

Washington State Elections Weekly

May 7, 2014

Reminders for Candidate Filing

- Online Candidate Filing starts on Monday, 9:00 a.m. and ends Friday, 4:00 p.m.
- Do not publish webpages displaying names of filed candidates until Monday morning. For WEI counties, "Candidates Who Have Filed" pages have been unpublished to allow for testing. We will notify you when testing is finished.
- In WEI Counties, candidates should appear on the "Candidates Who Have Filed" webpage as soon as you approve them.
- We will display federal and multi-county candidates in lot draw order on the Secretary of State website on Friday night.
- Send your lot draw results for judicial and Legislative races filing in your county to the Secretary of State at ctsupport@sos.wa.gov.
- Expect to receive the Secretary of State's certification of candidates on Tuesday.

Filing Fee Petitions

Previously, the Secretary of State interpreted RCW 29A.24.111 to require rejection of all signatures when a voter signs a filing fee petition more than once. However, a recent Washington Court of Appeals decision held that a similar statute (applied in the context of city initiative petitions) violated the First Amendment, and a voter's first valid signature must be counted. The Court of Appeals decision is now being reviewed by the Washington Supreme Court. The Supreme Court will not issue a decision until later in the year. However, candidate filing occurs next week.

While the Supreme Court decision is pending, we recommend applying the Court of Appeals decision to filing fee petitions accepted during candidate filing. Please accept a voter's first valid signature and reject any subsequent signatures by the same voter.

Candidate Statement Submission Update

A special thanks goes out to the county staff who helped us test resolved issues and enhancements. Testing is complete and test data (filed candidates, photos, statements) will be wiped from the system by OSOS this afternoon.

Action Item: After test data is cleared from the system, please remember to republish your Candidates Who Have Filed page. If you need assistance, please contact WEISupport@sos.wa.gov.

Multiple browser compatibility issues have surfaced during testing. We have attempted to resolve as many as possible, but issues remain. To mitigate this, we plan to do the following:

- Post a warning message at the beginning of statement submission to let candidates know which browsers work best.
- Encourage candidates to call our voter hotline if they have any trouble so we can help them troubleshoot.
- You may receive calls too. We will send you our troubleshooting chart to assist anyone having difficulty getting through the process.

Online Candidate Filing

If you are using Online Candidate Filing, please check your Online Candidate Filing Start page to make sure all dates and other information is accurate. And, please let [WEISupport](mailto:WEISupport@sos.wa.gov) know if you will be using the Online Candidate Filing application in a filing kiosk, and what hours that will be open.

At 9:00 on Monday, May 12th, you will need to make sure that:

- Your Online Candidate Filing Start page is accessible to the public (you should do this ahead of time)
- The link from your Online Candidate Filing Start page to your Online Candidate Filing page is active
- Your Online Candidate Filing page is published.

If you need help with any of this, please contact [WEISupport](mailto:WEISupport@sos.wa.gov).

Signature Verification Training

The Primary and General are rapidly approaching. It's time to start thinking about signature verification training. Don't forget to let your Commissioners and Prosecutors know about this great opportunity.

Here are the dates available. If you need more information please contact joe.maclean@sos.wa.gov.

<u>Signature Training Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Cheney Digital Archives conference registration.	6-13-14	2pm-4pm	* joe.maclean@sos.wa.gov Register during
Ellensburg	6-18-14	1pm-3pm	jerry.pettit@co.kittitas.wa.us
Clark County Elections	6-23-14	1pm-3pm	Penny.Sealey@clark.wa.gov
Olympia	7-09-14	1pm-4pm	joe.maclean@sos.wa.gov
Cheney Digital Archives	7-16-14	2pm-4pm	leah.rohla@sos.wa.gov

* If you are sending someone that will not be attending the conference.

Signature Training Copy and paste this to your e-mail

County: _____
Contact Person: _____
Number of Attendees: _____

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