

# NOTICE OF OPEN AND CLOSED MEETING

## Wisconsin Elections Commission

Special Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

11:00 A.M.

*This meeting is being held via video teleconference only. Members of the public and media may attend online or by telephone. Please visit <https://elections.wi.gov/event/ballot-access-meeting-1142025> to view the notice and agenda for the meeting. All public participants' phones/microphones will be muted during the meeting. Members of the public wishing to communicate to the Commissioners should email [electioncomments@wi.gov](mailto:electioncomments@wi.gov) with "Message to Commissioners" in the subject line.*

### **Zoom information:**

**When: Jan 14, 2025, 11:00 AM** Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Meeting of the Wisconsin Elections Commission

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87943141179?pwd=ggwSVTDsCR5fSbj0FEMZF7Cmtm9m7V.1>

Passcode:009684

Phone one-tap:

+13126266799,,87943141179#,,,,\*009684# US (Chicago)

+13092053325,,87943141179#,,,,\*009684# US

Join via audio:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 309 205 3325 US; +1 305 224 1968 US; +1 646 558 8656 US (New York); +1 646 931 3860 US; +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC); +1 689 278 1000 US; +1 719 359 4580 US; +1 720 707 2699 US (Denver); +1 253 205 0468 US; +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 360 209 5623 US; +1 386 347 5053 US; +1 507 473 4847 US; +1 564 217 2000 US; +1 669 444 9171 US

Webinar ID: 879 4314 1179

Passcode: 009684

International numbers available: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kxBt55NrX>

# NOTICE OF OPEN AND CLOSED MEETING

## OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

- A. **Call to Order**
- B. **Administrator’s Report of Appropriate Meeting Notice**
- C. **Ballot Access Challenges** \* (*Supporting materials for challenges will be posted in a separate attachment when they are ready.*).....Pg. 5

**EL 25-04 Jennifer Weber v. Cortney Iverson**  
**EL 25-XX Name v. Name (Race/Seat) \*\***

**\*\*An amended agenda will be posted with all final challenge submissions after the filing deadline on January 10, 2025, at 4:30 PM.**

### **Applicable for Each Challenge:**

- 1. Staff Presentation on Challenge or Ballot Access Issues**
- 2. Challenger Presentation**
- 3. Candidate Response**
- 4. Commission Action**

- D. **Ballot Access Report and Certification of Candidates for the February 18, 2025, Primary and April 1, 2025, Spring Election.....Pg. 33**
- E. **Discussion and Potential Approval of a Ballot Access Appeal Meeting Date (Appeals of Local Challenge Decisions) and Other 2025 Meeting Dates of the Commission.....Pg. 39**
- F. **Discussion and Approval of Ballot Templates for the 2025 Primary and Spring Election.....Pg. 41**
- G. **Discussion, Review, and Possible Action Pertaining to the Interpretation and Implementation of Wis. Stat. §**

# NOTICE OF OPEN AND CLOSED MEETING

**19.36(14), Identities of Election Officials or Election Registration Officials, Including a Possible Attorney General Opinion Request.....Pg. 49**

**H. Closed Session**

**1. Litigation Update**

*§ 19.85(1)(g) – The Commission may confer in closed session with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.*

**I. Adjourn**



**Incumbents Who Have Filed a Notification of Noncandidacy (EL-163)  
for the 04/01/2025 2025 Spring Election  
FINAL**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Date Filed</b>
Michael O. Bohren	WAUKESHA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1	10/09/2024
Joseph G. Sciascia	DODGE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 3	10/14/2024
Edward F. Vlack	SAINT CROIX COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2	10/17/2024
Ramona A. Gonzalez	LA CROSSE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1	11/22/2024
Ann Walsh Bradley	JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT YEAR 5	12/13/2024
Robert R. Russell	LINCOLN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2	12/18/2024
Brad Schimel	WAUKESHA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 6	12/19/2024



## Wisconsin Elections Commission

### Candidate Tracking by Office

2025 Spring Election - 4/1/2025

Receipt #	Candidate	Party	Campaign Registration Statement	Declaration of Candidacy Date	Statement of Economic Interests Date	Nomination Papers Date	Valid Signatures	Suggested Action
<b>Office :</b>	<b>STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION</b>			<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Jill Underly</b>			
	Jeff Wright E3048 MARBLE QUARRY ROAD PLAIN, 53577		10/06/2024	1/6/2025	01/08/2025	01/06/2025	2662	Approve
	Jill Underly 1838 County Road K Hollandale, 53544-0023		09/09/2024	1/3/2025	12/03/2024	01/03/2025	3629	Approve
	Brittany Kinser 9801 ESCHWEILER DR WAUWATOSA, 53226		01/09/2025	1/6/2025	01/09/2025	01/06/2025	4000	Approve
	<b>Office Subtotal : 3</b>							
<b>Office :</b>	<b>JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT</b>			<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Ann Walsh Bradley (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)</b>			
	Ann Walsh Bradley 2505 Bay Shore Drive Wausau, 54401		07/10/2023					Deny
	Brad Schimel W295S2609 JAMIE CT WAUKESHA, 53188		11/30/2023	12/19/2024	12/19/2024	01/02/2025	3818	Approve
	Susan Crawford 6417 MASTHEAD DR MADISON, 53705		06/09/2024	12/27/2024	12/02/2024	12/27/2024	4000	Approve
	<b>Office Subtotal : 3</b>							
<b>Office :</b>	<b>COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE DISTRICT 2</b>			<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Mark Gundrum</b>			
	Mark Gundrum N2 W28791 SYLVAN TRAIL WAUKESHA, 53188		12/30/2024	11/4/2024	12/30/2024	12/30/2024	2000	Approve
	<b>Office Subtotal : 1</b>							
<b>Office :</b>	<b>COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE DISTRICT 3</b>			<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Lisa K. Stark</b>			
	Lisa K. Stark 4421 MEMORY LN EAU CLAIRE, 54701		12/04/2024	9/24/2024	12/29/2024	12/30/2024	1345	Approve

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Office :** **COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE DISTRICT 4** **Incumbent:** **Jennifer Nashold**  
Jennifer Nashold 11/23/2024 12/23/2024 12/27/2024 12/23/2024 1642 Approve  
167 N PROSPECT AVE  
MADISON, 53726

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Office :** **BROWN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 3** **Incumbent:** **Tammy Jo Hock**  
TAMMY JO HOCK 11/25/2024 12/18/2024 12/18/2024 12/18/2024 400 Approve  
3500 LARK ROAD  
GREEN BAY, 54313

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Office :** **BROWN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 4** **Incumbent:** **Samantha Wagner**  
Samantha Wagner 11/26/2024 12/27/2024 12/23/2024 12/27/2024 387 Approve  
826 ONTONAGON CT  
GREEN BAY, 54301

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Office :** **BROWN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 7** **Incumbent:** **Timothy A. Hinkfuss**  
Timothy A. Hinkfuss 12/16/2024 12/4/2024 01/01/2025 12/23/2024 270 Approve  
525 ANTELOPE TRL  
GREEN BAY, 54313  
Timothy Funnell 12/10/2024 Deny  
122 N BEDFORD RD  
GREEN BAY, 54311

**Office Subtotal : 2**

**Office :** **CRAWFORD COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE** **Incumbent:** **Lukas Steiner**  
Lukas L. Steiner 01/06/2025 1/7/2025 01/08/2025 01/07/2025 222 Approve  
400 East Paquette Street  
Prairie du Chien, 53821

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Office :** **DANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2** **Incumbent:** **Payal Khandhar**  
Payal Khandhar 11/24/2024 12/20/2024 12/28/2024 12/20/2024 394 Approve  
4921 SOUTH HILL DR  
MADISON, 53705

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Office :** **DANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE** **Incumbent:** **Rhonda L. Lanford**



**BRANCH 16**

3	Rhonda L. Lanford 529 S RANDALL AVE MADISON, 53715	12/02/2024	12/6/2024	12/19/2024	12/13/2024	246	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>DODGE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 3</b>		<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Joseph G. Sciascia (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)</b>			
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Chad Wozniak 1832 GLENN SPRING CT OCONOMOWOC, 53066	08/15/2024	12/26/2024	01/07/2025	12/26/2024	323	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>EAU CLAIRE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>		<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Douglas Hoffer</b>			
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Douglas Hoffer 2109 VIENNA TER EAU CLAIRE, 54703	11/11/2024	12/23/2024	01/02/2025	12/26/2024	389	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>GREEN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>		<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Jane Bucher</b>			
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Jane Bucher 2715 3RD ST MONROE, 53566	04/20/2024	12/23/2024	12/31/2024	12/23/2024	400	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>		<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Will Gruber</b>			
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Will Gruber N7214 DEER LAKE LN MARSHALL, 53559	12/18/2024	11/14/2024	12/02/2024	12/18/2024	389	Approve
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John Jack A. Chavez 1011 BREWSTER DR LAKE MILLS, 53551	12/17/2024	12/20/2024	01/04/2025	01/02/2025	286	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 2**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>		<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Theresa Beck</b>			
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Theresa Beck 363 E NORTH ST JEFFERSON, 53549	09/17/2024	9/20/2024	12/28/2024	01/02/2025	387	Approve
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Cortney J. Iverson W9211 RED FEATHER DR CAMBRIDGE, 53523	12/23/2024	1/6/2025	01/09/2025	01/06/2025	289	Approve
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Jennifer L. Weber W155 HILLENDALE DR OCONOMOWOC, 53066	12/01/2024	12/10/2024	01/06/2025	01/03/2025	248	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 3**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>LA CROSSE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Ramona A. Gonzalez (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)</b>			
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Joe Veenstra 213 PEARL ST LA CROSSE, 54601	08/14/2024	9/6/2024	12/31/2024	01/03/2025	394	Approve
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Eric S. Sanford 1967 McGilvray Way Holmen, 54636	01/02/2025	1/3/2025	01/03/2025	01/03/2025	307	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 2**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>LA CROSSE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Elliott M. Levine</b>			
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Elliott M. Levine 208 9TH ST S LA CROSSE, 54601	12/27/2024	12/20/2024	12/27/2024	12/27/2024	218	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>LA CROSSE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 4</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Scott L. Horne</b>			
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Scott L. Horne 3930 FAIRWAY ST LA CROSSE, 54601	11/26/2024	12/27/2024	12/16/2024	12/27/2024	283	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>LAFAYETTE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Jenna Gill</b>			
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Jenna Gill 14595 Olson Lane Mineral Point, 53565	08/11/2024	1/7/2025	01/02/2025	01/07/2025	214	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>LINCOLN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Robert R. Russell (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)</b>			
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Jessica Fehrenbach 701 WILDWOOD LN MERRILL, 54452	12/11/2024	11/25/2024	01/07/2025	12/23/2024	329	Approve
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**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MANITOWOC COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Mark Rohrer</b>			
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Mark Rohrer	10/08/2024	10/11/2024	12/03/2024	12/26/2024	382	Approve
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2408 JEFFERSON ST  
TWO RIVERS, 54241

