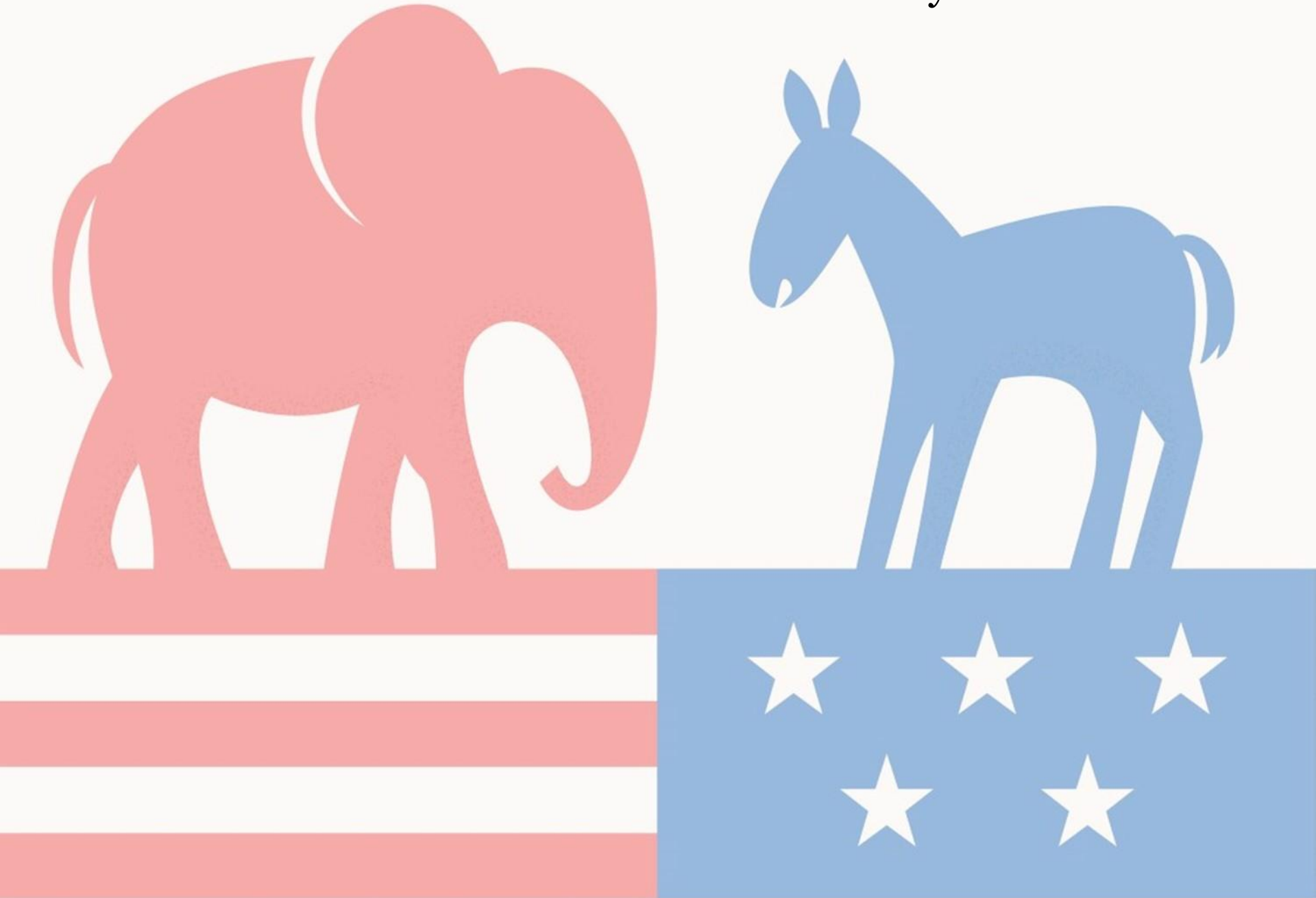
