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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COURT ORDER CHANGES NEW PARTY, INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE FILING PROCESS

UPDATE (May 15, 2020) -- Under a revised order by Chief U.S. District Judge Rebecca Pallmeyer, independent and new party candidates will file nominating petitions with the Illinois State Board of Elections July 13-20. The new date is in response to a motion for reconsideration filed by the board of elections after local election authorities voiced concern that an Aug. 7 deadline established in the original order would not provide sufficient time for litigation of potential ballot challenges. The resulting ballot uncertainty could cause difficulties for local election authorities in meeting statutory deadlines including a Sept. 19 deadline for mailing ballots to military and overseas voters. Other components of the original order described below are unchanged.

SPRINGFIELD (April 23, 2020) – Independent and new party candidates seeking placement on the Nov. 3 ballot will be required to submit only 10 percent of the normal number of nominating signatures and will file petitions six weeks later than originally scheduled under a court order issued Thursday by Chief U.S. District Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer.

The order was in response to a lawsuit by the Libertarian Party of Illinois, the Illinois Green Party and several independent candidates alleging that concerns over COVID-19, including a statewide order limiting social contact, impaired their ability to gather sufficient signatures and meet the June 22 filing deadline for new party and independent candidates. ~~Under the order,~~ new party and independent candidates will file nominating petitions with the State Board of Elections from July 31-Aug. 7 **July 13-**

In addition to reducing the number of signatures required by candidates, the order allows the Libertarian and Green parties to place candidates on the November ballot without filing nominating petitions for any offices in which those parties fielded candidates in either the 2016 or 2018 general elections. This means both parties can place candidates for president and U.S. Senate on the November ballot. The Green Party also can name candidates to the ballot in the 5th and 12th congressional races.

Other independent and new party candidates will be required to submit 10 percent of the statutory signature requirements for offices on the November ballot. This reduces the original 25,000 signature requirement for presidential, U.S. Senate, Illinois Supreme Court and Illinois Appellate Court candidates to 2,500 signatures. Signature requirements for other offices on the November ballot vary by office, and the original requirements are listed in the 2020 Candidates Guide, which is attached to this release.

The order also drops the requirement that signatures on nominating petitions be original, physical signatures. A physical “wet” signature would still be permitted but not required on the candidate’s petition. Petition signers may physically sign a copy of a candidate’s petition, or they may electronically sign their handwritten signatures to the petition using a finger or a device such as a computer mouse or stylus. Photocopies of signatures also will be permitted.

For more details, please see the full order and accompanying motion to reconsider below.

The State Board of Elections is an independent state agency charged with the responsibility of having general supervision over the administration of election laws of the State of Illinois. Elections are administered locally by the State’s 108 election authorities.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

| | | |
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| LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS, et al., |) | |
| |) | Case No. 20-cv-2112 |
| Plaintiffs, |) | |
| |) | Hon. Charles R. Norgle, Sr., Presiding Judge |
| and KYLE KOPITKE, |) | |
| |) | |
| Intervenor, |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | |
| |) | |
| J.B. PRITZKER, et al., |) | |
| |) | Hon. Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, Emergency Judge |
| Defendants. |) | |

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Plaintiffs are the Libertarian Party of Illinois; the Illinois Green Party; and several Illinois registered voters who wish to vote for those parties' candidates in the November 2020 election, to run for state or federal office in the November 2020 election on behalf of those parties or as independents, and/or to gather signatures to ensure that their candidates of choice appear on the ballot for the November 2020 election.¹ On April 2, 2020, Plaintiffs filed this lawsuit against Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker and others, seeking to enjoin or modify "Illinois' in-person signature collection and witnessing requirements for independent and third-party candidates in Illinois seeking to qualify for the November 3, 2020 election," in light of the "public health emergency

¹ The registered-voter Plaintiffs are David F. Black, whom the Illinois Green Party has nominated as its candidate for United States Senate; Sheldon Schafer, who is a Co-Chair of the Illinois Green Party and has full authority to act for and on behalf of it in this lawsuit; Richard Whitney, who is likewise a Co-Chair of the Illinois Green Party and has full authority to act for and on behalf of it in this lawsuit; Bennett W. Morris, who is the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Illinois and has full authority to act for and on behalf of it in this lawsuit, and whom the Libertarian Party of Illinois has nominated as its candidate for the United States House of Representatives, District 5; William Redpath, whom the Libertarian Party of Illinois has nominated as its candidate for the United States House of Representatives, District 6; Marcus Throneburg, who is an independent candidate seeking election to the Illinois State Senate, District 37; and David Gill, who is an independent candidate seeking election to the United States House of Representatives in Illinois' District 18.

caused by the novel coronavirus [COVID-19] and the Governor’s emergency orders effectively shutting down the State.” (Compl. [2] ¶ 1; see also Am. Compl. [17] ¶ 1.) The matter was assigned to the Honorable Charles R. Norgle, but because Plaintiffs have requested emergency relief, it is before this court for this motion only. On April 17, 2020, the court granted Kyle K. Kopitke’s motion for leave to intervene.² After a round of briefing and several hearings, the court is entering a preliminary injunction order, granting Plaintiffs’ motion in part and accepting Defendants’ proposed alternative resolution in part.

BACKGROUND

“Illinois classifies general-election candidates into three groups: those affiliated with an ‘established’ political party, those affiliated with a ‘new’ political party, and those running as independents.” *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. Scholz*, 872 F.3d 518, 521 (7th Cir. 2017). An “established” political party is one whose candidates have received a certain threshold of votes in recent elections. See 10 ILCS 5/10-2. Established political parties face lower requirements for getting their candidates to appear on the ballot—especially when it comes to the collection of voter signatures. (See, e.g., State of Illinois 2020 Candidates Guide, Ex. B to Defs.’ Resp. to Emergency Mot., [16-2] at 25–27 (noting new party and independent candidates for state senator require substantially fewer signatures than established party candidates).) To appear on the ballot for statewide office, new party and independent candidates must collect signatures from the lesser of 25,000 voters or 1 percent of the votes cast in the most recent statewide election. 10 ILCS 5/10-2. And to appear on the ballot for a political subdivision within the state, like a legislative district, the number of signatures required is 5 percent of the voters who voted for the last election for that office. *Id.* For example, a new party candidate for the U.S. Senate would need 25,000 signatures, while a Democrat or Republican would need only 5,000 to 10,000. (State

² Kopitke is a “native of Illinois and a current Michigan resident” who wishes to run as an independent for United States President in the 2020 election. (Emergency Am. Mot. to Intervene [7] ¶ 6.)

of Illinois 2020 Candidates Guide [16-2] at 22.) State law regulates how these signatures must be collected, as well. Specifically, all signatures have to be “wet” signatures (*i.e.*, physical signatures as opposed to electronic signatures), signed by a voter in person, and notarized. See 10 ILCS 5/10-4.

These signature requirements present an obvious obstacle for candidates like Plaintiffs Libertarian Party of Illinois and Illinois Green Party as well as for independent candidates like Intervenor Kyle Kopitke, but the regulatory scheme has been repeatedly upheld by federal courts. See *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. Rednour*, 108 F.3d 768, 774 (7th Cir. 1997) (“The Supreme Court has long permitted states to impose various restrictions limiting a candidate’s access to the ballot.”); *Nader v. Keith*, No. 04 C 4913, 2004 WL 1880011, at *6–8 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 23, 2004), *aff’d*, 385 F.3d 729 (7th Cir. 2004) (denying challenge to Illinois’ petition and signature requirements). Courts have reasoned that while these laws potentially impose some burden on candidates’ speech and association rights, the state has an “important interest of ensuring that a political party that is new in a particular political subdivision demonstrates a modicum of public support before it can place its candidates on an election ballot.” *Libertarian Party*, 108 F.3d at 775. And the in-person signature and notarization requirements have been upheld as well because such rules have been determined to serve the “legitimate need” of rooting out fraud. See *Tripp v. Smart*, No. 14-CV-0890-MJR-PMF, 2016 WL 4379876, at *7 (S.D. Ill. Aug. 17, 2016) (noting that Illinois has a history of “roundtabling” and “other types of circulator fraud”), *aff’d sub nom. Tripp v. Scholz*, 872 F.3d 857 (7th Cir. 2017).

However challenging it may be in general to satisfy the statutory signature and notarization requirement, Plaintiffs and Intervenor argue that under current circumstances, those requirements impose a burden that effectively violates their rights. Illinois today confronts a public health emergency resulting from the spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. Beginning in mid-March, the Governor of Illinois, J.B. Pritzker, issued a series of executive orders limiting public gathering and culminating in a shelter-at-home order on March 20, which requires all individuals

to stay at home except for persons engaged in certain “essential” activities. (Am. Compl. [17] ¶¶ 48–53.) Most public establishments have been closed, and public events have been cancelled as well. Practically all public gatherings of any size have been banned. (*Id.* ¶ 53 (citing COVID-19 Executive Order No. 8).) The stay-at-home order will remain in place until at least April 30, but, as Plaintiffs note, there is great uncertainty about how long it might remain in place. (*Id.* ¶ 57–58.) The court takes notice that a further extension of many restrictions on personal contacts is all but certain. See <http://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/ct-coronavirus-illinois-stay-at-home-extension-20200423-cqp6wzjj5ng7rgrfpg64ijgoua-story.html> (last visited April 23, 2020).

Despite this disruption and rapid spread of a contagious and dangerous respiratory illness, new party and independent candidates like Plaintiffs and Intervenor are, under current law, still required to obtain thousands of wet signatures and to file their completed petitions by June 22, 2020—when the state *could* still be subject to a stay-at-home order. See 10 ILCS 5/10-4. In essence, they must choose between complying with the governor’s emergency orders intended to prevent the spread of the coronavirus or engaging in the outreach needed to receive signatures to appear on the ballot. They have therefore brought this challenge to enjoin the state from enforcing certain of these requirements in light of COVID-19.

DISCUSSION

Plaintiffs allege that under the extraordinary circumstances unleashed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the signature requirements at issue violate their First Amendment rights, as well as their rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Although there is no fundamental right to seek elected office, the Supreme Court has recognized that ballot access laws like the ones at issue here “place burdens on two different, although overlapping, kinds of rights—the right of individuals to associate for the advancement of political beliefs, and the right of qualified voters, regardless of their political persuasion, to cast their votes effectively.” *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23, 30 (1968); see also, e.g., *Munro v. Socialist Workers Party*, 479 U.S. 189, 193 (1986) (similar); *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780, 786 (1983) (stating that

the “primary concern” with ballot access restrictions is their “tendency . . . ‘to limit the field of candidates from which voters might choose’” (quoting *Bullock v. Carter*, 405 U.S. 134, 143 (1972)). “Both of these rights . . . rank among our most precious freedoms.” *Rhodes*, 393 U.S. at 30. They are “not absolute,” however. *Munro*, 479 U.S. at 193. States have an important interest in regulating elections, including an interest in “avoiding confusion, deception, and even frustration of the democratic process at the general election.” *Id.* at 194 (quoting *Jenness v. Fortson*, 403 U.S. 431, 442 (1971)); see also *Navarro v. Neal*, 716 F.3d 425, 431 (7th Cir. 2013) (recognizing that “ballot access laws serve the important, interrelated goals of preventing voter confusion, blocking frivolous candidates from the ballot, and otherwise protecting the integrity of elections”). Thus, as referenced above, it is well-settled that States may require candidates to make “some preliminary showing of a significant modicum of support before printing the name of a political organization's candidate on the ballot.” *Jenness*, 403 U.S. at 442; see also, e.g., *Munro*, 479 U.S. at 193–4; *Libertarian Party*, 108 F.3d at 775.

In determining whether a ballot access restriction survives constitutional scrutiny, courts apply the framework articulated in *Anderson*, 460 U.S. 780, and *Burdick v. Takushi*, 504 U.S. 428 (1992). The *Anderson-Burdick* framework directs courts to “make a practical assessment of the challenged scheme’s justifications and effects.” *Stone v. Bd. of Election Comm’rs for City of Chicago*, 750 F.3d 678, 681 (7th Cir. 2014). First, a court must “consider the character and magnitude of the asserted injury to the rights protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments that the plaintiff seeks to vindicate.” *Anderson*, 460 U.S. at 789. Then, a court “must identify and evaluate the precise interests put forward by the State as justifications for the burden imposed by its rule.” *Id.* A court “must not only determine the legitimacy and strength of each of those interests; it also must consider the extent to which those interests make it necessary to burden the plaintiff’s rights.” *Id.* The Seventh Circuit has stated that, “[p]ractically speaking, much of the action takes place at the first stage of [this] balancing inquiry.” *Stone*, 750 F.3d at 681. “If the burden on the plaintiffs’ constitutional rights is ‘severe,’ a state’s regulation must be narrowly

drawn to advance a compelling state interest.” *Id.* (quoting *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434). By contrast, “[i]f the burden is merely ‘reasonable’ and ‘nondiscriminatory’ . . . the government’s legitimate regulatory interests will carry the day.” *Stone*, 750 F.3d at 681 (quoting *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434); see also *Lee v. Keith*, 463 F.3d 763, 768 (7th Cir. 2006) (“Ballot access restrictions are evaluated under a flexible standard that weighs the ‘character and magnitude of the asserted injury to the [protected rights] that the plaintiff seeks to vindicate’ against ‘the precise interests put forward by the State’” (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434)).

The Seventh Circuit has “warned . . . against federal judicial micromanagement of state regulation of elections.” *Stevo v. Keith*, 546 F.3d 405, 409 (7th Cir. 2008) (citing *Crawford v. Marion Cnty. Election Bd.*, 472 F.3d 949, 954 (7th Cir. 2007)). But it has also made clear that a district court has broad equitable authority to fashion appropriate relief when an election procedure violates the Constitution:

[T]he district court has the power to order the state to take steps to bring its election procedures into compliance with rights guaranteed by the federal Constitution, even if the order requires the state to disregard provisions of state law that otherwise might ordinarily apply to cause delay or prevent action entirely. . . . To the extent that Illinois law makes compliance with a provision of the federal Constitution difficult or impossible, it is Illinois law that must yield.

Judge v. Quinn, 624 F.3d 352, 355–56 (7th Cir. 2010) (quoting *Judge v. Quinn*, 387 F. App’x 629, 630 (7th Cir. 2010)). Defendants emphasize that the Seventh Circuit, on several occasions, has determined that minimum signature requirements for ballot access under the Illinois Election Code are constitutional. See, e.g., *Tripp*, 872 F.3d at 859, 871–72 (law mandating “new” political party candidates for state representative to meet a 5% signature requirement, collect the signatures in a 90-day timeframe, and have each signature notarized, did not violate the First or Fourteenth Amendments); *Nader*, 385 F.3d at 731 (law requiring independent candidate to, among other things, “obtain nominating petitions signed by at least 25,000 qualified voters” and submit the petitions to the state board of elections “at least 134 days before the election” did not violate the First or Fourteenth Amendments); Defs.’ Resp. to Emergency Mot. [15] at 2 (citing same).

As the court has noted, however, this lawsuit does not challenge the constitutionality of the ballot access restrictions in a vacuum. Rather, Plaintiffs have requested emergency injunctive relief on the ground that the extraordinary circumstances arising from COVID-19, combined with the ballot access restrictions, violate their First and Fourteenth Amendment rights. If the court were to side with Plaintiffs on that score, it would have the power to enjoin the unconstitutional restrictions and order appropriate relief. See, e.g., *Judge*, 624 F.3d at 355–56; *Jones v. McGuffage*, 921 F. Supp. 2d 888, 892, 902 (N.D. Ill. 2013) (enjoining the State of Illinois from requiring “new” party and independent candidates to submit more than 3,444 valid signatures in order to be included on a special congressional election ballot, where the compliance period was only 62 days; there had been no “lead-up time in which to organize a signature drive”; and the plaintiffs faced additional obstacles, including inclement weather); *Esshaki v. Whitmer*, No. 2:20-CV-10831-TGB, 2020 WL 1910154, at *2, *12 (E.D. Mich. Apr. 20, 2020) (recognizing signature-gathering challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the State of Michigan’s stay-at-home directive, ordering that certain candidates “[s]hall be qualified for inclusion on the August 4, 2020 primary election ballot if the candidate submits fifty percent of the number of valid signatures required by” a Michigan election law, and ordering Michigan’s Director of Elections to “adopt and promulgate” appropriate “regulations providing for an additional optional procedure that allows the collection and submission of ballot petition signatures in digital form by electronic means such as email”).

The combined effect of the restrictions on public gatherings imposed by Illinois’ stay-at-home order and the usual in-person signature requirements in the Illinois Election Code is a nearly insurmountable hurdle for new party and independent candidates attempting to have their names placed on the general election ballot. See Ill. Exec. Order No. 2020-10 (Mar. 20, 2020); 10 ILCS 5/10-4. The problem is exacerbated by the circumstance by the fact that the “window” for gathering such signatures opened at nearly the same time that Governor Pritzker first imposed restrictions. The court need not devote significant additional attention to the constitutional

questions presented because, after a round of briefing and several hearings and in response to the court's direction at oral argument, the parties have proposed an order that grants appropriate relief in these unprecedented circumstances. Notably, from the outset of these proceedings, even Defendants have acknowledged that the ballot access restrictions must be relaxed, in some shape or form, to account for the havoc that COVID-19 has wreaked. (See Defs.' Resp. to Emergency Mot. at 2 (recognizing "the need for some accommodations" under the circumstances).) The court is satisfied that the parties' agreed order will ameliorate Plaintiffs' difficulty meeting the statutory signature requirement due to the COVID-19 restrictions—thereby addressing the constitutional questions raised by Plaintiffs' motion (see Pls.' Emergency Mot. [2] at 11–12)—while accommodating the State's legitimate interest in ensuring that only parties with a measurable modicum of public support will gain access to the 2020 general election ballot. See *Jenness*, 403 U.S. at 442.

There is little judicial guidance regarding how to measure whether a new party or independent candidate has demonstrated a modicum of public support sufficient to warrant ballot access. Instead of relying on standards such as the reputation or media coverage of individual candidates, see, e.g., *McCarthy v. Briscoe*, 429 U.S. 1317, 1323 (1976) (Powell, J., in chambers), Illinois, like other states, measures support through signature-gathering. Even under normal conditions, the ultimate number of signatures a candidate must gather will vary widely because the signature requirement is, with some exceptions, based on voter turnout in the previous election. See *Jones*, 921 F. Supp. 2d at 899. Suspending entirely the signature requirement without requiring candidates to otherwise demonstrate historical support would, however, extend far beyond these typical variations. See *Munro*, 479 U.S. at 197 (noting that states need not provide automatic ballot access).

The parties' agreed order, permitting ballot access for previously-qualifying new party and independent candidates, and loosening the statutory signature requirements for other new party and independent candidates, establishes a measurable standard that the State can use to

determine which candidates are eligible to be placed on the ballot in the unique context of this election. The court notes that in order to respect social distancing guidelines implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous states have likewise reduced the number of signatures required for a candidate to be placed on the ballot. See, e.g., *Esshaki v. Whitmer*, No. 2:20-CV-10831-TGB, 2020 WL 1910154, at *12 (E.D. Mich. Apr. 20, 2020) (reducing the statutory signature requirement by 50 percent); *Goldstein v. Sec’y of Commonwealth*, No. SJC-12931, 2020 WL 1903931, at *9 (Mass. Apr. 17, 2020) (same); N.Y. Exec. Order No. 202.2 (Mar. 14, 2020) (reducing the statutory signature requirement to 30 percent of normal); H. 681, 2019–2020 Gen. Assemb., Adjourned Sess. (Vt. 2020) (suspending the statutory signature requirement entirely). Reducing the required number of signatures to 10 percent accommodates the fact that Plaintiffs have not been able to rely on their usual signature-gathering methods for the 2020 general election ballot because the window for collecting signatures in Illinois was slated to begin on March 24, 2020, after the stay-at-home order took effect. Cf. *Goldstein*, 2020 WL 1903931, at *9.

Additionally, permitting candidates to submit physical or electronic copies of petitions accommodates the various practical barriers to collecting signatures at this time—due to the closure of most public places, Illinoisans may have limited access to the Internet or a printer, or may even be wary of opening mailed petitions. See *Esshaki*, 2020 WL 1910154, at *5 (explaining that a mail-based signature campaign is expensive and ultimately ineffective). Other states have similarly permitted signature collection and petition submission in both electronic and physical formats. See, e.g., Fla. Emergency R. 1SER20-2 (Apr. 2, 2020); N.J. Exec. Order Nos. 105, 120 (Mar. 19, 2020, Apr. 8, 2020); Utah Exec. Order No. 2020-8 (Mar. 26, 2020). The court recognizes that the state will be burdened by extending the signature-gathering deadline, but finds this hardship outweighed by the significant difficulties that would be experienced by campaigns trying to implement a new signature-gathering process while complying with even the modified statutory requirements in such a short amount of time. In particular, the court notes that even after some

restrictions are lifted, until a vaccine is available, voters are likely to continue practicing social distancing and avoiding any physical hand contact with other persons or objects.

In sum, the parties' agreed order balances the State's legitimate interests in "preventing voter confusion, blocking frivolous candidates from the ballot, and otherwise protecting the integrity of" the upcoming election, *Navarro*, 716 F.3d at 431, while accommodating the significant restrictions on new party and independent candidates' ability to collect signatures in light of the unprecedented limitations on public gatherings required to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

ENTER:

Dated: April 23, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca R. Pallmeyer", written over a horizontal line.

REBECCA R. PALLMEYER
United States District Judge

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION**

| | | |
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| Libertarian Party of Illinois, <i>et al.</i> , |) | Case No. 20 CV 2112 |
| |) | |
| Plaintiffs, |) | Hon. Charles R. Norgle, Sr., |
| |) | Presiding Judge |
| and Kyle Kopitke, |) | |
| |) | Hon. Jeffrey Cummings |
| Intervenor, |) | Magistrate Judge |
| |) | |
| vs. |) | Hon. Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, |
| |) | Emergency Judge. |
| J.B. Pritzker, <i>et al.</i> , |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS DEFENDANTS’
EMERGENCY MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION IN PART OF ORDER
GRANTING PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

NOW COMES Defendants, individual members of the Illinois State Board of Elections (the “Board”), and, pursuant to Rule 59 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, moves this Honorable Court for reconsideration of certain provisions of the Order granting a preliminary injunction as entered by this Court on April 23, 2020. In support of this Motion, the Board states as follows:

1. This case concerns the nomination of independent and new political party candidates for State offices in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Under Illinois Election laws, such candidates are ordinarily required to gather a statutorily required number of petition signatures and file them with the Board by the June 22, 2020 filing deadline set forth in the Election Code. *See* 10 ILCS 5/10-6. This statutory deadline was previously upheld by the Seventh Circuit in *Nader v. Keith*, 385 F.3d 729 (7th Cir. 2004).
2. Recognizing the difficulty in gathering signatures under the current COVID-19 environment, all parties agreed that *some* easing of the ordinary petition circulation restrictions

would be appropriate for this election. After several discussions amongst the parties and two hearings, this Court entered a preliminary injunction addressing four main points:

- (1) Plaintiff political parties would be permitted to nominate candidates without petitions in any race in which they had nominated a candidate in either 2016 or 2018, and any independent candidate who ran for an office in 2016 or 2018 would be permitted to run for that office again in 2020 without petitions;
- (2) New political party and independent candidates not subject to item (1) would be required to file nomination petitions signed by not less than 10% of the statutory minimum number required;
- (3) Petition signers will be permitted to affix their signatures to a petition electronically, by using a computer mouse, a stylus or their finger; and
- (4) the statutory petition filing deadline of June 22, 2020 will be moved to August 7, 2020.

3. With due respect for this Court, the Board, after consultation with several local election officials, is compelled to ask this Court to reconsider its decision regarding the petition filing deadline and the signature requirement for two reasons. First, and foremost, the Board after consultation with many of the State's local election authorities has determined that the component parts of the Court's Order will make it extremely difficult to comply with the various deadlines imposed by both State and federal law necessary for the orderly conduct of an election on November 3, 2020. Second, in light of the decision just three days ago by the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in *Esshaki v. Whitmer*, Case No. 20-1336 (6th CIR. May 5, 2020), the Board respectfully requests that this Court amend its Preliminary Injunction Order to grant Plaintiffs similar relief to that the Court directed in that case: namely that the Board be ordered to determine the best relief to balance the interests of the Plaintiffs (and other candidates) and still be able to meet its obligations to conduct an orderly election.

4. As the Board indicated before this Court, and as set forth in greater detail in the attached Declaration by Steve Sandvoss, the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections (Exhibit

A), the August 7, 2020 filing deadline (which constitutes a 46-day delay in the filing deadline) imposes a great strain on not only the Board, but all of the 105 local election authorities across the State, who must prepare and print ballots within the timeframes established by both State and federal law.

5. As further set forth in the Declarations of Thomas Holbrook, the St. Clair County Clerk, and Edmund Michalowski, the Deputy Clerk for Elections (Exhibits B & C), the August 7 deadline imposes a severe burden on local election authorities who believe it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to finalize their ballots in time for the September 19, 2020 deadline to mail out military and overseas ballots required by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. 52 USCA § 20302(a)(8).

6. Because the prospect of an August 7, 2020 filing deadline first arose in this case on April 21, 2020 (and the idea of any August filing deadline did not come up until April 19), the Board was unable to present the Court with difficulties such a late filing deadline presents to both it and local election authorities.

7. For example, the Board is required by law to certify the final contents of the ballot to local election authorities no later than August 21, 2020, so that those authorities can begin the process of preparing ballots for the election. 10 ILCS 5/10-14. Pursuant to Section 10-8 of the Election Code, any voter objecting to a candidate's nomination papers must do so within five business days of the filing deadline. 10 ILCS 5/10-8. Accordingly, this Court's Order creates an August 14, 2020 objection deadline. As indicated in the attached Declarations, this begins an administrative process that often takes another seven days before the various electoral boards created to hear these objections can even begin to consider the objections. 10 ILCS 5/10-9. In short, the August 7, 2020 filing deadline creates a system where electoral boards cannot begin to

consider any objections until the same day that the Board is supposed to certify the final ballot to local election officials.

8. For example, if a candidate's nomination papers were challenged pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Election Code, and that challenge were not resolved by the 45th day before the election, the local election authority would either have to miss the federal mailing deadline and wait until the objections are resolved, or meet the deadline and send out ballots knowing that some candidates appearing on the ballots could later be removed, thereby causing the voters who receive those ballots to be disenfranchised by voting for candidates later determined to be ineligible. In such a case, all votes for a candidate whose name appeared on a mailed ballot, but who is later deemed ineligible, are discarded and not counted.

9. In this case, the Complaint filed on April 2, 2020 did not request a delay in the petition filing period. Comp., pp. 25-26. Pursuant to this Court's initial Order, on April 19, 2020, Plaintiffs proposed an August 3, 2020 filing deadline. The following day, April 20, Defendants proposed delaying the filing period by two weeks until July 6, 2020. The parties could not come to any agreement.

10. The Court held a hearing on this matter on April 21, 2020, at which time the August 7, 2020 filing deadline was first raised by the Court (no parties had proposed such a late filing deadline) and the Preliminary Injunction Order was entered on April 23, 2020. When the prospect of an August 7, 2020 filing deadline was first raised, the Board's attorney had the following exchange with the Court:

MR. KASPER: And, your Honor, this is Michael Kasper again. I'm sorry to raise one last point. The Board is very concerned about the August 7th deadline because that bumps up against the other statutory deadlines and the deadlines imposed to get military ballots out under federal law. And so we would sort of ask you to reconsider that and maybe push it forward a little bit.

THE COURT: You know, I'd like to push it forward because I do think it's very difficult to get these things printed but I'm also -- I'm really sensitive to the world we're living in in Illinois and the difficulties that the governor has and that the rest of us have in trying to balance our need to proceed with life as we know it on the one hand versus the very, very significant public health concerns and the need for social distancing and stay at home even after those orders are lifted. I don't think I can be any more generous than that.

MR. KASPER: Okay. Thank you, your Honor.

Tr., 4/22/20, pp. 37-38.

11. Due to the expeditious nature of the preliminary injunction proceedings, the Board was unable to fully assess the impact of an August 7, 2020 petition filing on the orderly administration of the election. Since the April 23, 2020 Order, the Board has made such an assessment and has had the opportunity to consult with other election authorities who agree that such a late filing deadline will severely impact their ability to conduct an accurate and orderly election on November 3, 2020.

12. In addition, the Board and local election officials have severe reservations regarding the significant reduction in the signature threshold contained in the Court's Order – reducing the statutory signature minimum by 90% of the number required by the Illinois Election Code. While the Board agreed that *some* reduction was appropriate (it initially proposed 50% and was willing to agree to 33%), the Board and local election officials believe that reducing the minimum number of signatures by 90% renders the threshold merely *de minimus*. Such a drastic reduction also threatens the orderly conduct of the election by inviting a slew of non-serious candidates who lack the traditional modicum of support necessary to qualify, leading to increased litigation and delays through increased ballot objections, as well as an overly cluttered and confusing ballot. Accordingly, the Board asks that the Court reconsider this aspect of its Preliminary Injunction Order as well.

13. A request for reconsideration under Rule 59(e) “allows a party to direct the district court’s attention to newly discovered material evidence or a manifest error of law or fact, and enables the court to correct its own errors and thus avoid unnecessary appellate procedures.”

Moro v. Shell Oil Co., 91 F.3d 872, 876 (7th Cir. 1996).

14. On Tuesday of this week, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision regarding the same issues as presented here in the State of Michigan. In that case, like this one, the District Court issued a preliminary injunction reducing the signature threshold for the upcoming election (but by only 50%), delayed the filing deadline, and ordered the election authority to accept electronic signatures. *Esshaki*, p. 3.

15. The Sixth Circuit reversed that decision finding that “through a plenary re-writing of the State’s ballot- access provisions” the District Court “was not justified” because “federal courts have no authority to dictate to the States precisely how they should conduct their elections.” *Id.*, citing *Clingman v. Beaver*, 544 U.S. 581, 586 (2005).

16. Instead, the Sixth Circuit directed “the State to select its own adjustments so as to reduce the burden on ballot access, narrow the restrictions to align with its interest, and thereby render the application of the ballot-access provisions constitutional under the circumstances.” *Id.*, at pp 3-4. In this case, the Board respectfully requests that this Court issue a similar Order directing the State to make the accommodations necessary under the circumstances.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the Illinois State Board of Elections Defendants respectfully pray that this Court: (1) grant its Motion to Reconsider its April 23, 2020 Order; (2) issue an Amended Order directing the Board to establish appropriate ballot access requirements for independent and new political party candidates for the November 3, 2020 election; and (3) order such other relief as may be just and proper. In the alternative, the

Defendants request that this Court amend the preliminary injunction order issued on April 23, 2020 to move the deadline for candidate nomination and petition filings from July 31, 2020 through August 7, 2020 to June 29, 2020 through July 6, 2020, and setting the minimum petition signature threshold at 25% of the statutory minimum.

Respectfully submitted,
Defendants, Members of the Illinois State
Board of Elections

By: /s/ Michael J. Kasper
One of their Attorneys

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION**

| | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Libertarian Party of Illinois, <i>et al.</i> , |) | Case No. 20 CV 2112 |
| |) | |
| Plaintiffs, |) | Hon. Charles R. Norgle, Sr., |
| |) | Presiding Judge |
| and Kyle Kopitke, |) | |
| |) | Hon. Jeffrey Cummings |
| Intervenor, |) | Magistrate Judge |
| |) | |
| vs. |) | Hon. Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, |
| |) | Emergency Judge. |
| J.B. Pritzker, <i>et al.</i> , |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on **May 8, 2020**, I electronically filed the foregoing **State Board of Elections Defendants’ Emergency Motion for Reconsideration in Part of Order Granting Preliminary Injunction** along with the accompanying **Exhibits** with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will notify all participants in the CM/ECF system as follows:

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Respectfully submitted,
Defendants, Members of the Illinois State
Board of Elections

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State of Illinois

2020 CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

Issued by the
Illinois State Board of Elections



AMENDMENTS

| Amendment Date | Revised Page Number | Change Made |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 7/26/2019 | 51&52 | County Board of Review Member was mistakenly included with offices elected at-large and has been updated to be with offices elected by district. As such, signature requirement calculations should be by district and not at-large. |
| 8/20/2019 | 52 | County Board Chair was changed to County Board Chairman to match language in 55 ILCS 5/2-3007. |
| 8/26/2019 | 24 | The Green Party is not established in any congressional district; therefore, the signature requirement has been removed. |
| 9/6/2019 | 55 | The signature requirement for Adams/Brown/Cass/Morgan/Pike/Scott for the office of Regional Superintendent of Schools has been removed. The only vacancy in office is for Mason/Tazewell/Woodford, for which the signature requirements have been added. |
| 9/6/2019 | 51 | Corrected to cover all county offices elected on a countywide basis. |
| 9/6/2019 | 52 | Corrected to cover all county offices elected by district (excluding Cook County Board of Review Commissioners). |
| 3/16/2020 | 25 | Corrected term of office for Illinois State Senate to two years instead of four years. |
| 4/30/2020 | 3-4, 8, 10, 22-48, 51-53, 55-61 | Please reference Addendum A for changes to requirements for New Party and Independent Candidates applicable to the 2020 filing period only. |

PREFACE

THE 2020 CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

This Candidate's Guide has been prepared to provide information for candidates seeking office in 2020. It includes a listing of offices nominated or elected, filing dates, general requirements for filing, and specific requirements for individual offices. In addition, information is provided regarding nomination procedures and the objection process. Also included is a section that provides answers to some of the more frequently asked questions about nominating petitions and procedures. A signature requirements section is included with each specific office in this guide.

All citations contained herein refer to the Illinois Election Code [10 ILCS 5/1-1 et seq., as amended] or as otherwise indicated. This guide may be amended to include new legislation and court decisions as they arise. Please visit the Illinois State Board of Election's website for any updates.

Legal information contained in this guide is not binding and should not be construed as sufficient argument in response to an objection to any candidate's nominating papers. The State Board of Elections recommends that all prospective candidates consult with competent legal counsel when preparing their nomination papers.

Statutory deadlines for filing objections and for withdrawing from all but one incompatible office will depend on the filing period. Specific deadline dates can be found in the [SBE Election and Campaign Finance Calendar for 2020](#) located under "Election Guides." The calendar, this guide, and filing date announcements can be found on the State Board of Elections website.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting your election authority or the State Board of Elections.

APPARENT CONFORMITY

The State Board of Elections conducts an "apparent conformity" review of all nominating petitions filed therein. The review will take place after a petition is filed and will be limited to determining the following:

(1) Whether a signed Statement of Candidacy has been filed, and (2) whether the filed nominating sheets contain gross signatures equal to or exceeding 10% of the minimum number of signatures required for the office sought.

All candidates whose petitions fail the apparent conformity review will be notified in writing and given the opportunity to appear before the State Board of Elections at its first meeting held to call petition objection cases before a determination is made to reject the candidate's petition on the basis of non-conformity.

Additionally, SBE employees will no longer be available during filing periods to notarize documents.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The State Board of Elections also produces additional guides that can be helpful when preparing to run for office. The [Election and Campaign Finance Calendar](#) lists more specific dates and deadlines to follow, and the [County Officials book](#) and [Federal and State Officers book](#), located under "Directory of Officials," has relevant contact information for elected officials. On our website under [Campaign Disclosure](#) you can also find information in regards to understanding disclosure and different tutorials on the financial filing process.

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GLOSSARY

BUSINESS DAY

Any day in which the office of an election authority, local election official or the State Board of Elections is open to the public for a minimum of seven hours. [10 ILCS 5/1-3(22)]

Note: If the first or last day fixed by law to do any act required or allowed by the election code falls on a State holiday or a Saturday or a Sunday, the period shall extend through the first business day next following the day otherwise fixed as the first or last day, irrespective of whether any election authority or local election officials conducts business on the State holiday, Saturday or Sunday. [10 ILCS 5/1-6(a)]

CALL

A notice to members of the electoral board, the objector and the candidate (or proponent of the referendum) of the time and place that the electoral board will convene to begin the hearing on the objection.

DISTRICT

Any area which votes as a unit for the election of any officer, other than the State or a unit of local government or school district, including but not limited to, legislative, representative, congressional and judicial districts, judicial circuits, county board districts, municipal and sanitary district wards, school board districts and precincts. [10 ILCS 5/1-3(14)]

ELECTION AUTHORITY

The County Clerk or the Board of Election Commissioners. [10 ILCS 5/1-3(8)]

ELECTION JURISDICTION

- 1) An entire county, in the case of a county in which no city board of election commissioners is located or which is under the jurisdiction of a county board of election commissioners;
- 2) The territorial jurisdiction of a city board of election commissioners; and
- 3) The territory in a county outside of the jurisdiction of a city board of election commissioners.

In each instance, election jurisdiction shall be determined according to which election authority maintains the permanent registration records of qualified electors.

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY

A political party which at the last election received more than 5% of the entire vote cast in the district or political subdivision. For more information on established political parties, see [page 14](#).

LEADING POLITICAL PARTY

One of the two political parties whose candidates for governor at the most recent three gubernatorial elections received either the highest or second highest average number of votes. The political party whose candidates for governor received the highest average number of votes shall be known as the first leading political party and the political party whose candidates for governor received the second highest average number of votes shall be known as the second leading political party. [10 ILCS 5/1-3(21)]

NEW POLITICAL PARTY

Initially formed by a petition filed with the local election official for that unit of government. For more information on new political parties, see [page 14](#).

NOTARY

A public officer who attests or certifies writings to make them authentic.

POLITICAL SLOGAN

Any word or words expressing or connoting a position, opinion or belief that the candidate may promote, including but not limited to, any word or words conveying any meaning other than that of the personal identity of the candidate.

POLITICAL OR GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION

Any unit of local government or school district in which elections are or may be held.

REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE STATE, POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR DISTRICT

Whenever a statute requires that a nomination petition or a petition proposing a public question shall be signed by a specific percentage of the registered voters of the state, political subdivision or district, the total number of voters to which the percentage is applied shall be the number of voters who are registered in the state, political subdivision or district, as the case may be, on the date registration closed before the regular election next preceding the last day on which such petition may be filed. (10 ILCS 5/3-1.3)

VOTER

For the purpose of determining eligibility to sign a nominating petition or a petition proposing a public question, the terms “voter,” “registered voter,” “qualified voter,” “legal voter,” “elector,” “qualified elector,” “primary elector” and “qualified primary elector” as used in the Election Code or in another statute shall mean a person who is registered to vote at the address shown opposite their signature on the petition or was registered to vote at such address when they signed the petition. Any person, otherwise qualified under this section, who has not moved to another residence but whose address has changed as a result of implementation of a 9-1-1 emergency telephone system shall be considered a “voter,” “registered voter,” “qualified voter,” “legal voter,” “elector,” “qualified elector,” “primary elector” and “qualified primary elector.” (10 ILCS 5/3-1.2)

GENERAL PRIMARY

MARCH 17, 2020

Third Tuesday in March
[10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(a)]

GENERAL ELECTION

NOVEMBER 3, 2020

First Tuesday after first Monday in November
[10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(a)]

Please review **Addendum A** for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.

OFFICERS NOMINATED AT THE PRIMARY & ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTION

| | |
|---|--|
| President of the United States | County Auditors in counties with a population of 75,000-3,000,000 |
| United States Senator | County Board Members (in counties under township organization) |
| Representatives in Congress, Districts 1-18 | County Board of Review Members |
| State Senators (10 ILCS 5/29C-15), Districts: 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, 52, 55, 58 | County Commissioners (in counties not under township organization) |
| Representatives in the General Assembly, Districts 1-118 | County Circuit Clerks |
| Judges: Supreme Court, Appellate Court, Circuit Court, Resident Circuit Court, Subcircuits, all judges seeking retention, and addition judgeships if required | County Coroners |
| Regional Superintendent of Schools (vacancies) | County Recorder of Deeds (population over 60,000) |
| Sanitary District Commissioners and Trustees | States Attorneys |

OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE PRIMARY

| | |
|---|--|
| Delegates and Alternate Delegates (requirements available in the President & Alternate Delegates publication) | Precinct Committeeperson (all counties except Cook County) |
| Ward Committeeperson (City of Chicago) | School Districts under Article 33 of the School Code (members) |
| Special Charter Municipalities, Annual Municipal Election (officers) | |

ANNUAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

| | |
|---|--|
| Municipal Primary (if required) February 4, 2020 | Municipal General Election March 17, 2020 |
| Contact your county clerk, board of election commissioners or municipal clerk for filing information. [10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(b)(3)] | |

CANDIDATE FILING PERIODS

Federal, State, and County

| | FILING PERIOD | PETITION CIRCULATION |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Established Political Parties | November 25 – December 2, 2019 [10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12(1)] <i>The SBE will be closed November 28th & 29th for the Thanksgiving holiday.</i> | September 3, 2019 |
| Special Judicial Filing Period | December 16 – December 23, 2019 [10 ILCS 5/7-12(1)] <i>For Supreme, Appellate and Circuit Court judges when a vacancy occurs between the three week filing period prior to the filing deadline, November 11 – December 2, 2019.</i> | |
| Republican Presidential Preference and Delegates/Alternate Delegates Democratic Presidential Preference and Delegates | January 2 – January 3, 2020 (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-11) | October 5, 2019 |
| New Political Parties and Independents | June 15 – June 22, 2020 July 31-August 7, 2020* (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6) | March 24, 2020 |

Municipal

| | FILING PERIOD | PETITION CIRCULATION |
|---|--|----------------------|
| Established Political Parties and Nonpartisan | October 14 – October 21, 2019 [10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6(5)] | July 23, 2019 |
| New Political Party | November 25 – December 2, 2019 [10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6(3)] | September 3, 2019 |

School Boards Under Article 33 – City of Peoria only

| | FILING PERIOD | PETITION CIRCULATION |
|-------------|--|----------------------|
| Nonpartisan | October 28 – November 4, 2019 (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6) (105 ILCS 5/33-1) | August 6, 2019 |

Sanitary District Act of 1936

| | FILING PERIOD | PETITION CIRCULATION |
|-------------|---|----------------------|
| Nonpartisan | June 15 – June 22, 2020 July 31-August 7, 2020* (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6) | March 24, 2020 |

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates applicable to the 2020 filing period only. Nonpartisan Sanitary District Act of 1936 candidates shall be treated as Independent candidates under Addendum A.**

CANDIDATE CHECKLIST

- Meet **residency, age, and other qualifications** for the specific office

- File paperwork with the **SBE Campaign Disclosure division** or the **Federal Election Commission** regarding finances (if needed)

- File a notarized **Statement of Candidacy** including (but not limited to):
 - Your name
 - Your address
 - Office sought
 - Party
 - Office location (for example, the district or county)
 - Date of the election

- File a **Statement of Economic Interests receipt** (does not apply to federal offices or political party offices)

- File a **Loyalty Oath** (optional)

- File a **Code of Fair Campaign Practices** (optional)

- File notarized **petition sheets** with the required number of signatures, numbered consecutively starting with the number "1"

- Include **Certificate of Deletions** with petitions, numbered consecutively starting with the number "1" (if applicable)

- Fill out **data entry card** (for people who file with the State Board of Elections) and place on top of nominating petition packet (does not need to be attached to packet)

- File with the appropriate** election authority (see specific office in this guide for details)

Note: This checklist is not binding and should not be construed as sufficient argument in response to any objection or legal argument. If you have further questions, you may contact the division of Election Operations at the State Board of Elections or your legal counsel.

FILING FOR OFFICE

GENERAL FILING INFORMATION

OBTAIN LEGAL COUNSEL

Candidates are strongly advised to obtain legal counsel regarding their legal qualifications for office, the proper method for completing the petition forms with respect to the office, the minimum and maximum number of signatures required, the qualifications of signers and circulators, and other information.

FORMAT OF NOMINATION PAPERWORK

Election laws prescribe the general format to be submitted when seeking nomination to office. The State Board of Elections has prepared suggested forms for petitions, statements of candidacy and other applicable forms. The official SBE form number to be used is included under each office in this guide. The forms can be downloaded by clicking on the link or they may be obtained from your election authority. You may also purchase forms from election supply vendors.

FILING NOMINATING PAPERWORK

Nominating papers may be filed by mail or in person, either by the candidate or an agent of the candidate, in the appropriate filing period noted on [page four](#) (10 ILCS 5/7-12). The location of where to file is included under each office in this guide.

Filings must be received no earlier than 8:00 AM, or the normal opening hour of such office, on the first day of the filing period, and no later than 5:00 PM, or the close of business (whichever is later), on the last day of that filing period. *Welsh vs. Education Officer's Electoral Board*, 322 Ill.App.3d 568, 750 N.E. 2d 222, Ill.Dec. 641 (1st Dist. 2001) (10 ILCS 5/1-4, 7-12(6), 10-6.2)

Note: The SBE **will not** accept any petition(s) for filing after 5:00 PM on the last day of the filing period. This applies to any individual(s) waiting in line as of the 5:00 PM deadline who have not yet filed their petition(s).

Candidates file nomination papers with the State Board of Elections for federal, state, judicial and multi-county offices. Nomination papers for county offices are filed with the county clerk. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

PETITIONS SENT IN BY MAIL

Petitions sent by mail (United States Post Office only) and received after midnight of the first day for filing, and in the first U.S. Postal Service delivery of that day, shall be deemed filed as of 8:00 AM or as of the normal opening hour of such day. Candidates who file by mail with the SBE, and who wish to qualify for the lottery, must mail petitions to the Springfield office at 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503. Nominating petitions received through other delivery systems are not considered "mail" and will not be included in the lottery. **It is important to note that petitions received before the first day of filing cannot be accepted.** (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9, 10-6.2)

BALLOT POSITION LOTTERY

The lottery is held within nine days following the last day to file petitions. Petitions filed in person at 8:00 AM on the first filing day or at the normal opening hour of such day, and petitions filed by mail and received in the first mail delivery of the first filing day, are included in the lottery drawing to determine the first ballot position. All other petitions, besides ones filed in the last hour of the filing deadline, are placed on the ballot in the order they are filed.

Two or more petitions filed within the last hour of the filing deadline (between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM on the last filing day) shall be deemed filed simultaneously and are included in the lottery drawing to determine the final ballot position. For further information on the lottery process, see [page 20](#). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9, 10-6.2)

MULTIPLE FILINGS OF NOMINATION PAPERS

If multiple sets of nomination papers are filed for a candidate for the same office, the SBE, appropriate election authority or local election official where the petitions are filed shall, within two business days, notify the candidate of the multiple petition filings and that the candidate has **three business days after receipt of the notice** to notify the appropriate filing authority that the prior set of petitions may be canceled.

If the candidate notifies the proper filing authority, the last set of petitions filed shall be the only petitions to be considered valid. If the candidate fails to notify the proper filing authority, only the first set of petitions filed shall be valid and all subsequent petitions shall be void. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(11), 8-9(4), 10-6.2)

Note: If petitions for nomination have been filed for the same person for more than one political party, the candidate's name shall not be certified for the primary ballot for any party.

[10 ILCS 5/7-12(9)]

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES

If petitions for nomination have been filed for the same person for two or more offices that are incompatible (i.e. State Representative and State Senator), where the same person could not serve in more than one of such offices if elected, that person must withdraw as a candidate from all but one of such offices **within five business days** following the last day for petition filing. If petitions are filed for the same person for more than one political party, the candidate shall not be certified for either primary ballot. Judicial candidates at the circuit court level are limited to filing a petition for one circuit court vacancy and/or a petition for one subcircuit vacancy in any filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-12, 8-9, 10-7)

Note: When a candidate withdraws their nomination papers, the original petition is not returned to the individual, but remains in the office of either the State Board of Elections, the election authority or local election official in which they filed. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

The Office of the Illinois Attorney General has issued a number of opinions on incompatibility of offices. For questions concerning the same, contact the Opinions Division of the Attorney General's office at (217) 782-9070.

CANDIDATES MUST FILE AS:

- A candidate of an established political party;
- A candidate of a new political party;
- An independent candidate; or
- A nonpartisan candidate [certain sanitary districts, school boards and nonpartisan municipalities].

CANDIDATES MUST FILE:

- Statement of Candidacy
- Loyalty oath (optional)
- **Receipt** of filing a Statement of Economic Interests (not required for federal or political party offices – see [page 12](#))
- Nominating petitions containing a sufficient number of original signatures
- Certificate of officers authorized to fill vacancies (for new political parties) (10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-11)

*The SBE has provided signature requirements located with each office in this guide for offices that file with the SBE. For candidates that file with the election authority or local election official, contact their office for specific signature requirements.

NOMINATION PAPERWORK & FORMATTING

COMPLETING A STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

Each candidate, whether an individual candidate or one whose name appears on a slate or certificate of nomination, must complete and file a Statement of Candidacy. The form of the candidate's name, as printed and signed, should match the name as printed on the petition. The address of the candidate, the office which the candidate is running for, the political party designation, if applicable, and statements that the person is qualified for the office specified, should also match the information that is printed on the petition. See each individual office in this guide for the correct SBE suggested Statement of Candidacy form.

The candidate must swear to or affirm and sign the Statement of Candidacy, and the statement must be notarized. The Statement of Candidacy must accompany the nomination papers and should be attached at the beginning of the packet.

*PREPARING PETITION SHEETS

The petition signature sheets must be original, all one uniform size, and numbered consecutively, beginning with the top petition signature sheet as the number "1." The Statement of Candidacy, optional Loyalty Oath and receipt for filing the Statement of Economic Interests should be attached to the petition sheets, preferably on top, and do not need to be of uniform size to the petition sheets nor be numbered. The petition signature sheets must be neatly fastened together in book form at one edge in a secure and suitable manner (paperclips, clipboards, etc., are not secure ways to fasten petitions and will not be accepted by the State Board of Elections). The petitions must contain the original signatures of the voters and the original signature of the circulator, and shall not be photocopies or duplicates of such sheets. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4).

Note: Once the petition has been filed it cannot be altered or added to. The only exception to this is the receipt for an economic interest statement, which must be filed no later than 5:00 PM for the State Board of Elections filers, or the close of business for other offices, on the last day to file nomination papers. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12, 10-4, 10-5)

The heading of the nomination petition pages must include information relative to the election, the candidate, the office, political party (when applicable) and the candidate's place of residence. The headings must be completed prior to the circulation of the petition sheet. **The State Board of Elections will certify each candidate's information as it appears on the first numbered page of the petition;** however, other election authorities may follow a different policy in regards to petition filing. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

NAMES ON PETITION SHEETS AND STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

A candidate's name on the petition sheets should match their name on the Statement of Candidacy. **The candidate's name should appear in exactly the same form on the petition sheet, Statement of Candidacy and Loyalty Oath.** The SBE will certify each candidate's name as it appears on the first numbered page of the petition (other election authorities may follow a different policy with regards to petitions filed with their offices). Failure to match the name on the petition to the name on the Statement of Candidacy may result in the candidate not being certified for the ballot.

Note: Petitions of candidates for specified offices, which are to be filed with the same officer, may contain the names of two or more candidates of the same political party for the same or different offices; however, each candidate must

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

submit their own Statement of Candidacy, receipt for filing Statement of Economic Interests, and optional Loyalty Oath. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

USING A NICKNAME OR OTHER TITLES ON FORMS

The candidate's given name or names, initial or initials, nickname by which the candidate is commonly known, or a combination thereof may be used in addition to the candidate's surname. No other designation such as a title, degree or nickname suggesting or implying possession of a title, degree or professional status, or similar information may be used in connection with the candidate's surname. Also, a candidate may not use a political slogan as part of their name on the ballot, notwithstanding that the political slogan may be part of the candidate's name
[10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 7-17(b), 8-8.1, 10-5.1, 16-3(e)]

A candidate may not use a political slogan as part of their name on the ballot, notwithstanding that the political slogan may be part of the candidate's name. [10 ILCS 5/7-17(b), 16-3(e)]

Note: The State Board of Elections, local election official or election authority shall not certify to any election authority any candidate name designation that is inconsistent with this statutory reference. [10 ILCS 5/7-17(c), 16-3(f)]

CANDIDATE LEGAL NAME CHANGE

If a candidate has changed their name, whether by a statutory or common law procedure in Illinois or any other jurisdiction within three years before the last day for filing the petition or certificate for that office, whichever is applicable, then the following must ensue:

- 1) The candidate's name on the petition or certificate must be followed by "formerly known as (list all prior names during the three year period) until name changed on (list date of each name change)";
- 2) The petition or certificate must be accompanied by the candidate's affidavit stating the candidate's previous names during the specified period; and
- 3) The date(s) each of those name(s) were changed.

Failure to meet these requirements shall be grounds for denying certification of the candidate's name for the ballot or removing the candidate's name from the ballot, as appropriate, but these requirements **do not** apply to name changes resulting from adoption to assume an adoptive parent's or parents' surname, marriage to assume a spouse's surname, or dissolution of marriage or declaration of invalidity of marriage to assume a former surname.
[10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 7-17(b), 8-8.1, 10-5.1, 16.3(e)]

VOLUNTARY FILINGS:

Loyalty Oath: The filing of the Loyalty Oath is optional for candidates. The following court cases have held that the requirement for filing the Loyalty Oath is unconstitutional: Communist Party of Indiana v. Witcomb, 94 S. Ct. 656 414 U.S. 441 (1974); Communist Party of Illinois v. Ogilvie, 357 F. Supp. 105 (N.D. Ill. 1972); and Socialist Workers Party v. Ogilvie, 357 F. Supp. 109 (N.D. Ill. 1972).

Fair Campaign Practices Act:

Candidates and committees are urged to abide by the provisions for campaigning outlined in the Fair Campaign Practices Act. This is a voluntary statement made and filed prior to an election, vowing that the candidate making the statement will conduct a positive, rather than a negative, campaign. If a candidate or committee chooses to make such a statement, it shall be filed with the county clerk if the candidate is a local candidate or committee, or the State

SIGNING AND CIRCULATING PETITIONS

*PETITION CIRCULATOR REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 18 years of age or will be 18 by the date of the upcoming General Election, and
- A citizen of the United States (can be from outside of the district, county or state).

The circulator must personally witness all signatures given and sign the required circulator's statement affirming that all signatures were taken in their presence. No one may be considered a circulator of any petition page except the person who signs the circulator's statement. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Petition sheets **must not** be circulated more than 90 days prior to the last day for the filing of the petitions. The circulator's statement on a candidate's petition sheet must specify either the dates on which the sheets were circulated, the first and last dates on which the sheet was circulated, or that none of the signatures on the sheet were signed more than 90 days preceding the last day for filing the petitions. See [page four](#) for dates when candidates may start circulating petition sheets.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Note: Blank nomination petitions may be reproduced prior to circulation. The signatures of the signers, circulator and the notary public must be original. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

*CIRCULATOR'S STATEMENT

A petition circulator must complete the circulator's statement at the bottom of each petition sheet certifying their address, age, citizenship information and that the signatures on that sheet were signed in their presence. They must certify that the signatures are genuine and, to the best of their knowledge, that the persons signing were duly registered voters of the political subdivision for which the candidate or candidates shall be nominated, or elected, and that their respective registration addresses are correctly stated therein. This statement shall be sworn to and signed by a notary. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Petition circulators shall indicate on such petition their residence address (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as, city, village or town. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

*SIGNING A PETITION

A signer must sign their own signature on the petition, meaning they cannot sign for someone else, such as another member of the family or another person in the household. Signers must also be registered voters in the political subdivision in which the candidate is seeking nomination or election. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4)

***Notarization and circulation requirements have changed for New Party and Independent Candidates, effective April 23, 2020, for the 2020 General Election only. Please see Addendum A.**

CIRCULATING RESTRICTIONS:

- A circulator may not circulate petitions for **more than one** political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4) *Schober v. Young, 322 Ill.App.3d 996, 751 N.E. 2d 610, 256 Ill.Dec. 220 (4th Dist. 2001)*
- A circulator may not circulate petitions for an independent candidate(s) **in addition to** candidates for a new political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
- A circulator may not circulate petitions for **more than one new** political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
- A circulator may not circulate petitions for an established party **and** an independent or new party candidate. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

Petition signers shall indicate on such petition their residence address (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as their city, village or town, county, and state. The state, county, city, village and town of residence may be pre-printed on the petition form when all of the electors signing the petition form reside therein. Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the residence address. A petition signer must be a registered voter from the address shown opposite their signature on the petition. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 3-1.2, 8-8, 10-3)

Note: A petition signer may change party affiliation from one election to another. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51, 94 S. Ct. 303 (1973); *Sperling v. County Officers Electoral Board*, 57 Ill.2d 81, 209 N.E. 2d 589 (1974)

STRIKING SIGNATURES FROM A PETITION

Signatures may be struck from a petition by the circulator or the candidate prior to filing the petition. **All** of the following requirements are necessary to effect a valid striking of any signature (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-3):

- The person striking the signature must initial the petition at the place where the signature is struck;
- The person striking the signature must sign a certification (such as [SBE Form P-2A](#)) listing the page number and line number of each signature struck from the petition, which is to be filed as a part of the petition; and
- The person striking signatures from independent candidate petitions must sign an additional certificate ([SBE Form P-2B](#)) specifying the number of certification pages listing stricken signatures, which are attached to the petition, and the page numbers indicated on such certifications. This additional certificate must be filed as part of the petition, shall be numbered and shall be attached immediately following the last page of voters' signatures and before the certifications of stricken signatures.

COMPUTING SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

When figuring signature requirements, the number of primary electors is determined as follows (10 ILCS 5/7-10):

- In a **district**: total votes cast for the candidate for such political party who received the highest number of votes, statewide, at the last General Election in the state at which electors for President of the United States were elected.
- In a **political subdivision**: total votes cast for the candidate for such political party who received the highest number of votes in such political subdivision at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that subdivision.

Note: Signature calculations can be found with each office in this guide for offices that file with the State Board of Elections. For offices that do not file with the SBE, signature requirement information has been provided, but the candidate will need to contact the individual county/election authority to determine the exact signature calculations for that office.

SIGNING RESTRICTIONS:

- A signer **may not** sign petitions for a candidate of **more than one** political party for the same election. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)
- A signer **may** sign petitions of one established political party for a primary election **and** one new political party or independent candidate for the following General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)
- A signer may sign petitions of as many candidates of the same political party as they desires.*

*This differs for Nonpartisan/Independent candidates. The number of seats to be elected is the number of petitions that a voter can sign.

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS RECEIPT

OBTAINING A STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST FORM

Candidates filing with the State Board of Elections may obtain Statement of Economic Interests forms from the State Board of Elections or the Index Division in the office of the Secretary of State. Candidates filing with the county or local election authorities may obtain Statement of Economic Interests forms from the county clerk's office.

FILING THE FORM

The completed Statement of Economic Interests **form** must be filed with the Index Division in the office of the Secretary of State, 111 East Monroe, Springfield, IL 62756, for candidates that file petitions with the State Board of Elections, or they may be filed with the county clerk in the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. For more information on filing the form, contact your election authority or the Index Division at (217) 782-7017 or (312) 814-8218. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106)

Exception: The Statement of Economic Interests is not required for federal or party offices.

FILING THE RECEIPT

Each candidate must file a **receipt** indicating that they have filed a Statement of Economic Interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12, 8-8, 10-5; 5 ILCS 420/1-101 et seq.)

Exception: The receipt is not required if the Statement of Economic Interests is filed with the same officer with which the nominating papers are filed (i.e. county officers). [10 ILCS 5/7-12(8)]

Candidates are advised to file their receipt at the same time they file their nominating petitions. While the receipt does not need to accompany the nominating petitions at the time of filing, it must be filed not later than 5:00 PM for the State Board of Elections, or the close of business for other offices, on the last day to file those petitions.

Note: The date and time at which a nominating petition was filed is not changed when the receipt of economic interests is filed at another time during the filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-12, 10-5)

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

NOTICE OF OBLIGATION

The official with whom nomination papers are filed must provide to each candidate at the time they file nomination papers a notice of obligation to comply with the Illinois Campaign Financing Act. If a candidate files their nomination papers by mail, or an agent of the candidate files the nomination papers, the clerk or secretary with whom the petitions were filed will send the notice to the candidate by first class mail. The notice will state that the manual of instructions and forms for statements required to be filed under Article 9 of the Election Code are available from the State Board of Elections. Forms may also be downloaded from the SBE's website. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(7), 9-16, 10-6.1)

WHO IS REQUIRED TO FILE WITH THE SBE?

Candidates, groups or individuals who raise or spend more than \$5,000 in any 12 month period in support of or in opposition to a candidate, question of public policy, or for electioneering communication, generally must file paperwork to create a political committee with the State Board of Elections. Once created, political committees must then file

disclosure reports with the Board, detailing the money they raise and spend. This filing obligation continues until a committee ceases operations, disposes of any remaining assets and files an acceptable “Final Report” with the Board.

Note: Electioneering communication is defined as any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication, including radio, TV or internet communication, that refers to a clearly identified candidate, political party or question of public policy that will appear on the ballot, is made within the 60 days before a general or consolidated election, or 30 days before a primary election, is targeted to the relevant electorate, and is clearly an appeal to vote for or against the candidate or question. Electioneering communication does not include communications by Section 501(c)(3) organizations, exclusively between labor unions and their members or Section 501(c)(6) organizations and their members.

Any entity other than a natural person who spends more than \$5,000 during a 12 month period on independent expenditures, or other expenditures supporting or opposing a candidate, must organize as a political committee and file disclosures with the Board. Individuals who spend more than \$3,000 during any 12 month period on independent expenditures supporting or opposing a particular candidate are required to file a special written disclosure with the Board. This disclosure, which must be filed within two business days of exceeding the \$3,000 threshold, gives information about the person making the independent expenditure as well as the dates, amounts and nature of the spending. Once the threshold is reached, the individual is required to report additional independent expenditures made in connection with the same election, in \$1,000 increments, until the conclusion of the election.

Note: Independent expenditures are roughly defined as any payment or expenditure including an electioneering communication, made to expressly advocate for or against a candidate or question of public policy, provided the spending is not made in concert or connection with a candidate or their committee.

INFLUENCING VOTERS WITH PUBLIC FUNDS

No public funds shall be used to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition, or be appropriated for political or campaign purposes to any candidate or political organization. This provision shall not prohibit the use of public funds for dissemination of factual information relative to any proposition appearing on an election ballot, or for dissemination of information and arguments published and distributed pursuant to law in connection with a proposition to amend the Constitution of the State of Illinois. (10 ILCS 5/9-25.1)

MORE ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

For more information on filing reports, campaign finance questions and committee related questions, click [here](#) for frequently asked questions on campaign disclosure. If you have further questions, visit the Campaign Disclosure section of our website or contact our office to speak to a member of our Campaign Disclosure staff.

TYPES OF CANDIDATES

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES AN ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY STATEWIDE?

A political party which at the last General Election for state and county offices polled for its candidate for Governor more than 5% of the entire vote cast for Governor, is an “established political party” as to the state and as to any district or political subdivision thereof. If any other statewide candidates of such political party polled more than 5% of the entire vote cast for the office for which they were running, then such political party shall be an “established political party” in the State, but not as to any district or political subdivision within the State. (10 ILCS 5/7-2, 10-2)

For example, if a Governor for the “Imaginary” party received more than 5% of the entire votes cast for Governor in Illinois, the “Imaginary” party would be an established political party throughout the entire state and for every office running established party candidates. If the Attorney General for the “Imaginary” party received more than 5% of the entire votes cast for Attorney General, the “Imaginary” party would only be an established political party for statewide offices and not for any district offices, such as State Representative or State Senator.

WHAT DEFINES AN ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY WITHIN THE JURISDICTION?

A political party which at the last election in any congressional district, legislative district, county, township, municipality or other political subdivision or district in the State polled more than 5% of the entire vote cast within such territorial area or political subdivision, as the case may be, has voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve the respective territorial area of such district or political subdivision, is an “established political party” as to such district or political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For example, if a candidate of the “Imaginary” party for State Senator in the 51st district received more than 5% of the entire votes cast in that district, the “Imaginary” party would be an established political party to just the 51st Senate district.

FILING PARTISAN IN THE PRIMARY & GETTING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate for whom a nomination paper has been filed as a partisan candidate at a primary election, and who is defeated for nomination, is prohibited from being listed on the ballot as an independent candidate or as a candidate of another political party and may not file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at that general election. (10 ILCS 5/7-43, 7-61, 10-3, 17-61.1, 18-9.1)

NEW POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES A NEW POLITICAL PARTY?

A new political party is created when nomination papers are filed for a new political group within the state, a specific district or a political subdivision. If the new party receives more than 5% of the total votes cast at the General Election for Governor, it becomes an established political party as to the State and as to any district or political subdivision thereof. (10 ILCS 5/7-2, 10-2) See “What Defines an Established Political Party Statewide” and “What Defines an Established Political Party within the Jurisdiction” above for further information.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY NAME

The name for the new political party cannot contain more than five words. The new party name cannot bear the same name or include the name of any established political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-5)

Note: See *Norman v. Reed*, 112 S.Ct.698, 502 U.S. 698, which held that Illinois' provision prohibiting use of the name of an established party so as to bar candidates running in one political subdivision from ever using the name of a political party established only in another, sweeps broader than necessary advance electoral order and, accordingly, violated the First Amendment right of political association.

CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION FROM DISTRICTS & AT-LARGE

When a petition to form a new political party is filed within a political subdivision for which officers are elected from districts and at-large, such petition shall consist of separate components for each district from which an officer is to be elected (see [SBE Form P-8B](#)). Each component shall be circulated only within the district of the political subdivision and signed only by qualified electors who are residents of that district. Each sheet of such petition must contain a complete list of the names of the candidates of the party for all offices to be filled in the political subdivision at-large, but the sheets comprising each component shall also contain the names of those candidates to be elected from the particular district.

Each component of the petition for each district from which an officer is to be elected must be signed by qualified voters of the district equaling not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such district at which officers were elected to serve the district. The entire petition, including all components, must be signed by a total of qualified voters of the entire political subdivision equaling in number not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such political subdivision at which an officer was elected to serve the political subdivision at-large. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICERS FORM

In addition to the candidate's nomination papers for a new political party, the candidate's paperwork must include a Certificate of Officers ([SBE Form P-8C](#)) listing the names and addresses of the new party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination. **Failure to file this certificate may result in the party forfeiting the right to fill vacancies in nomination, but will not invalidate the petition.** See *Peoples Independent Party v. Petroff*, App 5 Dist. 1989, 138 Ill.Dec. 915. (10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-11)

Note: If a new political party is invalidated in its entirety by an electoral board or upon judicial review, the new party officers cannot replace the entire slate of candidates on the pretext of filling vacancies in nomination. *People ex. Rel. Vigilant Party vs. Village of Dolton*, 118 Ill. App. 2d 392, 254 NE 2d 832 (1969). (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

NOMINATION PAPERWORK

As with established and independent candidates, a candidate for a new political party, in addition to a Certificate of Officers form, must file a Statement of Candidacy for each candidate, a Loyalty Oath (optional) for each candidate and a receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests for each candidate, even if they are filing as a slate. (10 ILCS 5/10-5)

The party must nominate one candidate for each office to be filled within the political subdivision at the General Election. In the case of group offices, the number of candidates nominated must equal the number of positions being elected. See *Reed v. Kusper*, 154 Ill.2d 77, 180 Ill.Dec.685, 607 N.E.2d 1198 (1992); *Green Party v. Henrichs*, 355 Ill. App. 3d 445, 291 Ill. Dec. 35, 822 N.E.2d 910 (3d Dist. 2005).

Note: The following court case has held that the full-slate requirement for new political parties is unconstitutional: *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. ISBE, et al.*, 872 F.3d 518 (7th Cir. 2017).

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE?

Independent candidates are those individuals who are not candidates of any political party, but who are candidates in a general election at which party candidates may appear on the ballot. Such candidates are listed on the ballot under the heading “Independent.” (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

Note: Because an independent candidate is an individual candidate not supported by a political party structure, there is no political party organization to fill a vacancy in nomination. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

FILING PARTISAN IN THE PRIMARY & GETTING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate who has filed a statement of candidacy as a partisan candidate at a primary election is prohibited from being listed on the ballot at a general election as an Independent candidate or as a candidate of another political party, and may not file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at that general election.

(10 ILCS 5/7-43, 7-61, 10-3, 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

FILING OR VOTING A PARTISAN OFFICE

A person who filed a Statement of Candidacy for a partisan office as a qualified primary voter of an established political party or who voted the ballot of an established political party at a general primary election may not file a Statement of Candidacy as a candidate of a different established political party or as an Independent candidate for a partisan office to be filled at the general election immediately following the general primary for which the person filed the statement or voted the ballot. (10 ILCS 5/7-43)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

HOW TO BECOME A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

A write-in candidate must file a notarized “Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate” no later than 61 days prior to the election. The declaration **must be filed with the proper election authority or authorities** in those jurisdictions in which the candidate is seeking to be a write-in candidate. Declaration of Intent forms are **not to be filed** with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

The “Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate” form can be obtained from the election authority’s office. (10 ILCS 5/17-16.1, 18-9.1)

Note: Whenever an objection to a candidate’s nominating papers for any office are sustained after the 61st day before the election, the candidate may file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate form for that office with the proper election authority or authorities no later than seven days prior to the election. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE QUALIFYING FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION

For candidates running in the primary to qualify as a candidate for an established political party in a general election, a write-in candidate must receive the number of votes that is equal to or greater than the number of signatures required on a petition for that office if the number of candidates whose names appear on the primary ballot is less than the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate or elect to that office at the primary election. [10 ILCS 5/7-59(c)(1)]

The number of votes required for a write-in candidate to be nominated or elected to an office at a primary election, as outlined above, does not apply if:

- a) The number of votes they receives exceeds the number of votes received by at least one of the candidates whose name was printed on the ballot for nomination or election to the same office; or
- b) The number of candidates whose names appear on the ballot equals or exceeds the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate or elect to that office.

For example, if there are four Republicans running in the primary for one office, and there is one write-in candidate, then the write-in candidate just has to receive the highest number of votes. If there is no one besides that one write-in candidate running, then that candidate must get the number of votes equal to or greater than the number of signatures that were required to get on the general primary ballot for that office.

FILING PARTISAN IN THE PRIMARY & GETTING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate who is defeated for nomination at the general primary election is prohibited from filing a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at the subsequent general election. (10 ILCS 5/7-16.1, 18-9.1)

WINNING IN THE PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION

A winning write-in candidate in the General Primary Election who receives the required number of votes at the primary must file a Statement of Candidacy, receipt for the filing of the Statement of Economic Interests (exception for federal and party offices only) and an optional Loyalty Oath.

These forms must be filed within 10 days of the canvass and be filed with the certifying officer or board. For example, winning write-in candidates for State Representative would file with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-60)

A winning write-in candidate in a general election must file a Statement of Candidacy, receipt for the filing of the Statement of Economic Interests (exception for federal and party offices only), and an optional loyalty oath. (10 ILCS 5/22-1)

OBJECTIONS TO NOMINATING PAPERS

FILING OBJECTIONS

Nomination papers shall be deemed to be valid unless objections are filed in writing, **with an original and two copies**, within **five business days after the last day for the filing of nomination papers**. Objection petitions that do not include two copies thereof shall not be accepted.

The last day to file an objection will depend on the filing period. For specific deadlines, see the [SBE Election and Campaign Finance Calendar for 2020](#) located under "Election Guides." The objection shall be filed with the State Board of Election, the election authority or local election official with whom the original nomination petition was filed. In the instance of an objection for the office of ward or precinct committeeperson, the objections shall be filed within five business days after the last day for filing nomination papers. (10 ILCS 5/7-13, 10-8)

PROCESSING OBJECTIONS

No later than noon on the second business day after receipt of an objector's petition, the State Board of Elections, election authority or local election official shall transmit by registered mail or receipted personal delivery the Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers and the original objector's petition to the chair of the proper electoral board designated in Section 10-9, or their authorized agent. The official shall transmit a copy of the objector's petition, by registered mail or receipted personal delivery, to the candidate whose Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers are objected to, addressed to the place of residence designated in said Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers. (10 ILCS 5/10-8)

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AS THE ELECTORAL BOARD

Within 24 hours of the receipt of the objector's petition, the Chair of the State Board of Elections shall send a call, by registered or certified mail, to the objector and candidate whose Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers are objected to stating the day, hour and place at which the State Board of Elections shall meet to hear the objection. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

IN CASES WHERE THE SBE IS NOT THE ELECTORAL BOARD

The chair of the electoral board shall send a call by registered or certified mail to each of the members of the electoral board, the objector and the candidate, and shall also cause the Sheriff of the county or counties in which such officers and persons reside to serve a copy of such call upon each of the officers and persons within 24 hours after the receipt of the objector's petition. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

ELECTORAL BOARD MEETING

The meeting of the electoral board shall not be less than three nor more than five days after receipt of the objector's petition by the chair of the electoral board. The electoral board on the first day of its meeting shall adopt rules and procedures for the introduction of evidence and the presentation of arguments and may, in its discretion, provide for the filing of briefs by the parties to the objection or by other interested persons. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

FILING FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

Within five days after the decision of the electoral board, the candidate or objector aggrieved by the decision of the board may file a petition for judicial review with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the county in which the hearing of the electoral board was held, and must serve a copy of the petition upon the electoral board and other parties to the proceedings. The petition shall contain a brief statement of the reason why the decision of the board should be reversed. Court hearings are to be held within 30 days after the filing of the petition and the decisions delivered promptly thereafter. (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1)

If no petition for judicial review has been filed within five days after the decision of the electoral board, the electoral board shall transmit a copy of its ruling, together with the original Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers or petitions, and the original objector's petitions to the officers or board with whom they were on file, and such officers or board shall abide and comply with the ruling so made to all intents and purposes. (10 ILCS 5/10-10, 10-10.1)

LOTTERY

FILINGS REQUIRING A LOTTERY

Simultaneous filings of candidate nominating petitions for the same office occur for those candidates **in line at 8:00 AM** (or whenever the opening hour of the business may be; for example, if the office opens at 9:00 AM, all candidates in line as of 9:00 AM are in the lottery) or for petitions received after midnight of the first day for filing in the first U.S. Postal Service delivery of that day, on the first day of filing. Simultaneous filings can also occur during the last day of filing **during the last hour** of the filing deadline between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM. The lottery system to be used by the State Board of Elections, the election authority or the local election official to break ties resulting from such simultaneous filings must be approved by the State Board of Elections.

CONDUCTING THE LOTTERY

Per State Board of Elections Rules and Regulations (as codified under the Illinois Administrative Procedures Act), Title 26, Chapter 1, Section 201.40, the following system has been approved:

1. The names of all candidates who filed simultaneously for the same office shall be listed alphabetically and shall be numbered consecutively commencing with the number one, which shall be assigned to the candidate whose name is listed first on the alphabetical list. Candidates filing a group petition for the same office shall be treated as one in the alphabetical list. For example, if five candidates by the name of Downs, Brown, Edwards, Cook, and Adams have filed simultaneously, they will be arranged alphabetically and assigned numbers as follows: Adams, one; Brown, two; Cook, three; Downs, four; and Edwards, five. If the same candidates filed, but Cook and Adams filed a group petition and Cook's name appeared first on the petition, then the candidates would be arranged as follows: Brown, one; Cook and Adams, two; Downs, three; and Edwards, four.
2. All ties will be broken by a single drawing. A number shall be placed in a container representing each number assigned to each candidate and group of candidates pursuant to the alphabetical listing procedures set forth in paragraph (1.) above. For example, if the largest number to be used for any office is five, then numbers one, two, three, four, and five will be placed in a container. In this manner, sufficient numbers will be placed in the container to conduct a drawing for all offices at the same time.
3. After the numbers are placed in the container, they shall be drawn one at a time from the container after they have been thoroughly shaken and mixed. The candidate or group of candidates in the position on an alphabetical list corresponding to the first number drawn shall be certified ahead of the other candidates listed on the alphabetical list. The candidate or group of candidates in the position on the alphabetical list corresponding to the second number drawn will be certified second and so forth until all numbers have been drawn. For example, where no group petitions were filed, if candidates Adams, Brown, Cook, Downs, and Edwards filed simultaneously at 8:00 AM on the first day of filing, and the number three is first drawn, then candidate Cook, who is listed in the third position on the alphabetical list, shall be certified first on the ballot. If the number one is drawn second, then candidate Adams, who is listed in the first position on the alphabetical list, shall be certified second on the ballot, and so on. For offices where group petitions were filed, using the example set forth above where candidates Cook and Adams file a group petition for the same office, and Cook's name appears first on the petition and number three is drawn first, then candidate Downs would be listed first. If the number two is drawn second, then candidates Cook and Adams would be certified second and third,

respectively. If the number four is drawn third, then candidate Edwards would be certified fourth, and so on. In districts with fewer names on the alphabetical list than are in the drawing, then all numbers in excess of the number of candidates or group of candidates that appear on the particular alphabetical list shall be disregarded. Thus, if five numbers are placed in the container and only four candidates or groups of candidates are on a particular list, then the number five shall be disregarded. For example, if candidates Adams and Cook, filing separate petitions, are the only candidates listed on the alphabetical list and five numbers are chosen in the following order: 3, 5, 4, 2 and 1, then candidate Cook's name will appear in the certification prior to the name of candidate Adams.

4. If two or more nominating petitions for the same office are presented between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM on the last day for filing, they shall be deemed to be simultaneously filed and the last ballot position will be determined by a separate lottery using the same procedures detailed above. No nominating petitions will be accepted after 5:00 PM.
5. All candidates shall be certified in the order in which petitions have been filed with the State Board of Elections, election authority or the local election official. In cases where candidates have filed simultaneously, they shall be certified (in the order determined by the lottery procedure outlined above) prior to candidates who filed for the same office who filed their petitions at a later time, except in those situations where the law requires rotation on a district-by-district basis.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for federal offices.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Not less than 5,000 nor more than 10,000 primary electors of their party. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(a)]

***Independent & New Party:** Minimum of 1% of the number of voters who voted in the last statewide General Election or 25,000 qualified voters of the State, whichever is fewer. (10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-3)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: All candidates file with the Federal Election Commission, 1050 First Street NE, Washington D.C., 20463 (20002 for other delivery services outside U.S. Postal Service). If you have specific questions, you may call them at (800) 424-9530.

Note: Federal filing requirements are subject to change by the FEC. We advise that you contact the FEC for the latest information on filing requirements.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|----------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 5,000 – 10,000 | | 25,000 2,500 | |

QUALIFICATIONS:

(United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 3; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 30 years of age
- United States citizen for nine years
- Inhabitant of Illinois at the time of the election
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ July 31 – August 7, 2020*

Term of office:

Six years
(United States Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)

Term begins:

Noon, January 3, 2021
(United States Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)

*Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-11](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for federal offices.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Not less than .5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of the party in the congressional district at the last presidential election. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(b)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the congressional district. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the congressional district. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: All candidates file with the Federal Election Commission, 1050 First Street NE, Washington D.C., 20463 (20002 for other delivery services outside U.S. Postal Service). If you have specific questions, you may call them at (800) 424-9530.

Note: Federal filing requirements are subject to change by the FEC. We advise that you contact the FEC for the latest information on filing requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS:

(United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 25 years of age
- United States citizen for seven years
- Inhabitant of Illinois at the time of the election
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Two years (United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2)

Term begins: Noon, January 3, 2021
(United States Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 2)

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| District | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 1,230 | 408 | 13,276 – 21,240 1,328-2,124 | 13,276 1,328 |
| 2 | 1,184 | 336 | 12,104 – 19,366 1,211-1,936 | 12,104 1,211 |
| 3 | 786 | 603 | 11,652 – 18,643 1,166-1,864 | 11,652 1,166 |
| 4 | 862 | 180 | 8,557 – 13,690 856-1,369 | 8,557 856 |
| 5 | 1,150 | 566 | 14,326 – 22,921 1,433-2,292 | 14,326 1,433 |
| 6 | 876 | 1,010 | 15,985 – 25,575 1,599-2,557 | 15,985 1,599 |
| 7 | 1,356 | 271 | 12,725 – 20,359 1,273-2,035 | 12,725 1,273 |
| 8 | 741 | 552 | 10,104 – 16,166 1,011-1,616 | 10,104 1,011 |
| 9 | 1,190 | 622 | 14,909 – 23,853 1,491-2,385 | 14,909 1,491 |
| 10 | 808 | 655 | 12,092 – 19,346 1,210-1,934 | 12,092 1,210 |
| 11 | 820 | 593 | 11,568 – 18,508 1,157-1,850 | 11,568 1,157 |
| 12 | 816 | 871 | 13,223 – 21,156 1,323-2,115 | 13,223 1,323 |
| 13 | 748 | 788 | 13,787 – 22,058 1,379-2,205 | 13,787 1,379 |
| 14 | 758 | 961 | 15,019 – 24,030 1,502-2,403 | 15,019 1,502 |
| 15 | 523 | 1,373 | 13,076 – 20,920 1,308-2,092 | 13,076 1,308 |
| 16 | 607 | 1,192 | 12,952 – 20,722 1,296-2,072 | 12,952 1,296 |
| 17 | 833 | 698 | 11,649 – 18,637 1,165-1,863 | 11,649 1,165 |
| 18 | 563 | 1,033 | 14,779 – 23,646 1,478-2,364 | 14,779 1,478 |

ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR

Districts: 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, 52, 55, 58 (10 ILCS 5/29C-5, 29C-10)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-12](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 1,000 but not more than 3,000 of the candidate's party in the senate district. (10 ILCS 5/8-8)

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

[Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(c)]

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for two years preceding the election
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Two years
(10 ILCS 5/29C-15)

Term begins: January 13, 2021 [Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 5(a)]

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

REDISTRICTING

In the General Election following redistricting, a candidate for the General Assembly may be elected from any district that contains a part of the district in which they resided at the time of redistricting and reelected if a resident of the new district they represent for 18 months prior to reelection. [Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(c)]

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| District | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|----------|---------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 2,926 – 4,680 293-468 | 2,926 293 |
| 4 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,107 – 8,170 511-817 | 5,107 511 |
| 7 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,983 – 7,972 499-797 | 4,983 499 |
| 10 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,637 – 7,417 464-741 | 4,637 464 |
| 13 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,871 – 7,793 488-779 | 4,871 488 |
| 16 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,370 – 6,991 437-699 | 4,370 437 |
| 19 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,549 – 8,877 555-887 | 5,549 555 |
| 22 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,290 – 5,262 329-526 | 3,290 329 |
| 25 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,189 – 8,302 519-830 | 5,189 519 |
| 28 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,653 – 7,444 466-744 | 4,653 466 |
| 31 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,611 – 7,377 462-737 | 4,611 462 |
| 34 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,077 – 6,522 408-652 | 4,077 408 |
| 37 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,576 – 8,920 558-892 | 5,576 558 |
| 40 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,760 – 7,615 476-761 | 4,760 476 |
| 43 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,079 – 6,525 408-652 | 4,079 408 |
| 46 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,337 – 6,937 434-693 | 4,337 434 |

| | | | |
|-----------|---------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 49 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 5,075 — 8,119 508-811 | 5,075 508 |
| 52 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,523 — 7,236 453-723 | 4,523 453 |
| 55 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,994 — 7,989 500-798 | 4,994 500 |
| 58 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 5,075 — 8,118 508-811 | 5,075 508 |

The offices below will not be on the 2020 election ballot unless a vacancy in office were to occur.

| District | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 2 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,068 — 4,908 307-490 | 3,068 307 |
| 3 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,793 — 6,068 380-606 | 3,793 380 |
| 5 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,816 — 6,105 382-610 | 3,816 382 |
| 6 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,332 — 8,530 534-853 | 5,332 534 |
| 8 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,496 — 5,592 350-559 | 3,496 350 |
| 9 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,244 — 8,389 525-838 | 5,244 525 |
| 11 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 2,435 — 3,894 244-389 | 2,435 244 |
| 12 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 2,416 — 3,865 242-386 | 2,416 242 |
| 14 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,037 — 6,459 404-645 | 4,037 404 |
| 15 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,546 — 5,672 355-567 | 3,546 355 |
| 17 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,016 — 6,425 402-642 | 4,016 402 |
| 18 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,346 — 6,952 435-695 | 4,346 435 |
| 20 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,212 — 5,138 322-513 | 3,212 322 |
| 21 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,001 — 8,001 501-800 | 5,001 501 |
| 23 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 3,658 — 5,852 366-585 | 3,658 366 |
| 24 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 5,172 — 8,274 518-827 | 5,172 518 |
| 26 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,987 — 7,977 499-797 | 4,987 499 |
| 27 | 1,000 – 3,000 | | 4,608 — 7,372 461-737 | 4,608 461 |

| | | | |
|----|---------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 29 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,125 – 6,599 413-659 | 4,125 413 |
| 30 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 2,916 – 4,664 292-466 | 2,916 292 |
| 32 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,135 – 6,614 414-661 | 4,135 414 |
| 33 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,674 – 7,477 468-747 | 4,674 468 |
| 35 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,066 – 6,504 407-650 | 4,066 407 |
| 36 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 3,855 – 6,166 386-617 | 3,855 386 |
| 38 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,101 – 6,561 411-656 | 4,101 411 |
| 39 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 3,319 – 5,309 332-530 | 3,319 332 |
| 41 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,960 – 7,934 496-793 | 4,960 496 |
| 42 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 2,599 – 4,158 260-415 | 2,599 260 |
| 44 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,408 – 7,051 441-705 | 4,408 441 |
| 45 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,056 – 6,489 406-648 | 4,056 406 |
| 47 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 3,719 – 5,949 372-594 | 3,719 372 |
| 48 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 3,764 – 6,022 377-602 | 3,764 377 |
| 50 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,736 – 7,576 474-757 | 4,736 474 |
| 51 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,572 – 7,313 458-731 | 4,572 458 |
| 53 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,098 – 6,556 410-655 | 4,098 410 |
| 54 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,328 – 6,924 433-692 | 4,328 433 |
| 56 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,199 – 6,717 420-671 | 4,199 420 |
| 57 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 3,822 – 6,115 383-611 | 3,822 383 |
| 59 | 1,000 – 3,000 | 4,218 – 6,748 422-674 | 4,218 422 |

ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-13](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 500 but not more than 1,500 qualified primary electors of the candidate's party in the representative district. (10 ILCS 5/8-8)

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

[Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(c)]

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for two years preceding the election
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

June 15 – June 22, 2020 **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Two years

Term begins: January 13, 2021 [Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 5(a)]

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

REDISTRICTING

In the General Election following redistricting, a candidate for the General Assembly may be elected from any district that contains a part of the district in which they resided at the time of redistricting and reelected if a resident of the new district they represent for 18 months prior to reelection. [Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(c)]

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| District | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|----------|-------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,018 – 1,628 102-162 | 1,018 102 |
| 2 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,228 – 1,963 123-196 | 1,228 123 |
| 3 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,213 – 1,939 122-193 | 1,213 122 |
| 4 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,856 – 2,968 186-296 | 1,856 186 |
| 5 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,176 – 3,480 218-348 | 2,176 218 |
| 6 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,618 – 2,588 162-258 | 1,618 162 |
| 7 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,199 – 3,517 220-351 | 2,199 220 |
| 8 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,923 – 3,075 193-307 | 1,923 193 |
| 9 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,888 – 3,020 189-302 | 1,888 189 |
| 10 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,928 – 3,084 193-308 | 1,928 193 |
| 11 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,572 – 4,114 258-411 | 2,572 258 |
| 12 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,761 – 4,416 277-441 | 2,761 277 |
| 13 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,280 – 3,646 228-364 | 2,280 228 |
| 14 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,119 – 3,389 212-338 | 2,119 212 |
| 15 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,854 – 2,965 186-296 | 1,854 186 |
| 16 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,642 – 2,627 165-262 | 1,642 165 |
| 17 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,549 – 4,077 255-407 | 2,549 255 |
| 18 | 500 – 1,500 | | 2,695 – 4,311 270-431 | 2,695 270 |
| 19 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,817 – 2,905 182-290 | 1,817 182 |
| 20 | 500 – 1,500 | | 1,920 – 3,071 192-307 | 1,920 192 |
| 21 | 500 – 1,500 | | 990 – 1,583 | 990 99 |

| | | | |
|----|-------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| | | 99-158 | |
| 22 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,445 – 2,310 145-231 | 1,445 145 |
| 23 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,247 – 1,993 125-199 | 1,247 125 |
| 24 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,170 – 1,871 117-187 | 1,170 117 |
| 25 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,880 – 3,007 188-300 | 1,880 188 |
| 26 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,188 – 3,499 219-349 | 2,188 219 |
| 27 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,189 – 3,502 219-350 | 2,189 219 |
| 28 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,849 – 2,956 185-295 | 1,849 185 |
| 29 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,967 – 3,146 197-314 | 1,967 197 |
| 30 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,579 – 2,526 158-252 | 1,579 158 |
| 31 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,860 – 2,975 186-297 | 1,860 186 |
| 32 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,441 – 2,305 145-230 | 1,441 145 |
| 33 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,953 – 3,123 196-312 | 1,953 196 |
| 34 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,064 – 3,301 207-330 | 2,064 207 |
| 35 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,307 – 3,691 231-369 | 2,307 231 |
| 36 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,039 – 3,261 204-326 | 2,039 204 |
| 37 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,389 – 3,822 239-382 | 2,389 239 |
| 38 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,179 – 3,486 218-348 | 2,179 218 |
| 39 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,577 – 2,522 158-252 | 1,577 158 |
| 40 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,636 – 2,616 164-261 | 1,636 164 |
| 41 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,424 – 3,878 243-387 | 2,424 243 |
| 42 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,577 – 4,123 258-412 | 2,577 258 |
| 43 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,055 – 1,686 106-168 | 1,055 106 |
| 44 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,407 – 2,251 141-225 | 1,407 141 |
| 45 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,044 – 3,270 205-327 | 2,044 205 |

| | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 46 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,614 – 2,582 162-258 | 1,614 162 |
| 47 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,629 – 4,205 263-420 | 2,629 263 |
| 48 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,543 – 4,068 255-406 | 2,543 255 |
| 49 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,095 – 3,350 210-335 | 2,095 210 |
| 50 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,401 – 3,840 241-384 | 2,401 241 |
| 51 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,624 – 4,198 263-419 | 2,624 263 |
| 52 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,363 – 3,779 237-377 | 2,363 237 |
| 53 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,320 – 3,712 232-371 | 2,320 232 |
| 54 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,288 – 3,660 229-366 | 2,288 229 |
| 55 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,882 – 3,010 189-301 | 1,882 189 |
| 56 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,844 – 2,949 185-294 | 1,844 185 |
| 57 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,729 – 2,765 173-276 | 1,729 173 |
| 58 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,397 – 3,833 240-383 | 2,397 240 |
| 59 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,828 – 2,923 183-292 | 1,828 183 |
| 60 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,088 – 1,740 109-174 | 1,088 109 |
| 61 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,970 – 3,151 197-315 | 1,970 197 |
| 62 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,762 – 2,818 177-281 | 1,762 177 |
| 63 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,928 – 3,084 193-308 | 1,928 193 |
| 64 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,391 – 3,825 240-382 | 2,391 240 |
| 65 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,594 – 4,149 260-414 | 2,594 260 |
| 66 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,081 – 3,328 209-332 | 2,081 209 |
| 67 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,139 – 1,822 114-182 | 1,139 114 |
| 68 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,071 – 3,313 208-331 | 2,071 208 |
| 69 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,069 – 3,309 207-330 | 2,069 207 |
| 70 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,997 – 3,194 200-319 | 1,997 200 |

| | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 71 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,053 – 3,284 206-328 | 2,053 206 |
| 72 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,802 – 2,882 181-288 | 1,802 181 |
| 73 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,315 – 3,702 232-370 | 2,315 232 |
| 74 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,235 – 3,574 224-357 | 2,235 224 |
| 75 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,138 – 3,420 214-342 | 2,138 214 |
| 76 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,964 – 3,140 197-314 | 1,964 197 |
| 77 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,119 – 1,789 112-178 | 1,119 112 |
| 78 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,200 – 3,519 220-351 | 2,200 220 |
| 79 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,780 – 2,846 178-284 | 1,780 178 |
| 80 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,015 – 3,222 202-322 | 2,015 202 |
| 81 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,510 – 4,015 251-401 | 2,510 251 |
| 82 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,450 – 3,918 245-391 | 2,450 245 |
| 83 | 500 – 1,500 | 990 – 1,583 99-158 | 990 99 |
| 84 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,610 – 2,574 161-257 | 1,610 161 |
| 85 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,667 – 2,666 167-266 | 1,667 167 |
| 86 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,526 – 2,441 153-244 | 1,526 153 |
| 87 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,146 – 3,432 215-343 | 2,146 215 |
| 88 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,320 – 3,711 232-371 | 2,320 232 |
| 89 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,094 – 3,349 210-334 | 2,094 210 |
| 90 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,963 – 3,139 197-313 | 1,963 197 |
| 91 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,816 – 2,905 182-290 | 1,816 182 |
| 92 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,599 – 2,558 160-255 | 1,599 160 |
| 93 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,746 – 2,792 175-279 | 1,746 175 |
| 94 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,973 – 3,156 198-315 | 1,973 198 |
| 95 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,091 – 3,344 210-334 | 2,091 210 |

| | | | |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 96 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,674 – 2,677 168-267 | 1,674 168 |
| 97 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,250 – 3,599 225-359 | 2,250 225 |
| 98 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,931 – 3,088 194-308 | 1,931 194 |
| 99 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,700 – 4,319 270-431 | 2,700 270 |
| 100 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,036 – 3,257 204-325 | 2,036 204 |
| 101 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,412 – 3,859 242-385 | 2,412 242 |
| 102 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,160 – 3,454 216-345 | 2,160 216 |
| 103 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,913 – 3,059 192-305 | 1,913 192 |
| 104 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,854 – 2,966 186-296 | 1,854 186 |
| 105 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,221 – 3,552 223-355 | 2,221 223 |
| 106 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,878 – 3,004 188-300 | 1,878 188 |
| 107 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,992 – 3,186 200-318 | 1,992 200 |
| 108 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,338 – 3,740 234-374 | 2,338 234 |
| 109 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,028 – 3,244 203-324 | 2,028 203 |
| 110 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,868 – 2,987 187-298 | 1,868 187 |
| 111 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,919 – 3,068 192-306 | 1,919 192 |
| 112 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,281 – 3,648 229-364 | 2,281 229 |
| 113 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,959 – 3,134 196-313 | 1,959 196 |
| 114 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,893 – 3,028 190-302 | 1,893 190 |
| 115 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,128 – 3,403 213-340 | 2,128 213 |
| 116 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,143 – 3,427 215-342 | 2,143 215 |
| 117 | 500 – 1,500 | 2,230 – 3,568 223-356 | 2,230 223 |
| 118 | 500 – 1,500 | 1,988 – 3,180 199-318 | 1,988 199 |

SUPREME COURT JUDGE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-14](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .4% (.004) of the number of votes cast in that district for the candidate for their political party for the office of Governor at the last General Election at which a Governor was elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(h)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019: Not more than 92 nor less than 85 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(General qualifications, Supreme Court, Rule 701; Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019:

December 16 – December 23, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

Term:

Term of office: 10 years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2020
[10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c)]

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| District | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|----------|----------|------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | 5,050 | 1,705 | 25,000-143,625 2,500-14,362 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 2 | 2,185 | 2,143 | 25,000-93,988 2,500-9,398 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 3 | 1,160 | 1,220 | 25,000-52,469 2,500-5,246 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 4 | 750 | 988 | 25,000-40,204 2,500-4,020 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 5 | 776 | 1,010 | 25,000-40,452 2,500-4,045 | 25,000 -2,500 |

APPELLATE COURT JUDGE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-15](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .4% (.004) of the number of votes cast in that district for the candidate for their political party for the office of Governor at the last General Election at which a Governor was elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(h)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019: Not more than 92 nor less than 85 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(General qualifications, Supreme Court, Rule 701; Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019:

December 16 – December 23, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: 10 years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2020
[10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c)]

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| District | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|----------|----------|------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | 5,050 | 1,705 | 25,000-143,625 2,500-14,362 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 2 | 2,185 | 2,143 | 25,000-93,988 2,500-9,398 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 3 | 1,160 | 1,220 | 25,000-52,469 2,500-5,246 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 4 | 750 | 988 | 25,000-40,204 2,500-4,020 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 5 | 776 | 1,010 | 25,000-40,452 2,500-4,045 | 25,000 -2,500 |

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Excluding Cook County

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party, Circuit Court ([SBE Form P-17](#)), Resident Circuit Court ([SBE Form P-18](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .25% (.0025) of the number of votes cast for the judicial candidate of their political party who received the highest number of votes at the last General Election at which a judicial officer from the same circuit was regularly scheduled to be elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(h)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the judicial unit in which such circuit voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election within the judicial unit in which such circuit voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019: Not more than 92 nor less than 85 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

QUALIFICATIONS:

(General qualifications, Supreme Court, Rule 701; Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019:

December 16 – December 23, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Six years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2020
[10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c)]

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| Circuit Court Judge | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|------------|---|--------------|
| Circuit | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
| 1 | 500 | 500 | 4,164-6,661 417-666 | 4,164-417 |
| 2 | 500 | 500 | 3,788-6,060 379-606 | 3,788-379 |
| 3 | 500 | 500 | 5,606-8,969 561-896 | 5,606-561 |
| 4 | 500 | 500 | 4,064-6,501 407-650 | 4,064-407 |
| 5 | 500 | 500 | 2,892-4,625 290-462 | 2,892-290 |
| 6 | 500 | 500 | 7,272-11,634 728-1,163 | 7,272-728 |
| 7 | 500 | 500 | 5,768-9,227 577-922 | 5,768-577 |
| 8 | 500 | 500 | 2,717-4,346 272-434 | 2,717-272 |
| 9 | 500 | 500 | 3,056-4,888 306-488 | 3,056-306 |
| 10 | 500 | 500 | 7,643-12,227 765-1,222 | 7,643-765 |
| 11 | 500 | 500 | 6,314-10,101 632-1,010 | 6,314-632 |
| 12 | 500 | 500 | 12,478-19,963 1,248-1,996 | 12,478-1,248 |
| 1 st Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,307-3,690 231-369 | 2,307-231 |
| 2 nd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,579-2,525 158-252 | 1,579-158 |
| 3 rd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,980-3,167 198-316 | 1,980-198 |
| 4 th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,980-3,167 198-316 | 1,980-198 |
| 5 th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,980-3,167 198-316 | 1,980-198 |
| 13 | 500 | 500 | 3,286-5,256 329-525 | 3,286-329 |
| 14 | 500 | 500 | 4,266-6,825 427-682 | 4,266-427 |
| 15 | 500 | 500 | 3,961-6,336 397-633 | 3,961-397 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|---|--------------------------------------|
| 16 | 500 | 500 | 8,602 — 13,762 861-1,376 | 8,602 - 861 |
| 1st Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,258 — 2,012 126-201 | 1,258 - 126 |
| 2nd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,600 — 2,558 160-255 | 1,600 - 160 |
| 3rd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,270 — 3,631 227-363 | 2,270 - 227 |
| 4th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,929 — 4,684 293-468 | 2,929 - 293 |
| 5th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,720 — 2,752 172-275 | 1,720 - 172 |
| 17 | 500 | 500 | 5,745 — 9,192 575-919 | 5,745 - 575 |
| 1st Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,436 — 2,298 144-229 | 1,436 - 144 |
| 2nd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,436 — 2,298 144-229 | 1,436 - 144 |
| 3rd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,056 — 3,289 206-328 | 2,056 - 206 |
| 4th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,436 — 2,298 144-229 | 1,436 - 144 |
| 18 | 500 | 500 | 18,497 — 29,595 1,850-2,959 | 18,497 - 1,850 |
| 19 | 500 | 500 | 12,699 — 20,318 1,270-2,031 | 12,699 - 1,270 |
| 1st Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,165 — 1,863 117-186 | 1,165 - 117 |
| 2nd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,949 — 3,117 195-311 | 1,949 - 195 |
| 3rd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,583 — 4,132 259-413 | 2,583 - 259 |
| 4th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,117 — 3,386 212-338 | 2,117 - 212 |
| 5th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,438 — 3,900 244-390 | 2,438 - 244 |
| 6th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 2,117 — 3,386 212-338 | 2,117 - 212 |
| 20 | 500 | 500 | 7,158 — 11,452 716-1,145 | 7,158 - 716 |
| 21 | 500 | 500 | 2,370 — 3,791 237-379 | 2,370 - 237 |
| 22 | 500 | 500 | 5,892 — 9,427 590-942 | 5,892 - 590 |
| 1st Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,632 — 2,610 164-261 | 1,632 - 164 |
| 2nd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,191 — 1,905 120-190 | 1,191 - 120 |
| 3rd Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,473 — 2,357 148-235 | 1,473 - 148 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|----------------------|
| 4th Subcircuit | 500 | 500 | 1,473-2,357 148-235 | 1,473-148 |
| 23 | 500 | 500 | 4,450-7,119 445-711 | 4,450-445 |
| Resident Circuit Court Judge | | | | |
| Circuit / County | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
| 1 | | | | |
| Alexander | 500 | 500 | 246-392 25-75 | 246-25 |
| Jackson | 500 | 500 | 1,032-1,650 104-165 | 1,032-104 |
| Johnson | 500 | 500 | 213-340 22-72 | 213-22 |
| Massac | 500 | 500 | 276-440 28-78 | 276-28 |
| Pope | 500 | 500 | 128-203 13-63 | 128-13 |
| Pulaski | 500 | 500 | 157-249 16-66 | 157-16 |
| Saline | 500 | 500 | 493-788 50-100 | 493-50 |
| Union | 500 | 500 | 448-716 45-95 | 448-45 |
| Williamson | 500 | 500 | 1,388-2,220 139-222 | 1,388-139 |
| 2 | | | | |
| Crawford | 500 | 500 | 360-574 36-86 | 360-36 |
| Edwards | 500 | 500 | 149-237 15-65 | 149-15 |
| Franklin | 500 | 500 | 708-1,131 71-121 | 708-71 |
| Gallatin | 500 | 500 | 168-267 17-67 | 168-17 |
| Hamilton | 500 | 500 | 220-351 22-72 | 220-22 |
| Hardin | 500 | 500 | 134-213 14-64 | 134-14 |
| Jefferson | 500 | 500 | 831-1,328 84-134 | 831-84 |
| Lawrence | 500 | 500 | 384-612 39-89 | 384-39 |
| Richland | 500 | 500 | 337-539 34-84 | 337-34 |
| Wabash | 500 | 500 | 199-318 20-70 | 199-20 |
| Wayne | 500 | 500 | 301-480 31-81 | 301-31 |

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|-------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| White | 500 | 500 | 358-571 36-86 | 358-36 |
| 3 | | | | |
| Bond | 500 | 500 | 337-537 34-84 | 337-34 |
| Madison | 500 | 500 | 5,270-8,431 527-843 | 5,270-527 |
| 4 | | | | |
| Christian | 500 | 500 | 591-945 60-110 | 591-60 |
| Clay | 500 | 500 | 339-541 34-84 | 339-34 |
| Clinton | 500 | 500 | 648-1,036 65-115 | 648-65 |
| Effingham | 500 | 500 | 642-1,026 65-115 | 642-65 |
| Fayette | 500 | 500 | 453-723 46-96 | 453-46 |
| Jasper | 500 | 500 | 207-330 21-71 | 207-21 |
| Marion | 500 | 500 | 906-1,449 91-144 | 906-91 |
| Montgomery | 500 | 500 | 446-712 45-95 | 446-45 |
| Shelby | 500 | 500 | 470-751 47-97 | 470-47 |
| 5 | | | | |
| Clark | 500 | 500 | 363-580 37-87 | 363-37 |
| Coles | 500 | 500 | 869-1,389 87-138 | 869-87 |
| Cumberland | 500 | 500 | 275-438 28-78 | 275-28 |
| Edgar | 500 | 500 | 425-679 43-93 | 425-43 |
| Vermilion | 500 | 500 | 1,101-1,761 111-176 | 1,101-111 |
| 6 | | | | |
| Champaign | 500 | 500 | 2,694-4,309 270-430 | 2,694-270 |
| DeWitt | 500 | 500 | 341-544 35-85 | 341-35 |
| Douglas | 500 | 500 | 306-488 31-81 | 306-31 |
| Macon | 500 | 500 | 1,690-2,703 169-270 | 1,690-169 |
| Moultrie | 500 | 500 | 262-417 27-77 | 262-27 |

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|------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Piatt | 500 | 500 | 359—574 36-86 | 359-36 |
| 7 | | | | |
| Greene | 500 | 500 | 335—535 34-84 | 335-34 |
| Jersey | 500 | 500 | 394—629 40-90 | 394-40 |
| Macoupin | 500 | 500 | 885—1415 89-141 | 885-89 |
| Morgan | 500 | 500 | 570—911 57-107 | 570-57 |
| Sangamon | 500 | 500 | 3,826—6,120 383-612 | 3,826-383 |
| Scott | 500 | 500 | 131—209 14-64 | 131-14 |
| 8 | | | | |
| Adams | 500 | 500 | 1,456—2,328 146-232 | 1,456-146 |
| Brown | 500 | 500 | 97—154 10-60 | 97-10 |
| Calhoun | 500 | 500 | 103—164 11-61 | 103-11 |
| Cass | 500 | 500 | 235—374 24-74 | 235-24 |
| Mason | 500 | 500 | 293—468 30-80 | 293-30 |
| Menard | 500 | 500 | 248—396 25-75 | 248-25 |
| Pike | 500 | 500 | 369—590 37-87 | 369-37 |
| Schuyler | 500 | 500 | 170—271 17-67 | 170-17 |
| 9 | | | | |
| Fulton | 500 | 500 | 637—1,018 64-114 | 637-64 |
| Hancock | 500 | 500 | 464—742 47-97 | 464-47 |
| Henderson | 500 | 500 | 169—269 17-67 | 169-17 |
| Knox | 500 | 500 | 891—1,424 90-142 | 891-90 |
| McDonough | 500 | 500 | 526—840 53-103 | 526-53 |
| Warren | 500 | 500 | 395—630 40-90 | 395-40 |
| 10 | | | | |
| Marshall | 500 | 500 | 257—409 26-76 | 257-26 |

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|---|--------------|
| Peoria | 500 | 500 | 3,974-6,357 398-635 | 3,974-398 |
| Putnam | 500 | 500 | 132-210 14-64 | 132-14 |
| Stark | 500 | 500 | 105-167 11-61 | 105-11 |
| Tazewell | 500 | 500 | 2,205-3,527 221-352 | 2,205-221 |
| 11 | | | | |
| Ford | 500 | 500 | 228-363 23-73 | 228-23 |
| Livingston | 500 | 500 | 611-976 62-112 | 611-62 |
| Logan | 500 | 500 | 539-861 54-104 | 539-54 |
| McLean | 500 | 500 | 3,404-5,446 341-544 | 3,404-341 |
| Woodford | 500 | 500 | 620-991 62-112 | 620-62 |
| 12 | | | | |
| Will | 500 | 500 | 12,478-19,963 1,248-1,996 | 12,478-1,248 |
| 13 | | | | |
| Bureau | 500 | 500 | 755-1,206 76-126 | 755-76 |
| Grundy | 500 | 500 | 686-1,097 69-119 | 686-69 |
| LaSalle | 500 | 500 | 2,388-3,819 239-381 | 2,388-239 |
| 14 | | | | |
| Henry | 500 | 500 | 899-1,437 90-143 | 899-90 |
| Mercer | 500 | 500 | 461-737 47-97 | 461-47 |
| Rock Island | 500 | 500 | 2,277-3,642 228-364 | 2,277-228 |
| Whiteside | 500 | 500 | 1,086-1,737 109-173 | 1,086-109 |
| 15 | | | | |
| Carroll | 500 | 500 | 308-492 31-81 | 308-31 |
| JoDaviess | 500 | 500 | 433-691 44-94 | 433-44 |
| Lee | 500 | 500 | 637-1,018 64-114 | 637-64 |
| Ogle | 500 | 500 | 864-1,382 87-138 | 864-87 |
| Stephenson | 500 | 500 | 1,091-1,744 | 1,091-110 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|---|--------------|
| | | | 110-174 | |
| 16 | | | | |
| Kane | 500 | 500 | 5,467-8,746 547-874 | 5,467-547 |
| 17 | | | | |
| Boone | 500 | 500 | 668-1,067 67-117 | 668-67 |
| Winnebago | 500 | 500 | 3,650-5,839 365-583 | 3,650-365 |
| 18 | | | | |
| DuPage | 500 | 500 | 13,664-21,861 1,367-2,186 | 13,664-1,367 |
| 19 | | | | |
| Lake | 500 | 503 | 13,831-22,128 1,384-2,212 | 13,831-1,384 |
| 20 | | | | |
| Monroe | 500 | 500 | 536-856 54-104 | 536-54 |
| Perry | 500 | 500 | 515-823 52-102 | 515-52 |
| Randolph | 500 | 500 | 603-964 61-111 | 603-61 |
| St. Clair | 500 | 500 | 4,990-7,983 499-798 | 4,990-499 |
| Washington | 500 | 500 | 376-601 38-88 | 376-38 |
| 21 | | | | |
| Iroquois | 500 | 500 | 650-1,039 65-115 | 650-65 |
| Kankakee | 500 | 500 | 1,794-2,870 180-287 | 1,794-180 |
| 22 | | | | |
| McHenry | 500 | 500 | 4,224-6,757 423-675 | 4,224-423 |
| 23 | | | | |
| DeKalb | 500 | 500 | 2,072-3,314 208-331 | 2,072-208 |
| Kendall | 500 | 500 | 2,379-3,805 238-380 | 2,379-238 |

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Cook County Only

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party, Circuit Court ([SBE Form P-16](#)), Subcircuits ([SBE Form P-16A](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .25% (.0025) of the number of votes cast for the judicial candidate of their political party who received the highest number of votes at the last General Election at which a judicial officer from the same circuit (or subcircuit) was regularly scheduled to be elected, but in no event fewer than 1,000 signatures. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(h)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the judicial unit in which such circuit or subcircuit voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election within the judicial unit in which such circuit or subcircuit voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019: Not more than 92 nor less than 85 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(General qualifications, Supreme Court, Rule 701; Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Vacancy occurring November 11 – December 2, 2019:

December 16 – December 23, 2019

Independent and New Party:

June 15 – June 22, 2020 ~~July 31 – August 7, 2020*~~

TERM:

Term of office: Six years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2020

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| Circuit | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------|--|--------------------------|
| Cook | 3,322 | 1,000 | 25,000 —143,625 2,500-14,362 | 25,000 -2,500 |
| 1 st Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 4,943 —7,907 495-790 | 4,943 -495 |
| 2 nd Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 4,981 —7,969 499-796 | 4,981 -499 |
| 3 rd Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 6,030 —9,646 603-964 | 6,030 -603 |
| 4 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 5,967 —9,546 597-954 | 5,967 -597 |
| 5 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 4,142 —6,627 415-662 | 4,142 -415 |
| 6 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 5,647 —9,035 565-903 | 5,647 -565 |
| 7 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 3,943 —6,308 395-630 | 3,943 -395 |
| 8 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 9,285 —14,855 929-1,485 | 9,285 -929 |
| 9 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 5,004 —8,005 501-800 | 5,004 -501 |
| 10 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 6,482 —10,369 649-1,036 | 6,482 -649 |
| 11 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 5,778 —9,244 578-924 | 5,778 -578 |
| 12 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 7,158 —11,452 716-1,145 | 7,158 -716 |
| 13 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 6,629 —10,606 663-1,060 | 6,629 -663 |
| 14 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 3,252 —5,202 326-520 | 3,252 -326 |
| 15 th Subcircuit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 7,654 —12,245 766-1,224 | 7,654 -766 |

INFORMATION FOR ALL JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

ELECTION AND VACANCIES

Judicial vacancies and newly created judicial offices are initially elected on a partisan basis. The State Board of Elections is provided with a certification from the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court delineating which vacancies will be filled by election in the year 2020. Interested citizens may contact the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts at (217) 782-7770 or the State Board of Elections to learn which judicial offices will be filled by election, as well as newly created vacancies. The judicial office being sought is the vacancy of the preceding **elected** judge, not the judge appointed to fill the vacancy until the next election. The nominating petitions and Statement of Candidacy must state the exact vacancy or the exact additional judgeship that the candidate is seeking.

Note: For an updated list of vacancies, please check our website. As soon as we receive an updated list it will be **immediately** posted to our site.

JUDICIAL RETENTION

Once elected to office, a judge may seek to retain that office at the expiration of the term by seeking retention on a special ballot separate from the regular ballot. No party affiliation is indicated on a retention ballot. Nominating petitions are not required to seek retention for another term. A Declaration of Judicial Candidacy to succeed oneself must be filed in the office of the Secretary of State on or before **Sunday, May 3, 2020**, not less than six months before the General Election preceding the expiration of their term of office.

[Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 12(d); 10 ILCS 5/7-12(1)]

JUDICIAL SUBCIRCUITS

It is the duty of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts to assign judgeships to the subcircuits as vacancies occur as well as additional judgeships created by legislation.

FILING FOR A CIRCUIT COURT SEAT AND/OR SUBCIRCUIT SEAT

Judicial candidates at the circuit court level are limited to filing a petition for one circuit court vacancy and/or a petition for one subcircuit vacancy in any filing period. For any individual circuit court judge candidate, **the State Board of Elections will accept only one petition for a circuit court vacancy and/or only one petition for a subcircuit vacancy in any filing period.** It is the responsibility of the candidate to withdraw any incompatible petitions. A new circuit court or subcircuit judgeship created by statute or by conversion of a resident judge position to a subcircuit position is a vacancy. A resident judge vacancy is a circuit court vacancy. [10 ILCS 5/7-12(9)]

For in person petition filings: SBE staff will accept from any candidate (or filing agent) only one petition for a full circuit judicial vacancy and only one petition for a subcircuit judicial vacancy in any filing period. The staff will refuse to accept any additional judicial petition filings at the circuit court level for that candidate. **It will remain the responsibility of the candidate to withdraw any incompatible petitions if multiple are filed.**

For mail or commercial carrier filings: SBE staff will accept and process only one petition for a full circuit judicial vacancy and only one petition for a subcircuit judicial vacancy in any filing period for any candidate. **It will remain the responsibility of the candidate to withdraw any incompatible petitions if multiple are filed.**

If multiple petitions are sent in a single envelope or package, and the candidate designates a particular petition as the chosen petition, the staff will accept that petition and return the rest of the petitions to the candidate. If the candidate does not designate a particular petition, the staff will accept the top petition in the pile when the petitions were removed from the envelope with the postage, postmarked and/or mailing label side of the envelope or package facing up, and return the rest of the petitions to the candidate.

If petitions are mailed in multiple envelopes, the first envelope processed will be the one accepted and all other petitions will be returned to the candidate.

WITHDRAWING PETITIONS

A withdrawal of a petition will be accepted, but no new petition for a different judicial vacancy will be accepted after a withdrawal. Withdrawal and filing of a new petition for the same vacancy will be permitted.

COUNTYWIDE OFFICERS

Circuit Clerk, Recorder, State's Attorney, Auditor, Coroner

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .5% (.005) of the vote cast for any candidate of the party who received the highest number of votes in the county at the last General Election. The highest vote getter could be any federal, state or county candidate. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(c)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater), signed by qualified voters of the county, of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election in the county. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of persons who voted at the last General Election in the county. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For specific signature calculations, contact your county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the County Clerk. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

[Illinois Supreme Court Rule 701; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

- 18 years of age – licensed attorneys must be 21 years old
- United States citizen
- Resident of the county for 30 days**
- Registered voter in county or county board district

**Candidates for State's Attorney do not have residency requirements, but must be citizens of the United States and a licensed attorney in Illinois.

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

June 15 – June 22, 2020 **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Four years and until a successor is elected and qualified.

Term begins: December 1, 2020

County Auditor (55 ILCS 5/3-1001)
Circuit Clerk (705 ILCS 105/1.1)
Coroner (55 ILCS 5/3-3002)
Recorder of Deeds (55 ILCS 5/3-5004)
State's Attorney (55 ILCS 5/3-9002)

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

COUNTY OFFICERS BY DISTRICT

County Commissioners, County Board Members, County Board of Review Members (excluding Cook County Board of Review Commissioners)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Established Party county board by district ([SBE Form P-26](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party, at-large ([SBE Form P-8](#)); New Party, at-large and by district ([SBE Form P-8B](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .5% (.005) of the number of primary electors of the candidate's party in the district who cast votes at the last General Election. The highest vote getter could be any federal, state or county candidate. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(c)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for that office. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of persons who voted the last time the district elected a member. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For specific signature calculations, contact your county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the County Clerk. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 55 ILCS 5/2-3015)

- 18 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election
- Registered voter in county or county board district

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Two or Four year term (contact the County Clerk's office for further information)

County Commissioner & County Board of Review Member: Six years and until a successor is elected and qualified**

Term begins: December 7, 2020**

**Exception: Cook County term is four years

County Board Member
(55 ILCS 5/2-3009)

Commissioner (55 ILCS 5/2-3009)

**Elected Board of Review members: 10 Days after the canvass of the vote is

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW COMMISSIONERS

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the Cook County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: The number of signatures equal to .5% (.005) of the total number of registered voters in the candidate's Board of Review district in the last General Election at which a commissioner was regularly scheduled to be elected from that Board of Review district. In no event shall the number of signatures required be greater than the requisite number for a candidate who seeks countywide office in Cook County (.5% of the qualified electors of the candidate's party who cast votes at the last General Election). [10 ILCS 5/7-10(d)(3)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For specific signature calculations, contact the Cook County Clerk.

QUALIFICATIONS:

[35 ILCS 200/5-5(a)(c)]

- 18 years of age
- Elector of the county
- Resident of the election district for at least two years before the date of the election**
- Holds no other lucrative public office or public employment

**An incumbent must be a resident for 18 months prior to reelection if they are a resident of a new district which contains a part of their former district in which they resided at the time of redistricting.

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four year term [35 ILCS 200/5-5(c)] (Contact the Cook County Clerk's office for further information)

Term begins: December 7, 2020

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the office of the Cook County Clerk.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (VACANCIES)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Established Party, multi-county school superintendent ([SBE Form P-20](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period. Multi-county Regional Superintendent Candidates file with the county clerk in the county where the principal office of the region is located.

Certification of qualifications: Filed with nomination papers. Form from the State Board of Education, certifying such candidate has the qualifications required by section 105 ILCS 5/3-1. Incumbents shall not be required to file such certificate.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .5% (.005) of the vote cast for any candidate of the party who received the highest number of votes in the county at the last General Election. The candidate with the highest vote could be any federal, state or county candidate. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(c)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater), signed by qualified voters of the county, of the total number of persons who voted at the last General Election in the county or county board district (for county board district, the last time the district elected a member). (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of persons who voted at the last General Election in the county or for a county board district, the last time the district elected a member. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For signature calculations in single county regions, contact your county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the County Clerk for **single county** regions. Candidates in a **multi-county** region will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(105 ILCS 5/3-1)

- Master's degree
- Specific education requirements listed in 105 ILCS 5/3-1

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Four years and until a successor is elected and qualified

Term begins: July 1, 2021

(105 ILCS 5/3-1)

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| Region | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|-------------------------|----------|------------|--|------------------------|
| Mason/Tazewell/Woodford | 195 | 307 | 3,706 - 5,928 371-592 | 3,706 - 371 |

SANITARY DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Prairie DuPont Levee and Sanitary District

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of government is located. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least the number of signatures equal to .5% (.005) of the primary electors of the candidate's party of that sanitary district or ward thereof. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(g)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election for Commissioners of the sanitary district. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election for Commissioners of the sanitary district. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704-4503, either by mail or in person.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(70 ILCS 2205/5)

- Registered voter
- Resident of that portion of the district in the county from which the candidate wishes to seek office

Note: Three trustees are to be elected from the territory of the district in the county having the greater assessed valuation of the district and two trustees shall be elected from the territory of the district in the county having the lesser-assessed valuation of the district. All five may be elected at-large if the equalized assessed valuation of the district is less than \$100,000,000. (70 ILCS 2205/5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Four years
(70 ILCS 2205/5)

Term begins: Until successors are elected and qualified (70 ILCS 2205/5)

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

| County(ies) | Democrat | Republican | Independent | New Party |
|------------------|----------|------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Monroe/St. Clair | 7 | 7 | 99-157 10-60 | 99-10 |

SANITARY DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the Cook County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .5% (.005) of the total vote cast for that party's candidate who received the highest number of votes in the district at the last regular election for Commissioners of such sanitary district. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(g)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election for Commissioners of the sanitary district. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election for Commissioners of the sanitary district. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For signature calculations, contact the Cook County Clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the office of the Cook County Clerk. [10 ILCS 5/7-12(2)]

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and signature requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(70 ILCS 2605/3)

- Resident of the sanitary district
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

June 15 – June 22, 2020 ~~July 31 – August 7, 2020*~~

TERM:

Term of office: Six years and until their successors shall be elected and qualified (70 ILCS 2605/3)

Note: Three commissioners (of a nine member board) are to be elected for six year terms. (70 ILCS 2605/3, 3.2)

Term begins: December 8, 2020
(70 ILCS 2605/3)

SANITARY DISTRICT TRUSTEES

North Shore Sanitary District

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the Lake County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: If a candidate seeks to run for trustee of a sanitary district in which trustees are elected from wards, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to .5% (.005) of the primary electors of the candidate's party in the ward of that sanitary district. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(g)]

***Independent:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such sanitary district ward for the election of officers. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

***New Party:** Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such sanitary district ward for the election of officers. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For signature calculations, contact the Cook County Clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the office of the Cook County Clerk. [10 ILCS 5/7-12(2)]

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and signature requirements for New Party and Independent candidates.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(70 ILCS 2305/3)

- Resident of the sanitary district
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

Independent and New Party:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31 – August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Either two or four year terms. (70 ILCS 2305/3)

Note: Contact the district in Waukegan for the specific wards electing trustees and the term of office.

Term begins: December 9, 2020
(70 ILCS 2305/3)

SANITARY DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Sanitary District Act of 1936

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-4](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

***Nonpartisan:** Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such district for the election of officers. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, 25,000 is the minimum number of signatures required.

(70 ILCS 2805/3.2; 10 ILCS 5/10-3, 10-3.1)

For signature calculations, contact your county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

***Nonpartisan:** Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the office of the county clerk.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

***Please review Addendum A for updated filing periods and requirements for New Party and Independent candidates applicable to the 2020 filing period only. Nonpartisan Sanitary District Act of 1936 candidates shall be treated as Independent candidates under Addendum A.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(70 ILCS 2805/3)

- Resident of the sanitary district
- Registered voter

FILING PERIODS:

Nonpartisan:

~~June 15 – June 22, 2020~~ **July 31-August 7, 2020***

TERM:

Term of office: Four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. (70 ILCS 2805/3.2)

Note: Contact the district for the number of trustees to be elected. For those districts that have chosen by referendum to elect trustees, three trustees are to be elected for four year terms. (70 ILCS 2805/3.1, 3.2)

Term begins: December 7, 2020
(70 ILCS 2850/3.2)

BOARD MEMBER – BOARD OF EDUCATION

City of Peoria Only under 105 ILCS 5/33

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: District ([SBE Form P-7A](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nonpartisan: At least 200 qualified voters of the district.
(105 ILCS 5/33-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Nonpartisan: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary in even numbered years.
(10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the office of the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

(105 ILCS 5/33-2)

- 18 years old
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for at least one year immediately preceding the election
- Not be a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012

FILING PERIODS:

Nonpartisan:

October 28 – November 4, 2019

TERM:

Term of office: Five year terms
(105 ILCS 5/33-1)

By referendum, may change to four year terms. (105 ILCS 5/33-1A)

Term begins: July 1, 2021
(105 ILCS 5/33-1)

WARD & PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party, Ward Committeeperson ([SBE Form P-10](#)), Precinct Committeeperson ([SBE Form P-27](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for party offices.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Ward Committeeperson – not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater*) of the primary electors of the candidate’s party in the ward.

Signature requirements may be obtained from the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners (312/ 269-7900). Precinct Committeeperson – a minimum of 10 primary electors of the candidate’s party in their precinct. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(i)]

For signature calculations for Ward Committeeperson, contact the Cook County Clerk. For signature calculations for Precinct Committeeperson, contact your specific county clerk.

*Although the express language of Section 7-10(i)m which applies in this instance, requires not less than 10% nor more than 16% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the primary electors of the candidate’s party in the ward, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit held in *Giersten v. Board of Election Commissioners for City of Chicago*, 791 F. 2d 472 (7th Cir., 1986), that a signature requirement in excess of 5% is unconstitutional and thus unenforceable. Thus, 5% of the primary electors of the candidate’s party in the ward is the minimum number of signatures required for ward committeeperson petitions.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the General Primary. [10 ILCS 5/7-12(5)]

All candidates for Ward Committeeperson will file with the office of the Cook County Clerk. All candidates for Precinct Committeeperson will file with the office of the county clerk. [10 ILCS 5/7-12(5)]

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 100 West Randolph St., Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

[10 ILCS 5/7-8(b)]

- United States citizen
- Registered voter
- Resident of that ward or precinct from which that candidate wishes to seek office

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

November 25 – December 2, 2019

TERM:

Term of office:

Ward Committeeperson: Four years

Precinct Committeeperson: Two years

[10 ILCS 5/7-8(b)]

Term begins: Date of completion of canvass and proclamation.

(10 ILCS 5/7-58)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SIGNING PETITIONS

Can a registered voter sign petitions for candidates of more than one political party for the same Primary Election?

No. A “qualified primary elector” of a party may not sign petitions for or be a candidate in the primary of more than one party. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

May a voter who voted Republican in the last Primary Election now sign a petition for a Democratic candidate?

Yes; however, no one may sign petitions for candidates of more than one political party for the same Primary Election. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51, 94 S. Ct. 303 (1973); *Sperling v. county Officers Electoral Board*, 57 Ill. 2d 81, 309 N.E. 2d 589 (1974).

Can a voter sign an established party petition, and a new party and/or independent petition?

Yes, a voter may sign an established party candidate’s petition prior to a General Primary Election and subsequent to that election, sign a petition of an Independent or new political party candidate prior to a General Election. The voter may not, however, sign a petition of more than one Independent or new political party candidate’s petition for the same office. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-3)

Can a voter sign more than one established party candidate’s petition?

Yes, a signer can sign petitions for as many candidates of the same established political party as they want, but they cannot sign petitions for different established parties in the same election.

How should the voter sign their name when they sign the petition?

The voter should sign the petition with the same name that they are registered to vote with; however, signing with a nickname will not invalidate the signature, provided the voter can be identified and it can be shown that the voter is lawfully registered to vote and qualified to sign the petition.

Are pencil signatures allowed?

Yes, but it is advisable to use a pen with dark ink.

Are abbreviations allowed on petitions?

Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the voter’s address, including the street number.

Can ditto marks be used on the petitions?

Though ditto marks are not specifically prohibited, it is suggested they be avoided. The use of ditto marks could be objected to and the outcome of an objection cannot be predicted. A circulator can, however, fill in any missing information, except a voter’s signature.

CIRCULATING PETITIONS

May a candidate circulate their own petitions?

Yes.

When can the circulator start collecting signatures?

No more than 90 days prior to the last day for filing petitions. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

If a candidate finds something wrong with their petitions after they are filed, can a new set of petitions be circulated and filed before the end of the filing period?

Yes, but the candidate must cancel the original set of petitions in writing. If the candidate fails to cancel the original set of petitions, then only the original petitions shall be considered filed and all subsequent petitions shall be void. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(11), 10-6.2)

May a circulator circulate petitions for an independent candidate and an established party candidate in the same election?

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

May a circulator sign as a voter on the petition they are circulating?

Yes, as long as the circulator is a registered voter in the applicable political subdivision or district.

May a circulator circulate petitions for an established party candidate and a new party candidate in the same election?

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

Is the circulator required to be a registered voter?

No, but they must be a United States citizen and be 18 years of age, or 17 years of age by the immediately following general or consolidated election. (10 ILCS 5/3-6) They must also include their current address on the circulator's affidavit.

Can a petition sheet be circulated by more than one individual?

No. Only the person who signs the page as circulator can circulate that sheet. By signing as a circulator, the circulator is attesting that all signers signed in their presence. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

Who can remove a signature from a nominating petition?

Only the circulator or the candidate on whose behalf the petition was circulated may strike a signature; however, an individual can submit a written request to the proper filing office to have their name removed from the petition before the petition is filed. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-3)

FILING PETITIONS

May a candidate file in person or by mail?

Yes, however, if the candidate wishes to be in the lottery for the first ballot position it is advisable to file in person as only candidates whose petitions are received in the first mail delivery on the first day of filing are eligible for the lottery. Candidates should mail by United States Postal Service when mailing to the Illinois State Board of Elections.

May a petition contain the names of two or more candidates of the same established party?

Yes. An established party may file a slate of candidates for offices to be filled within the State, county, or district (e.g. Judicial). However, each candidate of the slate must individually file a Statement of Candidacy and a receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests. The Statement of Candidacy and the receipt for each candidate must be attached to the original slate petition.

If you are first in line or your petition is in the first mail delivery of the day, will you be first on the ballot?

Not necessarily. If there are two or more candidates in line prior to the opening of the office filing from the same party and for the same office, they would be considered as filing simultaneously along with any petition in the first mail delivery, and will be involved in a lottery to determine ballot position. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(2), 10-6.2)

Note: Candidates who file petitions during the last hour of filing (between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM) on the last day to file petitions are also eligible for a lottery to determine the final ballot position. (Illinois Administrative Rules, Title 26, Section 201.40)

Must the notary of the petition be an Illinois notary and may the notary also be a signatory of the petition?

Under the provisions of the Uniform Recognition of Acknowledgements Act (765 ILCS 30/2): "Notarial acts may be performed outside this State for use in this State with the same effect as if performed by a notary public of this State by the following persons authorized pursuant to the laws and regulations of other governments in addition to any other person authorized by the laws and regulations of this State..." "(1) a notary public authorized to perform notarial acts in the place in which the act is performed..."

It has not been definitively determined whether a notary may also be a signatory to a petition. Some electoral boards and circuit courts have upheld petitions where the notary was also a signer of the petition, but the issue has not yet been decided by the Supreme Court or any appellate court in Illinois. A cautious candidate might wish to avoid using a petition signer as the notary so as to avoid the risk of having to defend against an objection on this issue.

For additional information contact the Index Department of the Secretary of State's office, 111 E. Monroe, Springfield, IL 62756-0001, (217) 782-7017.

Is a lottery conducted for party placement on the ballot?

For the General Election a lottery is conducted by each election authority for all established parties to determine the proper order of party placement on the ballot. This lottery is held within 30 days following the proclamation of the results of the Primary Election. New parties are involved in a lottery when there is a simultaneous filing with the State Board of Elections or the county clerk. The State Board of Elections conducts the lottery for new parties that file in the Springfield office and the election authorities must use such order. No party lottery is done for the Primary Election since each party has its own ballot, separate from any other established party.

In filing a petition to fill a vacancy in the office of circuit judge, must the petition contain the vacancy for which the candidate is filing?

Yes. For example, "To fill the vacancy of the Honorable John Jones." The vacancy is for the preceding elected judge, not the interim appointee.

Are judges running for retention required to file petitions?

No. Judges running for retention are required to file a Declaration of Candidacy for Retention with the Secretary of State on or before Sunday, May 3, 2020, preceding the expiration of their term of office.

[Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 12(d)]

Does a candidate have to file their own nomination papers?

No. The candidate or an agent of the candidate can file the candidate's petitions.

May a candidate file for more than one office?

Yes, however, the candidate must withdraw from all but one office within five business days following the last day of petition filing if the offices are incompatible. The withdrawal notice must be in writing and notarized. If the candidate does not withdraw, their name will not be certified for any office. Judicial candidates at the circuit court level are limited to filing a single petition for one circuit court vacancy and/or a single petition for one subcircuit vacancy in any filing period. [10 ILCS 5/7-12(9)]

When may petitions be mailed?

There are no statutory requirements regarding a time element for mailing petitions; however, all petitions must be received during the filing period. All petitions received in the office prior to the opening of the office on the first day of the filing period or after the close of the office on the last day of the filing period will be returned to the sender.

(10 ILCS 5/7-12.6, 8-9, 10-6.2)

May a petition that has been filed be changed?

No. A petition once filed may not be added to or altered; however, the receipt(s) for filing Statements of Economic Interests may be filed at any time during the filing period.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12)

When a candidate withdraws their nominating petitions, are the petitions returned to the candidate?

No. The original documents are not returned, but remain in the office where they were filed. They must remain in the office for a period of at least six months. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

When are petitions open to the public?

Upon their filing with the proper office. As a practical matter, there will be some delay in availability while the State Board of Elections or the election authority processes each petition. All certificates of nomination and nomination papers when presented or filed shall be open (under proper regulation) to public inspection and the State Board of Elections, election authorities, and local election officials having charge of nomination papers shall preserve the same in their respective offices not less than six months. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

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ADDENDUM A

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS, |) | |
| et al., |) | Case No. 20-cv-2112 |
| |) | |
| Plaintiffs, |) | Hon. Charles R. Norgle, Sr., |
| |) | Presiding Judge |
| and KYLE KOPITKE, |) | |
| |) | |
| Intervenor, |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | |
| |) | |
| J.B. PRITZKER, et al., |) | |
| |) | Hon. Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, |
| Defendants. |) | Emergency Judge |

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Plaintiffs are the Libertarian Party of Illinois; the Illinois Green Party; and several Illinois registered voters who wish to vote for those parties' candidates in the November 2020 election, to run for state or federal office in the November 2020 election on behalf of those parties or as independents, and/or to gather signatures to ensure that their candidates of choice appear on the ballot for the November 2020 election.¹ On April 2, 2020, Plaintiffs filed this lawsuit against Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker and others, seeking to enjoin or modify "Illinois' in-person signature collection and witnessing requirements for independent and third-party candidates in Illinois seeking to qualify for the November 3, 2020 election," in light of the "public health emergency

¹ The registered-voter Plaintiffs are David F. Black, whom the Illinois Green Party has nominated as its candidate for United States Senate; Sheldon Schafer, who is a Co-Chair of the Illinois Green Party and has full authority to act for and on behalf of it in this lawsuit; Richard Whitney, who is likewise a Co-Chair of the Illinois Green Party and has full authority to act for and on behalf of it in this lawsuit; Bennett W. Morris, who is the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Illinois and has full authority to act for and on behalf of it in this lawsuit, and whom the Libertarian Party of Illinois has nominated as its candidate for the United States House of Representatives, District 5; William Redpath, whom the Libertarian Party of Illinois has nominated as its candidate for the United States House of Representatives, District 6; Marcus Throneburg, who is an independent candidate seeking election to the Illinois State Senate, District 37; and David Gill, who is an independent candidate seeking election to the United States House of Representatives in Illinois' District 18.

caused by the novel coronavirus [COVID-19] and the Governor’s emergency orders effectively shutting down the State.” (Compl. [2] ¶ 1; see also Am. Compl. [17] ¶ 1.) The matter was assigned to the Honorable Charles R. Norgle, but because Plaintiffs have requested emergency relief, it is before this court for this motion only. On April 17, 2020, the court granted Kyle K. Kopitke’s motion for leave to intervene.² After a round of briefing and several hearings, the court is entering a preliminary injunction order, granting Plaintiffs’ motion in part and accepting Defendants’ proposed alternative resolution in part.

BACKGROUND

“Illinois classifies general-election candidates into three groups: those affiliated with an ‘established’ political party, those affiliated with a ‘new’ political party, and those running as independents.” *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. Scholz*, 872 F.3d 518, 521 (7th Cir. 2017). An “established” political party is one whose candidates have received a certain threshold of votes in recent elections. See 10 ILCS 5/10-2. Established political parties face lower requirements for getting their candidates to appear on the ballot—especially when it comes to the collection of voter signatures. (See, e.g., State of Illinois 2020 Candidates Guide, Ex. B to Defs.’ Resp. to Emergency Mot., [16-2] at 25–27 (noting new party and independent candidates for state senator require substantially fewer signatures than established party candidates).) To appear on the ballot for statewide office, new party and independent candidates must collect signatures from the lesser of 25,000 voters or 1 percent of the votes cast in the most recent statewide election. 10 ILCS 5/10-2. And to appear on the ballot for a political subdivision within the state, like a legislative district, the number of signatures required is 5 percent of the voters who voted for the last election for that office. *Id.* For example, a new party candidate for the U.S. Senate would need 25,000 signatures, while a Democrat or Republican would need only 5,000 to 10,000. (State

² Kopitke is a “native of Illinois and a current Michigan resident” who wishes to run as an independent for United States President in the 2020 election. (Emergency Am. Mot. to Intervene [7] ¶ 6.)

of Illinois 2020 Candidates Guide [16-2] at 22.) State law regulates how these signatures must be collected, as well. Specifically, all signatures have to be “wet” signatures (*i.e.*, physical signatures as opposed to electronic signatures), signed by a voter in person, and notarized. See 10 ILCS 5/10-4.

These signature requirements present an obvious obstacle for candidates like Plaintiffs Libertarian Party of Illinois and Illinois Green Party as well as for independent candidates like Intervenor Kyle Kopitke, but the regulatory scheme has been repeatedly upheld by federal courts. See *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. Rednour*, 108 F.3d 768, 774 (7th Cir. 1997) (“The Supreme Court has long permitted states to impose various restrictions limiting a candidate’s access to the ballot.”); *Nader v. Keith*, No. 04 C 4913, 2004 WL 1880011, at *6–8 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 23, 2004), *aff’d*, 385 F.3d 729 (7th Cir. 2004) (denying challenge to Illinois’ petition and signature requirements). Courts have reasoned that while these laws potentially impose some burden on candidates’ speech and association rights, the state has an “important interest of ensuring that a political party that is new in a particular political subdivision demonstrates a modicum of public support before it can place its candidates on an election ballot.” *Libertarian Party*, 108 F.3d at 775. And the in-person signature and notarization requirements have been upheld as well because such rules have been determined to serve the “legitimate need” of rooting out fraud. See *Tripp v. Smart*, No. 14-CV-0890-MJR-PMF, 2016 WL 4379876, at *7 (S.D. Ill. Aug. 17, 2016) (noting that Illinois has a history of “roundtabling” and “other types of circulator fraud”), *aff’d sub nom. Tripp v. Scholz*, 872 F.3d 857 (7th Cir. 2017).

However challenging it may be in general to satisfy the statutory signature and notarization requirement, Plaintiffs and Intervenor argue that under current circumstances, those requirements impose a burden that effectively violates their rights. Illinois today confronts a public health emergency resulting from the spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. Beginning in mid-March, the Governor of Illinois, J.B. Pritzker, issued a series of executive orders limiting public gathering and culminating in a shelter-at-home order on March 20, which requires all individuals

to stay at home except for persons engaged in certain “essential” activities. (Am. Compl. [17] ¶¶ 48–53.) Most public establishments have been closed, and public events have been cancelled as well. Practically all public gatherings of any size have been banned. (*Id.* ¶ 53 (citing COVID-19 Executive Order No. 8).) The stay-at-home order will remain in place until at least April 30, but, as Plaintiffs note, there is great uncertainty about how long it might remain in place. (*Id.* ¶ 57–58.) The court takes notice that a further extension of many restrictions on personal contacts is all but certain. See <http://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/ct-coronavirus-illinois-stay-at-home-extension-20200423-cqp6wzjj5ng7rgrfpg64ijgoua-story.html> (last visited April 23, 2020).

Despite this disruption and rapid spread of a contagious and dangerous respiratory illness, new party and independent candidates like Plaintiffs and Intervenor are, under current law, still required to obtain thousands of wet signatures and to file their completed petitions by June 22, 2020—when the state *could* still be subject to a stay-at-home order. See 10 ILCS 5/10-4. In essence, they must choose between complying with the governor’s emergency orders intended to prevent the spread of the coronavirus or engaging in the outreach needed to receive signatures to appear on the ballot. They have therefore brought this challenge to enjoin the state from enforcing certain of these requirements in light of COVID-19.

DISCUSSION

Plaintiffs allege that under the extraordinary circumstances unleashed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the signature requirements at issue violate their First Amendment rights, as well as their rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Although there is no fundamental right to seek elected office, the Supreme Court has recognized that ballot access laws like the ones at issue here “place burdens on two different, although overlapping, kinds of rights—the right of individuals to associate for the advancement of political beliefs, and the right of qualified voters, regardless of their political persuasion, to cast their votes effectively.” *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23, 30 (1968); see also, e.g., *Munro v. Socialist Workers Party*, 479 U.S. 189, 193 (1986) (similar); *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780, 786 (1983) (stating that

the “primary concern” with ballot access restrictions is their “tendency . . . ‘to limit the field of candidates from which voters might choose’” (quoting *Bullock v. Carter*, 405 U.S. 134, 143 (1972)). “Both of these rights . . . rank among our most precious freedoms.” *Rhodes*, 393 U.S. at 30. They are “not absolute,” however. *Munro*, 479 U.S. at 193. States have an important interest in regulating elections, including an interest in “avoiding confusion, deception, and even frustration of the democratic process at the general election.” *Id.* at 194 (quoting *Jenness v. Fortson*, 403 U.S. 431, 442 (1971)); see also *Navarro v. Neal*, 716 F.3d 425, 431 (7th Cir. 2013) (recognizing that “ballot access laws serve the important, interrelated goals of preventing voter confusion, blocking frivolous candidates from the ballot, and otherwise protecting the integrity of elections”). Thus, as referenced above, it is well-settled that States may require candidates to make “some preliminary showing of a significant modicum of support before printing the name of a political organization’s candidate on the ballot.” *Jenness*, 403 U.S. at 442; see also, e.g., *Munro*, 479 U.S. at 193–4; *Libertarian Party*, 108 F.3d at 775.

In determining whether a ballot access restriction survives constitutional scrutiny, courts apply the framework articulated in *Anderson*, 460 U.S. 780, and *Burdick v. Takushi*, 504 U.S. 428 (1992). The *Anderson-Burdick* framework directs courts to “make a practical assessment of the challenged scheme’s justifications and effects.” *Stone v. Bd. of Election Comm’rs for City of Chicago*, 750 F.3d 678, 681 (7th Cir. 2014). First, a court must “consider the character and magnitude of the asserted injury to the rights protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments that the plaintiff seeks to vindicate.” *Anderson*, 460 U.S. at 789. Then, a court “must identify and evaluate the precise interests put forward by the State as justifications for the burden imposed by its rule.” *Id.* A court “must not only determine the legitimacy and strength of each of those interests; it also must consider the extent to which those interests make it necessary to burden the plaintiff’s rights.” *Id.* The Seventh Circuit has stated that, “[p]ractically speaking, much of the action takes place at the first stage of [this] balancing inquiry.” *Stone*, 750 F.3d at 681. “If the burden on the plaintiffs’ constitutional rights is ‘severe,’ a state’s regulation must be narrowly

drawn to advance a compelling state interest.” *Id.* (quoting *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434). By contrast, “[i]f the burden is merely ‘reasonable’ and ‘nondiscriminatory’ . . . the government’s legitimate regulatory interests will carry the day.” *Stone*, 750 F.3d at 681 (quoting *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434); see also *Lee v. Keith*, 463 F.3d 763, 768 (7th Cir. 2006) (“Ballot access restrictions are evaluated under a flexible standard that weighs the ‘character and magnitude of the asserted injury to the [protected rights] that the plaintiff seeks to vindicate’ against ‘the precise interests put forward by the State’” (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434)).

The Seventh Circuit has “warned . . . against federal judicial micromanagement of state regulation of elections.” *Stevo v. Keith*, 546 F.3d 405, 409 (7th Cir. 2008) (citing *Crawford v. Marion Cnty. Election Bd.*, 472 F.3d 949, 954 (7th Cir. 2007)). But it has also made clear that a district court has broad equitable authority to fashion appropriate relief when an election procedure violates the Constitution:

[T]he district court has the power to order the state to take steps to bring its election procedures into compliance with rights guaranteed by the federal Constitution, even if the order requires the state to disregard provisions of state law that otherwise might ordinarily apply to cause delay or prevent action entirely. . . . To the extent that Illinois law makes compliance with a provision of the federal Constitution difficult or impossible, it is Illinois law that must yield.

Judge v. Quinn, 624 F.3d 352, 355–56 (7th Cir. 2010) (quoting *Judge v. Quinn*, 387 F. App’x 629, 630 (7th Cir. 2010)). Defendants emphasize that the Seventh Circuit, on several occasions, has determined that minimum signature requirements for ballot access under the Illinois Election Code are constitutional. See, e.g., *Tripp*, 872 F.3d at 859, 871–72 (law mandating “new” political party candidates for state representative to meet a 5% signature requirement, collect the signatures in a 90-day timeframe, and have each signature notarized, did not violate the First or Fourteenth Amendments); *Nader*, 385 F.3d at 731 (law requiring independent candidate to, among other things, “obtain nominating petitions signed by at least 25,000 qualified voters” and submit the petitions to the state board of elections “at least 134 days before the election” did not violate the First or Fourteenth Amendments); Defs.’ Resp. to Emergency Mot. [15] at 2 (citing same).

As the court has noted, however, this lawsuit does not challenge the constitutionality of the ballot access restrictions in a vacuum. Rather, Plaintiffs have requested emergency injunctive relief on the ground that the extraordinary circumstances arising from COVID-19, combined with the ballot access restrictions, violate their First and Fourteenth Amendment rights. If the court were to side with Plaintiffs on that score, it would have the power to enjoin the unconstitutional restrictions and order appropriate relief. See, e.g., *Judge*, 624 F.3d at 355–56; *Jones v. McGuffage*, 921 F. Supp. 2d 888, 892, 902 (N.D. Ill. 2013) (enjoining the State of Illinois from requiring “new” party and independent candidates to submit more than 3,444 valid signatures in order to be included on a special congressional election ballot, where the compliance period was only 62 days; there had been no “lead-up time in which to organize a signature drive”; and the plaintiffs faced additional obstacles, including inclement weather); *Esshaki v. Whitmer*, No. 2:20-CV-10831-TGB, 2020 WL 1910154, at *2, *12 (E.D. Mich. Apr. 20, 2020) (recognizing signature-gathering challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the State of Michigan’s stay-at-home directive, ordering that certain candidates “[s]hall be qualified for inclusion on the August 4, 2020 primary election ballot if the candidate submits fifty percent of the number of valid signatures required by” a Michigan election law, and ordering Michigan’s Director of Elections to “adopt and promulgate” appropriate “regulations providing for an additional optional procedure that allows the collection and submission of ballot petition signatures in digital form by electronic means such as email”).

The combined effect of the restrictions on public gatherings imposed by Illinois’ stay-at-home order and the usual in-person signature requirements in the Illinois Election Code is a nearly insurmountable hurdle for new party and independent candidates attempting to have their names placed on the general election ballot. See Ill. Exec. Order No. 2020-10 (Mar. 20, 2020); 10 ILCS 5/10-4. The problem is exacerbated by the circumstance by the fact that the “window” for gathering such signatures opened at nearly the same time that Governor Pritzker first imposed restrictions. The court need not devote significant additional attention to the constitutional

questions presented because, after a round of briefing and several hearings and in response to the court's direction at oral argument, the parties have proposed an order that grants appropriate relief in these unprecedented circumstances. Notably, from the outset of these proceedings, even Defendants have acknowledged that the ballot access restrictions must be relaxed, in some shape or form, to account for the havoc that COVID-19 has wreaked. (See Defs.' Resp. to Emergency Mot. at 2 (recognizing "the need for some accommodations" under the circumstances).) The court is satisfied that the parties' agreed order will ameliorate Plaintiffs' difficulty meeting the statutory signature requirement due to the COVID-19 restrictions—thereby addressing the constitutional questions raised by Plaintiffs' motion (see Pls.' Emergency Mot. [2] at 11–12)—while accommodating the State's legitimate interest in ensuring that only parties with a measurable modicum of public support will gain access to the 2020 general election ballot. See *Jenness*, 403 U.S. at 442.

There is little judicial guidance regarding how to measure whether a new party or independent candidate has demonstrated a modicum of public support sufficient to warrant ballot access. Instead of relying on standards such as the reputation or media coverage of individual candidates, see, e.g., *McCarthy v. Briscoe*, 429 U.S. 1317, 1323 (1976) (Powell, J., in chambers), Illinois, like other states, measures support through signature-gathering. Even under normal conditions, the ultimate number of signatures a candidate must gather will vary widely because the signature requirement is, with some exceptions, based on voter turnout in the previous election. See *Jones*, 921 F. Supp. 2d at 899. Suspending entirely the signature requirement without requiring candidates to otherwise demonstrate historical support would, however, extend far beyond these typical variations. See *Munro*, 479 U.S. at 197 (noting that states need not provide automatic ballot access).

The parties' agreed order, permitting ballot access for previously-qualifying new party and independent candidates, and loosening the statutory signature requirements for other new party and independent candidates, establishes a measurable standard that the State can use to

determine which candidates are eligible to be placed on the ballot in the unique context of this election. The court notes that in order to respect social distancing guidelines implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous states have likewise reduced the number of signatures required for a candidate to be placed on the ballot. See, e.g., *Esshaki v. Whitmer*, No. 2:20-CV-10831-TGB, 2020 WL 1910154, at *12 (E.D. Mich. Apr. 20, 2020) (reducing the statutory signature requirement by 50 percent); *Goldstein v. Sec’y of Commonwealth*, No. SJC-12931, 2020 WL 1903931, at *9 (Mass. Apr. 17, 2020) (same); N.Y. Exec. Order No. 202.2 (Mar. 14, 2020) (reducing the statutory signature requirement to 30 percent of normal); H. 681, 2019–2020 Gen. Assemb., Adjourned Sess. (Vt. 2020) (suspending the statutory signature requirement entirely). Reducing the required number of signatures to 10 percent accommodates the fact that Plaintiffs have not been able to rely on their usual signature-gathering methods for the 2020 general election ballot because the window for collecting signatures in Illinois was slated to begin on March 24, 2020, after the stay-at-home order took effect. Cf. *Goldstein*, 2020 WL 1903931, at *9.

Additionally, permitting candidates to submit physical or electronic copies of petitions accommodates the various practical barriers to collecting signatures at this time—due to the closure of most public places, Illinoisans may have limited access to the Internet or a printer, or may even be wary of opening mailed petitions. See *Esshaki*, 2020 WL 1910154, at *5 (explaining that a mail-based signature campaign is expensive and ultimately ineffective). Other states have similarly permitted signature collection and petition submission in both electronic and physical formats. See, e.g., Fla. Emergency R. 1SER20-2 (Apr. 2, 2020); N.J. Exec. Order Nos. 105, 120 (Mar. 19, 2020, Apr. 8, 2020); Utah Exec. Order No. 2020-8 (Mar. 26, 2020). The court recognizes that the state will be burdened by extending the signature-gathering deadline, but finds this hardship outweighed by the significant difficulties that would be experienced by campaigns trying to implement a new signature-gathering process while complying with even the modified statutory requirements in such a short amount of time. In particular, the court notes that even after some

restrictions are lifted, until a vaccine is available, voters are likely to continue practicing social distancing and avoiding any physical hand contact with other persons or objects.

In sum, the parties' agreed order balances the State's legitimate interests in "preventing voter confusion, blocking frivolous candidates from the ballot, and otherwise protecting the integrity of" the upcoming election, *Navarro*, 716 F.3d at 431, while accommodating the significant restrictions on new party and independent candidates' ability to collect signatures in light of the unprecedented limitations on public gatherings required to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

ENTER:

Dated: April 23, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca R. Pallmeyer", written over a horizontal line.

REBECCA R. PALLMEYER
United States District Judge