#### Department of Elections Campaign Services



#### Candidate Workshop for Signatures in Lieu of Filing Fees

## **Objectives for Today**

- Provide you all with information related to required number of signatures
- Provide you all with info as to how you may gather signatures
- Provide you all with info as to who may sign petitions
- Answer questions

## How Many Signatures Does it Take to Get Out of Paying Filing Fees?

Elected Office	Salary	Filing Fee (2% of salary)	Number of Signatures in Lieu
Member, BOS, District 3	\$110,958	\$500*	1,000
City Attorney	\$234,634	\$4,692	9,385
District Attorney	\$252,109	\$5,042	10,084
Mayor	\$285,319	\$5,706	11,412
Treasurer	\$177,556	\$3,551	7,102
Sheriff	\$218,526	\$4,370	8,741

#### Some Reminders

- Some of your signatures may get rejected, plan and prepare accordingly.
- You will have time to pay remaining fees in the event that signatures are rejected.
- This also means if you are intent on avoiding paying *any* fees whatsoever you should plan on collecting more than the required amount of signatures in anticipation of rejections.

### Info on Gathering Signatures

- You must be 18 years of age. Unlike those who sign, signature gatherers do not have to be registered to vote in San Francisco.
- No names or addresses may be pre-printed on your sheets.
- No ditto (") marks for voters from the same address.
- Circulators **must** sign affidavit portion of the petition.

### Info on Who May Sign

- Currently registered San Francisco voters with up to date registration info.
- If you aren't registered and are a San Francisco resident you may register and sign petitions simultaneously. As a gatherer remember that you have 3 days (excluding weekends or holidays) to submit Voter Registration Cards.

#### Common Reasons for Challenged or Rejected Signatures

- The voter's info provided does not match up with their registration card
- The signature deviates from that on registration card
- The voter filled out their info but neglected to sign
- They did not place a residential address on petition (listed PO Box or something similar)
- The signer is not registered in San Francisco
- Fields have been left incomplete
- Fields were preprinted and not handwritten by circulator and/or signer
- Addresses must be current and within the city of San Francisco

# How are signatures sampled and verified?

- 3% of your signatures or 100 whichever is greater.
- If 50,000 signatures were submitted we would sample 1,500. If 750 signatures were found to be valid we would then apply that approval rate (50%) upon the remaining submissions (38,500) resulting in 19,250 accepted signatures.
- Duplicate signatures will lower your count.

#### Some Tips

- Make sure you confirm signer's registration info is up to date when they sign your petition.
- Consider taking some Voter Registration Cards along while gathering signatures as even existing voters frequently need to update their registration info; you may also register voters and then have them sign your petition thereafter.
- If you do register voters, ensure that you place their registration cards in the mail within 3 days of receiving them.
- Keeping consistent numbers of signatures on each page will make verification easier and quicker for Department of Elections Staff (keep the same number of increments on each page).
- Do not wait until deadlines to submit materials! The sooner you turn in materials the sooner they will be processed and any issues will be brought to your attention. The deadline is the last possible time to submit things, not the suggested or recommended one.

#### **Time Periods for Sigs-In-Lieu**

• City Attorney, District Attorney, Sheriff and Treasurer

#### May 29 – July 23

Mayor and Board of Supervisors
March 31 – May 26