

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**JAMES JUDGE, JR.,**

**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**CASE NO.:**

**CORD BYRD, in his official capacity as  
Secretary of State, State of Florida; CRAIG  
LATIMER, in his official capacity as Supervisor  
of Elections, Hillsborough County, Florida; and  
JULIE MARCUS, in her official capacity as Supervisor  
of Elections, Pinellas County, Florida**

**Defendants.**

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**VERIFIED COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, James Judge, Jr. ("Plaintiff"), sues the Defendants, the Honorable Cord Byrd, in his official capacity as Secretary of State, State of Florida (the "Secretary"); the Honorable Craig Latimer, in his official capacity as Supervisor of Elections, Hillsborough County, Florida ("the Hillsborough County Supervisor"); and the Honorable Julie Marcus, in her official capacity as Supervisor of Elections, Pinellas County, Florida ("the Pinellas County Supervisor"); and alleges:

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1. This is a complaint seeking relief in mandamus, and in the alternative, claims for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief. All relief sought is within the jurisdiction of this Court.
2. These causes of action accrued in Leon County, wherein potential candidates for United States House of Representatives, District 14 ("Congressional District 14") were required to file all "qualifying papers" with the Department of State, Division of Elections (the "Department"), under section 99.061, Florida Statutes.
3. Venue in this Court is proper according to section 47.011, Florida Statutes.

## THE PARTIES

4. Plaintiff is an intended candidate for United States Representative in Congressional District 14. As discussed herein, Plaintiff submitted his qualifying papers early to the Department. The qualifying papers were accepted by the Department, and the Plaintiff was deemed qualified by the Department. After the qualification period ended — and with no prior notice or opportunity to cure — the Department retroactively decided to disqualify Plaintiff, despite the fact that Plaintiff’s filings fully (and substantially) complied with all the pertinent qualification statutes, and despite the Department’s required burden to notify and allow for the Plaintiff to cure before the filing deadline.

5. Defendant Byrd is the Secretary and the Chief Election Officer in the State of Florida. The Secretary has the statutory duty to notify the applicable Supervisors of Election of the names of the duly qualified candidates for election to Congressional District 14.

6. Defendant Latimer is the Supervisor of Elections for Hillsborough County, Florida, which is included within Congressional District 14. The Supervisor is joined in his official capacity as a necessary and indispensable party for the purpose of the relief sought.

7. Defendant Marcus is the Supervisor of Elections for Pinellas County, which is also included within the boundaries of Congressional District 14. She is similarly joined in her official capacity as a necessary and indispensable party for the purpose of the relief sought. Defendants Marcus and Latimer are collectively referred to herein as the “Supervisors.”

## GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

### **The Requirements for Qualification of Federal Candidates**

8. As a candidate to hold a federal office, Plaintiff was required to present the Department of State with only two (2) items: an oath of office and a qualifying fee check.<sup>1</sup> § 99.061(7)(a)(1)-(2), Fla. Stat.

9. The Department does not contest that Plaintiff timely submitted a qualifying fee check which complies, in all respects, with Florida law. Instead, the Department's sole basis for attempting to retroactively disqualify Plaintiff concerns the oath of office Plaintiff filed.

10. Simply put, the Department apparently now contends that the language in Plaintiff's oath does not pass muster under section 99.021(1)(a)2, Florida Statutes. The Department is plainly wrong.

### **The Oath**

11. With respect to candidates of state or federal office, the Florida Statutes do not prescribe the exact language for any particular oath.

12. Instead, Florida Statute section 99.021(1)(a) requires that the oath (1) "shall be made available to the candidate by the officer before whom such candidate seeks to qualify;" and (2) "*shall be substantially* in the following form . . . ." § 99.021(1)(a), Fla. Stat. (emphasis added).

