MATTHEW HOH FOR SENATE

FOR MATT TO GET ON THE BALLOT, NC GREEN PARTY MUST COLLECT APPROX 14,000 VALID SIGNATURES! PLEASE VISIT WWW.NCGREENPARTY.ORG/PETITION TO HELP US GET THERE TODAY! PETITION IS IN THE DOCUMENT BELOW OR AT THIS LINK

Tips, Instructions, and Script for Ballot Access Petitioning

Quick Tips

- Always wear your mask and provide some way of sanitizing your pen and clipboard.
- Be assertive and friendly and positive. Smile often. Wave. Flag down cars by holding up a finger and mouthing "One moment?" and pointing to your clipboard. People will stop.
- Don't discriminate when asking people to sign. You'll be continually surprised by who will sign.
- Don't lead with "Ralph Nader," "Jill Stein," "Howie Hawkins," or Green ideology. Lead with the need for a new party and with the state limiting our right to run candidates.
- If a person is hurrying into a building, ask them if you can have a moment of their time on their way out.
- Carry two or more clipboards with a petition sheet on each one and multiple pens so people don't have to wait to sign. Tie the pen to the clipboard.
- Provide verbal instructions to make sure the signer fills out the petition completely and legibly.

Instructions and Extended Tips

Submitting Your Petition Sheets

After petitioning or at monthly intervals if you are gathering informally, mail your petition sheets to the NCGP at

NCGP Petition Drive
PO Box 6022
Cary, NC 27519

Alternatively, you can submit them to the appropriate county Board of Elections directly via mail or walk-in. However, be careful—if the petition sheet is for Wake County, for example, do not return the sheet to a different county's Board of Elections. See below for more details.

You do not have to wait until a sheet is filled completely before submitting. Partially completed sheets are perfectly fine, even if there is only one signature. Every signature counts as long as it provides the required information.

Petition Sheets

Anyone may gather petition signatures, but only registered North Carolina voters may sign the petition. Since the petition sheets are submitted to county boards of election for verification, **separate petition sheets must be used for each county,** with the county name filled in at the top. It's a good idea to carry several blank sheets and clipboards with you, since you will probably

run into signers from other counties wherever you are, and multiple clipboards will keep folks from having to wait to sign.

Petition sheets can be downloaded from the NCGP website and copied as needed. Be sure to use the latest sheet that's been posted, not old sheets from a few years ago, since the current petitioning campaign has to use the form approved by the State Board of Elections. You should also carry a few voter registration forms for those who haven't gotten around to it yet.

Getting Signatures

It's a good idea to approach people with the question "Are you registered to vote in North Carolina?" which starts out on a positive note since most people will say yes, and it weeds out the ones who can't sign. Before they can walk away, follow up quickly with "Then you can sign our petition. What county are you registered in?" so you can start to present the petition sheet while you explain the purpose of it - trying to get the Green Party on the ballot. Remember, we want signatures from ***any*** **NC registered voter**. They do not have to support our party or agree with our politics, just our democratic right to exist.

Be ready with a brief description of what the GP stands for. Having a brochure or flyer to hand out is helpful, but simply saying that the NCGP supports "social, racial, economic, and environmental justice" is effective and straightforward. Point out that more choices mean more democracy, and assure folks that signing will not put them on a mailing list. Their personal information goes to the State Board of Elections and is not kept or used by us.

Be sure that their handwriting is legible, since it will be thrown out if the BOE can't read it easily. They should print until they get to the signature field at the end. Make sure they know that **the date required is their birth date,** which the BOE uses as identification, not today's date. The address should match their voter registration—**if they're still registered at an old address, they should use that one.**

If they're not sure if they've signed before, get them to sign anyway—only one of their signatures will count. If they are not registered to vote and would like to register, give them a registration form and get them to sign—offer to send the form in for them if they fill it out now. If they mess up, best to cross out and start fresh on a new line.

If it's just you petitioning, it can really cut into your signature-gathering time to have debates and discussions, but it is good outreach to answer people's questions and generally be sociable.

Location

During the Covid-19 pandemic, our petitioning drive is impacted by the need to respect social distancing requirements. We will be engaging in a door-hanger campaign to distribute petitioning instructions and materials to currently registered NC Greens, and we will emphasize collecting from family and friends, instead of focusing on tabling at events and large gatherings.

But if you choose a location in a public area to petition, such as outside a public library or post office, or an official polling place on Election Day, a college campus, or sidewalks where there is a steady stream of traffic, be mindful of social distancing and always wear your mask. Provide hand sanitizer or alcohol wipes that contain at least 70% alcohol. We recommend wearing gloves both to save your skin from frequent use of hand sanitizer and to reassure the public that you're mindful of their health and safety. Get permission if you are in a commercial area. Some local bookstores and groceries will let you table outside their doors, but shopping centers seldom allow it. Petitioning door-to-door is less time efficient, but it can be done.

Thank you for your effort! Every little bit helps!

PETITION TO CREATE A NEW POLITICAL PARTY (NCGS § 163-96 (a)(2))

THE UNDERSIGNED QUALIFIED REGISTERED VOTERS IN _____ COUNTY HEREBY PETITION FOR THE FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY TO BE NAMED NORTH CAROLINA GREEN PARTY AND WHOSE STATE CHAIRMAN IS ANTHONY NDEGE, RESIDING AT 1713 CHAPEL STREET, WINSTON-SALEM 27127, AND WHO CAN BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE AT 336-577-1421.

IT IS ILLEGAL TO SIGN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON TO A PETITION. (G. S. 163-221)

BOE ONLY	Line No.	Print your name (must be printed legibly)	Residence Address and City/Town (no PO Box numbers)	ZIP code	Birth date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Signature
	1					
	2					
	3					
	4					
	5					
	6					
	7					
	8					
	9					
	10					
	11					
	12					
	13					
	14					
	15					

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORMS TO THE OFFICE OF (COUNTY) BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

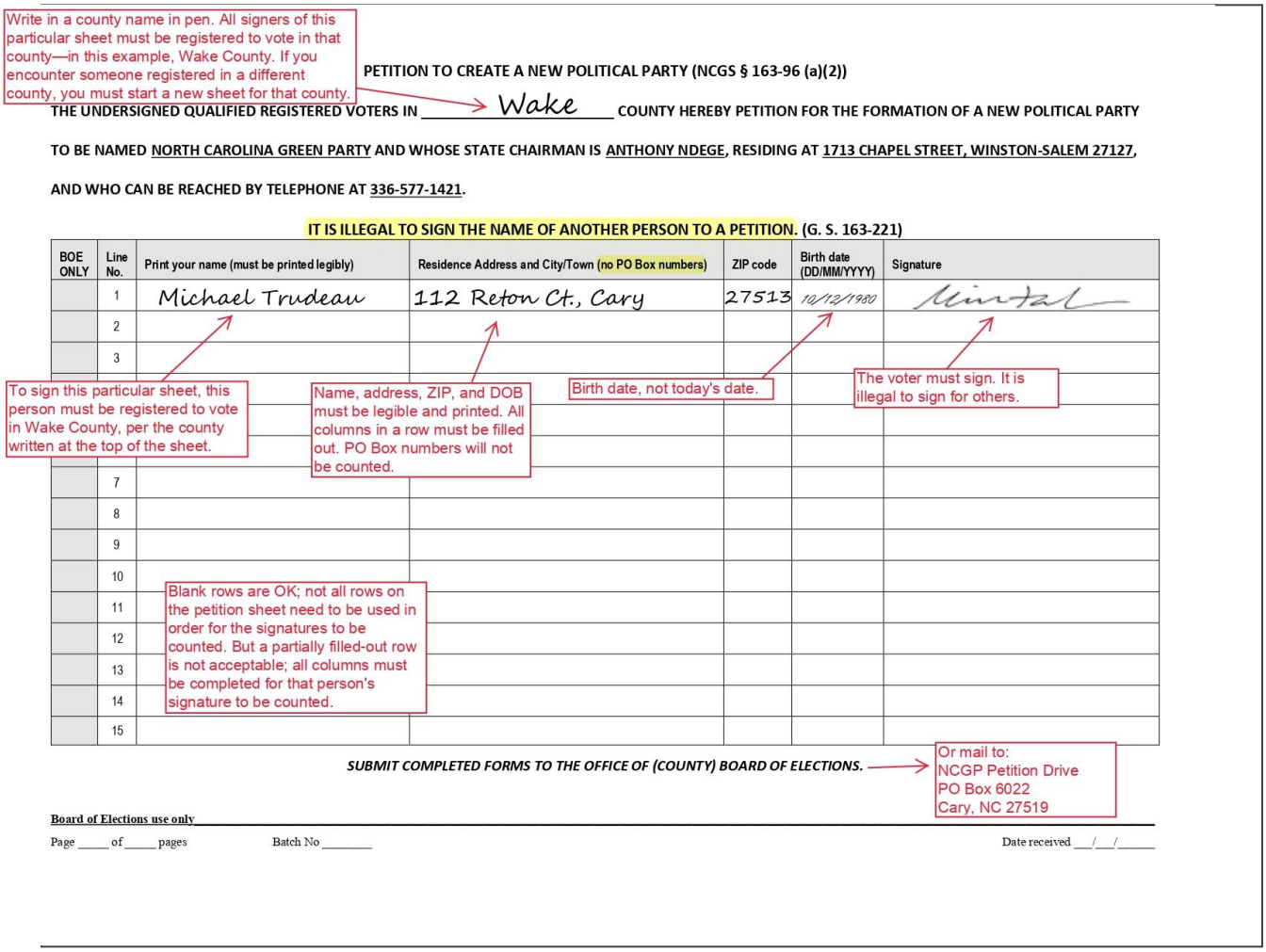
Board of Elections use only

Page _____ of _____ pages Batch No _____ Date received ___/___/_____

Stay Connected

Make sure you **join NCGP Volunteer Slack workspace** to stay connected with other petitioners and NCGP organizers. If you're having trouble joining our Slack, or if you have any other questions, call or text NCGP secretary Michael Trudeau at 314-337-2154 or email secretary@ncgreenparty.org.

