

How to Collect Signatures for the Ambulance Fee Referendum

Thank you for collecting signatures to put Bill 13-10, the EMS Transport Fee, on the November 2010 ballot. Your efforts will give Montgomery County residents a voice on this critical policy issue.

The petition/referendum process is regulated by state and county law. It is very important that you understand and follow the letter and spirit of these laws. Invalid signatures may be rejected by elections officials, while failure to follow other procedures may result in the rejection of an entire page of signatures. Intentional misconduct may violate state or county laws.

When gathering signatures, you should act in a courteous and professional manner. Answer questions honestly. If you don't know the answer, direct the person to our website. www.stopambulancefee.org. If you have questions, or an incident arises, promptly contact your LFRD's President or Chief.

Information on Collectors

Who Can Collect Signatures?

Any person 18 years or older -- the person does not need to be a Maryland resident or registered voter.

As the Collector, What Do You Need to Provide a Copy of Bill 13-10?

Any person collecting signatures must have a copy of the full text of the proposal. We have printed the full text of Bill 13-10 on the back of the form we are using to gather signatures.

As the Collector, Can You Answer Questions or Provide Other Information to People?

Yes. You can provide accurate and truthful information. If you don't know the answer, please direct the person to the website: www.stopambulancefee.org.

What Are the Requirements for the Affidavit by Collector?

The person collecting signatures (the "collector" or "circulator") must provide the information and signature at the bottom of the form.

Information on Signatures

Who Can Sign the Petition?

Only registered voters in Montgomery County. You should not collect signatures from people who you know or suspect are not registered voters in Montgomery County?

Do People Need to Sign the Petition in Your Presence?

Yes. Signatures must be collected in your presence.

What Information Must the Signer Provide?

Signers should provide all information on the form -- they should not leave blanks. You should politely ask signers to provide date-of-birth, but a signature will not be rejected because a date of birth is not provided.

Is It Important to Ask the Signer to Include His/Her Middle Initial?

Yes. It's very important for the signer to include his/her middle initial on the form.

What Are the Requirements for the Signer's Printed Name?

The signer must print his/her name as it appears on the voter registration list. For example, if the signer's name on the voter list is **Margaret Hall Smith**:

Permissible	Impermissible
Margaret Hall Smith	Margaret Smith (missing middle initial)
Margaret H. Smith	M.H. Smith
H. Margaret Smith	Mrs. Smith
	Peppy Smith (no nicknames)

How Must the Signer Signature Appear on the Petition?

The signature should be exactly as the printed name appears on the petition.

Example of How People Should Complete/Sign the Petition?

DATE (mm/dd/yy)	PRINT FULL NAME	VOTER REGISTRATION ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE	DATE OF BIRTH	SIGNATURE (SAME AS PRINTED)
June 8, 2010	Robert F. Smith	1124 Cyprus Street	Rockville	20852	10/15/1970	Should Be Signed as "Robert F. Smith"
June 9, 2010	Evelyn G. Riley	224 16 th Street, Apt. 204	Silver Spring	20556	6/18/1955	Should Be Signed as "Evelyn G. Riley"