FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS OF ROBIN VOS, A WISCONSIN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 14-CV-1932

WISCONSIN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD, et al.,

Defendants.

CONSOLIDATED MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS AND IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND/OR TEMPORARY INJUNCTION

INTRODUCTION

This case involves a request for declaratory and injunctive relief that would amount to an extraordinary judicial intervention in the preparation and circulation of ballots for the upcoming November 4, 2014, General Election (hereinafter "the Election"). The relief being requested by the plaintiffs is contrary to the procedure prescribed by the statutes (Wis. Stat. § 5.06) and is barred by the Wisconsin Court of Appeals' holding in *Kuechmann v. La Crosse School. District*, 170 Wis. 2d 218, 487 N.W.2d 639 (Ct. App. 1992). This matter is, therefore, appropriate for dismissal without consideration of the need to review plaintiffs' request for injunctive relief.

The plaintiffs are the campaign committee for Wisconsin State Representative Robin Vos and the campaign committee for Wisconsin State Senator Scott Fitzgerald (hereinafter,

collectively, "the Committees"). The defendants are the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board, its individual members, and its executive director (hereinafter, collectively, "the GAB").

The Committees challenge the legality of the omission of certain lines and shading from template ballot forms for the Election produced by the GAB. First, they allege that the omission of a line or comparable demarcation separating the title of each office on the ballot from the name of the first candidate for that office is likely to confuse some voters into mistakenly thinking the first candidate is the only candidate for that office, resulting in an unfair electoral advantage for the first candidate. Second, the Committees allege that the omission of shading to highlight the title of each separate office on the ballot is likely to confuse some voters into missing where one race ends and another begins, resulting in an inadvertent failure by the voter to vote in the race further down the ballot. These two forms of voter confusion, according to the Committees, will impair the voting rights of confused voters, in violation of the Wisconsin and United States Constitutions, and are contrary to an alleged statutory requirement that all ballots must minimize the possibility of disenfranchisement of electors through voter confusion. See Wis. Stat. § 5.91.

Based on the above allegations, the Committees ask the Court to: (1) declare that the challenged template ballot forms are unlawful; (2) declare that it is permissible for Wisconsin's county clerks to distribute ballots for the Election that do not conform to the template forms; (3) enjoin GAB from either requiring the use of ballots that follow the template forms or refusing to approve ballots prepared by the county clerks that do not follow those forms; (4) order GAB to prescribe new template ballot forms that incorporate a ballot design format used in earlier elections; and (5) order GAB to immediately inform municipal clerks throughout the state that all ballots must follow the ballot design format used in earlier elections.

The Committees commenced this action on September 17, 2014, by filing a Verified Complaint and simultaneously filed a Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and/or Temporary Injunction ("the Injunction Motion") seeking temporary relief equivalent to the relief requested in the Verified Complaint. On September 19, 2014, the Court scheduled a hearing on the Injunction Motion for September 24, 2014. On September 22, 2014, the GAB filed a Motion to Dismiss, seeking dismissal of this action on the ground that the Court lacks competency to proceed with respect to the Committees' claims and that the Committees lack standing to assert the voting rights of individual voters. In the alternative, the GAB seeks dismissal of the Committees' claims as to all but four Wisconsin counties on the ground that the Committees lack standing to assert those claims as to any other counties. With regard to any claims that are not dismissed, the Committees' request for injunctive relief should be denied. The GAB submits this memorandum in support of its Motion to Dismiss and in opposition to the Committees' Injunction Motion.

ARGUMENT

- I. THIS ACTION MUST BE DISMISSED BECAUSE THE COURT LACKS COMPETENCY TO PROCEED.
 - A. The Committees Have Failed to Follow the Statutory Requirements for Raising a Complaint Regarding Ballot Preparation.

The Legislature has prescribed specific procedures for raising claims such as those raised by the Committees in this matter. The Committees failed to follow those exclusive procedures, and the Court thus lacks competency to proceed with the action. Any claim that a decision or action of an election official is contrary to law with respect to election-related matters, including ballot preparation, must be brought by first filing a sworn complaint with the GAB:

Whenever any elector of a jurisdiction or district served by an election official believes that a decision or action of the official or the failure of the official to act with respect to any matter concerning nominations, qualifications of candidates, voting qualifications, including residence, ward division and numbering, recall, ballot preparation, election administration or conduct of elections is contrary to law, or the official has abused the discretion vested in him or her by law with respect to any such matter, the elector may file a written sworn complaint with the board requesting that the official be required to conform his or her conduct to the law, be restrained from taking any action inconsistent with the law or be required to correct any action or decision inconsistent with the law or any abuse of the discretion vested in him or her by law. The complaint shall set forth such facts as are within the knowledge of the complainant to show probable cause to believe that a violation of law or abuse of discretion has occurred or will occur. The complaint may be accompanied by relevant supporting documents. The board may conduct a hearing on the matter in the manner prescribed for treatment of contested cases under ch. 227 if it believes such action to be appropriate.

Wis. Stat. § 5.06(1). The statute goes on to say that no person "may commence an action or proceeding to test the validity of any decision, action or failure to act on the part of any election official with respect to any matter specified in sub. (1) without first filing a complaint under sub. (1), nor prior to disposition of the complaint by the board." Wis. Stat. § 5.06(2) (rest omitted). In addition, any such complaint must be filed no "later than 10 days after the complainant knew or should have known that a violation of law or abuse of discretion occurred or was proposed to occur." Wis. Stat. § 5.06(3).

Any party aggrieved by a decision issued by the GAB in response to such a complaint may, within 30 days, appeal that decision to the circuit court. Wis. Stat. § 5.06(8).

In this matter, the Committees did not file a complaint with the GAB, as required by Wis. Stat. § 5.06. They are thus barred from bringing any action or proceeding challenging the validity of either the GAB's or any county clerk's actions with respect to ballot preparation. The

¹Here, the ballot template to which the Committees object has been available on the GAB's website since July 17, 2014.

Wisconsin Court of Appeals has held that a plaintiff's failure to follow this statutory procedure deprives a circuit court of competency² to hear a plaintiff's action commenced in circuit court. *See Kuechmann v. La Crosse Sch. Dist.*, 170 Wis. 2d 218, 487 N.W.2d 639 (Ct. App. 1992). In *Kuechmann*, the plaintiffs were two school board members who filed a complaint with the State Elections Board (the precursor to the GAB) regarding alleged deficiencies in recall petitions filed against them. The plaintiffs in that matter did not, however, wait for the Elections Board to act and filed an action in the circuit court seeking declaratory and injunctive relief two days before the Elections Board's final decision in the matter. The Court of Appeals held that the plaintiffs' failure to comply with the statutory procedures deprived the circuit court of jurisdiction (*i.e.*, competency) to hear the matter and dismissed the plaintiffs' complaint.

The *Kuechmann* Court noted that the plaintiffs "[r]ather than seek sec. 5.06, Stats., review of the board's decision, [] brought an original action for declaratory relief, injunctive relief and prohibition." *Kuechmann*, 170 Wis. 2d at 224. The present case is in precisely the same posture, and the holding in *Kuechmann* is directly on point and its language is unequivocal:

[1] Plaintiffs' failure to comply with sec. 5.06(2), Stats., and failure to seek judicial review under sec. 5.06(8) and (9), Stats., deprived the circuit court of jurisdiction. The Elections Board is an administrative agency. For many years, the law of this state has been that if "a statute relating to an administrative agency provides a direct method of judicial review of agency action, such method of review is generally regarded as exclusive, especially where the statutory remedy is plain, speedy, and adequate." *Underwood v. Karns*, 21 Wis.2d 175, 179–80, 124 N.W.2d 116, 118–19 (1963). "Where a specified method of review is prescribed by the legislature, that method is exclusive." *Graney v. Board of Regents*, 92 Wis.2d 745, 755, 286 N.W.2d 138, 144 (Ct.App.1979), and cases cited. If the statutorily prescribed procedure for review is not followed, the circuit

²The *Kuechmann* case, decided in 1992, uses the old terminology of "jurisdiction" rather than "competency." Failure to comply with a statutory mandate pertaining to exercise of a court's subject matter jurisdiction is now articulated as the court's loss of competency to exercise its jurisdiction to proceed rather than the less-nuanced former articulation as loss of jurisdiction. *Vill. of Trempealeau v. Mikrut*, 2004 WI 79, ¶¶ 8-10 & n.3, 273 Wis. 2d 76, 681 N.W.2d 190.

court lacks jurisdiction to issue an injunction. Jackson County Iron Co. v. Musolf, 134 Wis.2d 95, 101, 396 N.W.2d 323, 325 (1986).

[2] No room exists for an argument that the remedy of judicial review afforded under sec. 5.06, Stats., is inadequate. When the legislature prescribes the method to review alleged deficiencies in election procedure, the legislature must deem that procedure to provide an adequate review. For a court to suggest that the statutorily mandated review in sec. 5.06(9), Stats., is somehow inadequate would defy the legislature's decision to the contrary. The summary procedure mandated in the statute evinces the legislature's knowledge that a speedy review of the board's decision is necessary. The legislature having decreed that deficiencies in an election will be judicially reviewed as in sec. 5.06(8) and (9), Stats., the circuit court cannot employ some other method of review, such as an independent action for declaratory relief, prohibition or injunction.

Kuechmann, 170 Wis. 2d at 224-25 (emphasis added). Because the Committees in this matter failed to avail themselves of the statutorily-prescribed process, this Court lacks competency to proceed on their claims for injunctive and declaratory relief, and this matter must be dismissed.

B. The Committees Have Failed to Avail Themselves of the Only Alternative Complaint Procedure Provided by the Statutes.

The only alternative procedure for raising a claim regarding any election official's alleged failure to comply with the law regarding the conduct of elections is the "Petition for enforcement" procedure under Wis. Stat. § 5.08.³ Under that provision, in addition to or in lieu of filing a complaint with the GAB, a person can file a verified petition regarding the alleged violations with the district attorney in the county in which the alleged violation of law occurs. The district attorney may then commence an action or can dismiss the petition. If the district attorney dismisses the petition or fails to act on it within 15 days, the petitioner can file the petition with the attorney general, who may then choose whether or not to commence an action.

³While the Committees' Verified Complaint references this statute section, they never filed such a petition with any district attorney.

The Committees, however, did not avail themselves of this procedure, which is their only alternative method of seeking relief.

C. For the Reasons Stated Above, This Action Must Be Dismissed In Its Entirety.

The Committees failed to comply with the statutory procedures for raising a complaint regarding alleged deficiencies in ballot preparation. Under the black-letter law of the statutes, as well as the unequivocal holding of the Court of Appeals in *Kuechmann*, their failure to follow the statutory procedures deprives this Court of competency and this matter must be dismissed. In addition, the Committees have not filed a petition with any district attorney, which is their only alternative method of seeking relief.

- II. THIS CASE SHOULD BE DISMISSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BECAUSE THE COMMITTEES LACK STANDING.
 - A. The Committees Lack Standing to Assert the Rights of Individual Voters.

A party has standing to seek declaratory relief only if the party has a legally protectable interest in the controversy. *See Loy v. Bunderson*, 107 Wis. 2d 400, 410, 320 N.W.2d 175 (1982). To establish standing, a plaintiff must show that he has suffered or is threatened with an injury. *See Norquist v. Zeuske*, 211 Wis. 2d 241, 247-48, 564 N.W.2d 748 (1997). In addition, "[a]bstract injury is not enough. The plaintiff must show that he 'has sustained or is immediately in danger of sustaining some direct injury' as the result of the challenged official conduct and the injury or threat of injury must be both 'real and immediate,' not 'conjectural' or 'hypothetical.'" *Fox v. DHSS*, 112 Wis. 2d 514, 525, 334 N.W.2d 532 (1983) (quoting *Los Angeles v. Lyons*, 461 U.S. 95, 101-02 (1983)).

In the present case, the Committees have not alleged a concrete, redressable injury in fact. The Committees are organizations that run political campaigns for their candidates. Their interest is in helping those candidates win their respective races. The Committees have alleged that ballots based on the challenged templates create a general, systemic possibility of voter confusion, but they have not elucidated how *they* are threatened with irreparable harm. For example, they do not allege that the use of ballots following the challenged template creates any realistic possibility of preventing their candidates from winning their respective election races. *Cf. Samuel v. Virgin Islands Jt. Bd. of Elections*, No. 2012-94, 2013 WL 106686, at *8 (D.V.I. Jan 6, 2013). The speculative possibility of voter confusion that the Committees have alleged is not an injury to the Committees' own interests, absent some showing that any such confusion is likely to affect their candidates more than their opponents. The Committees have not alleged any such differential impact on their candidates.

Any potential harm caused by the template ballot forms would be incurred not by the Committees, but by the individual voters who might be confused by the ballots. The Committees have not shown, however, that they have standing to sue based on the rights of individual voters. In general, a party has standing to assert only his or her own rights and not the rights of a third party. *See Mast v. Olsen*, 89 Wis. 2d 12, 16, 278 N.W.2d 205 (1979). The Committees have supplied no legal authority to support the novel proposition that a political campaign organization may bring a lawsuit for the purpose of challenging alleged violations of someone else's voting rights—especially where, as here there is no evidence of any established relationship between the campaign organizations and the individual voters whose rights are allegedly threatened.

An organization may sometimes be able to establish associational standing to litigate on behalf of the interests of its individual members, but to do so the organization must assert the rights of at least one member who would otherwise have standing to sue in his own right. *See Hope, Inc. v. Cnty. of DuPage, Ill.*, 738 F.2d 797, 814 (7th Cir. 1984). In the present case, the Committees have not alleged associational standing, nor have they submitted any declarations from allegedly aggrieved members or even identified a single member who is threatened with any injury sufficient to give that individual standing.

Although the Committees have cited no case in which a campaign organization has been found to have standing to assert the voting rights of individual voters, there is a case holding the opposite. In *Somers v. South Carolina. State Election Commission*, 871 F.Supp.2d 490 (D.S.C. 2012), a candidate for a state senate seat brought an action alleging a violation of the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voter Act ("UOCAVA"). The court found that allegations that some voters might be injured by the alleged statutory violation were insufficient to establish an injury in fact to the interests of the plaintiff as a candidate, in the absence of any showing that the candidate had a close relationship to any such voter or that such a voter wished himself to challenge the alleged violation but was unable to do so. *Id.* 871 F. Supp. 2d 490 at*4-*5. The candidate therefore lacked standing to assert the interests of individual voters. *Id.* 871 F. Supp. 2d 490 at*4-*5. The reasoning of *Somers* is persuasive and should be followed here. The Committees have neither alleged any injury in fact to themselves nor a basis for allowing them to assert the voting rights of individual voters.

B. Even If the Committees Have Standing to Assert the Rights of Individual Voters, They Lack standing to Assert Their Claims as to All But Four Wisconsin Counties.

In the alternative, if the Court should find that the Committees can assert the voting rights of individual voters, they still lack standing to claim the sweeping injunctive relief they have requested.

The two plaintiff Committees in this case seek the re-election of State Representative Robin Vos and State Senator Scott Fitzgerald, respectively. Representative Vos is running only in the 63rd Assembly District, which includes approximately half of Racine County and a very small portion of Walworth County. *See Wisconsin Blue Book* 60 (2013-2014). His election, therefore, can only possibly be affected by the ballots in those two counties. Senator Fitzgerald is running only in the 13th Senate district, which includes portions of Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Jefferson, Washington, and Waukesha Counties. His election, therefore, can only possibly be elected by the ballots in those six counties. Considered together, the Committees have alleged possible harm only with regard to those eight counties and they thus lack standing to assert claims seeking relief with regard to any of the other 64 counties in Wisconsin.

Furthermore, the Committees cannot establish that each of their candidates is threatened with all of the harms alleged in the Verified Complaint.

For example, with regard to Representative Vos, the actual ballots that have been created by the county clerks in Racine and Walworth Counties include a line separating the title of each office on the ballot from the name of the first candidate for that office. (*See* Defs'. Ex. A-1 and A-2.) Representative Vos, therefore, cannot claim to be injured by the absence of any such line. At most, he can claim potential injury from the absence of shading to highlight the title of his Assembly race on the ballots for each of those two counties. His campaign committee, however, has no standing to assert any other potential injury.

With regard to Senator Fitzgerald, the actual ballots that have been created by the county clerks in Dane, Dodge, Washington, and Waukesha Counties all include a line or shading separating the title of each office on the ballot from the name of the first candidate for that office, while such a line is absent from the ballots for Columbia and Jefferson Counties. (*See* Defs'. Exs. B-1 through B-6.) Senator Fitzgerald, therefore, can at most claim potential injury from the absence of such a line on the Columbia and Jefferson County ballots, but cannot claim to be injured by the absence of such a line from the ballots in the other four counties in the 13th Senate District.

Moreover, while five of the six counties in the 13th Senate District (all except Dane County) lack shading to highlight offices lower on the ballot, the absence of such shading does not create a risk that voters will overlook Senator Fitzgerald's race. This is because, in all five of those counties, the ballots include shading to highlight the heading for the "Legislative" section of the ballot. Because each ballot can contain at most one Senate race and that race will always come first in the Legislative section of the ballot, the location of Senator Fitzgerald's race on all ballots will always be clearly demarcated by the shading for the Legislative section of the ballot. The lack of shading for individual offices in five of the six counties in the 13th Senate District, therefore, does not threaten to confuse voters into overlooking Senator Fitzgerald's race.

For these reasons, even if it is found that the Committees can assert the voting rights of individual voters, the Court still should conclude that the Committees lack standing to assert relief based on any claims except: (1) the claim that the ballots for Racine and Walworth Counties lack shading to highlight the title of Representative Vos' Assembly race; and (2) the claim that the ballots for Columbia and Jefferson Counties lack a line separating the title of Senator Fitzgerald's office from the name of the first candidate for that office. The Committees

have not established any potential injury resulting from the ballots in any of Wisconsin's other 68 counties and they therefore lack standing to assert any claims related to those ballots.

- III. WITH REGARD TO ANY CLAIMS THAT ARE NOT DISMISSED, THE COMMITTEES HAVE NOT SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
 - A. Criteria for Granting or Denying Preliminary Injunctive Relief.

The basic statutory provision governing temporary injunctions in Wisconsin is Wis. Stat. § 813.02(1)(a). It provides:

When it appears from a party's pleading that the party is entitled to judgment and any part thereof consists in restraining some act, the commission or continuance of which during the litigation would injure the party, or when during the litigation it shall appear that a party is doing or threatens or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering some act to be done in violation of the rights of another party and tending to render the judgment ineffectual, a temporary injunction may be granted to restrain such act.

Under this statute, a party may obtain only injunctive relief to which the party would be entitled if the party prevailed on the merits of its claims. *Browne v. Milwaukee Bd. of Sch. Dirs.*, 83 Wis. 2d 316, 337-38, 265 N.W.2d 559 (1978).

A temporary injunction is an extraordinary remedy that is not to be issued lightly and the cause for granting one must be substantial. See Werner v. A. L. Grootemaat & Sons, Inc., 80 Wis. 2d 513, 520, 259 N.W.2d 310 (1977); Fromm & Sichel, Inc. v. Ray's Brookfield, Inc., 33 Wis. 2d 98, 103, 146 N.W.2d 447 (1966); W. Supply Co., v. T. V. Appliance Mart, Inc., 146 Wis. 2d 216, 224-25, 430 N.W.2d 720 (Ct. App. 1988). Four factors must be satisfied before a court may issue a temporary injunction:

• First, the temporary injunction must be necessary to preserve the *status quo* of the parties. *Werner*, 80 Wis. 2d at 520. The purpose of a temporary injunction is to "maintain the *status quo*, not to change the position of the parties or compel the doing of acts which constitute all or part of the ultimate relief sought." *Codept, Inc. v. More-Way N. Corp.*, 23 Wis. 2d 165, 173, 127 N.W.2d 29 (1964).

- Second, the moving party must show a reasonable probability of ultimate success on the merits. *Werner*, 80 Wis. 2d at 520. The moving party must present sufficient evidence to support the conclusion that it has a reasonable probability of ultimate success. *See Sch. Dist. of Slinger v. Wis. Interscholastic Athletic Ass'n*, 210 Wis. 2d 365, 374-75, 563 N.W.2d 585 (Ct. App. 1997).
- Third, the moving party must show a lack of adequate remedy at law. Werner, 80 Wis. 2d at 520.
- Fourth, the moving party must show that it will suffer irreparable harm if the temporary injunction is not issued. *Id.*

A court may not issue a temporary injunction unless the moving party carries the burden of establishing each of the factors set forth above. *Id.* at 519-20; *Fox Valley Harvestore, Inc., v.*A. Q. Smith Harvestore Prods., Inc., 545 F.2d 1096, 1097 (7th Cir. 1976).

The granting or refusal of a temporary injunction, being in the nature of equitable relief, is entrusted to the discretion of the Court. Werner, 80 Wis. 2d at 519; State v. Seigel, 163 Wis. 2d 871, 889, 472 N.W.2d 584 (Ct. App. 1991). Even if the statutory requirements for an injunction have been met, granting the injunction is not mandatory. Werner, 80 Wis. 2d at 524. Because an injunction is an extraordinary equitable remedy, courts should exercise their discretion to deny an injunction where the inconveniences and hardships that would result from granting the injunction outweigh its benefits. See Kuntz v. Werner Flying Serv., Inc., 257 Wis. 405, 410, 43 N.W. 476 (1950). Accordingly, in addition to the factors described above, a court faced with a temporary injunction motion also must balance the harm to the plaintiffs against the harm the injunction would cause to the defendants and to the public interest before an injunction can be granted. Fox Valley Harvestore, 545 F.2d at 1097, Dillingham Constr., Inc. v. Milwaukee Metro. Sewerage Dist., 629 F. Supp. 406 (E.D. Wis. 1986); Kealey Pharmacy & Home Care Serv., Inc. v. Walgreen Co., 539 F. Supp. 1357, 1370

(W.D. Wis. 1982), *aff'd*, 761 F.2d 345 (7th Cir. 1985) (a court must determine whether the public interest will be disserved if an injunction is issued). The moving party must satisfy the court that, on balance, equity favors issuing the injunction. *W. Supply Co.*, 146 Wis. 2d at 224-25.

