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

Objections of: WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, JR.,	)	
To the Nomination Papers of: JESSE L. HARLEY	)	**No.: 07-EB-ALD-033**
Candidate for the office of Alderman of the Seventh 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 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 WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, JR., ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of JESSE L. HARLEY, candidate for the office of Alderman of the Seventh Ward of the City of Chicago ("Candidate") to be elected at the Municipal General Election to be held on February 27, 2007, having convened on January 2, 2007, 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 January 2, 2007 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Examiner Mario Correa 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, WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, JR., by his attorneys, James P. Nally and Burton S. Odelson; and the Candidate, JESSE L. HARLEY, *pro se*.

7. The Objections alleged that the Candidate failed to properly identify the office for which he is seeking election on the nominating petition sheets circulated to voters for signature. The Candidate, according to his Statement of Candidacy, is seeking election to the office of Alderman of the 7th Ward. On each of his nominating petition sheets circulated to voters for signature, the Candidate inserted only the word "Alderman" in the box reserved in the heading of each petition sheet for the title of the office for which is seeking election. The nominating petition sheets omitted any identification of the 7th Ward. The Candidate's Statement of Candidacy did state, however, that the Candidate was running for the office of "Alderman for the 7th Ward."

8. The Hearing Examiner has tendered to the Electoral Board his report and recommended decision. The Hearing Examiner recommends that the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers be sustained and that the Nomination Papers be found invalid.

9. The Electoral Board, having reviewed the record of proceedings in this matter and having considered the report and recommendations of the Hearing Examiner, as well as all argument and evidence submitted by the parties, hereby adopts the Hearing Examiner's recommended findings and conclusions of law. A copy of the Hearing Examiner's Report and Recommended Decision is attached hereto and is incorporated herein as part of the decision of the Electoral Board.

10. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board sustains the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers and finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, JR., to the Nomination Papers of JESSE L. HARLEY, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the Seventh Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of JESSE L. HARLEY, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the Seventh Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the Municipal General Election to be held on February 27, 2007.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, this 16th day of January 2007.

Langdon D. Neal, Chairman

Richard A. Cowen, Commissioner

NOTICE: Pursuant to Section 10-10.1 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1) a party