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MARINETTE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Peggy Miller</b>				
	DeShea D. Morrow	03/30/2024	12/26/2024	12/23/2024	12/26/2024	400	Approve
	2506 OAK VIEW RD MARINETTE, 54143						
	Peggy L. Miller	12/04/2024	1/2/2025	12/04/2024	01/02/2025	258	Approve
	1701 DUNLAP AVE MARINETTE, 54143						

**Office Subtotal : 2**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MARINETTE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>James A. Morrison</b>				
2	James A. Morrison	12/12/2024	11/1/2024	12/13/2024	12/12/2024	346	Approve
	N4306 CAROLYN CIR MARINETTE, 54143						

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MARQUETTE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Chad A. Hendee</b>				
	Chad A. Hendee	12/02/2024	12/30/2024	01/10/2025	12/30/2024	215	Approve
	W8353 FAWN AVE OXFORD, 53952						

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 6</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>John Remington</b>				
	John Remington	06/26/2024	11/6/2024	12/17/2024	12/23/2024	1243	Approve
	2812 N 68TH ST MILWAUKEE, 53210						

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 11</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>David Swanson</b>				
	David Swanson	11/20/2024	12/30/2024	01/06/2025	12/30/2024	1070	Approve
	2841 N SHEPARD AVE MILWAUKEE, 53211						

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 26</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>William Pocan</b>				
	William S. Pocan	04/03/2024	4/12/2024	12/15/2024	12/20/2024	1742	Approve
	1522 NORTH PROSPECT						

AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE, 53202

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 36</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Laura A. Crivello</b>					
	Laura A. Crivello	11/01/2024	3/1/2024	12/11/2024	12/20/2024	1405	Approve	
	2514 N 73RD ST WAUWATOSA, 53213							

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 40</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Danielle Shelton</b>					
	Danielle L. Shelton	12/26/2024	12/26/2024	12/24/2024	12/30/2024	1273	Approve	
	2474 N LAKE DR MILWAUKEE, 53211							

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 41</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Lena Taylor</b>					
	Lena C. Taylor	12/21/2024	12/26/2024	12/21/2024	12/26/2024	1606	Approve	
	3407 W HIGHLAND BLVD MILWAUKEE, 53208							

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>MONROE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Todd L. Ziegler</b>					
	Todd L. Ziegler	12/05/2024	12/26/2024	12/25/2024	12/26/2024	224	Approve	
	9198 GARDENER AVENUE SPARTA, 54656							

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>OZAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Adam Gerol</b>					
	Adam Y. Gerol	12/18/2024	12/18/2024	12/12/2024	12/18/2024	208	Approve	
	11067 N ORIOLE LN MEQUON, 53092							

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>OZAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Steve Cain</b>					
	Steve Cain	12/06/2024	12/18/2024	12/29/2024	01/03/2025	306	Approve	
	N50W6890 WESTERN RD CEDARBURG, 53012							

**Office Subtotal : 1**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>RACINE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Scott Craig</b>					
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**BRANCH 4**

Scott Craig  
4417 WESTWAY AVE  
RACINE, 53405

10/25/2024 12/20/2024 12/20/2024 12/20/2024 396 Approve

**Office Subtotal : 1****Office : RACINE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 7****Incumbent: Jon Fredrickson**

Jon Fredrickson  
5606 RIVER HILLS RD  
CALEDONIA, 53402

11/12/2024 1/3/2025 12/02/2024 01/03/2025 326 Approve

Jamie M. McClendon  
3706 DOUGLAS AVE  
RACINE, 53402

11/19/2024 11/26/2024 12/14/2024 12/26/2024 388 Approve

**Office Subtotal : 2****Office : ROCK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1****Incumbent: Karl R. Hanson**

Karl Hanson  
5638 N LILLY LN  
MILTON, 53563

10/31/2024 11/4/2024 12/10/2024 12/12/2024 258 Approve

**Office Subtotal : 1****Office : ROCK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2****Incumbent: Derrick A. Grubb**

Derrick A. Grubb  
2812 S RIVERSIDE DR  
BELOIT, 53511

11/08/2024 11/1/2024 12/12/2024 12/16/2024 387 Approve

**Office Subtotal : 1****Office : SAINT CROIX COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 2****Incumbent: Edward F. Vlack (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)**

James Jamie Johnson  
737 GHERTY LN  
HUDSON, 54016

11/13/2024 12/27/2024 12/26/2024 12/27/2024 387 Approve

Heather M. Amos  
552 SPRUCE DR  
HUDSON, 54016

11/26/2024 12/10/2024 12/09/2024 12/27/2024 398 Approve

Brian T. Smestad  
670 6TH AVE  
BALDWIN, 54002

11/18/2024 12/10/2024 01/01/2025 01/02/2025 342 Approve

**Office Subtotal : 3****Office : WAUKESHA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1****Incumbent: Michael O. Bohren (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)**

Daniel Rieck 3170 South Regal Drive New Berlin, 53151	01/03/2025						Deny
Scott Wagner N27W22538 BURNINGWOOD LN WAUKESHA, 53186	04/29/2024	12/23/2024	01/06/2025	12/23/2024	397		Approve

**Office Subtotal : 2**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>WAUKESHA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 4</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Bridget Schoenborn</b>				
David Maas 390 THUROW DR OCONOMOWOC, 53066	05/28/2024	12/30/2024	01/07/2025	12/30/2024	397		Approve
Bridget Schoenborn 14905 Lata Vista Drive Elm Grove, 53122	08/09/2024	12/30/2024	12/28/2024	12/17/2024	394		Approve

**Office Subtotal : 2**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>WAUKESHA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 6</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>Brad Schimel (Filed Notification of Noncandidacy)</b>				
Zach Wittchow 3912 OAKMONT TRL WAUKESHA, 53188	04/27/2024	5/20/2024	01/03/2025	12/27/2024	396		Approve
Fred Strampe W198N4950 HICKORY ST MENOMONEE FALLS, 53051	11/27/2024	12/30/2024	01/02/2025	12/30/2024	297		Approve

**Office Subtotal : 2**

<b>Office :</b>	<b>WOOD COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BRANCH 1</b>	<b>Incumbent:</b>					
Gregory J. Jerabek 1740 6TH ST S WISCONSIN RAPIDS, 54494	11/19/2024	12/27/2024	12/30/2024	12/27/2024	390		Approve

**Office Subtotal : 1**

**Total Candidates : 59**





## Wisconsin Elections Commission: Nomination Paper Review Guidelines

### Process Overview

- Use a red pen to mark up the petition during the review process.
- Circle any piece of information on the petition page that is missing or problematic.
- Make a red check to the right of the row to indicate a signature should not be counted.
- Make a red question mark (?) to note questionable signatures that have been counted or to note omitted information on signature line where that signature is still able to be counted.
- Write the number of signatures counted on the upper, right-hand corner of each sheet.

### Step 1: Review the Header

**Overview:** The header of each petition page must contain all the required candidate information. If any of the required information is missing, or incorrect, no signatures on that page can be counted.

Required information:

1. Name of candidate
2. Residential address of candidate
  - a. Street number and street name (P.O. box addresses are not acceptable)
  - b. Municipality for voting purposes
  - c. State
3. Type of election
4. Election date
5. Title of office sought
6. Branch, district or seat number of office sought (if applicable)
7. Name of district in which candidate seeks office

Other information:

1. Mailing address (only required if different than residential address or voting municipality)
2. Zip code (may be present but not required)

### Step 2: Review the Certification of Circulator

**Overview:** The Certification of Circulator section is completed after the signatures on that page have been collected. Each petition page must contain all the required circulator information, the circulator's signature and a certification date that is on or

after the latest date of a signer. If any of the required information is missing or incorrect, no signatures on that page may be counted. If missing circulator information can be determined from another section of the petition page, the signatures on that page should be counted. Most often this occurs when a circulator is also the candidate or has signed that page as an eligible elector.

**Residency of Circulator:** The circulator does not need to reside in the district represented by the candidate, nor do they need to be a resident of Wisconsin. All circulators must be otherwise eligible to register to vote in Wisconsin (18 years of age, U.S. citizen, not serving any portion of a sentence for a felony offense). They do not need to be registered to vote in Wisconsin or any other state to circulate nomination papers.

Required information:

1. Name of circulator - Signatures on the page should be counted if the circulator printed their name on the line meant for their signature.
2. Address of circulator
  - a. Street number, street name and municipality - If missing circulator address, including municipality, can be determined from another section of the petition page, the signatures on that page should be counted.
  - b. State and zip code are not required.
3. Date (month/day/year) – All signatures must be dated within the circulation period. No signatures should be counted on a page where any portion of the date is missing.
4. Signature of circulator – Signatures on the page should be counted if the circulator signed on the line that should have the printed name.

### **Step 3: Review the Body of the Petition**

Required information:

1. Signature of elector
  - a. Signature does not need be legible.
  - b. Electors may sign with an “X” or other mark if that is their usual signature.
  - c. Signature does not need to be cursive.
2. Printed name of elector
  - a. A printed name must be present in addition to the signature of the elector.
  - b. If a possible printed name can be determined, the signature should be counted.

