

## **PETITION OBJECTION INSTRUCTIONS**

The following petition rules and regulations pertain to the Broome County Board of Elections:

- Petitions may be photocopied by Board of Elections personnel upon written request and at the cost of \$.25 per page.
- Petitions may be scanned by Board of Elections personnel upon written request and be delivered electronically free of charge.
- Any person who completes and submits to the Board of Elections a written request may examine petitions.
- No person examining any petition or certificate may use or have in his/her possession a pen or indelible pencil. One will be provided for note taking purposes by the Board of Elections.
- No person or group may examine any petition or certificate for a period of more than two (2) consecutive hours if another person is waiting to examine the same petition or certificate.
- An examination of any petition or certificate shall be made only in the general office of the Board and in the presence of one or more employees of the Board.
- Specifications of objections shall be typewritten or **printed legibly** and filed in duplicate. Each objection shall be separately stated and numbered. Whenever reference is made to a specific signature such reference shall be by page and line number.
- The objection and specifications must be dated and signed and must contain the address and telephone number of the objector.

### **RULES PERTAINING TO DUPLICATE SIGNATURES**

- If a person signs two petitions, the earlier dated signature counts, and the second does not.
- If an objection is properly raised alleging that a person signed both a Designating Petition and an Opportunity to Ballot Petition for the same office, the Board will base its ruling on those petitions that have been filed prior to the date of the hearing on objections.

## **Specification of objections to Designating, Independent nominating and Opportunity to Ballot petitions:**

- A. Any person filing general objections to any Designating or Independent Nominating Petitions, or Opportunity to Ballot Petitions filed with the Broome County Board of Elections who thereafter files specifications of his objections to any such petition with such board shall do so in accordance with the provisions of Section 6-154 of the New York State Election Law. All such specifications; shall substantially comply with the following requirements:
1. The volume number, page number, line number and objection number of any signature objected to on any petition shall be set forth in detail per the attached format. In addition, any portion of any petition or any signature line or witness statement objected to shall be specifically identified and reasons given for any such objection;
  2. The total number of signatures objected to shall be set forth and all objections relating to a single signature line should be grouped together;
  3. Symbols and/or abbreviations may be used to set forth objections, provided that a sheet explaining the meaning of any such symbols and/or abbreviations are attached to the specifications
  4. The use of the pre-printed "Specifications of Objections" supplied by the Broome County Board of Elections shall, upon compliance with all other applicable requirements herein, be considered in proper form and therefore in compliance with these rules.
- B. No specifications of objections to any petition will be considered by the Board unless the objector filing the specifications personally delivers or overnight/NEXT DAY mails a duplicate copy of the specifications to each candidate for public office named on the petition. In the case of a petition containing candidates for party position **or opportunity to ballot petitions**, service of the specifications shall be made on either **contact** or **all members of the committee to fill vacancies**. Service shall be made on or before the date of filing of any specifications with the Board. Proof of such service shall be filed with the Board prior to the time of the hearing on the specifications. (§6204.1(b))
- C. Any notice and/or determination relating to a petition for which specifications of objections have been filed shall be transmitted by the Board to the objector filing the specifications, provided that any such objector may designate an attorney or agent to receive any such notice and/ or determination on his behalf. Any such designation shall be in writing and include the name, address and telephone number of any such attorney or agent and any such attorney or agent shall be eligible to represent any such objector in any proceeding conducted by the Board relating to the specifications. Specification of objections shall be typewritten **or printed legibly** and filed in duplicate.

**New York State Election Law**  
**§6-154 Nominations and designations; objections to.**

1. Any petition filed with the officer or board charged with the duty of receiving it shall be presumptively valid if it is in proper form and appears to bear the requisite number of signatures, authenticated in a manner prescribed by this chapter.
2. Written objections to any certificate of designation or nomination or to a nominating or designating petition or a petition for opportunity to ballot for public office or to a certificate of acceptance, certificate of authorization, a certificate of declination or a certificate of substitution relating thereto may be filed by any voter registered to vote for such public office and to a designating petition or a petition for opportunity to ballot for party position or a certificate of substitution, a certificate of acceptance or a certificate of declination relating thereto by any voter enrolled to vote for such party position. Such objection shall be filed with the officer or board with whom the original petition or certificate is filed within three days after the filing of the petition or certificate to which objection is made, or within three days after the last day to file such a certificate, if no such certificate is filed except that if any person nominated by an independent nominating petition, is nominated as a party candidate for the same office by a party certificate filed, or a party nomination made after the filing of such petition, the written objection to such petition may be filed within three days after the filing of such party certificate or the making of such party nomination. When such an objection is filed, specifications of the grounds of the objections shall be filed within six days thereafter with the same officer or board and if specifications are not timely filed, the objection shall be null and void. Each such officer or board is hereby empowered to make rules in reference to the filing and disposition of such petition, certificate, objections and specifications.
3. When a determination is made that a certificate or petition is insufficient, such officer or board shall give notice of determination forthwith by mail to each candidate named in the petition or certificate, and, if the determination is made upon specified objections, the objector shall be notified.