

# RULES FOR CIRCULATING DEMOCRATIC DESIGNATING PETITIONS

1. The first day that petitions may be circulated is **March 1, 2022**. **Petitions must be returned to your local chairs no later than March 31, 2022.**
2. Take your registration list with you when you carry petitions. That way you will be sure to have the correct name and address of the signer. A signer may only sign a petition for one candidate for any office.
3. You, as the person circulating the petition, known as the witness, must be an enrolled member of the Democratic Party in New York State.
  - a. You may not sign a petition sheet that you are witnessing.
  - b. You can sign a petition sheet that someone else is witnessing.
  - c. If you are carrying petitions for two or more candidates for the same office, you cannot sign for any of them.
4. Make sure of the following:
  - a. The signer must be a registered, enrolled Democrat and must live in the political jurisdiction that is for the office he/she is signing. For example, if Mary Jones is a candidate for membership on the Committee from Election District 1 in the First Ward in the City of Ithaca, signers of that petition must reside in Election District 1 in the First Ward of the City of Ithaca.
  - b. The signer should sign given name as listed in the Voter Registration List, not initials or titles (i.e., Mary A. Smith not Mrs. John Smith).
  - c. The signer must use script (not a printed signature unless the person has printed his/her name when they signed the original voter registration form).
  - d. Use black or blue ink. NO PENCIL.
  - e. **Do not use ditto marks anywhere on the petition.**
  - f. The signer need only sign his/her name on the petition. You, as the witness, may fill in the date and the rest of the information that pertains to the signer.
  - g. Date each signature with month, date, year (i.e., 03/15/2022). Make sure dates are in chronological order. A mistake can invalidate the entire petition.
  - h. If the signer needs to make a correction, have him/her initial and date it. If there is a problem, please check with Steve DeWitt (607-227-6017).
  - i. It is illegal to leave petitions in a public place to be signed by anyone who walks by **or** to have someone take the petition out of your sight for another person to sign. You must witness every signature as it is signed. (That's what you are swearing to at the bottom of the petition).
  - j. THE WITNESS STATEMENT. Only fill this in when you have completely finished your petition. Be sure to fill in the correct number of signatures. Be sure the date is correct and is the same or later than the last date the petition was signed. Completely fill out the statement, including the County and Town/City of the witness.
  - k. **DO NOT NUMBER THE SHEET.**

(OVER)

**PLEASE READ OTHER SIDE**

# **ATTENTION!**

## **This is very important.**

**The petitions provide two places in which to fill in Town or City. One place is in the far right column for each individual signature. The other is in the lower left-hand corner under "WITNESS IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION".**

**The correct entry in either of these places must be the municipality that the signer or witness lives in. There are only 10 (TEN) entries for those signers or witnesses that live in Tompkins County that can be valid. They are:**

**City of Ithaca**  
**Caroline**  
**Danby**  
**Dryden**  
**Enfield**  
**Groton**  
**Town of Ithaca**  
**Lansing**  
**Newfield**  
**Ulysses**

**If one lives in one of the outlying towns and has an Ithaca Zip Code, do NOT put Ithaca as an entry in the "Town" column. Always put the name of the Town where the signer or witness resides. For example: Mary Jones whose residence address is 111 Fish Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 which is in the Town of Enfield signs your petition. "Enfield" must be listed in the "Town" column to the right of her signature.**

**Thank you for your helping our candidates get their names on the ballot this year.**

**(OVER)**  
**PLEASE READ OTHER SIDE**