

Paula Bienenfeld, Independent Candidate for Montgomery County, MD County Council District 4, to Challenge Rejected Petition in Court

For Immediate Release

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Contact Information:

Email: paula_bienenfeld@yahoo.com

P: 240-899-2335

www.paulaformoco.com

On Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 10:30 AM the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, MD will review the candidate petition I filed with the Montgomery County Board of Elections to appear on the 2022 General Election ballot as an Independent candidate for Montgomery County Council District 4.

On July 29, 2022, I submitted a candidate petition (consisting of 368 pages and containing over 1,350 signatures), which requested that I be placed on the 2022 General Election ballot for Montgomery County Council District 4. Democrats, Republicans, Green Party members, and independent voters signed this petition. The enthusiasm for my candidacy was overwhelming, and I thank the thousands of people to whom I spoke, and who signed the petition. Clearly there is a strong appetite for an Independent candidate in this county.

The Montgomery County Board of Elections responded to my petition filing on August 18, 2022, approving 997 of the signatures. Unfortunately, this left me 22 signatures short of the 1,019 needed to appear on the November ballot. My team reviewed the Board of Elections' signature rejections and found numerous errors in their determination. Signatures that were legally valid, and should have been accepted, were improperly rejected.

On August 29, 2022, my attorneys appealed the Board of Elections' rejection of my petition in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. As a result of that appeal, the Board of Elections has admitted errors and approved 8 additional signatures – narrowing the number of signatures I need to qualify for the ballot to just 14.

Today, my legal team filed a Motion for Summary Judgment in my case which cites numerous additional errors in the Board of Elections' rejection of my petition signatures. We will be arguing this Motion in Court tomorrow. I am confident that these legitimate registered voters in District 4 who signed my petition will have their signatures rehabilitated by the Court.

The court will hear the case tomorrow, Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 10:30 AM, in Courtroom 3G, South Tower. The court is located at 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD, 20850.

For additional information:

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Approved by Friends of Paula Bienenfeld, Tom McLachlen, Treasurer