

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

In re: Nomination Petition of	:	
William Jones a/k/a Bill Jones,	:	
Candidate for Representative in the	:	No. _____ 2026
General Assembly, 117 th Legislative	:	
District, Primary Election to be held	:	
May 19, 2026	:	
	:	
Petition of: Leann Busch.	:	

ORDER

AND NOW, on this ___ day of _____, 2026, upon consideration of the Petition to Set Aside Nomination Petition, the Petition is hereby GRANTED. William Jones a/k/a Bill Jones shall not appear on the ballot as a candidate for Representative in the General Assembly for the 117th Legislative District for the Primary Election to be held on May 19, 2026.

BY THE COURT:

, J.

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

In re: Nomination Petition of :
William Jones a/k/a Bill Jones, :
Candidate for Representative in the : No. _____ 2026
General Assembly, 117th Legislative :
District, Primary Election to be held :
May 19, 2026 :
 :
 :
Petition of: Leann Busch. :

PETITION TO SET ASIDE NOMINATION PETITION

AND NOW COMES, Petitioner Leann Busch (“Petitioner”), by and through his undersigned legal counsel J. Chadwick Schnee, Esq. of Schnee Legal Services, LLC, and files this Petition to Set Aside Nomination Petition (“Petition”), averring as follows:

1. Petitioner is an adult individual residing at 26 Busch Lane, P.O. Box 75, Conyngham, PA 18219, and is a qualified elector of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Petitioner is a registered and enrolled member of the Republican Party and resides within the 117th Legislative District.
2. Respondent William Jones a/k/a Bill Jones is a candidate who filed a nomination petition seeking placement on the Republican primary election ballot for the office of Representative in the General Assembly, 117th Legislative District.
3. This Court has jurisdiction over this Petition because the nomination petition at issue was filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth for a state-level office. *See* 42 Pa.C.S. § 764; *see also In re: Objections To Nomination Petitions,*

Papers, And Certificates Of Candidates For Statewide And State-Level Office, No. 126 Misc. Dkt. No. 3.

4. Respondent filed his nomination petitions by the March 10, 2026 filing deadline, and the instant Petition has been filed within seven days of March 10, 2026. *See* 25 P.S. § 2937.

5. Respondent's nomination petition packet includes a Candidate's Affidavit submitted as part of Respondent's filing. A true and correct copy of the Candidate's Affidavit is attached hereto at Exhibit A.

6. The "Voting Precinct Name (including Ward & Division, if applicable)" of Respondent's Candidate's Affidavit is blank.

7. Accordingly, avers that the Candidate's Affidavit, as submitted, is incomplete and fatally defective.

8. The Election Code requires ("shall") candidates to include with their nomination petition "an affidavit stating ... (b) his election district, giving city, borough, town or township..." 25 P.S. § 2870.

9. Respondent's affidavit leaves the "Voting Precinct Name" field blank.

10. The Department of State's Candidate's Affidavit instructions treat completion of the affidavit fields, including precinct identification, as part of proper filing, and provide guidance on determining the correct voting precinct. A

true and correct copy of the Department of State's guidance is attached hereto at Exhibit B.

11. Because Respondent left the Voting Precinct Name field blank, Petitioner cannot determine from the face of the affidavit which election district or precinct Respondent applicable to Respondent.

12. “[T]he provisions of the election laws relating to the form of nominating petitions and the accompanying affidavits are not mere technicalities but are necessary measures to prevent fraud and to preserve the integrity of the election process.” *Petition of Cianfrani*, 359 A.2d 383, 384 (Pa. 1976) (noting that a false affidavit could not “be cured” and holding that a nomination petition was “void and invalid”).

13. The failure to file a completed Candidate's Affidavit should be treated akin to a “failure to present and file an affidavit of candidacy with his or her nomination paper” and, as a result, be treated as a “fatal defect necessitating its rejection.” *In re Scroggin*, 237 A.3d 1006, 1019 (Pa. 2020).

14. This is not a case involving an allegation of false information on an affidavit such as was at issue in *In re Nomination Petition of Driscoll*, 847 A.2d 44 (Pa. 2004); rather, here, Petitioner argues that the nomination petition should be set aside because the candidate failed to provide a completed Candidate's Affidavit containing the information mandatorily required by 25 P.S. § 2870.

15. Because the Candidate's Affidavit is incomplete, Petitioner requests that Respondent's nomination petition be set aside and Respondent's name not be placed on the ballot for the Republican Primary Election for Representative in the General Assembly, 117th Legislative District.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully asks this Honorable Court to enter an order setting aside Respondent's Nomination Petition and directing that Respondent's name not appear on the Republican Primary ballot for Representative in the General Assembly, 117th Legislative District and grant Petitioner such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHNEE LEGAL SERVICES



Date: March 17, 2026

By: _____

J. Chadwick Schnee, Esq.
PA ID 306907
Schnee Legal Services
74 E. Main Street, #648
Lititz, PA 17543
(717) 400-5955
Fax: (717) 882-5271
chadwick@schneelegal.com

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.



