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ELECTION YEAR

2000

May 2nd Presidential Primary
September 12th Primary
November 7th General Election

**A GUIDE TO CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION AND BALLOT ACCESS
IN THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

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*The guide has been published well in advance of the 2000 election year. For complete and accurate dates and deadlines, please refer to the Board's "Official Election Calendar" for each election contest.

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Elections and Ethics is pleased to provide "Election Year 2000 -- "A Guide to Ballot Access in the District of Columbia ". This "Guide" has been updated since 1998 to include important dates and deadlines for the year 2000.

Since the publication of the last issue of this guide, the Board and the Office of Campaign Finance have implemented several initiatives. The Board has initiated the use of the United States Postal Services' National Change of Address program to augment its voter list maintenance programs. The implementation of this program will assist the Board with its overall mission of maintaining an accurate voter roll.

Also, the Board is currently exploring ways to enhance its current on-line voter registration and punch card voting/ballot tabulation systems. Enhancing the current voting system could drastically reduce the time required to produce accurate election results. The Board is ever mindful of the need to maintain the integrity of the full electoral process in any enhancements to its voting and ballot systems as it fulfills its mission on behalf of the District's electorate.

The Board's Office of Campaign Finance has upgraded its information technology system to provide greater public access to public disclosure. The information technology system consists of the OCF information database and applications designed to input, track, and monitor data, and to generate customized reports of that data. At the present time, the Office of Campaign Finance's data can be easily searched and sorted to retrieve information across periods of time through query screens concerning non-filers, contributions, and expenditures.

Additionally, the Board's website continues to be a vital source of valuable information for the public. Information on the Board of Elections and Ethics and the Office of Campaign Finance can be found at the Board's website. The Board's website address is <http://www.dcboee.org>.

The Board looks forward to continuing to serve the needs of the citizens of the District and the smooth administration of each election scheduled to be conducted in the year 2000.

Candidate Qualification

The process of qualification of candidates for the ballot is administered by the Board's Voter Services Branch under the direction of the Registrar of Voters. If you have any questions concerning the candidate qualification process, or any aspect of the District's electoral process, call the Board of Elections at (202) 727-2525.

The Board and its staff stand ready to provide any assistance we can--to the candidates and citizens of the District of Columbia--during the Year 2000 Election Cycle . We hope you find this guide both useful and informative while preparing yourself for a position on the election ballot in the District of Columbia.

LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

The qualifications detailed in this section are those necessary to hold the various public offices in the District. Qualifications for office are distinct from requirements of the process by which candidates qualify for placement on the ballot. Please see the "Getting Your Name on the Ballot" section of this guide (page 7) for these requirements.

DELEGATE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To hold the office of Delegate, an individual must meet the following qualifications on the date of the general or special election (D.C. Code §1-401):

- A. Be a qualified elector in the District, as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302(2).
- B. Be at least 25 years of age.
- C. Hold no other paid public office.
- D. Have resided in the District of Columbia continuously since the beginning of the three (3) year period ending on the date of the general or special election.

AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL

To hold the office of At-Large Member of the Council, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-225):

- A. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302(2).
- B. Hold no other paid public office.
- C. Have resided and been domiciled in the District of Columbia for one (1) year preceding the general or special election.

WARD MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL

To hold the office of Ward Member of the Council, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-225):

- A. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302(2).
- B. Hold no other paid public office.
- C. Have resided and been domiciled in the District of Columbia for one (1) year preceding the general or special election.

- D. Reside in the ward from which nominated.

AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To hold the office of At-Large Member of the Board of Education, an individual must meet qualifications "A" and "B" (below) at the time the nominating petition is filed and qualification "C" upon taking office (D.C. Code §31-101):

- A. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302(2).
- B. Have resided in the District of Columbia during the 90 day period preceding the day that the nominating petition is filed, and have been during such period an actual resident of the District of Columbia and have not claimed residence anywhere else.
- C. Hold no other elective office, except delegate or alternate delegate to a political party nominating convention; nor be an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Government nor the Board of Education.

WARD MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To hold the office of Ward Member of the Board of Education, an individual must meet qualifications "A" and "B" (below) at the time the nominating petition is filed and qualification "C" upon taking office (D.C. Code §31-101):

- A. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302(2).
- B. Have resided in the ward during the 90 day period preceding the day that the nominating petition is filed, and have been during such period an actual resident of the District of Columbia and have not claimed residence anywhere else.
- C. Hold no other elective office, except delegate or alternate delegate to a political party nominating convention; nor be an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Government nor the Board of Education.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

To hold the office of United States Senator, an individual must meet the following qualifications, as defined in the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 3):

- A. Be at least 25 years of age.
- B. Have been a citizen of the United States for at least seven (7) years.
- C. Be a resident of the District of Columbia on the date of the general election.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

To hold the office of United States Representative, an individual must meet the following qualifications, as defined in the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 3):

- A. Be at least 25 years of age.
- B. Have been a citizen of the United States for at least seven (7) years.
- C. Be a resident of the District of Columbia on the date of the general election.

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER

To hold the office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner from a Single Member District, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-256).

- A. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia, as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302(2) and a registered voter actually residing in the Single Member District from which he or she is elected.
- B. Have resided in the Single Member District continuously for the 60 day period immediately preceding the day on which the nominating petition is filed.
- C. Hold no other elected public office.

GETTING YOUR NAME ON THE BALLOT

This section may assist you in the circulation and filing of nominating petitions and other documents required to establish your candidacy. This information applies to all candidates regardless of the office sought. Please read this section carefully and familiarize yourself with the information it contains.

Petition signature requirements and calendars of important dates and deadlines for the various offices appear in this guide. If you are interested in all election-related dates and deadlines for a particular election, please ask the Voter Services staff for an "Official Election Calendar" for that election.

1. ***THE NOMINATING PETITION***

The filing of a nominating petition containing the signatures of registered voters is the only way a candidate can get his or her name printed on the ballot in the District of Columbia. The number of signatures required varies by the type of office and the political party registration. Please refer to the the Primary and General Election sections of this guide for specific details and signature requirements.

2. ***DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY***

The "Declaration of Candidacy" is the most important document that any candidate files. It must be signed by the candidate. While petitions and other forms may be completed by campaign supporters, the "Declaration of Candidacy" must bear the signature of the candidate. It is through the filing of the "Declaration of Candidacy" that an individual informs the Board that he or she is actually a candidate in the election.

The "Declaration of Candidacy" must also be notarized. If you choose, A member of the Board's staff may notarize your "Declaration of Candidacy", however, please arrive at the Board's office with the form completed *except for your signature*. You must then sign the document in the presence of the Board's staff.

A "Declaration of Candidacy" must be filed by not later than the deadline for filing petition signatures and MUST BE NOTARIZED.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF THE PERSON FILING THE PETITION

The person filing the petition must file an AFFIDAVIT OF THE PERSON FILING THE PETITION attesting that, to the best of that person's knowledge and belief, the petition contains the required number of signatures.

The affidavit is filed by the person making the initial submission of petition pages. The *initial submission* must contain the minimum number of signatures needed to qualify. After the initial submission is made supplemental petition pages containing any number of signatures may be filed any time up until the filing deadline.

The following information must appear on each petition page BEFORE the Board will release the petition forms for circulation:

- (1) **The candidate's name and address.**
- (2) **The ward or single member district of the candidate, if applicable.**
- (3) **The political party of the candidate, if applicable.**

If you find that you need more petition forms, please call ahead so that the Board's staff can prepare them in advance.

FILE EARLY!!

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

Write-in candidates must meet the same qualifications as candidates whose names appear on the ballot. Individuals who wish to become write-in candidates must certify their candidacy by filing a "*Declaration of Candidacy*" with the Board not later than 4:45 p.m. on the third day following the primary election and not later than seven days following the general election.

The "*Declaration of Candidacy*" may be obtained from the Voter Services Office. Below is a set of guidelines each petition circulator should know before he or she begins to circulate a petition page. If you would like copies of this information to give to your circulators, please ask any member of the Voter Services staff.

PETITION CIRCULATION GUIDELINES

The Circulator of the Nominating Petition

4. The Circulator of the petition must:
 - Be a registered qualified elector in the District of Columbia.
 - Have personally witnessed the signing of each signature thereon; and
 - *WATCH EACH VOTER SIGN HIS OR HER NAME TO THE PETITION PAGE.* This is essential because the circulator must sign an affidavit that he or she personally witnessed each voter signature.

The Signers of the Nominating Petition

1. Each person signing a petition must already be a duly registered voter in the District *at the time he or she signs the petition*. The signature of a voter who fills out a Voter Registration Application at the time the petition is signed will not count as valid.
2. The address at which the signer is registered to vote and the date signed must be entered on the petition form in order for the signature to be counted. If the signer fails to enter his or her own registration address and date signed, the circulator may enter this information on the petition.
3. A registered voter signing a nominating petition should print his or her name and the address from which registered to vote next to the signature. The voter must also SIGN his or her NAME LEGIBLY.
4. Signatures must be written--not printed--and must be dated when signed in order to be counted as valid.
5. If the candidate is seeking nomination in a Primary Election, the signers must be registered in the same party as the candidate.
6. If a candidate is seeking nomination from a ward, the signer must live and be registered to vote in the same ward as the candidate.
7. If the candidate is seeking nomination from a Single Member District (SMD), the signers must be registered to vote in the same SMD.
8. A person may not sign a petition for another individual.
9. A person must sign the petition using the name under which he or she is registered to vote. Failure to do so could invalidate the signature.

10. Voters unable to sign the petition may make their mark in the space for signature. The signature will not be counted unless the person witnessing the mark attaches to the petition an affidavit attesting that he or she explained the contents of the petition to the signer and saw the signer "mark" the petition.
11. A voter may sign the nominating petition of more than one candidate seeking nomination for the same office. However, a voter may not sign the petition for an individual candidate more than once.

TIPS ON FILING

- ✓ **ARRIVE AT THE BOARD'S OFFICE PREPARED TO FILE.**
- ✓ Before the nominating petition is filed, you must assemble and serially number all the sheets which comprise the petition. The Board may reject any petition which does not meet this requirement.
- ✓ Make sure the "Affidavit of Circulator" on each petition page is completed and signed by the circulator.
- ✓ Make sure that you have your "Declaration of Candidacy" completed and notarized. If you intend to have a member of the Board's staff notarize the "Declaration", arrive at the office with the "Declaration" complete except for the signature. The Declaration must be signed by the candidate. It may not be signed by anyone else.
- ✓ Make sure you have the "Affidavit of Person Filing the Petition" completed and notarized. If you plan for a member of the Board's staff to notarize the "Affidavit", arrive at the office with the "Affidavit" complete except for the signature.
- ✓ While not required, filing the minimum number of signatures before the last day can be very helpful. If a document is missing or an error made, there is still time to file the missing document or to correct the error before the deadline. Remember, you can always file supplemental petition sheets up until the deadline once you have made the initial filing with the minimum signature requirement.
- ✓ Petitions must meet all the requirements of the law. The Board may reject any petition that does not conform to D.C. Code Section 1-1301 et seq., as amended, and the regulations of the D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics. ***We strongly urge you to review your petition before filing.***

The list of registered voters is available for public use in the Board's office and at various public libraries.

The lists are also available for sale through D.C. SHARE.

D.C. Share order forms are available in the Voter Services Office or may be downloaded from the Board's website at www.dcboee.org.

Determination of "Preliminarily Qualified Candidates"

No later than the third working day after the filing deadline, the Board makes its preliminary determination as to which candidates have met the minimum qualifications for ballot access. The Board notifies the candidates, by certified mail and by first-class mail, to inform them whether they have met the minimum requirements.

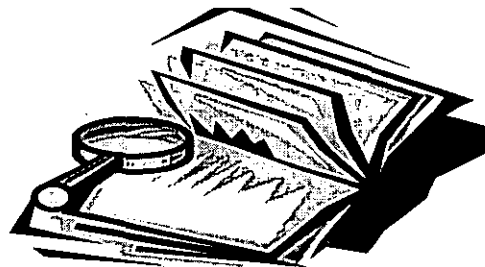
Under D.C. law, the Board of Elections and Ethics does not verify candidate nominating petition signatures for accuracy of information. In its preliminary evaluation, the Board will reject a candidate's petition for any one of the following reasons:

- (1) The petition on its face, does not contain the minimum number of signatures.
- (2) The petition contains pages that do not have a completed "Affidavit of Circulator", and the total number of signatures rejected as a result of the incomplete "Affidavit" on those pages brings the candidate's petition below the minimum number of required signatures.
- (3) There has not been a notarized "Declaration of Candidacy" filed by a candidate, or the candidate does not meet the legal qualifications to hold the office.

CHALLENGE PERIOD

Beginning the third day after filing, for a period of 10 days, the Board will post for public inspection photocopies of the candidates' petitions. During the challenge period, any registered voter may review the petition copies. If a registered voter believes that a candidate does not meet the minimum requirements, the registered voter may file a "*Challenge*" detailing the defects in the petition.

The filing of a "*Challenge*" sets in motion the process by which a legal determination is made as to whether the candidate has, in fact, met the minimum requirements to have his/her name placed on the ballot. This process is outlined in Chapter 4 of the Board's Regulations (3 DCMR).



MAY 2, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The District holds its only Spring primary on the first Tuesday in May of each presidential election year. This election is different from all other D.C. elections because the major parties play a direct role in deciding which offices will be on the ballot and how the ballot will be structured.

By law, the Board of Elections and Ethics conducts the elections for the party offices at the request of the parties. Each party files with the Board an OFFICIAL PARTY PLAN for the election, instructing the Board which offices will appear on the ballot, the number of positions to be filled, and other particulars.

Because each party submits its own separate plan for the election, the party ballots can be very different. The information on the following pages provides the specifics of each of the party's plans.

The only public office on the ballot in the May Primary will be the Delegate to the House of Representatives. All major parties are eligible to conduct a primary to nominate candidates for Delegate to the House of Representatives.

The other offices on the ballot will be Democratic and Republican party offices as specified in the party plans. The parties have decided that the elections for the following will appear on the May 2, 2000 Primary ballot:

- Presidential Preference (Democratic and Republican)
- National Committeeman and Committeewoman (Democratic and Republican)
- Alternate National Committeeman and Committeewoman (Democratic and Republican)
- At-Large Members of Local Party Committees (Democratic, Republican and Umoja Parties)
- Ward Members of Local Party Committees (Democratic, Republican and Umoja Parties)

The May 2nd Presidential Primary is a closed primary election. Only voters registered in the Democratic, Republican, Umoja, and D.C. Statehood Green Parties may vote in their party's primary.

NOTE: A calendar of important events for the offices on the May Primary ballot appears at the end of this guide. For a complete list of dates and deadlines, please refer to the Board's Official Election Calendar for the May 2nd Presidential Preference Primary.

MAY 2, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The Democratic Party Ballot

Pursuant to the Democratic Party Plan filed with the Board of Elections and Ethics, the following contests will appear on the Democratic voter's ballot:

1. **Presidential Preference Primary** -- Registered Democrats vote for the candidate they would like to see win the Democratic Party's nomination for President of the United States.

2. **Delegates to the Democratic National Convention** -- After selecting their choice for presidential nominee, the voter will vote for a group of candidates pledged to vote for the presidential choice at the Democratic National Convention. A total of eleven (11) delegates and three (3) alternates are elected citywide. However, the party has divided the city into district so that:

Democrats in District 1, Wards 1, 2, 6 and 8 will select five (5) delegates and one alternate. Voters will vote for three (3) women and three (3) men.

Democrats in District 2, Wards 3, 4, 5 and 7 will select six (6) delegates and two alternates. Voters will vote for three (4) women and three (4) men.

3. **D.C. Delegate to the House of Representatives** -- Democrats select their party's nominee to appear on the November 7th General Election ballot.

4. **Democratic National Committee** - Democratic voters will vote for:

Democratic National Committeewoman and National Committeeman
Alternate National Committeewoman and National Committeeman

5. **At-Large Democratic State Committeewoman** - 6 positions citywide
At-Large Democratic State Committeeman - 6 positions citywide

6. **Ward Democratic State Committeewoman** - 2 positions in each of the eight (8) wards
Ward Democratic State Committeeman - 2 positions in each of the eight (8) wards

MAY 2, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The Republican Party Ballot

Pursuant to the Republican Party Plan filed with the Board of Elections and Ethics, the following contests will appear on the Republican voter's ballot:

- ▲ ***Presidential Preference*** -- Registered Republicans will vote for the candidate they prefer to receive the Republican's Party's nomination for President.

Delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention are selected by the presidential candidate. The names of the delegates and alternates committed to each of the presidential candidates will be listed on a separate reference sheet, to be distributed with the ballots, for the information of the voters.

All 14 delegates and 14 alternates to the Republican National Convention go to the presidential candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the preference primary.

- ▲ ***D.C. Delegate to the House of Representatives*** -- Republicans vote for their party's nominee for this office. The winner will appear on the November 7th General Election ballot.

- ▲ ***Republican National Committee*** -- Republicans will elect 80 members of the party committee as follows:

48 At-Large Members, who are elected citywide

32 Ward Members, who are elected by registered Republican in each ward. The number of seats in each ward is divided as follows:

Ward One -- 3 Members
Ward Two -- 6 Members
Ward Three -- 13 Members
Ward Four -- 2 Members

Ward Five -- 2 Members
Ward Six -- 3 Members
Ward Sevens -- 2 Members
Ward Eight -- 1 Member

MAY 2, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The D.C. Statehood Green Party Ballot

The D.C. Statehood Green Party will select their party's nominee to appear on the November 7th General Election ballot for the office of:

- Delegate to the House of Representatives

The Umoja Party Ballot

Voters registered with the Umoja Party will select their party's nominee to appear on the November 7th General Election ballot for the office of:

- Delegate to the House of Representatives

Pursuant to the Umoja Party Plan filed with the Board of Elections and Ethics, the following contests will appear on the Umoja voter's ballot:

- **The Umoja Council** – Umoja Party voters will elect a total of 50 members to the Umoja Council of the District of Columbia as follows:

Member At-Large of the Umoja Council	14 members
Umoja Elder -- elected at-large	2 members
Umoja Soldier -- two youth members-- elected at-large	2 members
Ward Members -- two members elected from each ward	16 members
Ward Umoja Soldier -- two youth members elected from each ward	16 members

SLATES IN THE MAY 2ND PRIMARY

Slates are unique to the May Primary ballot. They are identified by a slate name on the ballot only in the elections for national and local party committees.

Formation of Slates:

Slates are formed when two or more individuals agree to form a slate and adopt a slate name.

Ballot Access:

There are several ways for slates to gain access to the ballot:

- Two (2) or more individual candidates may qualify by filing separate nominating petitions. They then file a completed "Slate Registration Form" within three days (3) days after the filing deadline (no later than Monday, February 28, 2000).
- A group of candidates may qualify by filing a single nominating petition. Because these candidates circulate their petition as a group, permission must be received from each of the candidates whose name is placed on the petition. In order for the entire group of candidates to qualify, each of the candidates must file a "Declaration of Candidacy" and sign the "Slate Registration Form"
- A combination of individual candidates and groups of candidates may qualify by filing separate nominating petitions. These groups and individuals then file a slate registration form within three (3) days after the filing deadline (no later than Monday, February 28, 2000).

All slates must file a "Slate Registration Form", which is available from the Board, by no later than February 28, 2000. The Slate Registration Form requires the following information:

1. The name, address, telephone number and signature of the individual who is authorized to represent the slate of candidates in matters before the Board;
2. A complete listing of candidates who are members of the slate and the office to which each candidate seeks election;
3. A statement that each candidate gives his or her permission to be identified on the ballot as a member of the slate.
4. The slate name. The slate name must be printed on the ballot next to each of the candidate's names. Try to avoid long slate name in order to ensure that all the information is able to fit on the ballot.

SLATES IN THE MAY 2ND PRIMARY

5. The signature and printed name of each of the candidates who are members of the slate.

When the Board conducts the ballot lottery, the candidates on a slate are grouped together. In other words, ballot position is determined for the slate as a whole. The Board will determine the order of candidates within the slate unless the slate has notified the Board, in writing, by noon of the day of the drawing, its determination of the order of candidates within the slate.

MAY 2, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY		
SIGNATURE REQUIRMENTS		
OFFICE	SIGNATURES REQUIRED	COMMENTS
Presidential Nomination	1000 or 1% (whichever is less) of the registered voters in the same party as the candidates.	Pursuant to the Democratic Party Plan, <u>Democratic</u> candidates must file 1000 signatures of registered Democrats in District 1 (Wards 1, 2, 6 & 8) and 1000 signatures from District 2 (Wards 3, 4, 5 & 7).
Delegate and Alternates to the National Conventions	1000 or 1% (whichever is less) of the registered voters in the sam party as the candidate.	Candidates pledged to one presidential candidate may circulate one petition together with the presidential candidate.
Delegate to the House of Representatives	2,000 or 1% (whichever is less) of the registered voters in the same party as the candidate.	
National Committee Persons At-Large Local Committee Persons	500 or 1% (whichever is less) of the registered voters in the same party as the candidate.	Candidates for National Committee or At-Large offices may circulate one petition if they have formed a <u>slate</u> .
Ward Local Committee Persons	100 or 1% (whichever is less) of the registered voters in the same party as the candidate.	Candidates in a particular ward may circulate one petition if they have formed a <u>slate</u> .

Filing Deadlines

ALL FILING DEADLINES ARE AT 5:00 P.M. ON THE DATES INDICATED BELOW:

OFFICE	FIRST DAY TO PICK-UP PETITIONS	FILING DEADLINE
President	January 3, 2000	March 3, 2000
Delegate and Alternates to the National Conventions	January 3, 2000	March 3, 2000
Delegate to the House of Representative	January 3, 2000	February 23, 2000
National Committee Persons	January 3, 2000	February 23, 2000
Local Committee Person	January 3, 2000	February 23, 2000

FILE EARLY!!

SEPTEMBER 12, 2000 PRIMARY ELECTION

The District of Columbia holds the primary elections every two (2) years in order for the major parties in the District to nominate their candidates for the local partisan offices on the ballot in the General Election.

To qualify to conduct a primary, a party must have had one (1) of its candidates seeking election to the offices Delegate, Mayor, Chairman of the Council or Member of the Council receive at least 7,500 votes in the previous general election. The parties that currently have met the 7,500 vote requirement are the **DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN, D.C. STATEHOOD GREEN, and UMOJA** Parties. Political parties that have not met the requirement may nominate candidates through the "Direct Access" petitioning process. (See the "General Election" section of this guide for details.)

The offices of Member of the Board of Education and Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner are nonpartisan. There is no primary for these offices. For information on these offices, please refer to the General Election and Advisory Neighborhood Commission sections of this guide.

Because the District has a closed primary system, only individuals registered in the Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Umoja Parties will be permitted to vote their party's ballot in the September 12, 2000 Primary.

A list of the offices for which the *Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green and Umoja Parties* will each nominate one (1) candidate in the primary is included on the following page along with signature requirements.

***Only persons registered in the
DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN, D.C. STATEHOOD GREEN and UMOJA PARTIES
are eligible to vote
their party's ballot in the September 12, 2000 Primary Election.***

SEPTEMBER 12, 2000 PRIMARY	
Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Umoja Parties	
OFFICE	SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT
At-Large Member of the Council	2,000 or 1% (whichever is less) signatures of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.
Ward Member of the Council (Wards 2, 4, 7 & 8)	250 or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate. Signers must also reside and be registered to vote in the ward from which the candidate seeks election.
U.S. Senator	2,000 or 1% (whichever is less) signatures of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.
U.S. Representative	2,000 or 1% (whichever is less) signatures of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.

A calendar of important dates and deadlines for the Primary Election appears on the following page. Please note that *the dates listed below may be subject to change*. For a complete and official list of dates and deadlines, please refer to the Board's *Official Election Calendar*.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2000 PRIMARY

IMPORTANT EVENTS CALENDAR

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION	
First Day to Pick Up Petitions	May 12, 2000
First Day Petitions May be Filed	June 12, 2000
Deadline to File Petitions	July 5, 2000
Lottery for Ballot Position	July 26, 2000
CHALLENGE PERIOD	
Challenge Period Begins	July 8, 2000
Challenge Period Ends	July 17, 2000
VOTER REGISTRATION	
Deadline to Register to vote	August 14, 2000
Deadline for Postmarked MRAs	August 21, 2000
ABSENTEE VOTING	
Period for In-Person Absentee	Aug. 28- Sept. 11, 2000
Deadline to Request Ballot by Mail	September 5, 2000
Final Count of Absentee Ballots	September 22, 2000
DEADLINE TO PETITION FOR POLL WATCHERS August 29, 2000	
PUBLICATION OF SAMPLE BALLOT September 7, 2000	
SPECIAL BALLOTS	
Special Ballot Hearings	September 20 - September 22, 2000
Counting of Accepted Special Ballots	September 22, 2000

NOVEMBER 7, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

**THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Background

The District of Columbia holds the election for President and Vice-President of the United States every four (4) years. Even though the names of the candidates for President and Vice President are printed on the election ballot, voters do not vote directly for those candidates. Their votes are actually cast for "electors", who pledge to vote for the voters' choice of candidates in the "Electoral College".

The rules for election of President and Vice-President are found in Article 2 of the U.S. Constitution. Article 2 provides that each state is entitled to electors equal in number to the number of Senators and Representatives which the state is entitled to have in Congress. For example, a state that has eight U.S. Representatives and two Senators is entitled to a total of 10 electors.

In 1963, the 23rd amendment became part of the U.S. Constitution. This amendment permits the District of Columbia to be treated as if it were a state in the election for President and Vice-President. If the District were a state, it would have one U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators; therefore, the District is entitled to three electors. District residents first voted for President and Vice-President in 1964. In the District, as well as in all but two of the states, the candidate for President receiving the highest number of votes receives all of the District's electoral votes.

Election of President by the Electors

On the first Monday after the second Wednesday of December in the presidential election years (December 18th in the year 2000), the electors of the 50 states and the District of Columbia meet in their respective state capitals to cast their votes. After the votes are cast, the sealed ballots are sent to the President of the U.S. Senate. In January of the year 2001, the President of U.S. Senate will open the sealed ballots and read them before a joint meeting of Congress. The candidates for President and Vice-President receiving the majority of the electoral votes win the election.

Nomination of Electors in the District

Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution leaves the manner of selecting electors up to the individual states.

NOVEMBER 7, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

The executive committee of the major political parties who have conducted a Presidential Primary Election in the District selects the party's candidates for elector and submits the names to the Board of Elections and Ethics by September 1st of the presidential election year.

Independent and minor party candidates for U.S. President must petition to nominate their electors. Information concerning the process is in the ballot access section of this guide.

Independent and Minor Party Candidates

Independent and minor party candidates for President and Vice-President may have their names printed on the General Election ballot through the nomination of electors. Each Elector of President and Vice-President must meet the following qualifications:

1. He or she must be a registered voter in the District of Columbia; and
2. He or she must have been a bona fide resident of the District of Columbia for a period of three (3) years preceding the date of the presidential election.

Each person elected as Elector of President and Vice-President of the United States shall, in the presence of the Board of Elections and Ethics, take an oath or solemnly affirm that he or she will vote for the candidates of the party that he or she has been nominated to represent, and it shall be his or her duty to vote in such a manner in the electoral college.

Petition forms must nominate not fewer than three (3) candidates for electors, may be obtained beginning on **Monday, June 26, 2000**, and must be filed by **Tuesday, August 15, 2000**.

The petition must be accompanied by an affidavit signed personally by the presidential and vice-presidential candidate and must contain the following.

1. Names of the three (3) presidential electors supported by the petition.
2. Written consent, by the presidential and vice-presidential candidates, to each presidential elector listed on the petition as being pledged to them; and
3. If the candidate for president is a nominee of a minor party, a statement that the presidential and vice-presidential candidates are the duly selected nominees of the party.

NOVEMBER 7, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

The General Election ballot includes candidates for partisan and non-partisan public offices. Candidates for partisan offices appear with their political party (or "Independent") next to their names on the ballot, while candidates for non-partisan offices appear without a party designation.

Candidates on the ballot for partisan offices include those nominated by the major parties in the September 12th Primary along with Independent and Minor Party candidates.

INDEPENDENTS AND MINOR PARTIES

The D.C. Election Code permits the names of "Independent" candidates (candidates not affiliated with a political party) and candidates affiliated with minor political parties, (those have not met the 7,500 vote requirement for conducting a primary), to be placed on the general election ballot along with the candidates nominated through the primary process. Independent and minor party candidates bypass the primary election and are nominated directly to the general election ballot. The process of direct access for independent and minor party candidates is exactly the same except for (3) additional provisions for minor party candidates:

1. The candidate for the minor party must be registered to vote as affiliated with that party on the Board's record.
3. In order for the name of the political party to be placed on the candidate's nominating petition before circulation begins, the Board of Elections and Ethics must have first approved the party name.
3. In order for the name of the political party to be placed next to the name of the candidate on the ballot, the name of the political party must be placed on the petition before circulation begins.

Any registered voter, regardless of party affiliation may sign an independent or minor party candidate's petition.

Approval of Party Names

Generally, the Board approves party names at its regular monthly meetings. Therefore, a new party that wishes to begin circulation of petitions at the beginning of the petition period should submit the request for approval of the party no later than *May 15, 2000*. The Board will reject any party name that tends to confuse or mislead the public.

November 7, 2000 General Election Independent and Minor Party Candidates Signature Requirements PARTISAN OFFICES	
President/Vice President (Independent/Minor Parties)	1% of the registered voters The petition must nominate not less than three (3) candidates for electors
Delegate to the House of Representatives	3,000 or 1.5% (whichever is less) of the duly registered voters in the of the District of Columbia
At-Large Member of the Council	3,000 or 1.5% (whichever is less) of the duly registered voters in the of the District of Columbia
Ward Member of the Council (Wards 2, 4, 7, and 8)	500 signatures of duly registered voters in the ward from which the candidate seeks election.
U.S. Senator	3,000 or 1.5% (whichever is less) of the duly registered voters in the of the District of Columbia
U.S. Representative	3,000 or 1.5% (whichever is less) of the duly registered voters in the of the District of Columbia

NOVEMBER 7, 2000 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

November 7, 2000 General Election Independent and Minor Party Candidates Signature Requirements NON-PARTISAN OFFICES	
At-Large Member of the Board of Education (2 Members)	1000 signatures of duly registered voters of the District of Columbia.
Ward Member of the Board of Education (Wards 1, 3, 5, and 6)	200 signatures of duly registered voters. Signers must also reside and be registered in the ward from which the candidate seeks election.
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (299 seats)	25 signatures of duly registered voters who reside and are registered in the single member district from which the candidate seeks election.

*A calendar of important events appears on the following page. Please note that the dates listed may be subject to change. For a complete list of dates and deadlines, please ask for the Board's **Official Election Calendar**.*

**NOVEMBER 7th GENERAL ELECTION
IMPORTANT EVENTS CALENDAR
DIRECT ACCESS**

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION	
First Day for Presidential Candidates to Pick Up Petitions	June 26, 2000
First Day to Pick Up Petitions -- Direct Access Candidates	July 7, 2000
First Day Petitions May Be Filed	July 7, 2000
Deadline for Presidential Candidates to file Petitions	August 15, 2000
Deadline to File Petitions for Direct Access Candidates	August 30, 2000
Deadline for Democratic and Republican Party Presidential Candidates to qualify by message	September 1, 2000
Lottery for Ballot Position	September 15, 2000
CHALLENGE PERIOD	
Challenge Period Begins	September 2, 2000
Challenge Period Ends	September 11, 2000
VOTER REGISTRATION	
Deadline to Register to Vote	October 10, 2000
Deadline for Postmarked MRAs	October 16, 2000
ABSENTEE VOTING	
Period for In-Person Absentee Voting	Oct.23 -Nov.6, 2000
Deadline to Request Ballot by Mail	October 31, 2000
Final Count of Absentee Ballots	November 17, 2000
DEADLINE TO PETITION FOR POLL WATCHERS October 24, 2000	
PUBLICATION OF SAMPLE BALLOT November 2, 2000	
SPECIAL BALLOTS	
Deadline to Conduct Special Ballot Hearings	Nov.15 - 17, 2000
Counting of Accepted Special Ballots	November 17, 2000

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION ELECTIONS

An ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION (ANC) is an area of the city sub-divided into smaller areas (with populations of approximately 2,000 residents) called SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS (SMDs). There are 299 single member districts and 37 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. Commissions range in size from 2 single-member districts to 14 single-member districts depending on the size of the neighborhood. The term for an ANC Commissioner is two (2) years. The office is non-partisan.

