

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Linh Nguyen Responds to DeKalb's Attempt to Dismiss Appeal, Reaffirms Commitment to Voters' Rights

DeKalb, IL, 01/30/2025

Today, the campaign for Linh Nguyen for DeKalb Mayor issued the following statement in response to the City's motion to dismiss her appeal challenging her removal from the ballot by the DeKalb Electoral Board.

"The City's motion to dismiss my appeal is a **blatant attempt** to deny voters their right to choose their mayoral candidate. My appeal is not solely about my name appearing on the April 1st ballot; it is about upholding the principles of democracy and ensuring that all candidates are treated fairly under the law. DeKalb's effort to **undermine democracy** is unacceptable and demonstrates that they continue to fail the voters of our city.

The City's argument that my write-in candidacy negates my right to appeal is a flawed interpretation of the law. My appeal is to clarify DeKalb's election procedures and to fight against the City's voter suppression tactics. **I did not choose to run as a write-in candidate, but I was forced to do so by the City's action to remove my name from the ballot.** DeKalb forced an extra step in voter participation - a clear voter suppression tactic. This is unacceptable in our democracy.

The DeKalb Electoral Board's decision to remove my name from the April 1st ballot, based on a disputed interpretation of DeKalb's election process as partisan rather than nonpartisan, led to an unprecedented and wasteful primary election. Now, by attempting to block my appeal, the city establishment is silencing the voices of more than 300 DeKalb voters who signed my petition and disenfranchises voters by limiting their choices on the ballot.

My candidacy is not just about me but about the future of democracy in DeKalb. **I am determined to continue this fight for fair ballot access and voters' right to choose. This is a fight we cannot afford to lose. This is about holding the City accountable for its actions. This is about ensuring that DeKalb voters are heard and ensuring the future of a strong democracy in DeKalb.**"

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About Linh Nguyen:

Linh Nguyen is a dedicated community member with a history of serving the DeKalb community. She has served as an instructor at Northern Illinois University's Chemistry Department and now works as an educational and organizational developer at the NIU's Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning. She also serves on the Board of Directors for Rooted for Good (formerly DeKalb County Community Gardens). She is a past President of the League of Women Voters of DeKalb County and Vice President of the League of Women Voters of Illinois. Nguyen is committed to addressing critical issues like street and road improvements, public safety and government transparency in the city.

Contact:

Linh Nguyen

winwithlinh25@gmail.com