

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

Objections of: YOLANDA L. HOSKINS)	
)	
)	
To the Nomination)	No.: 19-EB-ALD-021
Papers of: CHRIS TALIAFERRO)	
)	Rel.: 19-EB-ALD-070, 19-EB-ALD-069
Candidate for the office of Alderman for the)	
29th Ward of the City of Chicago)	

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 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 YOLANDA L. HOSKINS (“Objector”) to the nomination papers (“Nomination Papers”) of CHRIS TALIAFERRO, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 29th Ward of the City of Chicago (“Candidate”) at the General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019, having convened on Monday, December 10, 2018, at 8:30 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 legally constituted under 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.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on Monday, December 10, 2018 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Yamil E. Colón 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 hearing: the Objector, YOLANDA L. HOSKINS, and/or her Attorney ANDREW FINKO; the Candidate, CHRIS TALIAFERRO, and/or his Attorney Pericles Abassi.

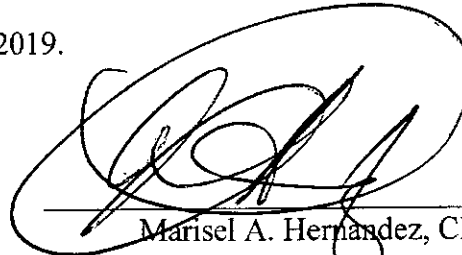
7. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board his report and recommended decision. The Hearing Officer recommends that the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers be overruled and that the Nomination Papers be declared valid because the Objectors' Petition failed to object to 480 signatures for a race in which only 473 are required.

8. The Electoral Board, having reviewed the record of proceedings in this matter and having considered the report and recommendations of the Hearing Officer, as well as all argument and evidence submitted by the parties, hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's recommended findings and conclusions of law. A copy of the Hearing Officer Report and Recommendations is attached hereto and is incorporated herein as part of the decision of the Electoral Board.

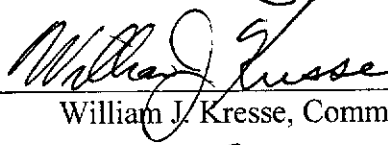
9. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board overrules the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers and, since related cases 19-EB-ALD-069 and 19-EB-ALD-070 have already been adjudicated in the Candidate's favor, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of YOLANDA L. HOSKINS to the Nomination Papers of CHRIS TALIAFERRO, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 29th Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of CHRIS TALIAFERRO, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 29th Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

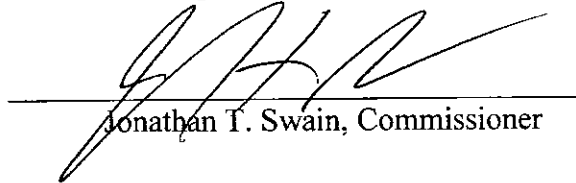
Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on January 12, 2019.



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.

**BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONER OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO AS THE
DULY CONSITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD FOR THE HEARING AND PASSING
UPON OF OBJECTIONS TO THE NOMINATNG PAPERS OF CANDIDATES
FOR THE FEBRUARY 26, 2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION FOR ALDERMAN OF
THE 29th WARD, CITY OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

YOLANDA L. HOSKINS,)	
)	
Petitioner-Objector,)	
)	
v.)	NO. 19 EB-ALD-021
CHRIS TALIAFERRO,)	
)	
Respondent- Candidate.)	

HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

This matter came to be heard initially on December 10, 2018. The Candidate appeared by counsel, Mr. Pericles Abbasi. The Objector, Yolanda L. Hoskins, did not appear. A review of the Board case file disclosed no evidence of service. The Hearing Officer than issued a request for service attempt on the Objector, and continued the matter for status of service to December 14, 2018. At the status date both parties appeared by counsel. The Objector was represented by counsel, Mr. Andrew Finko, who filed an Appearance, Non-Disclosure Statement and Waiver of Service forms. At the commencement of the status hearing, the Candidate's counsel indicated an intention to file a Rule 5 Motion, and a briefing schedule was set by the Hearing Officer with a hearing for December 17, 2018.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE MOTION

On December 17, 2018, both counsel for the parties appeared. At that time, the Candidate acknowledged to the Hearing Officer that no rule 5 motion was filed. The objections raised by the Objector's petition concerned issues of voters who are not registered, or are not registered at the indicated address; voter's signatures not genuine; and insufficient signatures. In light of the nature of the objections, a directive for a records exam was issued. The record examination was to be conducted at a date to be determined later.

On January 3, 2018, the Candidate's counsel filed and served upon all parties a Motion to Suspend Records Examination. The Objector objected to the motion to suspend on the basis of it not being timely, and that the "records examination is the only process at this juncture for resolving the question of valid signatures." The record examination had not yet begun, when a preliminary Summary Report was produce by Board personnel at the request of the Candidate. (See Exhibit A to the Motion to Suspend Records Examination).

The Summary Report indicated that there were a total of 480 signatures which were unchallenged. The candidate needs 473 valid signatures and he has 7 in excess of the required minimum according to the Preliminary Summary Report.

The Hearing Officer directed an email communication to Objector's counsel inquiring whether he disputed the finding of the Summary Report. No response was received.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

Since there were 480 unchallenged signatures, the Candidate clearly has at least the requisite 473 valid signatures necessary to be on the ballot. The Electoral Board's Summary Report is conclusive. The Objector's Petition is overruled. It is recommended that the Candidate's name be placed on the ballot for the election of February 26, 2019 as Alderman for the 29th Ward in Chicago, Illinois.

Respectfully Submitted,

S/ Yamil E. Colón

Hearing Officer
January 8, 2019