

Ethics and Elections Committee End of Year Report 2023
January 2024 - ARRL Board Meeting

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, Chair
Jeff Ryan, K0RM, Member
Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, Member

This is a report of the activities of the 2023 Ethics and Elections Committee (E&E) to inform the ARRL Board of Directors at the conclusion of its service for this year. The report will cover **Issues**, which is a sanitized summary of what has come before E&E and what actions were taken, and **Elections**.

This has, again, been a relatively quiet year for E&E, when compared to the reports of other years. The summer of the 2023 term was consumed mostly with candidate vetting and reviewing election statements. It is the intention of the Chair to introduce a motion in January 2024 to help formalize the transfer process from one E&E to the next.

Issues

- The July 2023 E&E report mentioned some third party legal threats. Nothing of substance came of these legal threats. Connecticut Counsel was consulted and kept in the loop. No real action was taken, except to be informed of any potential implications.
- As previously mentioned in the July 2023 report, a complaint was received that a Director was in possession of confidential financial information about ARRL that appeared on the internet, posted by another party outside the ARRL Board. The parties were interviewed and the investigation was completed with inconclusive results, given what facts were and were not in evidence.

Elections

- E&E received a number of inquiries of a mostly inconsequential nature around the appropriateness of campaign material, including photographs and 300 word statements. A small number of recommendations were made for modifications, as appropriate, and in accordance with the rules surrounding elections.
- Nomination packages were vetted by ARRL Headquarters for the fall 2023 Director and Vice Director elections, and passed to E&E for final review. There were no issues of note.
- There was a minor issue with some email address information that was erroneously attached to a mailing postal address list sent to a candidate in the fall elections. This was corrected before anything was sent out.
- E&E reviewed a candidate video that was posted on a website. That video was determined to have potentially misleading information. The video was removed promptly by the candidate without further issue.

E&E Chair McIntyre attended vote counting for Director and Vice Director elections on 11/17/2023 at Election Services Co. in Melville, NY. The count was also attended by Atlantic Division Vice Director Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, a candidate at that time. All election activities, both during the election and during the count, were carried out exceptionally professionally and efficiently by the staff at Election Services Co. Neither the Chair nor the candidate were permitted to access any physical ballots or election material during the count. When the counts were complete, the Chair related them promptly by telephone to the Board Secretary and President.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen McIntyre,
Chair, Ethics and Elections