Procedurally, a temporary injunction generally may only be granted after the enjoined party has been given notice and an opportunity to be heard. *See* Wis. Stat. § 813.05(1); *see also* Wis. Stat. § 813.025(2). The Wisconsin Statutes do not prescribe specific methods for hearing a temporary injunction motion, but simply provide that a court may enter an injunction when the movant's right to such an order is established by the complaint, answer, or affidavits. Wis. Stat. § 813.04. Upon taking action, the court must file written findings of fact and conclusions of law that constitute the grounds for its action. Wis. Stat. § 805.17(2); *Pure Milk Prods. Coop. v. Nat'l Farmers Org.*, 64 Wis. 2d 241, 262, 219 N.W.2d 564 (1974).

The preliminary injunction requested by the Committees should be denied because the Committees have not met four of the required standards for obtaining such an injunction. First, they have failed to establish that they will suffer irreparable harm if a preliminary injunction is not granted. Second, they have not shown a reasonable likelihood of ultimately prevailing on the merits of this litigation. Third, the requested preliminary injunction would disrupt rather than preserve the *status quo*. Finally, the balance of harms to the Committees and to the public weighs against granting the requested injunction.

B. The Committees Have Failed to Establish That They Will Suffer Irreparable Harm If a Preliminary Injunction Is Not Granted.

Injunctions do not issue for insubstantial or inconsequential injuries. *Fromm & Sichel*, 33 Wis. 2d at 103. In order to obtain a preliminary injunction, the moving party must establish that it will be irreparably harmed if the injunction is not granted. *Bubolz v. Dane Cnty.*, 159 Wis.

2d 284, 296, 464 N.W.2d 67 (Ct. App. 1990); *Pure Milk Prods. Coop. v. Nat'l Farmers Org.*, 90 Wis. 2d 781, 800, 280 N.W.2d 691 (1979). The standard for determining whether the claimed harm suffices to warrant entry of a preliminary injunction is whether the moving party can show that, without the temporary relief, a permanent injunction would be rendered futile. *Werner*, 80 Wis. 2d at 520. In the present case, the Committees' request for a preliminary injunction should be denied because the Committees have failed to establish that they will suffer irreparable harm in the absence of such an injunction.

It has already been shown in Section II above that the Committees have failed to establish sufficient threatened injury to themselves to give them standing to assert their claims. It follows, for the same reasons, that the Committees likewise have not established a threat of irreparable harm to themselves. Their claim of irreparable harm is conclusory, speculative, and unsupported by any evidence from which the Court might determine either the existence or the scope of any possible impact on them caused by the template ballot forms. The Committees have presented no factual evidence regarding harm to them if a preliminary injunction is denied and their bare assertions are insufficient to establish irreparable harm that would warrant issuance of a preliminary injunction.

C. The Committees Have Not Shown A Reasonable Likelihood of Success on the Merits.

The Injunction Motion also should be denied because the Committees have failed to show a reasonable likelihood of success on the merits of this litigation. As noted above, the Committees have raised two primary complaints regarding the GAB ballot template: (1) that the lack of a line between the title of each office listed and the first candidate for that office will favor the first-listed candidate, by confusing voters into thinking that there is only one candidate listed for that office; and (2) that the lack of shading in the title of each elective office will make

it harder for voters to identify down-ballot races and that this will lead to substantial undervoting for those down-ballot races. The Committees seek declaratory relief that these alleged flaws in the ballot design violate the language of Wis. Stat. § 5.91(12) requiring that ballots must "minimize the possibility of disenfranchisement of electors".

1. Background information on ballot design.

The Committees challenge certain formatting of the ballot template developed by the GAB for the Election. Their Verified Complaint appears to rest on an assumption that all counties were required to produce exact replicas of the GAB template. This assumption is wrong in several respects.

First, it is important to understand how ballot design works with respect to the GAB and Wisconsin's 72 county clerks. Each county is responsible for printing its own ballots. Prior to an election, the GAB produces a template for the counties to use in designing their ballots pursuant to the GAB's authority under Wis. Stat. § 7.08, which states, in part, that the GAB form "shall be substantially followed" by the counties. Wis. Stat. § 7.08(1)(a). The GAB template for the Election was posted on the GAB's website and was also made available to all county clerks on July 17, 2014. The memo to the county clerks regarding the ballot form can be seen at: http://gab.wi.gov/node/3274. Three forms of the GAB ballot were posted at that time and can be seen at: http://gab.wi.gov/forms/gab-203ms. It is worth noting that while the two Word templates that were posted did not include a line between the title of the office and the first candidate listed, the actual sample ballot that was developed by a printer and posted on the

⁴A copy of the memo is also attached hereto as Defendants' Exhibit C.

⁵ Also attached hereto as Defendants' Exhibits D-1, D-2, and D-3.

GAB's website as a PDF *did* include such a dividing line. (*See* GAB-203ms - Example of November 2014 OS Arrow Ballot Layout.pdf) (Defs'. Ex. D-3.)

The template is developed as a Word document for the counties and their printers to use. Counties then work with their printers to develop an actual ballot and submit a sample to the GAB. GAB staff then works with the county clerks to resolve any issues regarding design, layout, listing of candidates, etc. The final ballot forms developed by each county often have variations in shading, justification, use of bold face type, the use of bold or double dividing lines, etc., but as long as they "substantially follow[]" the GAB design they are not prohibited by the GAB. In fact, there are no known instances where the GAB prevented a county from using its final ballot design based on formatting disputes between the county and the GAB.

The sample ballots⁶ for the Election can be seen at the following location: http://gab.wi.gov/node/3382. A review of these ballots shows that most do not conform exactly to the GAB template at issue here. In fact, only the following 16 counties use the exact GAB format with respect to the two formatting issues raised by the Committees: Adams, Ashland, Bayfield, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Douglas, Jefferson, Lafayette, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marathon, Sawyer, Taylor, Vernon, and Washburn.

Twenty-four (24) counties include a line separator between the office sought and the first candidate's name. Those counties are: Calumet, Chippewa, Dodge, Door, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Green, Kenosha, Lincoln, Menominee, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Portage, Racine, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, St. Croix, Vilas, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, Winnebago, and Wood.

⁶As of this writing, the link includes sample ballots for 69 of the 72 Wisconsin counties. The missing samples are for the counties of Buffalo, Iron, and Juneau.

⁷A spreadsheet showing the various iterations of the ballot designs is attached hereto as Defendants' Exhibit E.

Thirteen of those 24 counties also have a bold or double line separating each office within a category (*i.e.*, Statewide, Congressional, Legislative, County).

Another 14 counties modify the general GAB format by including a bold or double line to separate each office within a category. Those counties are: Burnett, Florence, Forest, Green Lake, Iowa, Marinette, Marquette, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Price, Richland, Rusk, and Waushara.

Twelve counties use an offset justification format style as a visual cue to distinguish individual races and to separate the title of the office from the first candidate listed. The ballots use left-justification for the office title, and place the candidates' names in a right-justified position in the column. Those counties are: Barron, Dunn, Grant, Jackson, Kewaunee, Milwaukee, Monroe, Oconto, Oneida, Shawano, Trempealeau, and Waupaca. In addition, ten of those counties also use a bold or double line to separate each office within a category.

Finally, three counties use shading and/or a line separator to separate the office title from the candidates' names, and also use shading to highlight the title of each individual office. Those counties are: Brown, Dane, and La Crosse.

As previously noted, both counties in Representative Vos's district use a line to separate the title of the office from the first-listed candidate. (Defs.' Exs. A-1 and A-2). Walworth County also uses a bold or double line to separate each office within a category. (Defs'. Ex. A-2).

With regard to the six counties in Senator Fitzgerald's district, Columbia and Jefferson counties follow the GAB template. (Defs'. Exs. B-1 and B-2). Dodge, Washington, and Waukesha counties use a separator between the title of the office and the first listed candidate. (Defs'. Exs. B-3, B-4, and B-5). Dodge and Washington counties also use a bold or double line to separate each office within a category, although this feature is irrelevant to Senator Fitzgerald,

as the Senate race is the first race listed under the shaded heading "Legislative." Dane county's ballots incorporate all the design features favored by the Committees. (Defs.' Ex. B-6).

2. The Committees have not presented sufficient evidence in support of their claims.

In order to prevail, a plaintiff must present sufficient evidence to permit the conclusion that plaintiff has a reasonable probability of success. *See School Dist. of Slinger*, 210 Wis. 2d at 374-375. Here, the Committees have failed to make such a showing. First, the Committees claim that the lack of a line between the offices for which they are running and the first candidate will favor the Committees' candidates' opponents. The Committees' belief that voters will somehow be confused into thinking they only have one choice to vote for rests on the speculative presumption that voters will not look beyond the first name and will ignore or somehow miss the rest of the names listed under that office. Aside from this assertion, the Committees have offered no evidence of such an effect. Because they have offered nothing other than speculation, they have not met their burden of proof for obtaining injunctive relief.

Moreover, with respect to the counties in which Representative Vos is running (Racine and Walworth), all ballots will have such a line, rendering this claim moot with respect to him. (Defs'. Exs. A-1 and A-2.). "[A] case is moot when a determination is sought upon some matter which, when rendered, cannot have any practical legal effect upon a then existing controversy... It is generally thought to be in the interest of judicial economy to avoid litigating issues that will not affect real parties to an existing controversy...." See School Dist. of Slinger, 210 Wis. 2d at 374-375. (quoting Matter of G.S., 118 Wis. 2d 803, 805, 348 N.W.2d 181 (1984)). Even if the Court was convinced that such a line is required in order to conform to the statutes, such a line already exists at least with respect to the ballots on which Representative Vos is listed and

there is no relief a Court could order for him.⁸ (See also Maher v. F.D.I.C., 441 F.3d 522, 525 (7th Cir. 2006) ("This court has stated that '[a] case is moot if there is no possible relief which the court could order that would benefit the party seeking it" (quoting In re Envirodyne Indus., 29 F.3d 301, 303 (7th Cir. 1994)).

The Committees also claim that the absence of shading of the title of each individual office on the ballot will result in excessive undervotes for down-ballot races. The only evidence cited in support of this allegation is a single comparison of two Florida counties contained in a Brennan Center report (Pls' Ex. E, at 40.) The report compared a county's ballot with no shading of the headings for individual races with a nearby county's ballot that included such shading, and concluded that there was a 0.3% difference in the residual vote totals. The Committees' claim on this issue is flawed in several respects.

First, according to the Brennan Center report, the category of "residual" votes includes both undervotes and overvotes. (Pls' Ex. E, at 19). Therefore, the numbers on pages 40 of the Brennan Center report are not necessarily an accurate count of undervotes, but rather could also include some overvotes. The data cited by the Committees is not, therefore, reasonably probative of their undervote allegations.

Second, the Brennan Center report also notes that residual vote rates are significantly affected by community demographics:

Significantly, several studies indicate that residual vote rates are higher in low-income and minority communities and among the elderly, and, in addition, that improvements in voting equipment and ballot design produce substantial drops in residual vote rates in such communities.

⁸Senator Fitzgerald's Senate District includes portions of six counties, four of which incorporate the separator line into their ballots, as noted previously in this brief.

(*Id.*) The data on page 40, however, make no reference to the demographics of the counties that are being compared. It is, therefore, possible that the 0.3% difference in residual votes in the compared counties could be due to demographic factors, rather than ballot design.

Third and more generally, based on the extremely limited data presented on page 40 and the complete lack of any indication of attempts to control for variables other than ballot design that might affect residual vote counts, it is impossible to conclude that those data support the Committees' assertion that lack of shading of office titles causes undervoting in down ballot races.

Fourth, the Committees present no evidence as to whether this single illustrative example constitutes proof of a statistically significant variance in residual vote totals. In fact, this small variance of only three-tenths of one percent (*i.e.*, three votes out of every thousand) doesn't seem to even meet the Brennan Center's standard of "unusually high residual vote rates" that might indicate an issue regarding ballot design. (*See* Pls' Ex. D, at 13; Ex. E, at 19.)

Finally, it should be noted that the Brennan Center authors concede that their residual vote counts are presented only for instructional purposes and are not sufficient to establish that the ballot designs examined by the authors actually disenfranchised voters:

We have used residual vote rates for instructional purposes. We do not claim that the poor designs we examine disenfranchised all of the voters who did not record a vote for a particular contest. For the most part, we compare rates in a single county with an obvious ballot design fl aw to rates statewide, or from one county to another (where one county ballot has obvious flaws and the other does not). The variances may be attributable to ballot design; they may also be attributed to different demographics from one location to the next, or local interest in a political contest. In most cases, the differences are probably attributable to a combination of these factors.

(Pls', Ex. E, at 19).

Another point that should be noted is that even if one assumes *arguendo* the lack of shading does cause some undervoting for down-ballot races, that does not necessarily constitute harm to the Committees, absent evidence that any undervoting would be more likely to affect the Committees' candidates than their opponents. The Committees have offered no such evidence.

In addition, this claim is moot with respect to Senator Fitzgerald for reasons similar to those cited above with respect to Representative Vos. All ballots in Senator Fitzgerald's Senate district include shading for the "Legislative" portion of the ballot. (Defs' Exs. B-1 through B-6.) The State Senate race is the first race listed under that shading, so there can be no claim that voters will somehow miss that race on the ballot because it is not sufficiently set apart. Again, with respect to this claim, there is no relief the Court could grant to Senator Fitzgerald, so his claim is moot on this issue.

The Committees have presented no evidence in support of their claim that the GAB template's lack of a line between the office sought and the first candidate listed will affect the Committees' vote totals. Nor have they provided sufficient evidence that the lack of shading of the titles of individual races will lead to significant undervotes for the Committees' races; or will harm the Committees. The Committees' request for injunctive relief should be denied.

3. The Committees' claim that the GAB ballot form violates the law is without merit.

The Committees' complaint regarding the ballot design process is grounded in false factual premises. The Committees paint a picture of a rigid GAB ballot form which is unlawful under the statutes, and to which all counties must strictly adhere. As noted above, very few of the counties' ballots directly mirror the GAB template, although all ballots "substantially follow" the GAB layout, as required by Wis. Stat. § 7.08(1)(a). The Committees assert, however, that

the GAB template is unlawful in that it does not minimize the risk of voter confusion, due to the two alleged design flaws, and that it therefore violates the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 5.91(12).

Courts have historically been loath to intervene in subjective micromanagement issues such as ballot design, preferring instead to defer to the discretion of the appropriate agencies:

Based upon the present record, none of the plaintiffs' enumerated defects, even considered collectively, deprived the voters of a clear and meaningful choice to either vote for or against the proposition at issue in this case. . . As this court noted in *Behrman v. Whiteside School District No. 115*, 143 Ill.App.3d 154, 159, 97 Ill.Dec. 362, 492 N.E.2d 1021 (1986), "'a literal compliance with prescribed forms [will] not be required if it appears that the spirit of the law has not been violated and the result of the election has been fairly ascertained. [citation.]' "We agree with the Board that, while reasonable people may hold different opinions on how the ballot form and layout could be designed, there is nothing that obligates the Board to create a "perfect" ballot. The ballot need only "substantially comply" with the statutory ballot requirements. In this case, the ballot substantially complied with the statute and "we see no reason to go beyond the statutory requirements"

Brooks v. Bd. of Election Comm'rs of Chic., 778 N.E.2d 173, 178-179, (Ill. App. Ct. 2002). See also Hendon v. N.C. State Bd. of Elections, 710 F.2d 177, 182 (4th Cir. 1983) (failure of ballots to fully comply with statutory requirements did not violate due process where there was no indication that failure was other than simple negligence by election officials and the ballots sufficiently complied with state law to that voters should not have been confused or deceived).

In addition, Wisconsin courts have consistently taken the position that statutory provisions regarding elections are directory as opposed to mandatory:

A statute which "merely provides that certain things shall be done in a given manner and time without declaring that conformity to such provisions is essential to the validity of the election" should be construed as directory.

Matter of Hayden, 105 Wis. 2d 468, 483, 313 N.W.2d 869, (Ct. App. 1981) (internal citations omitted). See also Clapp v. Joint Sch. Dist. No. 1 of Hammond & Roberts, 21 Wis. 2d 473, 479-480, 124 N.W.2d 678 (1963) ("Many of the statutory provisions relating to elections are directory

and substantial compliance therewith is sufficient.")(citing *State ex rel. Graves v. Wiegand*, 212 Wis. 286, 249 N.W. 537 (1933); *Schmidt v. W. Bend Bd. of Canvassers*, 18 Wis.2d 316, 118 N.W. 2d 154 (1962)).

The Committees have cited no legal precedent in support of their bald assertion that the GAB ballot design should be declared unlawful based on speculative allegations that two changes in the ballot design would "minimize" voter confusion. The Committees' assertion that the ballot form violates the law is without merit and should be rejected.

4. There is no precedent for the action the Committees are asking the Court to take, and doing so could have serious adverse consequences, from both a practical and policy standpoint.

The Committees are essentially asking the Court to take the unprecedented step of engaging in the micro-management of ballot design. Aside from the legal and procedural problems with the Committees' claims (*i.e.*, failure to follow the statutorily-prescribed process in Wis. Stat. § 5.06), the precedent that the Committees are asking the Court to establish is stunning in its breadth. The Committees' claims are grounded in their assertion that the statutory requirement under Wis. Stat. § 5.91(12) that ballots must be designed to "minimize the possibility of disenfranchisement of electors" renders such designs subject to second-guessing by the courts on issues as subtle as shading patterns and the absence of certain lines. Such an approach could open a Pandora's Box of a non-stop march to the courthouse steps by every group or individual who thinks they have a better ballot design. Suppose the Court grants the Committees' requests to mandate certain shading patterns. What's to stop the next litigant from asking the court to add colors to the ballot (*see* Pls'. Ex. C, at 7.21, 7.23, 7.33) as recommended by the U.S. Elections Assistance Commission (EAC), or to use a different font (*see* Pls'. Ex. D, at 11) as recommended by the Brennan Center, or to mandate that all headings be left-justified

(id.), or to require that all electronic ballots use a "fill-the-oval" format instead of a "complete-the-arrow" format (Pls' Ex. E at 43). All of the afore-mentioned tweaks to a ballot have been cited as making ballots more user-friendly and effective. Each new litigant could now offer their additional enhancements to even further "minimize" the chance of confusion. In fact, as noted by the EAC, the ideal would be to have a separate ballot for every single race:

Ideally, each contest would have a separate page with the title of each contest topaligned to be most user friendly.

(Pls'. Ex. C, at 7.30). Because such an approach would arguably further "minimize" confusion is that to be the required standard?

Indeed, a review of the materials submitted by the Committees (Pls'. Exs. C, D, and E) reveals a plethora of theories about every aspect of ballot design including: layout, font size, shading, the use of left/right/center justification, the use of colors, the use of bolding or double lines, the use of columns, whether votes for a candidate should be made to the right or to the left of the candidate's name, the use of ovals versus arrows, etc. The prospect of making the courts dive into a clearly subjective ballot design process presents serious practical and policy concerns by: (1) essentially removing all oversight from the agency and handing it to the courts; (2) raising the specter of state elections where perhaps 72 different judges design 72 different ballot forms; and (3) throwing the courtroom doors wide open for an endless stream of litigation over whose design is best at "minimizing" potential voter confusion. Such an approach is without precedent, and the Committees' attempts to have the courts micro-manage ballot design should be rejected.

For all of the above reasons, the Committees do not have a reasonable likelihood of prevailing on the merits of their claims in this litigation and their temporary injunction request, therefore, should be denied.

D. The requested preliminary injunction is not necessary to preserve the *status quo*.

Temporary injunctions may not be issued unless they are necessary to preserve the status quo. Werner, 80 Wis. 2d at 520. It is an erroneous exercise of discretion for a court to issue a temporary injunction that alters the status quo. The function of a temporary injunction is not to change the position of the parties or compel the doing of acts that constitute all or part of the ultimate relief sought. Sch. Dist. of Slinger, 210 Wis. 2d at 374. Here, the Committees have failed to meet their burden of establishing that the requested preliminary injunction is necessary to preserve the status quo.

The current *status quo* in this case is as follows: (1) pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.10(2) and (3), all ballots for the Election have already been produced by all 72 Wisconsin county clerks and have already been distributed to Wisconsin's 1,852 municipal clerks as of September 17, 2014; (2) pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(cm), municipal clerks have already sent absentee ballots to all voters who requested an absentee ballot on or before September 18, 2014, and are continuing, on an ongoing basis, to send absentee ballots to any voters who request such a ballot after that date; (3) because absentee ballots have already been distributed to voters, an indeterminate number of such ballots undoubtedly have already been completed and sent back to municipal clerks.

Because absentee voting has already begun, the *status quo* that existed before ballots were produced and distributed cannot be restored. *See Sw. Voter Registration Educ. Project v. Shelley*, 344 F.3d 914, 919 (9th Cir. 2003). The pending Injunction Motion, if granted, would alter, rather than preserve, the current *status quo* and would provide the ultimate relief that the Committees seek in this proceeding. In both respects, the requested injunction would violate the principles set forth in *Werner* and *Slinger*. The Committees' request for a preliminary

injunction, therefore, should be denied as an inappropriate attempt to upset the *status quo* during the pendency of this lawsuit.

The Committees may nonetheless suggest, in reply to this argument, that the requested preliminary injunction will preserve the *status quo* that existed prior to July 17, 2014, when the GAB published the new template ballot forms on its website, or the *status quo* that existed prior to the time when some county clerks produced ballots for the Election that followed the new template forms, in whole or in part. Restoring a past state of affairs, however, is not preserving the *status quo*, it is changing it. If the Committees wanted to preserve any such past state of affairs, then they needed to seek relief as soon as possible after the new template ballot forms were published⁹ and, in any event, before the county clerks had actually printed and started distributing the ballots for the Election. Having failed to do so, the Committees cannot now claim that they are trying to preserve the current *status quo*. This timing problem is of the Committees' own making. An injury caused by a plaintiff's own action or inaction is not sufficient to support a preliminary injunction. *See Second City Music, Inc. v. City of Chic., Ill.*, 333 F.3d 846, 850 (7th Cir. 2003) ("[S]elf-inflicted wounds are not irreparable injury.").

For all of these reasons, the Court should conclude that the Committees have failed to meet their burden of establishing that the requested preliminary injunction is necessary to preserve the *status quo* and that this constitutes another sufficient reason for denying the requested injunction.

⁹And, as noted above, they needed to initiate a request for such relief by first filing a complaint with the GAB, as required under Wis. Stat. § 5.06.

