

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Videoconference, pursuant to notice at 9:30 a.m. EDT, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

- GARY THOMPSON, Chair
- KARYN GREENFIELD, Member
- J.C. BOGGS, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

- MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Director
- TERRI STROUD, General Counsel
- CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Office of Campaign Finance
- MARISSA CORRENTE, Registrar of Voters
- WILLIAM SANFORD, Office of Campaign Finance

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (9:41 a.m.)

3 MR. THOMPSON: All right. Good
4 morning, everybody. Happy first day of the
5 regular year. It's a busy day for everybody. I
6 apologize. I got caught in traffic myself.

7 MS. GREENFIELD: Hold on, I can't
8 hear.

9 MR. THOMPSON: Hey, Karyn. Good
10 morning. Well, hopefully everybody can hear in
11 this Zoom meeting. I got a thumbs up from some
12 people in Zoom land. Karyn's working on her --
13 our fellow board member, Karyn Greenfield's
14 working on her audio. Karyn, give us a thumbs up
15 when you can hear. Well anyway, it's a beautiful
16 day. I hope everybody had a nice three-day
17 break. I biked out to Harpers Ferry and back,
18 only 130 miles. That's why I couldn't bike
19 today.

20 Okay, well our -- one of our board
21 members is working on audio.

22 MS. GREENFIELD: I can hear now.

1 MR. THOMPSON: All three of us are
2 here. J.C. Boggs is here. We have a quorum and
3 the first thing do is adopt our agenda. It's
4 been distributed. You've all had a chance to
5 review it, so at this time, I would adopt the
6 agenda. Okay? All in favor?

7 (Chorus of ayes.)

8 MR. THOMPSON: And also, we reviewed
9 our minutes from our prior meeting of August 2nd
10 and at this time, I would move that we adopt
11 those minutes.

12 MR. BOGGS: Second.

13 MR. THOMPSON: All right. All in
14 favor?

15 (Chorus of ayes.)

16 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. So thanks for
17 bearing with us everybody. Now on to the
18 Executive Director's Report from Monica Evans.

19 MS. HOLMAN: Good morning and thank
20 you. August engagements: On August 29, I
21 attended a briefing for election officials in law
22 enforcement jurisdictions at the FBI Headquarters

1 in Manassas, Virginia. The briefing included a
2 security round table discussion to ensure
3 preparations are in place for the November
4 general election.

5 Voter registration roles: In August,
6 we registered 4,498 new voters and processed
7 7,897 registration changes. In total, we
8 prepared 12,395 voter registration cards to be
9 mailed. Additionally, 131 registered voters
10 moved out of D.C., 514 voters cancelled their
11 D.C. registrations and registered with other
12 jurisdictions, and 2,541 voters registered in
13 D.C. after cancelling their registrations in
14 other states. We currently have 436,085 active
15 registered voters. We are continuing to register
16 voters using our website portal. To date, we
17 have processed over 60,695 applications using the
18 portal. These include new voter registrations
19 and updates to existing registrations.

20 Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment
21 Act: Since the last report, we registered 89
22 non-citizens to vote in local elections. Total

1 non-citizen registration is at 681.

2 Primary election undeliverable
3 ballots: We are still receiving undeliverable
4 mail ballots from the U.S. Postal Service from
5 the June primary. To date, we have received over
6 41,000 undeliverable mail ballots. The Data
7 Services Division has successfully completed
8 processing these return ballots by updating voter
9 addresses in our database with the information
10 received from the Postal Service. We are
11 continuing to work with the Postal Service to
12 determine why we are receiving so many
13 undeliverable ballots. Many of the return
14 ballots and mail were properly addressed.

15 2024 election cycle: The general
16 election calendar for the 2024 election cycle is
17 posted on our website. The candidate qualifying
18 period for the November 5, 2024 general election
19 ended on August 7. We're in the process of
20 addressing challenges to candidate nominating
21 petitions. As previously stated, the November 5
22 general election will largely mirror the primary.

1 All registered D.C. voters will receive a mail-in
2 ballot. Voters may vote by mail, in-person, or
3 by depositing a ballot in a mail ballot drop-box.
4 We will have 55 mail ballot drop boxes placed
5 throughout the city. We will also operate 25
6 early vote centers and a total of 75 election day
7 vote centers. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed
8 at the end of September.

9 Other key election dates: The ballot
10 lottery is tentatively scheduled for Friday,
11 September 13, 2024. Ballot proofing is
12 tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 14.
13 Logic and accuracy testing is scheduled to begin
14 on Monday, September 16. And drop boxes are set
15 to be open on Friday, October 11.

16 Vendor engagement: We have begun
17 planning meetings with our vendors to prepare for
18 the upcoming general election. We have updated
19 the instructions and modified the templates with
20 our mail house vendor, and we have weekly
21 meetings and calls scheduled with NoInk, RunBack,
22 Ballotrax, and Democracy Live.

1 Election Worker Division: The
2 Election Worker Division in conjunction with the
3 Voter Education and Outreach Division has begun
4 recruiting new election workers for the November
5 general election. The Call Center is open and
6 election workers are being scheduled for training
7 classes. We have seen a significant increase in
8 the number of new election worker applications we
9 have received. Election worker training began on
10 August 13. During the first three weeks of
11 election worker training, 896 individuals were
12 trained. Our goal is to train 2,000 election
13 workers. Additionally, we are working with ten
14 election organizations to adopt a Vote Center on
15 election day.

16 Voter education and outreach: During
17 the month of August, the Voter Education and
18 Outreach Division conducted 40 outreach events on
19 behalf of the Agency. Events included outreach
20 with Legal ADC and the armed forces recruitment
21 home. We also held events at Compass Coffee and
22 Busboys and Poets to recognize National Pole

1 Worker Recruitment Day.

2 Initiative Measure 83: On August 2nd,
3 Initiative Measure 83, ranked choice voting and
4 opened the primary elections to independent.
5 2024 was determined to be numerically sufficient
6 and was certified for ballot access by the Board.
7 Recall petition of Charles Allen, Ward 6 member
8 of DC Council. On August 12, 2024, Ms. Jennifer
9 Squires timely filed a recall petition of Charles
10 Allen, Ward 6 member of the D.C. Council. The
11 submission contains 781 pages. In order for the
12 recall measure to be placed on the ballot, the
13 petition must contain the ballot signatures of 10
14 percent of the registered qualified electors of
15 the affected ward. The signature requirement was
16 6,225. The file petition contained 4,548
17 signatures, which is 1,677 signatures below the
18 required amount. Based on the results of the
19 signature count, the recall measure was not
20 accepted. And that concludes my report.

21 MR. THOMPSON: All right. Thank you
22 very much. And turning now to the General

1 Counsel's report from Teri Stroud.

2 MS. STROUD: Good morning, everyone.
3 The first item on my agenda are nominating
4 petition challenges. These all involve petitions
5 submitted in support of candidates for Advisory
6 Neighborhood Commissioners. To that end, all
7 petitions and orders that are challenged must be
8 determined to have the requisite number of
9 signers. That is specifically 25 registered
10 qualified electors who are residents of a single
11 member district from which the candidate seeks
12 election. So in order for a petition to be
13 accepted, the petition has to contain 25
14 registered qualified electors who are residents
15 of the -- of the single member district at issue.

16 And so three challenges were filed
17 that we will -- well, more than three challenges
18 were filed, but we'll hear three of them today.
19 The first is Karen Wirt v. Rasheedah Hasan. And
20 if it would be the Board's pleasure, then I would
21 suggest that we, for each matter hear from the
22 register of voters who has done an analysis of

1 the challenge and then hear from the party who
2 was adversely affected, and then from the other
3 party. And then the Board can, having heard all
4 of the evidence with respect to the challenges,
5 make a determination with respect to each of the
6 challenges.

7 And so first, we have Karen Wirt v.
8 Rasheedah Hasan, candidate for Advisory
9 Neighborhood Commissioner for single member
10 district, 6C03. And we'll hear from Ms.
11 Corrente, our register of voters.

12 MS. CORRENTE: Thank you. So this is
13 from a report that was issued on August 26th.
14 The subject is: Challenge to the Petition of
15 Rasheedah Hasan, Candidate for Advisory
16 Neighborhood Commissioner Single Member District
17 6C03.

18 On August 7th, 2024, Rasheedah Hasan
19 submitted a nominating petition to appear on the
20 ballot of a candidate in the November 5th, 2024
21 general election for the Office of Advisory
22 Neighborhood Commissioner Single Member District,

1 7C03. The minimum requirement to obtain ballot
2 access for this office is 25 signatures. The
3 petition contained 28 signatures. The petition
4 was posted for public inspection for ten days as
5 required by law. The petition was challenged on
6 August 10th, 2024 by Karen Wirt, a registered
7 voter in the District of Columbia.

8 Challenger Wirt filed challenges to 13
9 of the 28 signatures submitted and enumerated by
10 line and page number on individual challenge
11 sheets filed for each petition page. The
12 signatures were challenged pursuant to the
13 Board's regulations in Title 3 Chapter 16 of the
14 DCMR. And there were different grounds that were
15 outlined.

16 My initial review of the challenges
17 indicated that 11 of the 13 challenges were
18 valid. In addition to these findings, I noticed
19 three additional circular-related defects during
20 my review of the petition for a total of 14
21 ballot challenges.

22 At the pre-hearing conference on

1 August 26th, 2024, the candidate indicated that
2 she communicated with five petitioners about
3 submitting address updates by the August 22nd,
4 2024 deadline. My findings are outlined in the
5 addendum below, which lists the five voters and
6 whether forms were received. One form was timely
7 filed, but ultimately no address updates were
8 corrected by the filings since the one form was
9 connected to a defect that's not curable. So my
10 initial findings remain unchanged.

11 All together, my review indicates the
12 following defects are still valid: Three are
13 valid because the signer is not registered to
14 vote. Five are valid because the signer is not
15 registered to vote at the address listed on the
16 petition at the time the petition was signed.
17 Three are valid because the circulator of the
18 petition failed to complete all the required
19 information in the circulator's affidavit. And
20 three are valid because the signer is not a
21 registered voter in the electoral jurisdiction
22 from where the candidate seeks nomination at the

1 time the petition is signed. This leaves the
2 candidate's nominating petition with 14
3 signatures, 11 signatures below the number
4 required for ballot access.

5 MS. STROUD: Okay. And so the parties
6 to this matter are Karen Wirt and Rasheedah
7 Hasan.

8 MS. CORRENTE: And Karen Wirt has a
9 representative here to speak for them and that's
10 Jay Adelstein.

11 MS. STROUD: Okay. Mr. Adelstein and
12 I see Ms. Hasan. Ms. Hasan, we will hear from
13 you first. If you could just state your name and
14 your address for the record, and then present your
15 response to the Registrar's findings.

16 MS. HASAN: Yes. Good morning to the
17 Board, to Commissioner Adelstein, and also the
18 distinguished guests. My name is Rasheedah
19 Hasan. I'm running for ANC 6C03 Ward 6. And for
20 the record, the address is 506 A Street,
21 Northeast, Apartment 1, Washington, D.C. 20002.

22 MS. STROUD: Okay. And you may now

1 present your response to the Registrar's
2 findings.

3 MS. HASAN: Yes. Well thank you so
4 much to the Registrar for your findings. It was
5 important to me (audio interference) pre-hearing.
6 It was important for me to advocate how I can
7 move forward with getting my name on the ballot.
8 I think this particular role was something that I
9 not only found essential to advocate on behalf of
10 the residents that I was able to speak with and
11 hear from and they were able to voice concerns
12 about safety ongoing concerns about public
13 safety, lack of small businesses for minorities,
14 and also being able to advocate for policies to
15 educate new citizens or naturalized citizens
16 about the D.C. laws, things of that sort.

17 And I was listening and going around
18 to collect signatures, I thought well, at least
19 if I don't make the ballot, I wanted to make sure
20 that I was able to voice their concerns here
21 publicly so that it is recognized, it's heard,
22 and something is done about it. Many people that

1 I've spoken with in the community (audio
2 interference) they don't know (audio
3 interference) as I was on your website, only two
4 of the hearing links are actively working on this
5 site to review hearings that have been happening.
6 And this is (audio interference) go back two
7 years, you're able to see that. So for me, I
8 think it's important that I'm able to step up and
9 be a solution to that issue, as well as be a
10 voice to the residents of Ward 6.

11 So I thank you for the findings, but
12 like I -- as I mentioned earlier, I think it was
13 absolutely important to continue to advocate to
14 be on the ballot in November because the voices
15 in our community are not being received or heard.
16 Thank you.

17 MS. STROUD: So Ms. Hasan, you went --
18 there were some technical difficulties and we
19 couldn't hear everything that you said. But when
20 you referred to "links to hearings", you're
21 referring to the ANC, correct, and not Board of
22 Elections website. Is that correct?

1 MS. HASAN: Okay, so I'm unmuted now.
2 Can you hear me?

3 MS. STROUD: Yes and I think you
4 froze.

5 MS. HASAN: Hello?

6 MS. STROUD: There was a significant
7 amount of time where you froze.

8 MS. HASAN: Okay. Yes, ma'am. So I
9 was on the ANC's website (audio interference) --

10 MS. STROUD: Okay. Thank you, Ms.
11 Hasan. You have a bad connection --

12 MS. HASAN: -- in Ward 6, I can give
13 three.

14 MS. STROUD: Okay. So we're going to
15 hear from Mr. Adelstein now. Mr. Adelstein, as
16 the representative for Ms. Wirt, if you could
17 state your name and address for the record.

18 MR. ADELSTEIN: My name is Jay
19 Adelstein. I live at 315 7th Street, Northeast,
20 Washington, D.C. 20002. I am acting as Ms.
21 Wirt's representative who has a previous
22 engagement today.

1 My only response is it does not sound
2 as if Ms. Hasan has challenged the recommended
3 decision of the Hearing Officer, which indicates
4 that 14 -- there were 14 ballot challenges to the
5 Nominating Commission since she had 29 votes.
6 That falls far short of the 25 required legal
7 signatures consistent with the regulations and
8 the statute.

9 As a side, I will point out and I
10 apologize, you can call this -- call me on
11 relevancy. I have pointed out to Ms. Hasan that
12 she can access 6Cs website for meetings, notices,
13 comment, et cetera. If there's any concerns
14 about that, she can send an email to the Chair or
15 the Office of ANC. Kent Boese is the Chair of
16 that. But we are more than interested in
17 learning concerns of our community and of our
18 ANC. And that's all I had unless there are
19 questions. Thank you.

20 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Mr. Adelstein.

21 MR. THOMPSON: Yeas, thank you to all
22 ANC Commissioners and those who choose to run for

1 ANC. It's an important position in our city.
2 However, with respect to the candidate here, Ms.
3 Hasan, I'll have to make a motion to uphold the
4 Registrar's findings and therefore deny ballot
5 access to the candidate.

6 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
7 the motion is that the Registrar's findings be
8 upheld and that Ms. Hasan be denied ballot access
9 on the grounds that she does not have a
10 sufficient amount of signatures for ballot
11 access. And let's hear from the board members
12 with respect to that motion. Mr. Boggs?

13 MR. BOGGS: I will second that motion.

14 MS. STROUD: Member Greenfield?

15 MS. GREENFIELD: Aye.

16 MS. STROUD: And the Chair?

17 MR. THOMPSON: Chair votes aye.

18 MS. STROUD: And Ms. Hasan is
19 therefore denied ballot access on the grounds
20 that she does not have a sufficient number of
21 signatures to achieve ballot access.

22 MR. THOMPSON: I'm just going to add

1 a point for Ms. Hasan and others, you can also
2 run as a write-in candidate. So you know, if you
3 want to continue your campaign, tell people they
4 can write your name in. That's an avenue that
5 remains open to you.

6 MS. HASAN: Okay, thank you.

7 MS. STROUD: And I just want to
8 announce for the record that within three days
9 from today, either the challenger or the person
10 that was adversely affected may apply to the DC
11 Court of Appeals for a review of the Board's
12 order. So that is an option that I just wanted
13 to put forth on the record for all the parties
14 here today who are participating in these
15 matters.

16 The next item on my agenda with
17 respect to the nominating petition challenges is
18 Scott Kuechenmeister v. Ashleigh Fields,
19 candidate for the Office of Advisory Neighborhood
20 Commissioner for Single Member District 1B07.
21 And we'll first here from the Registrar of
22 Voters, Ms. Marissa Corrente.

1 MS. CORRENTE: Thank you. So this
2 report was issued on August 28th, 2024. The
3 subject is in regards to the challenge of the
4 petition of Ashleigh Fields, candidate for
5 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Single Member
6 District 1B07, updated.

7 On August 7th, 2024, Ashleigh Fields
8 submitted a nominating petition to appear on the
9 ballot as a candidate in the November 5th, 2024
10 general election for the Office of Advisory
11 Neighborhood Commissioner Single Member District
12 1B07. The minimum requirement to obtain ballot
13 access for this office is 25 signatures. The
14 petition contained 32 signatures.

15 The petition was posted for public
16 inspection for ten days as required by law. The
17 petition was challenged on August 12th, 2024 by
18 Scott Kuechenmeister, a registered voter in the
19 District of Columbia. The challenger filed
20 challenges to 26 of the 32 signatures submitted
21 and enumerated by line and page number on
22 individual challenges sheets filed for each

1 petition page.

2 The signatures were challenges
3 pursuant to the Board's regulations in Title 3
4 Chapter 16 of the DCMR on the following grounds:
5 The signer is not a registered voter in D.C. and
6 the signer is not a registered voter in the ward
7 or single member district from which the
8 candidate seeks nomination at the time the
9 petition was signed. On review of the challenges
10 indicated that 25 of the 26 challenges were
11 valid.

12 At the pre-hearing conference on
13 August 26th, 2024, Challenger Fields shared that
14 she timely filed four registration forms at the
15 Board on August 16th, 2024 outlined in the
16 addendum below, which lists the four individuals.
17 One of the forms, sheet 3, line 10 resulted in an
18 address update and was applied reportedly to my
19 findings.

20 My updated review of the challenges
21 indicates that 24 of the 26 challenges are valid.
22 Seven are valid because the signer is not

1 registered to vote. Two are valid because the
2 signer is not registered to vote at the address
3 listed on the petition at the time the petition
4 was signed. One is valid because the signer's
5 voter registration was designated as inactive on
6 the voter role at the time the petition was
7 signed. One is valid because neither the name of
8 the signer, nor the signature are sufficiently
9 legible for identification. And 13 are valid
10 because the signer is not a registered voter in
11 the electoral jurisdiction from which the
12 candidate seeks nomination at the time the
13 petition was signed. This leaves the candidate's
14 nominating petition with eight signatures, 17
15 signatures below the number required for ballot
16 access.

17 MS. STROUD: Okay. Thank you, Ms.
18 Corrente. With respect to the pre-hearing
19 conference that we held in this matter on August
20 26th, 2024, Ms. Fields did raise several
21 additional claims and I'm sure that she will
22 elaborate on them here. Her first claim is that

1 the challenge should not have been accepted
2 because a DCBOE official did not sign the
3 nominating petition challenge receipt form. And
4 she also stated that the challenge should not
5 have been accepted because it was not made in
6 good faith in accordance with 3 DCMR 1606.2(d).

7 She also as Ms. Corrente indicated
8 states that she timely submitted four change of
9 address forms of her signatures that her petition
10 should be credited with. And so having provided
11 that information in the record, which I also
12 provided to the Board prior to today's hearing,
13 we'll now hear from Ms. Fields and Mr.
14 Kuechenmeister. And Ms. Fields, if you could
15 just state your name and address for the record
16 and present your response to the Registrar's
17 findings.

18 MS. FIELDS: Yes, thank you so much.
19 And thank you all for being here today. My name
20 is Ashleigh Fields and my current address is 1440
21 B Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C.

22 So I'll start off with my first claim,

1 which was that there's no DCBOE signature on the
2 nominating petition challenge sheet. For me, I
3 think that -- this form is only filled out by the
4 challenger and so I think that, that provides the
5 questions as to whether this entire challenge was
6 received in full on the date in question, which
7 is something that I wanted to raise before the
8 Board. And then my second claim just pertains to
9 the District of Columbia collection action
10 practices under the good faith claim, item No. 3,
11 which says any person for any consideration,
12 compensation, gratuity, reward, or thing of value
13 or promise thereof, signs, or promises to sign or
14 declines to sign or promises not to sign any
15 initiative referendum or recall petition or pays
16 or offers or promises to pay or gives offer or
17 promises to give any consideration, compensation,
18 gratuity, reward, or anything of value to any
19 person to induce the person to sign or not to
20 sign a person's signature upon any initiative,
21 referendum, or recall petition or vote to or for
22 or against or to abstain from voting on any

1 initiative, referendum, or recall measure, you
2 know, should be in question.

3 And so I won't read the rest here, but
4 I am currently the representative for 1B07. I
5 believe that there were some decisions made and
6 some compensations happened behind the scenes
7 that affect how the challenger and why the
8 challenger decided to submit these forms. He's
9 also challenged several other people in the
10 District, another of which who is on our
11 Commission -- another woman of color, so I think
12 that should be taken into consideration.

13 And then lastly, some of the claims or
14 people who were not registered to vote on the
15 form were actually registered to vote within D.C.
16 Board of Elections Registration System. And so
17 to me, I think that sort of questions the due
18 diligence of the research done or the reason why
19 they're trying to have -- they were trying to
20 have those specific signatures struck. So that's
21 all I have to say and thank you guys so much for
22 this.

1 MS. STROUD: Okay. Mr.
2 Kuechenmeister, if you could state your name and
3 address for the record. Mr. Kuechenmeister,
4 you're still on mute.

5 MR. KUECHENMEISTER: Is it working
6 now?

7 MS. STROUD: Yes.

8 MR. KUECHENMEISTER: Outstanding.
9 Sorry about that. I live at 2100 17th Street
10 Northwest. I think it's unfortunate that I had
11 to bring this process on Ms. Fields, but I
12 believe the point of it was to -- in the context
13 of 2020 Donald Trump and our election security or
14 doubts or whatever that we have a system that is
15 -- has some checks and balances. And I
16 personally, with my partner decided to do this
17 just on a whim and we were quite surprised of the
18 area ANCs that were -- we felt we weren't getting
19 representation from those particular people. And
20 that's the whole story behind all of this. I'm
21 open to any questions if you would like.

22 MS. STROUD: Okay. So I will just --

1 Did the Board have any questions? I just speak
2 for Ms. Fields' benefit, the section of the
3 statute that you cited, as you indicated pertains
4 to initiative, referendum, and recall petitions.
5 This is a nominating petition challenge, so that
6 section is inapplicable. The other thing is
7 that, that was not raised during the context of
8 the pre-hearing conference at all. You cited
9 Chapter 16 of our regulations with respect to the
10 good faith challenge, so this is not something
11 that was raised before the Board or before the
12 Office of the General Counsel in the context of
13 your pre-hearing conference.

14 And I just want to get clarity on your
15 response to the findings of the number of ballot
16 signatures that your petition was able to
17 contain. You've heard from Ms. Corrente with
18 respect to the four voter registrations or
19 changes of address forms that you submitted. And
20 did you have any dispute with respect to her
21 findings with respect to those four documents?

22 MS. FIELDS: I don't have any dispute

1 with respect to those findings of those
2 documents, but if I may -- if it pleases the
3 Board, I'd just speak to the first signature on
4 the form, which is for someone named D. Koraya
5 (phonetic) who is listed as the reason for
6 challenges and not a registered voter. And the
7 person is registered and registered to vote at
8 that address.

9 And so I know that that signature was
10 accepted and there's a few others like it where
11 the signee is not listed -- it's challenged on
12 the basis of not being a registered voter and
13 they are registered voters. And so I think just
14 in terms of the due diligence done by the
15 challenger, I think it shows some defects in
16 regards to research done or maybe you weren't
17 using the proper database. But I agree with the
18 findings from the Registrar's Office.

19 MS. STROUD: Okay. So you acknowledge
20 that your petition does not have 25 valid
21 signatures. Correct?

22 MS. FIELDS: I acknowledge it, yes.

1 MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you. And
2 with respect to the fact that challenges were
3 made that you said were not in good faith, if the
4 Board reviews a challenge, which it did and with
5 respect to the concern about the lack of the
6 Board official's signature, you did see that the
7 cover sheet was signed by a board official and it
8 was also date stamped on August 14th as was the
9 receipt. Correct? August 12th, yes. Yes. Ms.
10 Fields, I'm referring to the --

11 MS. FIELDS: Yes, it would not allow
12 me to unmute. My apologies. I do acknowledge
13 that the cover sheet was signed, which is just
14 the basic contact information for the challenger.
15 But on the second page, it relates to the amount
16 of sheets sent in and more information. So yes,
17 that second sheet is stamped, but it's not signed
18 by a board employee, which is why I raised that
19 question.

20 MS. STROUD: And it indicates that
21 there were four pages to the challenge and you
22 received four pages to the challenge. Correct?

1 MS. FIELDS: All right, thank you so
2 much. Yes, I did receive four pages to the
3 challenge.

4 MS. STROUD: Okay. So the receipt
5 indicates albeit not signed, that there were
6 pages to the challenge and you received that.
7 And Ms. Corrente indicates that she did receive
8 four pages of the challenge. Correct?

9 MS. FIELDS: Correct. But the form
10 was completely filled out by the challenger.
11 Noting from DOE.

12 MS. STROUD: Okay. With respect to
13 the fact that Mr. Kuechenmeister might not have
14 been exactly on point with the challenges, I want
15 to draw your attention to 3 DCMR 1606.4. And
16 what it says is that in the event the Board staff
17 discovers a fatal defect, either on the face of
18 the petition or pursuant to a record search
19 concerning a specific allegation or challenge,
20 the Board may declare any signature invalid,
21 notwithstanding that the defect was not alleged
22 or challenged.

1 So I think that what you said during
2 the pre-hearing conference was that because he
3 didn't -- he was challenging the signatures on
4 one particular ground and that wasn't the ground
5 that the Registrar found was the one that
6 invalidated the signature. She did however find
7 that there was a defect that rendered that
8 signature invalid. And the Board can do that in
9 the course of its review of challenges.

10 MS. FIELDS: Correct.

11 MS. STROUD: Okay. So do any of the
12 board members have any questions with respect to
13 this?

14 MS. GREENFIELD: No.

15 MR. THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and make
16 a motion based only on the undisputed fact that
17 there are only eight valid signatures remaining
18 after the challenge, I'll move to uphold the
19 Registrar's findings and therefore deny the
20 candidate ballot access.

21 MS. STROUD: I'll just restate the
22 motion so that we can do a roll call vote from

1 the Board. The motion is that Ms. Fields be
2 denied ballot access on the grounds that she has
3 eight valid petition signatures, which is 17
4 short of the number required for ballot access
5 for the Office of Advisory Neighborhood
6 Commissioner. That is the motion and if we can
7 do a roll call vote. Board Member Boggs -- yeah,
8 Member Boggs?

9 MR. BOGGS: Second.

10 MS. STROUD: Member Greenfield?

11 MS. GREENFIELD: Aye.

12 MS. STROUD: Mr. Chair?

13 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

14 MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you. And
15 with that, Ms. Fields is denied ballot access on
16 the grounds of not having a sufficient number of
17 signatures required for ballot access.

18 MR. THOMPSON: Also, Ms. Fields, thank
19 you so much for your service on the ANC. And
20 maybe you heard this before, you are free to run
21 on a write-in basis. You can tell people in the
22 neighborhood. They can write your name in.

1 That's an avenue that remains open to you, so I
2 just want you to know that.

3 MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you. And the
4 final nominating petition challenge matter is
5 James Harnett v. Chrysanthe Courniotes -- please
6 forgive me if I mispronounce that. We'll first
7 hear again from the Registrar of Voters and then
8 we'll hear from the parties.

9 MS. CORRENTE: Thank you. So this
10 report was issued August 28th, 2024. The subject
11 is Challenge to the Petition of Chrysanthe
12 Courniotes, Candidate for Advisory Neighborhood
13 Commissioner Single Member District 4Do4.

14 On August 7th, 2024, Candidate
15 Courniotes submitted a nominating petition to
16 appear on the ballot as a candidate in the
17 November 5th, 2024 general election for the
18 Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commission Single
19 Member District 4D04. A requirement to obtain
20 ballot access for this office is 25 signatures.
21 The petition contained 30 signatures.

22 The petition was posted for public

1 inspection for ten days as required by law. The
2 petitioner was challenged on August 15th, 2024 by
3 James Harnett, a registered voter in the District
4 of Columbia. Challenger Harnett filed challenges
5 14 of the 30 signatures submitted and enumerated
6 by line and page number on individual challenge
7 sheets filed for each petition page.

8 The signatures were challenged
9 pursuant to the Board's regulations in Title 3
10 Chapter 16 of the DC Municipal Regulations on the
11 following grounds. The signer is not a
12 registered voter in D.C. The signer's voter
13 registration was designated as inactive on the
14 voter roll at the time the petition was signed.
15 The signer according to the Board's records is
16 not registered to vote at the address listed on
17 the petition at the time the petition was signed.
18 The signature was not made by the person whose
19 signature it reports to be. And the signer is
20 not a registered voter in the ward or single
21 member district from which the candidate seeks
22 nomination at the time the petition was signed.

1 My initial review of the challenges
2 indicated that 13 of the 14 challenges were
3 valid. At the pre-hearing conference on August
4 28th, 2024, Candidate Cournotes indicated that
5 eight of the valid challenge findings, all from
6 the same apartment building of 930 Farragut
7 Street Northwest were incorrect because she had
8 verified the signers on the 4D04 voter list. The
9 candidate had been sent the list via a secure
10 link after she picked up her petition sheets.

11 Following the pre-hearing conference,
12 I reviewed the reference voter list and none of
13 the eight signers are listed at 930 Farragut
14 Street Northwest. And there's an addendum
15 provided that outlines the full list of those
16 signers. As such, my initial findings remain the
17 same. Thirteen of the 14 challenges are valid.
18 Six are valid because the signer is not
19 registered to vote. Four are valid because the
20 signer is not registered to vote at the address
21 listed on the petition at the time the petition
22 was signed. And three are valid because the

1 signer is not a registered voter in the electoral
2 jurisdiction from which the candidate seeks
3 nomination at the time the petition was signed.
4 This leaves the candidate's nominating petition
5 with 17 signatures, eight signatures below the
6 number required for ballot access.

7 MS. STROUD: Okay. Thank you, Ms.
8 Corrente. We'll first hear from Ms. Courniotes.
9 If you could state your name and address for the
10 record and then we'll hear from Mr. Harnett.

11 MS. COURNIOTES: Good morning. Thank
12 you for allowing me to appear this morning. My
13 name is Chrysanthe CC Courniotes. I'm the
14 current 4D04 commissioner within our single
15 member district. And I live at 5024 7th Place
16 Northwest, which is an address I've lived with --
17 lived at for over a decade now.

18 I appreciate as I said during the pre-
19 hearing conference, you know, Mr. Harnett's
20 concern, you know, if you look, there are certain
21 individuals who do consistently challenge a
22 certain number of candidates. And as I said, I'm

1 the current 4D04 commissioner.

2 I usually, when I'm collecting
3 signatures in the past, walk around pretty much
4 my whole -- the entirety of my single member
5 district, but I'm currently or now my
6 circumstances have changed and I adopted my
7 foster child who has some special needs and
8 there's just been a lot of things going on. So
9 when one of my constituents who resides at the
10 Colony House, which is within my single member
11 district offered to help me, you know, walk
12 around his building, meet additional constituents
13 within the building, which is primarily a senior
14 living low income facility, I accepted his offer.

15 And so the majority of the signatures
16 that I obtained did come from that building. And
17 when I went to each door, you know, I asked each
18 voter, are you a registered voter? Are you an
19 active voter? And they all confirmed that,
20 including my constituent, Mr. Bryant who is
21 actually very heavily involved in the community.
22 He has a nonprofit that we as a commission plan

1 to support through our grant system. And he is
2 one of the people that has been found to be
3 inactive or not registered at this address, but
4 he's lived literally within that building for
5 over five years and he had just voted in the
6 primary.

7 So I just -- you know, to be honest as
8 I said, you know, I'm now a single mother of a
9 special needs child. You know, I take great
10 pride in being a commissioner. I ran twice
11 before unsuccessfully, so I always joke that the
12 third time's a charm. But when I was notified of
13 the challenge, we had already scheduled a trip up
14 to Massachusetts where I'm from to visit my
15 family. And so by the time we got back, I didn't
16 really have much time to cure any of Mr.
17 Harnett's concerns because literally we returned
18 to the D.C. area late Sunday evening.

19 And in addition to that, you know,
20 just over the weekend, my cousin in Massachusetts
21 had a massive heart attack and is on life
22 support, so I traveled up to Massachusetts

1 yesterday. I guess my point is I enjoy being a
2 commissioner. I normally, you know, as I said
3 walk around with my daughter to collect 50 or
4 more signatures, but time was not in my favor and
5 I feel as though I didn't have enough time to
6 cure Mr. Harnett's concerns. And I honestly
7 didn't really understand how to cure the
8 concerns. It was somewhat unclear to me. And
9 you know, Mr. Harnett has also challenged another
10 commissioner on my board who has significant --
11 significant health issues. And instead of
12 appearing at the Board this morning because she's
13 in dialysis, she chose to withdraw and plans to
14 run as a write-in.

15 But I feel as though, you know, being
16 ANC commissioner is a gift, but it's also very
17 challenging. Within my single member district,
18 I've had to deal with two -- I believe two
19 homicides within the last couple of months. You
20 know, we had a tree fall -- it split and damaged
21 quite a number of my residents properties. So I
22 feel as though, you know, it's hard enough to

1 fill these 345 ANC positions because it's unpaid.
2 It's, you know, purely voluntary and I understand
3 the challenge process is a statute, et cetera,
4 but at the same time, like I said, Mr. Bryant I
5 know, in the, you know, deepest corner of my
6 heart is a registered voter at this address.

7 So you know, all I can say is I did my
8 due diligence with the time allotted with
9 everything else going on in my life. And I would
10 really appreciate it if, you know, I was able to
11 either have an extension to cure the signatures
12 or if, you know, worst case scenario, I choose to
13 run as a write-in. But I just -- as I said, I
14 feel like it's just an unfortunate situation.

15 MS. STROUD: Mr. Harnett, if you could
16 state your name and address for the record and
17 proceed with your position.

18 MR. HARNETT: James Harnett. Address
19 is 2221 I Street, Northwest, Unit 321,
20 Washington, D.C. 20037. I appreciate the
21 Registrar's due diligence on reviewing not only
22 the challenge but the address changes and the

1 address look-ups that were requested. I don't
2 have any additional comments beyond I believe
3 that the Registrar acted as a neutral arbitrator
4 of figuring out the facts and reached the correct
5 conclusion in that 13 of the 14 challenges were
6 valid.

7 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Mr. Harnett.
8 Mr. Chair.

