2026-2027 Multiple District Council of Governors

STATE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

August 15, 2026, Report #S-1

Honorable District Governor Gary Likens
1st Vice District Governor Fred Porter
2nd Vice District Governor Stu Koble
District OH-5 Cabinet

SUBJECT: 1st Quarter State Compliance Committee Report

District Governor Gary & District OH-5 Cabinet,

It is both an honor and privilege to be appointed as the State Compliance Committee representative from OH-5.

In addition, it is an honor to have been elected as Chairperson of the State Compliance Committee for this current Lions year.

The Lions of Ohio, at its annual State convention in May 2019 voted to include the State Compliance Committee as a standing and funded State committee.

The Lions of Ohio approved the introduction of the State Compliance Committee to include its purpose as stated, "The purpose of this committee is to ensure all clubs within Multiple District 13 are compliant with current Federal and State Agencies, including but not limited to the Internal Revenue Service, the Ohio Department of Taxation, and the Ohio Attorney General."

This committee is made up of seven Compliance Committee members each appointed by its District Governor and approved by its Cabinet.

The Compliance Committee conducted its first quarterly meeting via online Zoom format on Sunday, July 19, 2026, via Zoom format.

Firstly, I want to welcome DG Ben Dunn as the 2026-2027 Liaison to the State Compliance Committee. This committee is looking forward to working side by side with DG Ben as well as the incoming COG. In addition, a warm welcome to Lion Frank Browning who will be representing District OH-6 on this committee.

Lion Frank will do an outstanding job as District OH-6 compliance representative and will serve this committee well.

The agenda for the July 19th meeting contained a new quarterly format that will be focused on internal committee compliance training as well as district quarterly compliance status meetings with the district compliance committee member, the District Governor and District Governor Team.

Updated status reports will be presented by each District Compliance Committee member to include objectives and suspense dates by each District in addressing those clubs/Foundations that are not in compliance with either the Ohio AG or IRS as well as the Department of Commerce Unclaimed Funds.

The ongoing concern continues to be that we continually see the same clubs routinely appear as non-compliant in many of our Districts. The hope and anticipation will be that efforts by both the district leadership team and extended club and leadership communication to include actively pro action by those clubs will continue to show positive results.

This first quarter period will best determine the current compliance status of our Ohio Lions clubs and Foundations. Emphasis during both this first quarter, and continued towards the second quarter, will be to concentrate our efforts on those who are non-compliant along with the help and assistance of the Ohio Lions leadership.

It is important to note once again the concern regarding the issue of reporting to the Ohio Department of Commerce Unclaimed Funds Division by our clubs and Foundations. Chairperson PCC Risen has stated his frustration and concern with the direction and information provided by the Ohio Department of Commerce Unclaimed Funds to include its demand for "online only" file process through its new Ohio Department of Commerce Unclaimed Funds online file portal.

It should be noted that the positive compliance percentage Multiple District wide has shown a marked improvement from the beginning of the conception of this committee and the implementation of a Compliance Officer in each sub-District.

A review of committee goals and standards were discussed to include the introduction and implementation of expanded committee focus to include, but not limited to, club fiduciary and policy duties, gaming laws, sales tax issues, and liability matters. Emphasis during the first and second quarters will be to

focus direction and concentration on this committee regarding these important legal considerations.

Additional discussions regarding the Compliance Committee working on concert with the Global Leadership team in educating our leaders and clubs in compliance matters will be ongoing. Joint meetings with both committees reviewing these objectives will be scheduled.

The Ohio Attorney General Office can assist with sending representatives that can provide information regarding OAG requirements and assistance to our Ohio Lions clubs and Foundations.

Concentration this Lions year will be to provide an online video compliance training overview that will be provided to all Ohio Lions through both the MD-13 website and each District website.

It has been, and will continue to be policy, that the Compliance Committee Chairperson will continue to receive status reporting from each District Compliance representative at the minimum on a quarterly basis.

Introduction of updated IRS and Ohio statutory codes and rules of law will be reviewed and discussed in detail at each ZOOM or at an in-person committee meeting going forward.

It is imperative that the Compliance Committee and its Chairperson continue to keep the line of communication open between this committee and the Ohio Lions leadership with the primary focus in direct communication with each District Governor and District Compliance Committee member. Never has the importance of communication by the District Governor and the District Governor team with the Compliance Committee and its District representative be present.

I look forward to my continued service as the State Compliance Committee Chairperson and in collaborating with each of the State Compliance Committee representatives and in collaborating closely with Council Chairperson Rachelle and the Council of Governors.

It is because of that commitment to the importance of compliance that this Compliance committee will continue to meet those objectives in keeping our Ohio clubs and Foundations in compliance.

I, along with the State Compliance Committee, ask for your continued support and affirm that each committee member will be available for any assistance or information.

Respectfully Submitted,

PCC David Risen
Compliance Committee Chairperson