



Starke County Clerk's Office

Bernadette Manuel, Clerk

53 East Washington Street, PO Box 395, Knox, Indiana 46534

Phone: 574-772-9128

January 5, 2026

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on your decision to become a candidate for public office!

Please review and print the enclosed materials included in your electronic packet. Our goal is to provide you with all the required forms and information necessary to run a successful campaign and make your experience both positive and rewarding. However, it is the **candidate's sole responsibility** to ensure that all required documents are completed and filed correctly. We also recommend familiarizing yourself with the Indiana Election Division website at: <https://secure.in.gov/sos/elections/>

Please take note of the laws and regulations regarding campaign finance enforcement and penalties.

"A person who fails to file a required statement or report is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000.00, to be assessed by the County Election Board for the delinquent report. The penalty is \$50.00 per day beginning the afternoon of the deadline date, counting as the first day."

All candidate information is available through:

Starke County website at <https://starke.in.gov/homepage/departments/election/> or the
State Election Division website at <https://secure.in.gov/sos/elections/>

The Clerk and Voter Registration Clerk are available to answer general questions; however, we are not permitted to complete your forms for you. Most answers to common questions can be found directly on the forms themselves. For additional assistance, please contact:

- **Starke County Election Office:** 574-772-9160
- **State Election Division:** 800-622-4941

When completing your forms, many will ask for a file number. **Please note that your file number will be your last name.**

Once again, congratulations and best of luck with your campaign!

Bernadette Manuel Starke County Clerk

Bernadette Welter-Manuel

Starke County Clerk / Election Board Secretary