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Candidacy Filing - Local Political Subdivisions

NOTE: This outline addresses the general requirements for candidacy for local political subdivisions such as cities, school districts, water districts, hospital districts, etc. All sections refer to the Texas Election Code unless otherwise cited.

I. Filing for Public Office in Local Political Subdivision

A. Independent Candidacy Required.

General Rule: A candidate for local office may appear on the ballot only as an independent candidate. [Sec. 143.002]

EXCEPTION: Partisan candidacy for home-rule city office may be authorized by city charter. [Sec. 143.003]

B. Application Required (need not be on official form).

1. General Requirements for Application: [Sec. 141.031]
 - a. In writing.
 - b. Signed and sworn to by the candidate.

NOTE: The oath must be administered by a person authorized to administer an oath under Texas law. [Sec. 602.002, Government Code]

NEW LAW: This has been emphasized by House Bill 2157 (2017).

TIP: The city secretary may administer the oath for applications for a place on the ballot for city offices. [Sec. 602.002(15)]

- c. Indicates the date that the candidate swore to the application;
- d. Timely filed with the appropriate authority; and
- e. Includes:

i. The candidate's name.

NOTE: An affidavit that any nickname provided for the name as it is to appear on the ballot is the nickname by which the candidate has been commonly known in the community for at least 3 years. [Sec. 52.031(c)].

NOTE: Secretary of State candidate forms already have the affidavit included.

- ii. The candidate's occupation.
- iii. The office sought, including any place number or other distinguishing number.
- iv. An indication of whether the office sought is to be filled for a full or unexpired term if the office sought and another office to be voted on have the same title but do not have place numbers or other distinguishing numbers.
- v. A statement that the candidate is a United States citizen.
- vi. A statement that the candidate has not been finally determined mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote by a court with probate jurisdiction.
- vii. A statement that the candidate has not been finally convicted of a felony from which the candidate has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities.
- viii. The candidate's date of birth.
- ix. The candidate's residence address, or if the residence has no address, the address at which the candidate receives mail and a concise description of the location of the candidate's residence.
- x. The candidate's length of continuous residence in the state and in the territory from which the office sought is elected as of the date that the candidate swears to the application.
- xi. A statement swearing to defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and Texas.
- xii. A statement that the candidate is aware of the nepotism law.
- xiii. A public mailing address for campaign correspondence if available, and any available electronic mail address at which the candidate receives correspondence relating to the candidate's campaign. (Sec. 141.031)

NEW LAW: Section 141.031 was amended to request a public mailing address at which the candidate receives correspondence relating to the candidate's campaign, **if available**, and any available electronic mail address at which the candidate receives correspondence relating to the candidate's campaign, **if available**. House Bill 1735 (2017). (NOTE: this codifies SOS interpretation.) Updated forms reflect this.

2. Additional Information on Official Application Form. [Sec. 141.039]

- a. A space for indicating the form in which the candidate's name is to appear on the ballot.

- b. A space for the candidate's mailing address.
- c. Spaces for the candidate's home and office telephone numbers.
- d. A statement informing the candidate that the furnishing of the telephone numbers is optional.
- e. A space for e-mail address (optional).

NOTE: Most offices require voter registration in the territory from which the office is elected by the filing deadline. (See our online Terms, Qualifications, and Vacancies outline for general law cities and school districts.) However, the law does not require the voter registration number to be on the application form. (House Bill 484, effective September 1, 2015.) See our HB 484 FAQ (available online and in this seminar book).

NOTE: The new law does **not** apply to a member of the governing body of a district created under Section 52(b)(1) or (2), Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

- 3. Application for Home-Rule City. [Sec. 143.005]
 - a. City charter may prescribe requirements in connection with a candidate's application for a place on the ballot; however, the charter may not prescribe a different filing deadline
 - b. If a city charter prescribes application requirements, the general application requirements do not apply, except for the statement that the candidate is aware of the nepotism law.
 - c. City charter may prescribe a filing fee for candidates, but must also provide an alternative procedure to payment of the fee, such as a petition. [**See** Section 143.005]
- 4. Applications for other political subdivisions (other than county or city). [Sec. 144.003] If a law outside the Election Code prescribes exclusive requirements for a candidate's application, the general requirements do not apply, except for the nepotism statement.

C. Filing Application – Generally.

- 1. Availability of Forms. [Sec. 1.010]

The authority with whom the Election Code requires an application to be filed must make printed forms for that purpose, as prescribed by the Secretary of State, readily and timely available. The forms must be furnished without charge.

TIP: Applications for a place on the ballot may be downloaded and printed out from the [Secretary of State's website](#).
- 2. Filing Authority.
 - a. **Municipal Elections:** City secretary. [Sec. 143.006]

EXCEPTION: Home-rule city charter may designate another person.
 - b. **School Board Elections:** Secretary of the school board or other person designated by the board. [Sec. 144.004]

- c. **Water Districts:** Secretary of the board or presiding officer of the board, if there is no secretary, or agent appointed by the board if permitted under the Water Code. [Sec. 144.004]
- d. **Hospital Districts:** Secretary of the board, or presiding officer of board if there is no secretary. [Sec. 144.004]
- e. **Junior Colleges under Section 130.082, Education Code:** Secretary of the board. [Sec. 130.082(g), Education Code]. (Junior College districts operating under a school board under Section 130.081 operate under ISD laws.)
- f. **Library Districts:** Secretary of the board or presiding officer of board, if there is no secretary. [Sec. 144.004]
- g. **Emergency Services District Located in More than One County:** County clerk of each county. [Health and Safety Code, Sec. 775.035(d)]

NOTE: Employee Rule - an application filed by personal delivery is considered properly filed if filed with an employee of the authority at the authority's usual place for conducting official business. [Sec. 1.007]

TIP: For jurisdictions where the law says the application is filed with the secretary of the governing body, the duty is usually delegated to an employee of the political subdivision, typically the election records custodian and / or early voting clerk. However, this duty cannot be transferred from the political subdivision to another entity under a joint election agreement; or an election services contract. [Sec. 31.096]

3. Method of Filing Application. [Sec. 1.007(c)]

- a. An application filed by mail is considered filed at the time of its receipt by the appropriate authority. The time of receipt is the time at which a post office employee:
 - i. Places it in the actual possession of the authority or an agent; or
 - ii. Deposits it in the authority's mailbox or at the usual place of delivery for the authority's official mail. [Sec. 1.009]
- b. If the authority cannot determine the time at which a deposit occurred or whether it occurred before a specified deadline, the deposit is considered to have occurred at the time the mailbox or usual place of mail delivery was last inspected for removal of mail. [Sec. 1.009]

D. Filing Period.

1. Notice of filing period.

- a. The authority with whom an application for a place on the ballot is filed must post a Notice of Deadline to File Applications for Place on the Ballot, listing the filing period dates in a building in which the authority maintains an office. The notice must be posted not later than the 30th day before the first day to file. (Sec. 141.040). If you order a special election to fill a vacancy, the order must include the filing deadline; we recommend posting the notice of the filing period as soon as practicable after a

special election is ordered.

NOTE: Water Code Section 49.113 requires the notice required by Section 141.040, Election Code to be posted at the district's administrative office in the district or at the public place established by the district under Section 49.063 of this chapter not later than the 30th day before the deadline for a candidate to file an application for a place on the ballot of a district directors' election. We harmonize these notice requirements as to **timing**, and advise that the notice be posted by the 30th day before the first day to file, the Election Code Section 141.040 requirement. We read this law as primarily adding to the authorized **locations** that the notice may be posted.

2. First Day to File.

- a. First day to file an application for a place on the ballot in the general election of a city, I.S.D. school board, or junior college district election is the 30th day before the filing deadline. [See Sec. 143.007, Election Code; and Education Code, Sec. 11.055; Education Code, Sec. 130.082(g)]

NOTE: Election Code Sec. 144.005 now provides for a "first day" to file of the 30th day before the date of the filing deadline, unless otherwise provided by the Election Code. Senate Bill 910 (2013). Under prior law, there was no requirement as to the first day applications could be accepted for hospital, water, library, or emergency services districts under general laws; however, special laws sometimes provided a first day. [Sec. 144.005]

3. Deadline.

- a. **Municipal General Election:** An application for a place on the general election ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Sec. 143.007] A city charter may prescribe requirements in connection with a candidate's application for a place on the ballot for an office of a home-rule city. [Sec. 143.005] This section does not authorize a city charter provision that changes the filing deadline.

NEW LAW: House Bill 2323 (2017) amended Section 201.054 (special election to fill vacancy) to for a write-in deadline on the same day as the filing deadline. Also, Subsection (f) was amended to provide a deadline at 6:00 p.m. for November of even-numbered years. [Sec. 201.054]

- b. **School Board General Election:** an application for a place on the general election ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Education Code, Sec. 11.055]

NEW LAW: House Bill 2323 (2017) amended Section 201.054 (special election to fill vacancy) to for a write-in deadline on the same day as the filing deadline. Also, Subsection (f) was amended to provide a deadline at 6:00 p.m. for November of

even-numbered years. [Sec. 201.054]

- c. **Water District Election:** an application for a place on the ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Sec. 144.005]
- d. **Hospital District Election:** unless otherwise provided by law, an application for a place on the ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Sec. 144.005]
- e. **Junior College Districts under Education Code, Section 130.082:** an application for a place on the ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Education Code, Sec. 130.082(g)] [Election Code, Sec. 144.005(c)] (Junior College districts operating under a school board under Section 130.081 of the Education Code operate under ISD laws; see above.)
- f. **Library District Election:** an application for a place on the ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Local Government Code Sec. 326.043, Election Code, Sec. 144.005.]
- g. **Emergency Services District Located in More than One County:** an application for a place on the ballot must be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day. [Sec. 144.005]
- h. **Other Entities not in outline:** Generally, Election Code Section 144.005 prevails over outside law. Check the outside law (or court order, if any) and contact our office by phone or email if you have questions about another entity.

II. Candidate's Applications with Petition.

NOTE: Most local political subdivisions DO NOT require petitions for an application for a place on the ballot. This material is included for those entities whose law provides for a petition.

A. Validity of Petition.

1. Requirements. [Sec. 141.062]
 1. Petition must be timely filed with appropriate authority;
 2. Petition must contain the requisite number of valid signatures; and
 3. Petition must comply with any other applicable requirements for validity prescribed by the Election Code.
2. A petition may consist of multiple parts (e.g. – multiple pages with multiple circulators).

NEW LAW: New Section 141.065 (c) provides that a single notarized affidavit by any person who obtained signatures is valid for all signatures gathered by the person **if the date of notarization is on or after the date of the last signature obtained by the person.** House Bill 2157 (2017). (NOTE: this codifies SOS interpretation.)

3. Affidavit of Circulator. [Sec. 141.065]

B. Validity of Petition Signatures.

1. For a signature to be valid, signer must be a registered voter of the territory from which the office sought is to be elected or have been issued a registration certificate that will be effective in that territory on election day.
2. Signature Requirements:
 - a. The signer's residence address;
 - b. The date of birth OR the signer's voter registration number;
 - c. if the territory from which signatures must be obtained is situated in more than one county, the county of registration;
 - d. The date of signing; and
 - e. The signer's printed name.
 - f. Section 141.063 has similar requirements as in current Chapter 277 language (petitions for measure elections):
 - i. The signature is the only information that is required to appear on the petition in the signer's own handwriting.
 - ii. The use of ditto marks or abbreviations does not invalidate a signature if the required information is reasonably ascertainable.
 - iii. The omission of the state from the signer's residence address does not invalidate a signature unless the political subdivision from which the signature is obtained is situated in more than one state. The omission of the zip code from the address does not invalidate a signature.
3. Affidavit of Circulator. [Sec. 141.065]
 - a. Each part of a petition must include an affidavit of the person who circulated it, stating that the person:
 - i. indicated and read to each signer, before the petition was signed, each statement pertaining to the signer that appears on the petition;
 - ii. witnessed each signature;
 - iii. verified each signer's registration status; and
 - iv. believes each signature to be genuine and the corresponding information to be correct.
 - b. If a petition contains an affidavit that complies with subsection (a) above, for the purpose of verifying the petition, the authority with whom the candidate's application is filed may treat as valid each signature to which the affidavit applies, without further verification, unless it is proven otherwise. [Sec. 141.065(b)]
4. Signing more than one petition prohibited. [Sec. 141.066]
 - a. A person may not sign the petition of more than one candidate for the same office in the same election.
 - b. A signature on a candidate's petition is invalid if the signer signed the petition after signing a petition of another candidate for the same office in the same election.
 - c. The words "Signing the petition of more than one candidate for the same office in the same election is prohibited" must appear at the top of each page of the petition.
5. Home-rule city petition. [Sec. 143.005(d)]

