NBCOFF

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

Objections of: MARLO BARNETT	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 20-EB-RGA-016
Papers of: TAWANA J. ROBINSON also	)	
known as T.J. ROBINSON	)	rel.: 20-EB-RGA-015
	)	
Candidate for the nomination of the	)	
DEMOCRATIC Party for the office of	)	
Representative in the General Assembly, 27th	)	
Representative District of the State of Illinois	)	

FINDINGS AND DECISION

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of the Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago, Commissioners Marisel A. Hernandez, William J. Kresse, and Jonathan T. Swain, organized by law in response to a Call issued by Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections ("Objections") of MARLO BARNETT ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of TAWANA J. ROBINSON also known as T.J. ROBINSON, candidate for the nomination of the DEMOCRATIC Party for the office of Representative in the General Assembly, 27th Representative District of the State of Illinois ("Candidate") at the General Primary Election to be held on March 17, 2020, having convened on December 16, 2019 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 were duly and timely filed.

2. The Electoral Board was constituted according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

3. A Call to the hearing on said Objections was duly issued by the Chair 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 or service was waived.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on December 16, 2019 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Travis Richardson for further hearings and proceedings.

5. The Objector and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board's Call served upon them to appear before the Hearing Officer on the date and at the time designated in the Hearing Schedule. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearing: the Objector, MARLO BARNETT, through her Attorney, ED MULLEN; and the Candidate, TAWANA J. ROBINSON also known as T.J. ROBINSON, Pro Se.

6. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board a report and recommended decision. Based upon the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer found that the Candidate's Statement of Candidacy was not notarized and further found that the failure of the Candidate to submit a notarized Statement of Candidacy was a fatal defect. Hearing Officer found, therefore, that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

7. The Electoral Board, having considered the evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Officer's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law, hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's recommended findings and conclusions of law.

8. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Objections filed in this matter should be sustained and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of MARLO BARNETT to the Nomination Papers of TAWANA J. ROBINSON also known as T.J. ROBINSON, candidate for the nomination of the DEMOCRATIC Party for the office of Representative in the General Assembly, 27th Representative District of the State of Illinois, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of TAWANA J. ROBINSON also known as T.J. ROBINSON, candidate for the nomination of the DEMOCRATIC Party for the office of Representative in the General Assembly, 27th Representative District of the State of Illinois, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on March 17, 2020.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on January 14, 2020.

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair

William J. Kresse, Commissioner

Jonathan T. Swain, 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.