



Interfaith Alliance of Rochester  
PO Box 25245  
Rochester, NY 14625

League of Women Voters/RMA  
PO Box 10573  
Rochester, NY 14610

August 1, 2016

Dear Candidate:

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) and the League of Women Voters/Rochester Metro Area (LWV/RMA) are encouraging all candidates for public office to run positive, issues-oriented campaigns. Some candidates feel that negative ads are effective. We believe that positive campaigns that address important issues are *winning* campaigns and we urge you to publicly commit yourself to running a positive, issues-oriented campaign.

Please find enclosed with this letter a copy of The Fair Campaign Pledge (The Pledge) for your review. If you agree to abide by The Pledge, please sign, scan and email to [FEPC@lwg-rma.org](mailto:FEPC@lwg-rma.org) or sign and return the form to the League by US mail at the address above no later than Tuesday, September 6th. If you prefer, you may sign the pledge at the Signing and Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at noon in the atrium of the Monroe County Office Building.

#### **Who can sign The Pledge?**

You can. All candidates recognized by the Monroe County Board of Elections are eligible except candidates for judicial and congressional office.

#### **Who decides if The Pledge has been broken by a candidate?**

First, only a candidate may file a complaint (in her or his own race). The Fair Election Practices Committee (**FEPC**) hears complaints. A copy of the **FEPC** complaint form as well as the committee's rules and procedures are enclosed with this letter. You can also download all these forms from the League's website ([www.lwg-rma.org](http://www.lwg-rma.org)). PLEASE SAVE THIS INFORMATION! You may need it once the **FEPC** begins hearing complaints.

#### **What about candidates who do not sign?**

Candidates who do not sign the Pledge cannot file a complaint. By signing, you are publicly proclaiming your support for a fair, issues-oriented race. You can tout that fact in all your promotions and tell all your potential supporters. We'll even help (see below).

#### **When will the complaint and hearing process begin?**

The **FEPC** will accept properly filed complaints beginning on August 15<sup>th</sup> and continue to hear complaints until November 7th, the day before Election Day. Complaints will not be accepted after noon on the Friday before Election Day.

#### **Will there be a press conference to promote The Fair Campaign Pledge?**

Yes. TIAR and LWV/RMA will hold a joint press conference and signing ceremony on the Wednesday after Labor Day, September 7<sup>th</sup>, at noon in the atrium of the Monroe County Office Building recognizing those who have signed The Pledge. All local media will be invited to witness the ceremony and interview candidates in attendance who have signed The Pledge. For more information about The Fair Campaign Pledge and the FEPC, please visit the League of Women Voter's website: [www.lwg-rma.org](http://www.lwg-rma.org) or contact FEPC Chair, Jim Morris at (585) 292-5750 ext 11 or [jmorris@morrisatty.com](mailto:jmorris@morrisatty.com).

Please join us in encouraging positive campaigning!

Sincerely,

Mary Hussong-Kallen, President-League of Women Voters/RMA  
Becky Elwell, President-The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester