

Official Election Complaint Form



STEP 1

Complaint Type

Please select the statutory process that governs your complaint:

Note: you should choose only one statutory process per complaint; if you feel that your allegations fall under more than one statutory process, you should submit separate complaints under each process.

- [5.05 \(Election Law Violation\)](#)
- [5.06 \(Violations by Election Officials or Appeals of Decisions of Election Officials\)](#)
- [5.061 \(Help America Vote Act Violation\)](#)

STEP 2

Complainant Contact Information

Please provide the following information about yourself.

Note: Anyone filing this complaint with you can add their information on a separate page (see page 4).

First Name	Last Name
Becca Raven	Um inowicz
Residential Address	
373 Willow Street, Arena, WI 53503	
Mailing Address (if different)	
Telephone (optional)	Email
608-753-3012	um inowiczbr@gmail.com

STEP 3

Respondent

Please provide the following information about the individual or individuals whom you allege violated or improperly administered election laws:

Note: For 5.06 complaints, each respondent must be an election official. If there are multiple respondents, you can add their information on a separate page (see page 5).

Respondent Name	Respondent Title (5.06 complaints)
DaNean Naeger, WCMC/CMC	Village Clerk/Treasurer
Mailing Address	
345 West Street, Arena, WI 53503 / 314 Commerce Street, Rewey, WI 53580	
Telephone (if available)	Email (if available)
608-753-2133	vilarena@villageofarena.net



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Applicable Statutes

Please cite each statute within Chapters 5 to 10 and 12 of the Wisconsin Statutes, as well as any other laws relating to elections, other than laws relating to campaign financing, that you allege were violated or improperly administered.

Note: The Commission cannot accept a complaint that does not cite specific provisions, including the correct subsections, of election law.

Wis. Stat. § 5.58(1b)(cm), Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b), Wis. Stat. § 5.60(5)(ar)



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Allegations

Set forth in detail the facts that establish probable cause to believe that a violation occurred. Be as specific as possible as it relates to dates, times, individuals, and actions involved. Use as many separate pages as needed and attach copies of any supporting documentation, evidence, or affidavits.

See attached document.

STEP 6

Sign

Each complainant must complete either step 6a, "Unsworn Statement," or Step 6b "Sworn Statement." For either option, you may enter your digital signature by clicking the box and following the instructions, or you may print the form and sign it.

STEP 6a

Unsworn Statement

I declare under penalty of false swearing under the law of Wisconsin that

the foregoing is true and correct. Signed on the 21 day of March,

2025 at Arena, Wisconsin

(city or other location and state or country).

Becca Raven Uminowicz

Printed Name

Becca Raven Uminowicz

Signature

STEP 6b

Sworn Statement (to be completed in the presence of a notary)

I, Becca Raven Uminowicz, being first duly sworn, on oath, state that I personally read the above complaint, and that the above allegations are true based on my personal knowledge and, as to those stated on information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Becca Raven Uminowicz

Complainant's Signature

Note: Each complainant listed above in section 6b must have this form sworn before a notary or other official able to swear oaths.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

County of, Dane (county of notarization)

Sworn to before me this day of, March 21st, 2025.

[Signature]

(Signature of person authorized to administer oaths)

My commission expires on Oct 17, 2028, or is permanent.

Notary Public or [] (official title if not notary)





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Filing the Complaint

Please send this completed form to the Wisconsin Elections Commission

Email:

elections@wi.gov

Please put your name and
"Complaint" in the email
subject field

Mail:

Wisconsin Elections
Commission
P.O. Box 7984
Madison, WI 53707-7984

Fax:

608-267-0500

Additional Complainants

First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Residential Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Mailing Address (if different)	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (optional)	Email
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Residential Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Mailing Address (if different)	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (optional)	Email
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Residential Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Mailing Address (if different)	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (optional)	Email
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Additional Respondents

Respondent Name	Respondent Title (5.06 complaints)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mailing Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (if available)	Email (if available)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Respondent Name	Respondent Title (5.06 complaints)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mailing Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (if available)	Email (if available)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Respondent Name	Respondent Title (5.06 complaints)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mailing Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (if available)	Email (if available)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Respondent Name	Respondent Title (5.06 complaints)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mailing Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Telephone (if available)	Email (if available)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

This complaint alleges that the Village of Arena Clerk/Treasurer, DaNean Naeger, WCMC/CMC, violated Wisconsin election law by failing to conduct a second required drawing of lots for ballot order for the April 1, 2025, spring election, and — on information and belief — by administratively determining ballot order in a manner that disproportionately benefited administration-supported candidates. These actions violate Chapter 5 of the Wisconsin Statutes and raise significant concerns about the fair administration of elections in the Village of Arena. Regardless of whether this occurred by deliberate misconduct or not, it appears it was not done correctly and there is a duty to take corrective action.

