

## The First Amendment

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

## The ABC's of Petitions

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Your rights and responsibilities • The rules you must follow

# Petitions are political speech

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- The right to petition the government for correction of public grievances derives from the English Magna Charta of 1215.
- The First Amendment guarantees to the people the right to petition the government for the redress of grievances.
- We also petition our government to get on the ballot or put an issue before the electorate by...you guessed it...collecting signatures on a petition!

# Petitions are legal documents

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- Petition = Affidavit
  - A written statement of facts voluntarily made by an affiant under an oath or affirmation administered by a person authorized to do so by law (notary, etc.)
  - An affiant is responsible for the truth and accuracy of the contents of the affidavit

# Who can circulate petitions?

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- 18 years old...or will be 18 by the date of the General Election
- Citizen of the United States
- You may not circulate petitions for more than one political party in any election cycle

# Circulating petitions

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- Door-to-door is most effective, but slowest
- Circulator must witness every signature personally
- Only one person can circulate a sheet of petitions

# Who can sign a petition?

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- ❑ Registered voters
- ❑ Presidential and state-wide: any Illinois voter
- ❑ Congressional, state legislature, etc.: signer must live in the district and be registered to vote there
- ❑ There is no such thing as a “registered Democrat” in Illinois. Any voter who has not already signed a Republican petition for the 2022 Primary can sign.

# Other restrictions

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- Cannot sign petitions of more than one political party in any single election cycle
- Proxy signatures not allowed

# Petition elements

## Petition language and syntax

10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-10.2 X...BIND HERE...X Suggested  
Revised July, 2019  
SBE No. P-27

**PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON  
PRIMARY PETITION**

We, the undersigned, members of and affiliated with the Democratic Party and qualified primary electors of the Democratic Party, in Algonquin 50 (township name and precinct number) in the County of McHenry, State of Illinois, do hereby petition that Ruth Scifo who resides at 4212 Meandering Way in the City, Village, Unincorporated Area of Crystal Lake (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service) Zip Code 60014, County of McHenry and State of Illinois, shall be a candidate of the Democratic Party for election to the office of **PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON**, for Algonquin 50 (township name and precinct number), to be voted for at the primary election to be held on March 17, 2020 (date of election).

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, complete the following (this information will appear on the ballot)

FORMERLY KNOWN AS \_\_\_\_\_ UNTIL NAME CHANGED ON \_\_\_\_\_  
(List all names during last 3 years) (List date of each name change)

| NAME<br>(VOTER'S SIGNATURE) | VOTER'S PRINTED<br>NAME (optional) | STREET ADDRESS OR<br>RR NUMBER | CITY, TOWN OR<br>VILLAGE   | COUNTY  |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| 1.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 2.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 3.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 4.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 5.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 6.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 7.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 8.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 9.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |
| 10.                         |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake <sup>IL</sup> | McHenry |

State of Illinois )  
County of McHenry ) SS.

I, Ruth Scifo (Circulator's Name) do hereby certify that I reside at 4212 Meandering Way in the City/Village/Unincorporated Area of Crystal Lake (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service)(Zip Code) 60014, County of McHenry, State of Illinois that I am 18 years of age or older (or 17 years of age and qualified to vote in Illinois), that I am a citizen of the United States, and that the signatures on this sheet were signed in my presence, not more than 90 days preceding the last day for filing of the petitions and are genuine and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at the time of signing the petition qualified voters of the Democratic Party in the political division in which the candidates is seeking nomination/elective office, and that their respective residences are correctly stated, as above set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Circulator's Signature)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) by \_\_\_\_\_ before me, on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Circulator) (Insert month, day, year)

(SEAL) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Public's Signature)

SHEET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON  
PRIMARY PETITION**

We, the undersigned, members of and affiliated with the \_\_\_\_\_ Democratic \_\_\_\_\_ Party and qualified primary electors of the \_\_\_\_\_ Democratic \_\_\_\_\_ Party, in \_\_\_\_\_ (township name and precinct number) in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ McHenry \_\_\_\_\_, State of Illinois, do hereby petition that \_\_\_\_\_ who resides at \_\_\_\_\_ in the City, Village, Unincorporated Area of \_\_\_\_\_ (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service) Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_ McHenry \_\_\_\_\_ and State of Illinois, shall be a candidate of the \_\_\_\_\_ Democratic \_\_\_\_\_ Party for election to the office of **PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON**, for \_\_\_\_\_ (township name and precinct number), to be voted for at the primary election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ June 28, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ (date of election).

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, complete the following (this information will appear on the ballot)

FORMERLY KNOWN AS \_\_\_\_\_ UNTIL NAME CHANGED ON \_\_\_\_\_  
(List all names during last 3 years) (List date of each name change)

| NAME | VOTER'S PRINTED | STREET ADDRESS OR | CITY, TOWN OR |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
|------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|

# Preamble

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Identifies who is signing, and for what cause

| NAME<br>(VOTER'S SIGNATURE) | VOTER'S PRINTED<br>NAME (optional) | STREET ADDRESS OR<br>RR NUMBER | CITY, TOWN OR<br>VILLAGE | COUNTY  |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 1.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 2.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 3.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 4.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 5.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 6.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 7.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 8.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 9.                          |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |
| 10.                         |                                    |                                | Crystal Lake ,IL         | McHenry |

# Signature lines

Voters signatures and addresses

State of Illinois )  
County of McHenry ) SS.

I, Ruth Scifo (Circulator's Name) do hereby certify that I reside at 4212 Meandering Way, in the City/Village Unincorporated Area of Crystal Lake (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service)(Zip Code) 60014, County of McHenry, State of Illinois that I am 18 years of age or older (or 17 years of age and qualified to vote in Illinois), that I am a citizen of the United States, and that the signatures on this sheet were signed in my presence, not more than 90 days preceding the last day for filing of the petitions and are genuine and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at the time of signing the petition qualified voters of the Democratic Party in the political division in which the candidates is seeking nomination/elective office, and that their respective residences are correctly stated, as above set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Circulator's Signature)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) by \_\_\_\_\_ before me, on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Circulator) (Insert month, day, year)

(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Public's Signature)

SHEET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

# Circulator's oath

\_\_\_\_\_  
Must be signed in presence of a notary

of \_\_\_\_\_ that I am 18 years of age or older (or 17 years  
at the signatures on this sheet were signed in my presence, no  
and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the persons so  
C \_\_\_\_\_ Party in the political division in which the candid  
rectly stated, as above set forth.

# Don't fudge on this

We don't want you to get in trouble!

# Rules you must follow

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- All petition sheets must be the same size (usually letter, but sometimes legal size is used)
- No abbreviations or “ditto marks” in the “City, Town or Village” space on the petitions are allowed.
- Do **not** number sheets. (The candidate or campaign staff will do this after the sheets are bound)

# Deadlines

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- File between March 7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>
- Each candidate will set deadlines
- We will have at least one “notary party” for you

# CHICAGO SUN★TIMES

🇺🇸 \$1 CITY/BURBS \$2 ELSEWHERE | LATE SPORTS FINAL 🇺🇸

Lauren Underwood  
greet supporters at  
her election night party  
Tuesday in St. Charles.  
She'll become the first  
woman and the first  
African-American to  
hold the 14th District  
congressional seat.

MARK BLACK/  
FOR THE SUN-TIMES



★ELECTION '18★

## HOUSE FLIPPERS

Dems Casten, Underwood wrestle  
key seats from incumbents  
in traditionally GOP districts **PAGE 8**

Plus: Democrats poised to control House,  
GOP to hold Senate **PAGE 6**

## JUBILANT J.B.: PRITZKER ROUTS RAUNER

TINA SEONDELES REPORTS, PLUS MARK BROWN, PAGES 2-3; EDITORIAL, PAGE 33

This doesn't happen without you