For any petition required or authorized to be filed in connection with a candidate's application for a place on the ballot for an office of a home-rule city, the minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition is the **greater of**:

1. 25; or
 2. one-half of one percent (1/2%) of the total votes received in the territory from which the office is elected by all candidates for mayor in the most recent mayoral election.
6. Withdrawal of signature on candidate's petition. [Sec. 141.067]
- a. The **signer** must request that the signature be withdrawn.
 - b. To be effective, a withdrawal request must:
 - i. be in writing and be signed and acknowledged by the signer of the petition;
 - ii. be **received** by the authority with whom the petition is to be filed not later than the date the petition is received by the authority OR the seventh day before the petition filing deadline, whichever is earlier;
 - iii. the signer must deliver a copy of the withdrawal request to the candidate when the request is filed; and
 - iv. an effective withdrawal request operates as if the signer never signed the petition.
 - c. If the withdrawal of a signature reduces the number of signatures on the petition below the prescribed minimum for the petition to be valid, the authority with whom the request is filed shall notify the candidate immediately by telephone, telegram, or an equally or more expeditious method of the number of withdrawn signatures. Within three days of the candidate receiving notice, the candidate may supplement the petition with signatures equal in number to the number of signatures withdrawn.

III. Running as a Write-In Candidate in Local Political Subdivisions.

A. "Open" Write-In Votes Are Permitted Except as Provided by Law.

1. Except as otherwise provided by law, if the name of the person for whom a voter desires to vote does not appear on the ballot, the voter may write-in the name of that person. [Sec. 146.001]
2. A candidate does not have to file a "Declaration of Write-In Candidacy" to run as a write-in candidate if open write-in votes are permitted. Any write-in vote **must** be counted.
3. Most political subdivisions do not have open write-ins.

NOTE: a common exception is the creation election for a water district, which often has a slate of temporary directors' names followed by write-in spaces; consult the source law for your water district.

B. Declarations of Write-In Candidacy Required if Express Requirement.

1. A write-in vote may not be counted for a person, unless the person has filed a declaration of write-in candidacy:
 - a. In an independent school district general election or special election to fill a vacancy. [Education Code, Sec. 11.056(c)]
 - b. In a common school district. [Education Code, Sec. 11.304]
 - c. In a municipal election for officers. [Secs. 146.051, 146.052]

- d. In a water district general election for board members held pursuant to Chapters 36, 49, or 63 of the Water Code, unless otherwise provided by law. (See deadline discussion below regarding possible effect of the Water Code's procedures for a creation election or a special law.)
 - e. In a junior college district election. (The deadlines will differ depending on the type of district; see deadline discussion below.)
 - f. In most hospital districts, unless otherwise provided by special law, if any. (See deadline discussion below.)
 - g. In library district elections. [Local Government Code, Sec. 326.0431]
 - h. In emergency service district elections for districts located in more than one county. [Health and Safety Code, Sec. 775.035]
2. Authority with whom declaration is filed.
- a. Same as regular application for a place on the ballot – See I. C. 2., above.
 - b. The general rules for filing an application (method of transmission, authorized agents, etc.) apply to filing a declaration. See I. C. 3, above.
3. Form
- a. A declaration of write in candidacy must satisfy the same requirements as an application for a place on the ballot. [Sec. 146.023(b)]
 - b. Secretary of State has prescribed the "Declaration of Write-In Candidacy Form." [Sec. 146.032]
4. Filing deadline for declaration:

NEW LAW (if entity has special election): House Bill 2323 (2017) amended Section 201.054 (special election to fill vacancy) to for a write-in deadline on the same day as the filing deadline. [Sec. 201.054]

The following are the general election deadlines:

- a. **City:** The declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day. [Sec. 146.054]
- b. **School District, including common school districts:** The declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day. [Education Code 11.056]
- c. **Water Districts: For water districts controlled by Water Code, Secs. 36.059 (groundwater conservation districts), 49.101 or 63.0945 (self-liquidating navigation districts),** the declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day. [Water Code Secs. 36.059, 49.101, 63.0945]

NOTE: Water Code, Chapters 36 and 49 apply to general or special law districts as defined in Water Code Sections 36.001 and 49.001, respectively. Therefore, if your district is a special law district, the write-in rule applies to the special law districts unless there is a conflict with the language of your act. The interpretation will depend on the specific language. Generally, if the special law is silent, the Water Code requirements for a write-in candidate will apply. If the special law has conflicting language, for example, "any name written in is counted" then the special law would prevail. Confirmation elections are also frequently governed by different

rules. See Water Code Section 49.102(c) (applicable to many, but not all, water districts).

- d. **Junior College Districts (including junior colleges governed by ISD board):** Under Education Code, Sec. 130.0825, the declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day.
- e. **Hospital Districts (general or special law):** The declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day. [Health & Safety Code, Sec. 285.131]

NOTE: Health and Safety Code, Section 285.131 applies to all hospital districts, whether created by general or special law. It is possible that some special districts could be drafted to overcome this rule, but in general, where the special law is silent, this rule will prevail.

