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GENERAL REGISTRAR

**ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA
ELECTORAL BOARD
OFFICE OF VOTER REGISTRATION**

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RICHARD SAMP
CHAIR

DOMINICK SCHIRRIPA
VICE CHAIR

KIMBERLY PHILLIP
SECRETARY

**Resolution on Facilitation of Party Affiliation of Officers of Election
May 20, 2024**

WHEREAS, Virginia Code §24.2-115 requires electoral boards to appoint officers of election with an eye to parity between the two major political parties, where practicable;

WHEREAS, Virginia Code ("Code") §24.2-115 also requires electoral boards to appoint a chief and an assistant chief election officer in each precinct who represent different political parties, and requires the board and the general registrar to notify the parties if unaffiliated officers will be assigned to those positions so as to allow the parties to nominate additional officers of election;

WHEREAS, although the Code places the primary onus for the recruitment and nomination of party-affiliated officers of election on the parties themselves, the Code's requirements leave open a role for electoral boards to facilitate that recruitment;

WHEREAS, neither of the two major political parties in Arlington currently has enough officers of election affiliated with the party for the Electoral Board or the Office of Elections to staff an election in the manner contemplated by the Code; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Board that it should facilitate the parties in their efforts to recruit and nominate affiliated representative officers of election to the extent that such facilitation can be done in a minimally burdensome manner;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARLINGTON COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD:

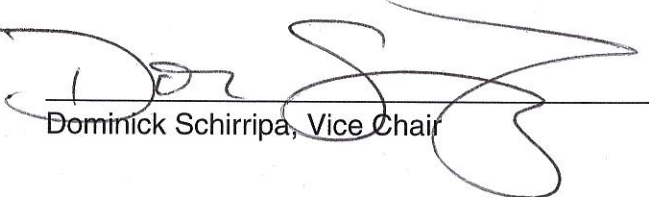
1. That the Deputy General Registrar develop a stand-alone application for officers of election to be used by the Office of Elections and Electoral Board to solicit and evaluate candidates for appointment as Officers of Elections so as to enable applicants to request affiliation with one of the two major parties and provide that proposed application to members of the Electoral Board;
2. That the proposed stand-alone application be deemed authorized for use by the Office of Elections and Electoral Board once its language and format have been approved by the Vice Chair unless a member of the Electoral Board raises concerns about the application, in which case authorization of the application shall be referred back to the Electoral Board as a whole;

3. That upon approval of the stand-alone application for use, the General Registrar shall ensure that the application is posted to the Office of Elections website, and shall provide notification of the new stand-alone application to any civic or other local organizations known by the Office of Elections to have provided guidance to individuals interested in becoming an officer of election in Arlington County regarding how to apply to become an officer of election;
4. That the Virginia Department of Election's standardized application form shall still be a valid and acceptable mean of applying for appointment as an officer of election even after approval of a stand-alone application and such applications will continue to be processed in accordance with currently existing procedures;
5. That the Deputy Registrar, in conjunction with the Vice Chair, evaluate whether it is technologically feasible to provide a system by which the party committees may directly access the lists of applicants who have requested affiliation with the party such that they may access and act on such requests without additional involvement of the staff at the Office of Elections, and shall report back to the Board with conclusions and recommendations at the July meeting of the Board;
6. That applications for appointment as an officer of election will continue to be acted upon by the Board at the next regular meeting occurring at least 10 days after the receipt of the application, and if an applicant has requested affiliation with a political party and that party has not provided an affirmative confirmation that it approves of the applicant as a representative of the party, such applicant shall be appointed as an unaffiliated officer of election with the understanding that the General Registrar or Deputy General Registrar may update their record with a party affiliation should the party subsequently provide such affirmative confirmation;
7. That the General Registrar and/or Deputy General Registrar include, by no later than January 31, 2025, a question regarding party affiliation in the questionnaire and confirmation documents sent to all newly appointed or reappointed officers of election allowing them to indicate a desire to affiliate with a party, change their affiliation, or terminate their affiliation and become unaffiliated;
8. That any requests for affiliation made via the questionnaire and confirmation documents be distributed to the parties in the same manner as requests made via the stand-alone application for appointment, as that manner shall be determined after the evaluation and report provided in paragraph 5;
9. That the General Registrar, Deputy General Registrar, and Vice Chair shall confer regarding the advisability of sending a direct communication from the Electoral Board to all currently appointed officers of election informing them of the Code provisions concerning party affiliated representatives and providing information on how they may request party affiliation, and shall report back with recommendations, including potential language for such a communication no later than the July meeting of the Board.

APPROVED: MAY 20, 2024.


Richard Samp, Chair


Kimberly Phillip, Secretary


Dominick Schirripa, Vice Chair