

14th  
EDITION

# NEWSLETTER



■ FREE ELECTIONS  
■ NICARAGUA, 2021  
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## NEWSLETTER FOR

# 9th to 13th of August



1. Extension of periods involving inscription of candidates



2. Period of rectification, withdrawals and replacement of candidates



3. SEC publishes electoral roll in all polling stations



4. Cancellation of legal status of Citizens for Freedom Party



5. Electoral offences characterized and punished in accordance with Law 331



6. Over 95% of Nicaraguans certified with ID



# EXTENSION OF PERIODS INVOLVING INSCRIPTION OF CANDIDATES

Under resolution published on 12th August, based on Article 4 of Electoral Law 331, the SEC informed the general public of the extension of the deadlines for the inscription of candidates.

Having regard to the conditions of force majeure imposed by the Pandemic, and the concerns expressed by several participant political parties with respect to the health and lives of their adherents and voters, the SEC also announced the change of starting date for the Electoral Campaign.

The details are as follows:

- Period of rectification, withdrawals and replacement of candidates for President and Vice president of the Republic, Deputies to the National Assembly [National and Departmental}, Deputies to the Central American Parliament:



**UP TO THE 26th OF AUGUST**

- Publication provisional of candidates:



**1st OF SEPTEMBER**

- Period for challenges:



**FROM 2nd TO 3rd OF SEPTEMBER**

Resolution of challenges to candidates:



**7th SEPTEMBER**

- Definitive publication of candidates in The Gazette, Official Daily:



**10th OF SEPTEMBER**

- Beginning of Electoral Campaign:



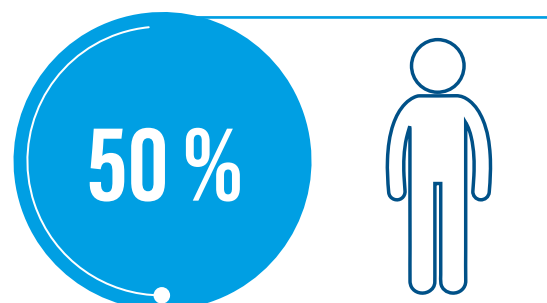
**25th OF SEPTEMBER**



# PERIOD OF RECTIFICATION, WITHDRAWALS AND REPLACEMENT OF CANDIDATES

The last day for compliance with Activity No 7 of the Electoral Calendar, insofar as the rectification of the Provisional Lists of Candidates is concerned, will be the 26th of August.

To ensure compliance with Electoral Law 331, with respect to equity of gender, the Directorate General for Attention to Political Parties of the SEC undertook a revision of the candidate lists in order to guarantee gender equity and rotation. This expressly implies 50% women and 50% men in the lists presented, both in terms of principals and alternates.





The candidate lists were also examined to ensure compliance with the age and continuous residence requirements established for the different popular electoral posts, all in accordance with articles 134 and 147 of the Political Constitution of the Republic.

To ensure compliance with the Political Constitution of the Republic and Electoral Law 331, the political parties and alliances of the political parties were instructed to carry out the rectifications indicated by the SEC.

## SEC publishes Preliminary Electoral Roll in all Polling Stations

On Monday 9th of August this year, the SEC published the Provisional Electoral Roll, which was placed on public view in each of the country's polling stations, thus complying with Activity No 27 of the Electoral Calendar which requires the posting the Electoral Roll in all polling stations and the furnishing of a digital copy of the same to the political parties and the alliances of the political parties.

Article 42 of the Electoral Law states that: "the printed Preliminary Electoral Roll will be published, and placed in the polling stations at which the polling station boards will function, at least ninety days prior to the date of voting. Digital copies will be provided to the participant political organizations, without prejudice to that established in Law No 787, the Protection of Personal Data Law, published in the Gazette, Official Daily No 61 of 29th March 2012".

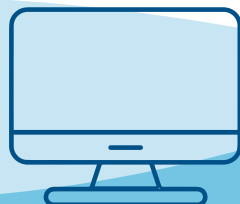


The Preliminary Electoral Roll being placed in each one of the polling stations has been updated to the 3rd of August. It contains the data of all citizens enabled to vote in the General Election of 7th of November next and includes changes of domicile and other updates recorded during the mass Citizen Verification undertaking of 24th and 25th of July, as well as the on-line verification and attendance of citizens at ID Registration Offices.

This State body reminds citizens that the 8th of September is the last day for recording changes of domicile or the addition of new inputs or statements to the Electoral Roll, prior to the final update and printing of the definitive Electoral Roll, as stipulated by the Electoral Law.

