



Interfaith Alliance of Rochester
PO Box 25245
Rochester, NY 14625

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

August 5, 2019

Dear Chairperson:

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) and the League of Women Voters-Rochester Metro Area (League) encourage all candidates for public office to run positive, issues-oriented campaigns, as we believe positive campaigns that address important issues are *winning* campaigns. This year, we are urging all General Election candidates to publicly commit themselves to running positive, issues-oriented campaigns by signing The Fair Campaign Pledge (“The Pledge”) and abiding by its rules.

We need your help.

As soon as the General Election candidates list has been certified by the Monroe County Board of Elections, those candidates may sign, scan and email The Pledge form to FEPC@lww-rma.org or return it to the League by US mail (see League address above). We will be sending out letters to all General Election candidates (except candidates for judicial office) inviting them to sign The Pledge. These letters will go to each candidate’s home address as provided by the Monroe County Board of Elections and will include The Pledge and complaint procedures. In order to make sure each candidate is aware of The Pledge, please notify all of your candidates that the letters will be arriving and that each candidate should sign and return The Pledge as soon as possible **but no later than September 10, 2019**, eight (8) weeks ahead of the General Election.

What materials are necessary to file a complaint?

A copy of the Fair Election Practices Campaign (FEPC) complaint form as well as the Hearing Panel’s rules and procedures are enclosed with this letter. You and your candidates can also download forms from the League’s website (www.lww-rma.org). The FEPC will begin hearing complaints after August 1, 2019 and until November 4, 2019 for the General Election season. Any action will be deferred until the candidate list is officially certified by the Board of Elections. **Please note that only those General Election candidates who sign and return The Pledge by September 10th can file a complaint.**

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

Yes. TIAR and the League will hold a joint press conference and signing ceremony on **Thursday, September 12th** at noon in the atrium of the Monroe County Office Building recognizing those who have signed The Pledge. Local media will be invited to witness the ceremony and interview candidates in attendance who have signed The Pledge. To be acknowledged at the ceremony and in the press release, Pledges must be emailed to FEPC@lww-rma.org or received by US mail by Tuesday, September 10th. Candidates may also appear in person and sign again at the ceremony on Thursday, September 12th.

For more information about The Fair Campaign Pledge, the FEPC, and the hearing rules and procedures, please visit the League of Women Voter’s website: www.lww-rma.org or contact the FEPC Hearing Panel Chairperson, Jim Morris at (585) 292-5750 x 2 or email at jmorris@morrisatty.com.

Thank you for your help in spreading the word about The Pledge and encouraging positive campaigning.

Sincerely,

Kim Byers, Co-President, League of Women Voters-RMA
Gaynelle Wethers, President-The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester