DEFAULT-ALD

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

Objections of: Yvette Major and Dwayne Burgess	)	
To the Nomination Papers of: Maruwa Ferrell	)	No.: 11-EB-ALD-049
	)	Related Cases: 11-EB-ALD-248, 11-EB-ALD-270
Candidate for the office of Alderman of the 16th 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 Marisel A. Hernandez, 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 Yvette Major and Dwayne Burgess ("Objectors") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of Maruwa Ferrell, candidate for the office of Alderman of the 16th Ward of the City of Chicago ("Candidate") to be elected at the Municipal General Election to be held on February 22, 2011, having convened on December 6, 2010, 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 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 6, 2010 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Yolanda Sayre for further hearings and proceedings.

6. The Objectors and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board to appear before the Hearing Officer on the date and at the time designated in the Hearing Schedule. On such date and time, the Hearing Officer called the case by calling aloud the case number, the name of the Objectors and the name of the Candidate. The following persons, among others, answered and were present at such hearing: the Objectors, Yvette Major and Dwayne Burgess, pro se.

7. The Candidate, Maruwa Ferrell, did not answer to the call nor did she appear at the hearing. The case was called again at least two more times at least 15 minutes apart on December 6, 2010 and at no time did the Candidate or any person purporting to represent the Candidate appear.

8. The Electoral Board finds that records of the United States Postal Service indicate that the Candidate was served with a copy of the Objector's Petition and with a copy of the Call to the December 6, 2010 hearing in this cause via certified mail, return receipt requested, on December 3, 2010.

9. The Electoral Board finds that the Candidate, Maruwa Ferrell, did not appear at the duly called hearing conducted in this matter on December 6, 2010 after having been served

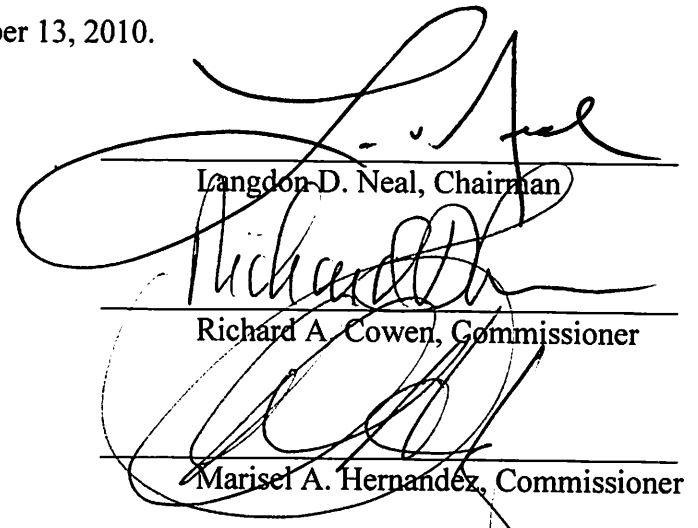
with a copy of the Call and the Objector's Petition by the means of service specified in the statute.

10. The Electoral Board further finds that the Objector's petition, on its face, contains sufficient allegations, if accepted as true, to invalidate the Candidate's Nomination Papers. Specifically, the Objections aver that the Candidate filed the Statement of Economic Interests with the Board of Election Commissioners instead of with the Cook County Clerk and that no receipt from the Cook County Clerk was filed with the Nomination Papers as required by law. An examination of the Nomination Papers by the Hearing Officer revealed that these allegations are, in fact, true.

11. Therefore, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate, Maruwa Ferrell, is in default, that the Objections are sustained, and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of Yvette Major and Dwayne Burgess to the Nomination Papers of Maruwa Ferrell, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the 16th Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of Maruwa Ferrell, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the 16th Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the Municipal General Election to be held on February 22, 2011.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on December 13, 2010.



Langdon D. Neal, Chairman

Richard A. Cowen, Commissioner

Marisel A. Hernandez, 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 5 days after service of the decision of the Electoral Board.