



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT ON PETITION CHALLENGE HEARING FROM MAYORAL CANDIDATE LINH NGUYEN, PH.D.

Today the DeKalb electoral board ruled unanimously to deny the petition of Linh Nguyen to appear on the April 1 ballot as a candidate for DeKalb mayor. Nguyen will appeal this decision and remains undeterred by this nonsense.

“My team and I are disappointed but not surprised by this ruling,” says Nguyen. “My lawyer is reviewing the materials, and as of this moment we intend to appeal the electoral board’s decision. I want to make sure that the people of DeKalb have the right to choose!”

Today’s hearing gave attorneys for both the petition challenger, Albert William Vodden, and candidate Nguyen an opportunity to speak. However, in a 10-page statement printed **prior to** the hearing, the board unanimously ruled to uphold the petition challenge.

“As an immigrant and woman of color I am very aware that I am often held to a higher standard than others. My team was diligent about reviewing and following the election laws,” says Nguyen.

Nguyen’s attorney, Ed Mullen, has been practicing election law for the past 12 years. “We consulted with state and county election officials before filing and believed our filing to be correct based on those discussions,” says Mullen.

The objection from Vodden and his attorney, Andy Acker, revolves around whether or not the city of DeKalb holds Non-Partisan or Partisan elections, which have different petition filing periods. Nguyen filed during the Non-Partisan filing period.

During today’s hearing, Acker stated that if the electoral board were to uphold the validity of Nguyen’s petition, it might disrupt the way DeKalb has been doing things for many years.

“I don’t want to upend the system,” says Nguyen, “I just want to follow the law.”

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