## **LOCAL 32BJ 2024**

## **Guidelines for Election Committee's Investigation Of Contested Provisional Eligibility Determinations**

The Election Committee has established the following guidelines for the conduct of investigations, including any hearings, of contested provisional eligibility determinations:

- 1. Upon review of the nominating petitions submitted, the Election Committee shall make an initial determination with respect to each prospective candidate as to whether the nominating petitions for that candidate are sufficient to support nomination. If the Committee finds they are insufficient, the Committee will endeavor to notify the prospective candidate or slate representative. Any prospective candidate who wishes to challenge the initial eligibility determination of the Election Committee must do so within 48 hours of notice of the Election Committee's initial determination. The challenge must be sent to Metztli Hamelius by email at MHamelius@seiu32bj.org.
- 2. Each prospective candidate who has submitted a timely contest of the provisional eligibility determination will be advised of the scheduled time for his or her hearing. As stated in the notification letter to all prospective candidates, the Election Committee will schedule hearings in the order in which they are received, except where the practicalities make it expedient to proceed otherwise. The Election Committee shall determine whether a hearing is necessary.
- 3. Any prospective candidate may support their contest of the provisional eligibility determination by presenting documents. The Election Committee may determine to forgo a hearing if the material submitted in support of the protest does not raise an issue that should, in the Election Committee's view, warrant a hearing.
- 4. When the Election Committee decides to hold a hearing, the affected prospective candidate, may, subject to the Election Committee's determination, present evidence in the form of witnesses and/or documents. Candidates may be represented by another member or by counsel. Non-members of Local 32BJ will not be permitted to attend these hearings other than counsel for the Local or counsel for the prospective candidates.
- 5. No recording devices or court reporters will be permitted. The hearings will be transcribed by an official court reporter.
- 6. Representative of other slates/candidates will be permitted to observe all hearings contesting ineligibility determinations, but may not participate in the

- hearing itself, except that the Election Committee may, in its discretion, decide to pose questions to anyone who is in attendance at a hearing.
- 7. Any prospective candidate contesting a provisional eligibility determination should request access to documents which they believe are necessary for his or her case in writing in advance of the hearing, where that is possible. The Election Committee will determine whether to grant the request as well as the time and method for review of any documents that the Committee deems appropriate.
- 8. The Election Committee Chair may question the prospective candidates or call for documents or evidence that they deem necessary or relevant to his or her determination, including requesting evidence from staff of the Local or other persons.
- 9. No evidence, documents, or arguments in support of the contest to an eligibility determination will be accepted after the close of the hearing on a candidate's contest.