

Lewis County Elections

# 2018

## Precinct Committee Officer Filing Guide

May 14 - 18, 2018

Lewis County Elections  
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Website: [elections.lewiscounty.gov](http://elections.lewiscounty.gov)

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## About this guide

Use this guide in conjunction with state and local laws, not in place of them. The Revised Code of Washington ("RCW"), Washington Administrative Code ("WAC") and other notations are offered as references for additional research. The material contained herein may change due to new legislation, judicial determinations, or rule changes.

The requirements described in this guide are contained in the Lewis County Online Voters' Guide Administrative Rules as authorized by [RCW 29A 32 230](#).

# Before You File for Office

What you will need, how to file, important dates, qualifications, filing fee, OVG, approval, and party contacts

## What you will need

- Precinct Committee Officer Declaration of Candidacy

## How to file

### *Online*

Online filing starts May 14 at 9 a.m. and ends May 18 at 4 p.m. at [elections.lewiscountywa.gov](http://elections.lewiscountywa.gov)

All you need is an email address.

### *By mail*

Mail your Declaration (page 4) between April 30 and May 18 to:

Lewis County Elections  
PO Box 29  
Chehalis, WA 98532

### *In person*

File in person between Monday, May 14 and Friday, May 18 from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at:

Lewis County Elections  
351 N.W. North St  
Chehalis, WA 98532

## Important dates

- April 30 candidate filing by mail begins
- May 14 candidate filing online & in person begins
- May 18 candidate filing ends
- May 21 last day to withdraw

## Qualifications

Candidates must, at the time of filing, be a registered voter in the precinct for which they are filing.

Candidates may only file as a Democratic Party PCO or a Republican Party PCO. Since voters do not register by political party in Washington State, a candidate declares to be a member of a political party at the time of filing.

## Filing fee

No filing fee is required for the office of Precinct Committee Officer.

## Online Voters' Guide

This office is not included in the Online Voters' Guide. You will not submit a photo or statement with your declaration of candidacy.

## Approval

Please provide an email address with your Declaration of Candidacy. Once you have been approved as a candidate, you will receive a confirmation email.

Your name will not appear on any official lists as a candidate for office until your Declaration is approved.

The final ballot order of candidates in your race will be determined by lot draw after candidate filing ends.

## Party Contacts

For more information contact your political party:

Lewis County Democratic Party

Phone: (360) 978-5190

Website: [lewiscountymocrats.org](http://lewiscountymocrats.org)

Email: [lewiscountymocrats@gmail.com](mailto:lewiscountymocrats@gmail.com)

Lewis County Republican Party

Phone: (360) 736-4600

Website: [lewiscountymocrats.org](http://lewiscountymocrats.org)

Email: [chair@lewiscountymocrats.org](mailto:chair@lewiscountymocrats.org)

# Complete your Declaration of Candidacy

Office information, personal information, ballot name, contact information, and oath

## 1. Office information

Select the political party of which you are a member. You may only file as a Democratic Party PCO or a Republican Party PCO.

Enter the name and number of the precinct you wish to represent. This will be the voting precinct where you reside and are registered to vote.

If you do not know your precinct name and number, you can find it by logging in at [www.myvote.wa.gov](http://www.myvote.wa.gov).

## 2. Personal information

Enter your name and address exactly as it appears on your voter registration. You may confirm your voter registration information at [www.myvote.wa.gov](http://www.myvote.wa.gov).

## 3. Ballot name

Print your name exactly as you want it to appear on the ballot. Nicknames are acceptable.

Titles denoting occupations, including military rank, positions on issues, political affiliation, symbols, or anything intentionally designed to mislead voters are not acceptable.

## 4. Contact information

If you file online, you must provide an email address.

Enter your mailing address, if it is different from your residential address. You may also enter a contact phone number.

Your contact information will be published online in the list of candidates who have filed.

Government offices may not be used for contact information.

## 5. Oath

Read and sign the oath. Your filing will not be approved without your signature. If you file online, no signature is required.

**SAMPLE**  
*of the printed candidate filing declaration*

### Declaration of Candidacy

Precinct Committee Officer

<b>instructions</b>	File this form with your county elections department. No filing fee is required. <b>Note:</b> This document becomes public record once filed.								
<b>1 office information</b>	member of the	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Democratic Party <input type="checkbox"/> Republican Party							
	Crawford 18 precinct representing (name / number)								
<b>2 personal information as registered to vote</b>	John	Quincy	Public						
	03/22/1970 date of birth (mm / dd / yyyy)		(360) 423 phone number						
	207 N 4th Ave residential address		Kelso 986 city / ZIP						
<b>3 ballot information</b>	Johnny Q Public exact name I would like printed on the ballot (only contested races will appear on the ballot)								
<b>4 contact information</b>	PO BOX 123 mailing address (if different from residential address)		Kelso 986 city / ZIP						
	johnpublic@campaign.com email address		(360) 425 phone number						
<b>5 oath</b>	I declare that the above information is true, that I am a registered voter residing at the residential address and precinct listed above, and that I am a candidate for Precinct Committee Officer for the race identified above.  Further, I declare, under penalty of perjury, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington.								
	sign here	John Q. Public	date here						
<b>for office use only</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>voter registration number</td> <td>date</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> precinct verified</td> <td>office code</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">staff</td> </tr> </table>			voter registration number	date	<input type="checkbox"/> precinct verified	office code	staff	
voter registration number	date								
<input type="checkbox"/> precinct verified	office code								
staff									

**Online filing is fast and easy!**  
For the best possible service, file for office online at [elections.lewiscountywa.gov](http://elections.lewiscountywa.gov).  
The online filing tool will give you step-by-step instructions, email you a confirmation of your filing, and alert you when other candidates file in your race.

# Other Information and Forms

## Will my name appear on the ballot?

Only contested PCO races within each political party will appear on the Primary ballot. If only one person files for office, the candidate is deemed elected and the Lewis County Elections Office will issue a Certification of Election and Oath of Office to all PCO's after certification of the Primary. Certificates of Election and Oaths of Office are provided to the Democratic Party and Republican Party; they are not provided directly to the candidate.

## Ballot information

PCO races only appear in the Primary. If both party positions appear on the ballot, the order of the parties is determined by the statewide results of the last Presidential Election. Candidate order within each party is determined by lot. The lot draw is done on Friday, May 18, 2018 after the close of candidate filing at the Lewis County Elections Office.

## What if no one files?

If no one files for office, there will be no special filing period. The position is filled by the chair of the central committee of the appropriate political party.

## Withdrawal of candidacy

If you wish to withdraw, your signed withdrawal form must be received by the Elections Office by the end of business on Monday, May 21. Print a candidate withdrawal form at [elections.lewiscountywa.gov/forms](http://elections.lewiscountywa.gov/forms) or see page 5 of this guide.

## Write-in candidates

Write-in candidates have been eliminated from PCO elections. A candidate cannot file as a declared write-in. A write-in line is not printed on the ballot and no write-in votes will be counted.

## Campaign assistance

Voter information is available for political purposes only. Candidates must complete an Election Data Request form available [elections.lewiscountywa.gov](http://elections.lewiscountywa.gov).

## Campaign finance reporting

Precinct Committee Officers are exempt from the record keeping and reporting requirements of the state public disclosure law. All candidates for state, local, or judicial office must still adhere to the law and rules governing political advertising and the prohibition against using public equipment or other resources to support or oppose a candidate or ballot measure regardless of whether they are exempt from the record keeping and reporting requirements of the state public disclosure law.

## Campaign sign regulations

If you plan to post campaign signs, please note that it is the responsibility of each candidate to contact the jurisdiction in which they plan to place political signs for sign regulations and rules. Jurisdictions may have size restrictions, deadlines for removal, and/or require a deposit.

Sign violation complaints do **not** fall under the jurisdiction of the Lewis County Elections Office. Please contact the following jurisdictions for rules and to report potential violations.

To report potential sign violations in a city or town:

Contact the local jurisdiction regarding regulations and requirements.

To report illegal roadside signs or potential sign violations on private property in unincorporated Lewis County:

Lewis County Public Works: 360-740-1123

View the complete Highway Advertising Control Act through a link provided at the Department of Transportation's website: [wsdot.wa.gov/operations/traffic/signs](http://wsdot.wa.gov/operations/traffic/signs)

If you have questions about the placement of campaign signs along the state highways, call WSDOT.

Washington State Department of Transportation  
360-705-7282



# Withdrawal of Candidacy (for PCOs)

RCW 29A.24.131

important  
information

The deadline for withdrawing is the Monday following candidate filing week, May 21, 2018.

Once filed, a declaration of candidacy may not be altered. If the candidate decides during the filing period to change the declaration of candidacy, the candidate must first withdraw and then re-file.

**Note:** Filing fees are nonrefundable.

office  
information

jurisdiction and office name

position number (*if applicable*)

personal  
information

first name

middle

last

signature

I withdraw my candidacy for the office listed above and understand that the filing fee is nonrefundable.

sign  
here

date  
here