



**COOK COUNTY CLERK DAVID ORR**  
69 W. Washington, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60602



TEL (312) 603-0996 FAX (312) 603-9788 WEB [cookcountyclerk.com](http://cookcountyclerk.com)

## **MARCH 18, 2014 PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE FILING & OBJECTIONS FAQs**

### *Who files petitions at the Cook County Clerk's office?*

Candidates seeking the following county offices will file nominating papers with the Clerk's office: President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, County Clerk, Treasurer, Sheriff, Assessor, County Commissioners, Board of Review Member (District 3), and Water Reclamation District Commissioner (3 seats) and Township Committeemen. The candidates for Township Committeemen are elected at the primary; everyone else is nominated by their respective parties.

### *What happens if several people file simultaneously for the same office?*

Candidates for the same office standing in line at 9 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 25, 2013 to file nomination petitions will be time-stamped for 9 a.m. and included in the ballot lottery. Additionally, candidates for the same office who file nomination petitions between 4 and 5 p.m. on the last day of filing – Dec. 2 – will be included in a ballot lottery for the last spot on the ballot. The Clerk's office will conduct the lotteries at 10 a.m. on Dec. 10, 2013 for any candidates who file at the same time for the same office. Anyone who filed after 9 a.m. on Nov. 25 and before 3:59 p.m. on Dec. 2 will be on the ballot in the order they turned in their nomination paperwork.

### *When is the deadline for filing nomination papers?*

The deadline is 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 2, 2013 at the Clerk's downtown office, 69 W. Washington St., Fifth Floor, Chicago. The Clerk's office will not be open on Thanksgiving, Nov. 28, 2013 or on Friday, Nov. 29, 2013.

### *Where are objections to petitions filed?*

If the petition was filed with the Clerk's office, the objection should also be filed with the Clerk's office, 69 W. Washington, Fifth Floor, Chicago.

### *What is the deadline to file an objection to a petition?*

The deadline is 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9, 2013.

*Who oversees objections?*

The Cook County Officers Electoral Board hears objections to all petitions filed with the Clerk's office. The electoral board consists of: Hon. David Orr, Cook County Clerk, chairman, Hon. Anita Alvarez, State's Attorney of Cook County, member, and Hon. Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, member. The members may each appoint a designee to represent them on the board.

In addition to ruling on objections to county candidates, the panel also hears objections to candidates for state senator, state representative and judicial candidates whose districts lie wholly within suburban Cook County.

*What is the objection appeal process?*

Once the board has issued a decision, the losing party can seek judicial review by the Cook County Circuit Court. The court holds expedited hearings for these cases. The losing party in court can take the case to the Illinois Appellate Court.

*How can campaigns check whether petition signers are registered to vote?*

The most efficient way to check a person's registration status is through the Clerk's [election website](#). Using the Voter Information tool, campaigns can verify registration status. Additionally, the clerk's office can provide a list of registered voters' names and addresses. This can be done by precinct or district, and is available on CD. Under Illinois law, such electronic lists are available only to campaigns.