- c. If a printed name cannot be determined, the signature should be struck from the petition.
3. Residential Address
  - a. Street name and street number or rural route are required.
  - b. Rural address must also include box or fire number.
  - c. P.O. boxes are only allowed if they are listed in addition to the residential address information. Signatures where only a P.O. box has been provided should be counted if the municipality of residence is entirely in the district. Mark with a question mark.
  - d. Ditto marks are allowed if they follow a valid address and the signer is using those marks to indicate they also reside at that address.
  - e. If all or part of the required address information of a signer is missing but residency can be determined by information found in another section of that specific petition page, that signature should be counted. This generally occurs when the signer is also the candidate and/or the circulator and the missing information is in the header or the certification section. Indicate on the petition page where that information is located.
4. Municipality of Residence
  - a. Municipality listed must be within the district represented by the candidate.
  - b. Abbreviations are allowed (e.g. "FDL" for Fond Du Lac or "Milw" for Milwaukee).
  - c. Ditto marks are allowed if they follow a valid municipality and the signer is using those marks to indicate they also reside in the municipality.
  - d. The Town/Village/City check box does not need to be checked.
  - e. If the municipality of residence was provided in the Residential Address field, the signature should be counted.
  - f. If the municipality information of a signer is missing but residency can be determined by information found in another section of that specific petition page (most likely in the header or the Certification of Circulator), that signature should be counted. Indicate on the petition page where that information is located.
5. Date of Signing
  - a. A complete date includes the month/date/year.
  - b. Date must be within the circulation period.
  - c. Date must be on or before the date the page was certified by the circulator.

- d. Ditto marks are allowed if they follow a valid date and the signer is using those marks to indicate they also signed on the same date. If ditto marks are used for the date of the last signer, the signature can be counted if it follows a valid date.
- e. A missing date can be bracketed ([ ]) if valid and complete dates appear on the line above and the line below the signature line with the missing date.
- f. If the date of the first or last signer is incomplete, it cannot be bracketed, and that signature should not be counted.

#### **Step 4: Count the Signatures**

- 1. Sort the petition by the number of valid signatures on each page before determining the final number of valid signatures.
- 2. Place the pages with 10 counted signatures on top, followed by the pages with 9, etc.
- 3. Use a tally sheet or calculator to determine the number of valid signatures on the petition.
- 4. Determine if the number of valid signatures is sufficient for the office sought. Use the appropriate Ballot Access Checklist to determine the signature threshold for the office sought:
  - a. County Non-partisan Candidates                      ELIS-3
  - b. School District Candidates                              ELIS-5
  - c. Municipal Candidates                                      ELIS-7
  - d. County Partisan Candidates                              ELIS-16
  - e. Multi-jurisdictional Judge Candidates              ELIS-18

## Attachment D

### **8.10 Nominations for spring election.**

**(1)** Candidates for office to be filled at the spring election shall be nominated by nomination papers, or by nomination papers and selection at the primary if a primary is held, except as provided for towns and villages under s. [8.05](#). Unless designated in this section or s. [8.05](#), the general provisions pertaining to nomination at the partisan primary apply.

**(2)**

**(a)** Nomination papers for offices to be filled at the spring election may be circulated no sooner than December 1 preceding the election and may be filed no later than 5 p.m. on the first Tuesday in January preceding the election, or the next day if Tuesday is a holiday, except as authorized in this paragraph. If an incumbent fails to file nomination papers and a declaration of candidacy by the time prescribed in this paragraph, all candidates for the office held by the incumbent, other than the incumbent, may file nomination papers no later than 72 hours after the latest time prescribed in this paragraph. No extension of the time for filing nomination papers applies if the incumbent files written notification with the filing officer or agency with whom nomination papers are filed for the office which the incumbent holds, no later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd Friday preceding the latest time prescribed in this paragraph for filing nomination papers, that the incumbent is not a candidate for reelection to his or her office, and the incumbent does not file nomination papers for that office within the time prescribed in this paragraph.

**(am)** If, under par. [\(a\)](#), an incumbent holding local office files written notification that the incumbent is not a candidate for reelection to his or her office or fails to file a declaration of candidacy within the time prescribed in par. [\(a\)](#), the officer or body with whom the declaration of candidacy is required to be filed shall promptly provide public notice of that fact on the officer's or body's Internet site or, if the officer or body does not maintain an Internet site, by posting notices in at least 3 different locations within the jurisdiction that the officer or body serves.

**(b)** Each nomination paper shall have substantially the following words printed at the top:

I, the undersigned, request that the name of (insert candidate's last name plus first name, nickname or initial, and middle name, former legal surname, nickname or middle initial or initials if desired, but no other abbreviations or titles), residing at (insert candidate's street address) be placed on the ballot at the (spring or special) election to be held on (date of election) as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for (him or her) for the office of (name of office). I am eligible to vote in the (name of jurisdiction or district in which candidate seeks office). I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

**(c)** Each candidate shall include his or her mailing address on the candidate's nomination papers.

**(3)** The certification of a qualified circulator under s. [8.15 \(4\) \(a\)](#) shall be appended to each nomination paper. The number of required signatures on nomination papers filed under this section is as follows:

**(a)** For statewide offices, not less than 2,000 nor more than 4,000 electors.

**(am)** For court of appeals judges, not less than 1,000 nor more than 2,000 electors.

**(b)** For judicial offices not specified in pars. [\(a\)](#), [\(am\)](#), and [\(c\)](#), not less than 200 nor more than 400 electors.

## Attachment D

- (c)** For judicial offices in counties over 750,000 population, not less than 1,000 nor more than 2,000 electors.
- (cm)** For county executives in counties over 750,000 population, not less than 2,000 nor more than 4,000 electors.
- (cs)** For comptrollers in counties with a population of at least 750,000, not less than 500 nor more than 1,000 electors.
- (d)** For county executives in counties between 100,000 and 750,000 population, not less than 500 nor more than 1,000 electors.
- (e)** For county executives in counties under 100,000 population, not less than 200 nor more than 400 electors.
- (f)** For supervisors in counties over 750,000 population, not less than 200 nor more than 400 electors.
- (g)** For supervisors in counties between 100,000 and 750,000 population, not less than 100 nor more than 200 electors, except as provided in sub. [\(3m\)](#).
- (h)** For supervisors in counties under 100,000 population, not less than 20 nor more than 100 electors.
- (hm)** For members of the metropolitan sewerage commission in districts over 1,000,000 population, not less than 1,000 nor more than 2,000 electors, in districts over 200,000 but not over 1,000,000 population, not less than 200 nor more than 400 electors, and in districts not over 200,000 population, not less than 100 nor more than 200 electors.
- (i)** For city offices in 1st class cities, not less than 1,500 nor more than 3,000 electors for city-wide offices, not less than 200 nor more than 400 electors for alderpersons elected from aldermanic districts and not less than 400 nor more than 800 electors for members of the board of school directors elected from election districts.
- (j)** Except as provided in par. [\(jm\)](#), for city offices in 2nd and 3rd class cities, not less than 200 nor more than 400 electors for city-wide offices and not less than 20 nor more than 40 electors for alderpersons elected from aldermanic districts.
- (jm)** For city offices in 2nd and 3rd class cities, not less than 100 nor more than 200 electors for alderpersons who are not elected from aldermanic districts.
- (k)** For city offices in 4th class cities, not less than 50 nor more than 100 for city-wide offices and not less than 20 nor more than 40 electors for alderpersons elected from aldermanic districts.
- (km)**
1. Except as provided in subd. [2.](#) and subject to sub. [\(3s\)](#), for school district officer in any school district that contains territory lying within a 2nd class city, not less than 100 nor more than 200 electors.
  2. For a school district officer in any school district described in subd. [1.](#), not less than 20 and not more than 100 signatures if the annual meeting or the school board of the school district adopts a resolution to reduce the number of required signatures and if, on the date that the annual meeting or school board acts

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under this subdivision, the territory of the school district lying within one or more 2nd class cities is less than or equal to 10 percent of the territory of the school district.

**(ks)** For school district officer in any school district which does not contain territory lying within a 1st or 2nd class city, if nomination papers are required under s. [120.06 \(6\) \(a\)](#), not less than 20 nor more than 100 electors.

**(L)** For other offices, not less than 20 nor more than 100 electors.

**(3m)** The county board of any county having a population of at least 100,000 but not more than 750,000 may provide by ordinance that the number of required signatures on nomination papers for the office of county supervisor in the county is not less than 50 nor more than 200 electors. A county that enacts such an ordinance may repeal the ordinance at a later date. Any ordinance changing the number of signatures under this subsection takes effect on November 15 following enactment of the ordinance.

**(3s)**

**(a)** For a school district that does not contain any territory lying within a 2nd class city on April 18, 2018, the signature requirement for school district officer under sub. [\(3\) \(km\) 1.](#) first applies to a candidate for the office of school district officer filled in the 2nd spring election that follows the effective date of the event that causes the school district to have territory that lies within a 2nd class city.

**(b)** For a school district that has, by resolution, reduced the number of signatures required on nomination papers as permitted under sub. [\(3\) \(km\) 2.](#), the signature requirement for school district officer under sub. [\(3\) \(km\) 1.](#) first applies to a candidate for the office of school district officer filed in the 2nd spring election that follows the date of the event that causes the territory of the school district lying within one or more 2nd class cities to be greater than 10 percent of the territory of the school district.

**(4)**

**(a)** All signers on each nomination paper shall reside in the jurisdiction or district which the candidate named on the paper will represent, if elected.

**(b)** Only one signature per person for the same office is valid. In addition to his or her signature, in order for the signature to be valid, each signer of a nomination paper shall legibly print his or her name in a space provided next to his or her signature and shall list his or her municipality of residence for voting purposes, the street and number, if any, on which the signer resides, and the date of signing.

**(5)** Nomination papers shall be accompanied by a declaration of candidacy under s. [8.21](#). If a candidate has not filed a registration statement under s. [11.0202 \(1\) \(a\)](#) at the time he or she files nomination papers, the candidate shall file the statement with the papers. A candidate for state office or municipal judge shall also file a statement of economic interests with the ethics commission under s. [19.43 \(4\)](#) no later than 4:30 p.m. on the 3rd day following the last day for filing nomination papers under sub. [\(2\) \(a\)](#), or no later than 4:30 p.m. on the next business day after the last day whenever that candidate is granted an extension of time for filing nomination papers under sub. [\(2\) \(a\)](#).

**(6)** Nomination papers shall be filed:

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(a) For state offices or seats on a metropolitan sewerage commission, if the commissioners are elected under s. [200.09 \(11\) \(am\)](#), in the office of the elections commission.

(b) For county offices, in the office of the county clerk or board of election commissioners.

