



ROBIN CARNAHAN
SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF MISSOURI

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STATE INFORMATION CENTER
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ELECTIONS DIVISION
(573) 751-2301

September 23, 2008

Mr. Eugene (Gene) Zarwell
PMB 98
1153 Rt. 3 North
Gambrills, MD 21054

Dear Mr. Zarwell:

The Secretary of State's office has received your letter stating your intent to participate in Missouri's general election process for the Office of President. The deadline to appear on the ballot as an independent candidate has passed, however you may still complete the enclosed forms and file as a write-in candidate.

I am including the information page from our website which lists the guidelines for presidential write-in candidates. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 573-751-2301.

Sincerely,

Michael Bushmann

Michael Bushmann
Deputy Secretary of State for Elections

**DECLARATION OF INTENT
WRITE-IN CANDIDATE**

I, _____, do hereby declare announce myself a write-in candidate for the office of United States President, to be voted for at the General Election to be held on the 4th day of November, 2008. and I further declare that if nominated and elected I will qualify.

Print name: _____

Address: _____

I hereby swear or affirm that the information contained in the foregoing declaration of candidacy is, to the best of my knowledge, true.

Signature of Candidate

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2002.

Signature of election official or other officer
Authorized to administer oath.

**Declaration of Candidacy for the Office of
Presidential Elector
Write-In Candidate**

I _____ a resident of the _____ congressional district and the state of Missouri do announce myself a candidate for the office of presidential elector from the state at large for the write-in candidacy of _____, to be voted on at the presidential election to be held on the 4th day of November, 2008, and I further declare that if nominated and elected to such office I will qualify.

Signature of Candidate

Residence address

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

(SEAL)


Signature of election official or officer
authorized to administer oaths

Missouri Secretary of State, Robin Carnahan

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Write-In Candidates

A "write-in candidate" is a person:

- whose name is not printed on the ballot (see 115.453(4,5,6) RSMo); and
- who has filed a declaration of intent  to be a write-in candidate for election to office with the proper election authority prior to 5:00 p.m. on the second Friday immediately preceding the election day. It is not necessary to file a declaration of intent if there are no candidates on the ballot for that office. (see 115.453 (4) RSMo)

Frequently asked questions on write-in candidates

Can a write-in candidate be on a primary election ballot?

No. (Section 115.453 (5) RSMo)

If a candidate runs in a primary election and loses, can the person run in the general election for the same office?

No. If a candidate files for nomination to an office and is not nominated at a primary election, that candidate cannot file a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate for the same office at the general election. (Section 115.453(4) RSMo)

Are write-in candidates posted at the polling place?

No. The election authority shall furnish a list to the election judges and counting teams prior to Election Day of all write-in candidates who have filed a declaration of intent. (Section 115.453(4) RSMo)

Are write-in votes counted for every name that is written in?

No. If a candidate is on the ballot for an office, write-in votes are counted only for the candidates who have filed a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate with the proper election authority. (Section 115.453(4), first sentence) If no candidate is on the ballot for an office, it is not required to file a declaration of intent and votes are counted for every name properly written in. (Section 115.453(4) RSMo, last sentence)

What if the voter casts a vote for a candidate on the ballot and properly writes in the name of someone for the same office?

In this case, no candidate for the office shall be counted as this is considered an over vote. If cross (X) marks appear next to the names of more candidates for an office than are entitled to fill the office, no candidate for the office shall be counted as voted for. (Section 115.453.2)

Can a person file as a write-in candidate for United States President?

Yes. When submitted to the election authority, each declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate for the office of United States president shall include the name of a candidate for vice president and the name of nominees for presidential elector equal to the number to which the state is entitled. At least one qualified resident of each congressional district shall be nominated as presidential elector. Each such declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate shall be accompanied by a declaration of candidacy for each presidential elector in substantially the form set forth in subsection 3 of section 115.399 RSMo . Each declaration of candidacy for the office of presidential elector shall be subscribed and sworn to by the candidate before the election official receiving the declaration of intent to be a write-in, notary public or other officer authorized by law to administer oaths. (Section 115.453 (6) RSMo)

**DECLARATION OF INTENT CANDIDATE
VICE PRESIDENT AND ELECTOR NOMINATION FORM**

I, _____, a declared candidate, in the state of Missouri, for the office of United States President, in accordance with 115.453 RSMo, hereby submit the following list of my candidate for Vice President and nominees for presidential electors.

Vice President: _____

Nominees for Presidential Electors:

1st Congressional District: _____

2nd Congressional District: _____

3rd Congressional District: _____

4th Congressional District: _____

5th Congressional District: _____

6th Congressional District: _____

7th Congressional District: _____

8th Congressional District: _____

9th Congressional District: _____

1st At Large Nominee: _____

2nd At Large Nominee: _____

I hereby affirm that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Candidate

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 200__.

Signature of election official or other officer
authorized to administer oath.