

Appearance of Candidates Name on Ballot

Except as otherwise provided in 20A-6-109, an election officer shall ensure that a candidate's name appears on the ballot with the candidate's legal first name, followed by the candidate's legal surname (last name).

Use of Common Derivative of Legal First Name and Other Initials

A candidate may without meeting any additional requirements:

1. Use a common derivative of the legal first name
2. Use the first initial of a legal middle name between a legal first name (or common derivative) and legal last name.
3. Use the first initial of a legal first name before the legal middle name (or a common derivative) if the candidate qualifies to use a legal middle name.

Use of Legal Middle Name

A candidate may use a legal middle name (or common derivative) instead of the candidate's legal first name if no later than 5pm on which the applicable declaration of candidacy period ends, the candidate does the following:

1. Makes a request to use a legal middle name instead of the legal first name;
2. Completes an affidavit stating that the candidate is generally known by acquaintances in the candidate's county of residency by the legal middle name or common derivative; and
3. Provides affidavits of five residents of the candidate's county of residency who are not immediate family members of the candidate stating that the candidate is generally known by acquaintances in the candidate's county of residency by the legal middle name.

Use of Nickname

A candidate may use a nickname if it meets the following requirements: the nickname does not imply that the candidate is an individual other than the candidate; does not constitute a slogan; does not associate the candidate with an economic, religion, political, or other group, issue or opinion; is not offensive, profane or spurious; and is not a title, rank, degree, certification, job description, or similar designation; and no later than 5pm on which the applicable declaration of candidacy period ends the candidate does the following:

1. Makes a request to use a nickname;
2. Completes an affidavit stating that the candidate is generally known by acquaintances in the candidate's county of residency by the nickname and is not using the nickname to gain an advantage on the ballot;
3. Provides affidavits of five residents of the candidate's county of residency who are not immediate family members of the candidate stating that the candidate is generally known by acquaintances in the candidate's county of residency by the nickname; and
4. Indicates if the nickname shall appear before or after the candidates legal first name; in place of the candidates legal first name, or place it before or after the candidates legal middle name if the candidate has qualified to use the middle name or common derivative of the legal middle name.

The election officer must approve or reject the request to use a nickname