E. The balance of harms weighs against granting the requested injunction.

An injunction is an extraordinary equitable remedy. Accordingly, a party seeking a preliminary injunction must satisfy the court that, on balance, equity favors issuing the injunction. *W. Supply Co.*, 146 Wis. 2d at 224-25. Courts should decline to issue an injunction where the inconveniences and hardships that would result from granting the injunction outweigh its benefits. *Kuntz*, 257 Wis. at 410. A court considering an injunction request, therefore, must balance the harm to the moving party against the harm the injunction would cause to the opposing parties and to the public. *See Dillingham Constr.*, 629 F. Supp. at 408. This balancing analysis creates a continuum under which a lesser showing of likelihood of success on the merits requires a greater showing that the public interest and balance of harms favors the party seeking injunctive relief. *Sw. Voter Registration Educ. Project*, 344 F.3d at 918.

Here, the Committees have a particularly heavy burden because the requested injunctive relief would disrupt absentee voting that has already begun and would interfere with in-person voting that is imminent. A court "should consider the proximity of a forthcoming election and the mechanics and complexities of state election laws" when deciding whether a preliminary injunction is appropriate. *Miller v. Bd. of Comm'rs*, 45 F. Supp. 2d 1369, 1372 (M.D. Ga. 1998) (quoting *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 585 (1964)). Injunctive relief that would interfere with an impending election is even more extraordinary than other injunctions and interference with an election after absentee voting has begun has been found by at least one court to be unprecedented. *Sw. Voter Registration Educ. Project*, 344 F.3d at 919.

In addition to interfering with absentee voting that has already begun, the requested injunctive relief would also impose substantial economic and practical burdens on the ongoing preparations for in-person voting on November 4, 2014. The public interest would be harmed by

the disorder, confusion, and inefficiencies—both economic and practical—that would result from the requested injunction. It is certain that, if ballots are required to be reprinted and redistributed, the state will suffer material hardship by virtue of the resources already invested in printing and distributing the existing ballots. *Cf. id.* Moreover, because this case concerns a statewide election, the harms that would be caused by the requested injunction fall not only upon the GAB, but also upon all of Wisconsin's county clerks and, more generally, upon all citizens of the state. *Cf. id.* These substantial harms to the public outweigh any small and speculative benefit that an injunction might provide to the Committees.

Finally, the requested injunction would also interfere with the ability of Wisconsin election officials to comply with their responsibilities under the federal UOCAVA. That federal law provides that, if a military or overseas voter submits a valid request for an absentee ballot at least 45 days before an election for federal office, then the State is required to transmit an absentee ballot to that voter not later than 45 days before that election. 42 U.S.C. § 19073ff-1(a)(8)(A). The November 4, 2014, election at issue here includes races for the United States House of Representatives. Therefore, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 19073ff-1(a)(8)(A), absentee ballots for that election that were validly requested by a military or overseas voter on or before September 20, 2014, were required to be transmitted to the voter no later than that date. If this Court were to order that ballots be reprinted and redistributed, any such amended ballots would necessarily have to be re-sent to military and overseas voters after the federal 45-day deadline. Alternatively, if the Court were to order that reprinted ballots must be sent to all voters except military and overseas voters, that would have the effect of singling out military and overseas voters to use a ballot that had been deemed unacceptable for other voters. There is simply no

way to both provide the injunctive relief requested by the Committees and satisfy the requirements of UOCAVA.

In light of the public resources that have already been invested in printing and distributing ballots and the confusions and inefficiencies that would result from last-minute judicial intervention, the balance of harms favors denial of the requested injunction.

F. The Requested Injunction Is Barred by the Doctrine of Laches.

It is settled law that the timeliness of a suit in equity, such as this one, is measured by the doctrine of laches. The laches doctrine embodies the "recognition that a party ought not to be heard when he has not asserted his right for unreasonable length of time or that he was lacking in diligence in discovering and asserting his right in such a manner so as to place the other party at a disadvantage." *Flejter v. Estate of Flejter*, 2001 WI App 26, ¶ 40, 240 Wis. 2d 401, 623 N.W.2d 552 (quoting *Bade v. Badger Mut. Ins. Co.*, 31 Wis. 2d 38, 47, 147 N.W.2d 218 (1966)). This accurately describes the situation here.

There are three elements necessary to a finding of laches: "(1) unreasonable delay; (2) knowledge of and acquiescence in the course of events; and (3) prejudice to the party asserting laches." *Flejter*, 240 Wis. 2d 401, ¶ 41. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has recognized that

[t]here is no fixed rule as to the lapse of time necessary to bar a suitor in a court of equity. Each case must stand upon its own particular facts. Great lapse of time, if reasonably excused and without damage to the defendant, has been ignored; while slight delay, accompanied by circumstances of negligence, apparent acquiescence, or change of defendant's position, has been held sufficient.

Id. (quoting Likens v. Likens, 136 Wis. 2d 321, 327, 117 N.W.2d 799 (1908)). Here, it is clear that after July 17, 2014, when the GAB published the template forms on its website, there was a substantial change in circumstances when the ballots for the election were actually printed and distributed by county clerks and absentee ballots were sent to voters by municipal clerks. In

light of that prejudice to the public interest, the Committees' failure to seek relief before the ballots were printed and distributed is sufficiently unreasonable to support a laches defense.

G. If a Preliminary Injunction Is Granted, the Committees Should Be Required to Post a Security Bond.

Under Wis. Stat. § 813.06, a court that grants an injunction must require the party requesting the injunction to post a bond providing security for any damages that the enjoined parties may sustain by reason of the injunction, if there is an eventual determination that the requesting party was not entitled to the injunction. If this Court issues any injunction that requires that any ballots be reprinted or redistributed, the named defendants and/or some or all Wisconsin county clerks may sustain economic loss for the costs of reprinting and redistributing such ballots. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 813.06, if an injunction is granted, the Committees must be required to post a bond providing security sufficient to cover all such costs should there be an ultimate determination that the injunction was not warranted.

CONCLUSION

The GAB respectfully asks that this matter be dismissed in its entirety on the ground that the Court lacks competency to proceed. In the alternative the GAB asks that the Committees' claims be dismissed as to all counties except Racine, Walworth, Columbia, and Jefferson. With regard to any claims that are not dismissed, the GAB respectfully asks that temporary injunctive relief be denied. If an injunction is granted, the Committees must be required to post a bond as required by Wis. Stat. § 813.06.

Dated this 22nd day of September 2014.

J.B. VAN HOLLEN Attorney General

CHRISTOPHER J. BLYTHE Assistant Attorney General State Bar #1026147

Christoph J. Blythe

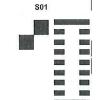
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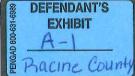
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Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

IMPORTANT: USE ONLY A #2 PENCIL OR THE MARKING PEN PROVIDED. DO NOT USE RED INKI



Instructions to voters. If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election			Congressional Representative in Congress District 1 Vote for 1			Referendum To vote in favor of a question, complete the arrow next to "YES," like this —		
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- To vote for a name that is not on the ballot,		-	(Republican)	7		section 11 of article VIII of the constitution		
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Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

Instructions to Voters	Statewide (Cont.)	Congressional	
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your	Secretary of State Vote for 1	Representative in Congress District 1 Vote for 1	
municipal clerk.) Fill in only 1 oval in each contest.	Doug La Follette (Democratic)	Dob Zerban (Democratic)	
To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this . To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked	Julian Bradley (Republican)	Paul yan (7 yublican)	
'Write-in," and fill in the oval next to the name like this	Jerry Broitzman (Constitution)		
Governor/Lieutenant Governor	Andy Craig	Win and Legislative	
Vote for 1 You may <u>fill in only 1 oval</u> for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor.	(Libertarian)	Sta Senator trict 11	
Mary Burke/John Lehman (Democratic)	Write State Treas	Dan Kilkenny (Democratic)	
Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican)	Vote for 1	Steve Nass (Republican)	
Dennis Fehr/No Candidate (Peoples Party)	Adamczyk	Write-in	
Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian)	(Re, lican)	Representative to the Assembly District 32 Vote for 1	
	(Constitution)	Alan Kupsik (Democratic)	
Write-in Gover /Lt Gov	Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party)		
Attorney General Vote for 1	Jerry Shidell	Tyler August (Republican)	
Susan V. Happ	(Libertarian)		
(Democratic)		Write-in	
Brad Schimel (Republican)	Write-in Continue voting at top of next	Turn ballot over to continue voting	
Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. (Libertarian)	column.		
Write-in			

Ballot continues on other side **DEFENDANT'S EXHIBIT** Walworth County

Page 1 of 2-sided ballot

County	
Sheriff	
Vote for 1	
Kurt Picknell (Republican)	
Write-in	
Clerk of Circuit Court	
Vote for 1	
Sheila T. Reiff (Republican)	
Write-in	
Referendum	ficial Ballot
To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "YES" like this . To vote against the question, fill in the oval next to "NO" like this .	for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014 for
State	TOWN OF LAFAYETTE W1-3 Walworth County, WI
Question 1: "Creation of a Transportation Fund. Shall section 9 (2) of article IV and section 11 of article VIII of the constitution be created to require that revenues generated by use of the state	Ballot issued by (initials of inspectors)
transportation system be deposited into a transportation fund administered by a department of transportation for the	Absentee ballot issued by
exclusive purpose of funding Wiscort v's transportation systems and to prohibit by transfers or lapses from this fund?"	(initials of municipal or deputy clerk) (If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.)
YES NO	Certification of Voter Assistance I certify that I marked this ballot at the request and direction of a voter, who is authorized to receive assistance.
	(signature of assistor) For Official Use Only
	Inspectors: Identify ballots required to be remade.
1	Reason for remaking ballot:
1	Overvoted
1	Damaged
•	Other
•	Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ballot No.
Page 2 of 2-sided ballot	Ballot begins on other side

Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

November 4, 2014 В State of Wisconsin Ā Columbia County Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. 11 Referendum Statewide (Cont.) Instructions to Voters To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to 'YES', like this . State Treasurer If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee Vote for 1 To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to 'NO', like this . David L. Sartori (Democratic) voters: Contact your municipal Matt Adamczyk (Republican) State Fill in only 1 oval in each contest. -To vote for a name on the ballot, fill Question 1: "Creation of a Transportation Fund. Shall section 9 (2) of article IV and section 14 of article VIII of the constitution be created to require that revenues generated by use of the state transportation system be deposited into a transportation fund administered by a department of transportation for the exclusive purpose of funding Wisconsin's transportation systems and to prohibit any Andrew Zuelke (Constitution) in the oval next to the name like this 21 Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party) -To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write in the name on the line marked "write-in", and fill in the oval like this . Jerry Shidell (Libertarian) Statewide write-in: Governor/Lieutenant Governor Congressional Vote for 1 You may fill in only 1 oval for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor. Representative in Congress systems and to prohibit any transfers or lapses from this fund?" District 6 Vote for 1 Mary Burkel John Lehman (Democratic) Mark L. Harris (Demogratic) YES Glerin Grothman (Republican) Scott Walker/ Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican) Gus Fahrendorf (Libertarian) Dennis Fehrl No Candidate write-in (Peoples Party) Legislative 42 Official Ballot Representative to the Assembly District 42 for Partisan Office Robert Burke/ 43 and Referendum Joseph M. Brost Vote for 1 November 4, 2014 (Libertarian) for George Ferriter C write-in: Town of Arlington (Governor) Keith Ripp (Republican) write-in: (Lieutenant Governor) Ballot issued by write-in: Attorney General Vote for 1 County Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Sheriff (initials of inspectors) Vote for 1 Brad Schimel (Republican) Jesse C. Weaver (Democratic) Absentee ballot issued by Dennis Richards (Republican) Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. (initials of municipal clerk or deputy clerk) (If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.) write-in: write-in: Clerk of Circuit Court Secretary of State Vote for 1 Certification of Voter Assistance Vote for 1 Doug La Follette (Democratic) Susan Raimer 0 I certify that I marked this ballot at the (Republican) request and direction of a voter, who is Julian Bradley authorized to receive assistance. 5 write-in: Jerry Broitzman (Constitution) 0 (signature of assistor) For Official Use Only Andy Craig (Libertarian) 0 Inspectors: Identify ballots required to be remade. (write-in: Reason for remaking ballot: ☐ Overvoted ☐ Damaged ☐ Other Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ballot No. Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01 A ... Town of Arlington 7.4.2.0 / 012503-14 @ Election Systems & Software, Inc. 1981, 2002

DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT
B-1

Columbia Caunty

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Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

Instructions to Voters	Statewide (Cont.)	Referendum
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal	State Treasurer Vote for 1	To vote in favor of a question, fill oval next to 'YES,' like this against a question, fill in the oval 'NO,' like this .
clerk.) Fill in only 1 oval in each contest.	David L. Sartori	State
- To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this .	Matt Adamczyk (Republican)	QUESTION 1: "Creation Transportation Fund. Sh
 To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the 	Andrew Zuelke (Constitution)	section 9 (2) of article IV a section 11 of article VIII of constitution be created to
line marked "write-in," and fill in the oval next to the name like this	Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party)	that revenues generated be the state transportation sy
3	Jerry Shidell (Libertarian)	deposited into a transporta fund administered by a department of transportation
Statewide	write-in:	the exclusive purpose of fu Wisconsin's transportation systems and to prohibit an
Governor/Lieutenant Governor Vote for 1	Congressional	transfers or lapses from the
You may fill In only 1 oval for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor.	District 2	C YES
Mary Burke/ John Lehman	Vote for 1	O NO
(Democratic)	Mark Pocan (Democratic)	County
Scott Walker/ Rebecca Kleefisch	Peter Theron (Republican)	Question 1: "Should the Wisconsin increase the mi
(Republican)	write-in;	wage to \$10.10 per hour?
O Dennis Fehr/ No Candidate	Legislative	O YES
(Peoples Party)	State Senator District 15 Vote for 1	O NO
O Robert Burke/ Joseph M. Brost	Vote for 1	Question 2: "Shall the ne Governor and State Legis accept available federal fu
(Libertarian)	Janis Ringhand (Democratic)	BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of Wisconsin ci
write-in: (Governor)	Brian Fitzgerald (Republican)	have access to quality and affordable health coverage
write-in: (Lieutenant Governor)	write-in:	YES
	Representative to the Assembly District 43 Vote for 1	O NO
Attorney General Vote for 1		Official Ballot
	Andy Jorgensen (Democratic)	for Partisan Office
Susan V. Happ (Democratic)	Leon L. Hebert (Republican)	and Referendu November 4, 20
Brad Schimel (Republican)	write-in: County	for
Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. (Libertarlan)	Sheriff	(municipality and ward #(s)) Ballot issued by
write-in: Secretary of State	Vote for 1	
Vote for 1	David J. Mahoney	(initials of inspectors)
Oug La Follette	(Democratic)	Absentee ballot issued by
(Democratic) Julian Bradley	write-in: Clerk of Circuit Court	(Initlals of municipal clerk or deputy cler (If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must init
(Republican) Jerry Broitzman	Vote for 1	Certification of Voter Ass
(Constitution) Andy Craig	Carlo Esqueda	request and direction of a voter, authorized under the law to rece
(Libertarian) write-in:	(Democratic) write-in:	assistance.
WIAC-III.		(signature of assistor) For Official Use On Inspectors: Identify ballots in to be remade.
		Reason for remaking ballot: Overvoted Damaged

DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT
B-2
Dane County

C Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01 7.7.1.07-17 © Election Systems & Software, Inc. 1981, 2002

Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

-To vote for a name that is not on the black write the name on the line marked "Write-in," and fill in the oval next to the name like this	Important: Use a #2 pencil or the markin		
Note for 1 Doug La Follette (Democratic)	Instructions to Voters	Statewide (Cont.)	Congressional
Fill in only 1 oval in each contest To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this To vote for a name on the line marked vivirte-in, and fill in the oval next to the name like this Statewide Governor/Lieutenant Governor Vote for 1 You may fill in only 1 oval for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor. Mary Burke/John Lehman (Democratic) Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican) Dennis Fehr/No Candidate (Peoples Party) Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Thomas A. Nelson, Sr.	have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your		District 5
oval next to the name like this	Fill in only 1 oval in each contest.		
Statewide Statewide Governor/Lieutenant Governor //ote for 1 //ou may fill in only 1 oval for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor. // Mary Burke/John Lehman (Democratic) Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican) Dennis Fehr/No Candidate (Peoples Party) Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) // Math Adamczyk (Republican) // Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) // Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General // Ote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Thomas A. Nelson, Sr.	oval next to the name like this . To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked		F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (Republican)
Governor/Lieutenant Governor // total may fill in only 1 oval for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor. Mary Burke/John Lehman (Democratic) State Senator District 13 Vote for 1 Michelle Zahn (Democratic) Michelle Zahn (Democratic)	name like this .		Write in
Clibertarian State Senator State Senator District 13 Vote for 1 Michelle Zahn (Democratic) State Treasurer Vote for 1 Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican) David L. Sartori (Democratic) Mart Adamczyk (Republican) Mart Adamczyk (Republican) Mite-in Representative to the Assemble (Constitution) Mite-in Governor/Lt. Governor General Vote for 1 Jerry Shidell (Libertarian) Jerry Shidell (Libertarian) Write-in Turn ballot over to continue votolumn.		Andy Craig	
Mary Burke/John Lehman (Democratic) State Treasurer Vote for 1 David L. Sartori (Democratic) Matt Adamczyk (Republican) Mary I. Arnold (Democratic) Mary I. Arnold (Democratic) John Jagler (Republican) Mary I. Arnold (Democratic) Constitution) Mary I. Arnold (Democratic) Mrite-in Turn ballot over to continue vertical column.	Vote for 1 You may <i>fill in only 1 oval</i> for the office of		District 13
Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican) Dennis Fehr/No Candidate (Peoples Party) Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Write-in Continue voting at top of next column.	Mary Burke/John Lehman	Section (Control Control Contr	Michelle Zahn
Dennis Fehr/No Candidate (Peoples Party) Matt Adamczyk (Republican) Andrew Zuelke (Constitution) Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Brad Schimel (Republican) Thomas A. Nelson, Sr.	Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch		Scott L. Fitzgerald
Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) Andrew Zuelke (Constitution) Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Green Party) Write-in Write-in Write-in Write-in Turn ballot over to continue voting at top of next column. Write-in Continue voting at top of next column.			(Republican)
Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) Andrew Zuelke (Constitution) Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Continue voting at top of next column. Representative to the Assemble Representative Re			
Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Continue voting at top of next column. Wary I. Arnold (Democratic) John Jagler (Republican) Write-in Turn ballot over to continue voting at top of next column.		Andrew Zuelke	District 37
Attorney General Vote for 1 Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Continue voting at top of next column. (Wisconsin Green Party) John Jagler (Republican) Write-in Turn ballot over to continue voting at top of next column.			
Susan V. Happ (Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Write-in Continue voting at top of next column. Turn ballot over to continue voting at top of next column.	Attorney General		
(Democratic) Brad Schimel (Republican) Continue voting at top of next column. Write-in Turn ballot over to continue voting at top of next column.	se propriet at sector of		(ivehanicali)
(Republican) Continue voting at top of next column.			Write-in
Thomas A. Nelson, Sr.			Turn ballot over to continue voting
(Libertarian)			
		-	
Write-in		Į,	
Continue voting at top of next column.	Continue voting at top of next column.		1

Ballot continues on other sid

y of Watertown W7 Ald D5"

Defendant's

EXHIBIT

B-3

Deage County

County	
Sheriff	
Vote for 1	
◯ Dale Schmidt	
(Republican)	
Write-in	
Clerk of Circuit Court Vote for 1	
Lynn M. Hron	
(Republican)	
	Official Ballot
Write-in Referendum	for Partisan Office and Referendum
	November 4, 2014
To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "YES" like this . To vote against the	
question, fill in the oval next to "NO" like this	for City of Watertown W7 Ald D5
•.	Dodge County, WI
State	
Question 1: "Creation of a	Ballot issued by
Transportation Fund. Shall section 9 (2)	
of article IV and section 11 of article VIII of the constitution be created to require that	(initials of inspectors)
revenues generated by use of the state	
transportation system be deposited into a transportation fund administered by a	Absentee ballot issued by
department of transportation for the	(initials of municipal or deputy clerk)
exclusive purpose of funding Wisconsin's	(If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.)
transportation systems and to prohibit any transfers or lapses from this fund?"	Certification of Voter Assistance
YES	I certify that I marked this ballot at the request and direction of a voter, who is
○ NO	authorized to receive assistance.
	(signature of assistor)
	For Official Use Only
	Inspectors: Identify ballots required to be remade.
	Reason for remaking ballot:
	Overvoted
	Damaged
	Other
	_
	Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ballot No.
Page 2 of 2-sided ballot	Ballot begins on other side

Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

	Ä	В	C
11	Notice to voters: This ballot may be ballot, the ballot must bear the initials	invalld unless initialed by 2 election in s of the municipal or deputy clerk.	spectors. If cast as an absentee
	Instructions to Voters	Slatewide (Cont.)	Referendum
	If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)	State Treasurer Vote for 1 David L. Sartori Democratic	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 .
1886	FIII in only 1 oval in each contest. To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this	: Matt Adamczyk Republican	State
21	- To yote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line	Andrew Zuelke Constitution	Question 1: "Creation of a Transportation Fund. Shall
	marked "write-in," and fill in the oval next to the name like this	Ron Hardy Wisconsin Green Party	section 9 (2) of article IV and section 11 of article VIII of the constitution be created to require
-AV00		Jerry Shideli Libertarian	that revenues generated by use of the state transportation system be
	Statewide Severnor/	write-in	deposited into a transportation fund administered by a department of transportation for
	Lieutenant Governor Vote for 1 You may fill in only 1 oval for the	Congressional Representative in Congress	the exclusive purpose of funding Wisconsin's transportation systems and to prohibit any
	office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor. Mary Burke/	District 5 Vote for 1	transfers or lapses from this fund?"
	John Lehman Democratic	Chris Rockwood	C YES
	Scott Walker/	Democratic F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. Republican	○ NO
40	Rebecca Kleefisch Republican	write-in	County
41	Dennis Fehr/ No Candidate	Legislativă	Question 1: Shall the State of Wisconsin accept available
42	Peoples Party	State Senator District 13	Federal Medicaid funds to provide access to BadgerCare to
43	Robert Burke/ Joseph M. Brost	Vote for 1	Wisconsin residents up to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level?
2000	Libertarian	Michelle Zahn Democratio	YES
	write-in /	Scott L, Fitzgerald Republican	□ NO
	write-in (Lt. Governor)	write-in Representative to the Assembly	
1886	Attorney General	District 38 Vote for 1	
	Vote for 1	Tom Chojnacki	
51	Brad Schimel	Democratic Joel Kleefisch Republican	g.
	Republican Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. Libertarian	write-In	
	wrlte-in	County	
	Secretary of State Vote for 1	Sheriff Vote for 1	
	Doug La Follette Democratic	Paul Milbrath Republican	
1000	Julian Bradley Republican	write-in	
1990	Jerry Broitzman Constitution	Clerk of Circuit Court Vote for 1	
W/A:	Andy Craig Libertarian	Carla J. Robinson Republican	_
[980]	write-in	Continue voting at top of payt	-
	Continue voting at top of next column.	Continue voting at top of next column,	
	Page 1 of 2-sided b		
	A	В	© Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01 © Etection Systems & Soltware, Inc. 1981, 2002

DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT
B-4

Defferson
County

Page 2 of 2-sided ballot Ballot begins on other side.

Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01

Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

Important: Use a #2 pencil or the marking pen provided. Do not use Red Ink!

Instructions to Voters	Statewide (Cont.)	Congressional
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your	Secretary of State Vote for 1	Representative in Congress District 5 Vote for 1
municipal clerk.) Fill in only 1 oval in each contest.	Doug La Follette (Democratic)	Chris Rockwood (Democratic)
To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this. To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked	Julian Bradley (Republican)	F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (Republican)
"Write-in," and fill in the oval next to the name like this	Jerry Broitzman (Constitution)	Write-in
Governor/Lieutenant Governor	Andy Craig	Legislative
Vote for 1 You may <i>fill in only 1 oval</i> for the office of	(Libertarian)	Representative to the Assembly District 59
Governor/Lieutenant Governor.		Vote for 1
Mary Burke/John Lehman (Democratic)	Write-in	Jesse Kremer (Republican)
	State Treasurer Vote for 1	
Scott Walker/Rebecca Kleefisch (Republican)	David L. Sartori	Write-in
Dennis Fehr/No Candidate	(Democratic)	County
(Peoples Party) Robert Burke/Joseph M. Brost	Matt Adamczyk (Republican)	Sheriff Vote for 1
(Libertarian)	Andrew Zuelke (Constitution)	Dale K. Schmidt (Republican)
Write-in Governor/Lt. Governor	Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party)	
Attorney General	(Wisconsin Green Farty)	Write-in
Vote for 1	Jerry Shidell (Libertarian)	Clerk of Circuit Court Vote for 1
Susan V. Happ (Democratic)		Theresa M. Russell
Brad Schimel (Republican)	Write-in	(Republican)
	Continue voting at top of next column.	
Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. (Libertarian)	50	Write-in Turn ballot over to continue voting
	=	Turn ballot over to continue votin
Write-in Continue voting at top of next column.	_	

Page 1 of 2-sided ballot

Ballot continues on other sid

DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT

B-5

washington

country

Referendum	
To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval	
next to "YES" like this 🍩. To vote against the	
guestion, fill in the oval next to "NO" like this	
State And Andrews Andrews	
ruestion 1: "Creation of a ransportation Fund. Shall section 9 (2)	
article IV and section 11 of article VIII of	
e constitution be created to require that	
venues generated by use of the state	
Insportation system be deposited into a Insportation fund administered by a	
epartment of transportation for the	
clusive purpose of funding Wisconsin's	
ansportation systems and to prohibit any ansfers or lapses from this fund?"	
YES	
	Official Ballot
○ NO	for Partisan Office and Refe
	November 4, 2014
	for
	City of Hartford D1 W3
	Washington County, V
	Ballot issued by
	,
	(initials of Inspectors)
	Absentee ballot issued by
	(initials of municipal or deputy clerk) (If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must in
	Certification of Voter Assistanc
	i certify that I marked this ballot at
	request and direction of a voter, w authorized to receive assistance.
	additionable to receive designation.
	(signature of assistor)
	For Official Use Only
	Inspectors: Identify ballots requiremade.
	Reason for remaking ballot:
	Overvoted
	Damaged
	Other
	Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ba

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

IMPORTANT: USE BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY.

Instructions to Voters		Congressional
f you make a mistake on your ballot or		Representative in Congress
ave a question, see an election		District 5
nspector. (Absentee voters: Contact		Vote for 1
our municipal clerk.)		Chris Rockwood (Democratic)
Connect only 1 arrow in each contest.		(Democratic)
To vote for a name on the ballot, complete		
the arrow next to the name like this		F James Sensenbrenner Jr 🚛 📰
To vote for a name that is not on the ballot,		F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (Republican)
write the name on the line(s) marked		
"write-in," and complete the arrow next to		
the name like this 😂 😅.		write-in:
Statewide		
Governor/Lieutenant Governor		The state of the s
Vote for 1		Legislative
You may connect only 1 arrow for the		Representative to the Assembly
office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor.		District 22
Mary Burke/	(= 1	■ Vote for 1
John Lehman		Jessie Read 🛑 🔳
(Democratic)		(Democratic)
Scott Walker/	(= 1	
Rebecca Kleefisch	.5	1 Downward A
(Republican)		Janel Brandtjen
Dennis Fehr/	-	(Républican)
No Candidate	-	
(Peoples Party)		write-in:
AND THE COLUMN THE PARTY OF THE	_	
Robert Burkel	4 1	
Joseph M. Brost		
(Libertarian)	¥	County
write-in:	(Sheriff
(Governor)		Vote for 1
write-in:		
(Lieutenant Governor)		Eric Severson
Attorney General		(Republican)
Vote for 1		
Susan V. Happ	(-1	write-in:
(Democratic)		
	ŭ.	Clerk of Circuit Court
Brad Schimel	← 1	Vote for 1
(Republican)		Kathleen A. Madden 🛑 👊
<u>1990</u>	4000	(Republican)
Thomas A. Nelson, Sr.	(
(Libertarian)		write-in:
write-in:		
Secretary of State	The state of the s	Referendum
Vote for 1		
Doug La Follette	—	To vote in favor of a question, complete the arrow next to 'YES,' like this ← ■ .
(Democratic)	96	To vote against a question, complete the
	9	arrow next to 'NO,' like this — . Office and Referendum
Julian Bradley	— I	Ototo Charles
(Republican)		State November 4, 2014
		QUESTION 1: "Creation of a Transportation for
Jerry Broltzman	(= 1	Fund. Shall section 9 (2) of article IV and section 11 of article VIII of the constitution VIIIage of Menomonee Falls
(Constitution)	05543	be created to require that revenues
		generated by use of the state transportation
Andy Craig	4 1	system be deposited into a transportation find administrated by a department of Ballot issued by
(Libertarian)	7. No. 10.	transportation for the exclusive purpose of
		funding Wisconsin's transportation systems
write-in:	400 1	and to prohibit any transfers or lapses from
State Treasurer	100	this fund?" (initials of inspectors)
Vote for 1		YES Absentee ballot issued by
David L, Sartori	4	NO ←
(Democratic)		(Initials of municipal clerk or deputy clerk)
		(Initials of municipal cierk of deputy cierk) (If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.)
Matt Adamczyk	4	Certification of Voter Assistance
(Republican)	100	certify that marked this ballot at the
A		request and direction of a voter, who is
A., I 7 U	_	authorized to receive assistance.
Andrew Zuelke (Constitution)		aginonized to receive assistante.
y====260000y		(signature of assistor)
Ron Hardy	-	For Official Use Only
	_	Inspectors: Identify ballots required
		to be remade.
(Wisconsin Green Party)		
(Wisconsin Green Party)	4	Reason for remaking ballot:
	(=	
(Wisconsin Green Party) Jerry Shidell	←	Reason for remaking ballot:
(Wisconsin Green Party) Jerry Shidell (Libertarian)	-	Reason for remaking ballot:
(Wisconsin Green Party) Jerry Shidell	+	Reason for remaking ballot: Overvoted Damaged







Government Accountability Board

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Voters

About the Board

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Elections

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GAB October 2014 Meeting October 28, 2014 - 9:00am Thanksgiving -- Agency Closed November 27, 2014 - 7:45am GAB December 2014 Meeting December 16, 2014 - 9:00am

More ...

Welcome to our website

We hope you find our website easy to use and navigate.

Click here for more information about the site.

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Ballots with Constitutional Amendment Available/N

Posted in Clerks

Priority: Timely Attention Required

Date: July 17, 2014

To: Wisconsin County Clerks

Milwaukee County Election Commission

From: David Buerger, Elections Specialist

Diane Lowe, Lead Elections Specialist

Attachment

New Ballot Review Procedure and November Ballots.pdf

Ballots that Include the Statewide Constitutional Am

Sample paper and optical scan ballots for the General Election Amendment are now available on the G.A.B. website, http://election ballot series is GAB-203.

- To access the paper, hand-count ballot, which include click on "GAB-203."
- To access sample arrow and oval optical scan ballots, amendment, click on "GAB-203ms."
- · To access the paper "Federal office-only" ballot and in
- · To access the optical scan "Federal office-only" ballot,

Streamlined Ballot Review Process

You may have heard that Jason Fischer has decided to move a August 1, 2014. Therefore, David and Diane will be the only s with us to streamline this process in order to approve your ba possible. Please read and follow the pointers below:

- · Please send only one representative example of your
- · Please indicate on your ballot the name of the com
- · Do not send more than one ballot.
- Do not send various ballot styles (If your county uses each).
- Do not send a pdf of more than one ballot.
- <u>Choose only one</u> method of transmission. Either:

E mail us with your questions or comments

o FAX your ballot to 608-267-0500. (If you FAX y Wisconsin Government Many with Ballot to gabhelpdesk@wi.gov. (

- Do not E-MAILsyous ballot to sindividual elections sp
- · If you've made the changes indicated by staff review I

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation. If you have ques **gabhelpdesk@wi.gov** or 608-261-2028.

Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

Instructions to Voters	Statewide (Cont.)	Congressional		
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)	Attorney General Vote for 1 Candidate (Democratic)	Representative in Congress District _ Vote for 1 Candidate		
Connect only 1 arrow in each contestTo vote for a name on the ballot,	Candidate (Republican)	(Democratic) Candidate (Republican)		
complete the arrow next to the name like this —. -To vote for a name that is not on the	Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. (Libertarian)	Candidate (Independent)		
ballot, write the name on the line(s) marked "write-in," and complete the	Secretary of State Vote for 1 Candidate	write-in: Legislative		
arrow next to the name like this .	(Democratic)	State Senator, District _ Vote for 1		
Governor/ Lieutenant Governor Vote for 1	Candidate (Republican) Candidate <	(Democratic)		
You may connect only 1 arrow for the	(Constitution) Andy Craig	(Republican)		
office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor. Candidate/ <====================================	(Libertarian)	Candidate (Independent)		
Candidate (Democratic)	write-in: State Treasurer	write-in: Representative to the Assembly		
Candidate/ <	Vote for 1 Candidate (Democratic)	District _ Vote for 1 Candidate		
Dennis Fehr/ <	Candidate (Republican) Candidate	Candidate (Republican)		
Robert Burke/ < Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian)	(Constitution) Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party)	Candidate (Independent) write-in:		
write-in: / (Governor)	Jerry Shidell < (Libertarian)	☐ Turn ballot over to continue voting.		
write-in: (Lieutenant Governor)	write-in: Continue voting at top of next			
Continue voting at top of next column.	column.			
Page 1 of 2-sided ballot Ballot continues on other side.				



