IN RE: NOMINATION PETITION OF JOHNNY L. PATTERSON as candidate for the Democratic Nomination for Representative in the General Assembly for the 201st Legislative District, Tonya Bah, Dicie Gilmore, Sherrie Cohan, Petitioners.	 COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION MATTER NO: 		
ORI	O E R		
AND NOW, this day of	, 2024, upon consideration		
of the Petition to Set Aside the Nomination Petiti	ion of JOHNNY L. PATTERSON, and any		
response thereto, and after a hearing before the C	Court, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:		
(a) The Nomination Petition of JOHN	NNY L. PATTERSON is set aside;		
•	alth is directed not to certify JOHNNY L. nocratic Nomination for Representative in the ve District; and		
(c) Petitioner is awarded court costs, in the amount of \$	investigation costs, and reasonable attorney fees		
	BY THE COURT:		
	J.		

MCMONAGLE PERRI MCHUGH, MISCHAK & DAVIS, P.C.

By: Charles M. Gibbs, Esquire PA Attorney ID: 310023 1845 Walnut Street, 19th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-981-0999

FAX: 215-981-0977

	Attorneys For Petitioners
IN RE: NOMINATION PETITION OF JOHNNY PATTERSON as candidate for the Democratic Nomination for Representative in the General Assembly for the 201st Legislative District,	: COMMONWEALTH COURT OF : PENNSYLVANIA : ELECTION MATTER :
Tonya Bah, Dicie Gilmore, Sherrie Cohan, Petitioners.	: NO:

PETITION TO SET ASIDE NOMINATION PETITION OF JOHNNY L. PATTERSON AS CANDIDATE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE 201st LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

The Petitioners, Tonya Bah, Dicie Gilmore, and Sherrie Cohan ("Petitioners"), file this Petition to Set Aside the Nomination Petition of JOHNNY L. PATTERSON ("Patterson" or "Candidate") for Democratic Nomination for Representative in the General Assembly for the 201st Legislative District ("Nomination"), in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the Primary Election to be held on April 23, 2024. Petitioners seek this relief after having thoroughly reviewed the Nomination Petition, the Candidate's Affidavit, and the Statement of Financial Interest ("SOFI") and finding that the Candidate has falsified his Candidate's Affidavit and failed to follow the requirements of the Pennsylvania eligible to vote in the April 23, 2024 primary election.

Accordingly, Petitioners hereby petition this Honorable Court to remove Patterson from the April 23, 2024 primary election ballot and in support thereof aver as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 1. This Honorable Court has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to 25 Pa. C.S. §§2913(a), 296-2937(2012) of the Pennsylvania Election Code.
 - 2. Mr. Patterson purports to live at 408 West Walnut Lane, Apt. 2, Philadelphia, PA.
- 3. Petitioner, Toyna Bah is a duly qualified elector and is a registered Democrat in the 201st Legislative District, residing at 1456 West Chew Street, Philadelphia, PA 19141.
- 4. Petitioner, Dicie Gilmore, is a duly qualified elector and is a registered

 Democratic in the 201st Legislative District, residing at 4926 N. Smedley Street, Philadelphia,

 PA 19141.
- 5. Petitioner, Sherrie Cohen, is a duly qualified elector and is a registered

 Democratic in the 201st Legislative District, residing at 5635 N. 16th Street, Philadelphia, PA

 19141.
- 6. Petitioners, as registered and enrolled electors of the Democratic Party in the 201st Legislative District, have a direct and substantial interest in the 2024 Primary Election and in the success of this Petition. See generally, In re Barlip, 59 Pa. Commw. Ct. 178, 181, 428 A.2d 1058 (1981).
- 7. On or about February 5, 2024, a Nomination Petition was filed with the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, purporting to nominate JOHNNY L. PATTERSON as a Democratic Nominee for Representative in General Assembly for the 201st Legislative District. Supplemental pages to the Nomination Petition were filed on February 12, 2024. Collectively, these pages constitution the Nomination Petition.
- 8. Challenges to such nomination petitions may be filed by any qualified elector under 25 Pa. C.S. §2937, which governs the procedures for such challenges.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 9. To appear as a candidate on the 2024 primary election ballot, Mr. Patterson must present at least 300 valid signatures from Democratic, registered, and enrolled electors of the 201st Legislative District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. See 25 Pa. C.S. §2911.
- 10. On or about February 5, 2024, Mr. Patterson filed a Nomination Petition (the "Nomination Petition"), with the Secretary of the Commonwealth seeking to have his name printed on the Primary Election Ballot (the "Ballot") as a Democratic Candidate for the General Assembly's 201st Legislative District. A supplemental petition was filed on February 12, 2024.
 - 11. The Nomination Petition consists of 80 pages, number 1-80.
- 12. The Nomination Petition is accompanied by a Candidate's Affidavit. A true and correct copy of the Candidate's Affidavit is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."
- 13. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's official form for Nomination Petition contains two sides and has spaces for 30 signers and are intended to be county-specific. The original Nomination Petition and Candidate's Affidavit remain in the custody of Secretary of the Commonwealth and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 14. Candidate also filed with the Secretary of State a Statement of Financial Interests form which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B."

