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

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| Objections of: PHILLIP R. LOPEZ | ) | |
| | ) | |
| | ) | |
| To the Nomination | ) | No.: 24-EB-SBD-017 |
| Papers of: EVA A. VILLALOBOS | ) | |
| | ) | |
| Candidate for the office of | ) | |
| Member of the Chicago Board of Education, | ) | |
| 7th District of the City of Chicago | ) | |

## 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 PHILLIP R. LOPEZ ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of EVA A. VILLALOBOS, candidate for the office of Member of the Chicago Board of Education, 7th District in the City of Chicago ("Candidate") at the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, having convened on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 10:30 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 Tuesday, July 9, 2024 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer James Rosas 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, PHILLIP R. LOPEZ, by Attorneys KEVIN MORPHEW, STEVEN H. FINE, MICHAEL KRELOFF, AND MICHAEL J. KASPER; and the Candidate, EVA A. VILLALOBOS, by Attorney ANDREW FINKO.

6. A preliminary count conducted by the employees indicated that the number of objections contesting the validity of the nominating papers was insufficient to invalid the nominating papers and that the number of uncontested signatures was more than required for placement on the ballot.

7. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board his report and recommended decision. The Hearing Officer recommends that the Objections to the Candidate's Nomination papers be dismissed and that the Nomination Papers be declared valid.

8. The Electoral Board, having considered the evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Officer's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law, hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's recommended findings and conclusions of law and incorporates them herein.

**BEFORE THE DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD
FOR THE HEARING AND PASSING UPON OF NOMINATION OBJECTIONS TO
NOMINATING PAPERS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE
OFFICE OF MEMBER OF THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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| **PHILLIP R. LOPEZ** | ) | |
| Objector, | ) | **No. 24-EB-SBD-017** |
| v. | ) | |
| **EVA A. VILLALOBOS** | ) | |
| Candidate. | ) | |

**ORDER**

This matter coming on to be heard on July 15, 2024 at 10:30 a.m., on the record, for expedited hearing on the Candidate's Motion To Dismiss Objector's Petition and both parties being represented by counsel, and answering ready to proceed to hearing, and having considered the Candidate's Nominating papers, the Objectors Petition and having having reviewed the PRELIMINARY Petition Summary Report prepared by CBOE staff and dated 7-12-2024 and being fully advised in the premises, the following findings are entered herein:

The PRELIMINARY Petition Summary Report prepared by CBOE staff and dated 7-12-2024 is entered, without objection, reporting, in relevant part, as follows:

i. Signature Required: 1000

ii. Total Unchallenged Sigs: 1269

iii. 1646 signatures greater than the required minimum.

WHEREFORE IT IS THE RECOMMENDED ORDER:

After consideration of the Candidate's nomination papers and the Objector's petition and the PRELIMINARY Petition Summary Report, the Objector did not allege a

sufficient number of invalid signatures to render the Candidate's nominating papers insufficient and the Candidate's request that the Objector's petition be dismissed is granted.

It is recommended that the Candidate's name, EVA A. VILLALOBOS, SHOULD be printed for election to the office on her nominating papers.

**July 23, 2024**

***/S/ James D. Rosas***
**Hearing Officer**

9. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate has a sufficient number of valid signatures on her nominating petitions and that the Nomination Papers of EVA A. VILLALOBOS are, therefore, valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of PHILLIP R. LOPEZ to the Nomination Papers of EVA A. VILLALOBOS, candidate for the office of Member of the Chicago Board of Education, 7th District, City of Chicago are hereby DISMISSEd and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of EVA A. VILLALOBOS SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, July 26, 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.**