

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is your office open during the lunch hour?

No. Office hours are 8:AM to 12:PM and 1:10PM to 5:PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. On Election Day we are open from 7:AM until the last ballot is counted.

May a second party pick up my Declaration of Candidacy for me?

The candidate must either pick up all forms in person or the candidate's representative must present a letter of specific authorization, signed by the candidate.

May a second party file my Declaration of Candidacy or mail them to you?

Election law does not specifically prohibit another person filing a Declaration for a candidate. However, candidates are urged to file in person. The reasons are two-fold:

A member of the Elections Department or a notary must administer the oath or affirmation. It is easier for a candidate to file the Declaration of Candidacy in person and have the oath administered at the time the candidate files; and

The signature of the candidate, as well as other data, is required on the Declaration of Candidacy. If through an oversight the candidate's papers are incomplete, the problem can be easily rectified when a candidate files in person.

What happens if I am the only candidate to file for an office?

If you are the only candidate to file and qualify, you will be appointed to the office by the governing body. You shall qualify and take office and serve exactly as if elected at the General Election.

NOTE: Candidates for city office may be appointed or, the City Council may determine that the election shall be held.

What if I change my mind and do not want to be a candidate after Declaration of Candidacy papers are filed?

You may withdraw as a candidate at any time prior to the close of the filing period. After that date, you will not be permitted to officially withdraw and your name will appear on the ballot.

May I change or correct the wording or spelling on my candidate's statement after submission?

No, you may not. Check your candidate's statement carefully before submitting.

If I voluntarily submit a candidate's statement and change my mind may I withdraw the statement?

The candidate's statement may be withdrawn, but not changed, during the period for filing candidacy papers.

I am unable to complete and file my campaign disclosure statement by the filing deadline. May I obtain an extension?

NO. There is no provision in the Political Reform Act, which permits a filing officer to extend a filing deadline. Statements that are filed late are subject to a fine.

What determines the order candidates' names will appear on the ballot?

A random alphabet drawing for the General Election will be conducted by the Secretary of State's office at a date and time designated by law.