BCCOFF-RGA

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 MARCH 21, 2000 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION FOR STATE SENATOR, REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WARD COMMITTEEMAN IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Objections of: CHARLES G. MORROW, III	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	
Papers of: REBECCA A. SANKEY	)	
	)	No. 00-EB-RGA-014
Candidate for the office of	)	
Representative in the General Assembly, 26th	)	
Representative District, Democratic Party	)	

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 CHARLES G. MORROW, III ("Objector(s)") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of REBECCA A. SANKEY , candidate for nomination to the office of Representative in the General Assembly for the 26th Representative District, Democratic , Party ("Candidate"), having convened on January 10, 2000, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 800, 69 West Washington Street, 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 Objectors(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 January 10, 2000 and was continued from time to time.

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

6. The Objector(s) and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board's Call served upon them to appear before the Hearing Examiner on the date and at the time designated in the Call. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearing: the Objector(s), CHARLES G. MORROW, III, by counsel; and the Candidate, REBECCA A. SANKEY, pro se.

7. The Hearing Examiner ordered that an examination of the registration records be conducted by clerks and agents under the Board's direction and supervision, in accordance with the laws of Illinois and the rules of the Board.

8. The Hearing Examiner directed all parties to appear and be present, either personally and/or by their authorized representatives during the record examination.

9. The Candidate nor her duly authorized representative(s) were present during the examination of the registration records.

10. The Objector(s) or his duly authorized representative(s) were present during the examination of the registration records.

11. The examination of the registration records was completed and the Electoral Board hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the results of the records examination conducted by its clerks and agents. The written report of the result of the registration records examination is contained in the Electoral Board's file in this case and is available for inspection upon request of a party.

12. The results of the records examination indicated that of the 721 signatures contained on the petition, objections were sustained as to 416 signatures, leaving the Candidate with 305 valid signatures. The minimum signature requirement for the office in question is 300.

13. The Objector filed a motion for hearing pursuant to Rule 8 of the Electoral Board's rules of procedure and a hearing was conducted at which the Hearing Examiner found several mathematical and ministerial errors in the results of the records examination. In addition, the Hearing Examiner found, after argument by the Objector, that several signatures were invalid. The Candidate did not offer any evidence to rebut the evidence presented by the Objector or to otherwise rehabilitate the signatures being found invalid. At the conclusion of the hearing on the Objector's Rule 8 motion, the Hearing Examiner found that the Candidate had only 299 valid signatures on her nominating petitions, leaving her short of the

300 signatures required by law. The Hearing Examiner has recommended that the Candidate's Nomination Papers be found to be invalid.

14. Following the conclusion of the proceeding before the Hearing Examiner, the Candidate filed a request pursuant to Rule 20 of the Board's rules of procedure to address the Board and she did address the Board on this date concerning the recommended findings and conclusions of the Hearing Examiner.

15. The Electoral Board finds that the parties have complied with the rules of procedure regarding service of documents.

16. The Electoral Board has considered all evidence and arguments tendered by the parties.

17. The Electoral Board adopts the recommended findings and conclusions of law presented by the Hearing Examiner and finds that:

    a. The minimum number of valid signatures required by law for placement on the ballot for the office in question is 300;

    b. The number of purportedly valid signatures appearing on the nominating petition filed by the Candidate total 721;

    c. The number of signatures deemed invalid because of objections sustained total 422;

    d. The remaining number of signatures deemed valid total 299;

18. The Electoral Board finds that the number of valid signatures appearing on the Candidate's nominating petition following completion of the records examination is below the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to placed upon the official ballot as a candidate for nomination to the office of Representative in the General Assembly for the 26th Representative District, Democratic Party.

19. The Electoral Board finds, therefore, that paragraphs 5-9 of the Objector's Petition are sustained in part and overruled in part as more fully indicated in the results of the records examination.

20. The Electoral Board further finds that all requirements for the service of motions have been complied with by all the parties in this matter.

21. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Nomination Papers of REBECCA A. SANKEY are not valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of CHARLES G. MORROW, III to the Nomination Papers of REBECCA A. SANKEY, candidate for nomination to the office of Representative in the General Assembly for the 26th Representative District, Democratic Party, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of REBECCA A. SANKEY, candidate for nomination to the office of Representative in the General Assembly for the 26th Representative District, Democratic Party, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on March 21, 2000.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, this 28th day of January, 2000.

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.