13. The pertinent qualification statute, section 99.061(7)(a)2., Florida Statutes, identifies the necessary components of a candidate's oath. It provides that the oath must "contain the name of the candidate as it is to appear on the ballot: the office sought, including the district or

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<sup>1</sup> Oaths provided by the Department for party-affiliated candidates contain the written statement of party affiliation required by Florida State section 99.061(7)(a)3, and the requirements in section 99.061(7)(a)(4) and section 99.061(7)(a)(5) do not apply to federal candidates.

group number if applicable; and the signature of the candidate, which must be verified under oath or affirmation pursuant to s. 92.525(1)(a).” § 99.061(7)(a)2., Fla. Stat.

14. There is no dispute that Plaintiff’s oath of office contained the name of the candidate as it is to appear on the ballot. Similarly, Plaintiff’s oath identified the office sought and the district number. Indeed, the oath was signed by Plaintiff and properly verified.

15. As such, the oath Plaintiff satisfied all of the qualification requirements enumerated in section 99.061(7)(a)2., Florida Statutes.

### **What Documents Did the Department Request of Federal Candidates?**

16. In a memorandum dated May 17, 2022, the Department provided instructions to candidates seeking to qualify for election to the United States Senate or United States House of Representatives.

17. A true and correct copy of the memorandum is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

18. The Department’s memorandum identified the documents that must be submitted to qualify for candidacy. Exh. 1, pg. 2. In particular, the memorandum stated that candidates shall file the appropriate “Candidate Oath for State Offices.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

19. Thus, in providing that candidate oaths for state offices were necessary, the Department directed federal candidates to file the state form (which Plaintiff did).

### **The Plaintiff’s Submission**

20. On June 14, 2022, Plaintiff shipped his qualifying paperwork to the Department, with a guaranteed arrival time of 10 a.m. on June 15, 2022 — *two days before the end of the qualifying period.*

21. As directed by the Department’s memorandum, Plaintiff included a candidate oath for state offices entitled “Candidate Oath State and Local Partisan Office with Party Affiliation.”



### **The Department's Approval—and Belated Rejection—of Plaintiff's Qualifying Papers**

25. On the afternoon of June 15, 2022, the Department's Division of Election's website indicated that Plaintiff's paperwork had been accepted *and approved*.

26. Throughout the qualifying period, the website continued to reflect that Plaintiff *was a qualified candidate* in Congressional District 14.

27. At no time prior to noon on June 17, 2022 (the end of the qualifying period) was Plaintiff informed of the Department's contention that Plaintiff could somehow be disqualified because he did not file a "Candidate Oath Federal Office with Party Affiliation" form.

28. In fact, Plaintiff was not informed of any concern by the Department until June 22, 2022—*five (5) days after the qualifying period had ended*.

29. On that date, Plaintiff received a phone call from Donna Brown, the Chief of the Department's Bureau of Election Records. Ms. Brown told Plaintiff that the Department erred in deeming him a qualified candidate. She explained that Plaintiff had filed a state and local candidate oath, rather than the federal candidate oath. When asked if he could file a different oath, Ms. Brown stated that resubmission would not be permitted.

30. Plaintiff has offered to submit the form belatedly required by the Department. Unfortunately, to date, the Department has refused to allow any such submission.

31. All conditions precedent to bringing this claim have been satisfied or waived.

### **COUNT I: PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS**

32. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1-31 as if fully set forth herein.

33. Plaintiff has a clear legal right to qualification as a candidate for Congressional District 14 because he fully and substantially complied with the requirements of Florida law.

34. Plaintiff first submitted a qualifying check in the proper amount. He additionally filed an oath that satisfies the requirements of law.

35. The oath executed by Plaintiff contains every element required by section 99.061(7), Florida Statutes. It lists Plaintiff's name, the office sought, the district number and is signed and properly verified. *See* Exh. 2.

36. Plaintiff has also complied with Florida Statute section 99.021.

37. The oath he executed was "made available" by the Department, as required by section 99.021(1)(a)2, Florida Statutes. *See* Exh. 2.

