

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BALLOT LAW COMMISSION**

Decision BLC 2024-2

Appeal of Demetra J. Wysinger

BACKGROUND

Demetra J. Wysinger, a resident of Texarkana, Arkansas, seeks to be an independent candidate for President of the United States. In that connection, she called New Hampshire Secretary of State David Scanlan on June 14, 2024. In the call, she indicated that she had called someone in the Secretary of State's Office earlier and that person had promised to send her the forms required to file her intention to run as an independent candidate, but the forms never had arrived in the mail. Mr. Scanlan arranged for the appropriate form to be sent to her by pdf. June 14 was the last day of the filing period for the September primary election, and independent candidates for President are required to file in that period in order to express their intent to run. Later, they are required to submit signatures from both Congressional Districts in order to qualify to run. Also, a filing fee is required to be filed with the form, which, since it was to be filed on the last day of the filing period, has to be filed in person under the provisions of NHRSA 655:16. A form for filing a new political party to appear on the ballot, also was submitted by pdf.

Ms. Wysinger pdf'd the form back to the Secretary of State, with an electronic signature, did not submit a filing fee, and did not present the form in person. She was informed that her filing was not accepted and that she could appeal to the Ballot Law Commission. She sent a letter of appeal to the Commission, citing various Constitutional claims.

The Ballot Law Commission met on June 21, 2024, to consider matters which arose during the filing period, as required by law. Although no one appeared to represent Ms. Wysinger, the Commission considered her written submission and accepted testimony from the Secretary of State.

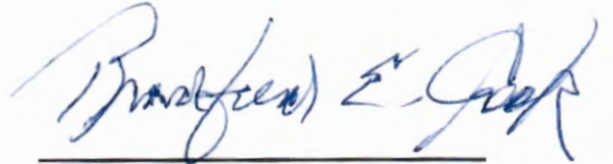
DECISION

New Hampshire statutes control how candidates get on the ballot in this state. In order to become an independent candidate for President or register a new party, statutory requirements have to be met. In this case, the candidate did not present an original filing form, did not file it in person as is required for filings on the last day of the filing period, and did not pay the filing fee. Also, in connection with filing a new party to appear on the ballot, the statute requires a party receive three percent of the vote in a prior election to appear on the ballot. None of the requirements was met in this case. The Ballot Law Commission considered the evidence and

arguments presented, and voted unanimously to uphold the decision of the Secretary of State. The name of Demetra J. Wysinger was not properly filed, and therefore cannot continue the process of collecting signatures. The name of the new political party sought to be placed on the ballot will not be placed on the ballot. The appeal is denied.

So ordered.

6/21/24



Bradford E. Cook, Chairman
James Bouley
Michael Eaton
Robert LeTourneau
James Normand