THE REQUIRED PROCESS TO QUALIFY AS A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE ON THE APRIL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT

- 15. Section 908 of the Election Code, 26 Pa. C.S. §2868, lists the requirements for each signer of a Nomination Petition. Each signer must:
 - a. Sign but one such petition for each office to be filled;
 - b. Declare therein that he is registered and enrolled member of the party designed in such petition.

- c. Declare therein that he is a qualified elector of the county therein named, and in the case the nomination is not to be made or candidates are not to be electors of the State at large, of the political district therein named, in which the nomination is to be made or the election is to be held;
- d. Add his residence, given city, borough or township, with street and number, if any, and shall legibly print his name and add the date of signing, expressed in words or numbers. Provided, however, that if the said political district named in the petition lies within any city, borough, or township, or is coextensive with same, it shall not be necessary for any signer of the nomination petition to state therein the city, borough or township of his residence.
- 16. Pursuant to 25 Pa. C.S. §2911 of the Pennsylvania Election Code, Mr. Patterson was required to file a nomination petition with at least 300 signatures.
- 17. Additionally, Mr. Paterson is required to truthful aver in the Candidate's Affidavit that he is "eligible for said office."
- 18. Moreover, Mr. Patterson is required to file a SOFI with the Secretary of State and the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission.
- 19. Therefore, unless Mr. Patterson fulfills all the requirements found in the Election Code and the State Ethics Act, the name of Mr. Patterson may not be printed as a candidate on the Primary Election Ballot.

MR. PATTERSON FAILED TO FILE A SOFI WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA ETHICS COMMISSION

- 20. The Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 Pa C.S. §§ 2600 et seq., (the "Election Code", herein cited only to Purdon's Statutes) and cases decided thereunder govern the matters covered by this Petition.
- 21. The Election Code sets forth the procedure by which a nomination petition may be set aside. See 25 Pa. C.S. §2937.

- 22. Pennsylvania law requires that "any candidate for a State-level public office shall file a statement of financial interests for the preceding calendar year with the commission on or before the last day for filing a petition to appear on the ballot for election. A copy of the statement of financial interests shall also be appended to such petition." 65 Pa.C.S.A. § 1104 (b)(1).
- 23. A candidate's failure to file the SOFI with the State Ethics Commission is a "fatal defect" which precludes the candidate from appearing on the ballot.
- 24. The failure to timely submit a SOFI to the appropriate authority is a fatal defect, not subject to correction, even if a copy was timely filed with the relevant board of elections. *See In Re: Guzzardi*, 99 A.2d 381, 386 (Pa. 2014). *See also, In re; Bah*, 215 A.3d 1029, 1031 (Pa.Cmwlth.2019).
- 25. Upon information and belief, Mr. Patterson has failed to file a SOFI for the 2023 year with the State Ethics Commission.
 - 26. Pursuant to the Ethics Act, the Patterson must be stricken from the ballot.

PATTERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS THE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE 201st LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

- 27. To be eligible to serve as a Representative in the House of Representatives, a candidate must resident in the respective district for one year before the Election. Pa. Const. Sec. 5.
- 28. As one of the many representations made under oath in a candidate's affidavit, a candidate avers that he is qualified for the position which he is seeking.
- 29. The 2024 General Election will be held in the Commonwealth on November 5, 2024.

Thus, to be eligible to serve as a Representative, a candidate must be *bona fide*

resident of the district he seeks to represent no later than November 5, 2024.

31. Upon information and belief, Mr. Patterson became a registered elector in the

201st Legislative District on or about December 29, 2023 well after the date for him to be a

resident of the 201st Legislative District.

32. Upon information and belief, Mr. Patterson is not a *bona fide* resident of the 201st

Legislative District.

