

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

Objections of: KHALID HANKINS and)	
HENRY TAYLOR)	
)	
To the Nomination)	No.: 23-EB-ALD-053
Papers of: ADRIENNE IRMER)	
)	Rel.: 23-EB-ALD-069
)	
Candidate for the office of Alderperson 5th)	
Ward, 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 June A. Brown, 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 KHALID HANKINS and HENRY TAYLOR (“Objectors”) to the nomination papers (“Nomination Papers”) of ADRIENNE IRMER, candidate for the office of Alderperson of the 5th Ward (“Candidate”) at the Municipal General and Alderperson Elections to be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, having convened on Friday, December 9, 2022, at 4:00 p.m., 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 its members of the Electoral Board, the Objectors and the

Candidate, by registered or certified mail and by Sheriff's service, as provided by statute or service was waived.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on Friday, December 9, 2022 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Linda R. Crane for further hearings and proceedings.

5. 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, KHALID HANKINS and HENRY TAYLOR, through their attorneys, ANDREW FINKO and PRESTON BROWN, JR.; and the Candidate, ADRIENNE IRMER, through her Attorney MICHAEL C. DORF.

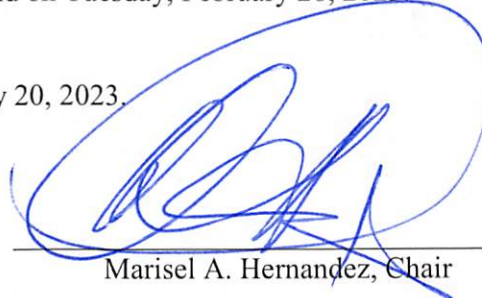
6. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board a report and recommended decision. Based upon the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer found that the current 5th Ward boundaries, as redistricted by the Chicago City Council in 2022, do not overlap the former boundaries of the 8th Ward, as redistricted by the City Council in 2012, to any extent whatsoever. Specifically, the Hearing Officer found that the 5th Ward/8th Ward boundary from 2012 ran along the centerline of the Chicago Skyway based on metes-and-bounds descriptions contained in the 2012 City Council redistricting ordinance, and that the current 5th Ward/8th Ward boundary from the census block codes contained in the 2022 redistricting ordinance equally runs down the center of the Skyway. Therefore, there is no overlap between the current 5th Ward and the former 8th Ward and, therefore, pursuant to 65 ILCS 20/21-14(a), this Candidate, who resides in the 8th Ward, is not eligible to be a candidate for the office of 5th Ward alderperson.

7. Having considered the evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Officer's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law, including additional argument by the parties and brief testimony by GIS contractor and redistricting expert Larry Hanson during a Rule 20 hearing, the Electoral Board hereby adopts and incorporates the Hearing Officer's recommended findings and conclusions of law.

8. 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 KHALID HANKINS and HENRY TAYLOR to the Nomination Papers of ADRIENNE IRMER, candidate for the office of Alderperson of the 5th Ward, are hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name of ADRIENNE IRMER, candidate for the office of Alderperson for the 5th Ward, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the Municipal General and Alderperson Elections to be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023.

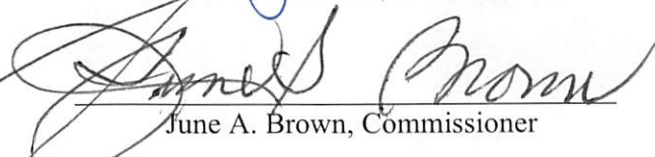
Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, January 20, 2023.



Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair



William J. Kresse, Commissioner



June A. Brown, 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.

- Candidate's Motion To Dismiss Objector's Petition Or In The Alternative For Summary Judgment;
- Objector's Response to Candidate's Motion to Dismiss of Summary Judgment;
- Objector's Reply;
- Objector's Motion for Summary Judgment; and
- Objector's Request For Subpoenas.

All filings were timely.

The second hearing convened on December 20, 2022 and both attorneys for the parties were present. Each Party provided a brief description of the evidence that they intended to present in support of their respective Pleadings and requested an evidentiary hearing pursuant to Rule 5 of the Board's Rules and it was scheduled for December 28, 2022.

