

LWVCC ADVOCACY CHAIR – ROLE DESCRIPTION May 5, 2026

Good Morning. My name is Victoria Cerinich. I am the Advocacy Chair for the League of Women Voters of Cook County.

After some years of managing without filling this role, the Cook County League decided to re-centralize the duties under one person.

LWVCC has well-defined

- **positions** on issues and
- **guidelines** for advocacy.

These are known as:

- Where We Stand – LWVCC, more commonly referred to as our “Program” (with a capital “P”), or our positions, and
- Guidelines for
 - Internal and
 - External Advocacy.

The Guidelines cover how to respond if the request is brought to our attention by

- our League itself or
- by other Leagues and outside organizations and groups.

We have a robust group of volunteers for and chairs of

- Interest Groups and
- Voter Service.

You will hear from them immediately following me.

Before actions are taken, I use the Guidelines to evaluate such actions and make recommendations to

- the Executive Board, if timeliness is a factor, or else
- the full board at their next meeting,

We usually limit our communications to:

- Cook County Government,
- Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Cook County,

- Forest Preserve District of Cook County, and
- Cook County Criminal Justice officials.

Actions by LWVCC may be requested from

- our own Interest Groups and Voter Service chairs, or, by
- outside groups asking us to sign on to a non-LWVCC advocacy initiative.

These advocacy actions can take the form of a

- witness slip,
- letter, or
- testimony.

In summary, my role includes the following:

- Ensure that before taking action, LWVCC follows its
 - Guidelines, and
 - Positions in Where We Stand
- Record all actions taken which can include letters, testimony, and witness slips
- Annually submit actions taken for inclusion in Where We Stand
 - under the Action section of our permanent record, and
- Make suggestions for updates to the Guidelines for Internal and External advocacy.
- I will remind Interest Groups and Voter Service chairs to provide the Communications Director with a 2-3 sentence summary at the time these actions occur.

In this fiscal year, which ends on June 30, 2026, we sent

- Letters to the CC Board concerning
 - “Using a single ineligible for hire list” for all of Cook County and the Forest Preserve District.
 - Supporting updates to the order of items on the agenda
 - Supporting a resolution for evaluation and reform of the Mosquito Abatement Districts
- Letters to the editor on the SAFE-T Act and Mail-In Ballots

You will hear more on each of the actions taken from the respective Interest Groups and Voter Service Chairs. Thank you for your attention.