(bm) For municipal judge, if the judge is elected under s. [755.01 \(4\)](#), in the office of the county clerk or board of election commissioners of the county having the largest portion of the population in the jurisdiction served by the judge.

(c) For city offices and other offices voted for exclusively within the municipality, except the office of county supervisor, in the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners.

(d) For school district offices to be voted for within more than one municipality, with the person designated by the school board as the filing official for their school district.

(7) If a candidate submits nomination papers with more than the maximum number of required signatures prescribed under sub. (3), but the filing official determines that the maximum number of required signatures does not result in a sufficient number of valid signatures, the filing official shall review the additional signatures to the extent necessary to determine whether the candidate has collected a sufficient number of valid signatures.

(8)

(a) Notwithstanding sub. (2) (b) and (c) and s. [8.21 \(4\) \(b\)](#), a candidate for filling the office of a judicial officer, as defined in s. [757.07 \(1\) \(e\)](#), who files a certification of residence with the commission before circulating nomination papers is not required to indicate his or her residential address on the nomination papers, including nomination papers circulated on behalf of the judicial officer, or on the declaration of candidacy. Notwithstanding sub. (3) (intro.), a judicial officer, as defined in s. [757.07 \(1\) \(e\)](#), who intends to circulate nomination papers on behalf of a candidate for filling a nonpartisan office, or who intends to sign nomination papers to support such a candidate, is not required to indicate his or her residential address on the certification of a qualified circulator appended to the nomination papers or on the nomination papers as a signatory. The commission shall promulgate rules for the administration of this subsection and prescribe a certification of residence for a candidate or circulating judicial officer for use under this subsection.

[8.10\(8\)\(b\)\(b\)](#) Certifications of residence submitted to the commission under par. (a) shall be kept confidential unless the judicial officer consents to disclosure under s. [757.07 \(4\) \(e\)](#), except that the commission shall provide such certifications to the appropriate filing officer for the office the candidate or judicial officer seeks. Filing officers shall also keep confidential the certifications received by the commission unless the judicial officer consents to disclosure.

**NOTE: Sub. (8) is created eff. 4-1-25 by [2023 Wis. Act 235](#). Sub. (8) was created as sub. (7) by [2023 Wis. Act 235](#) and renumbered to sub. (8) by the legislative reference bureau under s. [13.92 \(1\) \(bm\) 2](#).**

**History:** [1971 c. 304 s. 29 \(1\), \(2\)](#); [1973 c. 280](#); [1973 c. 334 s. 57](#); [1975 c. 93, 328, 422](#); [1977 c. 187, 340, 427, 445, 449](#); [1979 c. 221, 249, 260, 355](#); [1983 a. 484](#); [1985 a. 89, 304](#); [1989 a. 88, 290](#); [1993 a. 140, 184, 266](#); [1995 a. 16 s. 2](#); [1999 a. 150 s. 672](#); [1999 a. 182](#); [2001 a. 103](#); [2005 a. 451](#); [2007 a. 1](#); [2011 a. 62, 75](#); [2013 a. 160, 174](#); [2015 a. 117, 118](#); [2017 a. 207 s. 5](#); [2017 a. 321, 366](#); [2021 a. 33](#); [2023 a. 125, 235](#); s. [13.92 \(1\) \(bm\) 2](#).



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**Cross-reference:** See also ss. [EL 2.05](#), [2.07](#), and [6.04](#), Wis. adm. code.

A petitioner who timely filed with the county clerk rather than with the State Elections Board under former sub. (6) (a), 1975 stats., was barred from the ballot. State ex rel. Ahlgrimm v. State Elections Board, [82 Wis. 2d 585](#), [263 N.W.2d 152](#) (1978).

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### **8.30 Candidates ineligible for ballot placement.**

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the official or agency with whom declarations of candidacy are required to be filed may refuse to place the candidate's name on the ballot if any of the following apply:

(a) The nomination papers are not prepared, signed, and executed as required under this chapter.

(b) It conclusively appears, either on the face of the nomination papers offered for filing, or by admission of the candidate or otherwise, that the candidate is ineligible to be nominated or elected.

(c) The candidate, if elected, could not qualify for the office sought within the time allowed by law for qualification because of age, residence, or other impediment.

(2) If no registration statement has been filed by or on behalf of a candidate for state or local office in accordance with s. [11.0202 \(1\) \(a\)](#) by the applicable deadline for filing nomination papers by such candidate, or the deadline for filing a declaration of candidacy for an office for which nomination papers are not filed, the name of the candidate may not appear on the ballot. This subsection may not be construed to exempt a candidate from applicable penalties if he or she files a registration statement later than the time prescribed in s. [11.0202 \(1\) \(a\)](#).

(2m) The official or agency with whom nomination papers and declarations of candidacy are required to be filed shall not place a candidate's name on the ballot if the candidate's name is ineligible for ballot placement under s. [5.05 \(2m\) \(d\) 2.](#), [15.61 \(3\)](#), or [19.49 \(2\) \(c\) 2.](#)

(3) The official or agency with whom declarations of candidacy are required to be filed may not place a candidate's name on the ballot if the official or agency is prohibited from doing so under s. [19.43 \(4\)](#) or an ordinance adopted under s. [19.59 \(3\) \(b\)](#).

(4) The official or agency with whom a declaration of candidacy is required to be filed may not place a candidate's name on the ballot if the candidate fails to file a declaration of candidacy within the time prescribed under s. [8.21](#).

**History:** [1975 c. 93](#); [1979 c. 120, 328](#); [1979 c. 355 ss. 28, 29](#); [1983 a. 484](#); [1985 a. 304](#); [1987 a. 391](#); [2001 a. 109](#); [2005 a. 149, 177](#); [2007 a. 1](#); [2015 a. 117, 118](#).

**Cross-reference:** See also ss. [EL 2.09](#) and [2.11](#), Wis. adm. code.

A petitioner who timely filed with the county clerk rather than with the State Elections Board under former s. 8.10 (6) (a), 1975 stats., was barred from the ballot. State ex rel. Ahlgrimm v. State Elections Board, [82 Wis. 2d 585](#), [263 N.W.2d 152](#) (1978).



# NOMINATION PAPER FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE

Candidate's name (required); no titles may be used.  
**Brittany Kinser**

Candidate's residential address (required) No P.O. box addresses  
 Street, fire, or rural route number (if rural route), and name of street or road  
**9801 Eschweiler Drive Apt. 102, Wauwatosa WI 53226**

Candidate's mailing address (required if different than residential address or voting municipality)  
 State (required) Zip code  
**WI 53226**

Title of office (required)  
**State Superintendent of Public Instruction**

Branch, district or seat number (required if applicable)  
 Branch  
 District  
 Seat  
**NA**

Name of jurisdiction or district in which candidate seeks office (required)  
**Wisconsin**

Candidate's municipality for voting purposes (required)  
 Town  
 Village  
 City  
**Wauwatosa**

Election date (required) Do not use primary date.  
 Mo/Day/Year  
**04/01/2025**

I, the undersigned, request that the candidate, whose name and residential address are listed above, be placed on the ballot at the election described above as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for  him or  her for the office listed above. I am eligible to vote in the jurisdiction or district in which the candidate named above seeks office. I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

The municipality used for mailing purposes, when different than municipality of residence, is not sufficient. The name of the municipality of residence must always be listed.

Signatures of Electors	Printed Name of Electors	Residential Address (No P.O. Box Addresses) Street and Number or Rural Route (Rural address must also include box or fire no.)	Municipality of Residence Check the type and write the name of your municipality for voting purposes.	Date of Signing Mo/Day/Year
	Elisa Ramirez	1225 S. 32 <sup>nd</sup> St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	01/01/25
	Jesus Ramirez	2056 W. Vilter Ln	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	01/01/25
	Elier Ramirez	3333 W. Manistota St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	01/01/25
	Karla Sigura	3333 W. Manistota St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	01/01/25
	Erika Garcia	1719 South 44th St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	11/1/25
	Valentin Garcia	1719 South 44th St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	11/1/25
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	

**CERTIFICATION OF CIRCULATOR**  
 I, Angela Cruz Mejia (Name of circulator)  
 certify: I reside at 2027 W Scott St Milwaukee WI 53204  
 (Circulator's residential address - include number, street, and municipality.)

I further certify I am either a qualified elector of Wisconsin, or a U.S. citizen, age 18 or older who, if I were a resident of this state, would not be disqualified from voting under Wis. Stat. §5.03. I personally calculated this nomination paper and personally obtained each of the signatures on this paper. I know that the signers are electors of the jurisdiction or district the candidate seeks to represent. I know that each person signing the paper with full knowledge of its content on the date indicated opposite his or her name. I know their respective residences given. I intend to support this candidate. I am aware that falsifying this certification is punishable under Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(e).

01/01/25 (Date)  
  
 (Signature of circulator)

**NOMINATION PAPER FOR NON-PARTISAN OFFICE**

I, the undersigned, request that the name of

**Jill Underly**

residing at 1838 County Road K, Hollandale, WI 53544, Town of Moscow be placed on the ballot at the spring election to be held **April 1, 2025**

as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for her for the office of

**Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction**

I am eligible to vote in the jurisdiction or district in which the candidate named above seeks office. I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

SIGNATURE OF ELECTORS	PRINTED NAMES	STREET & NUMBER	MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE (INDICATE VILLAGE, TOWN, OR CITY)	ZIP CODE	DATE OF SIGNING
	Kevin Grosskreutz	211 E Pershing St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Mary Anne Cook	307 E Pershing St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Casey McHugh	2601 N. Morrison St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	STEVE HIRBY		<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City		
	STEVE HIRBY	209 E McArthur St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Grace Honda	200 E McCarthy St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Joseph Lubric	416 E Francis St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Marilyn Hether	573 E Francis St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Sharon LaPorte	833 A Allen St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024
	Beverly Buchmann	1912 N. Erb St	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City APPLETON	54911	12/9/2024

**CERTIFICATION OF CIRCULATOR**

I, Kelly Fenton (Name of circulator), certify: I reside at 500 W. Parkway (Circulator's residence - number & street), Appleton WI (Circulator's residence - municipality)

I further certify I am either a qualified elector of Wisconsin, or a U.S. citizen, age 18 or older who, if I were a resident of this state, would not be disqualified from voting under Wis. Stat. §6.03. I personally circulated this nomination paper and personally obtained each of the signatures on this paper. I know that the signers are electors of the jurisdiction or district the candidate seeks to represent. I know that each person signed the paper with full knowledge of its content on the date indicated opposite his or her name. I intend to support this candidate. I am aware that falsifying this certification is punishable under Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(a).

