

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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Chair

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 28, 2012

TO: All Wisconsin County Clerks
Milwaukee County Election Commission

FROM: Nathaniel E. Robinson
Elections Division Administrator
Government Accountability Board

SUBJECT: Sample Ballots for Recall Primary/Election for the Offices of Governor,
Lieutenant Governor and State Senator

At this link <http://gab.wi.gov/forms/ballots>, you will find the following sample optical scan ballots:

- GAB-250 (Recall Primary Ballot-Several Offices)
- GAB-251 (Recall Election Ballot-Several Offices)
- GAB-252 (Recall Primary and Recall Election Combo Ballot)

Municipalities that use hand-count paper ballots will also use this ballot format.

Likelihood of Primaries

- The most likely scenario is that there will be a Democratic Primary for all offices up for recall. In that case, the GAB-250ms will be used on May 8, 2012.
- In the extremely unlikely event that there are no offices that require a primary, the GAB-251ms will be used on May 8, 2012. This ballot would also be used at the Recall Election on June 5, 2012.
- If there are primaries in one or two offices, but not in another, the GAB-252ms will be used on May 8, 2012. The ballot may need to be adjusted depending on which office(s) has a primary.

Candidate Certification

We will know for certain whether the parties have fielded more than one candidate for a particular office after the filing deadline on April 10, 2012. A "Candidates Registered for Election" report will be posted to the G.A.B. website as soon as possible after 5:00 p.m. on April 10. Certification of Candidates will be sent after 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2012 when the deadline for challenges to nomination papers and the deadline for filing Statements of Economic Interests has passed.

All Wisconsin County Clerks and Milwaukee County Election Commission
Sample Recall Primary and Election Ballots

Ballot Appearance

Recall elections are to be conducted as individual election events. Even if more than one office is up for recall, they usually do not occur in the same locations on the same day. In the interest of consolidating the recall elections for two statewide offices and four state senate seats, the G.A.B. is expected to call the elections for the same day. However, even though all offices up for election will appear on the same ballot, each office is treated as an individual election just as if the recall election for each office were conducted on different days. Whether voting in a recall primary or in a recall election, the voter may only mark the ballot once for each office on the ballot.

Party Preference and Straight Party

Since each office is an individual election event, a voter may only cast one vote per office. Therefore, in the case of a primary, party preference is not required. Straight party has been eliminated as of the November 6, 2012 general election, it also only pertained to the fall partisan primary. Therefore no straight party section appears on any election ballot.

If you have questions with respect to the memo or the ballots, please contact the Help Desk at 608-261-2028 or gabhelpdesk@wi.gov.