



2010 COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION NOMINATION PAPERS *PLYMOUTH COUNTY ONLY*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

This pamphlet is for use by those candidates who seek election to the Plymouth County Charter Study Commission, which will be voted on at the state election. Fifteen members will be elected by district.

Please note that each County Commissioner (or their designee) and the chairman of the County Advisory Board (or their designee) serve as non-elected members of the charter commission.

NOMINATION PAPERS

Nomination papers are available at the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, One Ashburton Place, Room 1705, Boston, Massachusetts 02108 and at the offices of the local election officials in Plymouth County.

Fill in all required candidate information (gray areas) on the nomination papers *before* circulating them. The name and residence (which must include the name of the city or town) of the candidate should be printed or typed, correctly spelled, in the proper place on each nomination paper before signatures are solicited. Certified signatures on nomination papers without the required information will not be counted.

The law allows a candidate to make exact copies of blank nomination papers in order to gather additional signatures. However, **nomination papers cannot be altered in any way. Additional markings on nomination papers may disqualify any signatures contained thereon.**

Nomination papers should be filed early, if possible. Filing nomination papers early will allow time to correct errors or to collect additional signatures, if necessary. It is the candidate's responsibility to get the certified papers from the local registrars of voters and deliver them to the Secretary of the Commonwealth on or before the filing deadline. Please see the "*Election Calendar for County Charter Commission Candidates*" on the back of this pamphlet.

NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED

In Plymouth County, candidates require 150 certified signatures in the district on their nomination papers.

REQUIREMENTS

Certification of Voter Registration

Each candidate must file a certificate of voter registration. At least one certificate of voter registration, which is printed on the nomination papers, must be completed and signed by at least three registrars of voters from the municipality where the candidate is a registered voter. The certificate must be filed no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Written Acceptance of Candidate

Before filing the papers, be sure that at least one of the certified nomination papers contains a written acceptance of nomination personally signed by either the candidate or an attorney authorized by the candidate in writing.

Receipt from the State Ethics Commission

For nomination papers to be valid, the candidate must file a receipt from the State Ethics Commission showing that he or she has filed a statement of financial interest with that agency. The State Ethics Commission can be reached at One Ashburton Place, Room 619, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, 617-371-9500. The receipt must be filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth by the filing deadline.

PROPER SIGNATURES

Any voter registered in the district may sign County Charter Commission nomination papers. A candidate may obtain such signatures from any municipality in the district in which they are running, however, a separate nomination paper must be used for each city or town.

To be certified, all signatures on nomination papers must be legible and signed in person with the name of the voter substantially as registered. Signers must include the street address at which they are registered to vote, not mailing addresses or post office box numbers. Persons who are prevented by physical disability from writing may authorize another individual to sign for them in the voter's presence. Voters should be asked to sign their names substantially as registered. The law allows a voter to insert or omit a middle name or initial. A married woman should sign as Helen Smith, not Mrs. John Smith. If a voter makes an error or signs incorrectly, the line should be left intact and the voter asked to sign his or her name and address again on the next line. An altered or illegal signature may be disallowed or challenged. A voter may sign nomination papers *only once* for each candidate for that office.

CERTIFICATION OF SIGNATURES

Each nomination paper should contain signatures of registered voters from only one town. Local boards of registrars are required by law to certify at least the number of required signatures, plus two-fifths more. Certified nomination papers will only be counted if they are signed by three registrars of voters.

DISTRICTS: As required by General Laws chapter 34A, section 6, Plymouth County has been divided into 15 districts for the purpose of electing charter commissioners. The districts are as follows:

District 1
Marion
Mattapoisett
Wareham

District 2
Lakeville
Middleborough
Precinct 2
Precinct 3
Precinct 4
Precinct 5
Precinct 6
Rochester

District 3
Bridgewater
Halifax
Precinct 1
Middleborough
Precinct 1

District 4
Plymouth
Precinct 3
Precinct 4
Precinct 5
Precinct 6
Precinct 7
Precinct 8
Precinct 9
Precinct 12
Precinct 14

District 5
Carver
Plymouth
Precinct 1
Precinct 2
Precinct 10
Precinct 11
Precinct 13

District 6
Duxbury
Halifax
Precinct 2
Kingston
Plympton

District 7
Marshfield
Pembroke
Precinct 1
Precinct 4

District 8
Hanson
Hanover
Pembroke
Precinct 2
Precinct 3
Precinct 5

District 9
Norwell
Rockland
Precinct 1
Scituate

District 10
Hingham
Hull

District 11
Brockton
Ward 1, Precinct B
Ward 1, Precinct C
Ward 1, Precinct D
Ward 3
West Bridgewater

District 12
Brockton
Ward 1, Precinct A
Ward 2
Ward 7

District 13
Abington
Precinct 1
Precinct 2
Brockton
Ward 4
Ward 5, Precinct A
Ward 5, Precinct C
Ward 5, Precinct D

District 14
Abington
Precinct 3
Precinct 4
Brockton
Ward 5, Precinct B
Ward 6
Rockland
Precinct 2
Precinct 3
Precinct 4

District 15
East Bridgewater
Rockland
Precinct 5
Precinct 6
Whitman

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS

Candidates must file reports of campaign contributions and expenditures with their local election official. For details, please contact:

Office of Campaign and Political Finance
One Ashburton Place, Room 411
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
617-979-8300 or 800-462-OCPF

PENALTIES

The law provides for a fine of not more than \$50 for subscribing falsely to a statement on a nomination paper. It further calls for a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, for falsely or willfully altering the designation of the district after signatures have been certified or for falsely marking or willfully altering, defacing, mutilating, destroying, suppressing or unlawfully signing or filing a nomination paper.

If you have any questions regarding this pamphlet, please contact the Elections Division at 617-727-2828 or 1-800-462-VOTE, or your local election official.

**ELECTION CALENDAR FOR
COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION CANDIDATES**

Calendar of Events

Deadline Dates

Deadline to submit nomination papers to local election officials for certification of signatures	5:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 27, 2010
Deadline for local election officials to complete certification of signatures on nomination papers	5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 17, 2010
Deadline to apply for review of non-certified signatures.	5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 19, 2010
Deadline for local election officials to complete review of non-certified signatures.	5:00 p.m., Monday, August 23, 2010
Deadline to file certified nomination papers with State Secretary	5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 24, 2010

State Election

Tuesday, November 2, 2010