12/9/2024 (Date)

Kelly Fenton (Signature of circulator)



I, the undersigned, request that the name of

**DANIELLE SHELTON**

residing at 2474 N. Lake Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53211 be placed on the ballot at the spring election to be held

**APRIL 1, 2025**

as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for her for the office of

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE – BRANCH 40.**

I am eligible to vote in the jurisdiction or district in which the candidate named above seeks office. I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

THE MUNICIPALITY USED FOR MAILING PURPOSES, WHEN DIFFERENT THAN MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE, IS NOT SUFFICIENT. THE NAME OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE MUST ALWAYS BE LISTED.					
SIGNATURES OF ELECTORS	PRINTED NAME	STREET & NUMBER	MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE	DATE OF SIGNING	
	Laura Hill	6062 E. Superior St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/11/24	
	Melony Pederson	2810 E. Texas Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/11/24	
	Rebecca Jankowski	1923 E. Iron St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/11/24	
	Ratie Amstern	3061 S. Superior St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/11/24	
	Amy Ward	3472 S. Quincy Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/11/24	
	Morgan Gulledeg	338 E. Nowlin St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/12/24	
	Julie Darnieder	4001 N. Lake Dr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/12/24	
	Anthony Batzler	3035 S. Superior St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/12/24	
	Shannon Vitke	3000 S. Wentworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/17/24	
	Bethany Grayson	2538 S. Lenox St.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village Milwaukee	12/18/24	

CERTIFICATION OF CIRCULATOR

I, Kathryn Mertz, certify: I reside at 3003 S. Shore Dr. Milwaukee, WI 53207  
(Name of circulator) (Circulator's residence - include number, street, and municipality.)

I further certify I am either a qualified elector of Wisconsin, or a U.S. citizen, age 18 or older who, if I were a resident of this state, would not be disqualified from voting under Wis. Stat. §6.03. I personally circulated this nomination paper and personally obtained each of the signatures on this paper. I know that the signers are electors of the jurisdiction or district the candidate seeks to represent. I know that each person signed the paper with full knowledge of its content on the date indicated opposite his or her name. I know their respective residences given. I intend to support this candidate. I am aware that falsifying this certification is punishable under Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(a).

12/18/24  
(Date)

(Signature of circulator)

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(Page)

NOMINATION PAPER FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE

I, the undersigned, request that the name of

# LENA C. TAYLOR

residing at 3407 W Highland Boulevard, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin 53208, be placed on the ballot at the **Spring Election** to be held on April 1, 2025, as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for her for the office of

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BRANCH 41

I am eligible to vote in Milwaukee County, the jurisdiction in which the candidate named above seeks office.  
I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

SIGNATURES OF ELECTORS	PRINT NAME	STREET & NUMBER (NO P.O. BOXES)	MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE	DATE OF SIGNING
<i>Melany Hernandez-Cancel</i>	Melany Hernandez-Cancel	3325 S. 26th St. #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 6 2024
<i>Julia J. Cancel Roman</i>	Julia J. Cancel Roman	3325 S 26th St #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Ariel Hernandez</i>	Ariel Hernandez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Sandra Hernandez</i>	Sandra Hernandez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>José A. Hernández</i>	José A. Hernández	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Luisa E. Lopez</i>	Luisa E. Lopez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Daniel Hernandez</i>	Daniel Hernandez	3325 S. 26th St. #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Andree Hernandez</i>	Andree Hernandez	3325 S 26th St. #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Milwaukee	Dec. 14 2024
			<input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	Dec. 2024
			<input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	Dec. 2024

### CERTIFICATION OF CIRCULATOR

I, *Melany Hernandez-Cancel*, certify I reside at 3325 S. 26th St. #8, Milwaukee  
(Name of circulator) (Circulator's residence - include number, street, and municipality)

I further certify I am either a qualified elector of Wisconsin, or a U.S. citizen, age 18 or older who, if I were a resident of this state, would not be disqualified from voting under Wis. Stat. § 6.03. I personally circulated this nomination paper and personally obtained each of the signatures on this paper. I know that the signers are electors of the jurisdiction or district the candidate seeks to represent. I know that each person signed the paper with full knowledge of its content on the date indicated opposite his or her name. I know their respective residences given. I intend to support this candidate. I am aware that falsifying this certification is punishable under Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(a).

December 17, 2024  
(Date)  
*Melany Hernandez-Cancel*  
(Signature of circulator)

NOMINATION PAPER FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE

I, the undersigned, request that the name of

# WILLIAM S. POCAN

residing at 1522 N. Prospect Avenue, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin 53202, be placed on the ballot at the **Spring Election** to be held on April 1, 2025, as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for him for the office of

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BRANCH 26

I am eligible to vote in Milwaukee County, the jurisdiction in which the candidate named above seeks office.  
I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

SIGNATURES OF ELECTORS	PRINT NAME	STREET & NUMBER (NO P.O. BOXES)	MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE	DATE OF SIGNING
<i>Nahomi Hernandez Cancel</i>	Nahomi Hernandez Cancel	3325 S 26th St. #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 6 2024
<i>Julia J. Cancel Roman</i>	Julia J. Cancel Roman	3325 S 26th St #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Ariel Hernandez</i>	Ariel Hernandez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Sandra Hernandez</i>	Sandra Hernandez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Jose A. Hernandez</i>	Jose A. Hernandez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Luisa E. Lopez</i>	Luisa E. Lopez	7604 W. Wilbur Ave.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Daniel Hernandez</i>	Daniel Hernandez	3325 S 26th St #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 15 2024
<i>Andres Hernandez</i>	Andres Hernandez	3325 S 26th St #8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village City Milwaukee	Dec. 16 2024
			<input type="checkbox"/> Village City	Dec. 2024
			<input type="checkbox"/> Village City	Dec. 2024

### CERTIFICATION OF CIRCULATOR

I, Nahomi Hernandez Cancel, certify I reside at 3325 S. 26th St. #8, Milwaukee  
(Name of circulator) (Circulator's residence - include number, street, and municipality)

3

I further certify I am either a qualified elector of Wisconsin, or a U.S. citizen, age 18 or older who, if I were a resident of this state, would not be disqualified from voting under Wis. Stat. § 6.03. I personally circulated this nomination paper and personally obtained each of the signatures on this paper. I know that the signers are electors of the jurisdiction or district the candidate seeks to represent. I know that each person signed the paper with full knowledge of its content on the date indicated opposite his or her name. I know their respective residences given. I intend to support this candidate. I am aware that falsifying this certification is punishable under Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(a).

*Nahomi Hernandez Cancel*  
(Signature of circulator)

December 17, 2024  
(Date)







# Wisconsin Elections Commission

201 West Washington Avenue | Second Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984  
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** For the Jan. 14, 2025, Commission Meeting

**TO:** Members, Wisconsin Elections Commission

**SUBJECT:** Ballot Access for the April 1, 2025, Spring Election

This memorandum presents a summary of noteworthy information about candidates requesting ballot access for the April 1, 2025, Spring Election.

### Summary

The nomination paper filing deadline for the 2025 Spring Election for the offices of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, Court of Appeals judge in Districts II, III and IV, and for circuit court judge in various counties, was 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025. The circulation period for nomination papers began on Dec. 1, 2024.

A total of 59 candidates registered for state office contests in the Spring Election, 56 of whom filed nomination papers with the Wisconsin Elections Commission. There are three candidates for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, two candidates for Supreme Court, one candidate for Court of Appeals judge District II, one candidate for Court of Appeals judge District III, one candidate for District IV, and 48 candidates for 38 circuit court judge positions in 21 counties.

The first nomination papers were filed on Dec. 12, 2024, and two sets of papers were filed on deadline day.

<b>Date Submitted</b>	<b>Sets of Papers Filed</b>
Week of Dec. 9 - 13	3
Week of Dec. 16 - 20	9
Week of Dec. 23-27 (three working days)	21
Week of Dec. 30 – Jan. 3 (three working days)	18
Jan. 6 and Jan. 7	5
	<b>56 Total</b>

The office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jefferson County Circuit Court Branch 2 and St. Croix County Circuit Court Branch 2 are the state-level offices that will potentially require a primary on Feb. 18, 2025. At the time of printing, one challenge has been filed against a candidate running for Jefferson County Circuit Court Branch 2. If additional challenges are filed with the Commission ahead of the January 10, 2025, 4:30 p.m. deadline, staff will update the Commission. Local municipalities and school districts may have primaries for local office or have referenda questions on the ballot as well.

*Wisconsin Elections Commissioners*

Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

### **Notifications of Noncandidacy**

A Notification of Noncandidacy may be filed by an incumbent who is not seeking re-election to the office he or she currently holds. If an incumbent fails to file a Notification of Noncandidacy by the second Friday before the filing deadline - and does not file ballot access documents by the filing deadline - the filing deadline is extended 72 hours for any other candidate for that office. The extension does not apply to the incumbent. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(2)(a). The second Friday before the Jan. 7, 2025, filing deadline fell on Dec. 27, 2024.

Staff reached out to incumbent officeholders to ensure that those who did not plan to run for re-election filed a Notification of Noncandidacy by the deadline so that the ballot certification and preparation process was not delayed. Seven incumbent officeholders timely filed Notifications of Noncandidacy (see Attachment A). All other incumbents submitted nomination papers. Therefore, no extension of the filing deadline was required for offices for which the Commission is the filing officer.

### **Nomination Paper Review Process**

Staff apply nomination paper review standards based on Wis. Stats. §§ 8.10 and 8.30 and Wis. Admin. Code Ch. EL 2 to determine if a candidate has filed a sufficient number of signatures to qualify for ballot access. Attached to this memorandum are the internal nomination paper review standards (Attachment C) and the relevant statutory provisions (Attachment D) used by staff when reviewing papers. Staff also rely on past practices when making recommendations to the Commission as to whether an error on a nomination paper is grounds for striking a signature or page of signatures. This body of precedent comes from decisions issued regarding challenges to nomination papers, or a compliance review complaint filed under Wis. Stat. § 5.06. Staff accept all petitions under the presumption of validity as described in Administrative Code EL 2.05(4).

### **Number of Nomination Paper Signatures Required**

- Candidates for State Superintendent of Public Instruction must file a minimum of **2,000** valid signatures of qualified electors of Wisconsin to qualify for ballot access. Wis. Stat. § 8.10 (3)(a).
- Candidates for Justice of the Supreme Court must file a minimum of **2,000** valid signatures of qualified electors from Wisconsin to qualify for ballot access. Wis. Stat. § 8.10 (3)(a).
- Candidates for court of appeals judge must file a minimum of **1,000** valid signatures of qualified electors from the district to qualify for ballot access. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(3)(am).
- Candidates for circuit court judge in counties over 750,000 in population (Milwaukee County) must file a minimum of **1,000** valid signatures of qualified electors from the district to qualify for ballot access. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(3)(c).
- Candidates for circuit court judge in counties with a population of 750,000 or less must file a minimum of **200** valid signatures of qualified electors from the district to qualify for ballot access. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(3)(b).

Every nomination paper was reviewed separately by two staff members, and a determination regarding initial sufficiency was made within one business day of submission. This satisfied the staff goal of performing the two reviews within two business days of receiving the nomination papers. Out of 56 nomination paper submissions, 55 contained a sufficient number of valid signatures. One candidate has made plans to file a correcting affidavit to bring his nomination paper submission up to the minimum 200 signatures ahead of the Friday deadline, but has not filed such an affidavit as of 12:00 p.m. on January 10, 2025. As of the deadline for filing nomination papers (Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.), 30 candidates had also filed additional nomination papers to supplement their original filings.

### **Nomination Paper Copy Requests**

To facilitate requests for copies of nomination papers, staff made candidate petitions available for download via the Badger Voters data request site (<https://badgervoters.wi.gov/>). After the review process was complete, each petition, Declaration of Candidacy, and any supplemental signatures were scanned and uploaded to the site. These documents are available for download at no cost to the requestor. As of Jan. 9, 2025, 105 requests for nomination paper files had been fulfilled through Badger Voters.

### **Irregularities on Nomination Papers and Ballot Access Documents Not Affecting Ballot Status**

One irregularity was detected by staff during the nomination paper and ballot access document review process. Consistent with prior practice and decisions, staff believes this irregularity does not affect ballot access and did not strike signatures or reject filed documents due to this issue. Samples of the issue are in Attachments E.

1. Printed names of signers on nomination papers appear to be written by the circulator.

Staff continue to find printed names of signers and address information that appear to be in the same handwriting as the circulator, although there were fewer instances noticed during this filing period. Wis. Stat. § 8.10 (4)(b) requires the printed name and address information to be made by the signer of the petition, unless the signer requests assistance in signing or printing their name and address. Although staff encounter sporadic examples of this practice on many sets of papers, the most consistent examples over time involve circulators for candidates for Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge, some of whom are judges themselves. Without a verified challenge, staff do not believe that their own handwriting determinations were sufficient to strike signatures on that basis alone. Handwriting analysis is subjective, and just because handwriting looks similar, that does not mean it was done by the same person. However, even if staff had struck signatures on this ground on their own initiative, each candidate would still have had sufficient signatures to attain ballot access. Staff will continue to remind circulators that they can only assist a signer in providing such information if it is specifically requested by the signer.

### **Statements of Economic Interests**

All candidates timely filed the Statement of Economic Interests with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission.

### **Challenges to Nomination Paper Sufficiency**

One challenge to ballot access was received at the time of printing. The deadline to file a challenge to ballot access is Jan. 10, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Challenges will be discussed in a separate memorandum and presented by staff counsel.

### **Candidates Recommended for Approval of Ballot Status**

Staff recommend that the Commission certify ballot access for the 56 candidates listed as “approved” in Attachment B, Candidate Tracking by Office report.

### **Staff Recommendations for Approval of Ballot Access**

A list of candidates recommended for ballot status is included with this memorandum (Attachment B). Staff request the Commission approve the ballot status of those candidates listed who have met or exceeded the minimum valid signatures and have filed all necessary ballot access documents. Candidates that the staff have determined meet the required ballot access requirements are marked as “approve” on Attachment B.

This list includes candidates whose nomination papers contain issues that could support a challenge (such as form template issues, imprecise but common replacements for office titles, and suspiciously similar handwriting). However, during its review, Commission staff determined that the nomination papers nevertheless substantially complied with all requirements under the applicable laws and administrative code provisions.

**Recommended Motion #1:** The 56 candidates marked “approve” on the “Candidates Tracking by Office” report are approved for ballot access for the April 1, 2025, Spring Election, in addition to any candidates who were subject to challenge but were ultimately approved for ballot access by the Commission.

### **Staff Recommendations for Denial of Ballot Access**

Staff requests the Commission deny the ballot status of those candidates listed who have not met the minimum number of valid signatures, have not filed all necessary ballot access documents or otherwise do not meet the statutory requirements to be placed on the ballot. Candidates that staff have determined do not meet the required ballot access requirements are marked as “deny” on Attachment B.

**Recommended Motion #2:** The three candidates marked “deny” in Attachment B are denied ballot access for the April 1, 2025, Spring Election, in addition to any candidates who were subject to challenge and were ultimately denied ballot access by the Commission.

### **Challenges to Ballot Status**

The deadline for challenges to ballot access was Friday, Jan. 10, 2025. One challenge was filed with the Commission at the time of printing.

Challenges will be discussed in a separate memorandum and presented by staff counsel.

- Attachments:
- A. List of Incumbents Who Filed a Notification of Noncandidacy
  - B. Candidate Tracking by Office Report
  - C. Internal Nomination Paper Review Standards
  - D. Relevant Statutory
  - E. Nomination Paper Samples





# Wisconsin Elections Commission

201 West Washington Avenue | Second Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984  
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

**DATE:** For the January 14, 2025, Commission Meeting

**TO:** Commissioners, Wisconsin Elections Commission

**FROM:** Meagan Wolfe, Administrator  
Wisconsin Elections Commission

**SUBJECT:** Scheduling Commission Meetings for 2025

This memo asks the Commission to consider the schedule for two types of Commission meetings. First, quarterly meetings which are required by statute; and second, special meetings to consider Wis. Stat. § 5.06 complaints.

## Quarterly Meetings

Dates for the Commission to consider in 2025 are listed below for each quarter. Wisconsin Statute § 15.06(5) requires the Commission to meet in-person at least quarterly. Relevant dates within each quarter are in parentheses for the Commission's reference.

*1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:* February 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, or 28 (Spring Primary is February 18)  
March 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, or 25

*2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:* April 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 24, 27, 28, 29 or 30 (Spring Election April 1)  
May 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 29, or 30  
June 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, or 27

*3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:* July 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 21  
August 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, or 27  
September 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 22

*4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:* October 1, 6, 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, or 31  
November 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, or 21  
December 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14

## Special Meetings to Consider § 5.06 Complaints

Since 2024, the Commission has been required to meet in open session to decide all Wis. Stat. § 5.06 complaints (*Pellegrini v. WEC, Case No. 22-CV-1656*). Therefore, the Commission may wish to establish a regular schedule of special meetings to consider complaints and other emergent issues such as litigation and the advancement of administrative rules.

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners  
Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

Administrator  
Meagan Wolfe

These meetings could be set at a time of day (for example, 7 a.m.–9 a.m. or 5 p.m.–7 p.m.), or a set day of the week (example, starting at 3pm on the second Tuesday of each month), that helps to avoid conflicts with Commissioners’ full-time work schedules. The Commission may also wish to grant the WEC chairperson the ability to cancel special meetings if they are not needed. Dates for consideration are the same as those presented above for quarterly meetings. It is recommended that the Commission schedule a special meeting for each month in which there is not a quarterly meeting scheduled.

**Note:** There is a current need for a special meeting in the first half of February to address pending complaints and other timely matters. The preferred dates for this special meeting are: February 3, 12, 13, or 14.

**2026 Dates for the Commission’s Reference**

For scheduling purposes, the Commission should be aware of statutorily required ballot access meetings that will occur in 2026, which is a General Election year. No Commission action is required to establish these meetings. Please take note of the following 2026 dates:

January 13, 2026 (the Commission is required to hear challenges and determine ballot access for the Spring Election cycle)

June 10, 2026 (the Commission is required to hear challenges and determine ballot access for the Fall Election cycle)

**Motions**

*Recommended Motion #1.* The Commission adopts the quarterly meeting schedule as follows for 2025: The Quarter 1 meeting will be held on [date] beginning at [time] in-person, the Quarter 2 meeting will be held on [date] beginning at [time] in-person, the Quarter 3 meeting will be held on [date] beginning at [time] in-person, and the Quarter 4 meeting will be held on [date] beginning at [time] in-person.

*Recommended Motion #2.* The Commission establishes the following schedule for special meetings [list dates and start times]. Special meetings will be held remotely. If there is no agency need for the scheduled special meetings, the WEC Chairperson is authorized to cancel the meetings.





# Wisconsin Elections Commission

201 West Washington Avenue | Second Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984  
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

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**DATE:** For the January 14, 2025 Commission Meeting

**TO:** Members, Wisconsin Elections Commission

**FROM:** Meagan Wolfe  
Administrator

**SUBJECT:** 2025 Spring Primary and Spring Election Ballot Templates

Samples of the ballot templates for the 2025 Spring Primary and Spring Election accompany this memorandum and are submitted to the Wisconsin Elections Commission for approval.

These templates reflect the same ballot format and layout used in the 2024 Spring Election. The current design continues to be acceptable to county clerks, voters, ballot printers, and equipment vendors.

**Recommended Motion:**

The Commission approves the ballot design presented by staff and directs staff to utilize the ballot design for the 2025 Spring Primary and Spring Election.

*Wisconsin Elections Commissioners*

Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

---

Administrator  
Meagan Wolfe

# Official Primary Ballot

## Nonpartisan Office and Referendum

### February 18, 2025

Notice to voters: if you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (see end of ballot for initials).