Each ANC Commissioner is nominated and elected by the registered voters who reside in the same single-member districts as the candidate. The ANC Commissioner is an unsalaried official who represents his or her neighborhood community (single-member district) on the Advisory Neighborhood Commission. The Commission may advise the District Government on matters of public policy including decisions regarding planning, streets, recreation, social service programs, health, police protection, and sanitation in their neighborhood area [D.C. Code Section 1-251(C)(1)].

The Board provides a variety of materials, including a map of the single-member district and a list of registered voters, to make it as easy as possible for ANC candidates to have their names placed on the ballot. Please call our Voter Services Office for details.

Write-In Candidates for Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner

Write-in candidates for the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner must meet the qualifications as candidates whose names appear on the ballot [(D.C. Code Section 1-1312 (r) (3)]. Individuals who wish to become write-in candidates must certify their candidacy by filing a "*Declaration of Candidacy*" with the Board not later than 4:45 p.m. on November 14, 2000.

The "*Declaration of Candidacy*" may be obtained from the Voter Services Office.

NOVEMBER 7th GENERAL ELECTION

IMPORTANT EVENTS CALENDAR

BOARD OF EDUCATION
At-Large and Ward Member

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION	
First Day to Pick Up Petitions	July 7, 2000
First Day Petitions May Be Filed	August 7, 2000
Deadline to File Petitions	August 30, 2000
Lottery for Ballot Position	September 15, 2000
CHALLENGE PERIOD	
Challenge Period Begins	September 2, 2000
Challenge Period Ends	September 11, 2000
VOTER REGISTRATION	
Deadline to Register to Vote	October 10, 2000
Deadline for Postmarked MRAs	October 16, 2000
List of Registered Voters in Libraries	October 24, 2000
ABSENTEE VOTING	
Period for In-Person Absentee Voting	Oct. 23 -Nov. 6, 2000
Deadline to Request Ballot by Mail	October 31, 2000
Final Count of Absentee Ballots	November 17, 2000
<i>DEADLINE TO PETITION FOR POLL WATCHERS</i> October 24, 2000	
<i>PUBLICATION OF SAMPLE BALLOT</i> November 2, 2000	
SPECIAL BALLOTS	
Special Ballot Hearings	November 15 - 17, 2000
Counting of Accepted Special Ballots	November 17, 2000

**NOVEMBER 7th GENERAL ELECTION
IMPORTANT EVENTS CALENDAR**

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION	
First Day to Pick Up Petitions	August 9, 2000
First Day Petitions May Be Filed	August 9, 2000
Deadline to File Petitions	September 8, 2000
Lottery for Ballot Position	September 19, 2000
CHALLENGE PERIOD	
Challenge Period Begins	September 11, 2000
Challenge Period Ends	September 20, 2000
VOTER REGISTRATION	
Deadline to Register to Vote	October 10, 2000
Deadline for Postmarked MRAs	October 16, 2000
ABSENTEE VOTING	
Period for In-Person Absentee Voting	October 23 - Nov.6, 2000
Deadline to Request Ballot by Mail	October 31, 2000
Final Count of Absentee Ballots	November 17, 2000
DEADLINE TO PETITION FOR POLL WATCHERS October 24, 2000	
SPECIAL BALLOTS	
Special Ballot Hearings	November 15 - 17, 2000
Counting of Accepted Special Ballots	November 17, 2000

ABSENTEE VOTING

Registered voters who cannot make it to the polls on Election Day because of illness, physical disability, or travel may vote by absentee ballot.

There are two (2) ways for District voters to cast an absentee ballots.

- ① Vote in-person at the Board's office, or
- ② Cast an absentee ballot by mail.

In-person Absentee Voting

Absentee voting in person begins fifteen (15) days before any election and ends the day before Election Day. In-person absentee voting is conducted at the Board of Elections' Voter Services Office. The hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

By-Mail Absentee Voting

Requests for mail absentee ballots must be in writing and must reach the Board's office no later than the seventh day before the election (the Tuesday before Election Day).

Mail absentee ballot requests must include the following information in order to be processed:

- ✓ *Name of the voter*
- ✓ *Address on the voter's registration*
- ✓ *Address to which the ballot is to be mailed (if different)*
- ✓ *Reason for requesting the absentee ballot (illness, disability, travel, etc.)*
- ✓ *Signature of the voter*



To be counted, the voted absentee ballot must be postmarked by Election Day and must reach the Board of Elections no later than the tenth (10th) day after the election.

Requesting an absentee ballot is the responsibility of the registered voter. One individual may not request an absentee ballot for another. However, voters may request absentee ballots for more than one election in any calendar year. This is especially convenient for students, the elderly and the handicapped.

Signatures on absentee requests and returned ballots are verified against the voters' signatures on file in the Board's records.

Requesting an Absentee Ballot by Facsimile

Requests for absentee ballots may be electronically transmitted (faxed) to the Board at (202) 347-2648. An electronically transmitted (faxed) request must contain the voter's same information as mailed applications (outlined on the previous page) and must include the signature of the voter.

Requests sent by facsimile must reach the Board not earlier than three (3) days preceding the deadline for submitting requests for absentee ballots by mail.

Note: The Board appreciates campaigns informing voters of the opportunity to vote absentee if they are going to be out of town or are elderly, ill or disabled. We encourage campaigns to reproduce our "Absentee Ballot Request Form" in their campaign mailings. Absentee voting provides a convenient way for voters who can't make it to the polls on election day to exercise their right to vote.

Emergency Absentee Ballots

If an accident or sudden onset of an illness occurs after the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot by mail has passed and the voter cannot appear at the polls on Election Day, the voter may request an Emergency Absentee Ballot.

Note: The emergency absentee ballot may not be used if the voter simply failed to write for an absentee ballot before the deadline. It may be used only by those individuals whose accident or onset of illness occurred after the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot by mail.

For details on the emergency absentee voting process, call the Board's Voter Services Office at 727-2525.

INITIATIVE PROCESS

The registered voters of the District of Columbia may propose laws by placing an initiative measure on the ballot. The process for placing an initiative measure on the ballot in the District of Columbia has several steps, which are defined by law. Below is a general outline of the process. However, for a complete account, check D.C. Code §§1-281 through 1-286, 1-1320 and Chapter 10 of the Board's regulations (DCMR Title 3: Elections and Ethics).

1. **Supporters File the Measure with the Board of Elections**

The process begins when a registered voter files the proposed measure in the Board's Voter Services Office. The filing must include five copies of the following:

- ▲ *The legislative text of the proposed law;*
- ▲ *A short title of 15 words or less to describe the measure; and*
- ▲ *A "summary statement" of 100 words or less, to outline the proposed law for the voters.*

The proposer must also file an affidavit swearing that he or she is a registered voter. This statement must include the person's residence address and telephone number. The proposers of the Measure must also file documents with the Office of Campaign Finance listing their campaign committee and other financial information. The Office of Campaign Finance is located at 2000 - 14th Street, NW, Reeves Center, 202-671-0550.

2. **The Board of Elections Considers the Subject Matter**

Once the initiative measure is filed, the Board publishes it in the D.C. Register and provides notice of a public meeting to consider whether the subject matter meets the requirements set in the law. The public is invited to submit written testimony on the subject matter and to testify before the Board at the public meeting.

When the Board meets to make the determination as to whether to approve the subject matter as appropriate, it must consider whether the initiative measure violates the Home Rule Charter, negates a Budget Act, appropriates funds, or violates the Human Rights Act. It may only consider whether the measure conflicts with these requirements.

3. **The Board Approves a Short Title and Summary Statement**

After approving the subject matter, the Board prepares the "official" short title and summary statement. The short title of 15 words or less and the summary statement of 100 words or less describe the measure for voters. They appear on both the petition form and the election ballot.

The short title and summary statement formulated by the Board are presented at a public meeting, where both the proponents and opponents are invited to comment. The Board's responsibility is to approve language that is clear and impartial, and fairly reflects the contents of the measure.

For legal inquiries, please call the Office of the General Counsel at 727-2194.

The Challenge Period Begins

Once approved, the official language is published in the D.C. Register, along with the legislative text. The D.C. Register publication begins a ten day challenge period, during which any registered voter may object to the short title, summary statement, or legislative form in the Superior Court.

4. The Petition Form is Approved

At the end of the challenge period (or once any court challenges are resolved), the Board prepares the petition form making sure that it meets certain legal requirements before being circulated to the voters. The petition form is issued to the proponent at a public meeting, where the proponent adopts the petition as his/her own.

5. Supporters Circulate the Petition

Once the petition form is adopted and approved, the supporters of an initiative measure have 180 days to gather signatures. To place a measure on the ballot, supporters must collect the signatures of at least 5% of the voters registered citywide. These signatures must be distributed to reflect at least five percent of the registered voters in at least five of the eight wards.

6. The Board's Staff Verifies the Petition Signature

Once the petition is filed, the Board of Elections and Ethics has 30 days to determine whether it contains the required number of signatures. In the presence of watchers – and according to detailed procedures – the Board checks each name on the petition to determine whether the signer is registered. Once a determination is made that the petition contains the required number of voters' names and addresses, a random sample of 100 signatures from each ward is checked against the voters' original registration forms to ensure the validity of the signatures.

7. The Measure is Certified for the Ballot

At the end of the signature verification phase, the Board convenes a public meeting to announce whether the petition meets the citywide and ward-level requirements. If the petition meets the minimum requirements, the measure is "certified" for the election ballot. An initiative measure is placed on the ballot at the next citywide election that occurs at least 90 days after the Board's certification. All registered voters – regardless of party affiliation – are eligible to vote on an initiative measure.

BOARD PETITION CERTIFICATION DEADLINES

In order for an initiative measure to appear on either the May 2, 2000 Primary Election ballot, the September 12, 2000 Primary Election ballot or the November 7th General Election ballot the Board must receive the petition by the following dates:

<i>May 2nd Pres. Primary Election</i>	<i>Monday, January 3, 2000</i>
<i>September 12th Primary Election</i>	<i>Monday, May 15, 2000</i>
<i>November 7th General Election</i>	<i>Monday, July 10, 2000</i>



WATCHERS

At the Polling Place

D.C. law and the Board's regulations permit each candidate to have "Poll Watchers" in each polling place where his or her name appears on Election Day.

Candidates must petition the Board for poll watchers at least 14 days before the election. Forms for petitioning the Board are available from the Voter Services Office.

Each candidate whose name appears on the ballot citywide may have a poll watcher in each precinct. An ANC candidate is entitled to a poll watcher only in the precinct, or precincts where his or her name appears.

The Board issues each candidate who qualifies for watchers a "watcher badge" for each precinct. The candidate distributes the badges to his or her poll watchers. Poll watchers may then be substituted by the candidate at any time during the day. These "shift changes" must be reported to the Board's Precinct Captain.

Poll watchers must conduct themselves in accordance with the Board's guidelines as outlined on the following page. If a poll watcher becomes disruptive, fails to follow the Precinct Captain's instructions, obstructs the election process, or interferes with polling place officials, he or she may be removed. The candidate will be informed of the removal and will be permitted to replace the poll watcher.

At the Counting Center

Because of the large number of candidates and the limitations of space in the Board's counting center, watchers representing candidates are not permitted within the counting center itself. Representatives from the Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Umoja Parties, and members of the non-partisan League of Women Voters are invited to watch the count from inside the counting center.

Candidates, their representatives, and the public may watch the count on "closed circuit" television monitors. The closed circuit cameras provide a complete and unobstructed view of the entire counting process from the arrival of the ballot boxes to the counting of the ballots by the computer. Board staff is available to answer any questions concerning the process. In addition, the entire counting process is recorded on video tape.

GUIDELINES FOR WATCHERS

Watchers must:

- * *Sign in and out on the Watcher Roster*
- * *Wear a badge issued by the Board with the name of the Candidate and the Watcher's Name.*
- * *Remain in a designated area within the polling place.*
- * *Share the computer listing provided by the Board.*

Watchers may:

- *Shake the ballot box before it is put into use.*
- *Check the small voter cards.*
- *Exchange badges, but there must be no more than one (1) watcher for each candidate in attendance at any time except:*

When a watcher supervisor is checking progress:

and/or

When there is a "shift change".

