

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

Objections of: GEORGE C MCKINLEY)
)
)
 To the Nomination) No.: 19-EB-ALD-085
 Papers of: TARA STAMPS)
)
 Candidate for the office of)
 Alderman of the 37th 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 GEORGE C MCKINLEY (“Objector”) to the nomination papers (“Nomination Papers”) of TARA STAMPS, candidate for the office of Alderman of the 37th 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 Objector and the Candidate, by registered or certified mail and by Sheriff's service, as provided by statute.

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

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Mary Celeste Meehan for further hearings and proceedings.

6. 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 Call. The following persons, among others, were present at or filed appearances during such hearing; the Objector, GEORGE C MCKINLEY, and/or his Attorney, JAMES P. NALLY; and the Candidate, TARA STAMPS, and/or her Attorney, ED Mullen.

7. The Hearing Officer ordered that an examination of the voter registration records be conducted by clerks and agents under the Board's direction and supervision, in accordance with the laws of Illinois and the rules of the Board.

8. The Hearing Officer directed all parties to appear and be present, either personally and/or by their authorized representatives during this records examination.

9. The Candidate and/or her duly authorized representative was present during the examination of the registration records.

10. The Objector and/or his duly authorized representative was present during the examination of the registration records.

11. The examination of the registration records was completed and the Electoral Board hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the results of the records examination

conducted by its clerks and agents. The written report of the result of the registration records examination is contained in the Board's file in this case and a copy has been provided or made available to the parties.

12. The results of the records examination indicate that:

A. The minimum number of valid signatures required by law for placement on the ballot for the office in question is 473.

B. The remaining number of signatures deemed valid as a result of the records examination total 517.

13. The Electoral Board finds that the Objector withdrew, or declined to move forward with, his Rule 8 Motion and rested his case on the results of the records exam. The Electoral Board therefore finds that the number of valid signatures appearing on the Candidate's nominating petition following completion of the records examination exceeds the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for the office of Alderman for the 37th Ward of the City of Chicago.

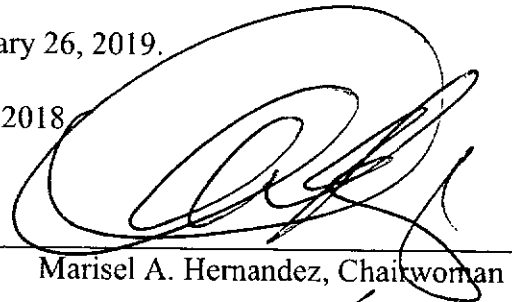
14. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board a report and recommended decision. Based upon the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer found that the Candidate's Nomination Papers contained 517 valid signatures, which exceeds the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for the office of Alderman for the 37th Ward of the City of Chicago, and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers should be found valid.

15. 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.

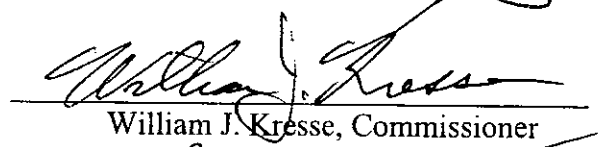
16. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate has a sufficient number of valid signatures on her nominating petitions and that the Nomination Papers of TARA STAMPS are, therefore, valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of GEORGE C MCKINLEY to the Nomination Papers of TARA STAMPS, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 37th Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of TARA STAMPS, candidate for the office of Alderman for the 37th 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.

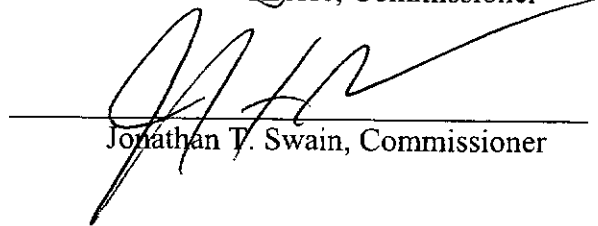
Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday, January 2, 2018



Marisel A. Hernandez, Chairwoman



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 COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO
AS THE DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD**

George C. McKinley)	
Petitioner-Objector)	
v.)	Case No. 19-EB-ALD-085
)	Hearing Officer Meehan
Tara Stamps,)	
Respondent-Candidate)	

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDED DECISION

The above-named cause came to be heard before the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners ("The Board") on the verified objection petition of George C. McKinley ("the Objector") to the nomination papers of Tara Stamps ("the Candidate") for the Office of Alderman for the 37th Ward, City of Chicago, State of Illinois. Mary C. Meehan, Hearing Officer summarizes and recommends as follows:

The initial hearing in this matter was conducted on December 10, 2018. The Candidate is represented by Attorney Ed Mullen. The Objectors is represented by Attorney James Nally. In sum, the parties agreed there would be no preliminary motions and the matter should proceed directly to a Rule 6 records exam. A records directive was issued. On December 17, 2018 the Objector filed a Rule 8 motion based on the preliminary findings asking for leave to amend if needed, based on the final results. The Candidate did not object and reserved his right to file his Rule 8 motion in the normal fashion after the final results. On December 19, 2018 the final results of the records exam were tendered to the parties. The Candidate filed a timely Rule 8 motion. The parties reconvened on December 27, 2018 for a status hearing on the results of the records exam. The Objector withdrew his Rule 8 motion and rested on the results of the records exam.

THE RESULTS OF THE RECORDS EXAMINATION

The records exam was completed on December 19, 2018. The results were as follows:

- A. The minimum valid signatures required by law for placement on the ballot for the office of Alderman for 37th ward is 473;

- B. The total number of signatures is 1320;
- C. Total number of signatures objected to and ruled on is 2071;
- D. The total number of signatures overruled is 1177;
- E. The number of signatures deemed invalid because of objections sustained as a result of the records exam total 894.
- F. The number of signatures deemed valid as a result of the records exam is 517.
- G. The Candidate was **144 signatures above the statutorily required minimum.**

FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

For reasons stated above, the Hearings Officer recommends the Chicago Board of Electors find the Nominating Papers of Tara Stamps for the Office of Alderman of the 37th Ward, City of Chicago, State of Illinois to be voted on in the Municipal General Election on February 26, 2019 to be deemed **VALID**.

ENTERED THIS 27th day of December, 2018.



Mary C. Meehan
Hearing Officer