

CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON CANDIDATE LOT DRAWING PROCEDURES August 2020

Following the completion of the period during which citizens can file a “Declaration of Candidacy” to run for public office, a lot drawing is held to determine the order that candidate names will appear on the official ballot. The required lot drawing is conducted after the close of business once all filings have been approved.

The following procedures are used when conducting a lot drawing:

All candidates will be listed by order of filing as date and time-stamped and entered into the statewide election management program, VoteWA. The order of filing is based upon the current candidate filing. Any filings that were withdrawn, rejected or deleted are not included in the order of filing.

State races, and races that are in multiple counties, such as the 14th and 20th Legislative Districts, will have their ballot order determined by the Secretary of State’s Elections Division.

The position with the greatest number of candidates will be used for the lot drawing. One numbered tile per candidate will be placed into a bag.

The ballot order of candidates for all other offices will be based upon the lot drawing for the office with the greatest number of candidates.

An Elections staff member will call out the name of the candidate who is listed first in the order of filing for the office with the greatest number of candidates. A second Elections staff member will remove a tile and call out the number on that tile. This number is assigned to that candidate’s ballot order. This process will continue until all tiles have been removed and their number is listed next to the candidate.

The ballot order numbers for these candidates for this office are entered and saved into VoteWA. VoteWA then assigns ballot order for all candidates for all other offices based upon the lot drawing that was used for the office with the greatest number of candidates.

All candidates will receive notification by mail of their ballot order, and which election their name will appear on the ballot. Offices that go directly to the general election will also be based upon the lot drawing held after candidate filing. In offices that have a primary, the two candidates that received the most votes will appear on the general election ballot with the top vote-getter listed first.

The final candidate ballot order will be available at www.clark.wa.gov/elections/candidates promptly after the lot drawing has ended.