BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF CHICAGO
AS A DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD

Objections of: OLLIE TURNER JR	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 24-EB-WC-024
Papers of: ZERLINA A. SMITH MEMBERS	)	
	)	
	)	
Candidate for election to the office of	)	
DEMOCRATIC Party Ward	)	
Committeeperson, 29th Ward in the City of	)	
Chicago, State of Illinois	)	

FINDINGS AND DECISION

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of the Board of the Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago, Commissioners Marisel A. Hernandez, William J. Kresse and June A. Brown, organized by law in response to a Call issued by Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections ("Objections") of OLLIE TURNER JR ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of ZERLINA A. SMITH MEMBERS, Candidate for election to the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 29th Ward in the City of Chicago, State of Illinois ("Candidate") at the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, having convened on December 18, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 800, 69 West Washington Street, Chicago Illinois, and having heard and determined the Objections to the Nomination Papers in the above-entitled matter, finds that:

1. Objections to the Nomination Papers of the Candidate were duly and timely filed.

2. The Electoral Board was constituted according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

3. A Call to the hearing on said Objections was duly issued by the Chair of the Electoral Board and served upon the members of the Electoral Board, the Objector and the Candidate, by registered or certified mail and by Sheriff's service, as provided by statute or statutory service was waived and service by email was authorized.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on December 18, 2023 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Demetrius Carney for further hearings and proceedings.

5. The Objector and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board's Call served upon them to appear before the Hearing Officer on the date and at the time designated in the Hearing Schedule. Appearances were filed by or on behalf of the following persons: the Objector, OLLIE TURNER JR, by Attorney PERICLES ABBASI; and the Candidate, ZERLINA A. SMITH MEMBERS, by Attorney ANDREW FINKO.

6. The Electoral Board finds that on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, the Candidate filed papers with the election authority with which the original nomination papers were filed withdrawing as Candidate for election and requesting that her name not be printed upon the ballot, thus rendering the Objections moot.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the name of ZERLINA A. SMITH MEMBERS, Candidate election to the office of DEMOCRATIC Party Ward Committeeperson, 29th Ward of the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, SHALL NOT be printed on the official ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois on Friday, January 5, 2024.

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair

William J. Kresse, Commissioner

June A. Brown, Commissioner

NOTICE: Pursuant to Section 10-10.1 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1) a party aggrieved by this decision and seeking judicial review of this decision must file a petition for judicial review with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County within 5 days after service of the decision of the Electoral Board.