

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

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<b>Objections of: CAROLYN HIGHTOWER</b>	)	
<b>CHALMERS</b>	)	
	)	
<b>To the Nomination</b>	)	<b>No.: 07-EB-ALD-192</b>
<b>Papers of: LESLIE A. HAIRSTON</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Candidate for the office of</b>	)	
<b>Alderman of the Fifth Ward,</b>	)	
<b>City of Chicago</b>	)	

**FINDINGS AND DECISION**

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of Board of Election Commissioners of the City of Chicago Commissioners Langdon D. Neal and Richard A. Cowen, organized by law in response to a Call issued by Langdon D. Neal, Chairman of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections (“Objections”) of CAROLYN HIGHTOWER CHALMERS (“Objector”) to the nomination papers (“Nomination Papers”) of LESLIE A. HAIRSTON, candidate for the office of Alderman of the Fifth Ward of the City of Chicago (“Candidate”) to be elected at the Municipal General Election to be held on February 27, 2007, having convened on January 2, 2007, at 10:00 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 herein 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 Chairman 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 January 2, 2007 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Examiner Ernesto Borges, Jr. 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 Examiner on the date and at the time designated in the Call. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearing; the Objector, CAROLYN HIGHTOWER CHALMERS, pro se; and the Candidate, LESLIE A. HAIRSTON, by counsel, Roderick T. Sawyer.

7. The Objector presented objections to the validity of the signatures on the Candidate's Nomination Papers.

8. The Hearing Examiner found that even assuming that all of the Objector's objections were sustained, the number of sustained objections would still be insufficient to invalidate the Candidate's Nomination Papers because she would still have enough valid signatures.

9. The Hearing Examiner has tendered to the Electoral Board his report and recommended decision. The Hearing Examiner recommends that the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers be overruled and that the Nomination Papers be found valid.

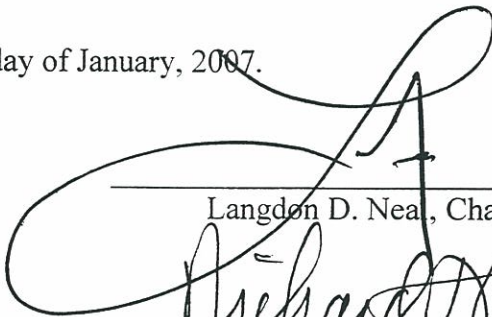
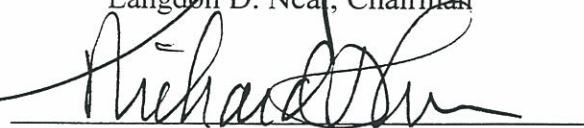
10. The Electoral Board, having reviewed the record of proceedings in this matter and having considered the report and recommendations of the Hearing Examiner, as well as all

argument and evidence submitted by the parties, hereby adopts the Hearing Examiner's recommended findings and conclusions of law.

11. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board overrules the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination Papers and finds that the Candidate's Nomination Papers are valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of CAROLYN HIGHTOWER CHALMERS to the Nomination Papers of LESLIE A. HAIRSTON, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the Fifth Ward of the City of Chicago, are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of LESLIE A. HAIRSTON, candidate for election to the office of Alderman of the Fifth Ward of the City of Chicago, SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the Municipal General Election to be held on February 27, 2007.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, this 23rd day of January, 2007.

  
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Langdon D. Neal, Chairman  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard A. Cowen, 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 10 days after the decision of the Electoral Board.

SERVICE ATTACHED

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO  
AS THE DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD  
FOR THE HEARING AND PASSING UPON OBJECTIONS  
TO NOMINATION PAPERS OF CANDIDATES  
FOR THE FEBRUARY 27, 2007 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

2007 JUN 19 AM 10:10

Carolyn Hightower Chalmers, )  
 )  
 Petitioner-Objector, )  
 ) Case No. 07-EB-ALD-192  
 vs. )  
 )  
 Leslie Hairston, )  
 )  
 Respondent-Candidate. )

Hearing Officer: Ernesto D. Borges, Jr.

**Hearing Examiner's Report and Recommended Decision**

This matter came before the hearing examiner on January 2, 2007. The case was called at or about 4:30 p.m. The Objector, Carolyn Hightower Chalmers appeared pro se. The Candidate appeared through her attorney, Roderick Sawyer. A Hearing was held at which time it was noted that the Objector had not objected to sufficient signatures nor other allegations to invalidate the Candidate's nomination papers. This hearing officer identified pages 13 through 50 which were unobjected to containing signatures of 246 signers of the Candidate's nomination papers being sufficient to place the Candidate on the ballot.

**I. Objections Presented.**

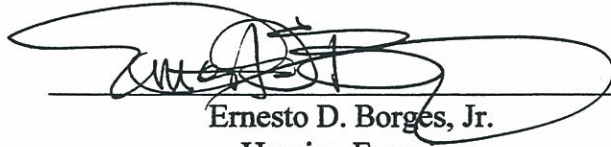
The Objector presented objections to validity of the signatures on the nomination papers.

**II. Findings of Fact.**

- A. That even if all of Objector's objections were sustained, the number would be insufficient to invalidate the nomination papers of the Candidate.
- B. That the number of objections to the signatures of the nominating papers were insufficient to invalidate the candidacy of the Candidate.

### **III. Recommendations.**

Taking into consideration the above mentioned factual finding and matter of law, it is the recommendation of the hearing examiner that the Board adopt the findings, decisions and recommendations herein thereby validating her nomination papers for the office of Alderman of the 5th Ward of the City of Chicago, State of Illinois. Be it further recommended that the name of Candidate Leslie Hairston be placed on the ballot for the upcoming Municipal General Election set for February 27, 2007.



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Ernesto D. Borges, Jr.  
Hearing Examiner

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