1. FAILURE TO CONDUCT A SECOND DRAWING OF LOTS FOR THE SPRING ELECTION

This complaint raises serious concerns about the integrity of the ballot order determination process for the Village of Arena's April 1, 2025, spring election, alleging that Clerk DaNean Naeger failed to conduct a legally required second random drawing of lots for ballot order and instead administratively set the ballot order in a manner that disproportionately benefited candidates aligned with the current village administration.

Under Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b), when a primary election is held, a second random drawing is explicitly required to determine ballot order for the general election. However, instead of following this statutory requirement, Clerk Naeger simply renumbered the ballot from the primary election, omitting the lowest vote-getter and maintaining the same candidate order, rather than conducting a new, legally required random draw. The official record prepared by Clerk Naeger explicitly states, *"In the event of a Primary, omitted candidates shall be removed and order renumbered for the Spring Election,"* which strongly suggests that no second drawing occurred—an apparent direct violation of Wisconsin election law. When requested to provide documentation of a second drawing, Clerk Naeger failed to do so, reinforcing the conclusion that the mandated second drawing was never conducted.

Under Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b), a second drawing of lots is explicitly required when a primary election is held for an office:

“...whenever a primary is held for an office, a 2nd drawing of all candidates for that office shall be held...”

However, the Village Clerk, DaNean Naeger, failed to conduct the required second drawing for ballot order for the April 1, 2025, spring election following the February 18, 2025, primary. Instead, she unilaterally renumbered the ballot order based on the results of the primary election, rather than conducting a legally mandated new drawing of lots.

- The official record of the drawing, prepared by Clerk Naeger, states:
"In the event of a Primary, omitted candidates shall be removed and order renumbered for the Spring Election."
- When asked by the Valley Sentinel newspaper to provide documentation of any second drawing of lots, Clerk Naeger did not provide any such record — stating: "There are no further public records for your request.", further reinforcing that the required drawing never took place.

Thus, the ballot order for the April 1, 2025, spring election was not determined by a lawful, random process, but rather by an improper and unlawful administrative decision.

2. STATISTICAL IMPROBABILITY SUGGESTS AN IMPROPERLY ADMINISTERED DRAWING

A statistical analysis of the ballot order suggests that even if a random draw had occurred as claimed, the results are highly improbable, raising concerns about the fairness of the process. In the February 18, 2025, primary election, the first four candidates on the ballot—Tara Hill, Kevin Reimann, Brittany Carney, and Kathy Stoltz—are all perceived as supporters of the current village administration, while the bottom three candidates—Steve Wilkinson, Joseph Hipsky, and Don Helt—are associated with the opposition. The probability of this outcome occurring by random chance is approximately 2.86% (1 in 35). After the primary election, Kevin Reimann, the lowest vote-getter, was eliminated, and for the April 1, 2025, spring election, the remaining six candidates appeared in the exact same order, minus Reimann. The probability of this happening by chance alone and without manipulation is even lower, and the failure to conduct a second drawing—an obligation under Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b)—only exacerbates the concerns.

Additionally, the Village President's race for the April election was also determined by lot on January 9, 2025, at the same time as the initial drawing for the primary, with the administration-supported candidate, Kathy Stoltz, being selected first. The probability of both the trustee ballot favoring administration-backed candidates and the

administration-backed village president candidate being randomly drawn first by chance alone is 1.43% (or precisely 1 in 70). If Clerk Naeger claims that she did, in fact, hold a second drawing and coincidentally received the identical ballot order, the probability of such an outcome occurring purely by random chance decreases to an astronomical 1 in 50,400 (or 0.00198%). These statistically improbable results, combined with the clear failure to conduct a second drawing, strongly suggest that the ballot order was improperly determined, either intentionally or negligently, in violation of Wisconsin election law.

