




**TIM RUSSELL**  
JUDGE OF PROBATE  
BALDWIN COUNTY

RECEIVED  
JUL 16 2018

BY:   
220 Courthouse Square  
P. O. Box 459  
Bay Minette, AL 36507  
(251) 580-2596

4BCC  
KC  
KC  
VSmith

July 12, 2018

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

City of Fairhope  
384 Fairhope Avenue  
Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Dear Mayor Karin Wilson and Council President Jack Burrell:

Our office of Probate has received two petitions from registered voters of the City of Fairhope. The signatures of both petitions have been verified by election officials of our office.

The first petition received June 30, 2018, had 188 verified signatures. This petition did not receive enough registered signatures required under the Alabama Code to call for a special election.

The second petition was received on July 5, 2018, and had 803 verified signatures. This number qualifies to call for a special election in the City. Attached is a copy of the language used in the petition.

By the powers granted to me as Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, I call for your City to set an election date no earlier than 40 days nor no later than 90 days from July 5, 2018.

We strongly encourage you to coordinate with our office in selecting a date for the election which works well for your citizens and the election officials of the city and our office. Alabama statutes require the cost of the election to be paid by the city. Our estimated costs of the election are \$15,000. All county and Probate costs will be itemized and available for audit by members of your staff.

Yours in Public Service,

  
Judge Tim Russell

TR/jms

Enclosure

cc.

The Honorable John Merrill  
Alabama Secretary of State  
P.O. Box 5616  
Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5616

The Honorable Frank Burt  
Baldwin County Commission Chair  
312 Courthouse Square, Suite 12  
Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

## PETITION

The below listed registered voters residing in the City of Fairhope, Alabama hereby petition the Baldwin County (AL) Probate Judge to set an election in accordance with the Council-Manager Act of 1982 as amended to change the current Fairhope Mayor-Council form of government to the Council-Manager form of government, with a City Council composed of five members including a Mayor and four other Council Members.