**Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 4:37:43 PM Eastern Daylight Time**

**Subject:** [Document Released to Requester] New Hanover County public records request #26-425
**Date:** Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 1:57:18 PM Eastern Daylight Time
**From:** New Hanover County
**To:** AO Records
**Category:** PRODUCTION

EXTERNAL SENDER

-- Attach a non-image file and/or reply ABOVE THIS LINE with a message, and it will be sent to staff on this request. --

New Hanover County Public Records

# A document has been released for record request #26-425 along with the following message:

Ms. Haddix,

Please see the attached records in response to your request.

- Request 26-425 (American Oversight Final).pdf

**View Request 26-425**

https://newhanovercountync.nextrequest.com/requests/26-425

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Document links are valid for one month. After July 9, you will need to sign in to view the document(s).



*Questions about your request?* Reply to this email or sign in to contact staff at New Hanover County.

*Technical support:* See our help page

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**From:** Daley, Kristen
**To:** Riley, Alex
**Subject:** FW: Making sure you got this
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2026 1:17:27 PM

---

**Kristen Daley**
Elections Education and Communications Coordinator
New Hanover County - Elections
(910) 798-7319 p | (910) 798-7319 f
kdaley@nhcgov.com
226 Government Center Dr
Wilmington, NC 28405
www.NHCgov.com

**From:** Jamie Getty <jamie@portcityattorney.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026 12:16 PM
**To:** Daley, Kristen <kdaley@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** FW: Making sure you got this

** External Email: Do not click links, open attachments, or reply until you know it is safe **

**Jamie S. Getty**
Attorney at Law
Pettijohn & Getty, PLLC
1012 Grandiflora Drive STE 130
Leland, North Carolina 28451
T: (910) 910 – 9010 x558
F: (910) 679 – 6016
jamie@portcityattorney.com
www.portcityattorney.com

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---

**From:** Dallas Woodhouse <dallashwoodhouse@gmail.com>
**Date:** Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 7:04 PM
**To:** Dallas Woodhouse <dallashwoodhouse@gmail.com>
**Subject:** Making sure you got this

Here is our little info gathering on EVP plans. Sorry if you already got this. Please respond when possible. Please ignore if you already did this. Just click the link and fill

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out

https://forms.gle/k2YTcKVNDK7HPEwq6

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

**From:** Daley, Kristen
**To:** Riley, Alex
**Subject:** FW: Primary assistance and MEDS Commission
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2026 1:17:36 PM

---

**Kristen Daley**
Elections Education and Communications Coordinator
New Hanover County - Elections
(910) 798-7319 p | (910) 798-7319 f
kdaley@nhcgov.com
226 Government Center Dr
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www.NHCgov.com

**From:** Jamie Getty <jamie@portcityattorney.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026 12:22 PM
**To:** Daley, Kristen <kdaley@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** FW: Primary assistance and MEDS Commission

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---

**From:** Dallas Woodhouse <dallas.woodhouse@ncauditor.gov>
**Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 11:41 AM
**To:** Dallas Woodhouse <dallas.woodhouse@ncauditor.gov>
**Subject:** Primary assistance and MEDS Commission

Dear Chairs: I hope this note finds you well. Please note that I am available at any point, day or night to assist you with issues that bubble up during the primary.

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The Modernization of Election Data Systems (MEDS) Commission will hold its inaugural meeting at **2:00 PM on Tuesday, February 24, 2026**. State Auditor Dave Boliek will chair the meeting. The meeting is open to members of the public and the press, and will be held at the following address:

*Jim Long Hearing Room*
*325 N. Salisbury Street*
*Raleigh, N.C. 27699*

The meeting will be livestreamed on the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor (OSA) Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ncstateauditor.

Tentative Agenda:

- Introduction of the committee
- Opening comments from State Auditor Boliek
- Comments from North Carolina State Board of Elections Executive Director Sam Hayes on the Statewide Elections Information Management System (SEIMS) upgrades and process
- Comments from State Board Director of Campaign Finance Lindsey Wakely on proposed updates to North Carolina's campaign finance reporting system
- Conclusion

State Auditor Dave Boliek announced the creation of the MEDS Commission to provide assistance and practical advice with the ongoing efforts to modernize North Carolina's election management system. OSA and the State Board are currently working in tandem on a three-phase plan to modernize SEIMS. The State Board manages the system, and OSA directs and supervises all budgeting functions of the State Board. MEDS will add insightful perspectives throughout the development of the new system. The commission is also assisting with an overhaul of North Carolina's campaign finance reporting system.

The North Carolina Office of the State Auditor (OSA) and the North Carolina State Board of Elections are currently working in tandem on a three-phase plan to modernize the Statewide Elections Information Management System (SEIMS). The State Board manages the system, and OSA directs and supervises all budgeting functions of the State Board. OSA and the State Board most recently issued a Request for Proposal for the second phase of the plan, which followed a Request for Information that gathered input from citizens and vendors.

MEDS will review public comments and add insightful perspectives throughout the development of the new system. Other commission duties include evaluating submissions and vendors, offering feedback on functional needs and user applications, making recommendations on final proposals, assessing enhanced security protocols, and monitoring implementation.

**"We have a deep bench of elections professionals from all corners of this state, including professors, researchers, and election officials,"** said State Auditor Boliek.

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**“It’s important that as we develop a secure, user-friendly election management system, we involve those who are on-the-ground and hear directly from North Carolina voters.”**

State Auditor Boliek will chair the bipartisan, 22-member commission. Members include:

- Angela Hawkins, Chair, Wake County Board of Elections
- Linda Devore, Chair, Cumberland County Board of Elections
- Gerry Cohen, Member, Wake County Board of Elections
- John Sims, Chair, Orange County Board of Elections
- Derrick R. Miller, Member, New Hanover County Board of Elections
- Jamie Cox, Member, Orange County Board of Elections
- Brooks Fuller, Policy Director, Common Cause NC
- Andy Jackson, Director, Civitas Center of Public Integrity at the John Locke Foundation
- Chris Cooper, Professor, Western Carolina University
- Michael Behrent, Professor, Appalachian State University
- John Crumpton, Former Lee County Manager
- Mike Cox, Pasquotank County Attorney
- Commissioner Allen Thomas, Hoke County
- Commissioner Tommy Long, Haywood County
- Derek Bowens, Durham County Elections Director
- Matthew Snyder, Watauga County Elections Director
- Leigh Anne Price, Johnston County Elections Director
- Michael Dickerson, Mecklenburg County Elections Director
- Dell Parker, Scotland County Elections Director
- Kim Blackwelder, Stanly County Elections Director
- Clifton Philbeck, Cleveland County Elections Director

The goal of the commission is to help develop a secure, user-friendly, and modernized election data management system that will meet the needs of North Carolina voters, election administrators, and candidates. The commission will also assist with a separate overhaul of North Carolina’s cumbersome campaign finance reporting system that will make it easier for the public to track political spending, for candidates to comply with rules and regulations, and also reduce unintentional errors and omissions.

Non-voting technical advisors of the commission include Sam Hayes, State Board Executive Director, and Bret Kelly, State Board Chief Information Officer. All five members of the State Board of Elections will serve as ex officio non-voting members of the commission.

Dallas H. Woodhouse
Elections Liaison
State of North Carolina, Office of the State Auditor

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Government Affairs Division
919-671-1050
Dallas.woodhouse@ncauditor.gov
State Auditor Dave Boliek | NC Auditor

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**From:** Getty, Jamie
**To:** Wurtzbacher, Lisa; Whittaker, Crystal
**Subject:** Fw: [External] Re: Candidate Filing
**Date:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 2:04:43 PM

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**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 1:07:44 PM
**To:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>; Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>; Holden, Tiffany <tiffany.holden@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

Adam,
Thank you for this detailed information. I'm sure our chair will be relieved to know they can stop in and sign those higher level forms at a more convenient time. I appreciate your input and expertise.

Best,
Jessica

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**Jessica O'Neill** ***(she/her/hers)***
Interim Deputy Elections Director
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(910) 798-7203 p | (910) 798-7295 f
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---

**From:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 12:57:35 PM
**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>; Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>; Holden, Tiffany <tiffany.holden@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

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Thanks, Jessica. So that does cover the filing of notices of candidacy at your office for contests where the notice is filed with the county board.

Under the below statute, though, there is a certification that county boards have to complete for candidates who file at the State Board of elections (ie, judicial candidates,

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DAs, US Senate, and US House). This is section 9 of the notice of candidacy. The statute does not have that same notary option, though, so it would need to be the chair who is signing those certificates. Unless, as I noted below, the Executive Director designates someone the interim director under the statute.

I will note that the law does not require these certificates to be completed when a candidate is there in front of the chair. So it would be possible for candidates to go ahead and request the certificate be completed for them, staff review the candidate's registration information and create a summary for the chair, and then the chair sign them in the evening as needed. The certificate could then be picked up the next day or perhaps even emailed to the State Board. This is something that happens every two years, where an occasional candidate shows up to file with the State Board without first obtaining the certificate from the county board, and State Board staff then contact the county board to provide the certificate by email. I have cc'd Tiffany Holden, our candidacy specialist if you have questions about that process.

**§ 163-106.5. Certificate of registration to vote in county and party affiliation; cancellation of candidacy; residency requirements for judges.**

(a) Candidates required to file their notice of candidacy with the State Board of Elections under G.S. 163-106.2 shall file along with their notice a certificate signed by the chairman of the board of elections or the director of elections of the county in which they are registered to vote, stating that the person is registered to vote in that county, if the candidacy is for superior court judge and the county contains more than one superior court district, stating the superior court district of which the person is a resident, stating the party with which the person is affiliated, and that the person has not changed his affiliation from another party or from unaffiliated within three months prior to the filing deadline under G.S. 163-106.2. In issuing such certificate, the chairman or director shall check the registration records of the county to verify such information. During the period commencing 36 hours immediately preceding the filing deadline the State Board of Elections shall accept, on a conditional basis, the notice of candidacy of a candidate who has failed to secure the verification ordered herein subject to receipt of verification no later than three days following the filing deadline. The State Board of Elections shall prescribe the form for such certificate, and distribute it to each county board of elections no later than the last Monday in December of each odd-numbered year.

Thanks,

**Adam Steele | Associate General Counsel**
North Carolina State Board of Elections
430 N Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Main Line: 919.814.0700
Direct: 919.814.0654

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**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 10:19 AM
**To:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>; Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

You don't often get email from joneill@nhcgov.com. Learn why this is important

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Regarding notaries, our office currently has 2 – our Registrar, Gina Herring, and our Campaign Finance Specialist, Denise Brown. Both will be available for the majority of the filing period. Gina will be available for the entirety of the filing period.

Jessica

**Jessica O'Neill *(she/her/hers)***
Interim Deputy Elections Director
New Hanover County - Elections
(910) 798-7203 p | (910) 798-7295 f
joneill@nhcgov.com
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Wilmington, NC 28403
www.NHCgov.com

**From:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:57 AM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>; O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

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Jamie,

I looked into this more, and Mark's read of the candidate filing statute NCGS 163-106(a) does line up with past interpretations of it where an "officer authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths" can acknowledge and certify the notice of candidacy. I'll admit that I had originally read that part to only apply when someone was filing by mail, because the full sentence is as follows: "In the alternative, a candidate may have the candidate's signature on the notice of candidacy acknowledged and certified to by an officer authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths, *in which case the candidate may mail or deliver by commercial courier service the candidate's notice of candidacy to the appropriate board of elections*." On second

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thought, however, I think the use of “may” when it comes to mailing simply acts to expand how the notice of candidacy is filed, rather than limit the use of signing in front of such an officer to only when the notice is being mailed.

Such an officer would be a notary, so your office would need at least one notary there at filing at all times. If you don’t have any notaries in the office, then it would need to be either you or the board secretary who are there to witness the signing of the notice of candidacy, because you don’t have a statutorily-appointed director who can be delegated your statutorily-assigned duties. The only other alternative I can think of would be for the State Board’s Executive Director to exercise the authority to officially designate an interim director under NCGS 163-35(b1), which in my view would then permit that person to be delegated the board’s/board chair’s duties.

I hope that clears things up, but if not I can make myself available for a call later today or tomorrow.

Thanks,

**Adam Steele | Associate General Counsel**
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**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:03 AM
**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** [External] Re: Candidate Filing

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Adam,

Will you please call me this afternoon or tomorrow? 910 515-6461.

Thanks Jessica

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Jamie

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**Jamie Getty**
Board Member
New Hanover County - Elections - Board of Elections
(910) 798-7330 p | (910) 798-7295 f
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**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 8:37:48 AM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** adam.steele@ncsbe.gov <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: Candidate Filing

Jamie,
I've included NCSBE legal, Adam Steele on this email. Our state field rep, Matt has already consulted with legal on this issue, but I wanted to put you in direct contact with Adam so he can weigh in.

Jessica

**Jessica O'Neill *(she/her/hers)***
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**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Re: Candidate Filing

Ok. I will call Dallas and SBE to figure out how this will work.

Thanks for letting me know

Jamie

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**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 8:15:30 AM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** RE: Candidate Filing

No, Interim Director can't sign; it has to be an appointed Director or the Chair.

Jessica

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**From:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2025 4:24 PM
**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Re: Candidate Filing

Can an Interim Director sign? Or would we still have the same problem until a permanent Director is hired ?

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**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2025 3:44:53 PM

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Candidate Filing

Jamie,
I spoke with our state field representative, Matt Stone, and he asked me to relay some information to you. Due to our office currently being without a director, during candidate filing it will be necessary for you in your capacity as Chair, to sign the Candidates' Certificates of Candidacy. I asked Matt to check on who should be signing those and he was directed by legal at the NCSBE to let you know that it must be you. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jessica

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**From:** Getty, Jamie
**To:** Wurtzbacher, Lisa
**Subject:** Fw: [External] Re: Candidate Filing
**Date:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 10:49:25 AM

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**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 10:19 AM
**To:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>; Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

Regarding notaries, our office currently has 2 – our Registrar, Gina Herring, and our Campaign Finance Specialist, Denise Brown. Both will be available for the majority of the filing period. Gina will be available for the entirety of the filing period.

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certified to by an officer authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths, *in which case the candidate may mail or deliver by commercial courier service the candidate's notice of candidacy to the appropriate board of elections*." On second thought, however, I think the use of "may" when it comes to mailing simply acts to expand how the notice of candidacy is filed, rather than limit the use of signing in front of such an officer to only when the notice is being mailed.

Such an officer would be a notary, so your office would need at least one notary there at filing at all times. If you don't have any notaries in the office, then it would need to be either you or the board secretary who are there to witness the signing of the notice of candidacy, because you don't have a statutorily-appointed director who can be delegated your statutorily-assigned duties. The only other alternative I can think of would be for the State Board's Executive Director to exercise the authority to officially designate an interim director under NCGS 163-35(b1), which in my view would then permit that person to be delegated the board's/board chair's duties.

I hope that clears things up, but if not I can make myself available for a call later today or tomorrow.

Thanks,

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Thanks Jessica

Jamie

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**Subject:** RE: Candidate Filing

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Jamie

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Jessica

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Thanks,
Jessica

**Jessica O'Neill** ***(she/her/hers)***
Interim Deputy Elections Director
New Hanover County - Elections
(910) 798-7203 p | (910) 798-7295 f
joneill@nhcgov.com
226 Government Center Dr
Wilmington, NC 28403
www.NHCgov.com

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**From:** Whittaker, Crystal
**To:** dallas.woodhouse@ncauditor.gov
**Cc:** Getty, Jamie
**Subject:** Private - New Hanover County Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director (Adopted December 9, 2025)
**Date:** Wednesday, December 17, 2025 3:57:02 PM
**Attachments:** 12.9.2025 New Hanover County - Interim Election Director Resolution.pdf

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Sir, FYI… For your awareness, a member of the New Hanover County Board of Elections has inquired whether the State Board has provided any comments on this matter.
I assume no response and myself now receiving State BOE emails, that we are in good shape.
Nothing to do, just sharing.

Hoping you and the team is doing well.

Warm regards,
Crystal

**Crystal Whittaker**
Executive Aide
New Hanover County - County Manager's Office
(910) 798-7185 p | (910) 798-7842 f
cwhittaker@nhcgov.com
230 Government Center Drive, Suite 195
Wilmington, NC 28403
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---

**From:** Whittaker, Crystal
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 17, 2025 3:44 PM
**To:** 'sam.hayes@ncsbe.gov' <sam.hayes@ncsbe.gov>; Patrick.Gannon@ncsbe.gov
**Cc:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>; 'mark payne' <jmarkpayne1@outlook.com>
**Subject:** Private - New Hanover County Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director (Adopted December 9, 2025)

Dear Executive Director Hayes,
On behalf of Chair Jamie Getty, I am resubmitting the Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director, which was unanimously adopted by the New Hanover County Board of Elections on December 9, 2025.

As reflected in the attached resolution and the Chair's accompanying correspondence, the Board has formally requested the State Board of Elections' support for this interim appointment to ensure continuity, stability, and compliance in election administration during this transition period. The executed resolution conveys the NHC Boards request that the State Board effectuate this appointment pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-33.

A hard copy of the resolution and correspondence has also been mailed for your records.

Please advise if any additional documentation is required. We appreciate the State Board's

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continued leadership and partnership.

Warm regards,
Crystal

cc:
Jamie Getty, Chair, New Hanover County Board of Elections
Mark Payne, Attorney, New Hanover County Board of Elections

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Wurtzbacher, Lisa |
| **To:** | Getty, Jamie; Lyon, John; Miller, Derrick; Morgan, James; Setz, Beverly |
| **Cc:** | O"Neill, Jessica; Geiszler-Ludlum, Joan; Navagh, Eric; Worsley, Joey |
| **Subject:** | Private Draft Agenda |
| **Date:** | Saturday, December 6, 2025 11:57:11 AM |
| **Attachments:** | Draft - BOE Agenda December 9 2025_Final Draft.pdf |

Board Members,
I am attaching the draft agenda for the December 9, 2025 board meeting. Some of the more substantive items include discussion of the early voting plan for the 2026 primary election and discussion of potential enhancement requests for the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget. Please let myself or staff know if you need anything before the meeting. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

**Lisa Wurtzbacher**
Assistant County Manager
New Hanover County - County Manager's Office
(910) 798-7161 p | (910) 798-7842 f
lwurtzbacher@nhcgov.com
230 Government Center Drive, Suite 195
Wilmington, NC 28403
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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Dallas Woodhouse |
| **To:** | Whittaker, Crystal |
| **Cc:** | Getty, Jamie |
| **Subject:** | Re: Private - New Hanover County Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director (Adopted December 9, 2025) |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, December 17, 2025 5:01:29 PM |

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**From:** Whittaker, Crystal <cwhittaker@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 17, 2025 3:56:54 PM
**To:** Dallas Woodhouse <dallas.woodhouse@ncauditor.gov>
**Cc:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Private - New Hanover County Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director (Adopted December 9, 2025)

You don't often get email from cwhittaker@nhcgov.com. Learn why this is important

Sir, FYI… For your awareness, a member of the New Hanover County Board of Elections has inquired whether the State Board has provided any comments on this matter.
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Warm regards,
Crystal

**Crystal Whittaker**
Executive Aide
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230 Government Center Drive, Suite 195
Wilmington, NC 28403
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---

**From:** Whittaker, Crystal
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 17, 2025 3:44 PM
**To:** 'sam.hayes@ncsbe.gov' <sam.hayes@ncsbe.gov>; Patrick.Gannon@ncsbe.gov
**Cc:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>; 'mark payne' <jmarkpayne1@outlook.com>
**Subject:** Private - New Hanover County Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director (Adopted December 9, 2025)

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Dear Executive Director Hayes,

On behalf of Chair Jamie Getty, I am resubmitting the Resolution to Appoint an Interim Election Director, which was unanimously adopted by the New Hanover County Board of Elections on December 9, 2025.

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A hard copy of the resolution and correspondence has also been mailed for your records.

Please advise if any additional documentation is required. We appreciate the State Board's continued leadership and partnership.

Warm regards,
Crystal

cc:
Jamie Getty, Chair, New Hanover County Board of Elections
Mark Payne, Attorney, New Hanover County Board of Elections

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**From:** Wurtzbacher, Lisa
**To:** Getty, Jamie
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Candidate Filing
**Date:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 11:07:39 AM

---

Thanks!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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**Lisa Wurtzbacher**
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---

**From:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 10:49:23 AM
**To:** Wurtzbacher, Lisa <lwurtzbacher@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Fw: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

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**Jamie Getty**
Board Member
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---

**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 10:19 AM
**To:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>; Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

Regarding notaries, our office currently has 2 – our Registrar, Gina Herring, and our Campaign Finance Specialist, Denise Brown. Both will be available for the majority of the filing period. Gina will be available for the entirety of the filing period.