- f. **Library Districts:** The write-in candidate procedures are the same as those for cities, and therefore, the declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day. [Local Government Code, Sec. 326.0431; Election Code, Sec. 146.054]
 - g. **Emergency Services Districts Located in More than One County:** The write-in candidate procedures are the same as those for cities, and therefore, the declaration must be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the 74th day before election day. [Health and Safety Code, Sec. 775.035; Election Code, Sec. 146.054]
5. Certification of candidate for placement on list of write in candidates.
- a. The authority with whom a declaration of write-in candidacy is required to be filed must certify in writing for placement on the list of write-in candidates the name of each candidate who files with the authority a declaration which complies with the general requirements for an application for a place on the ballot. [Sec. 146.029(a)]

NOTE: If no name is to be certified, the authority must certify that fact in writing.

- b. In an election in November of an even-numbered year, not later than the 68th day before election day, the certifying authority must deliver the certification to the authority responsible for having the official ballot prepared in each county in which the office sought by the candidate is to be voted on. [Sec. 146.029(c)]
- c. A write-in candidate may not be certified for placement on the list of write-in candidates if:
 - i. The information on the candidate's declaration of write in candidacy indicates that the candidate is ineligible for the office;
 - ii. Facts indicating that the candidate is ineligible are conclusively established by another public record; or Note: No public record conclusively proves residence. Only a court of law may make a ruling on a person's residence.
 - iii. The candidate is determined to be ineligible by a final judgment of a court. [Sec. 146.030 and Water Code Sec. 49.101]

iv. The candidate timely withdraws. See withdrawal section in IV. B. 4., below.

NOTE: Many local entities have laws that use the city write-in rules at Subchapter C of Chapter 146. The city write-in rules in turn incorporate by reference some of the rules for a November general election for state and county officers at Subchapter B. Sec. 146.055.

IV. After Filing.

A. Review of Application (and Petition, if applicable) and Notice to Candidates. [Sec. 141.032]

1. On the filing of an application for a place on the ballot, the authority with whom the application is filed must review the application to determine whether it complies with the requirements as to **form, content, and procedure** only. That is, the authority checks to be sure it was filed correctly and in a timely manner and that all required information is completed and attested to. [Sec. 141.032(a)]
2. Unless accompanied by a petition, the review must be completed not later than the **fifth** day after the date the application is received by the authority. [Sec. 141.032(b)]
3. If an application is accompanied by a petition, the petition is considered part of the application, and the review must be completed as soon as practicable after the date the application is received by the authority. [Sec. 141.032(c)] The petition is NOT considered part of the application for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements applicable to each document; that is, a **deficiency in the requirements of one document may not be remedied by the contents of the other document.** [Sec. 141.032(c)]
4. An initial determination that an application complies with the requirements as to form, content, and procedure does NOT preclude a later determination that the application does not comply, subject to Section 141.034. (Section 141.034 sets a deadline for challenges to form, content, or procedure. See IV. A. 6., below.) [Sec. 141.032(d)]

NOTE: The Election Code provides no process for a candidate to supplement a defective application. The application and petition must stand or fall as originally filed. Some case law seems to suggest that in certain cases, a candidate may have a right to supplement a defective petition. The Texas Supreme Court has held that candidates, who made timely filings and whose petitions were accepted, could not be rejected later for minor clerical errors that could have been fixed had the candidate been notified of the defect. **See In Re Francis**, 186 SW 3rd 534 (Tex 2006) and **In re Holcomb**, 186 SW 3rd 553 (Tex 2006). However, in 2011 Sections 141.032 and 141.062 were amended to clarify that after the filing deadline, a candidate may not amend an application for a place on the ballot (Section 141.032) or any accompanying petition in lieu of filing fee (Section 141.062), nor can the filing authority accept an amendment to their application for a place on the ballot or any accompanying petition in lieu of filing fee. Our office recommends that the filing authority promptly review applications in order to avoid litigation; however, the law has been amended to emphasize that the filing authority cannot accept amendments after the

filing deadline.

5. If an application does not comply with applicable requirements, the authority must reject the application and immediately deliver to the candidate written notice of the reason for the rejection. [Sec. 141.032(e)]
6. Section 141.032, which governs the review of a candidate's application for a place on the ballot for form, content, and procedure, does not apply to a determination of a candidate's eligibility. For information on a challenge to a candidate's eligibility, see "Administrative Declaration of Ineligibility" at IV. C., below.

NEW LAW: An application for a place on the ballot may not be challenged for compliance with the applicable requirements as to form, content, and procedure after the day before **any ballot to be voted early by mail is mailed for the election for which the application is made.** This deadline does not apply to a determination of a candidate's eligibility. A challenge must state with specificity how the application does not comply with the applicable requirements as to form, content, and procedure. The authority's review of the challenge is limited to the specific items challenged and any response filed with the authority by the challenged candidate. Sec. 141.034, Senate Bill 44 (2017).

7. Application and any accompanying petition is public information as soon as it is filed. [Sec. 141.035] Therefore, any person may request a viewing or a copy.

B. Withdrawal of Candidate.

1. To be effective, a withdrawal request must:
 - a. Be in writing, signed, and acknowledged (sworn to) by the candidate; and
 - b. Be timely filed with the authority with whom the application was filed. [Secs. 145.001(b), 145.093]

NEW LAW: Exception: If a candidate files a withdrawal request after the deadline prescribed by Section 145.092, and the candidate complies with each requirement under Section 145.001 except that the candidate's filing to withdraw is untimely, the authority responsible for preparing the ballots may choose to omit the candidate from the ballot if the ballots have not been prepared at the time the candidate files the withdrawal request. Sec. 145.098, House Bill 1661 (2017).

2. A withdrawal request filed by mail is considered to be filed at the time of its **receipt** by the appropriate authority or an employee of that authority. [Sec. 145.001(c)]
3. Deadline for withdrawal for candidates **other** than write-in candidates:
 - a. **General Rule:** a candidate in an election for which the filing deadline is a date not specifically addressed by Section 145.092 may not withdraw after 5 p.m. of the fifth day after the candidate's deadline for filing application for a place on the ballot. [Sec. 145.092(a)]

NOTE: Technically, subsection (a) is the "general rule." However, for a city, school

district or other local entity using the **filing deadline of the 78th day** before election day (Senate Bill 1703, effective September 1, 2015), the **withdrawal deadline will be the 71st day before election day**.

