



# Wisconsin Elections Commission

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

August 8, 2024

Ardis Cerny  
W233 N3037 Oakmont Court East  
Unit C  
Pewaukee, WI 53072

**Sent via email:** [ardiscerny@gmail.com](mailto:ardiscerny@gmail.com); [miked@michaelddeanllc.com](mailto:miked@michaelddeanllc.com); [kevin@kevinscottlaw.com](mailto:kevin@kevinscottlaw.com)

**Re:** Complaint Filed with Wisconsin Elections Commission  
Ardis Cerny v. WEC et al, EL 24-76

Dear Ms. Cerny,

This communication is to inform you that the verified complaint you submitted which names the six Wisconsin Elections Commissioners, the agency, and the Commission Administrator as Respondents is being disposed of without consideration by the Commission. It is the position of the Commission that a complaint against the Commission, against Commissioners in their official capacities, or against Commission staff, warrants an ethical recusal by the body. The Commission's position reflects the need to avoid conflicts associated with an adjudicative body deciding a matter brought against itself, similar to the provisions of law and ethics precluding a judge from presiding over a case filed against herself, or someone with personal or professional ties to her.

Additionally, the lead opinion of the Wisconsin Supreme Court in *Teigen et al v. Wisconsin Elections Commission et al*, stated that "it would be nonsensical to have WEC adjudicate a claim against itself under § 5.06(1)." 2022 WI 64, 33, 403 Wis. 2d 607, 976 N.W.2d 519, *overruled in part on other grounds* by *Priorities USA v. Wis. Elections Comm'n*, 2024 WI 32. Justice Hagadorn's concurrence further stated that "the better reading is that the § 5.06 complaint process does not apply to complaints against acts of WEC as a body." *Id.* ¶169.

Accordingly, the Commission is disposing of this complaint without consideration under Wis. Stat. § 5.06(2).

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Sharpe".

Angela O'Brien Sharpe  
Staff Attorney  
[angela.sharpe@wisconsin.gov](mailto:angela.sharpe@wisconsin.gov)

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners

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

Administrator  
Meagan Wolfe

**WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

Cc: Commission Members  
Meagan Wolfe, Commission Administrator