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

Objections of: VERONICA RAMIREZ	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 20-EB-WC-004
Papers of: LAUREN "YOUNG" WEBER	)	
	)	rel.: 20-EB-WC-002
Candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC	)	
Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward, City	)	
of Chicago	)	
	)	

FINDINGS AND DECISION

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of 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 VERONICA RAMIREZ ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nominating Papers") of LAUREN "YOUNG" WEBER, candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward f of the City of Chicago ("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 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 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.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer David J. Shestokas 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 Officer on the date and at the time designated in the Hearing Schedule. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearings; the Objector, VERONICA RAMIREZ, Attorney, PERICLES ABBASI; and the Candidate, LAUREN "YOUNG" WEBER, Pro Se.

7. The Hearing Officer ordered a limited records examination in order to ascertain the total number of signatures contained in the Candidate's nominating petition.

8. As a result of the limited records examination, it was determined that even if all of the remaining objections to individual signatures were overruled in the Candidate's favor, the Candidate's nominating petition would still contain an insufficient number of valid signatures to qualify for a place on the ballot as a candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward of the City of Chicago.

9. 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 Nomination Papers contained only 818 signatures, which is less than the minimum

number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the official ballot as a candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward of the City of Chicago, and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers should be found invalid.

10. 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.

11. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate has an insufficient number of valid signatures on her Nomination Papers to be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward of the City of Chicago.

12. The Electoral Board further finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of VERONICA RAMIREZ to the Nomination Papers of LAUREN "YOUNG" WEBER, candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of LAUREN "YOUNG" WEBER, candidate for the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 1st Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on March 17, 2020

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on December 23, 2019.

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.