

RON DESANTIS
Governor

JENNIFER KENNEDY

Interim Secretary of State

MEMORANDUM

TO: Special Election Candidates

FROM: Kristi Reid Willis, Chief

Bureau of Election Records

DATE: January 29, 2019

SUBJECT: Qualifying – State Representative, Districts 7, 38, and 97

Qualifying will be held from **8:00 a.m.**, **February 13**, **2019** – **Noon**, **February 14**, **2019**, for all State Representative, Districts 7, 38, and 97 candidates, including write-in candidates. By law, the Division of Elections may accept and hold qualifying papers beginning January 30, 2019. **It is a candidate's responsibility to ensure that qualifying papers are timely received in this office and are complete. All qualifying fees and paperwork must be received and complete by Noon** (**Eastern Time**), **February 14**, **2019**, for a candidate to be qualified. Our location and mailing address is:

Division of Elections The R.A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- 1. Any candidate oath, financial disclosure form, or qualifying check filed with the Division prior to **January 30, 2019**, is not valid for qualifying. Please submit new documents to the Division not later than the close of qualifying.
- 2. <u>Do not use old forms as required information has changed.</u> Current forms are available on the Division's website at: http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/forms-publications/forms/.
- 3. Forms DS-DE 301SL and CE Form 6 require notarization. Review these documents carefully to ensure that they have been properly notarized.



- 4. Candidates may submit qualifying papers by hand-delivery or mail. The Division does <u>not</u> accept qualifying papers via facsimile or email. **All documents, except a copy of CE Form 6 filed by an incumbent, must have original signatures.** (Suggestion: Use blue ink to sign documents.)
- 5. Attention: Time is of the essence in qualifying as a candidate. In order to be deemed timely filed with the Division of Elections, qualifying items must actually be received at the Division's physical location as specified above by the close of the qualifying period. The U.S. Postal Service does not deliver mail directly to the Division of Elections. The U.S. Postal Service's designated hours for mail pick-up do not correspond to the qualifying deadline. To ensure that the qualifying items are timely submitted, a candidate or someone on his or her behalf should hand-deliver directly to the Division or use a commercial express courier delivery service that delivers directly to the Division.
- 6. Qualifying fees must be paid by a properly executed check payable to the Department of State or Secretary of State and drawn upon the candidate's **campaign** account.
- 7. The check must be signed by the treasurer or a deputy treasurer. (A check signed by a candidate who has not been designated as the treasurer or deputy treasurer is not valid for qualifying.)
- 8. Personal checks, cashiers' checks, cash, and money orders are not valid for qualifying.
- 9. Type or print your name the way you wish it to appear on the ballot under "Oath of Candidate" on the Candidate Oath form (**DS-DE 301SL**). A candidate's name as it is to appear on the ballot may not be changed after the end of qualifying.
- 10. Please provide a telephone number and email address on your Candidate Oath form (**DS-DE 301SL**) where you can be reached during the day and after normal working hours. The Bureau will make every effort to contact you if there is a problem with your paperwork.
- 11. To check your qualifying status, go to: http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/candidates/CanList.asp.
- 12. The qualifying fee cannot be returned to a candidate unless the candidate withdraws, in writing, **before** the close of qualifying. The withdrawal statement must contain the candidate's signature. A fax withdrawal (fax: 850.245.6260) or a scanned copy of the withdrawal attached to an email addressed to <u>electrocords@dos.myflorida.com</u> is acceptable.

WHAT TO FILE

All candidates must file the following forms no later than the close of qualifying:

- Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (Form DS-DE
 If this form has previously been filed with the Division, you do not need to file it again.
- 2. Candidate Oath State and Local Partisan Office (Form DS-DE 301SL).
- 3. Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interests (**2018 CE Form 6**). A public officer who has filed a full and public disclosure or statement of financial interests for the year 2018 with the Commission on Ethics prior to qualifying for office may file a copy of that disclosure at the time of qualifying. **NOTE:** If you are an incumbent and will be filing a **copy** of CE Form 6 for 2018 as a qualifying requirement, the copy must be filed stamped by the Florida Commission on Ethics (COE). In the alternative, you may provide a cover letter with your signature stating that the original CE Form 6 for 2018 has been filed with the COE.

<u>In addition to the three forms referenced above</u>, a candidate qualifying by the fee method must submit a properly executed campaign check signed by the treasurer or a deputy treasurer in the amount of \$1,781.82 (partisan) or \$1,187.88 (no party affiliation.)

<u>Candidates who seek to qualify by the use of candidate petitions</u> must submit the petitions to the appropriate County Supervisor of Elections' Office by 5:00 p.m., February 8, 2019. Obtaining the required number of signatures only excuses the candidate from paying the qualifying fee and party assessment.

District	Required Number of Verified Candidate Petitions	
7	240	
38	288	
97	276	

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Section 106.07, Florida Statutes, requires you and your campaign treasurer to file reports of all contributions received and expenditures made. Your reporting dates are listed below.

CAMPAIGN REPORTING SCHEDULE

Report	Cover Period	Due Date
SP1	Date appointment filed – 2/28/19	3/11/19
SP2	3/1/19 – 4/4/19	4/5/19
SG1	4/5/19 - 5/9/19	5/16/19
SG2	5/10/19 - 6/13/19	6/14/19

<u>NOTE</u> – if you switch from the 2020 general election to the special election, your cover period will begin January 1, 2019.

ADDITIONAL FILING REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Although not required for qualifying, each candidate must file a Statement of Candidate (**DS-DE 84**) with the Division of Elections within 10 days after filing the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository. Willful failure to file this form is a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- 2. In addition, Section 106.141, Florida Statutes, requires that each candidate who withdraws his or her candidacy, becomes unopposed, or is eliminated or elected to office, within 90 days, dispose of the funds on deposit in his or her campaign account and file a termination report reflecting the disposition of all remaining funds.

If you have any questions, please call the Bureau of Election Records at 850-245-6280.

KRW/slb