We invite all citizens to continue using the on-line Verification facility which is available on our [www.cse.ni](http://www.cse.ni) website. Alternatively, changes of domicile, requests of ID card or inclusion in the Electoral Roll can be dealt with at the nearest ID Registration office. The SEC reaffirms a commitment to continue strengthening democracy in a peaceful and orderly environment, and to work to ensure a free, just and transparent Electoral Process for all Nicaraguans.

[www.cse.gob.ni](http://www.cse.gob.ni)



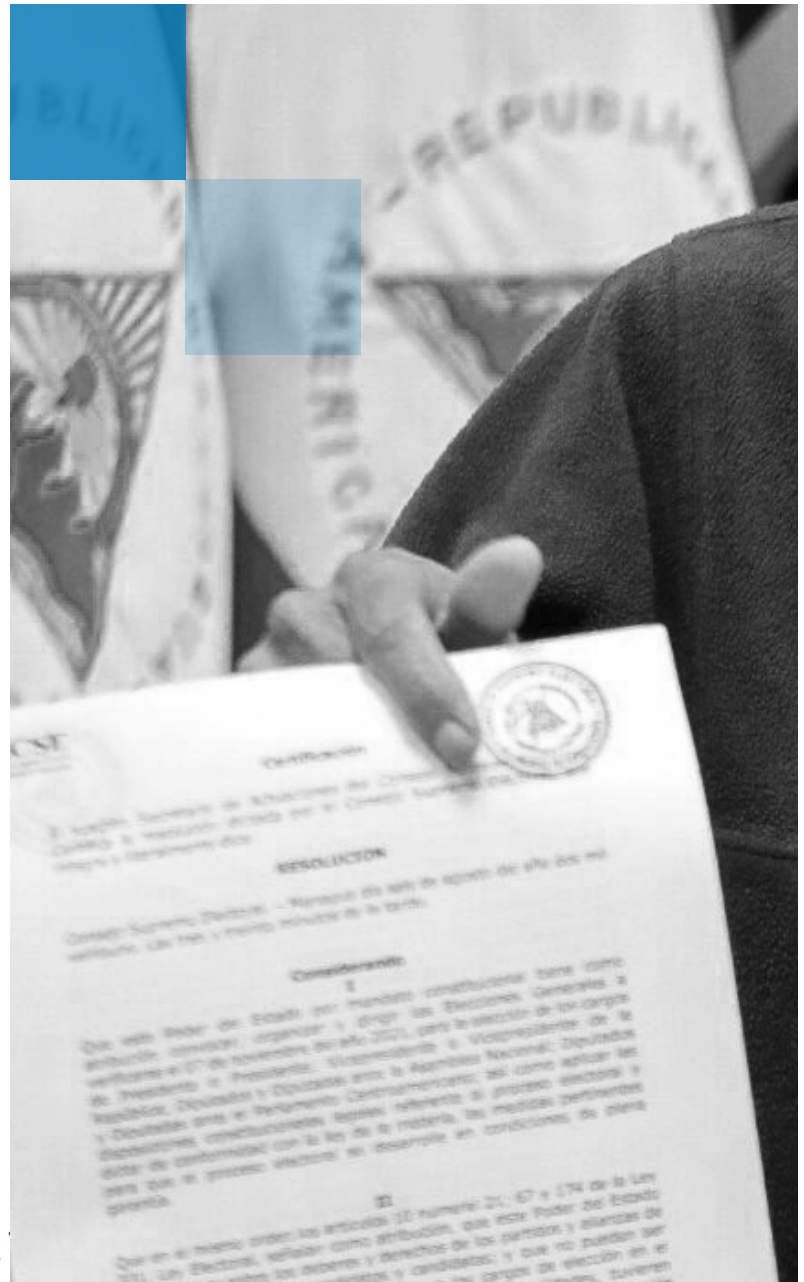


# CANCELLATION OF LEGAL STATUS OF CITIZENS FOR FREEDOM PARTY

On 6th of August, the SEC made known the Resolution cancelling the Legal Identity of the Citizens for Freedom Party.

The Party in question has acted in flagrant violation of the Laws of the Republic, behaving in a manner contrary to the legal conditions and technical regulations required of this category of political organizations.

The certification of said resolution is published in full detail in web page [www.cse.gob.ni](http://www.cse.gob.ni)



# Electoral Offences Characterized and Punished in accordance with Law 331

Electoral offences refer to those transgressions or acts which violate, harm or interfere in the electoral process. In Nicaragua such electoral offences are typified and punished under Electoral Law No 331.

**Article 171**, requires that a Specific Electoral Prosecutors Office be created within the Public Ministry to deal with electoral offences. Said office is created in accordance with the Law six months prior to each election.

The sanctions established range from 30 days to two years immutable detention, depending on the gravity of the electoral offence committed. Also, cancellation of enrollment or disqualification for posts of public office for one to 3 years for candidates that commit electoral offences. Candidates found guilty of electoral offence after being elected are not allowed to exercise the duties of office for which they were elected.

Resident foreigners or those in transit in national territory that, at any time promote, participate in, intervene in personally via third persons or by means of any technological device, commit an electoral offence.

**Electoral offences are defined as follows:**

**Article 166.** A sentence of immutable detention of thirty to one hundred and eighty days will be handed down to:

- 1) A citizen who deliberately disobeys the polling station board instructions as to the way in which to exercise suffrage, or through bad conduct, impedes the process of voting or inscription.
- 2) He who deliberately damages or destroys electoral propaganda
- 3) He who does not comply with the dispositions contained in the present Law or with the resolutions of the SEC concerning propaganda material.

- 4) Public servants, employees or authorities that do not comply with orders of electoral bodies.
- 5) He who attempts to register to vote more than once.
- 6) He who maliciously furnishes the polling station board with false inscription data.
- 7) A member of the polling station who does not sign the minutes which must be kept in accordance with the law”.

**Article 167.** A sentence of six to twelve months will be handed down to:

- 1) He who bribes, menaces, forces or uses violence against another, obliging them to:

- Adopt or support a particular candidate
- Vote in a particular way
- Abstain from voting



- 2) He who maliciously obstructs the process of inscription or voting.
- 3) He who bears firearms at the acts of inscription, voting or scrutiny, save those of the Electoral Police discharging their official duties.
- 4) He who registers to vote two or more times.
- 5) A polling station board member or any other electoral functionary that conducts inscriptions or the vote without the place and hours designated”.
- 6) The member of the voting station or any electoral official who makes inscriptions or votes out of place and out of the hours indicated for it.

**Article 168.** An immutable sentence of detention of one to two years will be handed down to:

- 1) He who threatens or physically injures functionaries of the Electoral Body in that concerning the electoral process

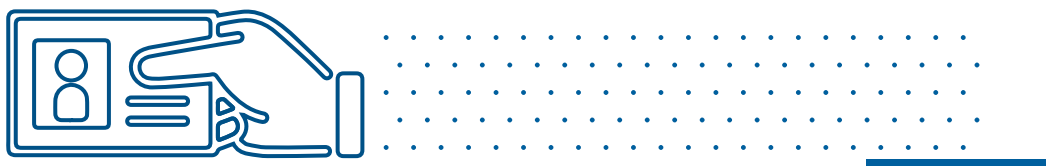
- 2) He who uses his official position or authority to pressures his subordinates to vote in a particular way or abstain from voting.
- 3) A member of the polling station board who willfully fails to present himself for duty at the time and place designated.
- 4) He who alters the Electoral Roll, destroys electoral material or fraudulently adds electoral ballots or removes ballot boxes with the intention of changing the election results.
- 5) He who uses threats or acts of violence to impede or obstruct the celebration of an election or to limit freedom of suffrage.
- 6) A functionary or any other person who changes the electoral registers or minutes.
- 7) He who induces a legally inscribed candidate to withdraw their candidature.
- 8) He who uses State property for political propaganda purposes.
- 9) He who realizes political proselytism in public sector offices”.

It should be emphasized that, for all those found guilty of the electoral offences addressed in Electoral Law 331, in addition to the main penalty, they will face any corresponding add-ons and be prohibited from holding public office for a period equal to double that of the punishment handed down.

The exercise of the penal actions arising from these electoral offences involves the injured parties and the Public Ministry. The Ordinary Public Courts will be competent to judge such cases.

## OVER 95% OF NICARAGUANS CERTIFIED WITH ID

More than 95% of the Nicaraguan population has been registered for ID. During 2021, the SEC has carried out more than half a million ID procedures. Between 4th of January and August 2021, this State body has successfully completed an ID registration process that includes new applications, renewals and replacement of ID documents.








**Total procedures between  
January and August 2021**

**578,381**

During this last week of 6th to the 12th of August, the Nicaraguan Government has amplified the ID Registration process, attending during this period to 24,153 procedures, these breaking down as follows:

	→	<b>8,509</b>	New Applicants
	→	<b>9,597</b>	Renewals
	→	<b>6,047</b>	Replacements

**TOTAL PROCEDURES: 24,153**





**CSE**

Consejo Supremo Electoral  
*Fortaleciendo la Democracia*

[www.cse.gob.ni](http://www.cse.gob.ni)



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