

MEMO

DATE: January 5th, 2022
TO: All County Chairs and SEC Members
FROM: Scott Golden
SUBJECT: Bona Fide Qualifications Cheat Sheet

Dear TNGOP Team:

I trust that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. I know we are extremely excited about the RedWave that is coming in 2022. As you know, candidate petitions began to be issued for the 2022 May primary on December 20th. Our updates throughout the state have been tremendous, with a sheer number of candidates interested in running as a Republican this year. New counties, new offices, and new candidates definitely prove that the TNGOP is heading in the right direction and will be "Red to the Roots" like never before.

But, with all things new, we have had several questions as to the Tennessee Republican Party's "bona fide" qualifications found in Article IX of our bylaws. So, I thought it might be helpful to provide everyone with a cheat sheet to help our candidates navigate this process.

1. Why be bona fide?

Answer: Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 2-13-104 - A party may require by rule that candidates for its nomination be bona fide members of the party.

2. Where can TNGOP bona fide rules be found?

Answer: TNGOP Bylaws - Article IX, Section 1 (Qualifications) and 2 (Protests of Qualifications)

3. What are the qualifications?

Answer: Section 1

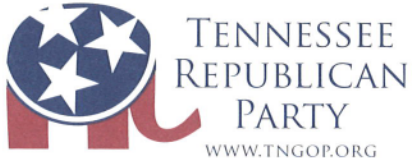
A. Actively Involved in the TNGOP or Local Party. Active is defined as time or money

B. Voted in 3 of the 4 Statewide GOP Primaries (August of 2020, 2018, 2016, and Presidential/March of 2020); or.

C. If not 3/4 - then protested and vouched for by a CEC Member to the satisfaction of the 2 SEC members and Chairman

D. Registration Fees or

- 1. Can't pay and request hardship (email to Chairman)**
- 2. Running for office held by a Democrat or Independent**



4. What is a Protest?

Answer: To request a candidate's removal from the ballot is considered a "protest/challenge." That challenge shall be made to the State Chairman from at least 2 bona fide Republicans from the candidates' district. The challenge must be made no later than 48 hours after the petition filing deadline.

5. Removal from the ballot?

Answer: If the majority of the committee of 2 SEC members and Chairman agree that protested/challenged candidate does not meet the bona fide qualification, then the State Chairman has the authority to remove the candidate

To Recap:

Candidates need to be:

- A - Active
- B - Voting $\frac{3}{4}$; or
- C - Vouched for by CEC member; then a committee of SEC/Chairman
- D - Registration Fees (If applicable)

Protest/Challenges need to be emailed to the State Chairman from 2 bona fide Republicans from that district.

Registration information:

1. Please direct your candidates to visit our website at www.tngop.org and select the "candidate registration" link, and complete.
2. Candidates not required to register can still sign up for "data" services by completing the "candidate registration."

Thanks for all you are doing to help Tennessee Republicans! 2022 is going to be great because of your efforts and dedication. Please call should you need any member of our team.

Best,

Scott Golden