38. The oath is also "substantially" in the "form" described in Florida Statute section 99.021(1)(a)2. The state and local candidate oath contains language nearly identical to that suggested in the statute and included in the federal candidate oath form. Exh. 2; Ex. 3; § 99.021(1)(a), Fla. Stat. Because Florida Statute section 99.021(1)(a)2. does not mandate exact language for any candidate oath, this "substantial" similarity is all that is required by law.

39. Moreover, in signing the state and local candidate oath, Plaintiff provided the information necessary for federal candidates. Plaintiff demonstrated his eligibility for the United States House of Representatives, because he affirmed that he satisfied all constitutional qualifications for the office he seeks.

40. Indeed, Plaintiff meets the qualifications for United States Representatives as set forth in the United States Constitution. Art. I, § 2, cl. 2, U.S. Const. Plaintiff is more than twenty-five years old, has been a United States citizen for at least seven years, and lives in the state he seeks to represent.

41. He further swore his allegiance to both the federal and state constitutions—though the federal oath only requires a candidate to pledge loyalty to the United States Constitution. Accordingly, Plaintiff has done all, and even more, than is required by Florida’s election laws.

42. Moreover, Plaintiff was deprived of a clear legal right to notice and an opportunity to remedy any purported technical deficiency in his filings during the qualification period.

43. Because Plaintiff submitted his paperwork during the qualification period, the Department had a duty under section 99.061(7)(b), Florida Statutes to “make a reasonable effort” to notify Plaintiff of any “missing and incomplete items,” and instruct him to file the papers before the close of the qualifying period.<sup>2</sup>

44. The Department did not inform Plaintiff of any concerns about his filings before the qualification deadline at noon on June 17, 2022. To the contrary, the Department *publicly displayed Plaintiff as qualified on its website throughout the qualifying period.*

45. In spite of its legal obligation, the Department made no attempt to contact Plaintiff about his submission of a state and local candidate oath until June 22, 2022—*five days after the end of the qualifying period.*

46. Because Plaintiff fully and substantially adhered to the letter of the applicable statutes—even as the Department neglected its own obligations under the law—the Secretary had a clear legal duty to qualify him as a candidate for election to the House of Representatives in Congressional District 14. § 99.061(7)(c), Fla. Stat., (“The filing officer performs a ministerial function in reviewing qualifying papers.”)

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<sup>2</sup> *Sancho v. Joanos*, 715 So. 2d 382, 385 (Fla 1st DCA 1998) (“Where a candidate presents himself before a filing officer for qualifying during the first four days of the qualifying period and submits incomplete qualifying documents, the filing officer clearly has a duty under section 99.061(7)(b) to make a reasonable effort to notify the candidate of any missing or incomplete documents and of the deadline for submission of those items).

47. The Supervisors have a clear legal duty to place the names of qualified candidate on the ballots.

48. Without the Court's intervention, Plaintiff will be precluded from being a candidate in the election. Plaintiff has no other remedy to contest his unlawful exclusion from the ballot.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court issue a writ of mandamus requiring the Secretary to add Plaintiff's name to the list of qualified candidates for election to Congressional District 14, requiring the Supervisors to add Plaintiff's name to the intended ballots for the primary election to be held on August 23, 2022, and providing such other relief as is necessary.

### **COUNT II: DECLARATORY RELIEF**

49. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 - 31 and 35 - 41 as if fully set forth herein.

50. This is an action, in the alternative, against all Defendants for declaratory judgment and supplemental relief pursuant to Section 86.011, Florida Statutes.

51. An actual, present and practical need for a determination of Plaintiff's status as a qualified candidate is appropriate and necessary.

52. Plaintiff must be determined to be a duly qualified candidate for Congressional District 14 because Plaintiff fully (and substantially) complied with the letter of the law in sections 99.061 and 99.021, Florida Statutes.

53. Plaintiff filed both qualifying papers in the form deemed necessary in section 99.061, Florida Statutes, and further submitted an oath that satisfies all legal requirements in Florida Statutes sections 99.061 and 99.021. He has satisfied both applicable laws and accordingly must be included on the ballot.

54. Moreover, there is doubt as to whether the Department may disqualify Plaintiff over hyper-technical concerns about the filing, especially given that the Department utterly failed to provide Plaintiff with legally required notice.

55. In violation of Florida Statute section 99.061(7)(b), Plaintiff was not timely notified that the Department believed he should have executed a federal candidate oath, and was thereby deprived of any chance to file the Department's belatedly desired oath during the qualifying period.

56. Plaintiff is entitled to have doubt about the validity of the Department's belated disqualification removed.

57. Since the Department itself violated legal requirements and provided candidates with apparently inaccurate information, the electorate should not be denied the opportunity to vote for Plaintiff.<sup>3</sup>

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court issue a declaratory judgment declaring that Plaintiff is a qualified candidate for Congressional District 14, ordering the Secretary of State to add Plaintiff's name to the list of qualified candidates for election to Congressional District 14, ordering the Supervisors to add Plaintiff's name to the intended ballots for the primary election to be held on August 23, 2022, and providing such other relief as is necessary.

### **COUNT III: INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

58. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 - 31 and 35 - 41 as if fully set forth.

59. This is an action for temporary and permanent injunctive relief against all parties.

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<sup>3</sup>*E.g., Smith v. Crawford*, 645 So. 2d 513, 520 (Fla. 1st DCA 1994) (citing *Irvin v. Collins*, 85 So. 2d 852 (Fla. 1956) ("The right to vote is among the most important rights we all share as Floridians and as Americans. Judges must be very careful in determining whether a candidate . . . is legally qualified to run for office because the effect of a mistake could disenfranchise a large segment of the population. Thus, the law requires judges to resolve doubts about qualification of a political candidate in favor of the candidate").

60. Before the August 23, 2022 primary election, the Secretary is required to certify to the Supervisors the names of qualified candidates to be included on military overseas ballots and all regular ballots.

61. All absent stateside and military overseas ballots are expected to be printed and mailed by the Supervisors by July 9, 2022.

62. The Supervisors will additionally send ballots to domestic voters opting to vote by mail during the week of July 14, 2022 through July 21, 2022.

63. Early voting for the primary election will commence by August 13, 2022.

64. The Supervisors will be required to prepare and print ballots for the primary election in advance of the deadlines identified above. If the Court finds that Plaintiff is a qualified candidate for Congressional District 14, such ballots would be void.

65. Without the opportunity to vote for Plaintiff in the primary election, electors in Congressional District 14 will be denied the right to a fair and uniform election and Plaintiff will be irreparably injured.

66. Granting the injunction would protect the public interest by restoring the right to vote and creating an accurate ballot for the primary election by including Plaintiff as a qualified candidate.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that this Court grant a permanent injunction which requires the Secretary to certify Plaintiff as a qualified candidate for Congressional District 14, requires the Supervisors to prepare and print ballots for the August 23, 2022 primary election that include Plaintiff as a qualified candidate for election to Congressional District 14, and grant such other relief as is necessary.

/s/ Christopher B. Lunny  
CHRISTOPHER B. LUNNY (Fla. Bar No. 008982)  
Radey Law Firm  
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Telephone: (850) 425-6654  
Facsimile: (850) 425-6694  
E-mail: clunny@radeylaw.com  
Secondary E-mail: kellis@radeylaw.com

RICHARD E. COATES (Fla. Bar No. 930032)  
115 East Park Avenue, Suite 1  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Telephone: (850) 681-1029  
E-mail: rcoates@coateslaw.com  
Secondary E-mail: sgreen@coateslaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

**VERIFICATION**


**STATE OF FLORIDA**  
**COUNTY OF Hillsborough**

I, James Judge, Jr., having been duly sworn, hereby state under oath that I have read the foregoing complaint and that the facts set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of  physical presence or  online notarization, this 27 date of June, 2022, by James Judge, Jr.



  
Notary Public  
Commissioned Name: William T. Besnier Jr.  
My Commission Expires: 05/22/2023

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

# Exhibit 1



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of STATE

**RON DESANTIS**  
Governor

**CORD BYRD**  
Secretary of State

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Candidates for U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives  
**FROM:** Donna S. Brown, Chief, Bureau of Election Records  
**DATE:** May 17, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Qualifying

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Please read carefully the entire memorandum to ensure a timely and proper qualifying submission as a candidate for U.S. Senate or U.S. House of Representatives.

### Qualifying period

Qualifying will be held from Noon, June 13, 2022 – Noon, June 17, 2022.

By law, the Division of Elections may accept and hold qualifying papers beginning May 30, 2022. While state offices are closed on Memorial Day, qualifying documents can still be placed in the secure drop-box provided just inside the front lobby doors of the R.A. Gray between the hours of 8 AM – 5 PM on May 30. State offices will reopen at 8 AM on May 31, 2022.

It is a candidate's responsibility to ensure that qualifying papers are timely received in this office and are complete. All qualifying fees and paperwork must be received and complete by Noon (Eastern Time), June 17, 2022, for a candidate to be qualified.

All candidates are encouraged to take advantage of the 14-day period or to file the appropriate qualifying documents as early as possible in the qualifying period.

Our location and mailing address is: Division of Elections  
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

**NOTE: Overnight deliveries to the building are made only by FedEx and UPS. Other services may take 3-10 business days for delivery to the building.**

Division of Elections  
R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
850.245.6240 • 850.245.6260 (Fax) • [DOS.MyFlorida.com/elections](http://DOS.MyFlorida.com/elections)



## What to file

- The candidate must file the appropriate Candidate Oath for State Offices as it applies to your candidacy no later than the close of qualifying:
  - Form DS-DE 300A – Party Affiliated,
  - Form DS-DE 300B – No Party Affiliated, **OR**
  - Form DS-DE 300C – Write-In Candidate
  
- If qualifying by the fee method, a candidate must submit a properly executed campaign check signed by the treasurer or a deputy treasurer in the amount of **\$10,440** (party affiliated) or **\$6,960** (no party affiliated). Make checks payable to the Department of State or Division of Elections.

Any candidate oath or qualifying check filed with the Division before **May 30, 2022**, is not valid for qualifying. Please submit new documents to the Division no later than the close of qualifying period.

## Federal Elections Commission

Candidates for U.S. Senate or U.S. House of Representatives must register with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) (<https://www.fec.gov/>) and file campaign finance reports with the FEC. Any questions regarding the FEC requirements should be directed to the FEC at (800) 424-9530. The Division of Elections has no authority to answer questions about the FEC processes.

## Key points to remember

**Timely Filing** - Candidates may submit qualifying papers by mail, hand-delivery, or courier service. However, qualifying items must actually be received at the Division's physical location by the close of the qualifying period in order to be deemed timely filed. The U.S. Postal Service does not deliver mail directly to the Division of Elections. The U.S. Postal Service's designated hours for mail pick-up do not correspond to the qualifying deadline. To ensure that the qualifying items are timely submitted, a candidate or someone on their behalf should hand-deliver directly to the Division or use a delivery service that delivers directly to the R.A. Gray Building. The Division does not accept qualifying papers via facsimile or email. Note: The R.A. Gray Building is open to the public during regular business hours.

**NOTE: Overnight deliveries to the building are made only by FedEx and UPS. Other services may take 3-10 business days for delivery to the building.**

Memorandum  
May 17, 2022  
Page Three

**Notarized Oaths** – Oath Forms DS-DE 300A, DS-DE 300B, and DS-DE 300C require notarization. Carefully review that these documents have been properly notarized. Common mistakes within the notarization are: the state rather than the county entered in venue; failure to indicate physical or online notarization; notary indicates online, but is not registered with the Florida Department of State to provide online notarization; and the notary seal with expiration date and name is not legible due to a light stamping, or stamping on a dark line.

**Name on the Ballot** - Type or print your name the way you wish it to appear on the ballot on the Candidate Oath. A candidate's name as it is to appear on the ballot may not be changed after the end of qualifying.

**Contact Information** - Please provide a telephone number and email address on the Candidate Oath where you can be reached during the day and after normal working hours. The Bureau will make an effort to contact you if there is a problem with your paperwork.

**Qualifying Fees** – A properly executed check payable to the Department of State, Florida Secretary of State, or Florida Division of Elections and drawn upon the candidate's campaign account. Personal checks, cashiers' checks, cash, and money orders are not valid for qualifying. On the qualifying check (including a starter check), ensure the face of the check specifies that the check is from the campaign account, even if it is handwritten on the check (e.g., "Campaign Account of John Doe").

**Qualifying Status** - To check your qualifying status, visit: [dos.elections.myflorida.com/candidates](https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/candidates)

**Withdrawal** - In order for a qualifying fee to be returned, the candidate must withdraw in writing before the close of qualifying. The withdrawal statement must contain the candidate's signature. The withdrawal may be scanned and emailed to [ElecRecords@DOS.MyFlorida.com](mailto:ElecRecords@DOS.MyFlorida.com) or =pfaxed to 850.245.6260.

If you have any questions, please call the Bureau of Election Records at **850-245-6280**.

DSB/mcc

# Exhibit 2

**CANDIDATE OATH  
STATE AND LOCAL PARTISAN OFFICE  
WITH PARTY AFFILIATION**

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2022 JUN 15 AM 10:48

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
OFFICE USE ONLY

**Candidate Oath**

(Section 99.021(1)(a), Florida Statutes)

I, JAMES JUDGE

(Print name above as you wish it to appear on the ballot. If your last name consists of two or more names but has no hyphen, check box  (see page 2 - Compound Last Names). No change can be made after the end of qualifying.)

am a candidate for the office of U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 14  
(Office) (District #) (Circuit #)

my legal residence is Pasco County, Florida; I am a qualified elector  
(Group or Seat #)

under the Constitution and the Laws of Florida to hold the office to which I desire to be nominated or elected; I have qualified for no other public office in the state, the term of which office or any part thereof runs concurrent with the office I seek; and I have resigned from any office from which I am required to resign pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes; and I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida.

**Statement of Party**


(Section 99.021(1)(b), Florida Statutes)

I am a member of the REPUBLICAN Party. I have been a registered member of this political party, for which I am seeking nomination as a candidate, for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which I seek to qualify; and I have paid the assessment levied against me, if any, by the executive committee of the above-stated political party.

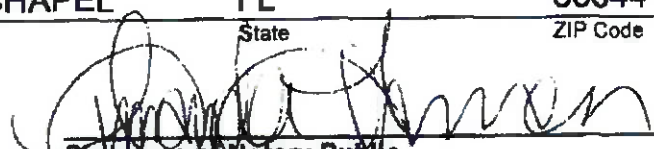
Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number (located on your voter information card): 107261770

Phonetic spelling for audio ballot: Print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot as may be used by persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form):

JAIMZ JUJ

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(813) 602.5834	INFO@JUDGEFORCONGRESS.COM
Signature of Candidate	Telephone Number	Email Address	
27517 GREEN WILLOW RUN	WESLEY CHAPEL	FL	33544
Address	City	State	ZIP Code

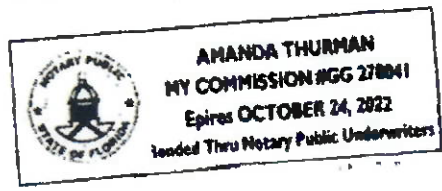
STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF Pinellas

  
Signature of Notary Public  
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public below:

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of  
online notarization  OR physical presence   
this 15 day of June, 2022

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced: Florida DL



# Exhibit 3

**CANDIDATE OATH  
FEDERAL OFFICE  
WITH PARTY AFFILIATION**

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Candidate Oath**

(Section 99.021(1)(a), Florida Statutes)

I, \_\_\_\_\_,

(Print name above as you wish it to appear on the ballot. If your last name consists of two or more names but has no hyphen, check box  (see page 2 - Compound Last Names). No change can be made after the end of qualifying.)

am a candidate for the office of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_; I am qualified  
(Office) (District #)

under the Constitution and the laws of the United States to hold the office to which I desire to be nominated or elected; and I have qualified for no other public office in the state, the term of which office or any part thereof runs concurrent with the office I seek; and I have resigned from any office from which I am required to resign pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes; and that I will support the Constitution of the United States.

**Statement of Party**

(Section 99.021(1)(b), Florida Statutes)

I am a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party; I have been a registered member of this political party, for which I am seeking nomination as a candidate, for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which I seek to qualify; and I have paid the assessment levied against me, if any, by the executive committee of the above-stated political party.

**Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number** (located on your voter information card): \_\_\_\_\_

**Phonetic spelling for audio ballot:** Print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot as may be used by persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**X** \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate Telephone Number Email Address

Address City State ZIP Code

**STATE OF FLORIDA**

**COUNTY OF** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Notary Public**

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public below

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of  
online notarization  OR physical presence

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced: \_\_\_\_\_

## Compound Last Names

If your last name consists of two or more names and has no hyphen, check the box in the Candidate Oath section. If you fail to check the box, your name will be listed with the name appearing last on the line. Example: John Jones Smith – If the last name has no hyphen and you do not check the box, the last name on the ballot would be “Smith.” If you check the box, your last name would be listed on the ballot as “Jones Smith.” If you have a hyphen within your last name, the last name would be listed as “Jones-Smith.”

### Guide for Designating Phonetic Spelling of Candidate’s Name for Audio Ballot

1. Use tables below.
2. Use upper case for “stressed” syllables. Use lower case for “unstressed” syllables.
3. Use dashes (-) to separate syllables.
4. Add any notes such as rhyming examples, silent letters, etc.

Vowels			
Stressed Vowel Sounds		Unstressed Vowel Sounds	
EE	(FEET) feet	uh	(SO-fuh) sofa (FING-guhr) finger
I	(FIT) fit		
E	(BED) bed		
A	(KAT) cat (KAD) cad		
AH	(FAH-thur) father (PAHR) par		
AH	(HAHT) hot (TAH-dee) toddy		
UH	(FUHJ) fudge (FLUHD) flood		
UH	(CHUHRCH) church		
AW	(FAWN) fawn	<b>Certain Vowel Sounds with R</b>	
U	(FUL) full	AHR	(PAHR) par
OO	(FOOD) food	ER	(PER) pair
OU	(FOUND) found	IR	(PIR) peer
O	(FO) foe	OR	(POR) pour
EI	(FEIT) fight	OOR	(POOR) poor
AI	(FAIT) fate	UHR	(PUHR) purr
OI	(FOIL) foil		
YOO	(FYOOR-ee-uhs) furious		

Consonants			
B	(BED) bed	R	(RED) red
D	(DET) debt	S	(SET) set
F	(FED) fed	T	(TEN) ten
G	(GET) get	V	(VET) vet
H	(HED) head	Y	(YET) yet
HW	(HWICH) which	W	(WICH) witch
J	(JUHG) jug	CH	(CHUCRCH) church
K	(KAD) cad	SH	(SHEEP) sheep
L	(LAIM) lame	TS	(ITS) its (PITS-feeld) Pittsfield
M	(MAT) mat	TH	(THEI) thigh
N	(NET) net	TH	(THEI) thy
NG	(SING-uh) singer	ZH	(A-zuhr) azure (VI-zuhn) vision
P	(PET) pet	Z	(GOODZ) goods (HUH-buhz-tuhn) Hubbardston

Examples of Phonetically Spelled Names	
NAME ON BALLOT	PRONOUNCED AS
Mishaud	mee-SHO ('d' is silent)
Jahn	HAHN (rhyme: fawn)
Beauprez	boo-PRAI (rhyme: hooray)
Maniscalco	man-uh-SKAL-ko
Tangipahoa	TAN-ji-pah-HO-uh
Monte	Mahn-TAI
Tanya	TAWN-yuh (not TAN)

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