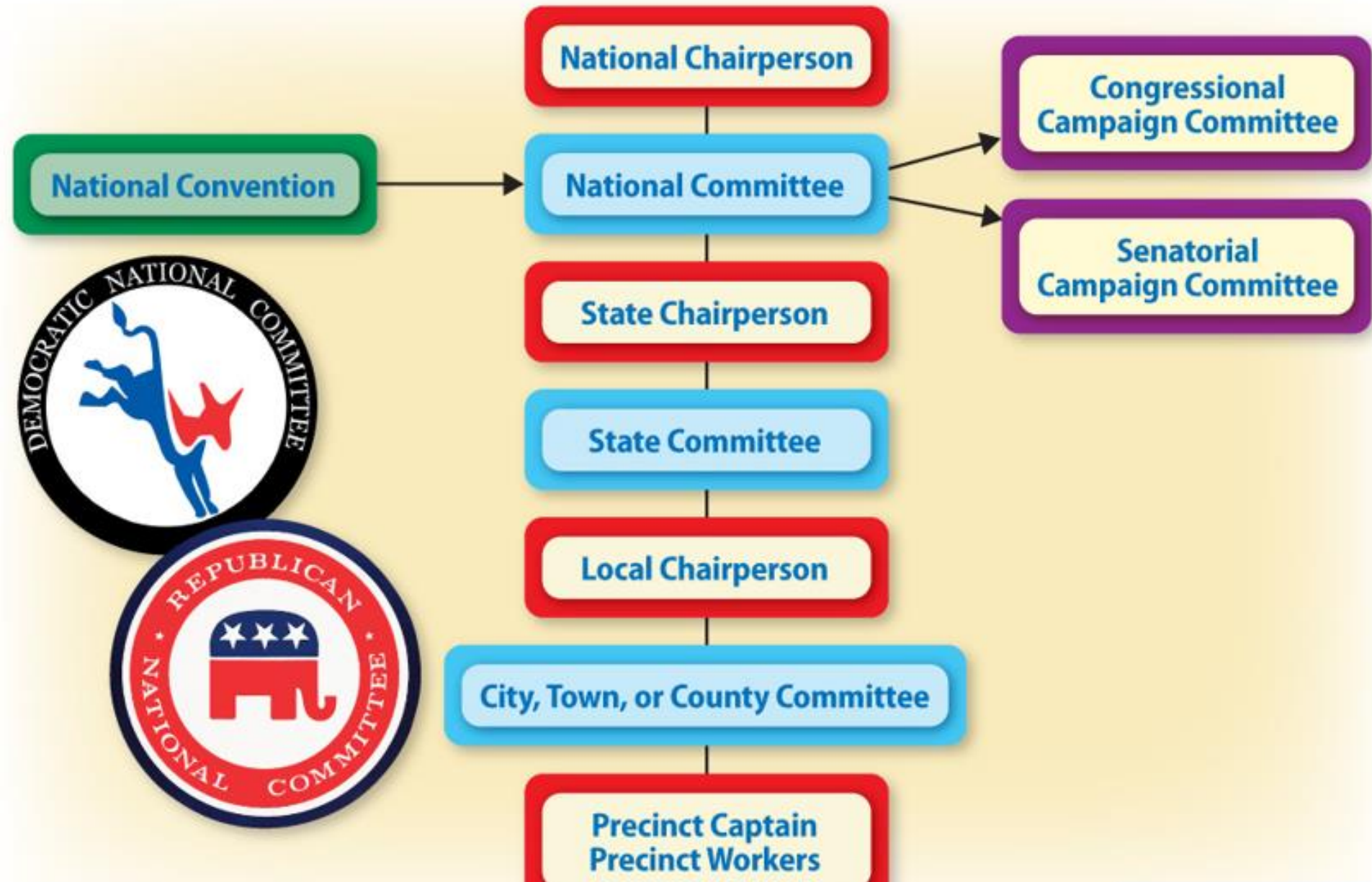


