



SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
30 TRINITY STREET  
HARTFORD, CT 06106

May 13, 2020

TO ALL REGISTRARS OF VOTERS:

Re: Primary Petition Forms: Municipal Offices at Large;  
Municipal Offices from Political Subdivisions

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-410, we are enclosing two Primary Petition Signature Pages and Instruction Pages that are prescribed for use in connection with candidacies for nomination to municipal offices. The form for "Municipal Offices at Large" is to be used for municipal offices for which all the electors of a particular municipality may vote. A list of these offices appears at the end of the applicable Instruction Page.

The form for "Municipal Offices from Political Subdivisions" is to be used for those offices for which the electors of only part of a particular municipality may vote, a list of which appears at the end of the Instruction Page.

We urge that you keep the enclosed forms for your file. They are the official forms prescribed under §9-410, and they should not be altered in any way when preparing and providing primary petition forms for municipal office. If such pages are duplicated, they should be copied front to back as they appear in this packet.

Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-409, petition forms shall be available from the registrar "beginning on the day following the making of the party's endorsement of a candidate or candidates for such office or position, or beginning on the day following the final day for the making of such endorsement under the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-391, whichever comes first." (May 19th through May 26th - endorsement dates; May 27th - day following final day for making of endorsements.) Petition forms for the municipal office of State Representative shall be available on the 77<sup>th</sup> day before the day of the primary for such office (May 26<sup>th</sup>).

Please note the requirement of §9-409 that a primary petition candidate for the municipal offices of State Representative (chosen from a district composed of a single town or part of a single town) must include on his statement of consent "his name as he authorizes it to appear on the ballot". (The enclosed primary petitions are not used for senatorial and assembly districts which cross town lines; for example, they are not used for a district composed of parts of two towns, those petition pages are available from the Secretary of the State.)

Please remember to complete the blank on each instruction page, relating to the number of signatures required, the due date of the primary petitions, and Part A of each primary petition signature page, prior to issuing the same. The deadline for the filing of primary petitions is 4:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020. Please remember that all Registrars of Voters' offices must be open between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020. (Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-405).

Section 9-412 provides that upon receipt of the petition pages, the registrar must give to the person who submitted them a signed receipt stating the number of pages and the date and time of filing. It also provides that after certifying on each page the number of signers who are enrolled electors, the registrar must file the pages with the town clerk, together with his certificate as to the whole number of names on the last-completed enrollment list of such party in such town or political subdivision, as the case may be.

### **ACTIVE AND INACTIVE ENROLLMENT LIST**

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §§9-35, 9-54, 9-55, 9-64a, 9-64b and 9-396, there is an Active and Inactive enrollment list for each party. The Inactive list consists of persons who failed to respond to the Confirmation of Voting Residence (ED-642). We remind you that under Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-35, Confirmation of Voting Residence Notices may not be sent out between May 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021, except that under Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-23g(c), if a Notice of Acceptance of a mail-in application card is returned undelivered, a Confirmation of Voting Residence Notice is sent out throughout the year.

We strongly recommend that before the May 19th--26th endorsement period, you prepare and print an Active and Inactive enrollment list for each party, certify and file one with the town clerk and file one with the town chairmen. If municipal offices are endorsed by caucus, we also strongly recommend that in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-42 and §9-42-1 of Conn. State Regs., a registrar, deputy registrar or assistant registrar of voters attend each caucus with an Active and Inactive enrollment list and voter registration applications for the purpose of restoring persons from the Inactive to the Active enrollment list before they vote in the caucus. (They may also bring transfer of address forms ED-513a under §9-35). After the caucuses, if any, the registrar, deputy or assistant registrar of voters should file in your office all restorations signed by the enrolled electors and the registrar, deputy or assistant registrar. (Only one official is required to restore except on election day.) We remind you, however, that under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§9-56 and 9-57, persons who file an application for enrollment on the day of a caucus do not acquire enrollment privileges until after the caucus.

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-35c and §9-406 the number of signatures required on a primary petition is 5% of the number of enrolled electors on the Active enrollment list last printed under §9-55, excluding the names of all individuals who have ceased to be electors. When checking signatures on primary petitions, however, the signatures of all persons who have enrollment privileges in the party shall be counted and, under §9-35c, if an elector on the Inactive enrollment list signs a petition giving the same address as appears on the Inactive list, forthwith place such name on the Active list and count the signature (no restoration form is necessary in such case).

We are enclosing the following Handouts which may contain some helpful information:

Remove from Inactive List  
Petition Signatures on Inactive List

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

The Republican and Democratic parties will be endorsing candidates for the office of Justice of the Peace. There will be no primary for Justice of the Peace, unless the number of primary petitioning candidates for such office totals more than a bare majority of the number of Justices which the party is entitled to nominate (§9-422). If there is a primary, the party-endorsed slate will be designated on Row A of the ballot without candidate names (Party-Endorsed Slate), each petition will be designated on the ballot without candidate names (“B” Challenge Slate, “C” Challenge Slate, etc.), and the slate with the most votes will win. If a partial slate wins, in January 2021 there will be vacancies that would be filled by the town committee of the party.

The remaining (one-third, rounded up) Justices of the Peace will be chosen by appointment in accordance with the procedure in §9-184c.

If you have any questions, please call us at (860) 509-6100.

Sincerely,

DENISE W MERRILL  
Secretary of the State

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Theodore E. Bromley  
Staff Attorney

Enclosures: ED-619, ED-619a, 2 Handouts