Instructions to Canvassers and Signers

1. The Arkansas Constitution gives Arkansas citizens the power to (a) initiate legislation by petition of 8% of the legal voters or constitutional amendments by petition of 10% of legal voters, or (b) order the referendum against any general act or any item of an appropriation bill or measure passed by the General Assembly by petition of 8% of legal voters. A proposed measure must be submitted at a regular election. Referendum petitions may be referred at special elections on petition of 15% of the registered voters. Any measure submitted to the people becomes law when approved by a majority of the votes cast on the measure.

2. Only registered voters may sign. All signatures must be in the signer's own handwriting and in the presence of the person circulating the petition. Each petition part must contain only the signatures of voters residing in a single county.

3. Printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, name of sponsor, address of sponsor, date of signing for another person unless the sponsor requires assistance due to disability, another person may print the signer's information and that person shall sign and print their name in the margin of the petition.

4. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 7-9-103, a person commits a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to $2,500 and imprisonment for up to six years. Subsection (b) states: "A person commits the offense of petition fraud:
   (1) If the person knowingly:
       (A) Signs a petition when he or she is not legally entitled to sign the petition;
       (B) Signs his or her name more than one (1) time to a petition or prints the date of signing for another person unless the signer requires assistance due to disability and the person complies with § 7-9-103;
       (C) Solicits or obtains a signature to a petition knowing that the person signing is not qualified to sign the petition;
       (D) Knowingly pays a person any form of compensation in exchange for signing a petition as a petitioner;
       (E) Accepts or pays money or anything of value for obtaining signatures on a petition when the person acting as a canvasser, sponsor, or agent of a sponsor knows that the person acting as a canvasser's name or address is not included on the sponsor's list filed with the Secretary of State under § 7-9-607; or
       (F) Knowingly misrepresents the purpose and effect of the petition or the measure affected for the purpose of causing a person to sign a petition;
   (2) If the person acting as a canvasser knowingly makes a false statement on a petition verification form; or
   (3) If the person acting as a canvasser knowingly prints the date of signing for another person unless the sponsor requires assistance due to disability and the person complies with § 7-9-103;

5. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 5-55-601(c), each of the following activities constitutes "petition fraud," which is a Class D misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to $2,500 and imprisonment for up to six years. Subsection (b) states: "A person commits the offense of petition fraud:
   (1) If the person acting as a canvasser, notary, sponsor as defined under § 7-9-101, or agent of a sponsor:
       (A) Signs a name other than his or her own to a petition;
       (B) Prints a name, address, or birth date other than his or her own to a petition unless the signer requires assistance due to disability and the person complies with § 7-9-103;

This amendment to the Arkansas Constitution shall be known as the "Arkansas Marijuana Expungement Amendment."