an ID valid within its borders, and the United States has a similar agreement with Canada, imagining these forms of identification being combined shows that a world passport is not a farfetched or alien idea.”
Question XII. Section E6-J. Registration Chip for New Firearms

The result of the Question XII vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXIII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to mandate that new firearms will be produced with an embedded registration chip, as well as the registration number engraved on the firearm. The chip would have a registration number, a ‘trace online’ code, and a ‘lost or stolen’ code. The firearm would be accompanied by a physical and digital certificate of ownership with a registration number, the ‘trace online’ number, and the ‘lost or stolen’ number. The embedded chip would render it much harder to make the firearm untraceable. The number and codes involved would have to be unique identifiers.

“When a firearm would be lost or stolen, the owner of the firearm and holder of the certificate would report the firearm to the authorities as lost or stolen using the ‘lost or stolen’ number. The intent of having a separate reporting number is to ensure that, in the event that a firearm is stolen or taken without consent, the offender cannot report the firearm as stolen, or as found again. When a firearm owner suspects the firearm is simply mislocated – for example, in the car or in the house, or perhaps taken by a family member, the owner could trace the firearm online via GPS on an online map, using the ‘trace online’ code. The ‘trace online’ code would never be revealed to law enforcement.
“Law enforcement would have a device that can confirm the registration number of a firearm in close proximity, similar to contactless payments. On the other hand the detection range would be greater when a firearm has been reported lost or stolen by the owner of the firearm in question with the ‘lost and stolen’ number. A firearm that would not have been reported lost or stolen to law enforcement by the owner of the firearm with the ‘lost or stolen’ number would not be traceable from a greater distance by law enforcement.

“This would ensure the privacy, safety, and peace of mind of firearm owners who might otherwise feel law enforcement would trace firearms without legal justification. At the same time, this measure would decrease the probability of stolen firearms never being found, and possibly ending in the hands of people with ill intent.”

**Question XIII. Section E6-K. Public Civil-Rights Prosecutor**

The text of Article III, Section LXXIV of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports the creation of an office of a Public Civil-Rights Prosecutor. Our current justice system is flawed. Only people with substantial wealth can afford lawyers to take legal action against those who attack a person’s rights. While there are organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which offer help for some cases, their ability to do so is severely limited and typically non-existent in the lower courts. A Public Civil-Rights Prosecutor’s office will help guarantee that, no matter who a person is or the position of the offending party, a person’s rights cannot be assailed without consequence.”
Question XIV. Section E6-L. Lowering Military Spending

Yes: 57 votes – 82.6%
No: 10 votes – 14.5%
Abstain: 2 votes – 2.9%

The result of the Question XIV vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXV of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports lowering spending by the Department of Defense and the U.S. Military, which amounts to hundreds of billions of dollars per year and includes unchecked wastefulness. Reducing military spending would free up money for more important goals, such as curing disease, which collectively kills many more people than military conflict or war by an exponential degree.”
Question XV. Section E6-M. Accountability for Use of Federal Grants

The result of the Question XV vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXVI of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to hold institutions, corporations, and states accountable for usage of federal money with a specific intended purpose. When an entity has been granted any form of funding with a specifically intended purpose, such as disaster relief or specific educational funds, and these funds are misappropriated or used for other purposes well outside of the scope of what they were intended for, the entity in question ought to restitute the funding that was made available.”
Question XVI. Section E6-N. Increased Funding for the National Institutes of Health

Total votes: 67

Round 1: Tally of First Choices
Option E6-N-1: 34 votes – 50.7%
Option E6-N-2: 28 votes – 41.8%
Option E6-N-NO: 5 votes – 7.4%

After Round 1, Option E6-N-1 wins.

The text of Article III, Section LXXVII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports increases in the budget for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Numerous biotech CEOs have recently made the case to increase the NIH budget, because the NIH conducts research that their companies would not be able to invest in, as investments not leading directly to a product would affect the bottom line. 33% of all the publications from NIH research are cited in corporate patents, so it stimulates new product development. A major driver for economic progress and reducing the suffering of those in pain, the NIH is essentially a public charity that brings us into the future. Whether one supports limited or expansive government, the NIH does not seek to regulate anything nor impose laws on anyone. It exclusively conducts medical research to help the sick.”
Question XVII. Section E6-O. Reinstatement of Voting Rights to Felons Who Have Served Their Punishment

The result of the Question XVII vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXVIII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The U.S. Transhumanist Party supports efforts to reinstate the rights to vote for convicted felons who have received and served their punishment, in order to present them the opportunity to participate in society as otherwise normal citizens.”
Question XVIII. Repeal of FDA Approval Requirements for Drug Tests on Willing Patients

