

Request #20-195



OPEN

As of January 11, 2020, 10:56am

Request Visibility: Embargoed -- Will be auto-published 0 hours after closure

Details

THE ELITIST AND CONDESCENDING ELECTION

Dear Los Angeles City Clerk and Election Division:

In this election cycle, certain organizations and community groups have declared to be holding "candidate forums" where they are refusing to allow qualified write-in candidates to speak. Some of the forums I have seen advertised will be held by the Ethiopian Democratic Club (set for January 11), West Adams Neighborhood Council, the Beverly Hills NAACP, and League of Women Voters of Los Angeles (Jan. 12) and a forum at FAME 2270 S HARVARD BLVD (set for Jan. 25). I believe such "candidate forums" that exclude qualified write in candidates are unfair, elitist and condescending to the election process and to voters.

The city clerk is requested to release any and all documents/writings in the Clerk's possession that would

1. Indicate any city law that authorizes the League of Women Voters and any neighborhood councils to discriminate against qualified write-in candidates on the basis they are not on the ballot
2. Indicate any city law that authorizes the League of Women Voters and any neighborhood councils to discriminate against qualified write-in candidates by prohibiting them from speaking at so called "candidate forums"
3. Indicate any city law that authorizes any neighborhood council to discriminate against qualified write-in candidates and prohibit them from speaking at so called candidate forums.

"Document" and "writing" mean a writing, as defined in Section 250 of the Evidence Code.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

G. Juan Johnson

Reference:

(NOTE: **Frances Lapidés REPRESENTS THE LEAGUE OF WOMAN VOTERS.**)

Fri 1/10/2020 12:06 PM

To: 'Connye Thomas' <ceeteela@yahoo.com>; Frances Lapidés <flapides@socal.rr.com>

- **Cc:** wanc@empowerla.org <wanc@empowerla.org>; 'Marilu Guevara' <ed@lwvlosangeles.org>; Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; councilmember.wesson@lacity.org <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>; City of Los Angeles <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>; City of Los Angeles <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>; paul.koretz@lacity.org <paul.koretz@lacity.org>; Councilmember Rodriguez <councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org>; Councilmember Harris-Dawson <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>; City of Los Angeles <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>; City of Los

Angeles <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>; councilmember.martinez@lacity.org
<councilmember.martinez@lacity.org>; councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org
<councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org>; councilmember.huizar@lacity.org
<councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>; councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org
<councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org>; City of Los Angeles
<councilmember.englisher@lacity.org>; Curren Price <councilmember.price@lacity.org>; P.I.C.O.
Neighborhood Council <springfling@piconc.com>; Councilmember Greig Smith
<councilmember.smith@lacity.org>; Councilmember John S. Lee
<councilmember.lee@lacity.org>; Clerk Election <clerk.election@lacity.org>

Not acceptable.

Please see my CPRA to the Los Angeles City Clerk.

What is the name of the organization you represent? Do they have a charter?

Where does it say in your forum announcement facebook that the forum is only for candidates that appear on the ballot?

Where does it say in the charter that you can discriminate against qualified candidates?

Is there any city or state law that authorizes you to represent to voters that qualified write in candidates are to be muffled from participating with candidates at government funded candidate forums?

G. Juan Johnson

qualified candidate- (write in)

1522 Hi Point St 9

Los Angeles, CA 90035

Phone 323-807-3099

On Friday, January 10, 2020, 11:51:31 AM PST, Frances Lapides <flapides@socal.rr.com> wrote:

I am sorry but only the candidates who are actually on the ballot may participate in the forum or speak. You can hand out campaign material after the forum is over if you wish.

Fran Lapides

From: Connnye Thomas [mailto:ceeteela@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2020 1:07 PM

To: G Johnson <tainmount@sbcglobal.net>; flapides@socal.rr.com Cc: WANCC@empowerla.org

Subject: Re: Your Jan. 12 Forum forwarded

Hello Johnson,

The League of Women Voters are conducting our Candidate Forum.

1/10/2020

I have forwarded your request To them for a response. Thank you,

Connnye Thomas

Sent from my iPhone.

On Jan 9, 2020, at 9:45 AM, G Johnson <tainmount@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

I am a qualified write in candidate for District 10.

I would like to be allowed to speak on the dias at the forum on Sunday. Please contact me at the number below.

G. Juan Johnson

Phone 323-807-3099

<http://2020committeetoelectjohnson.com>

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Subject: Unfair advantage to segregated candidates - the Politics of Exclusion - Business as usual

From: G. Juan Johnson <rumcake42@live.com>

Date: Thu 1/9/2020 1:32 PM

To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>; councilmember.wesson@lacity.org <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>; councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>; councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>; councilmember.huizar@lacity.org <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>; councilmember.Lee@lacity.org <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>

Cc: clerk.election@lacity.org <clerk.election@lacity.org>; councilmember.bonin@lacity.org <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>; councilmember.price@lacity.org <councilmember.price@lacity.org>; councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>; councilmember.martinez@lacity.org <councilmember.martinez@lacity.org>; paul.koretz@lacity.org <paul.koretz@lacity.org>; david.ryu@lacity.org <david.ryu@lacity.org>; councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org <councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org>

Dear United States Citizens:

I refer to the city Election code as it relates to write -in candidates. The only distinction I see between candidates and write-in candidates is that the write-in candidates names will not appear on the ballot.

A vote for a write-in candidate will count the same as a vote for a candidate.

Although it does not appear in the Election Code, the LA CityView Channel 35, **the City of Los Angeles Cable Channel**, offers free videos of candidate statements. I have signed up for such. According to the city clerk's office, all certified candidate statements and "all certified write-in candidate statements" will begin airing on February 11, 2020 and will continue to have multiple plays thru March 3, 2020, even though much of the vote by mail may occur before February 11.

I also note that community groups like the West Adams Neighborhood Council, the Beverly Hills NAACP, and League of Women Voters of Los Angeles are sponsoring community candidate forums where they will not allow write in candidates to participate as speakers. This gives unfair advantage to candidates and denies such advantage to write-in candidates. It is also an advantage that is not authorized in the election code.

I ask that the city council and the public support that write-in candidates be allowed to participate as equals on the speaker panel in all community group sponsored candidate forums.

I ask that the city council and public support that the airing of free video tapings of all candidates (candidates and write in candidates) start on February 2, 2020 and that all tapings of candidates and write-in candidates will appear on the same program.

Sincerely,

G. Juan Johnson

2020 Candidate (write-in) for District 10

1522 Hi Point St 9

Los Angeles CA 90035

323-807-3099

— [Read less](#)

-  [2020-1-10 Email Abuse of Tax Dollars Forums.pdf](#)
-  [2020-1-10 Email Response to Fran re Forums.pdf](#)
-  [2020-1-11 Email Johnson Reply to WANC et al.pdf](#)
-  [2020-1-3 Scanned RSD Complaint CE249404.pdf](#)
-  [2020-1-5 Code Violation Complaint 750967.pdf](#)
-  [2020-1-9 For release email re candidate forums.pdf](#)

Received

January 10, 2020 via web

Departments

City Clerk

Requester

G. Juan Johnson

 rumcake42@live.com

 1522 Hi Point St 9, Los Angeles, CA 90035

 323-319-4280

Documents

Public (pending) 

(none)

Requester

Staff

Point of Contact

Clerk CPRA Coordinator

Timeline

Department Assignment

Public

City Clerk

January 10, 2020, 1:10pm

Request Opened

Public

Request received via web

January 10, 2020, 1:10pm