- b. A candidate in an election for which the filing deadline for an application for a place on the ballot is not later than 5 p.m. of the 78th day before election day may not withdraw from the election after 5 p.m. of the 71st day before election day. [Sec. 145.092(f)]
- c. A candidate in an election for which the filing deadline for an application for a place on the ballot is not later than 5 p.m. of the 62nd day before election day may not withdraw from the election after 5 p.m. of the **57th** day before election day. [Secs. 1.007, 145.092(b)]
- 4. Deadline for withdrawal of declared write-in candidates is the **71st** day before election day. [Sec. 146.0301(a)]
- 5. Deadline for withdrawal of candidate in **runoff** election (i.e., when election requires majority vote and no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote) is 5 p.m. of the 3rd day after the final canvass of the main election.
- 6. A candidate's name is omitted from the ballot if the candidate withdraws before the appropriate deadline for withdrawal. [Sec. 145.094] See general rule and **new law** discussed at IV.B.3.a above.

NOTE: If a candidate does not file the withdrawal before the deadline, the withdrawal is **ineffective**; the candidate's name will remain on the ballot, and any votes cast for that candidate must be counted in the regular manner. If the candidate wins, he or she may take office, if still in compliance with eligibility requirements. If a runoff is required, the candidate may be placed on the runoff ballot unless he or she withdraws in a timely manner from the runoff election. [Sec. 145.001].

- 7. If a candidate in a run-off timely withdraws, the remaining candidate is considered to be elected and no runoff election is held. [Sec. 145.095]
- 8. If the authority with whom the withdrawal request is filed is not responsible for having the official ballot prepared, the authority must certify the candidate's name in writing as a withdrawn candidate and promptly deliver the certification to the authority responsible for having the official ballot prepared. [145.093(b)]

C. Administrative Declaration of Ineligibility. [Sec. 145.003]

- 1. A candidate may be administratively declared ineligible if:
 - 1. The information on the candidate's application for a place on the ballot indicates that the candidate is ineligible for the office; or
 - 2. Facts indicating that the candidate is ineligible are conclusively established by another public record. [Sec. 145.003(f)]

NOTE: No public record conclusively establishes residency. Only a court of law may

make a ruling on a person's residency.

2. When presented with an application for a place on the ballot or another public record containing information pertinent to the candidate's eligibility, the appropriate authority must promptly review the record. If the authority determines that the record establishes ineligibility, the authority **shall** declare the candidate ineligible. [Sec. 145.003(g)]
3. A candidate **may** be administratively declared ineligible:
 - a. By the authority with whom the application was filed before early voting by personal appearance begins. [Sec. 145.003(c)]
 - b. By the presiding officer of the final canvassing authority after the polls close on election day and before the certificate of election is issued. [Sec. 145.003 (d)]
4. If a candidate is declared ineligible, the authority making the declaration must promptly give written notice of the declaration of ineligibility to the candidate. [Sec. 145.003(i)]
5. If a candidate is declared ineligible on or before the deadline to withdraw, the candidate's name is omitted from the ballot. [Sec. 145.096]. See IV. B. 3. & 4. above, for deadlines to withdraw. See IV. E., below for effect of candidate being declared ineligible after the deadline.

NOTE: Similar to the withdrawal deadline discussed above, technically, subsection (a) is the "general rule." However, for a city, school district or other local entity using the **filing deadline of the 78th day** before election day (Senate Bill 1703, effective September 1, 2015), the deadline to declare a candidate ineligible in time to omit the name from the ballot (like the withdrawal deadline) **is the 71st day before election day.**

6. If a run-off candidate is declared ineligible, the candidate's name remains on the ballot. [Sec. 145.096(b)]

D. Candidate's Death. [Sec. 145.096]

1. If the death occurs before the 2nd day before the filing deadline, the name is omitted from the ballot.
2. If the death occurs after the 2nd day before the filing deadline, the name remains on the ballot. See. IV. E., below for effect of deceased candidate's name remaining on the ballot.
3. If a run-off candidate dies, the name remains on the ballot. [Sec. 145.096(b)]

E. Effect of Votes Cast for Deceased or Ineligible Candidate After the Deadline for Omitting Name on Ballot. [Sec. 145.005]

1. **In an election where there is no runoff requirement** (i.e., election is by plurality): If a candidate dies or is declared ineligible after the deadline, the candidate's name will remain on the ballot, and any votes cast for that candidate must be counted in the regular manner. If the candidate receives the vote required for the election, a vacancy results and is filled in the regular manner of filling vacancies in the political subdivision.
2. **In an election where there is a runoff requirement** (i.e., election is by majority): Again, if a candidate dies or is declared ineligible after the deadline, the candidate's name will remain on the ballot, and any votes cast for that candidate must be counted in the regular

manner. If the deceased or ineligible candidate received the vote that would entitle the candidate to a place on the runoff ballot, the candidates on the runoff ballot will be determined **without regard** to the votes cast for the deceased or ineligible candidate. That is, the votes for the deceased or ineligible candidate will be disregarded.

