**INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOMINATING PETITION FOR BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**This information sheet is not meant to encompass all of the statutory and constitutional requirements for filing petitions but is to be used only as a guide. If you have any additional questions, you should seek legal counsel.**

1. Completed nominating petitions shall be filed with the Mercer County Clerk’s Office not later than 4:00 pm on the last Monday of July. **Petitions are accepted in person between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm at:**

**The Office of the Mercer County Clerk**

**209 South Broad Street, 2nd Floor Election Dept.**

**Trenton, NJ 08608**

**(Petitions are NOT accepted via Email or FAX.)**

2. At least ten (10) signatures shall be required to any petition or two percent of the number of qualified voters who voted in the fire district at the next preceding annual election for members of the board of fire commissioners, whichever is less.

3. Only one candidate can appear on the petition.

4. Any registered voter in the Fire District at the time of signing can sign the petition.

5. Each registered voter can only sign one time for the same candidate and cannot sign more petitions than seats that are available.

6. A candidate can sign his/her own petition and be the circulator.

7. Pursuant to P.L. 2018, ch. 66, all candidates for any public elective office must include a functioning e-mail address on their petition of nomination.

**CANDIDACY DATES:**

**July 29, 2024 4:00 pm. Deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions with the Mercer County Clerk.**

**Aug. 12, 2024 Drawing for Ballot position at the office of the Mercer County Clerk – 3:00 p.m.**

**Aug. 16, 2024 Last day for a candidate to withdraw from the election. A signed, written notice**

**From the candidate must be filed with the Mercer County Clerk.**

**Nov. 5, 2024 General Election**

**LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:**

**To become a Fire Commissioner in New Jersey, you must –**

**1. Hold U.S. citizenship and one year’s residency in the fire district.**

**2. Be registered to vote in the district before filing the nominating petition.**

**3. Not be disqualified from membership for the conviction of certain crimes.**

**NOMINATING PETITION FOR BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**To: Paula Sollami Covello, Mercer County Clerk**

**A: NOMINATING STATEMENT:**

We, the undersigned, are qualified voters of the below Fire District in Mercer County, New Jersey. We hereby endorse the following as candidate for membership on the below named Board of Fire Commissioners, and we hereby request that the name of said candidate be printed on the Official Ballot to be used at the ensuing election for the Board of Fire Commissioners to be held

**November 5, 2024**.

**Fire District Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PO Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Term: Full \_\_\_\_\_\_ or Unexpired: \_\_\_\_\_\_ (if unexpired, number of years remaining \_\_\_\_\_\_)**

**B. SIGNATORIES:**

We, the undersigned petitioners, hereby certify that the above candidate is legally qualified under the laws of the State to be elected a Member of the above Board of Fire Commissioners.

*At least ten (10) signatures, which may include the candidate, shall be required to any petition or two percent of the number of qualified voters who voted in the fire district at the next preceding annual election for members of the Board of Fire Commissioners, whichever is less.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Printed Name | Address | Signature |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |  |
| 12 |  |  |  |

**C. NOTICE:**

All candidates are required by law to comply with the provisions of “The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act,” N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq. For further information, please call the Election Law Enforcement Commission, (609) 292-8700.

**D. AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR/WITNESS:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the circulator of this nominating petition, being duly sworn or affirmed according to the

*(Name of Circulator)*

law on oath, deposes and says: The present petition is signed by each of the signers thereof in his/her own handwriting; the signers are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, legally qualified to vote at the Board of Fire Commissioner election for which the candidate is nominated; and that the petition is prepared and filed in absolute good faith for the sole purpose of endorsing the candidate and placing the candidate’s name on the official ballot in order to seek election as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners. I further affirm that I am eligible to vote in the State of New Jersey, and meet the age, citizenship and residency requirements as required by New Jersey law.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(Circulator’s Signature) (Typed or printed name of Circulator)*

SWORN OR AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Signature of Notary Public, NJ Attorney or other person*

*authorized under New Jersey law to administer oath*  *(Affix notary stamp and seal here)*

**E. CANDIDATE’S ACCEPTANCE AND OATH OF OFFICE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a candidate for membership of the Board of Fire Commissioners named in the foregoing

(Candidate’s Name)

petition, do hereby certify that I am qualified to be a member of the foregoing named Board of Fire Commissioners; that I consent to stand as a candidate for election and, if elected, agree to accept and qualify into that office. I further affirm and declare I am not disqualified as a voter pursuant to *N.J.S.A*. 19:4-1, nor have I been convicted of a disqualifying crime.

I further do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God\*\*.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(Candidate’s Signature) (Typed or printed name of Candidate)*

\*\*No individual is required to swear that part of an oath which states “So help me God” and may instead state “I do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm.”

SWORN OR AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Signature of Notary Public, NJ Attorney or other person*

*authorized under New Jersey law to administer oath*  *(Affix notary stamp and seal here)*

Received by: **Paula Sollami Covello, Mercer County Clerk/Designee**

Time Stamp below

(2/2024)