Watcher may not:

- ☒ *Touch any precinct material, except the computer listing or the voter cards.*
- ☒ *Interfere with polling place officials.*
- ☒ *Wear campaign buttons or other campaign items.*
- ☒ *Obstruct the election process.*
- ☒ *Talk to voters casting ballots.*

COMPUTER DATA SERVICES

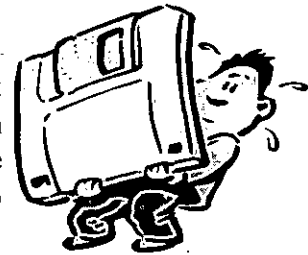
The District of Columbia's voter roll contains a wide range of information about the city's approximately 300,000+ registered voters, including residence address, election district, age information, and voting history. Under the law, data from the voter registry is considered public information.

Voter Information and Data Services:

As a service to the public, this data is available in a variety of media--printouts, mailing labels, and computer tapes--for a minimal cost to the purchaser. This data can also be individualized to meet a wide range of informational needs--making it particularly helpful to candidates.

How This Service Works:

At the beginning of each month, the Board of Elections sends a current tape of the voter registration roll to the SHARE Computer Center, which is the District's central computer processing facility. Orders for data are placed at the Board of Elections, and these requests are then sent to SHARE, where they are processed.



Base cost for the processing is \$50.00 for the computer start-up; additional cost varies depending on the number of records involved or the medium chosen. A wide variety of selection programs is available to enable candidates to obtain precisely the registered voter data desired for their campaign purposes.

How to Order Data:

Data request forms are available from the Board, where assistance with preparing the form is also available. Completed forms should be returned to the Board, along with a certified check or money order made payable to the D.C. Treasurer for the \$50.00 computer access fee. This is only a deposit--total cost of the data depends on the amount ordered and the medium chosen.

The Board will deliver your data request to the SHARE Computer Center. SHARE will call you or your contact person when the data is available --usually within several days.

All data is picked up at:

**SHARE Computer Center
222 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20001**

The name of the person to contact at D.C. SHARE for technical and other questions appears on the order form. For questions on the process of requesting voter registration data or for more information on the data services that are available, please call the Board of Elections at 727-2525.

Campaign Finance

The information below has been supplied by the Board's Office of Campaign Finance. All questions regarding campaign finance rules and regulations should be directed to the Office of Campaign Finance, 2000 - 14th Street, NW, Suite 420, Washington, DC 20009, 202-671-0550.

Registration and Reporting Requirements for Candidates and Political Committees

The District of Columbia Campaign Finance Reform and Conflict of Interest Act of 1974, as amended, D.C. Code, §§1-1401 et seq. (88 Stat. 447, Public Law 93-376, effective August 14, 1974), requires full and complete disclosures by and on behalf of local candidates and political committees engaged in local political campaigns.

All candidates and political committees participating in the 2000 elections for the Offices of President and Vice-President and Electors, Member of the D.C. Council, Member of the Board of Education, and D.C. Statehood Representative, U. S. Senator and local party committee persons must register with the Office of Campaign Finance, and file periodic reports of receipts and expenditures. Candidates for the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner are in a special category and are not affected by the registration requirements of the Campaign Finance Act, but must file an ANC Summary Financial Statement no later than thirty days after the election in which they participate.

Registration Requirements

Statement of Candidacy

An individual must register as a candidate with the Office of Campaign Finance within five (5) days of receiving a contribution, making an expenditure, obtaining nominating petitions, or authorizing another person to so act on their behalf.

Statement of Organization

Each political committee must file a Statement of Organization within ten (10) days of organizing. The ten (10) day period will commence to run when the candidate designates the principal campaign committee on the Statement of Candidacy Form, if the committee has not previously organized.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Financial Disclosure Statement

Each candidate must file a personal Financial Disclosure Statement with the Director of Campaign Finance within thirty (30) days of becoming a candidate.

Campaign Finance

Reports of Receipts and Expenditures

Reports of Receipts and Expenditures are required from the treasurers of all political committees and candidates, except candidates who designated a principal campaign committee, and have been granted a waiver from filing separate reports from their committee; and candidates who anticipate spending less than \$250 in any one election and have not designated a principal campaign committee. Candidates claiming to spend less than \$250 must file a \$250 exemption form upon registration.

During the 2000 election year, candidates and treasurers of committees supporting candidates and treasurers of committees supporting candidates seeking office in this election year, must file Reports of Receipts and Expenditures on January 31st, the tenth day of March, June, August, October and December, and on the eighth day before each scheduled election. April 24th for the May 2nd Primary, September 4th for the September 12th Primary and October 31st for the November 7th General Election. Any contribution of \$200 or more received after the closing date of the pre-election report must be filed on the dates listed above and must be reported within 24 hours after it is received.

Political committees who notify the Director of Campaign Finance in writing on or before January 31, 2000 of their intent not to support a candidate during the 2000 election year, must file Reports of Receipts and Expenditures on January 31st and July 31st.

Each person (other than a political committee or candidate) who makes contributions or expenditures, other than by contribution to a political committee or candidate, in an aggregate amount of \$50 or more, must also file Reports of Receipts and Expenditures.

NOTE: All reports are available for public inspection, and subject to desk and full field audits and investigations.

CONTRIBUTION LIMITATIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF CAMPAIGN LITERATURE

All candidates and political committees must adhere to the contribution limitations of D.C. Code §1-1441, and comply with the requirements of D.C. Code, §1-1420, pertaining to the identification of campaign literature.

Campaign Finance

Termination

Candidates and political committees have a continuing responsibility to file campaign reports until a termination report is filed and approved by the Director. For example, neither withdrawal of candidacy nor an unsuccessful bid for office will relieve registrants of the responsibility to file reports of receipts and expenditures. A termination report can only be filed when the political committee has satisfied all debts and sustains a zero balance.

**TAKE TIME OUT
TO VOTE !!**

VOTE

May 2, 2000 Primary Election

September 12, 2000 Primary

November 7, 2000 General Election

District of Columbia
Board of Elections and Ethics

Benjamin F. Wilson, Chairman

Lenora Cole Alexander, Member

Stephen G. Callas, Member

Alice P. Miller, Executive Director
Kenneth J. McGhie, General Counsel
Cecily Collier-Montgomery, Director of Campaign Finance
Kathryn A. Fairley, Registrar of Voters

202-727-2525
202-347-2648 (Fax)
<http://www.dcboee.org> (Web site Address)