Sample Petition Sheet



Write in a county name in pen. All signers of this particular sheet must be registered to vote in that county—in this example, Wake County. If you encounter someone registered in a different county, you must start a new sheet for that county.

PETITION TO CREATE A NEW POLITICAL PARTY (NCGS § 163-96 (a)(2))

THE UNDERSIGNED QUALIFIED REGISTERED VOTERS IN Wake **COUNTY HEREBY PETITION FOR THE FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY TO BE NAMED NORTH CAROLINA GREEN PARTY AND WHOSE STATE CHAIRMAN IS ANTHONY NDEGE, RESIDING AT 1713 CHAPEL STREET, WINSTON-SALEM 27127, AND WHO CAN BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE AT 336-577-1421.**

IT IS ILLEGAL TO SIGN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON TO A PETITION. (G. S. 163-221)

BOE ONLY	Line No.	Print your name (must be printed legibly)	Residence Address and City/Town (no PO Box numbers)	ZIP code	Birth date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Signature
	1	Michael Trudeau	112 Reton Ct., Cary	27513	10/12/1980	
	2					
	3					
	4					
	5					
	6					
	7					
	8					
	9					
	10					
	11					
	12					
	13					
	14					
	15					

To sign this particular sheet, this person must be registered to vote in Wake County, per the county written at the top of the sheet.

Name, address, ZIP, and DOB must be legible and printed. All columns in a row must be filled out. PO Box numbers will not be counted.

Birth date, not today's date.

The voter must sign. It is illegal to sign for others.

Blank rows are OK; not all rows on the petition sheet need to be used in order for the signatures to be counted. But a partially filled-out row is not acceptable; all columns must be completed for that person's signature to be counted.

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORMS TO THE OFFICE OF (COUNTY) BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

Or mail to:
NCGP Petition Drive
PO Box 6022
Cary, NC 27519

Board of Elections use only

Page _____ of _____ pages Batch No _____ Date received ___/___/_____

Sample Script

by Michael Trudeau, North Carolina Green Party

You: Hi! How are you doing today? *Can I have a quick moment before you leave today?*

[Not "Do you have a moment?" Most people are more likely to say no, they don't have time, than to say no to doing you a favor.]

You: *I'm with the Green Party, and I need to collect signatures from voters just so we can run candidates in this state. Right now the state doesn't let us run candidates—and we think we should be able to. If you agree we should be able to run candidates, are you willing to sign our petition?*

[Get to the point. This simple pitch should be enough in most cases to get the person to sign. Don't lead with ideology, Stein, Hawkins, or Nader. Frame it as an issue of the state against our freedoms—an idea that attracts all people.]

Potential signer: *Well, what's the Green Party? Why the Green Party?*

You: *The Green Party is a separate political party, independent of both the Democrats and the Republicans. We believe we need more than just two parties to vote for and that competition and diversity make for a healthy political system. We don't think we have a healthy political system here in North Carolina, and so we think more parties are needed to get the two major parties to change for the better.*

[Again, avoid ideology if possible and get people to sign based on 1) freedom and 2) the need for a change. Most Americans claim they do not identify as either Democrat or Republican even though they might be registered as one, and most think the political system is broken. We do not simply want liberals, progressives, and leftists to sign; we want everyone to sign.]

Potential signer: *Well, yeah. But what kinds of things does the Green Party stand for?*

You: *We believe in quality education for everyone, quality healthcare for everyone, a quality environment for everyone to live in, including things like clean drinking water. We believe these things are rights and that the Democrats and Republicans are not providing them to us.*

[Again, avoid specific ideology or policy if possible. Name positive things everyone agrees with. Even conservatives believe in quality education and health care, but we don't have to say what exactly we have in mind to achieve those things, unless we're specifically asked.]

Potential signer: *Well . . . I'm not a Green. I don't want to sign up and get emails from you and stuff.*

You: *Any voter can sign this petition. I get Democrats, Republicans, and independents who sign. Signing doesn't mean you're joining us, that you're committing to us, or even that you necessarily agree with our positions. It just means you think we have the right to run candidates for office or that you think we need more than two options to vote for. This petition sheet goes to the Board of Elections. Our party doesn't use the info otherwise. All the Board of Elections does is check your name and info against voter registration info in your county.*

Signer: *Count me in! [happily signs petition sheet]*