Before adjourning for the day, Mr. Finko and I discussed his Request for Subpoenas which requested the issuance of subpoenas to command the attendance of Mr. Charles Holliday, the CBOE Executive Director; and Mr. Larry Hansen, a consultant to the CBOE. Prior to the hearing, I had sent Mr. Finko an e-mail requesting information about the nature of the subject matter that he expected from them as witnesses. I had received no response prior to the hearing. During the hearing, I asked Mr. Finko if he would be willing to Withdraw his Request for Subpoenas in exchange for my assurance that any CBOE staff from whom he needed testimonial evidence would testify voluntarily, subject only to whether they were the most appropriate expert on the topic for which he wanted their testimony. Mr. Finko agreed, in principle, and subsequently withdrew his request for Mr. Holliday to testify about the redistricting boundaries used in the creation of the new (2022) city Ward maps because Mr. Hanson, as, the resident expert on that subject matter would be the person upon whom Mr. Holliday would rely if he testified. The hearing ended, no subpoenas were issued, and Mr. Hanson was asked to attend the evidentiary hearing as a witness.

The third (evidentiary) hearing commenced on December 28, 2022. Attorneys for both parties were present, as were two witnesses: Mr. Larry Hanson, for the Objector; and former Alderman John Arena, for the Candidate; as were the Candidate, Ms. Irmer and CBOE General Counsel, Adam Lasker.

Mr. Finko prepared to present his case and, at the outset, made Motion to Exclude Witnesses from the room. Said Motion was granted and Ald. Arena left the room. Next, Mr. Finko asked to introduce some Exhibits and eventually entered a total of 10 Exhibits. Mr. Dorf raised no lasting objections to the Exhibits and they were entered as numbered 1-4, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 6C, and 7, as follows:

1. **Objector's Exhibit #1.** 2012 map of Ward 8, bearing CBOE identification stamp (hereinafter, "map of the old 8th Ward");
2. **Objector's Exhibit #2.** 2022 map of Ward 5, bearing CBOE identification stamp (hereinafter, "map of the new 5th Ward").;

3. **Objector's Exhibit #3.** Copy of CBOE voter information record for Adrienne M. Irmer at the address: 7542 S. East End Avenue, Chicago, 60649;
4. **Objector's Exhibit #4.** Copy of a document with the heading: Alderperson Candidate Eligibility for the February 28, 2023, Chicago Elections Following the City Councils' 2022 Ward Redistricting.
5. **Objector's Exhibit #5A.** Copy of page from City of Chicago Journal for January 19, 2012 with language from Ordinance 2-8-380 "Eighth Ward" containing the metes and bounds boundaries of the 8th Ward as of that date. (hereinafter, "the old 8th Ward')
6. **Objector's Exhibit #5B.** Same as Exhibit 5A, but with an updated new date "REVISED 4/27/2012" due to additional emphasis of some words that have been made more conspicuous that they are in the 1-19-2012 (original entered as 5A) by being newly capitalized and in bold print.
7. **Objector's Exhibit #6A.** Copy of Ordinances 2-8-300 and 2-8-350, 5th Ward was adopted by the City of Chicago in May 2022 containing the census blocks data that were used to draw the boundaries for the 5th Ward as of that date; and a map attached (hereinafter, "the new 5th Ward"). Mr. Finko acquired this document through a FOIA Request to the CBOE.
8. **Objector's Exhibit #6B.** Same as Exhibit 6A, but with additional information on the last page that summarizes legislative history of the amendments and the ordinances that were previously adopted. Mr. Finko acquired this document City of Chicago website.
9. **Objector's Exhibit #6C.** Census blocks that make up the 5th Ward. (as identified by Larry Hanson when questioned by Mr. Finko during his direct examination. (12-28-2022 Transcript at 23-24.)
10. **Objector's (Group) Exhibit #7.** Overlays created by Mr. Finko for purpose of demonstrating overlap, if any, of the boundaries of the new 5th Ward, the new 4th Ward, the new 20th Ward and the old 8th Wards on a smaller scale than the larger map previously entered as Objector's Exhibit 2.

After offering his first eight Exhibits (the remaining 2 were offered during his direct examination of Mr. Hanson), Mr. Finko called Mr. Hanson as a witness and he was sworn in by the court reporter. During his questioning by Mr. Finko, Mr. Hanson testimony included the following (in chronological order, not order of importance):

- That he is working currently as a consultant for the CBOE on the redistricting project and "redistricted the new wards and create(d) precincts based on that ward map." (12-28-22 Transcript at 13);

- That he has a Master's Degree in geography from UIC and learned Geographic Information Systems (GIS) through training with ESRI, which is a major GIS software developer; and has 25-30 years of experience in management of GIS systems and technology.
- That he "did the redistricting this year" (*12-28-22 Trans. at 13*).
- When asked to do so, he described relationship between GIS software and redistricting and how they integrate or intersect:
 - "So, we use the map layers, so you have a layer for the wards, you have a layer for precincts. These are all separate layers that are in the GIS. And then the software combines them and ... the software identifies where these layers overlap and is also used to create data for those layers as well. So, we identify them individually, these different shapes for each one of the different geographies." (*12-28-22 Trans. at 14*)
 - "... Layers, (is a) layman's term, ... the GIS (industry), they call (them) features. So, a feature represents an entity that's ... the same throughout the landscape...the landscape being whatever boundaries we're looking at. ...A layer would represent, for instance, if we're talking about wards, the ward would be a layer. The precincts would be a layer. Other features on the map would be layers as well. So, you'd have features like streets, that would be a layer as well. So that's the distinction between there. And they're distinct entities. Each layer could have data that represents that layer, characteristics of that layer." (*12-28-22 Trans. at 14-16*).
- That the 2022 Ward map boundaries were created based on census block data from the 2020; and the GIS software creates unique numbers to determine the location of geographic boundary lines by combining census block data (which are not unique) with the 2022 city remap ordinance (*12-28-22 Trans. at 20*). So, we have a map that has the individual blocks, each of which is identified by a unique 16-digit number assigned by the City Council Ordinance (e.g., 1703141059001009 taken from Obj. Exh. 6C) that contains information from a set of sources: "170 is for the State of Illinois; ... 31... is Cook County; 410500 is the census tract number; and 1009 is the block number (*See, 12-28-22 Trans. at 23-28*)."
 - "So, we have a version of the 2020 census at the block level. ... We import ... this information into our map and matched it up; and identified the wards that way. So, each Ward has its unique identifying census block number. And we (CBOE) then ... tagged each one of the blocks with the Ward that it's in. So, (all blocks numbers in) the 5th Ward would have get a(n) (additional number, e.g. 5 or the 5th Ward) in ... a (new) column for wards." (*12-28-22 Trans. at 28*) ... So, what makes (it) unique is the whole number." (*12-28-22 Trans. at 26*).

- That there is a strict protocol followed to make sure the data was entered properly in the GIS system, involving “several iterations of checking”
“(T)he first check is going to be a visual check, looking at the map itself and identifying areas where your boundaries either don't match because you're missing a block number or something like that. So initially we could see those issues. Then we looked at making sure that all of these numbers are unique within the data set for the census so that we don't have any overlapping block numbers. There are other checks that you can do to make sure that you have a full set of data and it's represented on the map. You go through and make sure you don't have any empty or null records representing your ward numbers.” (12-28-22 Trans. at 29-30).
- That he agreed:
“with a reasonable degree of certainty based on (his) experience in GIS and remapping and redistricting procedures that the data that was entered into the CBOE GIS system was accurate, complete, and 100 % in compliance with what the...5th Ward ordinance states.” (12-28-22 Trans. at 30).
- That he agreed:
“with a reasonable degree of certainty based on (his) experience in GIS and remapping and redistricting procedures that the maps that are printed by the Chicago Board of Election including Objector's Exhibit #2 (map of the new 5th Ward) would have been created from the GIS system, the software that you would have used and based upon the ordinance census block data.” (12-28-22 Trans. at 30).
- That it was opinion:
“with a reasonable degree of experience and expertise in remapping and GIS software that the map which is shown as Objector's Exhibit No. 2 is a true and accurate map showing the boundary of the 5th Ward as it was redistricted on May 19, 2022.”
(12-28-22 Trans. at 30-31).
- That he had no knowledge of nor familiarity reviewing and commenting about the maps created in 2012 (using metes and bounds measurements, not census tract data). (12-28-22 Trans. at 31).
- That he was involved with creating Objector's Exhibit #4 reporting CBOE determination of Alderperson eligibility in the Feb. 28, 2023 Election - specifically to determine whether there were any parts of the old 8th Ward that are now in the new 5th Ward:
“Well, we created an old ward map using census blocks from the 2020 census blocks. (W)e had old ward geography that we used and we overlaid that on top of the census blocks, identified each one of the blocks similar to what we did with the wards for the