	County		Referendum	Official Ballot
Sheriff			To vote in favor of a question,	for
Vote for 1			complete the arrow next to 'YES,'	Partisan Office
	Candidate	\leftarrow	Like this 🖛 . To vote against a	and Referendum
	(Democratic)		question, complete the arrow next to 'NO,' like this —.	November 4, 2014
	Candidate (Constitution)	\Leftrightarrow	State QUESTION 1: "Creation of a	for
write-in:	(Contractions)	<u> </u>	Transportation Fund. Shall	(municipality and ward #(s)
Coroner Vote for 1			section 9 (2) of article IV and section 11 of article VIII of the	Ballot issued by
	Candidate (Democratic)	\	constitution be created to require that revenues generated by use	(initials of inspectors)
	Candidate (Republican)	←	of the state transportation system be deposited into a	Absentee ballot issued by
	Candidate (Independent)	\leftarrow	transportation fund administered by a department of transportation	(initials of municipal or deputy clerk) (If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.)
write-in:	(macpendent)		for the exclusive purpose of	Certification of Voter Assistance
Clerk of Circuit Court		funding Wisconsin's transportation	I certify that I marked this ballot at the	
Vote for 1			systems and to prohibit any	request and direction of a voter, who
70.0101	Candidate (Democratic)	\leftarrow	transfers or lapses from this fund?"	is authorized to receive assistance.
	Candidate	\	YES ←	(signature of assistor)
	(Republican)		NO ←	For Official Use Only
write-in:		\	County	Inspectors: Identify ballots required
			Question 1: Shall YES	to be remade.
			NO <	Reason for remaking ballot:
			QUESTION 1: Shall	□ Overvoted
			YES <──	☐ Damaged
			NO ←	□ Other
				Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ballot No.
ARREST AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF THE P	Page 2 of 2-s	sided l	pallot Ballot begins	s on other side.

GAB-203msGOV General Election OS Ballot-ARROWS 2014 General Election (Rev. 2014-07-14)

Official Ballot for Partisan Office and Referendum November 4, 2014

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

Instructions to Voters	Statewide (Cont.)	Congressional
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.) Fill in only 1 oval in each contest. -To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this -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	Attorney General Vote for 1 Candidate (Democratic) Candidate (Republican) Thomas A. Nelson, Sr. (Libertarian) write-in: Secretary of State	Representative in Congress District _ Vote for 1 Candidate (Democratic) Candidate (Republican) Candidate (Independent) write-in:
next to the name like this .	Vote for 1	Legislative
Statewide		State Senator, District _ Vote for 1
Governor/ Lieutenant Governor Vote for 1 You may <u>fill in only 1 oval</u> for the office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor.	(Democratic) Candidate (Republican) Candidate (Constitution)	Candidate (Democratic) Candidate (Republican)
Candidate/	Constitution) Andy Craig (Libertarian)	Candidate (Independent)
(Democratic) Candidate/ Candidate (Republican) Dennis Fehr/ No Candidate (Peoples Party) Robert Burke/ Joseph M. Brost (Libertarian) write-in:	write-in: State Treasurer Vote for 1 Candidate (Democratic) Candidate (Republican) Candidate (Constitution) Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party)	write-in: Representative to the Assembly District _ Vote for 1 Candidate (Democratic) Candidate (Republican) Candidate (Independent) write-in:
(Governor) write-in: (Lieutenant Governor) Continue voting at top of next column.	(Libertarian) write-in: Continue voting at top of next column.	Turn ballot over to continue voting.
Page 1 of 2-sided	ballot Ballot conti	nues on other side.

County	Referendum				
Sheriff	To vote in favor of a question, fill in the	Official Ballot			
Vote for 1	the oval next to 'YES,' like this 🔘 .	for			
	To vote against a question, fill in the	Partisan Office			
	oval next to 'NO,' like this 🥯 .	and Referendum			
(Democratic)	State	November 4, 2014			
Candidate	QUESTION 1: "Creation of a				
(Constitution)	Transportation Fund. Shall section	for			
write-in:	9 (2) of article IV and section 11 of				
Coroner	article VIII of the constitution be	(municipality and ward #(s)			
Vote for 1	created to require that revenues	Ballot issued by			
Candidate	generated by use of the state				
(Democratic)	transportation system be deposited	(c) (t) to a financial constant			
Candidate	into a transportation fund administered	(initials of inspectors)			
(Republican)	by a department of transportation for the exclusive purpose of funding	Absentee ballot issued by			
Candidate	Wisconsin's transportation systems	(initials of municipal or deputy clerk)			
(Independent) write-in:	and to prohibit any transfers or lapses	(If issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.)			
Clerk of Circuit Court	from this fund?"	Certification of Voter Assistance			
Vote for 1	The state of the s	I certify that I marked this ballot at the			
	C YES	request and direction of a voter, who			
(Democratic)	○ NO	is authorized to receive assistance.			
○ Candidate	County				
(Republican)	Question 1: Shall	(signature of assistor)			
write-in:		For Official Use Only			
		Inspectors: Identify ballots required			
	○ NO	to be remade.			
	Municipal				
	QUESTION 1: Shall	Reason for remaking ballot:			
	C YES	☐ Overvoted			
	○ NO	☐ Damaged			
		□ Other			
		Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ballot No.			
		I.			
Page 2 of 2-sided ballot Ballot begins on other side.					

S01

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

IMPORTANT: USE ONLY A #2 PENCIL OR THE MARKING PEN PROVIDED, DO NOT USE RED INKI

Instructions to voters		Congressiona	al			Referendum		
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election		Representative in Cong	ress			To vote in favor of a question, complete the		
inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact		District XX Vote for 1				arrow next to 'YES,' like this ⇐━━■. To vote against a question, complete the		
your municipal clerk.)			Candidate	_		arrow next to 'NO,' like this -		
Connect only 1 arrow in each contest. - To vote for a name on the ballot, complete			(Democratic)		_	Statewide		1
the arrow next to the name like this						Question 1: "Creation of a Transportation		
- To vote for a name that is not on the ballot,			Candidate	(=		Fund, Shall section 9 (2) of article IV and section 11 of article VIII of the constitution		
write the name on the line marked "write-in,"			(Republican)			be created to require that revenues		
and complete the arrow next to the name like this ⇐──■.			0	_		generated by use of the state transportation		
			(Independent)	den		system be deposited into a transportation fund administered by a department of		
Statewide						transportation for the exclusive purpose of		
Governor/Lieutenant Governor Vote for 1		write-in:		(=		funding Wisconsin's transportation systems		
You may connect only 1 arrow for the						and to prohibit any transfers or lapses from		
office of Governor/Lieutenant Governor.		Market State of the Artist			-	this fund?"	_	
Candidate/ Candidate	- -	Legislative			-	YES	_	-
(Democratic)		State Senator District XX				NO	4	
Candidate/	(= =	Vote for 1			- 1	County		3
Candidate (Republican)			Candidate	400		Question 1: "XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Boy & Selling Walles Selling			(Democratic)		_	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		31
Dennis Fehr/ No Candidate	4==			10		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	700	186
(Peoples Party)			Candidate (Republican)	(=		YES	=	
Robert Burke/	= =		(Kepublican)	No.		NO	(=	
Joseph M. Brost			andio			Question 2: "XXXX XXXXXX		
(Libertarian)		150	ndepend	TV		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
write-in: 1						OXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	1000	252
(Governor) write-in:		write-in:	A de	(-	1	TES	(=	
(Lieutenant Governor)	11	Repres nt to the A	nbly		1	NO		
Attorney General	11/1	Represent to the A)	Municipal		
Vote for		CONTRACTOR DE LA CONTRA		_ *	Name of the last	Municipal Question 1: "XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
"idate (atic)		TO THE .	(Democratic)	•		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		(1)
						XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Jandi,			Candidate	(=		YES	(=	
(Repub.	and Millian		(Republican)			NO	4	
			Candidata	_	_	110		
iomat A. Nelson, Sr. (Peoples Party)	(- -		Candidate (Independent)	-	щ	Official Ballot for Partisan		
						Office and Referendum		
write-in:	= =	write-in:		(November 4, 2014 for		
Secretary of State Vote for 1			HEIDEN AND THE			Municipality, Ward 1		
Candidate		County				Municipality, Ward 2		
(Democratic)		Sheriff	CONTRACTOR PROPERTY.			Municipality, Ward 3		
		Vote for 1				Municipality, Ward 4 Municipality, Ward 5		
Candidate	(= =		Candidate	(=		Municipality, Ward 6		
(Republican)			(Democratic)			Municipality, Ward 7		
Candidate			Candidate	4		Municipality, Ward 8 Municipality, Ward 9		
(Canstitution)			(Constitution)	~	_	Municipality, Ward 10		
						Municipality, Ward 11 Municipality, Ward 12		
Andy Craig (Libertarian)	— =	write-in:		(=		Ballot issued by		
(Libertarian)						Ballot (BBada B)		
write-in:		Coroner Vote for 1				(10)		
State Treasurer				1		(initials of election inspectors)		
Vote for 1			(Democratic)			Absentee ballot issued by		
Candidate	=	4	,			The state of the s		
(Democratic)			Candidate	4=		(initials of municipal clerk or deputy clerk)		
Candidate			(Republican)	10		(If Issued by SVDs, both SVDs must initial.)		
(Republican)		-			0.00	Certification of Voter Assistance I certify that I marked this ballot at the		
		write-in:				request and direction of a voter, who is		
Candidate	(= =	Clark of Circuit Count				authorized to receive assistance.		
(Constitution)		Clerk of Circuit Court Vote for 1				(signature of assistor)		
Dan U			Candidate	_	-	For Official Use Only		
Ron Hardy (Wisconsin Green Party)	_		(Democratic)	~		Inspectors: Identify ballots required		
						to be remade,		
Jerry Shidell	(= =	•	Candidate			Reason for remaking ballot:		
(Libertarian)			(Republican)			 □ Overvoted □ Damaged 		
urito in		write in		4		☐ Other		
write-in: Continue voting at top of		write-in: Continue voting at top	of	100	100	Original Ballot No. or Duplicate Ballot No.		
next column		next column				1900 C 19		
A T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T		AND THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF						





Comparison of Ballot Format - Wisconsin Counties

Missing (3) Buffalo

Iron Juneau

	ā.		a de la companya de l	Offset - Office is left-	
GAB basic	GAB format plus	Line separator		justified and	
recommended	bold/double line	between office and 1st	Line separator and/or	candidates are right-	
format (16)	separating offices (14)	candidate (24)	shading (3)	justified (12)	3 3
Adams	Burnett*	Calumet*	Brown	Barron	
Ashland	Florence*	Chippewa	Dane	Dunn*	A COR
Bayfield	Forest*	Dodge*	La Crosse	Grant*	
Clark	Green Lake*	Door*		Jackson*	
Columbia	lowa*	Eau Claire		Kewaunee*	
Crawford	Marinette*	Fond du Lac		Milwaukee	
Douglas	Marquette*	Green*		Monroe*	
Jefferson	Pepin*	Kenosha*		Oconto*	
Lafayette	Pierce*	Lincoln		Oneida*	
Langlade	Polk*	Menominee		Shawano*	
Manitowoc	Price*	Outagamie*		Trempeleau*	
Marathon	Richland*	Ozaukee*		Waupaca*	
Sawyer	Rusk*	Portage			
Taylor	Waushara*	Racine			
Vernon		· Rock			
Washburn		Sauk*			
		Sheboygan			
		St. Croix*			
		Vilas*			

*Indicates that offices within a category are separated by a bold or double line.

Washington*

Walworth*

Winnebago*

Wood

Waukesha

