DEFAULT

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

Objections of: WAYLAND JOHNSON	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 24-EB-WC-010
Papers of: PERCY COLEMAN	)	
	)	
Candidate for election to the office of	)	
REPUBLICAN Ward Committeeperson of the	)	
9th Ward, City of Chicago, State of Illinois	)	
	)	

FINDINGS AND DECISION

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of the Board of the 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 WAYLAND JOHNSON ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of PERCY COLEMAN, candidate for election to the office of REPUBLICAN Ward Committeeperson of the 9th Ward, City of Chicago, State of Illinois ("Candidate") at the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, having convened on December 18, 2023, at 9:30 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 statutory service was waived and service by email was authorized.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on December 18, 2023 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Demetrius Carney 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. On such date and time, the Hearing Officer called the case by calling aloud the case number, the name of the Objector and the name of the Candidate. The following persons, among others, answered and were present at such hearing: the Objector, WAYLAND JOHNSON, *pro se*.

6. The Electoral Board finds that the Candidate, PERCY COLEMAN, communicated with the Hearing Officer and Objector via email and stated an intent to file a withdrawal of candidacy form. However, the Candidate never filed a legally adequate withdrawal form, nor did the Candidate appear for subsequent hearings despite having actual notice and knowledge of these Electoral Board proceedings.

7. For the above reasons, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate has failed to defend himself against the claims raised in the Objector's Petition, and the Candidate is therefore found to be in default.

8. 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.

9. Therefore, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate, PERCY COLEMAN, 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 WAYLAND JOHNSON to the Nomination Papers of candidate for election to the office of REPUBLICAN Ward Committeeperson of the 9th Ward, City of Chicago, State of Illinois, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of PERCY COLEMAN, candidate for election to the office of REPUBLICAN Ward Committeeperson of the 9th Ward, City of Chicago, State of Illinois, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

Dated: Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

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 by 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.