PHILADELPHIA CITY COMMISSIONERS

SUNSHINE MEETING: BALLOT POSITIONING DRAWING 2026 GENERAL PRIMARY

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Job No.: 1070461

ATTENDANCE

OMAR SABIR, CHAIRMAN

KHALIF CHESTNUT, CHIEF DEPUTY

LISA DEELEY, VICE CHAIR

NICK CUSTODIO, DEPUTY TO THE VICE-CHAIR

SETH BLUESTEIN, COMMISSIONER

ERIC KAPENSTEIN, DEPUTY

LIZA FRONCEK, ELECTION COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST

P R O C E E D I N G S

(11:00 a.m.)

CHAIR SABIR: Good morning.

MR. BLUESTEIN: Good morning.

CHAIR SABIR: Call to order the meeting of the Philadelphia City Commissioners Board of Elections for Wednesday, March 18th, 2026. This meeting is in compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The Philadelphia City Commissioners are a three member bipartisan board of elected officials in charge of elections and voter registration for the City of Philadelphia. Each commissioner is elected to serve a term that coincides with the municipal election cycle for Mayor and City Council. The commissioner set and enforce departmental policies to administer voter registration and conduct elections in accordance with federal, state voter registration and election laws.

The city commissioners were created by the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1711 with a focus on taxation and held various regulatory powers throughout the centuries. The commissioner started maintaining voter list in 1799 and took on more election related responsibilities but didn't emerge in its current form until the adoption of Philadelphia Home Rule Charter in 1951.

We will now proceed to new business. We will begin by considering our first agenda item, drawing of the ballot positions. We'll call up our deputy executive director Dana Eckroade and Liza Froncek.

MS. ECKROADE: Good morning, everyone. Good morning, Commissioners.

CHAIR SABIR: Good morning, Dana.

MS. ECKROADE: Everyone here that is here for the ballot lottery, did you all sign in? We will get started as soon as everybody signs in.

CHAIR SABIR: While we're getting ready, I'd like to say thank you for all of the people who ran for committee person. You are the foot soldiers for democracy, and we really appreciate you.

MS. FRONCEK: The draw for ballot positions for local offices in the 2026 general primary will commence with the following procedures. Each candidate who filed nomination petitions for a local office will have the opportunity to draw a lot to determine their ballot position on the 2026 primary ballot. For those candidates who wish to use a proxy to draw for their ballot position, the candidate must authorize the selected individual by filing a proxy form or a letter signed by the candidate with the County Board of Elections.

Candidates who draw number 1 will be placed first on the ballot. Those that draw number 2 will be placed second on the ballot, and so on. We will begin with the office of the Democratic member of the Ward Executive Committee and then proceed to the Republican member of the Ward Executive Committee. We will prioritize races where the candidate or a candidate's proxy is ready to draw. We will draw in ward and division order.

In races where a candidate or proxy is present, the candidate who has the earliest timestamp on their nomination petition will draw first regardless of whether candidate or candidate's proxy with the earlier timestamp is present. For offices drawn this way, if the candidate or candidate's proxy is not present, a County Board of Elections employee will draw on their behalf.

For races where there are no candidate or candidate's proxy ready to draw, we will use a random function in Excel to assign the ballot positions. The Excel function will only be used for races where no individual has already drawn. The Excel spreadsheet will randomly assign a number between zero and one to each candidate. The candidate with the largest number will be assigned the first position on the ballot.

The candidate with the second largest number will be assigned the second position, and so on. Once ballot positions have been drawn, either in person or through Excel, we will not redraw for any reason. Has everyone signed in here today?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Everyone has signed.

MS. FRONCEK: We will begin with Ward 2, Division 6. Theodore Schmidt. All right. Theodore has drawn ball number 1. He will take first. Mara Blake-Ward. I'll be pulling on her behalf. Okay. Three. We'll be calling Ward 3, Division 5 next. Sorrell D. Green (phonetic). Bo Gray will be pulling on behalf. Sorrell D. Green has chosen ball number 2. I will be pulling on behalf of James Sanders. James Sanders has drawn 1.

Next, we'll be calling Ward 5, Division 18 for Steven Datlof. Steven Datlof has drawn ball number 2. There are three candidates in this division. I will be pulling on behalf of Harvey Hurdle. Harvey Hurdle has pulled ball number 3. Next, I'll be pulling on behalf of Nancy Lanham. Nancy Lanham has drawn ball number 1. Thank you.

CHAIR SABIR: Thank you.

MS. FRONCEK: Next, we'll be calling Ward 5, Division 21 for Michael Patrick Boyle. There are four

candidates in this division. Michael Patrick Boyle has drawn ball number 3. I will now be pulling on behalf of Farrer Ahmed (phonetic). Farrer Ahmed has drawn ball number 1. I will be pulling on behalf of Saul Kester next. Saul Kester has pulled ball number 4. Next, I'll be polling on behalf of Amy Sweeney. Amy Sweeney has drawn ball number 2.

CHAIR SABIR: While we're in between, I'd like to recognize Councilmember Katherine Richardson is in the building. Also the ward leader 52nd Ward.

MS. FRONCEK: Next, I'll be calling Ward -- I'm sorry -- Ward 12, Division 15. And we'll have Kevin Terrell Zuber. Kevin Terrell Zuber has pulled ball number 1. Next, I'll be pulling on behalf of Brenda J. Littlejohn. Brenda Littlejohn has pulled ball number 4. I will be pulling on behalf of Sylvia Henderson. Sylvia Henderson has pulled ball number 2. Last, I'll be pulling on behalf of Beatrice Johnson. Beatrice Johnson has pulled ball number 3.

CHAIR SABIR: That was it.

MS. FRONCEK: Next, we're going to call Board 16, Division 1, and there are five candidates in this division. We'll call up Antonio Williams to pull. Bo Gray will be pulling on his behalf. Antonio Williams has drawn ball number 5. I'll be pulling on behalf of

Bright Alexander next. Bright Alexander has pulled ball number 4. I will be pulling on behalf of Tariq Lewis next. Tariq Lewis has pulled ball number 1. Next, I will be polling on behalf of Danita Bates. Danita Bates has drawn ball number 3. Next, on behalf, I will be drawing of Brian Lewis. Brian Lewis has drawn ball number 2. Okay.

The next ward and division will be 22, 02. There are three candidates in this division. And we will call Michael Norman Huff. Bo Gray will be pulling on his behalf. Michael Norman Hoff has drawn ball number 2. I will be pulling on behalf of Darlene M. Temple. Darlene M. Temple has drawn ball number 1. Next, I'll be polling on behalf of Alexander Reusing. Alexander Reusing has drawn ball number 3.

The next ward and division will be 22, 05. There are three candidates in this division. And we will call up Neysa Nevins. Neysa Nevins has pulled ball number 3. I will now pull on behalf of Patricia A. Bryant. Patricia A. Bryant has drawn ball number 2. Next, I'll be drawing on behalf of Michael L. Bryant, Jr. Michael L. Bryant, Jr. has drawn ball number 1.

We'll be drawing for Ward 29, Division 13. There are four candidates. And Bo Gray will be drawing on behalf of Philip Belcastro. Philip Belcastro has

drawn ball number 3. I will now be pulling on behalf of Tammy A. Crummy. Tammy A. Crummy has drawn ball number 2. I will be pulling on behalf of Diane Johnson next. Diane Johnson has pulled ball number 1. I will now be pulling on behalf of Jordan Anthony Holbert. Jordan Anthony Holbert has pulled ball number 4.

We will be drawing for Ward 48, Division -- I'm sorry -- Ward 34, Division 8. There are four candidates. And Bo Gray will be pulling on behalf of Karen W. Ford. One. Karen W. Ford has drawn ball number 1. I will now be pulling on behalf of Patricia Harris. Patricia Harris has drawn ball number 3. I will now be drawing on behalf of Robert Harris. Robert Harris has drawn ball number 2. Now I'll be pulling on behalf of Shameka Osborne. Shameka Osborne has pulled ball number 4.

We will be calling up Ward 46, Division 11. Thelma Peake. There are three candidates in this division. Thelma Peake has drawn ball number 3. I will now be pulling on behalf of Sergio Sea (phonetic). Sergio Sea, if you want to come up and pull your own. Sergio has drawn ball number 2. Is Dawn Williams here? I will be pulling on behalf of Dawn Williams. Dawn Williams has pulled ball number

1. 1.

The next division is Ward -- the next ward is 57. The division is 24. There is only one candidate in this division which was Shane B. Fitzgerald. Okay. We're going to update our sign in sheet and get to whoever that we have missed that came in after.

We will be calling up Ward 36, Division 40. There are four candidates in this division. And we'll have Miguel K. Johnson. Miguel K. Johnson has drawn ball number 4. Is there anyone else here from Division 40, Ward 36? I will now be pulling on behalf of Jamal Anthony Barone. Jamal Anthony Barone has pulled ball number 2. I'll now be pulling on behalf of Abraham G. Green. Abraham G. Green has pulled ball number 3. I'll now be pulling on behalf of Karen D. Harris. Karen D. Harris has pulled ball number 1.

We will now call up Ward 58, Division 16. There are two candidates in this division. And we will have Bob Stewart come up to pull. Bob Stewart has pulled ball number 1. I will now pull on behalf of Joe Ellen Sisnitsky (phonetic). Joe Ellen Sisnitsky has pulled ball number 2. Is there anybody here that has not come forward or signed the sign in sheet? That concludes the ballot position drawing for today. Nice job, everyone.

CHAIR SABIR: Thank you again, everyone, for coming out. That is our last item on the agenda. Before we adjourn, Commissioner Deeley, do you have any other business to raise at this meeting?

MS. DEELEY: I have none. Just thank everybody for coming out and being a part of it. Thank you.

MR. BLUESTEIN: I have nothing to add. Thank you.

CHAIR SABIR: Thank you, Commissioners. A motion that we adjourn today's meeting. Is there a second?

MS. DEELEY: Second.

CHAIR SABIR: Secretary Bluestein, please call the roll.

MR. BLUESTEIN: Vice Chair Deeley?

MS. DEELEY: Aye.

MR. BLUESTEIN: I vote aye. Chairman Sabir?

CHAIR SABIR: Aye. This meeting is adjourned.

(End of audio recording.)

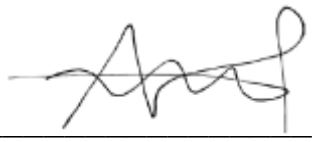
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

I, AALIYAH PRINCE, Legal Transcriptionist, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing is a complete and true transcription of the original digital audio recording of the testimony and proceedings captured in the above-entitled matter. As the transcriptionist, I have reviewed and transcribed the entirety of the original digital audio recording of the proceeding to ensure a verbatim record to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am neither attorney for nor a relative or employee of any of the parties to the action; further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of March, 2026.



Aaliyah Prince

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Philadelphia
City Commissioners

Public Meeting Agenda:

March 18, 2026 – 11:00 A.M.

City Hall, Room 653 1400
John F. Kennedy Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19107

I. Call to Order

II. New Business
    A. Drawing of Ballot Positions

III. Non-Agenda Items

Philadelphia City Commissioners

2026 General Primary Election

Ballot Position Drawing Procedures
March 18, 2026

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