9 MR. THOMPSON: All right. I'll go
10 ahead and make a motion. I'll preface it by
11 thanking Ms. Courniotes for her service on the
12 ANC. I know what that's like. I was an ANC
13 Commissioner for eight years and I too walked
14 around trying to get signatures as best I could.
15 Nobody ever actually challenged me so I don't
16 know -- I don't know if I get it or not. But you
17 know, I did my best and I certainly had those
18 situations where, you know, I'm running again --
19 you know, scrambling out there to get signatures.
20 And you know, it sounds like, you know, you've
21 had some challenges yourself. But nevertheless,
22 there seems to be an undisputed fact that you've

1 acquired 17 valid signatures, so I reluctantly
2 have to move to uphold the Registrar's
3 recommendation and deny the candidate ballot
4 access. And also with the caveat that as you
5 heard, you can run a write-in campaign, so that's
6 an avenue that would remain open to you.

7 MS. STROUD: Yes. Before I restate
8 the motion for the board members to take a roll
9 call vote, I just wanted to -- I mean you did --
10 Sorry for all of the things that you have
11 discussed. It's hard to collect signatures under
12 the best of circumstances and when you're facing
13 additional difficulties, it's all that harder.
14 But you requested that you be allotted extra time
15 to correct any defects. And the only ones that
16 you would be able to do that with are respective
17 changes of address. But the statute is very
18 clear in terms of the timeframe in which you have
19 to do it. And this is all because matters have
20 to be resolved in a very timely fashion so that
21 can finalize the ballot. And so you had ten days
22 after you received notice of the challenge to

1 cure any address-related defects. And to the
2 extent that you were not able to do that, the
3 Board cannot allow for an extension of that time
4 under the statute.

5 So with that, I would restate the
6 motion made by the Chair, which is that Ms.
7 Courniotes be denied ballot access in light of
8 the fact that she has 17 signatures, which is
9 eight signatures short of the minimum required
10 for ballot access. Now we'll take a roll call
11 vote. Mr. Boggs?

12 MR. BOGGS: Second and aye.

13 MS. STROUD: Member Greenfield?

14 MS. GREENFIELD: Aye.

15 MS. STROUD: Mr. Chair?

16 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

17 MS. STROUD: And roll call vote taken
18 with respect to the motion, the candidate is
19 denied ballot access on the grounds of
20 insufficient signatures for ballot access.

21 And with that, we have completed --
22 And again, I just want to state that all of the

1 parties that were adversely affected may appeal
2 to the DC Court of Appeals within three days from
3 today. And you would have to submit your filings
4 again, three days from today, not from the date
5 any written order issues, but from today because
6 the order, the Board has orally ruled with
7 respect to all of these matters today. And that
8 concludes the nominating petition challenge
9 hearings.

10 And the next item on my agenda is
11 litigation status. And we have six active
12 matters. The first is Stacia Hall v. the Board
13 of Elections. That matter is in the U.S. Court
14 of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. This is an
15 appeal from the U.S. District Court's denial of a
16 challenge to legislation, allowing non-citizens
17 to vote in local elections. The Solicitor
18 General filed a Notice of cross appeal and the
19 case has been consolidated. The Petitioner's
20 brief and appendix were filed on August 22nd,
21 2024. The Solicitor General's initial cross
22 appeal brief is due on October 21st. Hall's

1 reply cross appeal response is due December 5th,
2 and the Solicitor General's cross appeal reply is
3 due January 6th, 2025.

4 The second matter is Charles Wilson v.
5 Muriel Bowser in the D.C. Court of Appeals. This
6 is an appeal from a decision by the D.C. Superior
7 Court denying Appellant's challenge to initiative
8 measure 83 on the grounds that it was untimely
9 filed. On August 12th, the Court accepted the
10 Amicus Brief that was submitted by the Make All
11 Votes Count in D.C. and directed that the case be
12 calendared for October and the oral argument in
13 this matter is set for Wednesday, October 23rd.

14 The third matter is Dr. Shiva
15 Ayyadurai v. Merrick Garland and the District of
16 Columbia and the Board. This is an appeal from
17 the U.S. District Court order rejecting
18 Plaintiff/Appellant's complaint for a declaration
19 that he is eligible to serve as President,
20 notwithstanding the constitutional natural born
21 citizen clause, or, alternatively, that this
22 qualification matter presents a non-justiciable

1 political issue for the voters.

2 On May 15th, the D.C. Circuit Court
3 ordered the Appellant to file his docketing
4 statement and other initial submissions by June
5 14th. The Solicitor General filed a motion for
6 summary affirmance on July 1st. On July 10th,
7 the Solicitor General filed a cross appeal. On
8 July 12th, the Department of Justice filed its
9 motion for summary affirmance. The Court denied
10 a request to expedite. On July 31st, the Court
11 issued a order directing Appellant to address by
12 August 30th the motion for summary affirmance or
13 face dismissal. And I just checked and cannot
14 determine whether anything was timely filed.

15 The next matter is Long v. D.C. Board
16 of Elections in the D.C. Superior Court. This is
17 the resubmission of a matter previously dismissed
18 without prejudice. Mr. Long seeks \$10,000 in
19 damages based on a claim concerning an overdraft
20 cost to his bank account when a stop payment was
21 imposed on a \$500 check issued for his service as
22 an election worker. The case was referred to an

1 associate judge. On March 25th, the Court
2 granted a March 6th motion filed by the Office of
3 the Attorney General and dismissed all of the
4 Plaintiff's claims except for his claim for
5 liquidated damages for breach of contract. On
6 April 8th, the OAG filed an answer to complaint.
7 On April 15th, the Plaintiff filed a motion for
8 sanctions.

9 At a May 31st status conference, the
10 Plaintiff requested mediation and the OAG did not
11 oppose that request. A June 25th mediation
12 proceeding was rescheduled for August 1st. A
13 status hearing was held on August 23rd at which
14 time the Court kept the case on a mediation
15 track. No mediation dates have been set. Also
16 on August 23rd, the Plaintiff filed a motion for
17 summary judgement. That motion was denied as not
18 appropriate at this point in the matter. And a
19 status hearing was set for September 27th, 2024.

20 The fifth matter is John Page v.
21 Monica Evans. That's in the U.S. Court of
22 Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. On August 7th, the

1 Plaintiff -- this concerns Donald Trump's access
2 to the ballot and the Plaintiff is saying that he
3 should not be allowed to be on the ballot because
4 the Court's decision in Trump v. Anderson, which
5 was decided earlier this year does not apply to
6 D.C. because that decision pertains to the rights
7 of states under the 14th Amendment and D.C. is
8 not a state.

9 By order of the clerk, docketing statements and
10 certificates are due on September 6th.

11 Dispositive motions are due on September 23rd.

12 The final matter is Deirdre Brown vs.
13 Board. That's in the D.C. Court of Appeals. On
14 August 7th, Petitioner sought review of the
15 certification of Initiative Measure No. 83. On
16 August 14th, the Petitioner filed a motion for
17 expedition or a stay. On August 16th, the Court
18 directed that the directed that the Agency record
19 be filed on October 9th. On the same day, the
20 Board filed an opposition to the motion to
21 expedite or force stay. On August 21st, the
22 Petitioner filed a response to that opposition.

1 And on August 28th, the Board filed a motion for
2 leave to file a sur reply. On August 30th, the
3 Court denied the Board's motion for leave.
4 Struck the sur reply. It denied the Petitioner's
5 motion for a stay, granted the motion to
6 expedite, and vacated its August 16th order to
7 the extent that the Board must now file the
8 administrative record on September 9th, instead
9 of on October 9th.

10 So the short of that is the motion for
11 a stay was denied and the administrative record
12 will be filed a month earlier on September 9th.
13 And that concludes the litigation status and my
14 report.

15 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. And just to be
16 clear, the Deirdre Brown suit relates to the
17 signature issue as it pertains to Initiative 83,
18 whereas the Wilson lawsuit pertains to our
19 previous subject matter ruling?

20 MS. STROUD: That's correct.

21 MR. THOMPSON: All right. And
22 meanwhile, it sounds like the Stacia Hall case,

1 it's not -- the briefing doesn't even conclude
2 until December with oral argument, it sounds like
3 taking place next year. So because that post-
4 dates the election, it appears to me that we will
5 continue to register and permit voting by non-
6 citizen residents of the District of Columbia.

7 MS. STROUD: At least with respect to
8 this particular litigation, yes. There are other
9 circumstances, but --

10 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah.

11 MS. STROUD: Yeah.

12 MR. THOMPSON: Okay, thanks. All
13 right. Anything else?

14 MS. STROUD: No, that concludes my
15 report.

16 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. On then to
17 Campaign Finance Report from Cecily Collier-
18 Montgomery.

19 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Yes, good
20 morning. For the record, the full report of the
21 activity of the Agency for the month of August
22 will be posted at our website before close of

1 business today. Our website is www.ocf.gov. I
2 will however at this time highlight a few items
3 of interest for the public.

4 First, I would indicate to the public
5 that the Office of Campaign Finance did
6 participate in seven outreach events during the
7 month of August. With respect to the 2024
8 election cycle debate, the Office of Campaign
9 Finance will conduct the debate in the contested
10 race for the Office of At-Large Member of the
11 Council on September the 18th, 2024 at 7 o'clock
12 p.m. The Office of At-Large Member of the
13 Council is scheduled for election during the
14 November the 5th, 2024 general election in the
15 District of Columbia.

16 All candidates who are certified to
17 participate in the Fair Elections Program who are
18 in contested city-wide elections must participate
19 in debate. Any candidates in the traditional
20 Campaign Finance Program to qualify for ballot
21 access are invited to participate. Where there
22 is no other FEP-participating candidate or where

1 a non-participating candidate, the mandatory
2 debate requirement is waived.

3 To date in the November the 5th, 2024
4 general election, there are a total of three
5 certified participating candidates in the Fair
6 Elections Program who are seeking the Office of
7 At Large Member of the Council. Additionally, in
8 the traditional Campaign Finance Program, there
9 is one candidate who is qualified for ballot
10 access. And I would also note at this time that
11 the nominating petition of one of the certified
12 participating candidates in the FEP Program was
13 challenged and is currently under review.

14 Information on the debate is available
15 at our website, www.ocf.dc.gov in the debates.com
16 website, including the schedule, date, time,
17 participants, and the registration process for
18 the public to attend virtually and participate in
19 the debates through the submission of questions.
20 In the interest of continuing to ensure the
21 safety of our residents, OCF's debates will be
22 conducted using a virtual platform.

1 In our Fair Elections Program for the
2 2024 election cycle as of this date, there are 20
3 certified participating candidates in the Fair
4 Elections Program. And the Office of Campaign
5 Finance has disbursed the total sum of
6 \$2,695,984.50 from the Fair Elections Fund and
7 base amount and matching payment.

8 During the month of August 2024, there
9 were two new candidates who were certified in the
10 Fair Election Program for the 2024 election cycle
11 and the Agency authorized nine disbursements from
12 the Fair Elections fund to participating
13 candidates who have been certified in the
14 program. The listing of those disbursements is
15 provided in our report, again which will be
16 posted at our website by the end of the day.

17 The new certified participating
18 candidates are Sherice for Ward 7, State Board of
19 Education 2024 Principal Campaign Committee. The
20 candidate Sherice A. Muhammad was certified as a
21 participating candidate in the Fair Elections
22 Program on August 26th, 2024 and the November the

1 5th, 2024 general election for the Office of the
2 Member of State Board of Education from Ward 7.
3 Matching payments in the amount of \$5,800 were
4 authorized for disbursement on August the 26th.

5 Tony Criner for Ward 7, State Board of
6 Education 2024 Principal Campaign Committee. The
7 candidate, Tony Criner was certified as a
8 participating candidate in the Fair Elections
9 Program on August the 25th, 2024 and the November
10 the 5th, 2024 general election for the Office of
11 Member of the State Board of Education from Ward
12 7. Matching payments in the amount of \$6,445
13 were authorized for disbursement on August the
14 26th, 2024.

15 The Fair Elections Program also
16 conducted desk reviews of amended reports of
17 receipts and expenditures and reports, which have
18 been filed and basically conducted desk reviews
19 of 42 reports. As a result of their review of
20 those reports, the Division issued 11 requests
21 for additional information. As far as remitted
22 funds are concerned from the Fair Elections

1 Program, as of August 31st, the total sum of
2 \$72,590.80 has been remitted to a deposit in the
3 fund during fiscal year 2024.

4 With respect to our post-election
5 audits in the Division, there was no change in
6 the status of the ongoing audits during the month
7 of August 2024. The status of the audits is
8 stated in the OCF Report for this month. All
9 final audit reports are available for review by
10 members of the public at our website.

11 In our Public Information and Records
12 Management Division, there was one date for the
13 filing of reports of receipts and expenditures
14 during the month of August 2024 and that was the
15 August 10th report of receipts and expenditures
16 by active principal campaign committees,
17 political and action committees, our Fair
18 Elections Program, and Independent Expenditure
19 Committee. All reports and receipts and
20 expenditures which were filed during the month
21 are available for review by the public at our
22 website.

1 With new candidates and committees,
2 currently for the 2024 election cycle in the
3 traditional Campaign Finance Program, there are a
4 total of 41 candidates who registered to
5 participate in both primary and the November 2024
6 general election. There were no new candidates
7 who registered to participate in the 2024
8 election cycle in the traditional Campaign
9 Finance Program during the month of August.

10 In our Fair Elections Program, there
11 are currently 32 candidates who registered to
12 participate in the program in both the primary
13 and general election. And there were no new
14 candidates who registered to participate in the
15 November election during the month of August.
16 And also, there were no new committee
17 registrations during the month of August. There
18 was one candidate who completed the OCF Entrance
19 Conference during the month of August.

20 With respect to referrals through the
21 Office of the General Counsel, 36 candidates and
22 treasurers were referred to the Office of the

1 General Counsel with initiation of the
2 enforcement process for the failure to file the
3 July 31st and the August 10th, 2024 reports of
4 receipts and expenditures. The referrals are
5 listed in our report.

6 In our report's analysis and Audit
7 Division and thus our traditional Campaign
8 Finance Program, the Audit Division conducted 105
9 desk reviews and issued 19 requests for
10 additional information based on the review of the
11 report. The traditional Campaign Finance Program
12 also initiated three periodic random audits. And
13 basically the audits were initiated of the July
14 31st, 2024 Report of Receipts and Expenditures,
15 which was filed by our Political Action
16 Committee. The committees which are being
17 audited are the Hotel Organization to Elect
18 Leaders Political Action Committee, the D.C.
19 Political Action Committee. Also the Credit
20 Union Pact of Washington, D.C. And I would ask
21 the General Counsel to give the report for the
22 Legal Division of the Office of Campaign Finance.

1 MR. SANFORD: Thank you. Good
2 morning, Mr. Chairman and distinguished board
3 members Greenfield and Boggs. My name is William
4 Sanford, General Counsel for the Office of
5 Campaign Finance. During the month of August
6 2024, the Office of the General Counsel received
7 35 referrals, which included 13 failure to timely
8 file reports of receipts and expenditures on the
9 required filing date of July 31st, 2024 and 22
10 failure to timely file reports of receipts and
11 expenditures on the required filing date of
12 August 10th, 2024.

13 The Office of the General Counsel
14 completed 12 informal hearings and issued 12
15 orders, which included the following. Four
16 orders to vacate were issued. Six orders in
17 which no fines were imposed were issued. And two
18 orders in which fines that totaled \$400 were
19 issued. During the month of August 2024, the
20 Office of the General Counsel imposed fines
21 against the following respondents. A fine of
22 \$200 was imposed against the committee to elect

1 Roscoe Grant. A fine of \$200 was imposed
2 against, Our Friend, Brandon Douglass, Principle
3 Campaign Committee.

4 During the month of August, the Office
5 of Campaign Finance elected one fine in the
6 amount of \$150, which was submitted by the
7 committee, identified as Citizens for Andrew
8 Haynesworth. During the month of August 2024,
9 there were two open investigations before the
10 Office of General Counsel. They included the
11 following: LCFFI2024-003. The Complainant was
12 Gayle Sutherland (phonetic) the 16th of May 2024.
13 The Respondents were Veda Rasheed. And Veda for
14 7 Principle Campaign Committee. Allegation was
15 accepting excessive contributions. The order in
16 this matter was issued on August 9th in 2024 and
17 the matter was dismissed. The Office of the
18 General Counsel determined that although Ms.
19 Rasheed did receive excessive contributions,
20 those contributions were promptly returned, as
21 well as the matching funds that were received
22 from the Fair Elections Program.

1 The second matter: Complainant, Tony
2 Wells, Chair of the Neighbors United for Ward 6,
3 docket no. LCFFI2024-004, that was docketed on
4 the 18th of June 2024 and the Respondents were
5 the committee to recall Charles Allen, DC
6 Neighborhood Alliance and the DC Republican
7 Party. Allegation is possible improper
8 expenditures and illegal coordination. That
9 matter remains pending. During the month of
10 August, there were no requests for opinions and
11 no show-cause proceedings were conducted. The
12 contents of this report will be published at the
13 Office of Campaign Finance website by close of
14 business on today's date, the 3rd of September
15 2024 and that should conclude my report.

16 MR. THOMPSON: All right. Thank you
17 very much, Mr. Sanford. Moving on then to our
18 public comment section of our -- this being also
19 our regular meeting for September. We've got a
20 lot of participants here with us by Zoom. So if
21 you'd just raise your hand if you'd like to speak
22 and when I call on you, if you could please state

1 your name and your residential address. And then
2 see if you can limit your comments to three
3 minutes and include all your questions, whatever
4 they may be in one comment. And then we'll take
5 it from there.

6 So I see Dorothy Brizill has her hand
7 raised. If you could go ahead and state your
8 address and proceed. Thank you.

9 MS. BRIZILL: Good morning. I have
10 two issues I'd like to raise with the Board. The
11 first is directed at Teri Stroud and Monica
12 Evans. Could you make some changes in terms of
13 the Board of Elections website and your posting
14 on the agenda? When you list cases on the
15 website and on the agenda for the Board's
16 meeting, you do not give any court citations. It
17 is very difficult in many instances to follow
18 your recusation of what is going on in a case.
19 And it would be much easier to go to the court
20 record to get an accurate, up-to-date report.
21 I've asked for this before. Moreover, I am
22 curious if the Board can comment on when it will

1 make some additional changes on the website to be
2 forthcoming with information that previously used
3 to be on the website.

4 My second issue goes to the Office of
5 Campaign Finance, Ms. Montgomery. At the start
6 of every meeting, you indicate that the full OCF
7 report is available on the OCF website. While
8 this meeting was ongoing, I went to the website
9 and I cannot find any notation or place on the
10 website to read your monthly report. Can you
11 indicate to me where this report is posted, under
12 what section of the OCF website?

13 My second point to you, Ms. Montgomery
14 has to do with the question of are you suffering
15 staffing shortages? I have sent an email three
16 times to Camille Chay (phonetic). I believe
17 she's the new Public Information Officer for OCF,
18 asking for questions regarding in kind
19 contributions and expenditures on particular
20 campaign finance reports that were posted back on
21 July 31st. To date, despite repeated requests
22 for information in an email, as well as calls to

1 her, I have not gotten any response. Can you
2 tell me whether or not you're suffering staffing
3 shortages? And in this time when we're -- in a
4 period of time just before an election, isn't it
5 important for your staff to be more on top of
6 responding to requests for information? Thank
7 you.

8 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. Ms. Brizill,
9 could you also state your address please for the
10 record?

11 MS. BRIZILL: Dorothy Brizill 1327
12 Girard Street Northwest.

13 MR. THOMPSON: That's your residential
14 address?

15 MS. BRIZILL: Yes.

16 MR. THOMPSON: All right. Okay.
17 Thank you so much for your comment. I don't know
18 if anybody would like to address any of that?

19 MS. STROUD: Yeah, your comment about
20 the citations is noted. It has been. I today,
21 just now, when I was trying to check on the
22 status for Ayyadurai, used party names and

1 searches and was able to find it very quickly on
2 several like websites. But -- and I do indicate
3 the court in which the matters are and yeah,
4 that's the only comment I have.

5 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. Cecily.

6 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: (Audio
7 interference.) Oh, I'm sorry. Ms. Brizill, if
8 you go to our website and if you link to DATARiT
9 and reports under office -- you will find Office
10 of Campaign Finance Statistics. And if you link
11 onto that, you will find the listing of the
12 reports that are given at the board meeting. And
13 what I indicated is that for today's meeting will
14 be posted at the website at the end of the day.
15 But that's where you would find the OCF reports.

16 With respect to any emails that you
17 may have forwarded to Leslie Williams, I will
18 check on those when I return to my office to
19 determine the status.

20 MR. THOMPSON: All right. Thank you.
21 Let me see if there's any other public comment
22 out there. Just raise your hand by Zoom if you'd

1 like to offer a comment. I'll give it a little
2 bit longer. Going once. Going twice. All
3 right. Well, thank you everybody for attending.
4 Good luck with the year now that it's off of the
5 fiscal year or school year, whatever it is, you
6 know, with busy September ahead of us. We'll
7 make it to election day. We'll make it to the
8 holidays. Enjoy the beautiful weather. It looks
9 like a nice week. So with that, I move we
10 adjourn.

11 MR. BOGGS: Second.

12 MR. THOMPSON: All in favor?

13 (Chorus of ayes.)

14 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
15 went off the record at 10:58 a.m.)
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In the matter of: Regular Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 09-03-24

Place: teleconference

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