



Interfaith Alliance of Rochester  
PO Box 25245  
Rochester, NY 14625

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

September 10, 2020

Dear General Election Candidate:

The League of Women Voters-Rochester Metro Area (League) and the Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) encourage all candidates for public office to run positive, issues-oriented campaigns, because we believe positive campaigns that address important issues are *winning* campaigns. This remains important as we continue working with COVID-19 health directives.

We urge you now, as we have with all candidates in past years, to publicly commit yourself to running a positive, issues-oriented campaign as part of our annual Fair Election Practices Campaign effort. 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 The Pledge to [FEPC@lww-rma.org](mailto:FEPC@lww-rma.org) no later than Tuesday, September 29, 2020.**

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

All General Election candidates certified by the Monroe County Board of Elections are eligible except judicial candidates. 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.

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

TIAR and the League will issue a joint **press release** on Wednesday, **September 30, 2020** to recognize all candidates who have **signed and emailed** The Pledge by **Tuesday September 29, 2020**. The Pledge list will also be posted on the League's website.

#### **How will formal complaints regarding Pledge violations be addressed and compliance be determined?**

Due to the continued guidance on physical distancing during the COVID-19 health crisis, the **FEPC Hearing Committee will hear formal complaints via Zoom meetings only**. The FEPC Hearing Committee consists of 4 members plus a Chairperson, each of whom has prior experience with campaigning. A copy of the Fair Election Practices Committee (FEPC) complaint form as well as the FEPC Hearing Committee's rules and procedures are enclosed with this letter. You can also download forms from the League's website ([www.lww-rma.org](http://www.lww-rma.org)). The FEPC will accept complaints from September 30, 2020 until October 30, 2020 for the General Election season. **Please note that only those General Election candidates who sign and return The Pledge by September 29<sup>th</sup> can file a complaint against their opponents.** After receipt of an emailed complaint, the FEPC Hearing Committee Chairperson will schedule a hearing via Zoom with the involved parties.

For more information about The Fair Campaign Pledge and the FEPC, please visit the League of Women Voter's website at [www.lww-rma.org](http://www.lww-rma.org) or contact the FEPC Hearing Committee Chairperson, Rob Brown, at (585) 512-3414 x 2 or email at [rbrown@esopplus.com](mailto:rbrown@esopplus.com).

Thank you for supporting positive campaigns and stay well.

Sincerely,

Judith Sternberg, President, League of Women Voters-RMA  
Gaynelle Wethers, President-The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester

Cc: Monroe County Party Chairpersons