Role of Political Parties Today



A quick reminder of political party organization:



Selecting Candidates and Supporting Campaigns

-Selecting candidates (see Electoral Process notes)

-Supporting candidates' campaigns:

1. Campaign to raise money for donations (time AND money)

2. Vote and encourage other party members to vote

Party members carry other citizen's opinions (even those outside of the party) by telling leaders about the concerns community members have



Informing the Public

SOCIAL MEDIA



- Use of the press and media (social media, magazines, TV, newspapers) to keep voters aware of party goals and objectives
- Use the press and media to help candidates get elected to office
- Methods:
 - Making speeches and frequent appearances in different key locations
 - Maintaining an interactive website and active engagement via social media
 - Mail and phone contact
 - Advertisements

Carry Citizens' Beliefs

-Parties sponsor grassroots mobilization, energizing members to support a candidate or proposal

-Grassroots movement: a political idea or movement that starts with individual-citizen organization

(e.g., Jessica's Law, Amber Alert System)

-Popular Sovereignty: Constitutional Principle that people have the right to rule themselves

-When done successfully, leads to more involved citizens

AMBER ALERT

Statistics as of December 2020

25TH ANNIVERSARY



rescued specifically because of Amber Alert



Children rescued because of Wireless Emergency Alerts



AMBER Plans throughout the United States



Stranger Abduction



Name . . . : Amber Haggeman
Age : 9
Sex : Female
Height . . : 4' 7"
Weight . . : 72 - 74 lbs
Hair color : Reddish brown
Eyes . . . : Blue

Circumstances

Amber was last seen Saturday, January 13 at 3:15 P.M being forced into a **black, short-bed pickup truck** in the old Winn Dixie parking lot on Abrams Street in Arlington, Texas. A witness said a white or hispanic man kidnapped her.

Contact:

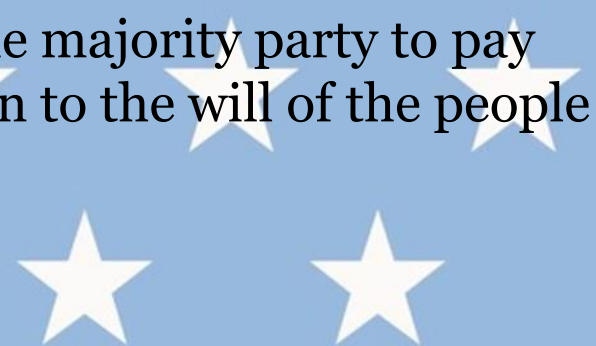
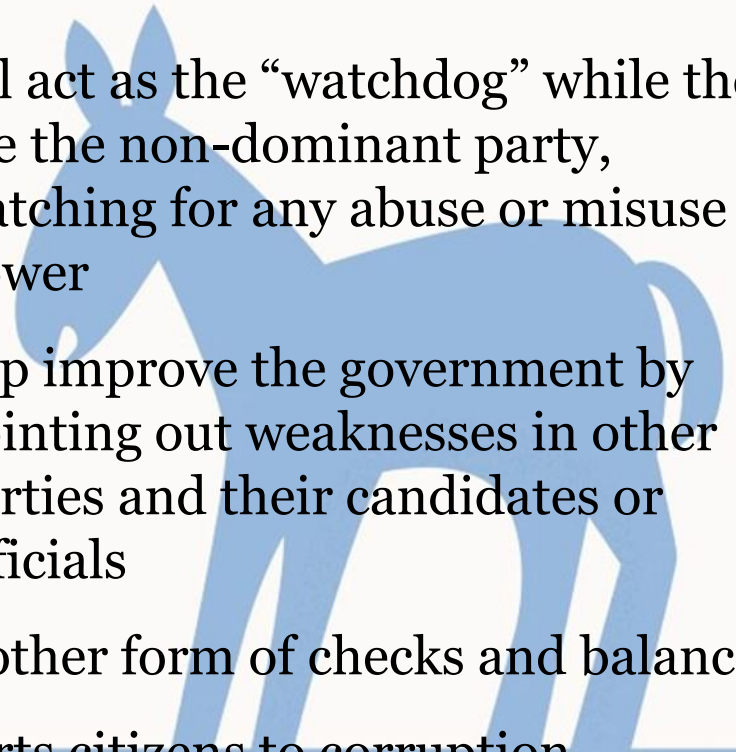
Arlington Police Department
(817) 459-5600, 459-6996, 274-4444



Play the “Watchdog” Role



- Will act as the “watchdog” while they are the non-dominant party, watching for any abuse or misuse of power
- Help improve the government by pointing out weaknesses in other parties and their candidates or officials
- Another form of checks and balances
- Alerts citizens to corruption
- Forces the majority party to pay attention to the will of the people



Linking Government

-Political parties help connect the different levels of government

-President

-Congress

-Governors

-State legislatures

-Local governments

