

## **POLITICAL PRACTICES PLEDGE** [A.C.A. §§7-6-102, 7-7-305, Act 308 of 2023]

Candidates for political party nomination for state, district, county, municipal, and township office, as well as independent and school board candidates are required to file a political practices pledge stating that he or she is familiar with the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §§7-1-103, 7-1-104, 7-3-108, and 7-6-101 through 7-6-104, and will in good faith, comply with their terms.

All political practices pledge forms shall be required to contain the pledge, "I hereby certify that I have never been convicted of a felony in Arkansas or in any other jurisdiction outside of Arkansas."

### **Sealing or Expungement of Criminal Records:**

The sealing or expungement of a felony conviction or a misdemeanor conviction defined under Arkansas law as a public trust crime under any sealing or expungement law in any jurisdiction does **NOT** make a person eligible to file as a candidate for an elected office. Ark. Code Ann. §21-8-305.

### **The political practices pledge shall indicate the following information:**

- The name, district number, and position number of the office for which the candidate seeks nomination or election.
- The printed form proposed by the candidate for his or her name (including surname) to appear on the ballot, together with the candidate's full mailing address.
- The candidate's signature and the date that he or she signed the political practices pledge.
- Certification that the candidate has never been convicted of a felony.

### **EMAIL REVIEW OF BALLOT CONTENT:**

A candidate for office may place his or her email address on the Political Practice Pledge which will allow the candidate to receive a report showing the candidate's name as it will appear on the ballot, the ballot contest to which the candidate is assigned, and the precinct parts within a county to which the candidate's contest is assigned. Candidates are asked to review this information for accuracy and notify the county election commission of any errors as soon as possible.

The names and titles as proposed to be used by each candidate on the political practices pledge (or if not filed by the filing deadline, the names and title that appear on the party certificate) shall be reviewed by the Secretary of State for state and district offices and by the county board of election commissioners for county, township, school, and municipal offices.

A candidate shall not be permitted to change the certified form in which his or her name will be printed on the ballot after the deadline for filing the political practices pledge.

**ANY CANDIDATE WHO FAILS TO SIGN AND FILE THE POLITICAL PRACTICES PLEDGE SHALL NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT.**

**Arkansas Secretary of State**

State Capitol, Room 026  
500 Woodlane Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094

# Political Practices Pledge

For Office Use Only	
Filing # _____	P.O. Code _____

I, \_\_\_\_\_ a candidate for the Office of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of office)

District Number \_\_\_\_\_, Division Number \_\_\_\_\_, Sub District Number \_\_\_\_\_, Position Number \_\_\_\_\_  
(If any) (If any) (If any) (If any)

hereby state that I am familiar with the requirements of Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 7-1-103, 7-1-104, 7-3-108, 7-6-101, 7-6-102, 7-6-103, and 7-6-104 and that I will in good faith comply with the provisions of the same.

**SELECT ONE OPTION:**

\_\_\_\_ Candidate for Party Nomination \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Party)

\_\_\_\_ Nonpartisan Candidate      \_\_\_\_ Independent Candidate      \_\_\_\_ School Board Candidate

**CANDIDATES MUST COMPLETE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SECTION:**

I hereby certify that I have never been convicted of a felony in the State of Arkansas, or in any other jurisdiction outside of Arkansas.\*\*

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**Print your name as it is to appear on the ballot**  
 (See Below, Ark Code Ann § 7-7-305(c))

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<b>Residential Address</b>	<b>City, State &amp; Zip Code</b>
_____	_____
<b>Candidate Signature</b>	<b>Date Signed</b>
_____	_____
<b>Email Address</b>	
_____	

\*\*The sealing of any public trust crime or any similar offense under § 16-90-1401, et seq. or any sealing or expungement act in any jurisdiction shall not restore a privilege, eligibility, or qualification to file as a candidate for, run as a candidate for, or hold any elected office in the State of Arkansas. See Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-301 et seq.

**§ 7-7-305 Printing of ballots - Form**

(c)(1)(A) A person who files for an elective office in this state may use not more than three (3) given names, one (1) of which may be a nickname or any other word used to identify the person to the voters, and may add as a prefix to his or her name the title or an abbreviation of an elective public office the person currently holds.

(B) A person may use as the prefix the title of a nonpartisan judicial office in an election for a nonpartisan judicial office only if:

- (i) The person is currently serving in a nonpartisan judicial office to which the person has been elected in the last election for the office; or
- (ii) The person:
  - (a) Is a candidate for the office of circuit judge or district judge;
  - (b) Is currently serving in the office of circuit judge or district judge as an appointee; and
  - (c) Has been serving in that position for at least twelve (12) months.

(C) A nickname shall not include a professional or honorary title.

(2) The person filing for office shall include his or her surname in addition to any given names permitted under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section.

(3) The names and titles as proposed to be used by each candidate on the political practice pledge or, if the political practice pledge is not filed by the filing deadline, then the names and titles that appear on the party certificate shall be reviewed no later than one (1) business day after the filing deadline by the Secretary of State for state and district offices and by the county board of election commissioners for county, township, school, and municipal offices.

(4)(A) The name of every candidate shall be printed on the ballot in the form as certified by either the Secretary of State or the county board of Election Commissioners.

(B) However, the county board of election commissioners may substitute an abbreviated title if the ballot lacks space for the title requested by a candidate.

(C) The county board of election commissioners shall immediately notify a candidate whose requested title is abbreviated by the county board of election commissioners.

(5) A candidate shall not be permitted to change the form in which his or her name will be printed on the ballot after the deadline for filing the political practices pledge.

Rev. 5-2023

# AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY

## Instructions

*On the first line, print your name*

On the *second line*, state the name of the office sought. List the county, city, school district or other jurisdiction of the position sought, except for state offices.

### **Examples:**

- Council Member, City of Bigtown;
- Littletown School District Board of Directors;
- Red Wolf County Justice of the Peace;
- State Representative;
- Constable of Mudpuddle Township

*On the third line, if applicable, state the district, ward or zone of the position sought.*

### **Examples:**

- A Council Member candidate for Bigtown Ward 1 would state "Ward 1" on this line;
- A Littletown School board candidate for zone 1 (some, but not all, school districts elect their board members by zone) would state "Zone 1" on this line;
- A JP candidate for district 1 would state "District 1" on this line.

*On the fourth line state the position number, if applicable, or any other identifying information.*

### **Examples:**

- A candidate for Bigtown Council Member Ward 2, Position 1 would state "1";
- A candidate for Littletown School District Board of Directors position 2 would state "2";
- A candidate for Littletown School district at-large position 1 (if there is a combination of zone and multiple at-large seats) would state "1";
- A candidate for State Representative District 52 would state "52";
- If the position number is not known or cannot be determined the position can be identified by, for instance, naming the incumbent or providing other information.

*Before a notary public, sign your name in the space provided.*

*Write the address of your residence in the space provided.*

*Have the affidavit verified by the notary public, or other officer authorized to administer oaths, in front of whom the candidate signed her name.*

**Candidates for school board, independent candidates for municipal offices and independent candidates for state, United States House and Senate seats, county and township offices *must* file an affidavit of eligibility with each county clerk. Not required for nonpartisan judicial candidates. Notice must also be provided to each County Board of Election Commissioners.**

# AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY

My name is (print): \_\_\_\_\_

I am aware of the requirements for holding office. I further attest that I am eligible to hold the following office, if elected to this office. I am also aware of the limitations on filling for multiple offices in the same election.

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

District/ Division/ Ward/ Zone (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Position Number or other description (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature below, I swear or affirm that the above statements are true and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residential Address of Candidate (Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

## VERIFICATION

*State of Arkansas* )  
*County of* \_\_\_\_\_ )

On this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me, a Notary Public, duly authorized and acting, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ (name of Candidate), known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the purposes therein contained. In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and official seal on the date set forth above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public (or other authorized officer)

[Notary Seal]

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Sample Petition)  
School Board Candidate by Zone**

<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
_____ Valid of _____	
By _____	Date _____

**TO: The Honorable County Clerk of \_\_\_\_\_ County**

**We, the undersigned qualified electors, propose that \_\_\_\_\_**  
(Name/Title as proposed to appear on the ballot)

**whose address is \_\_\_\_\_, Arkansas, be placed on the ballot as a Candidate for the Board of Directors of School District \_\_\_\_\_, Position \_\_\_\_\_, Zone \_\_\_\_\_ in the School Board Election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**Each of us for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of the State of Arkansas and a resident of the school district and electoral zone to be represented, and my printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, and date of signing are correctly written after my signature.**

	Signature	Printed Name	Date of Birth	Residence (Street Address)	City or Town of Residence	Date of Signing
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

*This example of a form of petition is provided as a convenience to potential candidates. No form of petition for this office is set out in the Arkansas Code, nor is the Secretary of State, State Board of Election Commissioners, or Ethics Commission authorized to promulgate a form of petition. This petition is an example of a form of petition that may be accepted by the county clerk or the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State, State Board of Election Commissioners, Ethics Commission, and the county clerks do not warrant that this form of petition would be found sufficient by a court of law if subjected to a legal challenge.*

**\*\*\*THE SECRETARY OF STATE ASKS ALL CANDIDATES TO USE LEGAL SIZE PAPER AND TO ENLARGE THE DoB FIELD IF POSSIBLE\*\*\***

**(Sample Petition)  
School Board Candidate by Zone**

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