



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT CIRCULATING PETITIONS

May a voter sign petitions for more than one candidate for Evanston mayor?

No, a signer cannot sign petitions for more than one candidate for mayor in this election.

How should the voter sign their name when they sign the petition?

The voter should sign the petition with the **same name that the person is registered to vote with**; however, signing with a nickname will not invalidate the signature if the voter can be identified and it can be shown that the voter is lawfully registered to vote and qualified to sign the petition.

Are abbreviations allowed on petitions?

Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the voter's address.

Can ditto marks be used on the petitions?

Avoid using ditto marks. A circulator can fill in any missing information (Evanston, Cook) except a voter's signature.

Can a P.O. box be used as a signer's address?

Generally, no. Signers must list the residential address where they are registered to vote on petitions. However, there are some exceptions where voters may list a P.O. Box as a residential address (e.g. Address Confidentiality for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Human Trafficking, or Stalking Act).

May a voter sign a petition for someone else?

No. A registered voter must personally sign the petition.

Is the circulator required to be a registered voter?

No, but they must:

- be a United States citizen;
- be at least 18 years of age by the immediately following general or consolidated election; and
- include their current address on the circulator's affidavit.

May a circulator sign as a voter on the petition they are circulating?

Yes, as long as the circulator is a registered voter in the applicable political subdivision or district.

Can a petition sheet be circulated by more than one individual?

No. Only the person who signs the page as a circulator can circulate that sheet. By signing as a circulator, the circulator is attesting that all signers signed in their presence.

Can I sign the petition as a circulator at the bottom?

No. You must sign the petition as circulator in the presence of a notary public, who will verify your identity and that you signed in their presence. I can help arrange for a notary public if you do not know one. Many banks also have notary publics.

I plan to complete all petitions by October 1 with enough time to review and prepare them for filing on October 19.

Thank you!

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