



From the Office of Secretary of State

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For Release

November 18, 2015

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December 1 is "starting gate" for candidate filings in Nebraska

LINCOLN – December 1 is the "starting gate" for candidates to submit their filing documents for federal, state, or other multi-county district offices, says Secretary of State John Gale. Forms, instructions and filing fees can be found online at: www.sos.ne.gov.

"Since this summer, our office has received a steady stream of inquiries from potential candidates concerning the requirements for office," said Gale.

Gale also reminded potential candidates that any forms received prior to December 1 would not be accepted by his office and would be returned. "The earliest that incumbents and non-incumbents can file is December 1 and that is the first date my office can accept any paperwork."

Gale also advised anyone thinking about candidacy to check with the Accountability and Disclosure Commission about forms that need to be filed with that agency and the disclosure and financial accountability rules that should be followed.

For the primary, the filing deadline for anyone currently holding public office is February 16, 2016. It is March 1, 2016 for non-incumbents.

For lower offices that do not have a primary, the filing deadline for those already in public office is July 15, 2016 for the general election. For non-incumbents it is August 1, 2016. Those offices include things like villages, Class II schools and certain public power districts among others.

For more information, potential candidates should go to the "Elections" tab on the Secretary of State's website or they can call the Elections Division at 402-471-2555.

2016 state ballot races include: U.S. House of Representatives – Districts 1, 2 and 3; Public Service Commission – Districts 4 and 5; University of Nebraska Board of Regents – Districts 6 and 7; State Board of Education -- Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4; legislative seats in odd-numbered districts; and representatives for community colleges, natural resource districts, public power and irrigation districts as well as even-numbered districts for the Learning Community Coordinating Council.

During the general election, seats for educational service units will be chosen in even-numbered districts. Positions on reclamation districts and judicial retentions will be determined as well.

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