

# FORM 15 FAQ

# FOR THE CITIZENS NOT POLITICIANS AMENDMENT CAMPAIGN

NFFD HFI P?

• Reach out to Trevor Martin at tmartin@lwvohio.org.

# FOR INDIVIDUALS

#### What is this?

- Ohio Redistricting Form 15 Application Individual (see it here)
- Citizens Not Politicians (CNP) needs all volunteers who are coordinating others in signature gathering to fill out this form. This means that anyone who will be distributing, transporting, or collecting petition booklets that they will not be using for their own personal use, needs to submit a Form 15.
- The form states that you may receive or provide compensation for circulating the statewide CNP petition.

#### Why do we have to fill it out?

- Ohio law requires anyone who gives or receives "compensation" for any efforts toward getting a statewide issue or candidate on the ballot.
  - Read the statute here.
- According to Section 3501.381 of Ohio law, the campaign is required to submit forms for every single team leader collecting signatures for them. Failure to do so could result in invalidating the signatures collected by anyone who did not submit the form.

## But I'm a volunteer- I'm not getting paid. Why do I have to submit this form?

- In signature campaigns, "compensation" is a loose term. It could include money, but also includes things we wouldn't normally consider as payment.
- Examples of compensation could include campaign swag (like t-shirts, buttons, or pens) or shared amenities (like coffee or snacks).
- Even if a volunteer doesn't accept or provide anything during their time supporting efforts to get our amendment onto the Ohio ballot, the legal broadness of "compensation" means any of us could be accused of inadvertently violating the law, which could result in signatures being thrown out.

# But I'm not paying anyone. Do I still have to submit the second form?

• Yes. Because "compensation" is so broad, we need to be sure that anyone who is helping to oversee signature gathering for the CNP amendment has submitted the form.

Things we would all do without thinking twice, like giving someone a ride to a signature
collection location or letting someone borrow your clipboard for the day, could be
considered compensation. We don't want to take any chances.

# Ok, I get it. But would anyone even know if I was collecting signatures and didn't submit my forms?

Yes! The Secretary of State's office checks every petition submitted for the circulator's name.
 Names are crosschecked with all of the Form 15s submitted by the campaign. The signatures collected by team leaders who have not submitted a form may not be counted - that's a risk that we cannot afford to take.

# Step-by-Step Guide to Submitting Form 15: Individuals

Part 1: Complete the google form provided by your Fair Districts, LWVO, or Common Cause contact (see it here)

- Answer all of the form's questions. Be sure to use your full legal name and to double check for typos
- For organization enter Fair Districts Ohio, League of Women Voters of Ohio, or Common Cause Ohio
- Upload a picture of your ID: ID can be your driver's license, utility bill, or anything that shows your legal name (It is okay to redact sensitive information)
  - o Take a picture of your ID
  - o Save that picture to your files, making sure to name the photo so you can easily find it
  - o Click the "upload a file" button on the form
  - o Click the "browse" button, then search your files for the photo of your ID
- Click submit

#### Part 2: Receive the forms to sign via email

- The person following up with the forms will have an email address that ends with .amtpolitics.us
- There will be two forms in one attachment: one for receiving compensation, the other for providing compensation
- BOTH forms need to be:
  - o Printed and signed with ink
  - Scanned to your files once you've signed
    - a document or photo scanner is needed for this; just taking a picture doesn't work. If you need help, reach out to Trevor at tmartin@lwvohio.org.
  - o Sent back as attachments in the same email that sent you the forms

### **CHECKLIST FOR SUBMITTING FORMS**

<b></b>	Submit Google form online: it's <b>here</b>
<b>✓</b>	Look for an email from an email that ends with .amtpolitics.us: this has the two forms that need signatures
<b>✓</b>	Print the forms
<b></b>	Sign BOTH forms