NBCON-ALD

**BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO AS A DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD**

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| Objections of: SAMUEL REID | ) | |
| | ) | |
| To the Nomination | ) | |
| Papers of: SYDNEY A. WASHINGTON | ) | No.: 03-EB-ALD-172 |
| | ) | |
| Candidate for the office of | ) | |
| Alderman of the Eighteenth 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, Theresa M. Petrone, and Richard A. Cowen, 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 SAMUEL REID ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of SYDNEY A. WASHINGTON, candidate for the office of Alderman of the Eighteenth Ward of the City of Chicago ("Candidate") to be elected at the Municipal General Election to be held on February 25, 2003, having convened on December 30, 2002, at 10:00 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 Objector 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 30, 2002 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Examiner LYNNE R. OSTFELD for further hearings and proceedings.

6. The Objector 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, SAMUEL REID, pro se; and the Candidate, SYDNEY A. WASHINGTON, by counsel. The Objector was later represented by counsel.

7. The Hearing Examiner determined, with the assistance of the Board's staff, that the Candidate has 182 signatures on his petition against which no objection had been made and that such signatures were then presumably valid.

8. The Hearing Examiner overruled objections to 25 signatures that alleged only that the signature was "printed" without stating any other reason why the signature was not valid. This objection did not specifically state a reason why a signature must be deemed invalid.

9. The Hearing Examiner overruled another 46 objections alleging that the voter had signed the nominating petition of another candidate for the same office before signing the Candidate's petition. The Hearing Examiner concluded that the Objector failed to present sufficient evidence to demonstrate who signed what petitions first in time.

10. The Hearing Examiner also overruled one objection alleging only "O.D" without specifying what those letters meant. This allegation did not fully state the nature of the objections nor specify sufficient grounds why a signature must be deemed invalid.

11. The Hearing Examiner concluded that the Candidate then had at least 254 valid signatures on his petition, more than the 240 signatures needed to qualify for placement on the ballot for the office of Alderman of the Eighteenth Ward of the City of Chicago.

12. The Electoral Board hereby adopts the Hearing Examiner's recommended findings and conclusions and overrules the Objections.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of SAMUEL REID to the Nomination Papers of SYDNEY A. WASHINGTON, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the Eighteenth Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of SYDNEY A. WASHINGTON, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the Eighteenth Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the Municipal General Election to be held on February 25, 2003.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, this Thirty-First day of January, 2003.

Langdon D. Neal, Chairman

Theresa M. Petrone, Commissioner

Richard A. Cowen, 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.**