BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO
AS THE DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD
FOR THE HEARING AND PASSING UPON OBJECTIONS
TO NOMINATION PAPERS OF CANDIDATES
FOR THE FEBRUARY 23, 1999 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION
FOR MAYOR, CLERK, TREASURER AND ALDERMAN
IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Objections of: VERLENE BLACKBURN	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	
Papers of: INEZ ANDREWS	)	No.: 99-EB-ALD-090
	)	
Candidate for the office of	)	
Alderman of the 18th Ward	)	

FINDINGS AND DECISION

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of Board of Election Commissioners of the City of Chicago Commissioners Langdon D. Neal, Richard A. Cowen, and Theresa M. Petrone, organized by law in response to a Call issued by Langdon D. Neal, Chairman of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections ("Objections") of VERLENE BLACKBURN to nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of INEZ ANDREWS, candidate for the office of Alderman of the 18th Ward for the City of Chicago ("Candidate"), having convened on December 28, 1998, at 9:00 a.m., in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, Chicago, Illinois; and having heard and determined the Objections to the Nomination Papers in the above-entitled matter finds that:

1. Objections to the Nomination Papers of the Candidate herein were duly and timely filed.

2. The said Electoral Board has been legally constituted according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

3. A Call to the hearing on said Objections was duly issued by the Chairman of the Electoral Board and served upon the members of the Electoral Board, the Objector(s) and the Candidate, by registered or certified mail and by Sheriff's service, as provided by statute.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on December 28, 1998 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Examiner JOHN ASHENDEN for further hearings and proceedings.

6. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearing: the members of the Electoral Board; and the Candidate, INEZ ANDREWS. The Objector, VERLENE BLACKBURN, did not appear at the hearing.

7. The Hearing Examiner conducted an initial call of the case at 12:30 p.m. on December 28, 1998 at which time the Objector did not appear. Approximately 15 minutes later the Objector's name was called again, but there was no response. Approximately 1 hour later the Hearing Examiner again called the Objector's name, but again there was no response. The Hearing Examiner entered a recommended default order against the Objector.

8. The Board finds the Objector, VERLENE BLACKBURN, was served personally with a copy of the Electoral Board's Call for the December 28, 1998 meeting by a deputy Cook County Sheriff on December 23, 1998 at 12:10 P.M. The Objector was also served with a copy of the Call by certified mail on December 23, 1998 and a Domestic Return Receipt was signed by Verlene Blackburn acknowledging receipt of the certified mail.

9. The Board finds that the Objector, VERLENE BLACKBURN, did not appear at the duly called meeting and hearing conducted in this matter after having been duly served with a copy of the Call and having been notified of the meeting and hearing in this cause as required by law. Therefore, the Objector, VERLEN BLACKBURN, is in default and the Objector's petition is hereby stricken and dismissed for failing to appear.

10. The Board finds that there are two other pending objections, 99-EB-ALD-047 and 99-EB-ALD-191, that will determine whether the Nomination Papers of the Candidate, INEZ ANDREWS, are valid and whether the Candidate's name will be printed on the official ballot for the February 23, 1999 Municipal General Election for Mayor, City Clerk, City Treasurer and Alderman.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that the Objections of VERLENE BLACKBURN, to the Nomination Papers of INEZ ANDREWS, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the 18th Ward are hereby STRICKEN AND DISMISSED.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, this Twelfth day of January, 1999.

Langdon D. Neal, Chairman

Richard A. Cowen, Commissioner

Theresa M. Petrone, Commissioner

NOTICE: Pursuant to Section 10-10.1 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1) a party aggrieved of this decision and seeking judicial review of this decision must file a petition for judicial review with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County within 10 days after the decision of the Electoral Board.