

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR PETITION CIRCULATORS – 2018 ELECTIONS

## CIRCULATOR REQUIREMENTS

1. The circulator, who is the person who requests the voter to sign, **no longer has to be a registered voter or live in the district;** i.e. in the Village, the Ward, the State.
2. The law requires they must be United States citizens and be 1) 18 years of age or, 2) 17 years of age but 18 years of age on the date of the immediately following general election and otherwise qualified to vote. They must also include their current address on the circulator's affidavit.
3. The circulator **MAY NOT** circulate petitions for candidates of more than one political party for the same primary election.
4. The circulator must personally see each registered voter sign the sheet. The circulator has the sworn duty to insure that only valid signatures are on the petitions. If the circulator fails to do so and signs the bottom of the sheet, he has possibly committed perjury.
5. The circulator may not leave the sheet on a counter for passers-by to sign and return later to pick up the filled-in sheet.
6. Petitions which do not have signatures on each line are acceptable. A circulator may sign a sheet as a voter. Do not use abbreviations such as "O.L." for Oak Lawn or "L.S.D." for Lake Shore Drive. Write the words out in full. Do not use ditto marks (""). Abbreviations such as "St.", "Ave." and "N." are acceptable.
7. When the circulators have completed signature-gathering, they should complete the circulator's affidavit in the presence of a Notary Public. The circulator must certify address, age and citizenship information and also certify that the signatures on that sheet were signed in his/her presence and are genuine and that to the best of his/her knowledge the persons so signing were duly registered voters of the political subdivision for which the candidate shall be nominated; or elected, and that their respective registration addresses are correctly stated therein. **A sheet may not be signed and left to be notarized when the notary arrives at a later time.**