J. Chadwick Schnee, Esq.
PA ID 306907

VERIFICATION

I, Leann K. Busch, hereby verify that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition to Intervene are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief; and that this Verification is subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Signature: *Leann Kay Busch*

Name: Leann K. Busch

Date: March 17, 2026

EXHIBIT A

CANDIDATE'S AFFIDAVIT	PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF ELECTIONS 210 NORTH OFFICE BLDG. HARRISBURG, PA 17120	OFFICE USE ONLY 2026001891 
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Name: Jones, William, M
Last Name First Name Middle Name or Initial Suffix

Residential Address: 301 Country Club Drive
Street Address

City: Mountain Top State: PA Zip Code: 18707

Municipality (City, Boro, or Township): Dorrance Township Gender: F M NB

Mailing Address (if different from residential): _____
Street Address

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Voting Precinct Name (including Ward & Division, if applicable): _____

Office for which you are seeking nomination: REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

District Number (if applicable): 117th Legislative District

Email address: jonesmttop@aol.com

Name as it is to appear on the Ballot: Bill Jones

CANDIDATE AFFIDAVIT - I do swear (or affirm) that my residence, my election district and the title of the office for which I desire to be a candidate are as specified above, that I am eligible for said office, that I will not knowingly violate any election law or any law regulating and limiting nomination and election expenses, and prohibiting corrupt practices in connection therewith; that I am aware of the provisions of Section 1626 of the Pennsylvania Election Code requiring pre-election and post-election reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures; that unless I am a candidate for Judge of a Court of Common Pleas, the Philadelphia Municipal Court or the office of school board in a district where that office is elective or the office of magisterial district judge, my name has not been presented as a candidate by nomination petitions of any other party for the same office; that if I am a candidate for any office of a political party I am a registered and enrolled member of such party; that if I am a candidate for Committee Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the National Convention the name of the candidate to whom I am committed is as indicated on my nomination petition and that my signature on the Delegate's Statement was affixed to each page of my nomination petition prior to circulation of same; that I am not a candidate for an office which I already hold, the term of which is not set to expire on the same year as the office subject to this affidavit.

I swear (or affirm) to the above part(s) as required by the law(s) applicable to the office I am seeking.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
4th day of March 2026
Melissa Motisko
Signature of Officer Administering Affirmation

William M Jones
Signature of Candidate

Notary Public
Official Title

570-498-2445
Telephone Number

My commission expires June 2, 2026
 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
 MELISSA MOTISKO - Notary Public
 Luzerne County
 My Commission Expires June 2, 2026
 Commission Number 1332754

LUZERNE
County of Residence

EXHIBIT B

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF THE CANDIDATE'S AFFIDAVIT

IMPORTANT – PENNSYLVANIA LAW REQUIRES THIS FORM TO BE FILED WITH YOUR NOMINATION PETITION. A SEPARATE AFFIDAVIT MUST BE FILED FOR EACH OFFICE FOR WHICH YOU ARE SEEKING NOMINATION.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is my residential address?

- Your residential address pertains to where you actually reside.

What if my address is a PO BOX?

- You cannot use a PO BOX for your residential address. You must provide a street name and number.

What is my municipality?

- Your municipality is the city, borough or township in which you actually reside. For example, if you live in a city that has boroughs or townships, you would enter the borough or township not the city. Your address may be Harrisburg but you reside in Lower Paxton Township. You would enter Lower Paxton Township as the municipality.

How do I know the name of my voting precinct?

- The appropriate ward, district or precinct for your residence is printed on your voter registration card. Failure to answer this question correctly could result in a rejection or challenge. If you have any questions, contact your county election office.

What if I want correspondence sent to another address?

- If you wish to have correspondence sent to an address other than your residential address, then please complete the MAILING ADDRESS field. This address may include a PO BOX.

What if I don't want my middle name to appear on the ballot?

- Please complete the section titled, NAME AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON BALLOT. Please note: no titles may be used such as Dr., Esq., Rev., etc.

REMINDERS: Please complete all the fields on the affidavit. **REMEMBER TO HAVE YOUR AFFIDAVIT NOTARIZED PRIOR TO FILING YOUR PAPERWORK.**

PLEASE **FILE EARLY** TO AVOID WAITING IN LONG LINES AND POSSIBLE PROBLEMS WITH YOUR PAPERWORK!

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, J. Chadwick Schnee, Esq., hereby certify that, on this 17th day of March, 2026, I have served a true and correct copy of the attached petition to the persons below via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested:

Secretary of the Commonwealth
Office of the Secretary
401 North Street, Room 302
Harrisburg, PA 17120

William Jones
301 Country Club Drive
Mountain Top, PA 18707



J. Chadwick Schnee, Esq.

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

In Re: Nom. Pet William Jones, et al.; Obj: Leann Busch : New Case
:
:

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this 17th day of March, 2026, I have served the attached document(s) to the persons on the date(s) and in the manner(s) stated below, which service satisfies the requirements of Pa.R.A.P. 121:

Service

Served: Jones, William
Service Method: Certified Mail
Service Date: 3/17/2026
Address: 301 Country Club Drive
Mountain Top, PA 18707
Representing: Respondent Jones, William

Served: Secretary of the Commonwealth, Office of the Secretary
Service Method: Certified Mail
Service Date: 3/17/2026
Address: 401 North Street, Room 302
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Representing: Respondent Secretary of the Commonwealth, Office of the Secretary

/s/ J Chadwick Schnee

(Signature of Person Serving)

Person Serving: Schnee, J Chadwick
Attorney Registration No: 306907
Law Firm:
Address: Schnee Legal Services
74 E Main St # 648
Lititz, PA 17543
Representing: Petitioner Busch, Leann