33. Petitioners respectfully reserve the right to add such additional objections and/or

arguments as are appropriate at the time of the hearing.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner pray that this Honorable Court enter an Order as follows:

1. Setting aside the Nomination Petition of Patterson;

2. Sustaining the objections of the Petitioner to the Nomination Petition; and

3. Directing the appropriate officers of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

to strike and set aside the Nomination Petition of JOHNNY L. PATTERSON and further

directing them not to place the name of JOHNNY L. PATTERSON on the ballot as a Candidate

for the Democratic Nomination for the General Assembly in the 201st Legislative District.

Respectfully Submitted,

MCMONAGLE PERRI MCHUGH, MISCHAK & DAVIS, P.C.

BY:	/s/
	Charles M. Gibbs, Esquire

Dated: February 20, 2024

VERIFICATION

I, Dicie Gilmore, hereby state th	nat the facts above set forth are true and correct to the
best of my knowledge, information and	belief. I understand that the statements herein are made
subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §	4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).
2/20/2024	/s/
DATE	Dicie Gilmore

VERIFICATION

I, Toyna Bah, hereby state that	the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best
of my knowledge, information and beli	ief. I understand that the statements herein are made
subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §	4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).
2/20/2024	/s/
DATE	Toyna Bah

MCMONAGLE PERRI MCHUGH, MISCHAK & DAVIS, P.C.

By: Charles M. Gibbs, Esquire PA Attorney ID: 310023 1845 Walnut Street, 19th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-981-0999

FAX: 215-981-0977

	Attorneys For Petitioners
IN RE: NOMINATION PETITION OF JOHNNY L. PATTERSON as candidate for the Democratic Nomination for Representative in the General Assembly for the 201st Legislative	: COMMONWEALTH COURT OF : PENNSYLVANIA : ELECTION MATTER
District,	:
Yolanda Mack and Gilbert Richardson, Petitioners.	NO:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Charles M. Gibbs, Esq. do hereby certify that on February 20, 2024, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition to Set Aside the Nomination Petition of JOHNNY L. PATTERSON as a Candidate for the 12nd Legislative District via hand delivery upon:

The Secretary of the Commonwealth 210 N. Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Respectfully Submitted,

MCMONAGLE PERRI MCHUGH, MISCHAK & DAVIS, P.C.

BY:	/s/
	Charles M. Gibbs, Esquire

Dated: February 20, 2024

CANDIDATE'S AFFIDAVIT

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF ELECTIONS

210 NORTH OFFICE BLDG. HARRISBURG, PA 17120

OFFICE USE ONLY

2024000986



Name:	Patterson		,Johnny ,				J.		,11
		Last Name		First Name			Middle Nar	ne or Initial	Suffix
Resider	ntial Address:	408 W. Walnut La	ne	Store at	A .l.l				
ou Di	- 1 - - - -			Street /	Address	· Π Δ	· 	10144	
	niladelphia				_State:	PA	_Zip Code: ·	19144	
Municip	pality (City, Bo	oro, or Township):	Philadelph	nia			Gender:	F \square M \boxtimes	ΝВ □
Mailing	Address (if di	ifferent from resident	ial):			Stroot /	\ddress		
City:						-	Zip Code:		
				P. Isla	_		_ zip code: School 59th	Ward 18th	
voting	Precinct Name	e (including Ward & D	ivision, it ap	opiicabie):	Diviso	n			
Office f	or which you	are seeking nominati	on: <u>RE</u> F	PRESENTATIVE	E IN THE	GEN	ERAL ASSEM	BLY	
District	Number (if a	oplicable): 201st L	egislative D	istrict					
Email a	ddress: jpat	tersonii@yahoo.com							
Name a	is it is to appe	ar on the Ballot: Jo	hnny J. Pati	terson					
any e in cor pre-e Judge that c nomi am a Deleg nomi petiti	lection law or a nnection thered lection and po- e of a Court of office is election nation petition registered and gate to the Na nation petition on prior to circ	a candidate are as speciarly law regulating and lawith; that I am aware of st-election reporting of Common Pleas, the Phase or the office of mag is of any other party for denrolled member of tional Convention the and that my signature culation of same; that I the same year as the office of the same year.	imiting noming the provision campaign continuated in the same of the came of t	nation and electors of Section 1 contributions an unicipal Court ct judge, my nuffice; that if I am a contribute to egate's Statemendidate for an	ction exp L626 of the or the or ame has macandidate whom ent was office wi	enses he Perditure office of not be lidate office affixe	, and prohibinansylvania Eless; that unless of school boardeen present for any office committee Decommitted is discount to be ach page of the school	ting corrupt ection Code I am a cand rd in a distri ed as a cand e of a polition elegate or a s as indicate ge of my no	practices requiring didate for where didate by cal party I Alternate ad on my mination
_					•	-	the above		-
Sworn 1	to and subscri	bed before me this		by the	iaw(s) a	ipplic	able to the o	omice i am s	seeking.
5/4	$\frac{1}{1}$ day of $\frac{1}{1}$	ebruay 2024	<u> </u>		/	11		21	
K	mberly	y West-B	dour		al	ler	ren	4	
	Signature of Office	r Administering Affirmation	ommonwealth of F	Pennsylvania - Notary -BROWN - Notary - ub	Seal lic	Signati	ure of Candidate		
	NO tary	Public	Philade Wy Commission Ex	elphia County optres October 22, 20	1	21	39097644		
) 01	fficial Title	Commission	Number 1292887		Telep	ohone Number		
My con	nmission expi	res 10/22/20	27			PHI	LADELPHIA		
	·					Coun	ty of Residence		

