NBCON-ALD

**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: DENNIS PEREZ and CECELIA DRAZEK	)	
To the Nomination Papers of: REY COLON	)	No.: 99-EB-ALD-095
Candidate for the office of Alderman of the 35th Ward, City of Chicago	)	

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 DENNIS PEREZ and CECELIA DRAZEK to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of REY COLON, candidate for the office of Alderman of the 35th 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 following persons, among others, were present at such hearing: the members of the Electoral Board, the Objectors DENNIS PEREZ and CECILIA DRAZEK, by counsel; and the Candidate, REY COLON, by counsel.

6. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Examiner TERENCE FLYNN for further hearings and proceedings.

7. The Objector alleged various allegations regarding the validity of signatures on the Candidate's nominating petitions.

8. The Electoral Board finds that the Candidate file nominating petitions including in excess of 2,185 signatures. The minimum required number of valid signatures for the office of Alderman of the 35th Ward of the City of Chicago is 154. The Electoral Board finds that the Hearing Examiner ordered a limited records examination regarding the validity or genuineness of certain circulators' signatures and certain voters' signatures.

9. The Electoral Board finds that the limited records examination, including a review by the Board's handwriting expert, resulted in valid signatures being found in a number well in excess of the required minimum number of signatures.

10. The Objector alleges that the Candidate was not a registered voter as required by law. The Objector alleges that the name appearing on the Candidate's Nomination Papers, "Rey Colon," is not a registered voter.

11. The Electoral Board finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers contain the name "Rey Colon." The Electoral Board finds that the Candidate is a registered voter under the name of "Reynaldo Colon." The Electoral Board finds that the name "Rey" is a nickname for "Reynaldo," and that the Candidate is a duly registered voter.

12. The Electoral Board further finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of DENNIS PEREZ CECELIA DRAZEK to the Nomination Papers of REY COLON, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the 35th Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of REY COLON, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the 35th Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the Municipal General Election for Mayor, City Clerk, City Treasurer and Alderman to be held on February 23, 1999.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, this Twenty-Ninth 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.