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Secretary of the Commonwealth
Elections Division

2020 BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY DELEGATE NOMINATION PAPERS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

This pamphlet is for use by those candidates who are elected as Barnstable County Assembly Delegates, an office to be voted on at the state election. One candidate will be elected from each town. Only registered voters in the town may sign such nomination papers. A candidate must have been a resident of Barnstable County for at least one year preceding the state election on November 3, 2020.

FILING DATES

Nomination papers should be filed early, if possible. Filing nomination papers early will allow time to correct errors or to collect additional signatures, if necessary.

It is the candidate's responsibility to get the certified papers from the local registrars of voters and deliver them to the County Clerk on or before the filing deadline. Registrars of voters must complete the certification of papers at least seven days before the filing deadline. Candidates must submit nomination papers to local registrars of voters for certification no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2020.**

All papers must be filed with the County Clerk no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2020.**

The County Clerk must certify a correct list of candidates to the Secretary of the Commonwealth no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2020.**

Please see the "Election Calendar for Barnstable County Assembly Delegate Candidates" on the back of this pamphlet.

If you have any questions regarding this pamphlet, please contact the Elections Division at 617-727-2828 or 1-800-462-VOTE (8683), or your town clerk.

NOMINATION PAPERS

Nomination papers are available at the clerk's office in town halls, at the office of the Barnstable County Clerk and at the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, One Ashburton Place, Room 1705, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, 617-727-2828 or 1-800-462-VOTE (8683).

Fill in all required candidate information (gray areas) on the nomination papers **before** circulating them. The name and residence of the candidate should be printed or typed, correctly spelled, in the proper place on each nomination paper before signatures are solicited. Certified signatures on nomination papers without the required information will not be counted. The law allows a candidate to make exact copies of blank nomination papers in order to gather additional signatures. **However, nomination papers cannot be altered in any way. Additional markings on nomination papers may disqualify any signatures contained thereon.**

REQUIREMENTS

Certification of Voter Registration

Each candidate must file a certificate of voter registration. At least one certificate of voter registration, which is printed on the nomination papers, must be completed and signed by at least three registrars of voters from the municipality where the candidate is a registered voter. The certificate must be filed no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers with the County Clerk.

Written Acceptance of Candidate

Before filing the papers with the County Clerk, be sure that at least one of the certified nomination papers contains a written acceptance of nomination personally signed by either the candidate or an attorney authorized by the candidate in writing.

Receipt from the State Ethics Commission

For nomination papers to be valid, the candidate must file a receipt from the State Ethics Commission showing that he or she has filed a statement of financial interest with that agency. The State Ethics Commission can be reached at One Ashburton Place, Room 619, Boston, MA 02108, 617-371-9500. The receipt must be filed with the County Clerk by the filing deadline.

NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Candidates for Barnstable County Assembly Delegate require twenty (20) certified signatures on their nomination papers.

PROPER SIGNATURES

Any voter registered in the town from which the candidate is running may sign Barnstable County Assembly Delegate nomination papers.

To be certified, all signatures on nomination papers must be legible and signed in person with the name of the voter substantially as registered. Signers must include the street address at which they are registered to vote, not mailing addresses or post office box numbers. Persons who are prevented by physical disability from writing may authorize another individual to sign for them in the voter's presence. Voters should be asked to sign their names substantially as registered.

The law allows a voter to insert or omit a middle name or initial. A married woman should sign as Helen Smith, not Mrs. John Smith. The Court has determined, however, that if the local election officials can reasonably determine the identity of the voter from the form of the signature, the name shall be considered signed substantially as registered.

If a voter makes an error or signs incorrectly, the line should be left intact and the voter asked to sign his or her name and address again on the next line. An altered or illegal signature may be disallowed or challenged.

A voter may sign nomination papers **only once** for each candidate for that office.

CERTIFICATION OF SIGNATURES

Since only one candidate will be elected from each town, each nomination paper should contain signatures of registered voters from only the town in which the candidate is a registered voter. Names from other communities on the paper will be disallowed.

Local boards of registrars are required by law to certify at least the number of required signatures, plus two-fifths more. Collect more signatures than required because many may be disallowed in either the certification process or through challenges. Certified nomination papers will only be counted if they are signed by three registrars of voters.

If the total number of signatures certified is less than 10% in excess of the number required for ballot placement, the candidate may request a review by the local board of registrars of signatures not certified. The request must be submitted within 48 hours after the deadline for registrars to complete certification and must include a list of those signatures to be examined.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS

Candidates must file reports of campaign contributions and expenditures with the town clerk of their residence. For details, please contact:

Office of Campaign and Political Finance
One Ashburton Place, Room 411
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
617-979-8300 or 1-800-462-OCPF

PENALTIES

The law provides for a fine of not more than \$50 for subscribing falsely to a statement on a nomination paper. It further calls for a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, for falsely or willfully altering the designation of the district after signatures have been certified or for falsely marking or willfully altering, defacing, mutilating, destroying, suppressing or unlawfully signing or filing a nomination paper. **Be careful to comply strictly with the requirements of the law.**

ELECTION CALENDAR FOR BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY DELEGATE CANDIDATES

Calendar of Events	Deadline Dates
5:00 p.m. last day and hour to submit papers to local board of registrars for certification of signatures.	Tuesday, July 21, 2020
5:00 p.m. last day and hour for registrars to complete certification of signatures.	Tuesday, August 11, 2020
5:00 p.m. last day and hour to apply for review of non-certified signatures.	Thursday, August 13, 2020
5:00 p.m. last day and hour for registrars to complete review of non-certified signatures.	Monday, August 17, 2020
5:00 p.m. last day and hour to file certified nomination papers with the County Clerk.	Tuesday, August 18, 2020
5:00 p.m. last day and hour for County Clerk to notify the Secretary of the Commonwealth of certified candidates.	Tuesday, August 25, 2020
State Election	Tuesday, November 3, 2020