



Interfaith Alliance of Rochester  
PO Box 25245  
Rochester, NY 14625

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

September 16, 2022

Dear General Election Candidate:

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) and the League of Women Voters-Rochester Metro Area (League) are again encouraging all candidates for public office to run positive, issues-oriented campaigns. Some candidates feel that negative ads are effective. We believe positive campaigns that address important issues are *winning* campaigns, and we urge you again 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@lwv-rma.org](mailto:FEPC@lwv-rma.org) or sign and return the form to the League by US mail at the address above **no later than Monday, September 26, 2022.**

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

All General Election candidates certified by the Monroe County Board of Elections are eligible except judicial candidates. If you signed The Pledge as a Primary candidate, that Pledge will continue to be honored and accepted for the General Election.

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

General Election candidates **who have signed The Pledge** may file a complaint (in her or his own race) against any opposing candidate. The Fair Election Practices Campaign (FEPC) Hearing Committee hears complaints. A copy of the FEPC complaint form as well as the Hearing Committee's rules and procedures are enclosed with this letter. You can also download these forms from the League's website ([www.lwv-rma.org](http://www.lwv-rma.org)). PLEASE SAVE THIS INFORMATION! You may need it once the Committee begins hearing complaints.

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

General Election candidates **who do not sign** The Pledge **cannot** file a complaint against an opposing candidate, whether or not the opposing candidate signed The Pledge. By signing The Pledge, you are publicly proclaiming your support for a fair, issues-oriented race. You can tout that fact in your promotions and tell your potential supporters. We'll even help (see below).

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

The **FEPC Hearing Committee** will accept properly filed complaints beginning on September 28th until November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Friday before the General Election. Complaints will not be accepted after 4:00 pm on November 4<sup>th</sup> for the General Election.

#### **How will the League and TIAR promote The Fair Campaign Pledge?**

TIAR and the League will issue a press release on Tuesday, **September 27th** recognizing those Pledges received via mail or email by Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. For more information about The Pledge and the FEPC, please visit the League of Women Voter's website: [www.lwv-rma.org](http://www.lwv-rma.org) or contact FEPC Chairperson Rob Brown at (585) 512-3414 x 2 or via email at [rbrown@esoplus.com](mailto:rbrown@esoplus.com).

Please join us in encouraging positive campaigning!

Sincerely,

Barbara Grosh, President, League of Women Voters-RMA

Barry A. Swan, President, The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester