

# NOTICE TO PERSONS SUBMITTING CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## CANDIDATE STATEMENTS LIMITED TO CANDIDATE'S OWN QUALIFICATIONS

This applies to all candidates.

The California Elections Code and case law prohibit CANDIDATES from making any reference to another candidate or to another candidate's qualification, character or activities. If the COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL discovers improper content in a candidate statement, the COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL will notify the candidate and give the individual an opportunity to correct the improper language in the candidate statement. If the candidate refuses to correct the improper language, the COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL, as well as any other voter, may bring legal action against the candidate to correct the statement. The prevailing party may also be entitled to obtain attorney's fees for bringing the action.

The COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL will not accept language in a candidate statement that in any way makes reference to other candidates or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities pursuant to California Elections Code Section 13308. For these candidates, the COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL will remove the improper language from the statement and not allow it to be printed. The candidate will be notified of the improper language and its removal from the statement.

All prospective candidates may want to refer to California Elections Code Sections 13307, 13307.5, 13308, 13311, 13313, and 13314, as well as the California Court of Appeal ruling in Dean v. Superior Court, (1998 4th Dist.) 62 Cal. App. 4th 638. However, this list is not exhaustive and candidates are solely responsible for preparation and submittal of candidate's statements that are in conformance with the law. A copy of the above described Election Code Sections and the Dean decision are available from our office at no cost.