

OBJECTION FILING GUIDELINES

WHO MAY OBJECT: Registered voters within a political or taxing district, who are concerned that a candidate (or proponent of a referendum) has not complied with the legal requirements of running for a particular office may “object” to the candidacy.

HOW TO OBJECT: The objection process is a highly formal process. Legally registered voters wishing to object to a candidacy (or referendum) are required, *by law*, to do the following to have their objection heard:

- (1) **File an original and TWO COPIES of their objection petition in writing – objection petitions that do not include two copies will not be accepted. CLERK’S OFFICE STAFF WILL NOT MAKE COPIES FOR YOU.**
- (2) List the name of the person objecting and their address on the objection petition.
- (3) List the name of the candidate being objected to and the office on the objection petition.
- (4) State the grounds upon which the objector believes that a candidate’s nominating papers are insufficient, including facts to support the grounds. In the past these have included: the candidate does not live in the district, the candidate is not registered to vote, the candidate did not submit a sufficient number of valid signatures, or the candidate failed to file a statement of candidacy or a receipt for the filing of their statement of economic interest. NOTE: objections may be based on other grounds.

The objector should sign their objection and can have it notarized.

WHERE and WHEN TO FILE YOUR OBJECTION: Objections must be filed with the Cook County Clerk's Office, 69 West Washington Street, 5th Floor, by **no later than December 11, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.**

HEARINGS ON OBJECTIONS: The Cook County Officers Electoral Board will meet as an Electoral Board on December 18, 2017 at 10:00am to adopt Rules of Procedure and conduct other preliminary business. Objectors and candidates, or their attorneys, **DO NOT** need to appear for this meeting.

The Electoral Board will assign all cases to a Hearing Officer. Initial hearings before the individual Hearing Officers will take place on December 19, 2017. All initial hearings will be conducted at 69 West Washington Street, Lower Level. A detailed schedule of the hearing times will be posted on the Clerk's website after all objections have been filed.

For more detailed information on the hearing process please see the “Important Information for Candidates and Objectors” link.

Disclaimer: This is not legal advice. The Cook County Clerk’s Office is providing this for general information purposes only. Potential Objectors should consult with legal counsel regarding election matters. The Cook County Clerk’s Office cannot recommend an attorney or give legal advice on these matters.

CANDIDATES AND OBJECTORS (OR THEIR ATTORNEYS) NEED NOT ATTEND THE DECEMBER 18, 2017 MEETING AT 10:00 A.M. OF THE COOK COUNTY OFFICERS ELECTORAL BOARD. THE SPECIFIC DATE AND TIME OF THE INITIAL HEARING HELD BY THE ASSIGNED HEARING OFFICER ON EACH OBJECTION WILL BE POSTED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 18, 2017 AT www.cookcountyclerk.com/service/electoral-board.