

July 13, 2020

Dear Members of the Monroe County Democratic Committee,

It is an honor to apply to the entire County Committee as you decide who will become your next Democratic Commissioner of the Monroe County Board of Elections.

I was deeply humbled to have been selected as one of two finalists through the selection process with MCDC earlier in March of 2020 for such an important, challenging, and demanding position in our voting community and am hopeful that resolve may come through this next effort as the Board of Elections is in severe need of experienced leadership in an election year where this never should have occurred.

For over the past 12 years I have dedicated my heart and soul to make certain that every vote counts and that every vote is counted properly and legally.

As my biography and experience represent, I have the knowledge, institutional experience, and know-how to handle New York and Federal Election Law matters that the Board is confronted with. I will make certain that every administrative determination made or issued is done with thorough research and consideration to be upheld by a court of law.

Being arbitrary or capricious or found to be in violation of the law is not in my vocabulary nor my character, and I can assure you that all determinations made will be fair, just, and pursuant to the applicable laws.

Now is the time for Democrats to appoint someone with integrity and proven track record of excellence in the performance of Election Law matters.

Our community, voters and the law require the appointment of someone at the helm that is totally ethical in their fiduciary and legal responsibilities on a daily basis. I emphasize this because the new commissioner must have a history of following the law when it comes to their fiduciary responsibilities as well as be free of any conflicts of interest which I respectfully submit that I am. Today is not a day we elect a candidate for political office.

The Commissioners role is not to become a "Community Organizer" for candidates seeking elective office. The Board of Elections as defined by Election Law as an administrative body of two Commissioners, elected upon recommendation of their respective political parties and appointed by the County legislature for a term of four years. The Commissioners appoint a bipartisan staff to oversee the daily activities of its main offices. The Board is responsible under Election Law for the following:

- Voter registration, outreach, and processing
- Maintaining and updating voter records

- Processing and verification of candidate petitions/documents
- Campaign finance disclosures of candidates and campaign committees
- Recruiting, training, and assigning the various Election Day officers to conduct elections
- Operate polling site locations
- Maintain, repair, setup and deploy the Election Day operation equipment
- Ensure each voter their right to vote at the polls or by absentee ballot
- Canvassing and certification of the vote
- Voter education, notification, and dissemination of election information
- Preparation of maps of various political subdivisions.

Not being conflicted in dealing with the State Board is also critical and must be examined closely. The new Commissioner must be in good standing with the State Board since they fund many of our programs.

It is our duty and a public trust I take seriously to uphold and comply with the rigorous New York State Election Laws. A Commissioner provides direction and guidance to a candidate, but the legally required role is to be bipartisan and impartial. There are no favors OR corruption. It is as easy as that. I am ready, willing, and able to serve. I will and do follow the law. I will make certain that no voter is denied access to the polls. I will fight corruption and any attempts to suppress our voters. I will do the job with the best of my abilities without political influence or disruption. I would be honored and humbled if you were to select me today as your Commissioner.

I have included a brief resume of my experience and community endorsements of my candidacy for Commissioner for your review. I thank you for your time and consideration of this matter of critical importance, not just for the future of our Democratic Committee and our Board of Elections, but as well for the principals of our Democratic Party nationally.

Best regards,

**Maureen Dauphinee**

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