BCCOFF

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

Objections of: SANDRA RAMSEY	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 22-EB-IND-003
Papers of: SHAWN A. WALKER	)	
	)	
Candidate for the office of	)	
State Senator of the 5th Legislative District,	)	
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 June A. Brown, 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 SANDRA RAMSEY ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of SHAWN A. WALKER, candidate for the office of State Senator of the 5th Legislative District in the State of Illinois ("Candidate") at the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, having heard and determined the Objections to the Nomination Papers in the above-entitled matter, finds that:

1. Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers 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 July 26, 2022 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Barbara Goodman for further hearings and proceedings.

5. The Objector 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. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearing: the Objector, SANDRA RAMSEY, Attorney, ADAM R VAUGHT; and the Candidate SHAWN A WALKER, did not answer to the call nor did he or any person purporting to represent the candidate appear at the hearing.

6. A Notice of Continued Hearing was issued July 26, 2022, continuing the hearing to Friday, August 5, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. The following persons, among others, were present at such continued hearing: the Objector, SANDRA RAMSEY, Attorney, ADAM R VAUGHT; and the Candidate SHAWN A WALKER, pro se.

7. The Hearing Officer ordered that the Electoral Board's staff conduct a count of the total number of signatures contained in the Candidate's Nomination Papers. Both the Board's staff and the Hearing Officer's own counts resulted in a finding that the Nomination Papers contained a wholesale total of 2,997 signatures.

8. The Hearing Officer and the Board find that a minimum of 3,000 valid signatures is required for the office the Candidate is seeking. Thus, the Nomination Papers contain an insufficient number of signatures on its face.

9. The Electoral Board finds that the number of valid signatures appearing on the Candidate's nominating petition following completion of the records examination was 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 State Senator of the 5th Legislative District of the State of Illinois.

10. 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 2,997 valid 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 State Senator for the 5th Legislative District of the State of Illinois, and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers should be found invalid.

11. 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.

12. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate has an insufficient number of valid signatures on his nominating petitions and that the Nomination Papers of SHAWN A. WALKER are therefore, invalid.

[Continued on next page]

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of SANDRA RAMSEY to the Nomination Papers of SHAWN A. WALKER, for election to the office of State Senator of the 5th Legislative District of the State of Illinois, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of SHAWN A. WALKER, candidate for the office of State Senator for the 5th Legislative District of the State of Illinois, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday, September 6, 2022.

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair

William J. Kresse, Commissioner

June A. Brown, 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.