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OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

# MEMORANDUM

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To: Whom it May Concern  
From: Mark Wlaschin, Deputy Secretary of State for Elections  
Date: March 7, 2024  
Subject: Independent Candidate for President

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To Whom It May Concern:

The Secretary of State has received questions concerning the petition process for independent candidates for the office of President of the United States. The Secretary of State provides the below information, but as the Secretary of State does not provide legal advice, you should consult your own attorney with any legal questions.

The Secretary of State has prepared a [Presidential Candidate Guide for election year 2024](#). The Guide “is for general information only and does not have the force and effect of Nevada law, regulation, or rule.” Guide at 3. The Guide discusses requirements for, among other things, petitions for independent presidential candidates. Independent candidates for President must submit a petition signed by a sufficient number of eligible voters to appear on the general election ballot. See [NRS 298.109\(1\)](#); [NRS 293.200\(7\)](#).

The Secretary of State included on pages 13-14 of the Guide an example general form for independent petitions of candidacy; each independent candidate for partisan office in Nevada must file a petition of candidacy. See [NRS 293.200\(1\)](#). However, the Secretary of State does not approve the legality of the petition language or the petition form. [Guide at 5](#). The example general form for independent petitions of candidacy is provided as guidance only.

Independent candidates for president must ensure that their petitions conform with the requirements of Nevada law. For instance, specific to independent candidates for President, “[a] person who desires to be an independent candidate for the office of President of the United States must . . . file with the Secretary of State a declaration of candidacy and a petition of candidacy, in which the person must also designate a nominee for Vice President.” [NRS 298.109\(1\)](#); [Guide at 20](#).

The Secretary of State has also received questions about petition signature verification. Signature verification is performed in the first instance by county clerks. See [NRS 293.1277](#).

Any questions about signature verification should be directed to the county clerks and/or your own attorney.

Thank you for your interest in participating in Nevada's 2024 general election as an independent presidential candidate.

Respectfully,

Francisco V. Aguilar  
Secretary of State

By: Mark Wlaschin  
Mark Wlaschin, Deputy Secretary for Elections