Clerk Naeger ostensibly conducted the initial drawing of lots for the February primary election (for trustees) and the April village president race on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 8:30 AM, witnessed by two Village employees in public works—Richard Meili and Troy McKeown.

The resulting ballot order for the February 18, 2025, primary election for Village Trustee was as follows:

1. Tara Hill
 2. Kevin Reimann
 3. Brittany Carney
 4. Kathy Stoltz
 5. Steve Wilkinson
 6. Joseph Hipsky
 7. Don Helt
- The first four candidates (Tara Hill, Kevin Reimann, Brittany Carney, and Kathy Stoltz) are perceived as supportive of the current administration. Kevin Reimann is current village president Kate Reimann's son. Brittany Carney and Kathy Stoltz are currently trustees that vote within village president Kate Reimann's voting bloc, as evidenced by public statements and meeting minutes. Tara Hill has expressed public support for village president Kate Reimann.
 - The last three candidates (Steve Wilkinson, Joseph Hipsky, and Don Helt) are perceived as opposition candidates. Steve Wilkinson and Don Helt are members of the Arena Community Team, which village president Kate Reimann's voting bloc treats in a hostile manner, as evidenced by WEC complaints and letters

to the editor in local newspapers — with Steve Wilkinson speaking out in public comment during meetings against village president Kate Reimann's administration and being improperly disregarded when submitting a letter of interest for a vacant trustee seat. Joseph Hipsky has publicly expressed support for a forensic audit of the village, which has been opposed by village president Kate Reimann's voting bloc since 2019.

- The probability of this outcome occurring by random chance alone is approximately 2.86% (or 1 in 35).

Following the primary, Kevin Reimann was eliminated as the lowest vote-getter. The ballot order for trustees set by the clerk for the April 1, 2025, spring election (with the top three vote-getters being elected) is:

1. Tara Hill
2. Brittany Carney
3. Kathy Stoltz
4. Steve Wilkinson
5. Joseph Hipsky
6. Don Helt

This identical ordering (minus the eliminated candidate) violates Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b), which mandates a new random drawing. Instead, Clerk Naeger merely renumbered the list without conducting a new drawing of lots.

Additionally, the Village President's race for the April 1, 2025, election was also determined by lot at the same time as the trustee race. The administration-supported candidate for Village President, Kathy Stoltz, was ostensibly randomly selected to be listed first.

- The probability of both the trustee ballot order favoring administration-backed candidates AND the administration-backed village president candidate being drawn first occurring by pure chance is approximately 1.43% (or precisely 1 in 70).

These statistically improbable results, coupled with the failure to conduct a second drawing, raise serious concerns that the ballot order was determined improperly and not through a lawful and truly random process.

If the clerk claims that she did indeed draw lots a second time and got that identical ordering, the probability decreases to **1 in 50,400 odds** (or about $\approx 0.00198\%$) that all of those things would happen purely by random chance.

Even if the improbable ballot order cannot be proven, the lack of a second drawing is still a significant violation of Wisconsin statutes and corrective action needs to happen.

3. APPLICABLE STATUTES VIOLATED

Alleged Violation of Wis. Stat. § 5.58(1b)(cm):

Under Wis. Stat. § 5.58(1b)(cm), any town or village that holds a primary election under Wis. Stat. § 8.05 “shall arrange the ballot in accordance with the form prescribed by the commission under s. 7.08 (1) (a), which shall be the same form as provided in s. 5.60 (5) and (6), insofar as possible.” This requirement necessarily includes following the second-drawing procedure mandated by Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b) for an office that has appeared on a primary ballot.

In this case, the Village of Arena held a primary election on February 18, 2025, for the office of Village Trustee. Accordingly, the Clerk was obligated to conduct a second drawing of lots for ballot order and arrange the April 1, 2025, ballot in the same form as prescribed by § 5.60(5). However, the Clerk simply “renumbered” the list without holding a second drawing, in direct conflict with the Commission’s prescribed ballot format. Failing to follow the statutory procedure under § 5.60(1)(b) thus resulted in a ballot that was not “arranged in accordance” with § 5.58(1b)(cm).

By disregarding the second-drawing requirement, the Clerk’s process departed from the mandated random selection procedure, undermining the very purpose of the statutory scheme and violating Wis. Stat. § 5.58(1b)(cm). This deviation from a duly prescribed ballot format is another instance of improper administration of election laws and supports a finding that the ballot arrangement was neither validly nor lawfully adopted.

Alleged Violation of Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b):

Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b) unambiguously requires that, “Whenever a primary is held for an office, a 2nd drawing of all candidates for that office shall be held...to determine the arrangement of candidates on the election ballot.” Despite the Village of Arena holding a primary election for Village Trustee on February 18, 2025, the Clerk did not conduct any second drawing of lots before finalizing the ballot order for the April 1, 2025, spring election. Instead, she merely removed the eliminated candidate and renumbered the existing list—an approach explicitly documented in her January 9, 2025, record.

By omitting the legally required second drawing, the Clerk failed to comply with the mandatory procedure set forth in § 5.60(1)(b). The requirement exists to ensure fairness and randomness in ballot placement, especially after a primary election. Ignoring this statutory step undermined the impartial administration of the election and improperly circumvented the process for finalizing candidate order. This violation further implicates other statutes, including Wis. Stat. § 5.58(1b)(cm), which demands that towns and villages strictly follow the ballot arrangement principles in § 5.60.

Alleged Violation of Wis. Stat. § 5.60(5)(ar):

Wis. Stat. § 5.60(5)(ar) mandates that “[t]he offices to be filled shall be arranged on the official ballot in the order they are named in the statutes creating them. The names of the candidates shall be arranged by using the same method as that used by the commission under sub. (1)(b).” Subsection (1)(b) explicitly requires a second drawing of lots whenever a primary is held. Here, because the Village of Arena conducted a primary election on February 18, 2025, the Clerk was legally bound to replicate the method—i.e., performing a fresh random draw for the April 1, 2025, ballot.

Instead of following that prescribed method, the Clerk simply “renumbered” the candidates by removing the eliminated individual and reusing the original order, without conducting any new drawing of lots. This deviation shows that the ballot arrangement for Village Trustee was not carried out using the same method required under sub. (1)(b). Consequently, the Clerk’s action falls short of Wis. Stat. § 5.60(5)(ar)’s clear directive and further demonstrates improper ballot administration and disregard for mandatory procedures.

4. STATEMENT OF INJURY

Status as a Village Resident and Trustee

I am a duly elected Trustee of the Village of Arena, serving a term not up for election in the current cycle. In addition, I reside in the Village of Arena, where I am eligible to vote and receive official election services from the Village Clerk’s office, including voter registration updates, absentee ballot administration, and other election-related matters.

Direct Impact of the Clerk’s Duties

As both an elector and a trustee, I am “served by” the Clerk in her capacity as the local election official. Her compliance with required procedures—including the mandatory second drawing of lots for ballot placement—directly affects my interests in fair and properly administered elections.

Supporter of Opposition Candidates

Although I am not on the ballot myself, I publicly support several “down-ballot” candidates challenging the current administration’s slate. These candidates were placed lower on the April 1 ballot solely due to the Clerk’s failure to conduct the second drawing under Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b). This denial of a legally required random process likely conferred an unfair advantage on the administration-backed candidates.

Harm to Voting Rights and Representation

By renumbering the ballot order instead of conducting the mandatory second drawing, the Clerk compromised the fundamental fairness of the election. This not only undermines my right to participate in a properly administered electoral process as a voter, but also erodes the representative nature of the Village Board on which I serve. An election outcome tainted by improper procedures affects the composition of the very body with which I must work.

6. REQUEST FOR RELIEF UNDER WIS. STAT. § 5.06

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 5.06, the Complainant respectfully requests that the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) immediately issue an order or orders providing for the following corrective measures. These requests address urgent pre-April 1 needs, procedures for Election Day itself, and any necessary post-Election Day remedies to ensure a fair and lawful election:

Immediate Pre-April 1 Actions:

- 1. Conduct a Second Drawing and, If Feasible, Reprint Ballots:**

Direct the Clerk to perform the legally mandated second drawing of lots forthwith. If time and resources permit, require the Village to use newly printed ballots reflecting the correct, random order for any remaining early-voting period and on Election Day. If reprinting is not possible for early-vote ballots already issued, at minimum require new ballots for Election Day itself and offer notice and replacement ballots to absentee/early voters as practicable.

- 2. Prominent Notices of the Ballot Dispute:**

If reprinting is infeasible, order the Clerk to post clear, WEC-approved notices at every early-voting location, on the Village’s official website, and at all polling places on Election Day, informing voters that the ballot order may be improper and is subject to a pending complaint.

3. **Temporary Removal or Supervision of the Clerk:**

Direct that Clerk Naeger be barred from further election-administration duties (including the issuance of in-person absentee ballots) pending resolution of this matter. Alternatively, appoint a neutral WEC official or other designee to supervise and/or co-administer any remaining pre-election tasks to prevent further violations.

4. **Segregation and Oversight of Ballots:**

Instruct the Clerk to maintain a record or log of all ballots already issued via early voting and to take steps to segregate or otherwise track those ballots so that the WEC can later determine if further remedial measures are required.

Election Day (April 1) Measures:

5. **Independent Training/Oversight of Election Inspectors:**

Require that the WEC—rather than the Clerk—provide instructions, training, and oversight of election inspectors for April 1, ensuring no further procedural deviations occur.

6. **On-Site WEC Observation:**

Assign one or more WEC observers or deputies to monitor all polling places, particularly the handling of absentee ballots, to ensure proper chain of custody and accuracy in the tabulation process.

7. **Mandatory Polling Place Notices:**

Require that every polling station post a conspicuous notice that the ballot order is subject to an active complaint, so voters are informed of the potential irregularities.

Post-Election Day Remedies:

8. **Prohibit or Delay Certification of the Contested Results:**

Direct the Clerk and local canvassing board not to certify the contested race(s) until the Commission has completed its investigation and determined whether the omission of the second drawing undermined the election's validity.

9. **Order a Special Election if Misconduct is Determinative:**

If the Commission finds the violation so severe that it calls the election outcome into question, order a new election or special election for the affected race(s) to remedy the tainted result.

10. Future Compliance and Monitoring:

Mandate that Clerk Naeger strictly comply with all required election procedures in subsequent elections and authorize periodic WEC oversight or audits to ensure continued compliance, particularly regarding ballot-drawing requirements.

11. Training and Potential Disciplinary Action:

Require Clerk Naeger to complete a comprehensive refresher course on Wisconsin election law. Further, if the Commission concludes that the Clerk's actions were willful and egregious, refer the matter for possible disciplinary or enforcement measures as permitted by law.

12. Records Preservation:

Instruct the Clerk and Village officials to preserve all election-related records (including emails, logs, and draft ballots) to enable further review or any future legal challenges related to these irregularities.

These remedies are necessary to protect the integrity of the April 1, 2025, election and all future elections in the Village of Arena. By granting these requests, the Commission will help ensure that the Clerk's statutory duties under Wis. Stat. § 5.60(1)(b) and related provisions are promptly and fully enforced, preventing any further harm to the voters, candidates, and the broader electoral process.

NOTICE

The Village of Arena will determine the arrangement of candidates on the election ballot on Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

DaNean Naeger, Village Clerk

Posted: January 7, 2025

Determining Ballot Order of Candidate Names

Date of Drawing: Thursday, January 9, 2024 @ 8:30 am

(In the event of a Primary, omitted candidates shall be removed and order renumbered for the Spring Election.)

Village President.....

Ballot Order Drawn:

1. Kathy Stoltz

2. Paul Pustina

Village Trustee.....

1. Tara Hill

2. Kevin Reimann

3. Brittany Carney

7. Don Helt

4. Kathy Stoltz

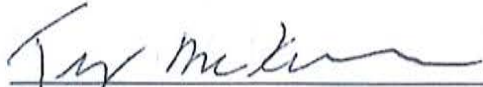
5. Steve Wilkinson

6. Joe Hipsky

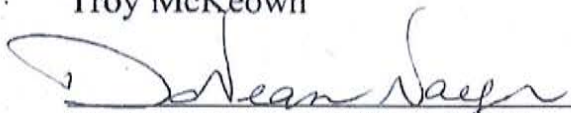
Signatures of people who drew out the names and witnessed the drawing:



Richard Meili



Troy McKeown



DaNean Naeger, Village Clerk

Official Primary Ballot
Nonpartisan Office
February 18, 2025

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

General Instructions	Municipal
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●</p> <p>To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●</p>	<p>Village Trustee Vote for not more than 3</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Tara Hill</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kevin Reimann</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brittany Carney</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kathy Stoltz</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Steve Wilkinson</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Joseph Hipsky</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Don Helt</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
State Superintendent of Public Instruction	
<p>State Superintendent Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jeff Wright</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brittany Kinser</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jill Underly</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>

Continue voting at top of next column.			
<p align="center">Official Primary Ballot Nonpartisan Office February 18, 2025</p> <p align="center">for</p> <p align="center">Village of Arena, Ward 1 Iowa County</p> <p align="center">Ballot ID: 1103</p>	<p>Ballot issued by</p> <p>_____</p> <p align="center">Initials of election inspectors</p>	<p align="center">For Official Use Only</p> <p>Inspectors: Identify ballots required to be remade:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Overvoted</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Damaged</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	
	<p>Absentee ballot issued by</p> <p>_____</p> <p align="center">Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk</p> <p>_____</p> <p align="center">If issued by SVDs, both must initial</p>		
	<p>Certification of Voter Assistance I certify that I marked or read aloud this ballot at the request and direction of a voter who is authorized under Wis. Stat. §6.82 to receive assistance.</p> <p>_____</p> <p align="center">Signature of assistor</p>	<p>Initials of inspectors who remade ballot</p> <p>_____</p>	

Official Ballot Nonpartisan Office and Referendum April 1, 2025

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

General Instructions	Municipal	School District (Cont.)
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●</p> <p>To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●</p>	<p>Village President Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kathy Stoltz</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Paul Pustina</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p>School Board Member Area 9 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John D Bettinger</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
<p>State Superintendent of Public Instruction</p>	<p>Village Trustee Vote for not more than 3</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Tara Hill</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brittany Carney</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kathy Stoltz</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Steve Wilkinson</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Joseph Hipsky</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Don Helt</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Referendum</p> <p>To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "Yes," like this: ●</p> <p>To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "No," like this: ●</p>
<p>State Superintendent Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brittany Kinser</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jill Underly</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School District</p> <p>School District of River Valley School Board Member Area 3 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jeffrey J Maier</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State</p> <p>QUESTION 1: "Photographic identification for voting." Shall section 1m of article III of the constitution be created to require that voters present valid photographic identification verifying their identity in order to vote in any election, subject to exceptions which may be established by law?"</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Judicial</p> <p>Justice of the Supreme Court Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brad Schimel</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Susan Crawford</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p>School Board Member Area 6 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Emily Beck</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jess Hisel</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School District</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REFERENDUM QUESTION</p> <p>Shall the River Valley School District, Sauk, Iowa, Richland and Dane Counties, Wisconsin, be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$4,150,000 for the 2025-2026 school year, by \$4,750,000 for the 2026-2027 school year, and by \$5,200,000 for the 2027-2028 school year for non-recurring purposes consisting of paying the costs of maintaining educational programs and maintenance of the District?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>Court of Appeals Judge District 4 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jennifer Nashold</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>		



RE: Elections

From Village Clerk <vilarena@villageofarena.net>
Date Mon 2025-03-17 9:28 AM
To Valley Sentinel <editor@valleysentinelnews.com>

There are no further public records for your request.

DaNean Naeger, CMC/WCMC

Village Clerk/Treasurer

Village of Arena

345 West St.

Arena, WI 53503

P (608) 753-2133

F (608) 753-2851

Population: 877

vilarena@villageofarena.net

www.villageofarenawi.gov

Elected Officials and Members of Village Committees: in order to comply with the Open Meetings Act requirements, please limit any reply to only the sender of this electronic communication.

E-mail correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the open records law and may be disclosed to outside parties.

From: Valley Sentinel <editor@valleysentinelnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 7:35 PM
To: Village Clerk <vilarena@villageofarena.net>
Subject: Re: Elections

Thank you for sending along the first part of request 1. – do you have the second part regarding the lots for the April 1 election? Or did ballot order just carry over?

Did you have any responsive records for 2. for correspondence regarding ballot order?

Thanks,

Nicole Aimone, *Editor-in-Chief*

Valley Sentinel

Spring Green, Wisconsin

608-588-6694

editor@valleysentinelnews.com

www.valleysentinelnews.com

Wisconsin Newspaper Association, [Best in Division E](#) (2022)

From: Village Clerk <vilarena@villageofarena.net>

Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 7:53 AM

To: Valley Sentinel <editor@valleysentinelnews.com>

Subject: RE: Elections

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From: Valley Sentinel <editor@valleysentinelnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 12:21 PM
To: Village Clerk <vilarena@villageofarena.net>
Subject: Re: Elections

Thank you DaNean,

We'd like to request, under the State of Wisconsin's Public Records Law, Wis. Stat. §§19.31-19.39 the following records (**requests bolded**) in the possession of your office, in electronic format:

1. Considering random lot is required by Chapter 5, subchapter II of the Wisconsin Statutes to determine order on the ballot and that the odds of three candidates perceived as supporting the current administration all ending up on top of the ballot for the 6-person trustee race *AND* the administration-supporting candidate at the top of the ballot in the 2-person spring election race for village president alone is 1 in 40 (or 2.5%), which rises to a 1 in 50,400 chance (or about $\approx 0.00198\%$) that all of those things would happen purely by random chance *when* including for the primary election preceding this one (for the trustee race where there is now six candidates) there were seven candidates with the top four all being candidates perceived as supporting the current administration *AND* where the order on the primary ballot (not including the one administration-supporting candidate that was eliminated after the primary) is the same exact order for all six remaining candidates in what is now the spring election ballot —
 - a. **regarding both the February 2025 primary election and the April 2025 spring election, any basic records documenting any of the following:**
 1. **The date, time, and location of the draws.**

1. **Any public notice given for the draws.**
 1. **Who was present (including any witnesses).**
 2. **The method used for determining ballot order (e.g., pulling names out of a hat, rolling dice, etc.).**
 3. **The final order of candidates.**
2. While you are under no obligation to do so, we would in addition accept any record or statement you create that outlines this information or provides context/explanation for the ballot order.
2. **Any correspondence (including, but not limited to, email and texts) between the Village of Arena Clerk/Treasurer DaNean Naeger and anyone regarding ballot order for either the February 2025 primary election or the April 2025 spring election (including, but not limited to, those which would indicate that the clerk was following an order or directive in determining the final order of candidates on either ballot).** Separately from this request we'd also, additionally, accept an explanation for the improbable ballot order.

Duplicates need not be removed. Likely unnecessary, but we are amenable to utilizing Google Drive, Dropbox or similar program to receive any large files electronically from the Village. Otherwise a zip file/folder is fine.

Wisconsin's Public Records Law states, in relevant part, "In recognition of the fact that a representative government is dependent upon an informed electorate, it is declared to be the public policy of this state that all persons are entitled to the greatest possible information regarding the affairs of the government and the official acts of those officers and employees who represent them. Further, providing persons with such information is declared to be an essential function of a representative government and an integral part of the routine duties of officers and employees whose responsibility and duty is to provide such information."

The law continues "To that end [the Public Records Law] shall be construed in every instance with the presumption of complete public access consistent with the conduct of governmental business. The denial of access generally is contrary to the public interest and only in exceptional cases can access be denied."

Wis. Stat. § 19.35(4)(a) states, "Each authority, upon request for any record, shall, as soon as practicable and without delay, either fill the request or notify the requester of the authority's determination to deny the request in whole or in part and the reasons therefore." If my request is denied, please do so in writing and state what part of the law you believe entitles you to do so, and advise me of the process through which I may appeal. Wis. Stat. § 19.35(4)(a)

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this request, and thank you for your attention in this matter.

Thanks,

Nicole Aimone, *Editor-in-Chief*

Valley Sentinel

Spring Green, Wisconsin

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Wisconsin Newspaper Association, [Best in Division E \(2022\)](#)

From: Village Clerk <vilarena@villageofarena.net>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 7:46 AM
To: Valley Sentinel <editor@valleysentinelnews.com>
Subject: RE: Elections

DaNean Naeger, CMC/WCMC

Village Clerk/Treasurer

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From: Valley Sentinel <editor@valleysentinelnews.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 9, 2025 6:27 PM
To: Village Clerk/Treasurer <vilarena@villageofarena.net>
Subject: Elections

Hi DaNean,

Could we get a list of all candidates that will appear on the ballot April 1 and for which respective offices?

Thanks,

Nicole Aimone, *Editor-in-Chief*

Valley Sentinel

Spring Green, Wisconsin

608-588-6694

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