		<i>j 4</i>	j :	
	•			
2 1 2 1				
i i	*			

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS PENNSYLVANIA STATE ETHICS COMMISSION SEC-1 (Rev. 01/24) (717) 783-1610 • TOLL FREE 1-800-932-0936 SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS 01 LAST NAME FIRST NAME SUFFIX MI Þ Α t t е r s 0 n h J 0 n n Ι I У 02 ADDRESS office (business or governmental) or home City State Zip Code Area Code Phone 408W.WalnutLane PA 19144 Philadelphia 213 9097644 NOTE: IF YOU ARE INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS, DO NOT INCLUDE ANYTHING THAT BEARS YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR FINANCIAL ACCOUNT NUMBERS. Check applicable box or boxes, more than one box may be marked. box if you C Public Official (Current) Candidate (including write-in) D Public Employee (Current) Check this box are amending if you are filing Nominee Public Official (Former) Public Employee (Former) an original filing as a solicitor PUBLIC OFFICE OR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (i.e. administrator, member, Commissioner, job title, etc.) seeking hold held S t a t е R е p r е s е n a t. i е seeking hold held В GOVERNMENTAL BODY in which you are/were an Official, Employee, Candidate or Nominee (e.g., dept, agency, authority, borough, board, commission, county, school district, twp, etc.) 05 G е r а Α s е b 1 s m У В OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION (This may be the same as block 4) SEE INSTRUCTIONS Healthcare Executive Information in blocks 8-15 represents 2 0 4 disclosure for the calendar year listed here: REAL ESTATE INTERESTS involved in transactions with the commonwealth, any of its agencies, or a political subdivision If NONE, check this box If NONE, check this box CREDITORS TO WHOM IS OWED MORE THAN \$6,500 09 Address: 400 Maryland Ave, SW Name: Department of Education Interest Rate Wahington, DC 20202 DIRECT OR INDIRECT SOURCES OF INCOME OF \$1,300 OR MORE, including (but not limited to) all employment If NONE, check this box (OFFICIAL USE ONLY) Address: 101 E. State Street Genesis Administrative Services Kennett Square 19348 GIFTS VALUED AT \$250 OR MORE IN THE AGGREGATE If NONE, check this box Source of Gift Value of Gift Address of Source of Gift Circumstances (including description) of Gift TRANSPORTATION, LODGING OR HOSPITALITY WHERE ACTUAL EXPENSES EXCEEDED \$650 IN THE AGGREGATE If NONE, check this box Source (Name and Address) Value 13 OFFICE, DIRECTORSHIP OR EMPLOYMENT IN ANY BUSINESS If NONE, check this box Business Entity (Name and Address) Position Held (i.e., officer, director, employee, etc.) FINANCIAL INTEREST IN ANY LEGAL ENTITY IN BUSINESS FOR PROFIT If NONE, check this box Business (Name and Address) Interest Held (i.e., 5%, 10%, etc.) BUSINESS INTERESTS TRANSFERRED TO IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER If NONE, check this box Business (Name and Address) Interest Held

The undersigned hereby affirms that the foregating information is true and correct to the best of said person's knowledge, information and belief, said affirmation being made subject to the penalties prescribed by 18 Pa.C.S. \$ 104 (unsworm falsification to authorities) and the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act, 65 Pa.C.S. \$1109(b).

SIGN THE FORM USING CURRENT DATE. DO NOT BACK DATE SIGNATURE.

CONSIDERED DEFICIENT IF ANY BLOCK ABOVE IS NOT COMPLETED. MAKE A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Date Transferred

Enter Current Date

Transferee (Name and Address)

Signature

THIS FORM US

	•		
S.			
		•	