General Instructions	Judicial (cont.)	Municipal
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: <input type="radio"/></p> <p>To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Court of Appeals Judge</b> District __ <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>Mayor</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
State Superintendent of Public Instruction	<p><b>Circuit Court Judge</b> Branch __ <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>Aldersperson At Large</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
<p><b>State Superintendent</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>County</b></p> <p><b>County Supervisor</b> District __ <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>School District</b></p> <p><b>Name of School District (optional)</b> <b>School Board Member</b> <b>Vote for not more than...</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
Judicial	<p><b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
Continue voting at top of next column.	Continue voting at top of next column.	Continue voting on back of ballot.

**Page 1 of 2-sided ballot. Ballot continues on other side. →**

**Referendum**

To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "Yes," like this:

To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "No," like this:

**Level of government conducting referendum (State, tech college, county, municipal, school district)**

Question (number if necessary)

Shall the...?

Yes

No

**Official Primary Ballot  
Nonpartisan Office and  
Referendum  
February 18, 2025  
for**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipality and ward number(s)

**Ballot issued by**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials of election inspectors

**Absentee ballot issued by**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
If issued by SVDs, both must initial

**Certification of Voter Assistance**

I certify that I marked or read aloud this ballot at the request and direction of a voter who is authorized under Wis. Stat. §6.82 to receive assistance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of assistor

**For Official Use Only**

**Inspectors:** Identify ballots required to be remade:

Overvoted

Damaged

Other

If this is the **Original Ballot**, write the serial number here:

If this is the **Duplicate Ballot**, write the serial number here:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials of inspectors who remade ballot



# Official Ballot

## Nonpartisan Office and Referendum

### April 1, 2025

Notice to voters: if you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (see end of ballot for initials).

General Instructions	Judicial (cont.)	Municipal (cont.)
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: <input type="radio"/></p> <p>To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Circuit Court Judge Branch ___</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>City Clerk</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
State Superintendent of Public Instruction	County	City Treasurer
<p><b>State Superintendent</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>County Executive</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>City Treasurer</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p>
Judicial	County Supervisor	City Attorney
<p><b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>County Supervisor</b> <b>District ___</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>City Attorney</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
	Municipal	Aldersperson At Large
<p><b>Court of Appeals Judge</b> <b>District ___</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>Mayor</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><b>Aldersperson At Large</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
		Municipal Judge
<p>Continue voting at top of next column.</p>	<p>Continue voting at top of next column.</p>	<p><b>Municipal Judge</b> <b>Vote for 1</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Candidate</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
<p>Continue voting on back of ballot.</p>		

**Page 1 of 2-sided ballot. Ballot continues on other side. ➡**

Sanitary District	Referendum	Official Ballot Nonpartisan Office and Referendum April 1, 2025 for	
<b>Sanitary District Commissioner Vote for 1</b>	To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "Yes," like this: <input type="radio"/>	Municipality and ward number(s)	
<input type="radio"/> Candidate	To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "No," like this: <input type="radio"/>	<b>Ballot issued by</b>  _____	
<input type="radio"/> Candidate	<b>Level of government conducting referendum (State, tech college, county, municipal, school district)</b>		
<input type="radio"/> write-in:	Question (number if necessary)	Initials of election inspectors	
<b>School District</b>	Shall the...?	<b>Absentee ballot issued by</b>  _____	
<b>Name of School District (optional) School Board Member Vote for not more than...</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes		
<input type="radio"/> Candidate	<input type="radio"/> No	Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk	
<input type="radio"/> Candidate		If issued by SVDs, both must initial	
<input type="radio"/> Candidate		<b>Certification of Voter Assistance</b>  I certify that I marked or read aloud this ballot at the request and direction of a voter who is authorized under Wis. Stat. §6.82 to receive assistance.  _____ Signature of assistor	
<input type="radio"/> write-in:			
<input type="radio"/> write-in:			
		<b>For Official Use Only</b>	
		<b>Inspectors:</b> Identify ballots required to be remade:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Overvoted	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Damaged	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
		If this is the <b>Original Ballot</b> , write the serial number here:  _____	If this is the <b>Duplicate Ballot</b> , write the serial number here:  _____
<b>Continue voting at top of next column.</b>		Initials of inspectors who remade ballot	



# Official Ballot

## Nonpartisan Office and Referendum

### April 1, 2025

**Notice to Voters:** If you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials. (See end of ballot for initials).

Instructions to Voters	Judicial (cont.)	Municipal (cont.)
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help. (Absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to the name like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in."</p>	<b>Circuit Court Judge Branch _____</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<b>City Clerk</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
	Write-in:	Write-in:
<b>State Superintendent of Public Instruction</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>City Treasurer</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
<b>State Superintendent</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<b>County Executive</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	Write-in:
Write-in:	Write-in:	<b>Aldersperson At Large</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
<b>Judicial</b>	<b>County Supervisor District _____</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
<b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	Write-in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	Write-in:	<b>Municipal Judge</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
Write-in:	<b>Municipal</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
<b>Court of Appeals Judge District _____</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<b>Mayor</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	Write-in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate	<b>Page 1 of 2-sided ballot.</b> <b>Continue voting on back of ballot.</b>
Write-in:	Write-in:	
<b>Continue voting at top of next column.</b>	<b>Continue voting at top of next column.</b>	

<b>Sanitary District</b>	<b>Official Ballot</b> <b>Nonpartisan Office and Referendum</b> <b>April 1, 2025</b> for <hr/> (municipality and ward number) <hr/> <b>Ballot issued by:</b> <hr/>	
<b>Sanitary District Commissioner</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate		
Write-in:		
<b>School District</b>	<hr/> (Initials of election inspectors) <hr/> <b>Absentee ballot issued by:</b> <hr/> (Initials of municipal clerk or deputy) _____ If issued by SVDs, both must initial.	
<b>Name of School District (optional)</b> <b>School Board Member</b> <b>Vote for not more than</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate		
Write-in:		
Write-in:		
<b>Referendum</b>		<b>Certification of Voter Assistance</b>
To vote in favor of a question, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to "Yes," like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		I certify that I marked or read aloud this ballot at the request and direction of a voter who is authorized under Wis. Stat. § 6.82 to receive assistance.
To vote against a question, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to "No," like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Level of government conducting referendum (state, tech college, county, municipal, school district)</b>		
Question (number if necessary): Shall the....?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
<input type="checkbox"/> No		







# Wisconsin Elections Commission

201 West Washington Avenue | Second Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984  
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

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**DATE:** January 14, 2025

**TO:** Members, Wisconsin Elections Commission

**FROM:** Angela O'Brien Sharpe  
Staff Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Request for the Attorney General's Opinion regarding the interpretation and implementation of newly created Wis. Stat. § 19.36(14), Identities of Election Officials or Election Registration Officials

**ATTACHMENT:** **Attachment A** – Draft Attorney General Opinion Request

## Introduction

On July 1, 2025, a new provision of Wisconsin public records law will go into effect regarding Identities of Election Officials or Election Registration Officials (“the Election Official Identity Statute”). Wis. Stat. § 19.36(14). This provision of law will impact all units of state and local government, including the Commission, county clerks, and municipal clerks.

The Election Official Identity statute consists of a single sentence: “Unless access is specifically authorized or required by statute, an authority shall not provide access under s. 19.35 (1) to records containing the personally identifiable information of an election official, as defined in s. 5.02 (4e), or an election registration official, as defined in s. 5.02 (4g), except that an authority may provide access to the name of an election official or election registration official and the city and state where the official resides.”

## Discussion

There are many ambiguities with the Election Official Identity Statute that make assessing compliance difficult. First, there are difficulties with understanding its scope, specifically whether the records need to identify the individual as a current election official for this statute to apply. Second, it is not clear what information must be protected when the statute does apply because the term “personally identifiable information” is not defined. Finally, it is not clear how the Commission can, or must, comply with both this statute and the state laws that require public access to the statewide voter registration list.

Commission staff believe that an opinion from the Attorney General is warranted to better understand how the Commission and other government offices can best comply with this new provision. The Attorney General is authorized by statute to give his opinion on all questions of law submitted by the head of any department of state government, and he is also specifically authorized to give his opinion on questions of interpretation of Wisconsin's public records law. Wis. Stats. §§ 165.015 and 19.39.

*Wisconsin Elections Commissioners*

Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

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Administrator  
Meagan Wolfe

Commission staff believe the Commission is the appropriate requestor for an attorney general opinion on this statute because even though it is a provision of public records law, not election law, its subject matter will likely lead other units of government to turn to the Commission for questions. Specifically, other units of government across the state might believe that the Commission maintains or possesses a list of all election officials in the state, and they may see requesting such a list as a significant aid to complying with the law. Such a list does not exist, meaning the Commission is likely to receive many questions on how public records officers are supposed to determine if an individual mentioned in a record is an election official.

Without clarity from the Attorney General, the Commission will likely need to interpret this provision of law itself, including the degree to which it can comply. Strict compliance with the statute, meaning all ambiguities are resolved in favor of protecting information, would be extremely burdensome on existing systems and practices. Difficulties with this statute are not unique to the Commission—every unit of government that handles public records requests will run into the same ambiguities.

Additional details regarding the necessity of this Attorney General opinion, as well as the proposed questions of interpretation, are laid out in the draft included in **Attachment A**.

**Recommended Motion:** The Wisconsin Elections Commission approves the draft in **Attachment A**, subject to any revisions or edits that received consensus during the discussion. Staff are directed to transmit the final request to Attorney General Josh Kaul pursuant to Wis. Stats. §§ 165.015 and 19.39.



# Wisconsin Elections Commission

201 West Washington Avenue | Second Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984  
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

**DATE:** January 14, 2025

**TO:** Attorney General Josh Kaul

**FROM:** The Wisconsin Elections Commission

**SUBJECT:** Request for the Attorney General’s Opinion regarding the interpretation and implementation of newly created Wis. Stat. § 19.36(14), Identities of Election Officials or Election Registration Officials

Dear Attorney General Kaul:

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.015, the Wisconsin Elections Commission (“the Commission”) respectfully requests your opinion in writing upon a question law pertaining to the interpretation and implementation of newly created Wis. Stat. § 19.36(14), Identities of Election Officials or Election Registration Officials (“the Election Official Identity Statute”). Since the statutory change was made to Chapter 19, the Commission also makes this request pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.39, which permits any person to request advice from the attorney general as to the applicability of any subchapter within Chapter 19. This statutory change will become effective as of July 1, 2025, and was passed pursuant to 2023 Wisconsin Act 126.<sup>1</sup>

The Election Official Identity statute consists of a single sentence: “Unless access is specifically authorized or required by statute, an authority shall not provide access under s. 19.35 (1) to records containing the personally identifiable information of an election official, as defined in s. 5.02 (4e), or an election registration official, as defined in s. 5.02 (4g), except that an authority may provide access to the name of an election official or election registration official and the city and state where the official resides.”

