

Nomination Papers - Guidelines



Candidates begin the nomination process by obtaining signatures on the nomination paper. The City Clerk will provide the nomination papers. At the time of issuance, the name of the candidate will be typed on the form, and the City Clerk will sign and date the form.

To be nominated to the Office of Member of the City Council, the candidate must:

- ✎ Be a registered voter in the City of Seal Beach, resident of the respective district the time the nomination paper is issued; and
- ✎ Obtain not less than 20 and not more than 30 valid signatures - the signer to the nomination paper shall be a registered voter of the City of Seal Beach and a resident of the jurisdiction of the candidate named in the nomination paper.
- ✎ Once a nomination paper is filed with the City Clerk, the nomination paper may not be returned to the candidate to obtain additional signatures.

Nomination Signatures:

Between July 18, 2022, and August 12, 2022 both days included, voters may nominate candidates for election by signing a nomination paper.

- ✎ Each candidate shall be proposed by not less than 20 and not more than 30 voters, but only one candidate may be named in any one nomination paper. The circulator of a nomination paper and each signer of the paper must be registered voters of the City of Seal Beach and a resident of the respective district. Both the candidate and the circulator can sign the paper.

- ⌘ The registered voters' signature on the nomination paper must be the same as on file with the Orange County Voter Registrar office. All signatures on each nomination paper must be on the same sheet of paper. Each signer must print his/her name and place of residence, giving the street and number (not P.O. address) in their own handwriting.
- ⌘ If the registered voter is unable to personally affix this information, EC §100.5 allows them to request another person to affix the voter's information but the voter shall personally affix his/her signature or mark (must be on file with county registrar of voters), which shall be witnessed by one person by subscribing his/her name thereon.

Once the nomination documents have been submitted to the City Clerk, the City Clerk will verify the signatures of the signers on the nomination paper with the registration affidavits on file in the Office of the Orange County Registrar of Voters. Any signature that does not appear in the same handwriting as appears on the affidavit of registration will be marked **"NOT SUFFICIENT."**

If the nomination paper is determined to be insufficient or the candidate fails to obtain the required 20 valid signatures, the City Clerk shall retain the original nomination paper, provide a copy of the nomination paper to the candidate with an indication of which signatures are valid, and issue a "Supplemental" petition to the candidate on which the candidate may collect additional signatures. The supplemental petition(s) must be filed no later than the last day of filing period (August 12th).

Once the minimum requisite number of signatures has been verified, the verification process ceases. The City Clerk will notify the candidate of the verification results.

Circulator:

Circulator is a person who performs the task of obtaining signatures of registered voters on the nomination paper. A candidate may either circulate his/her own nomination paper or may appoint another person to act as circulator. A circulator must be registered to vote in the City of Seal Beach and a resident of the

respective district. If there is any doubt about the circulator's registration, check with the County Registrar of Voters office to verify before proceeding.

In addition to collecting signatures, circulators are required to execute a sworn statement (under penalty of perjury) that all the signatures they obtained on the nomination paper were made in their presence and that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, each signature is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be. Accordingly, **only one person may obtain signatures on a nomination paper.**

Note: If the circulator fails to obtain the signatures in accordance with the law, the candidate's right to be placed on the ballot could be questioned. Candidates and circulators need to be aware of laws regarding signatures.

Affidavit of Nominee:

The candidate must complete and sign the "Affidavit of Nominee and Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance" located on the back of the nomination paper. This must be signed in the presence of the City Clerk.

A verified statement of the candidate that he/she will accept the nomination and also accept the office in the event of his/her election.