## VIRGINIA:

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER

IN THE MATTER OF:	)
SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL	)
VACANCY IN THE IRVINGTON	) Case No. <u>Q25-96</u>
TOWN COUNCIL	)
FOR A TERM ENDING	)
DECEMBER 31, 2026	)

## Writ of Special Election

This day came the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia, by and through the Town Attorney, upon its petition that the Circuit Court of Lancaster County, Virginia order a special election pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 24.2-226.

## UPON CONSIDERATION WHEREOF, this Court finds that:

- 1. Bonita W. "Bonnie" Schaschek was duly elected on November 5, 2024 in a special election to the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia to fulfill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2026;
- 2. Ms. Schaschek resigned from the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia effective March 13, 2025, and thereby creates a vacancy in the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia, as provided in Virginia Code § 15.2-1526;
- 3. That such vacancy was not created "within 90 days of the next . . . general election"; that "the governing body . . . has not requested in its petition a different date for the election" than the default date prescribed in § 24.2-226; and therefore, that the special election to fill

- the vacancy is to "be held on the date of the next general election," that is, on November 4, 2025;
- 4. That, in the meanwhile, the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia is authorized by Virginia Code § 24.2-228 to fill the vacancy by making an interim appointment of a qualified voter of the Town upon the majority vote of the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia;
- 5. The interim appointment by the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia to fill the vacancy is effective by statute until completion of a special election, certification of results, and the successful candidate taking the oath of office;
- 6. That the citizens of the Town of Irvington, Virginia should enjoy the earliest opportunity to elect a new member of the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia, but the election should be held in a manner to afford any interested candidates sufficient time to qualify for the ballot and campaign for the office, as provided by law; and
- 7. As required by law, a special election on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 is:
  - a. Not "within 60 days of the end of the term of the office to be filled," Va. Code § 24.2-226(B);
  - b. Not "within the 55 days prior to a general or primary election," Va. Code § 24.2-682(A); and
  - c. Not "on the same day as a primary election," but is "on the same day as a general election," *id*.

**NOW THEREFORE,** the Court deeming it proper to do so, pursuant to §§ 24.2-226 and 24.2-683 of the Code of Virginia, the Court does hereby issue this Writ of Special Election, and ORDERS the Electoral Board of the County of Lancaster, Virginia to conduct a special election

to fill the remaining term by the aforesaid previously vacated seat on the Town Council of the Town of Irvington, Virginia on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, in the manner and at the places that would be utilized for the general election to be conducted on that date. This Court ORDERS the Electoral Board and Registrar to observe the directive set forth in Title 24.2, Chapter 6, Article 5 (§§ 24.2-681 et seq.) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, when conducting this special election. The Court FURTHER ORDERS that the Secretary of the Electoral Board of the County of Lancaster, Virginia shall cause notice of the election to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in this jurisdiction at least ten (10) days before the special election.

The Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this Writ to the Secretary of the Electoral Board of the County of Lancaster, Virginia; the Registrar of the County of Lancaster, Virginia; the State Board of Elections; the Town Attorney of the Town of Irvington, Virginia; and the Town Clerk for the Town of Irvington, Virginia, and to remove this matter from the docket and place it among the ended causes.

ENTERED the 20 day of March, 2025.

I ask for this:

Kelley Kemp, Esquire, VSB#71136

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