

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

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Objections of: ROGELIO VARELA and	)	
MICHAEL E. POLLOCK	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 19-EB-ALD-059
Papers of: MAYRA GONZALEZ	)	
	)	Rel.: 19-EB-ALD-060, 19-EB-ALD-058
	)	
Candidate for the office of Alderman 35th	)	
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, Chairwoman of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections (“Objections”) of ROGELIO VARELA and MICHAEL E. POLLOCK (“Objectors”) to the nomination papers (“Nomination Papers”) of MAYRA GONZALEZ, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 35th 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 said Electoral Board has been legally 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 Objectors 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 Terence Flynn for further hearings and proceedings.

6. The Objectors 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 Objectors, ROGELIO VARELA and MICHAEL E. POLLOCK by their attorney Pericles Abbasi, and the Candidate, MAYRA GONZALEZ, pro se.

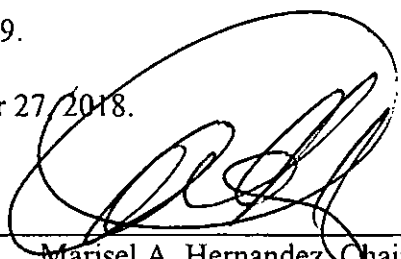
7. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board a report and recommended decision. Based upon the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer found that the Candidate filed with her Nomination Papers the incorrect version of the Statement of Economic Interests ("SEI") form that was required to be timely filed pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/10-5 and the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 420/1, *et seq.* The Candidate filed the version of the SEI form created by and to be filed with the Illinois Secretary of State, whereas the Candidate was required to file the SEI form created by and to be filed with the Cook County Clerk's office. Filing the wrong version of the SEI form is a fatal flaw to a candidacy. *Cortez v. Municipal Officers Electoral Bd. for the City of Calumet City*, 2013 IL App (1<sup>st</sup>) 130442 ¶¶26-34. The Hearing Officer found, therefore, that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

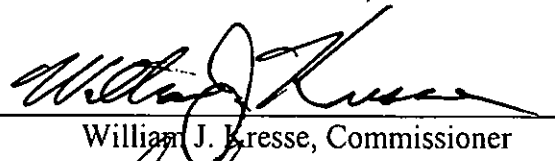
8. The Electoral Board, having considered the evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Officer's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law, hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's recommended findings and conclusions of law.

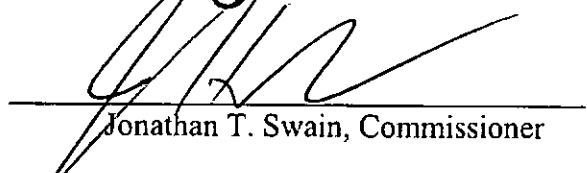
9. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Objections filed in this matter should be sustained and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are invalid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of ROGELIO VARELA and MICHAEL E. POLLOCK to the Nomination Papers of MAYRA GONZALEZ, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 35th Ward of the City of Chicago District of the State of Illinois, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of MAYRA GONZALEZ, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 35th Ward of the City of Chicago District, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Thursday, December 27, 2018.

  
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Marisel A. Hernandez, Chairwoman

  
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William J. Kresse, Commissioner

  
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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.