Jessica

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**Jessica O'Neill** ***(she/her/hers)***
Interim Deputy Elections Director
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(910) 798-7203 p | (910) 798-7295 f
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Wilmington, NC 28403
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**From:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:57 AM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>; O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** SBOE_Grp - Legal <Legal@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: Candidate Filing

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Jamie,

I looked into this more, and Mark's read of the candidate filing statute NCGS 163-106(a) does line up with past interpretations of it where an "officer authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths" can acknowledge and certify the notice of candidacy. I'll admit that I had originally read that part to only apply when someone was filing by mail, because the full sentence is as follows: "In the alternative, a candidate may have the candidate's signature on the notice of candidacy acknowledged and certified to by an officer authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths, *in which case the candidate may mail or deliver by commercial courier service the candidate's notice of candidacy to the appropriate board of elections*." On second thought, however, I think the use of "may" when it comes to mailing simply acts to expand how the notice of candidacy is filed, rather than limit the use of signing in front of such an officer to only when the notice is being mailed.

Such an officer would be a notary, so your office would need at least one notary there at filing at all times. If you don't have any notaries in the office, then it would need to be either you or the board secretary who are there to witness the signing of the notice of candidacy, because you don't have a statutorily-appointed director who can be delegated your statutorily-assigned duties. The only other alternative I can think of would be for the State Board's Executive Director to exercise the authority to officially designate an interim director under NCGS 163-35(b1), which in my view would then permit that person to be delegated the board's/board chair's duties.

I hope that clears things up, but if not I can make myself available for a call later today or tomorrow.

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Thanks,

**Adam Steele | Associate General Counsel**
North Carolina State Board of Elections
430 N Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Main Line: 919.814.0700
Direct: 919.814.0654

---

**From:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:03 AM
**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** Steele, Adam <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** [External] Re: Candidate Filing

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Adam,

Will you please call me this afternoon or tomorrow? 910 515-6461.

Thanks Jessica

Jamie

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**Jamie Getty**
Board Member
New Hanover County - Elections - Board of Elections
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---

**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 8:37:48 AM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Cc:** adam.steele@ncsbe.gov <adam.steele@ncsbe.gov>
**Subject:** RE: Candidate Filing

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Jamie,
I've included NCSBE legal, Adam Steele on this email. Our state field rep, Matt has already consulted with legal on this issue, but I wanted to put you in direct contact with Adam so he can weigh in.

Jessica

**Jessica O'Neill** ***(she/her/hers)***
Interim Deputy Elections Director
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(910) 798-7203 p | (910) 798-7295 f
joneill@nhcgov.com
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Wilmington, NC 28403
www.NHCgov.com

---

**From:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 8:19 AM
**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Re: Candidate Filing

Ok. I will call Dallas and SBE to figure out how this will work.

Thanks for letting me know

Jamie

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**Jamie Getty**
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---

**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 8:15:30 AM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** RE: Candidate Filing

No, Interim Director can't sign; it has to be an appointed Director or the Chair.

Jessica

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**Jessica O'Neill** ***(she/her/hers)***

Interim Deputy Elections Director
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**From:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2025 4:24 PM
**To:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Re: Candidate Filing

Can an Interim Director sign? Or would we still have the same problem until a permanent Director is hired ?

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**Jamie Getty**
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226 Government Center Dr
Wilmington, NC 28403
www.NHCgov.com

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**From:** O'Neill, Jessica <joneill@nhcgov.com>
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2025 3:44:53 PM
**To:** Getty, Jamie <jgetty@nhcgov.com>
**Subject:** Candidate Filing

Jamie,
I spoke with our state field representative, Matt Stone, and he asked me to relay some information to you. Due to our office currently being without a director, during candidate filing it will be necessary for you in your capacity as Chair, to sign the Candidates' Certificates of Candidacy. I asked Matt to check on who should be signing those and he was directed by legal at the NCSBE to let you know that it must be you. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jessica

**Jessica O'Neill *(she/her/hers)***
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