

# BALLOTS

## When and Why a Candidate or Office May or May not Appear on a Ballot

### Partisan Contests:

- **If a major party has only one candidate for a partisan office**, the name of that candidate will not appear in the Primary Election, only in the General Election. (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)
- **If a major political party has two or more candidates for a partisan office**, the person who receives the highest number of votes in the Primary Election will go forward to the General Election ballot. (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)
- **The office of U.S. President/Vice President** will not appear on Nevada's Primary Election Ballot. Nevada does not conduct Primary Elections to select U.S. Presidential candidates. Instead, major political parties will hold caucuses in February, 2016. ([NRS 293.137](#))
- **Minor party candidates and candidates with no political party** running for partisan offices will only appear in the General Election. ([NRS 293.257](#))

### Nonpartisan Contests (*Except Special District and General Improvement Contests*):

- **If not more than the number of candidates to be elected file for a nonpartisan office**, the names of those candidates will appear in the Primary Election. If a candidate receives at least one vote in the Primary Election, the candidate will be declared elected and that contest will not appear in the General Election. *This does not apply to Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, District Court Judge, or Town Advisory Board Member.* (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)
  - **Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and District Court:** If only one candidate files for a Justice of the Supreme Court seat, Court of Appeals Judge seat, or District Court Judge department, then that contest will not appear in the Primary Election, only in the General Election. (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)
  - **Town Advisory Board:** If not more than the number of candidates to be elected file for Town Advisory Board member, the candidate(s) will be declared elected and the office will not appear in the Primary or General Election. If there are fewer candidates than seats up for election, then, after the election, new members will be appointed to fill the vacant seats. (NRS 269.576(7)(a) and 293.260, as amended by [SB115](#), [SB499](#), and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)
- **If not more than twice the number of candidates to be elected file for a nonpartisan office** (but more than the number to be elected and up to but not exceeding twice the number of candidates to be elected), then that contest will not appear in the Primary Election, only in the General Election. (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)

*Nonpartisan contests continued on next page....*

## **When and Why a Candidate or Office May or May not Appear on a Ballot (Continued)**

### **Nonpartisan Contests (Continued):**

- **If more than twice the number of candidates to be elected file for a nonpartisan office, then that contest will appear in the Primary Election. The candidates who receive the most votes, not exceeding twice the number to be elected, will go forward to the General Election. However, if one candidate receives a majority of the votes in the Primary Election, then that candidate will be declared elected and the contest (in contests where you may vote for one candidate, which are most) OR the candidate (in contests where you may vote for multiple candidates, such as Town Advisory Boards and the Moapa TV Maintenance District) will not appear in the General Election. This does not apply to Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, or District Court Judge.** (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)
- **Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and District Court:** If three or more candidates file for a Justice of the Supreme Court seat, Court of Appeals Judge seat, or District Court Judge Department, that contest will appear in the Primary Election. The top two candidates who receive the most votes will go forward to the General Election. However, if one of the candidates receives a majority of the votes in the Primary Election, then that candidate's name will be the only one to appear in the General Election. (NRS 293.260, as amended by [SB499](#) and [SB5](#) of the 2015 Legislative Session)

### **Special District Contests (Moapa Valley Water District and Virgin Valley Water District):**

- If a candidate is unopposed in seeking election for a Special District office, that candidate must be declared elected without a formal election. If there are fewer candidates than seats up for election in Special Districts, then, after the election, new members will be appointed to fill the vacant seats ([Special Acts Chap. 100, §8\(4\)](#); [Special Acts Chap. 477, §7\(4\)](#))
- Special District offices only appear in the General Election, but only if there are more candidates than seats up for election in the Special District. ([Special Acts Chap. 100, §5\(2\)](#); [Special Acts Chap. 477, §5\(1\)](#))

### **General Improvement District Contests (Moapa Valley TV Maintenance District and Overton Power District):**

- If only one candidate files for an office, that candidate must be declared elected and no Primary or General Election will be held. If there are fewer candidates than seats up for election, then, after the election, new members will be appointed to fill the vacant seats ([NRS 318.090\(5\)](#), [NRS 318.095\(1\)](#); [NRS 318.09523](#))
- General Improvement District offices may appear in the Primary or General Election and only when two or more candidates file for office. ([NRS 318.095\(2\)](#); [NRS 318.09523](#))