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

Objections of: WALTER H. JONES and BRUCE CROSBY	)	
To the Nomination Papers of: RICHARD M. DALEY	)	**No.: 07-EB-MUN-014**
Candidate for the office of Mayor of the 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 WALTER H. JONES and BRUCE CROSBY ("Objectors") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of RICHARD M. DALEY, candidate for the office of Mayor 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 Objectors 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 Barbara Goodman for further hearings and proceedings.

6. The Objectors 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 Objectors, WALTER H. JONES and BRUCE CROSBY, by counsel, Sidney B. Smith; and the Candidate, RICHARD M. DALEY, by counsel, Michael E. Lavelle.

7. The Hearing Examiner ordered that an examination of the registration records be conducted by its 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 this records examination.

9. The Candidate and the Objectors or their duly authorized representatives were present during the examination of the registration records at all times.

10. The Hearing Examiner has submitted her report with her recommended findings and conclusions of law. The Hearing Examiner reports that on January 15, 2007, the examination of the registration records of the Board was suspended after it was determined that the Candidate's nominating petition sheets contained at least 14,022 valid signatures. The

minimum number of valid signatures required by law is 12,500. (65 ILCS 20/21-28(b)). Therefore, when the records examination was suspended the Candidate had 1,522 valid signatures over the minimum statutory requirement.

11. The Hearing Examiner further reports that at the final hearing on this matter before her, Objector's counsel conceded that the Candidate had met his burden and that the Nomination Papers contained a sufficient number of signatures for placement on the ballot for the office Mayor of the City of Chicago.

12. The Hearing Examiner therefore recommends that the Objections of WALTER H. JONES and BRUCE CROSBY be overruled in conformity with the results of the records examination conducted in this matter and that the Nomination Papers of RICHARD M. DALEY for the office of Mayor of the City of Chicago be deemed valid.

13. The Electoral Board has considered all evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Examiner's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law.

14. The Electoral Board hereby adopts the Hearing Examiner's recommended findings and conclusions of law and finds that the Candidate has a sufficient number of valid signatures on his Nomination Papers to be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for election to the office of Mayor of the City of Chicago.

15. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board overrules the Objections and finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of WALTER H. JONES and BRUCE CROSBY to the Nomination Papers of RICHARD M. DALEY, candidate for election to the office of Mayor of the City of Chicago, are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of RICHARD M. DALEY, candidate for

election to the office of Mayor of the City of Chicago, SHALL be printed on the 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 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.