V. Canceling Elections (for further detail, consult the “Cancellation” outline in this publication or the Secretary of State website). [Sec. 2.051]

Qualifications for Office

Type A City (Local Gov't Code, Section 22.032)

- Mayor
Residence -- 1 year in state prior to the filing deadline; 1 year in city prior to election day
Age -- 18
Must be a registered voter in territory elected from by the filing deadline*
- Alderman
Residence -- 1 year in state prior to filing deadline; 6 months in the city (or ward) prior to filing deadline (Texas Elec. Code, Section 141.001(a); Brown v. Patterson, 609 SW 2nd 287)
Age -- 18
Must be a registered voter in territory elected from by the filing deadline*

ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNLESS INDICATED OPTIONAL

APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE _____ GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT					
TO: City Secretary/Secretary of Board					
I request that my name be placed on the above-named official ballot as a candidate for the office indicated below.					
OFFICE SOUGHT (Include any place number or other distinguishing number, if any.)				INDICATE TERM <input type="checkbox"/> FULL <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPIRED	
FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)			PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT ¹		
PERMANENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Do not include a P.O. Box or Rural Route. If you do not have a residence address, describe the address at which you receive personal mail and location of residence.)			PUBLIC MAILING ADDRESS (Campaign mailing address, if available.)		
CITY	STATE	ZIP	CITY	STATE	ZIP
PUBLIC EMAIL ADDRESS (If available)		OCCUPATION (Do not leave blank)	DATE OF BIRTH / /	VOTER REGISTRATION VOID NUMBER (Optional) ²	
TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION (Optional) Home: Work: Cell:		LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE AS OF DATE APPLICATION SWORN			
		IN STATE		IN TERRITORY FROM WHICH THE OFFICE SOUGHT IS ELECTED³	
		____ year (s) ____ month(s)		____ year (s) ____ month(s)	
If using a nickname as part of your name to appear on the ballot, you are also signing and swearing to the following statements: I further swear that my nickname does not constitute a slogan nor does it indicate a political, economic, social, or religious view or affiliation. I have been commonly known by this nickname for at least three years prior to this election.					
Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared (name) _____, who being by me here and now duly sworn, upon oath says:					
"I, (name) _____, of _____ County, Texas, being a candidate for the office of _____, swear that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Texas. I am a citizen of the United States eligible to hold such office under the constitution and laws of this state. I have not been finally convicted of a felony for which I have not been pardoned or had my full rights of citizenship restored by other official action. I have not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote. I am aware of the nepotism law, Chapter 573, Government Code.					
I further swear that the foregoing statements included in my application are in all things true and correct."					
			X _____		
			SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE		
Sworn to and subscribed before me at _____, this the _____ day of _____,					SEAL
Signature of Officer Administering Oath ⁴			Title of Officer Administering Oath		
TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY SECRETARY OR SECRETARY OF BOARD:					
(See Section 1.007)		Date Received		Signature of Secretary	
Voter Registration Status Verified <input type="checkbox"/>					

INSTRUCTIONS

An application to have the name of a candidate placed on the ballot for any general election may not be filed earlier than 30 days before the deadline prescribed by this code for filing the application. An application filed before that day is void. All fields **must** be completed unless specifically marked optional.

The general election filing deadline is 5:00 p.m. 78 days prior to election day for any uniform election date.

If you have questions about the application, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 800-252-8683.

NEPOTISM LAW

The candidate must sign this statement indicating his awareness of the nepotism law. The nepotism prohibitions of chapter 573, Government Code, are summarized below:

No officer may appoint, or vote for or confirm the appointment or employment of any person related within the second degree by affinity (marriage) or the third degree by consanguinity (blood) to himself, or to any other member of the governing body or court on which he serves when the compensation of that person is to be paid out of public funds or fees of office. However, nothing in the law prevents the appointment, voting for, or confirmation of anyone who has been continuously employed in the office or employment for the following period prior to the election or appointment of the officer or member related to the employee in the prohibited degree: six months, if the officer or member is elected at the general election for state and county officers.

No candidate may take action to influence an employee of the office to which the candidate is seeking election or an employee or officer of the governmental body to which the candidate is seeking election regarding the appointment or employment of a person related to the candidate in a prohibited degree as noted above. This prohibition does not apply to a candidate's actions with respect to a bona fide class or category of employees or prospective employees.

Examples of relatives within the third degree of consanguinity are as follows:

- (1) First degree: parent, child;
- (2) Second degree: brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild;
- (3) Third degree: great-grandparent, great-grandchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece.

These include relatives by blood, half-blood, and legal adoption. Examples of relatives within the second degree of affinity are as follows:

- (1) First degree: spouse, spouse's parent, son-in-law, daughter-in-law;
- (2) Second degree: brother's spouse, sister's spouse, spouse's brother, spouse's sister, spouse's grandparent.

Persons related by affinity (marriage) include spouses of relatives by consanguinity, and, if married, the spouse and the spouse's relatives by consanguinity. These examples are not all inclusive.

FOOTNOTES

¹For rules concerning the form of a candidate's name or nickname on the ballot, see Subchapter B, Chapter 52 of the Texas Election Code.

²Inclusion of a candidate's VUID is optional. However, many candidates are required to be registered voters in the territory from which the office is elected at the time of the filing deadline. Please visit the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's website for additional information. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/hb484-faq.shtml>

³This refers to the length of residence inside the district or territory from which the office is elected. For example, length of residence in a school district, for a school trustee office elected at large. This field **MUST BE COMPLETED**.

⁴All oaths, affidavits, or affirmations made within this State may be administered and a certificate of the fact given by a judge, clerk, or commissioner of any court of record, a notary public, a justice of the peace, city secretary (for a city office), and the Secretary of State of Texas.

DEBE PROPORCIONARSE LA INFORMACIÓN REQUERIDA A MENOS QUE SE INDIQUE QUE ES OPCIONAL

SOLICITUD PARA FIGURAR EN LA BOLETA DE _____ ELECCIÓN GENERAL					
A: Secretario(a) de la Ciudad/ Secretario del Consejo					
Solicito que mi nombre figure en la boleta oficial indicada más arriba como candidato/a al cargo a continuación.					
PUESTO OFICIAL SOLICITADO (Incluya cualquier número de cargo u otro número distintivo, si el cargo lo tiene.)				INDIQUE TÉRMINO <input type="checkbox"/> TÉRMINO COMPLETO <input type="checkbox"/> TÉRMINO INCOMPLETO	
NOMBRE COMPLETO (Primer nombre, segundo nombre, apellido)			ESCRIBA SU NOMBRE COMO DESEA QUE FIGURE EN LA BOLETA ¹		
DIRECCIÓN RESIDENCIAL PERMANENTE (No incluya una casilla postal o una ruta rural. Si usted no tiene una dirección residencial, describa el lugar en que recibe correspondencia personal y la ubicación de su residencia.)			DIRECCIÓN POSTAL PÚBLICA (Dirección en la que recibirá correspondencia relacionada a su campaña, si es disponible.)		
CIUDAD	ESTADO	CÓDIGO POSTAL	CIUDAD	ESTADO	CÓDIGO POSTAL
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO PÚBLICO (Si está disponible.)	EMPLEO (No deje este espacio en blanco.)	FECHA DE NACIMIENTO / /	VUID – NÚMERO UNICO DE IDENTIFICACION DE VOTANTE (Opcional) ²		
INFORMACIÓN DE CONTACTO (Opcional) Tel. residencial: Tel. laboral: Tel. celular:		DURACIÓN DE RESIDENCIA CONTINUA AL MOMENTO DE JURAMENTAR ESTA SOLICITUD			
		EN EL ESTADO ____ año(s) ____ mes(es)		EN EL TERRITORIO POR EL CUAL SERIA ELECTO/A ³ ____ año(s) ____ mes(es)	
En caso de usar un apodo como parte de su nombre en la boleta, usted también firma y jura lo siguiente: Asimismo, juro que mi apodo no constituye un lema político ni tampoco es una indicación de mis creencias o afiliaciones políticas, económicas, sociales o religiosas. Se me ha conocido por este apodo durante al menos tres años antes de esta elección.					
Ante mí, la autoridad suscrita, compareció (nombre) _____, quien frente a mí y bajo juramento debido, declara: "Yo, (nombre) _____, del condado de _____, Texas, siendo candidato para el cargo oficial de _____, juro solemnemente que apoyaré y defenderé la Constitución y las leyes de los Estados Unidos y del Estado de Texas. Soy ciudadano de los Estados Unidos elegible para ocupar tal cargo oficial bajo la Constitución y las leyes de este Estado. No se me ha condenado por un delito mayor por el cual no haya sido absuelto o por el cual no se me hayan restituido enteramente mis derechos de ciudadanía por medio de otra acción oficial. No existe un fallo final de un tribunal testamentario que me declare total o parcialmente incapacitado mentalmente sin derecho a votar. Yo tengo conocimiento de la ley sobre el nepotismo según el Capítulo 573 del Código de Gobierno. Además, juro que las declaraciones anteriores que incluyo en mi solicitud son verdaderas y correctas".					
			X _____ FIRMA DEL CANDIDATO		
Jurado y suscrito ante mí en _____, este día _____ de _____, _____.					
				SELLO	
Firma del oficial que administra el juramento ⁴ _____			Título del oficial que administra el juramento _____		
TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY SECRETARY OR SECRETARY OF BOARD:					
(See Section 1.007)		Date Received _____		Signature of Secretary _____	
Voter Registration Status Verified <input type="checkbox"/>					

INSTRUCCIONES

La solicitud para que el nombre de un candidato figure en la boleta para cualquier elección general no deberá registrarse antes de los treinta (30) días previos a la fecha límite para registrar la solicitud, según lo prescribe este código. Cualquier solicitud registrada antes de esa fecha se declarará inválida. Todos los campos **deben ser completados** a menos que se indique específicamente marcados como opcional.

El último día para registrarse es a las 5 de la tarde setenta y ocho (78) días antes del día de la elección en el caso de elecciones uniformes.

Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre la solicitud, por favor póngase en contacto con la división de elecciones del Secretario de Estado al 800-252-8683.

LEY SOBRE EL NEPOTISMO

El candidato deberá firmar esta declaración para indicar que tiene conocimiento sobre la ley sobre el nepotismo. A continuación figuran las prohibiciones del nepotismo según el capítulo 573 de Código Gobierno:

Ningún funcionario podrá nombrar, votar por o confirmar el nombramiento o empleo de ninguno de sus parientes en segundo grado por afinidad (matrimonio) o en tercer grado por consanguinidad (sangre), o de los parientes de cualquier otro integrante del cuerpo directivo o tribunal en que el funcionario celebre sesión cuando la compensación para esa persona se pague con fondos públicos u honorarios de su puesto oficial. Sin embargo, la ley no prohíbe el nombramiento, el votar por o la confirmación de ninguna persona que haya trabajado en la oficina de manera continua o el empleo para el siguiente período antes de la elección o el nombramiento del funcionario o miembro emparentado con el empleado en el grado prohibido: seis meses, si el funcionario o miembro se elige en una elección general de funcionarios de estado y condado.

Ningún candidato podrá influir sobre un empleado relacionado al puesto oficial al cual el candidato aspira o un empleado o funcionario del cuerpo fiscal al cual el candidato aspira respecto del nombramiento o el empleo de un pariente del candidato en un grado prohibido según se indica arriba. Esta restricción no se dirige a las acciones de un candidato respecto de una clase o categoría de empleados o posibles empleados de buena fe.

Los ejemplos de parentesco en tercer grado por consanguinidad son los siguientes:

- (1) Primer grado: padre, madre, hijo(a);
- (2) Segundo grado: hermano(a), abuelo(a), nieto(a);
- (3) Tercer grado: bisabuelo(a), bisnieto(a), tío(a), sobrino(a).

Los siguientes incluyen parentescos de consanguinidad, medios hermanos y adopción legal. Los ejemplos de parentescos en segundo grado por afinidad son los siguientes:

- (1) Primer grado: cónyuge, suegro(a), yerno, nuera;
- (2) Segundo grado: cuñado(a), abuelo(a) del cónyuge.

Las personas que están emparentadas por afinidad (matrimonio) incluyen los cónyuges de parientes emparentados por consanguinidad, y, si casados, el cónyuge y los parientes del cónyuge por consanguinidad. No todos estos ejemplos son inclusivos.

NOTAS

¹Para reglas sobre la forma del nombre de un candidato o apodo en la boleta electoral, vea el subcapítulo B, Capítulo 52 del Código Electoral de Texas.

²La inclusión del número único de identificación de votante (VUID, por sus siglas en Ingles) es opcional. Sin embargo, para muchos candidatos, es un requisito estar registrados como votantes en el territorio por el cual serían electos a partir de la fecha límite de la solicitud. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre el requisito de registro de votante en nuestra página: <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/hb484-faq.shtml>

³Esto se refiere a la duración de la residencia dentro del distrito o territorio de que se elige la oficina. Por ejemplo, la duración de residencia en un distrito escolar, para una oficina del consejero escolar elegida en general. Este campo **DEBE SER COMPLETADO**.

⁴Los juramentos, las declaraciones juradas o las afirmaciones que se efectúen dentro de este Estado podrán ser administradas por un juez, escribano o comisionado de alguna corte de registro, por un notario público, un juez de paz, un secretario de la ciudad o el Secretario de Estado de Texas, quienes cuentan con la capacidad de proporcionar un certificado del hecho.

APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE

FORM CTA
PG 1

See CTA Instruction Guide for detailed instructions.		1 Total pages filed:	
2 CANDIDATE NAME	MS / MRS / MR	FIRST	MI
	NICKNAME	LAST	SUFFIX
OFFICE USE ONLY			
Filer ID #			
Date Received			
Date Hand-delivered or Postmarked			
3 CANDIDATE MAILING ADDRESS	ADDRESS / PO BOX;	APT / SUITE #;	CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE
4 CANDIDATE PHONE	AREA CODE	PHONE NUMBER	EXTENSION
	()		
5 OFFICE HELD (if any)			
6 OFFICE SOUGHT (if known)			
7 CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME	MS/MRS/MR	FIRST	MI
	NICKNAME	LAST	SUFFIX
8 CAMPAIGN TREASURER STREET ADDRESS (residence or business)	STREET ADDRESS (NO PO BOX PLEASE);	APT / SUITE #;	CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE
9 CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE	AREA CODE	PHONE NUMBER	EXTENSION
	()		
10 CANDIDATE SIGNATURE	I am aware of the Nepotism Law, Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code.		
	I am aware of my responsibility to file timely reports as required by title 15 of the Election Code.		
I am aware of the restrictions in title 15 of the Election Code on contributions from corporations and labor organizations.			
_____		_____	
Signature of Candidate		Date Signed	

GO TO PAGE 2

**CANDIDATE MODIFIED
REPORTING DECLARATION**

**FORM CTA
PG 2**

11 CANDIDATE
NAME

12 MODIFIED
REPORTING
DECLARATION

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU ARE
CHOOSING MODIFIED REPORTING**

**** This declaration must be filed no later than the 30th day before
the first election to which the declaration applies. ****

**** The modified reporting option is valid for one election cycle only. ****
(An election cycle includes a primary election, a general election, and any related runoffs.)

**** Candidates for the office of state chair of a political party
may NOT choose modified reporting. ****

I do not intend to accept more than \$900 in political contributions or
make more than \$900 in political expenditures (excluding filing fees)
in connection with any future election within the election cycle.
I understand that if either one of those limits is exceeded, I will be
required to file pre-election reports and, if necessary, a runoff
report.

Year of election(s) or election cycle to
which declaration applies

Signature of Candidate

This appointment is effective on the date it is filed with the appropriate filing authority.

TEC Filers may send this form to the TEC electronically at treasappoint@ethics.state.tx.us
or mail to
Texas Ethics Commission
P.O. Box 12070
Austin, TX 78711-2070

Non-TEC Filers must file this form with the local filing authority
DO NOT SEND TO TEC

For more information about where to file go to:
<http://204.65.203.6/filinginfo/QuickFileAReport.php>

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

FORM CFCP COVER SHEET

Pursuant to chapter 258 of the Election Code, every candidate and political committee is encouraged to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices. The Code may be filed with the proper filing authority upon submission of a campaign treasurer appointment form. Candidates or political committees that already have a current campaign treasurer appointment on file as of September 1, 1997, may subscribe to the code at any time.

Subscription to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is voluntary.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

Date Hand-delivered or Postmarked

Date Processed

Date Imaged

1 ACCOUNT NUMBER
(Ethics Commission Filers)

2 TYPE OF FILER

CANDIDATE

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

*If filing as a candidate, complete boxes 3 - 6,
then read and sign page 2.*

*If filing for a political committee, complete
boxes 7 and 8, then read and sign page 2.*

3 NAME OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)

FIRST

MI

NICKNAME

LAST

SUFFIX (SR., JR., III, etc.)

**4 TELEPHONE NUMBER
OF CANDIDATE**
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

AREA CODE

PHONE NUMBER

EXTENSION

()

5 ADDRESS OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

STREET / PO BOX;

APT / SUITE#;

CITY;

STATE;

ZIP CODE

**6 OFFICE SOUGHT
BY CANDIDATE**
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

7 NAME OF COMMITTEE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

**8 NAME OF CAMPAIGN
TREASURER**
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)

FIRST

MI

NICKNAME

LAST

SUFFIX (SR., JR., III, etc.)

GO TO PAGE 2

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play that every candidate and political committee in this state has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their constitutional rights to a free and untrammelled choice and the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

- (1) I will conduct the campaign openly and publicly and limit attacks on my opponent to legitimate challenges to my opponent's record and stated positions on issues.
- (2) I will not use or permit the use of character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or the candidate's personal or family life.
- (3) I will not use or permit any appeal to negative prejudice based on race, sex, religion, or national origin.
- (4) I will not use campaign material of any sort that misrepresents, distorts, or otherwise falsifies the facts, nor will I use malicious or unfounded accusations that aim at creating or exploiting doubts, without justification, as to the personal integrity or patriotism of my opponent.
- (5) I will not undertake or condone any dishonest or unethical practice that tends to corrupt or undermine our system of free elections or that hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters, including any activity aimed at intimidating voters or discouraging them from voting.
- (6) I will defend and uphold the right of every qualified voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process, and will not engage in any activity aimed at intimidating voters or discouraging them from voting.
- (7) I will immediately and publicly repudiate methods and tactics that may come from others that I have pledged not to use or condone. I shall take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of Texas or campaign treasurer of a political committee, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct the campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Signature

Date