



Office of the Secretary of the State
State of Connecticut
165 Capitol Avenue, Suite 1000
P.O. Box 150470, Hartford, CT 06115-0470

Stephanie Thomas
Secretary of the State
Jennifer D. Barahona
Deputy Secretary of the State

August 13, 2026

Michael Smart, City Clerk
200 Orange Street,
New Haven CT 06510

Dear Mr. Smart:

This is to acknowledge receipt on August 5, 2026, of your notice that pursuant to Article IX, Section 53, and Article IV, Section 9, of the New Haven Charter, and Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 9-164(c), a special election was called to fill a vacancy in the office of Alderman of the 9th Ward, to be held in New Haven on September 15, 2026. You notified us that the vacancy occurred effective immediately.

Enclosed is a copy of Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 9-164(c), which prescribes the procedure to be followed in connection with the special election. Please note that Sec. 9-164(c) requires that you forthwith give notice to the town chairman of each major and minor party in the town and warn the election in the same manner as municipal elections are warned. Enclosed is a Suggested Form of Warning for the special election. Section 9-164(c) also provides (1) that nominations by political parties are to be made at any time after the vacancy occurs, and not later than August 10, 2026; and (2) such nominations by major and minor political parties must be made as the rules of such parties provide, in accordance with Sec. 9-390, and certified by such date to the town clerk by the presiding officer and secretary of the town committee. Moreover, under Sec. 9-390, if a caucus is the endorsing authority, notice of caucus must be given at least five days before the caucus unless party rules require earlier notice. Since this deadline has already passed, please consider this letter as a formal notice from our office that this nomination deadline is tolled, and any such nominations should be certified as soon as possible.

As also provided in Sec. 9-164(c), the party-endorsed choices are not subject to a primary, and the candidate selected by each political party becomes the nominee of such party. May we urge that you notify each of your town chairmen of the provisions of said section with respect to the time for nominating and certifying candidates. We are enclosing for your guidance a nomination and election calendar which would apply under Sec. 9-164(c) and other relevant sections of the General Statutes.

Under the provisions of Sec. 9-174, the polls at the election will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The office of "Alderman to Fill Vacancy" will appear in the first column on the ballot. May we also point out that the heading on your ballot in said ward will be "Special Election".

Generally speaking, the provisions of our statutes (such as the absentee voting law, the campaign finance law, etc.) applicable to municipal elections will apply to the coming special election.

May we also emphasize that under Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 9-453a, anyone desiring a nominating petition in connection with the coming election must make application to the Secretary of the State as required

Secretary of the State* ☎ 860-509-6200 🌐 www.portal.ct.gov/sots

Business Services Division ☎ 860-509-6002 ✉ bsd@ct.gov **Legislation & Election Administration Division** ☎ 860-509-6100 ✉ lead@ct.gov

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in Sec. 9-453b, and any such petition, in accordance with the requirements of Sec. 9-453d, must contain a number of signatures of qualified electors equal to 1% of the votes cast for the same office at the last-preceding election (being 6 signatures for Alderman to Fill Vacancy in the 9th Ward). The completed nominating petition must be filed by August 10, 2026, under Sec. 9-164(c). ***Again as this deadline has passed this office has tolled the deadline and extended 4 days. August 14, 2026 is the new deadline***

If you have any questions in connection with the above, or if this office can be of service in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at 860 509-6100.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Thomas

Secretary of the State

By:

Bernard Liu
Staff Attorney
Enclosures

Information copies to:

Registrars of Voters of New Haven

Nomination and Election Calendar for Special Election to be held for Alderman of the 9th Ward in New Haven on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, under Sec. 9-164(c) and other relevant sections of the General Statutes.

Forthwith

Town clerk notifies chairmen of major and minor parties and Secretary of the State and publishes warning of election. (Sec. 9-226)

Mon., August 10, 2026

Final date for nomination by political parties. Nominations to be made in accordance with Sec. 9-164(c), 9-390 and applicable party rules and certified to Town Clerk by presiding officer and secretary of town committee by this date. (Sec. 9-390)

Mon., August 10, 2026 *** please note in letter. August 14, 2026***

Final date for submission to Town Clerk by circulator of nominating petitions (for nominating petition candidates). The town clerk or assistant town clerk in each town in which the election is to be held must be in his office between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on this deadline day to accept petition pages. (Sec. 9-453i(d))

Mon., August 10, 2026

Final date for Town Clerk to file nomination petition pages with office of the Secretary of the State so that they are received no later than this date. (Sec. 9-453i(b))

Fri., August 14, 2026

Absentee ballots become available. Copy to be filed with Secretary of the State. (Secs. 9-135b(c) and 9-140(f))

Fri., August 28, 2026

Registration cut-off (by mail). Hand-delivered mail-in registration applications must be received by registrars in the applicant's town of residence (or by DMV or a voter registration agency); and mailed mail-in registration applications must be postmarked by this date for the applicant to be entitled to vote in the election. Electoral privileges of applicants meeting this deadline attach immediately upon approval by the registrar. (Sec. 9-23g(d)(2))

Sun., August 30, 2026

Final date for filing by Registrars of sample voting machine ballot labels with Secretary of the State. (Sec. 9-256)

Wed, September 9, 2026

Final date for write-in candidates to register with the Secretary of the State. (Sec. 9-224b)

Thurs., September 10, 2026 to Sun., September 13, 2026

Period for early voting. Hours of early voting are 10 am to 6 pm each day. (Sec. 9-163aa(a)(3)(C)(i))

Mon., September 14, 2026

Registration cut-off (in person). Last day for applicants to personally appear and register to vote in the special election. (Sec. 9-172b) Note, however, the earlier deadline for those persons registering by mail-in or online procedure under Sec. 9-23g

Tue., September 15, 2026

Election Day. Hours of voting 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Sec. 9-174)

Absentee ballots may not be issued on special election day, except that electors who suddenly become ill or a resident of a nursing home within six days immediately preceding the close of the polls at the election may be issued an absentee ballot up to the close of the polls. (Sec. 9-140(h) and 9-150c)

To be cast at an election, the absentee ballot must be received by the municipal clerk before the close of the polls. (Sec. 9-140b(a))

From the Office of the Secretary of the State, 165 Capitol Ave, CT 06106

Suggested Form of Warning

For Alderman Special Election—9th Ward

The electors of the 9th Ward in the Town of New Haven are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling places in said town on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, for the purpose of casting their votes for Alderman to Fill Vacancy for the 9th Ward.

Notice is hereby given that the location of the polling places is as follows (**please include early voting location**):

Voting District	Location of Polling Place
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Absentee Ballots will be counted at the following central location: ____.*

Voting machines will be used. The polls will be opened at 6:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

Dated at _____, Connecticut, this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Town Clerk/Assistant Town Clerk

*Include only when central counting has been designated under Conn. Gen. Stats. Sec. 9-147a.