Yes: 60 votes – 87.0%
No: 4 votes – 5.8%
Abstain: 5 votes – 7.2%

The result of the Question XVIII vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXIX of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports repealing the current requirement in the United States that drugs or treatments may not be used, even on willing patients, unless approval for such drugs or treatments is received from the Food and Drug Administration. Such requirements are a profound violation of patient sovereignty; a person who is terminally ill is unable to choose to take a risk on an unapproved drug or treatment unless this person is fortunate enough to participate in a clinical trial. Even then, once the clinical trial ends, the treatment must be discontinued, even if it was actually successful at prolonging the person’s life. This is not only profoundly tragic, but morally unconscionable as well. The most critical reform needed is to allow unapproved drugs and treatments to be marketed and consumed. If the FDA wishes to strongly differentiate between approved and unapproved treatments, then a strongly worded warning label could be required for unapproved treatments, and patients could even be required to sign a consent form stating that they have been informed of the risks of an unapproved treatment. This reform to directly extend many lives and to redress a moral travesty should be the top political priority of advocates of indefinite life extension. Over the coming decades, its effect will be to allow cutting-edge treatments to reach a market sooner and thus to enable data about those treatments’ effects to be gathered more quickly and reliably. Because many treatments take 10-15 years to receive FDA approval, this reform could by itself speed up the real-world advent of indefinite life extension by over a decade.”
Question XIX. Section E6-Q. Abolition of Medical Licensing Protectionism

Yes: 52 votes – 75.4%
No: 9 votes – 13.0%
Abstain: 8 votes – 11.6%

The result of the Question XIX vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXX of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports efforts to increase opportunities for entry into the medical profession. The current system for licensing doctors is highly monopolistic and protectionist – the result of efforts by the American Medical Association in the early 20th century to limit entry into the profession in order to artificially boost incomes for its members. The medical system suffers today from too few doctors and thus vastly inflated patient costs and unacceptable waiting times for appointments. Instead of prohibiting the practice of medicine by all except a select few who have completed an extremely rigorous and cost-prohibitive formal medical schooling, governments in the Western world should allow the market to determine different tiers of medical care for which competing private certifications would emerge. For the most specialized and intricate tasks, high standards of certification would continue to exist, and a practitioner’s credentials and reputation would remain absolutely essential to convincing consumers to put their lives in that practitioner’s hands. But, with regard to routine medical care (e.g., annual check-ups, vaccinations, basic wound treatment), it is not necessary to receive attention from a person with a full-fledged medical degree. Furthermore, competition among certification providers would increase quality of training and lower its price, as well as accelerate the time needed to complete the training. Such a system would allow many more young medical professionals to practice without undertaking enormous debt or serving for years (if not decades) in roles that offer very little remuneration while entailing a great deal of subservience to the hierarchy of an established institution. Ultimately, without sufficient doctors to affordably deliver life-extending treatments when they become available, it would not be feasible to extend these treatments to the majority of people.”
Question XX. Section E6-R. Abolition of Ability to Re-Patent Generic Medicines and Devices

Yes: 62 votes – 89.9%
No: 2 votes – 2.9%
Abstain: 5 votes – 7.2%

The result of the Question XX vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXXI of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports reforms to the patent system that prevent the re-patenting of drugs and medical devices, or the acquisition of any exclusive or monopoly rights over those drugs and devices, once they have become generic or entered the public domain. Appallingly, many pharmaceutical companies today attempt to re-patent drugs that have already entered the public domain, simply because the drugs have been discovered to have effects on a disease different from the one for which they were originally patented. The result of this is that the price of the re-patented drug often spikes by orders of magnitude compared to the price level during the period the drug was subject to competition. Only a vibrant and competitive market, where numerous medical providers can experiment with how to improve particular treatments or create new ones, can allow for the rate of progress needed for the people alive today to benefit from radical life extension.”
Question XXI. Section E6-S. Reduction of Medical Patent Timeframes

Yes: 61 votes – 88.4%
No: 2 votes – 2.9%
Abstain: 6 votes – 8.7%

The result of the Question XXI vote is “Yes”.

The text of Article III, Section LXXXII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution will therefore read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports reforms to reduce the lengths of times over which medical patents could be effective. Medical patents – in essence, legal grants of monopoly for limited periods of time – greatly inflate the cost of drugs and other treatments. Especially in today’s world of rapidly advancing biotechnology, a patent term of 20 years essentially means that no party other than the patent holder (or someone paying royalties to the patent holder) may innovate upon the patented medicine for a generation, all while the technological potential for such innovation becomes glaringly obvious. As much innovation consists of incremental improvements on what already exists, the lack of an ability to create derivative drugs and treatments that tweak current approaches implies that the entire medical field is, for some time, stuck at the first stages of a treatment’s evolution – with all of the expense and unreliability this entails. Even with shortened patent terms, the original developer of an innovation will still always benefit from a first-mover advantage, as it takes time for competitors to catch on. If the original developer can maintain high-quality service and demonstrate the ability to sell a safe product, then the brand-name advantage alone can secure a consistent revenue stream without the need for a patent monopoly.”
**Question XXII. Amendments to Section II on Anti-Bigotry to Encompass “Alt-Left” Groups or Simplify / Generalize Section II**

Total votes: 63

**Round 1: Tally of First Choices**
- Current Version of Section II: 8 votes – 12.7%
- Amendment II-1: 7 votes – 11.1%
- Amendment II-2: 16 votes – 25.4%
- Amendment II-3: 15 votes – 23.8%
- Amendment II-4: 17 votes – 27.0%

In Round 1, no option receives a clear majority. **Amendment II-1 is eliminated, and its votes are re-assigned to the #2 preferences selected by the voters who favored that option. All voter preferences ranked below Amendment II-1 are shifted up by one ranking.**

Total votes: 63

**Round 2: Tally of First Choices**
- Current Version of Section II: 9 votes – 14.3%
- Amendment II-2: 18 votes – 28.6%
- Amendment II-3: 19 votes – 30.2%
- Amendment II-4: 17 votes – 27.0%

In Round 2, no option receives a clear majority. **The Current Version of Section II is eliminated, and its votes are re-assigned to the #2 preferences selected by the voters who favored that option. All voter preferences ranked below the Current Version of Section II are shifted up by one ranking.**

Any ballots that have no remaining preferences are not considered beyond this round.

Total votes: 61 (Round 3 had 61 ballots considered, since two ballots only indicated the eliminated Current Version of Section II as the revised first preference, and had no other preference indications.)

**Round 3: Tally of First Choices**
- Amendment II-2: 20 votes – 32.8%
- Amendment II-3: 20 votes – 32.8%
- Amendment II-4: 21 votes – 34.4%

Given that both Amendment II-2 and Amendment II-3 are tied in having the lowest number of re-assigned first preferences, they are both eliminated, resulting in the only remaining option, Amendment II-4, prevailing in Round 3.

**After Round 3, Amendment II-4 wins.**
Article III, Section II of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution is therefore amended to read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party supports all acceptance, tolerance, and inclusivity of individuals and groups of all races, genders, classes, religions, creeds, and ideologies. Accordingly, the United States Transhumanist Party condemns any hostile discrimination or legal restrictions on the basis of national origin, skin color, birthplace, ancestry, gender identity, or any manner of circumstantial attribute tied to a person’s lineage or accident of birth. Furthermore, the United States Transhumanist Party strongly opposes any efforts to enforce said restrictions regardless of cause or motivation thereof. Additionally, any institution that uses violence, suppression of free speech, or other unconstitutional or otherwise illegal methods will be disavowed and condemned by the United States Transhumanist Party, with an efficient, non-violent alternative to said institution being offered to achieve its goals if they align with the Party’s interests.”

**Question XXIII. Amendments to Section XXVII on Abolition of the Electoral College**

**Question XXIII. Amendments to Section XXVII on Abolition of the Electoral College**

![Graph showing the results of the vote]

**Total votes: 57**

### Round 1: Tally of First Choices

Current Version of Section XXVII: 20 votes – 35.1%
Amendment XXVII-1: 7 votes – 12.3%
**Amendment XXVII-2: 30 votes – 52.6%**

**After Round 1, Amendment XXVII-2 wins.**

Article III, Section XXVII of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution is therefore amended to read as follows: “The United States Transhumanist Party advocates Constitutional reform to abolish the Electoral College in the United States Presidential elections and render the plurality of the popular vote the sole criterion for the election of President.”
Question XXIV. Amendments to Section LIX on External Investigations of Law-Enforcement Misconduct

Current Version of Section XXVII: 13 votes – 18.8%
Amendment LIX-1: 48 votes – 69.6%
Abstain: 8 votes – 11.6%

Amendment LIX-1 wins.

Article III, Section LIX of the U.S. Transhumanist Party Constitution is therefore amended to read as follows:

“The United States Transhumanist Party considers it important for impartial, objective investigations of alleged police and other law-enforcement misconduct to be pursued. While law-enforcement agencies should not be prohibited from internally investigating potential abuses within their own ranks, such investigations should never be considered exclusive or conclusive, and further external checks and accountability should be instituted. As part of providing such checks and accountability, investigations regarding misconduct, negligence, abuse, criminal activity, felonies, and misdemeanors allegedly committed by police, district attorneys, and judges, should, in addition to any internal investigation, also be conducted by a civilian organization outside the justice system. The intent of this requirement is to limit the possibility of favorably biased or preferential treatment of a member of a given law-enforcement agency by that person’s colleagues, and to restore confidence by the public that an investigation into police misconduct is done as objectively as possible.”