



**Democratic National Committee**

# MEMORANDUM

TO: 2008 Platform Committee Members

FROM: DNC Chairman Governor Howard Dean

SUBJECT: Draft 2008 Democratic National Platform & New Events on Schedule

DATE: August 7, 2008

---

Last month, the Democratic Party began its process for drafting the 2008 Democratic National Platform.

Together with the Obama for America campaign, the DNC launched “Listening to America” a new initiative to involve the American people in the development of the Platform. Over 1,600 Listening Sessions were held in communities across the country. The Party heard from thousands of individuals who participated in these sessions and who also submitted written testimony and suggestions. On August 1, a National Hearing was held in Cleveland, Ohio, where presentations were made before the Platform Drafting Committee.

The Platform Drafting Committee, under the leadership of Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, used information received from the events held in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, the written testimony, letters and suggestions received from voters, the presentations at the Cleveland meeting and a first draft offered by the Principal Platform Author to prepare the enclosed draft of the 2008 National Platform.

Because we felt it was important to include the information obtained through the listening sessions, we were unable to get the Platform to you as early as we would have liked, but we feel that these listening sessions helped us prepare a platform that will help Democrats win up and down the ballot. This draft will be used by the Platform Committee at its August 9th meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This draft Platform expresses the core principles and values of the Democratic Party and the kind of country all Americans want.

As you review the enclosed draft Platform, please keep in mind that it reflects Senator Barack Obama’s plan to bring real change to Washington and offers a clear choice between more of the same failed policies of the Bush Administration with John McCain or real change with Senator Obama. This draft is the product of hundreds of hours of discussion and negotiation. While Committee members may offer amendments to the document, each change should be weighed in light of one goal: electing Senator Obama and other Democrats this November.

**New Events on Schedule**

Also enclosed is an updated Schedule of Events for Pittsburgh. We hope you will be able to attend the reception honoring Platform Committee members that the Pennsylvania Democratic Party is hosting on Friday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. You will also see there is an Informal Briefing Session for Committee members on Friday night at 8:00 p.m. Further details about these events, including locations, can be found on the revised Schedule.

Thank you in advance for your service on the Platform Committee and your commitment to the success of the Democratic Party. I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh.

enclosure



# 2008 Platform Committee Meeting

## *Tentative Schedule & Subject to Change – Pittsburgh, PA*

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2008

---

- 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm      **Amendments Submission / Drop-Off**  
Outside Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
NOTE: 5:00 p.m. is the *DEADLINE* for submitting proposed amendments
- 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm      **Member Registration**  
Outside Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
- 4:15 pm – 5:30 pm      **Pittsburgh Register for Change Rally**  
Featuring DNC Chairman Governor Howard Dean  
Freedom Corner  
Intersection of Centre Avenue & Crawford Street
- 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm      **Pennsylvania Democratic Party Reception**  
Honoring Platform Committee members  
North Terrace (Rooftop), 4<sup>th</sup> Floor
- 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm      **Informal Briefing Session**  
Members Only, Room 304

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2008

---

- 8:00 am      **Member Registration Opens**  
Outside Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- 9:30am – 1:00 pm      **Platform Committee Meeting**  
Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm      **Lunch Break**  
(Lunch items available for members to purchase)  
Rooms 301-303
- 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm      **Platform Committee Meeting Continued**  
Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor



## MEETING LOCATION

---

Unless otherwise noted, all events will take place at the **David L. Lawrence Convention Center**:

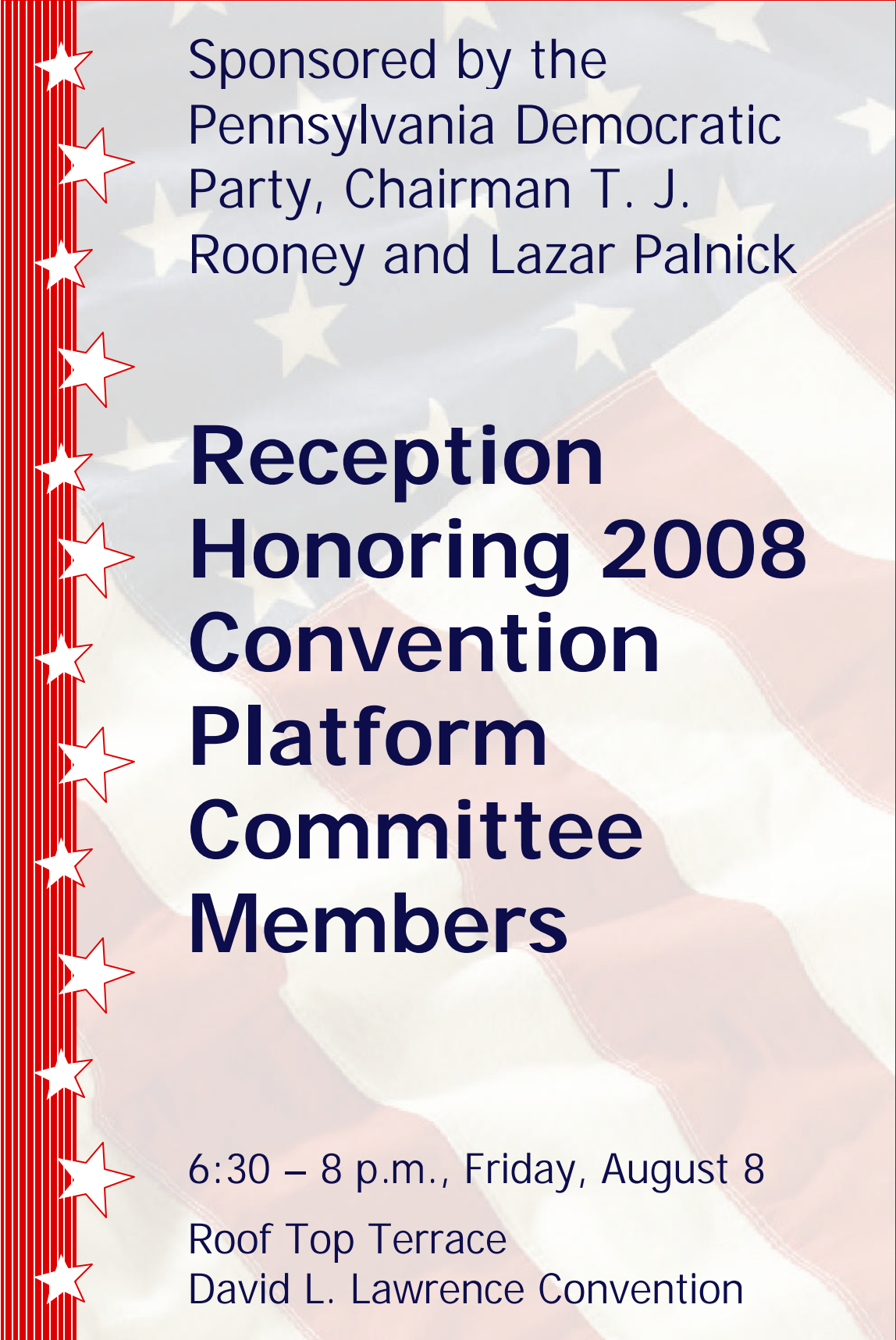
**David L. Lawrence Convention Center**  
1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

## HOTEL INFORMATION

---

Sleeping rooms are available at the **Westin Convention Center Hotel**, which is connected to the David L. Lawrence Convention Center via a skywalk.

**Westin Convention Center Hotel**  
1000 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA  
412-281-3700 – Ask for In-House Reservations



Sponsored by the  
Pennsylvania Democratic  
Party, Chairman T. J.  
Rooney and Lazar Palnick

**Reception  
Honoring 2008  
Convention  
Platform  
Committee  
Members**

6:30 – 8 p.m., Friday, August 8  
Roof Top Terrace  
David L. Lawrence Convention

# REGISTER FOR CHANGE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8th

4:15 PM

FREEDOM CORNER

Intersection of Centre Avenue and Crawford Street  
Pittsburgh, PA

*FEATURING DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN*

## GOVERNOR HOWARD DEAN



**TAKING OUR COUNTRY BACK**  
NEIGHBORHOOD *by* NEIGHBORHOOD  
DOOR *by* DOOR, VOTE *by* VOTE

Printed in-house

Paid for by the Democratic National Committee, [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org).  
Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.