



Presidential Write-In Candidate Qualification Procedures

**November 4, 2008
General Election**

I. QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Be a natural-born citizen of the United States,
- B. Be at least 35 years of age, and
- C. Be a resident of the United States at least 14 years. U.S. Const., art. II §(5)

II. REQUIREMENTS

A. Declarations of Write-In Candidacy - Presidential Elector

1. Voters in the November General Election are technically voting for the 55 presidential elector candidates, not directly for the candidates for President and Vice-President. Therefore, in order to be a write-in candidate, a person must have 55 write-in presidential elector candidates file papers pledging themselves to the presidential candidate.
2. The 55 write-in elector candidates for presidential elector who have pledged themselves to vote for a candidate for President and a candidate for Vice-President must file declarations of write-in candidacy, which must be received by the Secretary of State on or before October 21, 2008 (E-14).

§§ 8650, 8651, 8652, 8653¹

There are two variations of the declaration form:

- a. Declaration of Write-In Candidacy-Presidential Elector (Multiple Signature Form -- this form includes spaces for more than one presidential elector write-in candidate to sign). See attached sample.

¹ All code section references are to the California Elections Code unless stated otherwise.

- b. Declaration of Write-In Candidacy-Presidential Elector (Single Signature Form -- this form allows each of the 55 presidential elector write-in candidates to sign and submit separate forms). See attached sample.

In addition to the elector candidate's name, these forms must also include the elector candidate's residence address, the date of the general election, a statement stating that he or she is a write-in candidate for the office of presidential elector, an oath of office which must be signed in front of an officer authorized to administer oaths, such as a county elections official or a notary public, and the names of the presidential and vice-presidential candidates to whom the elector candidate is pledged. § 8651

The declaration of write-in candidacy must be filed with the Secretary of State in person or by mail. Please send your documents to:

Office of the California Secretary of State
Elections Division
ATTN: Candidates & Elections
1500 11th Street, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Please indicate on the envelope "Declaration of Write-In Candidacy." The Declaration of Write-In Candidacy must be received by the Secretary of State no later than October 21, 2008 (E-14). § 8652

3. No filing fee is required to file as a write-in candidate for presidential elector.

III. FEDERAL OFFICES

For federal offices, the write-in candidate should contact:

Federal Election Commission
999 E. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

or call toll-free 1-800-424-9530 for a copy of the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, related regulations giving the filing requirements for reporting campaign contributions, and the required forms.

DECLARATION OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR

(Elections Code § 8650, et seq.)

(Single Signature Form)

SECRETARY OF STATE
BY _____
DEPUTY

I hereby declare myself a write-in candidate for the office of Presidential Elector to be voted for at the General Election to be held November 4, 2008, and declare the following to be true:

My name is: _____

My residence address is:

Street

City State Zip Code

As a write-in candidate for Presidential Elector, I am pledged to _____
name

for President of the United States and _____ for Vice-President of the
name
United States.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

Signature of Presidential Elector Write-In Candidate

State of California

SS.

County of _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Notary Public (or election official)