2022 map. We had 2015, or a 2012, 2015 ward identifier(s) for all the old wards within the 2020 census block data set. So, then we went ahead and generated boundaries based on those blocks within each one of those wards. So once again, ... we overlaid and identified each one of the blocks within the wards, assigned that ward number to that block and then generated a new map based on census blocks.” (12-28-22 *Trans. at 43*)

- That he used the same strict protocols to check the accuracy of the baseline based on Ward boundary information from old ward identifier information as was used to check for accuracy of the overlap information generated using the 2022 ward identifier information to create the new maps. “(W)e went through same process we did for the 2020 block. So, we looked at uniqueness, we looked at overlap and we looked at any kind of issues.” (12-28-22 *Trans. at 41*)
- That, according to all of their collective expertise and quality assurance processes, neither he, nor the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, nor The Districts and Boundaries Department found no overlap between the old 8th Ward and the new 5th Ward. “We found that there was none.” “(W)e (only) identified (overlap between the old 8th Ward and the new redistricted maps in the) 6th Ward, 7th Ward and 8th Ward.” (12-28-22 *Trans. at 44-45*)
- That Exhibit #4 is accurate. (See, 12-28-22 *Transcript at 45*)

Mr. Finko ended his direct examination of Mr. Hanson; reserving time for rebuttal if needed. Mr. Dorf commenced his cross-examination of Mr. Hanson. During his questioning by Mr. Dorf, Mr. Hanson testimony included the following (in chronological order, not order of importance):

- That he was aware that the 2012 map was drawn based on survey (metes and bounds) data and that the 2022 maps are all based on census blocks; but that he didn’t know why the City Council changed the Ordinance governing the remapping process and was not involved with the decision. (See, 12-28-22 *Transcript at 48-50*)
- That the Ordinance that contains the census blocks corresponds to the 202 census blocks that the Board had and “made it quite easy for us to build those new ward geography.” (See, 12-28-22 *Transcript at 48*)
- That “(f)or the most part, census blocks identify a city block. But census blocks also identify the roads, railroad right of ways, ... everything on the landscape ... includ(ing) rivers, ... all kinds of structures that are odd shaped and are larger than a city block,” and may or may not contain any houses or be populated. (See, 12-28-22 *Transcript at 50-51*)

- That, although, census blocks “try” to acknowledge the concept of “center lines”, (a term used extensively throughout the 2012 Ordinance adopting Ward maps which were drawn using metes and bounds boundaries measurements methodology, (c)ensus blocks usually don’t include (recognition of) right of ways. They go to center street. ... (B)oth sides of the street (are) going to be occupied by part of the census block, each side.” *(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 54-55)*
- That different data sets in use by map makers can result in some degree of ambiguity (differences) in the location of center lines and the boundaries.
“When you have multiple data sets that are disparate, meaning you have somebody creating something her, somebody creating something there, you might have ambiguities, right.”
(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 61-62)

Mr. Dorf’s Exhibits, which were allowed to be numbered for the sake of the record and not for the truth of the matter being asserted - over Mr. Finko’s repeated objections, were the following 1-3 as follows:

1. Candidate’s Exhibit #1. A map of the old 8th Ward that Mr. Dorf said was taken from the city’s GIS database according to an Affidavit of Frank Calabrese, who did not attend the hearing to establish a foundation for the maps; nor for questioning by Mr. Dorf or for cross-examination by Mr. Finko.
2. Candidate’s Exhibit #2. A map of the new 5^h Ward that Mr. Dorf said was taken from the city’s GIS database, but he could not provide a link to the database.
3. Candidate’s Exhibit #3. A “demonstrative overlay.”
“**HEARING OFFICER CRANE:** Can you state generally what the source of this is?
“**MR. DORF:** This is the city of Chicago's GIS database from which one can copy the maps.
MR. FINKO: Was it the 2010 census data?
MR. DORF: My understanding is that it is based on Mr. Calabrese's affidavit that is based on the May 16, 2022 database.
MR. FINKO: And that's something that I have a concern about. And I would just like to note that as an ongoing objection as to the source.
HEARING OFFICER CRANE: So, noted.
MR. DORF: And then finally again, just as Mr. Finko showed you a demonstrative exhibit, the two together, I'd like to show you our demonstrative exhibit of the two (maps overlain) together.

Q (Mr. Dorf): And again, starting from that point on South Cottage Grove again, here's the Skyway. Based on Mr. Calabrese's overlay, there's a clear overlay going beyond the center line as drawn from the city's GIS maps. Do you see that overlap based on this demonstrative exhibit?

A (Mr. Hanson): Yes. I also see gaps in their map.

Q (Mr. Dorf): Pardon?

A (Mr. Hanson): There's a gap here. I kind of question the accuracy of this map. *(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 67)*

- That without expert confirmation of the reliability of a map for its intended purpose, it is very difficult to vouch for its accuracy. Labels, legends on maps are often meaningless; and other factors: scale, purpose, etc. are relevant but often unreliable for a consequential question.

Mr. Dorf: My question is, since the map is supposed to reflect the ordinance and the ordinance for the old 8th Ward specifically said "middle line" of the Chicago Skyway, why wouldn't the official city map based on the ordinance not say Chicago Skyway?

Mr. Hanson: "So the ward geography, which is what we have here, the outline is representative of the ordinance, not the map. The map itself is created for a totally different purpose. These are maps that we present to the public and they use it in whatever way they want. But this wasn't created or designed to mimic this map here (indicating). Maps are unique to their purpose." *(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 66)*

Q You had mentioned to Mr. Finko that one of the layers represents boundary lines.

A Mm hmm.

Q And so I guess you could tell where I'm going with this. When you drew the boundary line for the Skyway, was this -- what was it based on?

A **So, we did not draw any of the lines.** The lines were based on our base layer of the census, right? And so that already exists. We generate other layers based on that base layer, okay? **And the reason we do that is so that we have consistency throughout our GIS. You don't want to have lines that intersect each other and create slivers and things like that and, you know, things that I kind of see in your map there. So, we create everything from a base layer and we did that for both the old wards and the new wards so that we once again would be consistent.**

Q When you are looking at Mr. Finko's demonstrative exhibit and he asked you whether they were adjacent as opposed to overlapping and you said that's what it seems but it is very difficult to say.

A Right, and that's because of scale, right? So, these maps are of different scale as we saw, right? One area is represented here

(indicating). On the other map, I think it's a larger representation. You can see more detail.

And so, when you're at the paper level, it's always kind of, it's representative, right? We're representing something that has been described and something that has been determined as far as geographies are concerned. **So that's why I think we're better off looking at this within the GIS and not paper maps that are just representative -- GIS has your lines adjacent to each other. There's no question about it. Whereas the maps, you say look at this map. Is this adjacent to that? Well, it looks like it might be. But if you zoom in on it, on the GIS, you'll see those lines might be apart. So, it's just a technical scale and accuracy issue.** (12-28-22 Transcript at 70-71)

- That he had gone back and looked at the maps and still believed they are still accurate. That he had specifically looked at the census blocks in the Skyway to see whether or not they crossed the middle line, the center line.

“So once again, when I looked at that, there were a number off census blocks that represented the skyway itself. And so what I looked at was what blocs were identified in the list for the 5th ward and what blocks were identified in the list for the 8th ward. And they panned out. I mean, there was no difference or change.” (12-28-22 Transcript at 77)

Mr. Dorf rested and, in response to Mr. Finko asked a follow up question in redirect:

Q. Mr. Finko: The specific question was in relation to this particular area, the 1, 2 area we were talking about on the Skyway. In your checking, if there was an overlap, would the overlap have revealed itself through the process that you were using to check?

A: Mr. Hanson: Yes.

Q: And if the census blocks were actually overlapping from the old 8th ward into the 5th ward, how would that have shown up when you were doublechecking? The census blocks, how would they have been revealed?

A: Well, we would have seen, because we were selecting based on the geography, we would have seen slivers or blocks that were not part of the data set. So, for instance, you're overlaying the wards and you're selecting your blocks. If they're not exactly on top of each other in the GIS, they're not -- then you will select erroneous blocks, right, or you select blocks that represent an area bigger than what the boundary line is. So, once again, if we had a, let's say we had

a census block that came over this area like this (indicating), okay, and we overlaid this and selected that line because it was overlapping it, then you would have that census block identified. And what we did, once again, is identified the blocks based on the geographies, or ... based on the list that we had from the ordinances. **So, it would have been, I guess my point is it would have been a glaring kind of situation where you'd say, 'oh, this block locks out of place.'**"

(12-28-22 Transcript at 79)

Mr. Finko withdrew another anticipated witness and rested.

Mr. Dorf called his only witness, former Alderman John Arena. Alderman Arena was sworn in by the court reporter.

- That he had been an Alderman of the 45th Ward for the City of Chicago from May of 2011 to May of 2019 during which period he was involved in the 2012 redistricting of wards in the city. He described the process in some detail, *(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 82-84)*.
- That the city's law department drafted the ordinance which included metes and bounds legal descriptions based on GIS data.

"based on the GIS data that was coming, you know, that was being input in those meetings, they then had a, I guess a legal description, so a metes and bounds description. And the printed the maps that we were able to look at that, in our case, was focused on the 45th Ward and the neighboring wards but also larger maps that included, you know, the entirety of the city."
(12-28-22 Transcript at 83-84)
- That he did not recall any discussions about whether the ordinance should be drafted using census blocks as opposed to metes and bounds. *(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 84)*
- That, as an alderman involved in the redistricting process, he his personal mission was to create a Ward map that was coherent and community-based and unifying, especially when selecting the location of boundary lines *(See, 12-28-22 Transcript at 86)*:

"So, if a proposed line or a line that I came in was a residential street and it was, you know, a block or half a block from a major street like Irving Park Road which is a major thoroughfare, our goal, and we consistently went back into those iterations trying to bring those lines to not separate residential streets. Because there it's like you have a neighbor across the street that's in a different ward than you versus a commercial street or a major thoroughfare, the Kennedy expressway or wherever which, you know, has less of an impact, right? It's more of a dividing line, if you will, that's coherent to the average resident versus, from my standpoint of delivering from city services to individual residents, why I couldn't deliver services on one side of a residential street

versus another. Generally, in conversations I had with my constituents was 'try to avoid that'. That creates confusion, that creates this kind of division of services that we were trying to overcome. So, in our case when we were going back into that room, we were seeking to move lines and include lines that followed major thoroughfares wherever possible." (12-28-22 Transcript at 86-87)

RECOMMENDATION

I find the Objector's proffered evidence through Mr. Hanson the more compelling and persuasive. Mr. Hanson's reputation and expertise was firmly established and not challenged by the Candidate. Moreover, his testimonial evidence, which included verifying the provenance of the maps upon which his testimony centered, was not sufficiently countered or contradicted by the Candidate.

Specifically, Mr. Hanson had high-level, direct involvement in the 2022 remapping process inside of the CBOE which equipped him with the resources necessary to contradict the Candidate's assertions that the maps of the old 8th and the new 5th Wards overlapped in the middle of the Chicago Skyway I90. The provenance of his maps was more reliable than the maps that were introduced by the Candidate, who offered no testimonial evidence from an expert who had been involved in the 2022 redistricting or remapping processes.

Based on the foregoing, I am making the following recommendations for consideration by the Commissioners:

1. That the Candidate/Respondent's Motion to Dismiss be denied; and
2. That the Objector's Motion for Summary Judgment be denied; and
3. That the Objector's objections be sustained and the name of the Candidate not be added to the ballot for the upcoming Municipal Election for the Office of Alderperson of the 5th Ward of the City of Chicago, State of Illinois to be held on February 28, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 11, 2023

By: Linda R. Crane
Linda R. Crane
Hearing Officer