

## Write-In Candidates

\* Candidates who intend to run a write-in campaign, shall notify the Erie County Elections Department prior to election day. You may contact the Voter Registration Office in person at 140 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 112, or you may email the following information to [tfernandez@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:tfernandez@eriecountypa.gov):

1. The party with which you are a registered voter;
2. The office for which you intend to run a write-in campaign;
3. Your name, including any name variations, you would like the Department to accept as a write-in for your candidacy; and
4. Your address.
5. Waiver of Expense Affidavit if you do not intend to receive or expend in excess of \$250.00

\* You will also have to file a Campaign Finance Report should your campaign receive or expend in excess of \$250.00, or a Campaign Finance Statement should your campaign receive or expend less than \$250.00. (25 P.S. §3246). Please reference our campaign finance page for more information.

\* If you win the nomination of a party, the Office of Registration and Elections will send you an acceptance letter, to include the payment of a filing fee, if applicable, a Campaign Finance Statement or Campaign Finance Report should your campaign receive or expend in excess of \$250.00. All paperwork should be filed with the Office of Registration by the deadline stated in the letter.

\* All advertising and signage must clearly state: “Paid for by. . .”

### Primary Election

\* To win the nomination for the office for which you are a candidate, you must secure at least as many write-in votes as signatures required on a nomination petition for the same office, plus one more vote than any other candidate seeking election to the office.

\* While both Democratic and Republican voters may write-in your name regardless of your party affiliation, the total Democratic and Republican votes shall be counted separately to determine the duly elected Democratic and Republican nominees.

### General Election

- \* In order to win the General Election, a write-in candidate must secure more write-in votes than any other candidate seeking election to the same office.

### Legal Advice

- \* The Erie County Board of Elections and the Department of Voter Registration cannot provide legal advice concerning the write-in process. If the write-in candidate desires further clarification or advice relating to the write-in process under the Election Code, the candidate is advised to consult with legal counsel.