OBJWD

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

Objections of: LAVONTE STEWART	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 26-EB-RGA-006
Papers of: KENYA FRANKLIN	)	
	)	
Candidate for the nomination of the	)	
Democratic Party for the office of	)	
Representative in the General Assembly,	)	
26th Representative District, 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, June A. Brown and Laura Kotelman[1], 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 LAVONTE STEWART ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of KENYA FRANKLIN, candidate for the Democratic Party nomination for the office of Representative in the General Assembly, 26th Representative District, in the State of Illinois ("Candidate") at the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, having convened on November 19, 2025, 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.

[1] Commissioner Kotelman was sworn into office and joined the Board on November 26, 2025.

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 November 19, 2025 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Frank Tedesso for further hearings and proceedings.

5. The Objector and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board's Call 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, LAVONTE STEWART, by Attorneys KEVIN MORPHEW and MICHAEL J KASPER; and the Candidate, KENYA FRANKLIN, by Attorney ANDREW FINKO.

6. The Electoral Board finds that on Friday, November 21, 2025, the Objector filed a motion to withdraw the Objections against the Candidate's Nomination Papers. The Hearing Officer accepted it on Monday, November 24th. The Electoral Board grants the Objector's motion to withdraw the Objections and the Objections are withdrawn.

7. The Electoral Board further finds that there are no additional Objections filed against the Candidate's Nomination Papers and, in the absence of any objections thereto, such Nomination Papers are deemed valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Nomination Papers of KENYA FRANKLIN, candidate for the nomination of the Democratic Party for the office of Representative in the General Assembly in the 26th Representative District, State of Illinois, are deemed VALID and

the name of the Candidate SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, December 12, 2025.

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair

June A. Brown, Commissioner

Laura Kotelman, 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.