However, unless the Commission receives clarity from the Attorney General, this single sentence has the potential to disrupt the work of the Commission and other administrative agencies, as well as every municipality and county in the state, by setting an unreasonable and unworkable standard by which election official information must be redacted or withheld from public records requests.

Although the content of the law (election officials) appears on its face to be within the Commission’s statutory purview, the broader questions actually stem from and impact Wisconsin public records law. Commission legal staff have already fielded questions from other municipal attorneys who represent Wisconsin cities, towns, and villages who are also concerned over the applicability and feasibility of complying with the Election Official Identity Statute. Many state agencies or local governments may be under the impression that the Commission maintains a list or database of every election official in the state, but that is not the case. Accordingly, the Commission believes the Attorney General’s interpretations are not only appropriate because of the statewide significance of the law, but also because the Attorney General has published and maintained the Wisconsin Public Records Law Compliance Guide for many years.

<sup>1</sup> Available at: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/acts/126> .

*Wisconsin Elections Commissioners*

Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

Administrator  
Meagan Wolfe

Commission staff estimate that it would take 10 to 12 weeks, at minimum, to develop and implement changes to the statewide voter registration system to comply with the Election Official Identity Statute by July 1. Any number of factors could increase that estimate, so the Commission respectfully requests your opinion on these questions as soon as possible, but no later than **February 14, 2025**.

## **Statutory Background**

The Election Official Identity statute was added to a larger piece of legislation addressing local candidate filings with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission. It was added as an Assembly Amendment 1 to 2023 Senate Bill 822 as part of a series of additions designed to offer greater protection to election officials, including whistleblower protections, as well as creating the new crime of battery to an election official.

The Election Official Identity statute creates a new provision within Chapter 19, Subchapter II, which covers Public Records and Property. Specifically, it creates a new limitation upon access and withholding of public records. The purpose of the law is to protect the personally identifiable information of election officials (any individual who is charged with duties relating to the conduct of an election) and election registration officials (any official assigned under state law to register electors). Under the Election Official Identity statute, a public records custodian is only permitted to provide access to an election official's name, city, and state, and cannot provide any other personally identifiable information.

## **Questions Presented**

**Question 1: The Commission seeks your opinion on whether the record needs to identify the individual as an election official for the records custodian to be required to withhold their personally identifiable information.**

The most significant ambiguity in the Election Official Identity statute is its intended scope of applicable records, and whether the record must identify an individual as an election official for the Election Official Identity statute to apply. The Commission believes that the record itself must identify an individual as an election official. Any interpretation to the contrary would create an unworkable and unreasonable compliance standard for not only the Commission, but also every other state agency and local unit of government in Wisconsin.

The Election Official Identity statute indicates that the information that must be withheld is the “personally identifiable information of an election official...” (Emphasis added). The only way for the records custodian to determine if the Election Official Identity statute applies is if the record itself tells them that it does. There is no repository or statewide list of every election official in the state. The Commission estimates that there could be upwards of 30,000 individuals who serve as local election officials (mostly poll workers) during a major general election.

Even if there were some kind of central repository that listed every individual who has ever served as an election official, checking it against each and every name that appears on a requested public record would likely grind every public records office in the state to a halt.

As an example, consider the following hypothetical scenario. A state agency identifies a responsive record that contains the name and residential address of Bucky Badger, who resides in Appleton, Wisconsin. The record is responsive to the request and is otherwise releasable under Wisconsin public records law. However, in the wake of the Election Official Identity statute, the agency now must determine if Bucky Badger is an election official so that it can then determine if the residential address must be redacted. If the record itself does not identify Bucky Badger as an election official, the agency has a tough job ahead of it since there is no statewide database of election officials.

First, the agency could try to determine if Bucky Badger is a municipal clerk or county clerk. That is a relatively simple matter as the agency could verify with the Commission whether someone is a current clerk. However, since clerks are not the only types of election officials, the work must continue. Second, to determine if Bucky Badger is or has ever been a poll worker, the agency must contact the municipal clerk associated with Bucky's address. Then the agency must wait for the municipal clerk to search their own records to confirm if Bucky is in fact a poll worker. But what if Bucky just moved to Appleton? What if he was a poll worker in Sun Prairie before that? How is the agency supposed to know that? At this point, the agency has likely expended a considerable amount of time trying to figure out if Bucky Badger is, or has ever been, an election official, so now the agency is at risk of not fulfilling the request "as soon as practicable and without delay." Wis. Stat. § 19.35(4).

Next, consider a related hypothetical scenario that takes an already daunting task and increases the difficulty exponentially. Agencies and local governments receive and generate emails every day from Wisconsin residents that do not necessarily identify where the individual resides or whether that individual is an election official somewhere in the state. If Bucky Badger sent an email to a state agency or local government supporting or opposing a policy, that email address would likely be personally identifiable information, but likely would not provide enough information for the public records officer to know even which clerk to contact to check if the individual is an election official. Even if there were a statewide repository of election official names, it might not be possible to determine whether the Bucky Badger who sent the email is the same as the Bucky Badger who was a poll worker in Sun Prairie earlier this year. A records officer may have no other method but to individually contact each person who would have personally identifiable information revealed in a public record set for release to determine whether the information must be redacted. A large records request might contain hundreds of names and emails, which would create a nearly impossible situation to review for redactions of election official information.

The Commission does not believe that this was the outcome envisioned or intended by the Legislature. Considering that other provisions that were included alongside the Election Official Identity statute were designed to protect election officials (whistleblower protections and a new crime for battery of an election official), it is more likely that the Legislature intended to protect records that identify election officials as such, and that include their personally identifiable information. In other words, it seems as if the Legislature intended to protect a document, such as a list of poll workers, labeled as such, from falling into the hands of someone motivated to use that list to harass, threaten, or intimidate election officials.

If you agree that a record must identify an individual as an election official for the Election Official Identity statute to apply, the Commission seeks your opinion on the necessary follow up question of *how* the record must identify the election official.

**Question 2: If your opinion to Question 1 is that the record must identify the individual as an election official, is it also your opinion that the record must identify the individual as a current election official?**

The Election Official Identity statute specifically cross-references the statutory definitions for "election official" and "election registration official." Wis. Stats. §§ 5.02(4e) and 5.05(4g). The Commission has consistently interpreted these definitions to refer to current election officials, not former, because only current election officials are authorized to administer elections. Accordingly, the Commission seeks your opinion on whether someone who once was, but is no longer, charged with duties to register or carry out elections is not an election official, and is therefore not protected by the Election Official Identity statute.

Similar to Question 1, if you agree that a record must identify an individual as a current election official for the Election Official Identity statute to apply, the Commission seeks your opinion on the necessary follow up question of *how* the record must indicate that the individual is a current election official.

**Question 3: The Commission seeks your opinion on what information constitutes “personally identifiable information” for election officials, and whether that includes government email addresses or phone numbers.**

The Election Official Identity statute requires records custodians to withhold records containing the “personally identifiable information” (“PII”) of an election official without further defining what constitutes PII in this context. Generally, under public records law, PII “means information that can be associated with a particular individual through one or more modifiers or other information or circumstances.” Wis. Stat. § 19.62(5). The Election Official Identity statute specifically includes the names of election officials, as well as the city or state where they reside, but it is silent with respect to what other information should be withheld or redacted.

Under the broadest reading of the Election Official Identity statute, a records custodian would be compelled to withhold or redact almost every record containing information about an election official. This could include: government email addresses, government phone numbers, personal email addresses or phone numbers, family information, education background, or any other piece of information that can be associated with the individual. Even if the Election Official Identity statute were limited to current election officials only, needing to manually redact every email address, phone number, or other piece of identifying information would exponentially increase the time needed to review and redact records.

Accordingly, the Commission seeks your opinion on whether “personally identifiable information” within the Election Official Identity statute has the same meaning as in § 19.62(5), or whether it has some different meaning specific to election officials.

**Question 4: The Commission seeks your opinion on whether Wis. Stat. § 6.36(1)(b)1. constitutes access that is “specifically authorized or required by statute” under the Election Official Identity statute.**

The entirety of the Election Official Identity statute is predicated upon its prefatory clause, “unless access is specifically authorized or required by statute.” The Commission seeks the Attorney General’s interpretation of this phrase, specifically as it relates to state law requiring the Commission to permit public access to the statewide voter registration list.

The prefatory phrase “unless access is specifically authorized or required by statute” appears in two other places in Chapter 19. Wis. Stat. §§ 19.36(10) (employee personnel records); and 19.36(11) (records of an individual holding a local public office or state public office). The Commission was unable to find any court case in Wisconsin interpreting this phrase within the context of Chapter 19, and the Department of Justice’s Wisconsin Public Records Law Compliance Guide is likewise silent on the matter.

State law requires the Commission to compile and maintain the statewide voter registration list, which must include, among other things, the electors’: 1) name and address; 2) date of birth; and 3) driver’s license number (if any) or last four digits of a social security number. Wis. Stat. § 6.36(1)(a)(1), (2), and (5). State law also requires that this list “be open to public inspection” and “be electronically accessible.” Wis. Stat. § 6.36(1)(b)1. State law exempts the public from accessing electors’ dates of birth, driver’s license numbers, social security numbers, protected confidential elector addresses, or requested accommodations. Wis. Stat. § 6.36(1)(b)1.a. However, § 6.36(1)(b)1.a. does not prevent the Commission from making the residential addresses of electors publicly available on the statewide voter registration list.

The Commission believes that the most common sense read of this prefatory clause means that the Election Official Identity statute would not apply to the statewide voter registration list because the Commission is “specifically authorized or required by statute” to make the list publicly available.

## **Conclusion**

In order for the Commission to have enough time to implement new processes and possible changes to election systems ahead of when the law goes into effect on July 1, 2025, the Commission respectfully requests your opinion on these questions no later than **February 14, 2025**.

If you have any questions, please contact Commission staff at 608-266-8005 or [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov).

Sincerely,

**THE WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION**