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March 12, 2025

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Wisconsin Elections Commission

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

DATE: March 12, 2025

TO: Chief officers of the Wisconsin State Senate and Wisconsin State Assembly

FROM: The Wisconsin Elections Commission

SUBJECT: Request to Add Privacy Protections for Federal Judicial Officers

Dear President Felzkowski, Speaker Vos, Minority Leader Hesselbein, and Minority Leader Neubauer,

On March 7, 2025, the Wisconsin Elections Commission met in open session and discussed 2023 Wisconsin Act 235 relating to privacy protections for judicial officers. The Commission has begun the rulemaking process contemplated by this act and is preparing to withhold records of judicial officers in the Commission's possession if a proper request is made under s. 757.07(4).

The Wisconsin Elections Commission interprets "judicial officer" as set forth in Wis. Stat. § 757.07(1)(e)3. to include those enumerated officials and not to include federal court of appeals judges, federal district court judges, federal magistrate judges, or federal bankruptcy judges. The Commission unanimously requests that Wis. Stat. § 757.07(1)(e)3. be amended to include federal judicial officers.

Sincerely,

The Wisconsin Elections Commission

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners

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

Administrator
Meagan Wolfe

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Wisconsin Elections Commission

201 West Washington Avenue | Second Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984
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Information for Judicial Officers Seeking § 757.07 Privacy Protection

You are receiving this information because you have submitted a written request to the Wisconsin Elections Commission (“the Commission”), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 757.07(4), to remove your personal information from publicly available content. Please read this entire information sheet as it contains important information about how the Commission will take steps to protect your personal data.

How the Commission will remove and protect your personal data

Voter Record. Your voter record will be classified as a protected voter within the statewide voter registration system. This means that your address will no longer be publicly available as a voter record online through any of the Commission’s websites or systems.

Poll Book. A protected voter designation also means your name and address will appear in a separate, confidential portion of the poll book that is not open to public inspection and observation.

Candidate Records. If you filed nomination papers or a declaration of candidacy as a judicial candidate with the Commission after April 15, 2020, those records are currently publicly available online through Badger Voters. Badger Voters is a website maintained by the Commission that allows the public to access certain voter data and public records electronically. We will remove any copies of your previously-filed nomination papers or declarations of candidacy so they can no longer be accessed on demand by the public. Older nomination papers and declarations of candidacy are not publicly available online, and if we receive a public records request for them, we will redact your personal information.

You can no longer use the MyVote Wisconsin website (MyVote.wi.gov) to register to vote, update your voter record, or request an absentee ballot

Your voter record will be protected in MyVote in the same manner as voter records for confidential voters are protected. To fully protect your data, the Commission needs to ensure that your name or address cannot be returned as a search result when attempting to use MyVote to look up a voter record. Unfortunately, this means that you will not be able to use MyVote to register to vote or request an absentee ballot. You will need to contact your municipal clerk directly to update your voter record or request an absentee ballot.

The Commission **strongly** recommends that you do not attempt to register to vote online using MyVote. Doing so could inadvertently make your protected address a publicly available voter record. You should always contact your municipal clerk directly if you, or any protected immediate family members, need to register to vote.

You can still use MyVote to find your polling place or see your sample ballot, though you can also do this by contacting your municipal clerk.

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Administrator
Meagan Wolfe

Help us identify records which may contain your personal information

The Commission will take every possible step to identify any publicly available records in its possession that contain your personal protected data, but you can greatly assist us with this process. If you know or suspect that any of the following types of records contain your personal information, please contact the Commission directly at 608-266-8005 and ask for a member of the legal team.

Signatory Records: If you've ever signed nomination papers as a signatory, or circulated them on behalf of a candidate, please let us know.

Complaints: If you have ever filed an administrative complaint with the Commission, or were named as a Respondent, including ballot access challenges, please let us know.

Emails: If you have ever emailed any Commissioner, the Commission Administrator, any member of the Commission staff, or our general inbox at elections@wi.gov, from your personal email address, please let us know.

If you're a candidate, you'll need to separately request certification of residence for election paperwork

The new judicial officer privacy protection law also exempts you from needing to include your residence on certain election paperwork, **but you need to request separate certification of residence from the Commission to be exempt.** Wis. Stat. § 8.10(8). Requesting this exemption means you will not need to list your residential address on nomination papers or declarations of candidacy, but the Commission must certify your residence first. Once your residence has been certified, in lieu of including your residential address on your nomination papers and DOC, you may add "Residence Certified with WEC." You will still have to include the jurisdiction for the office you seek.

If you are, or plan to be, a judicial candidate, please contact the Commission directly to request a certification of residence prior to circulating nomination papers or submitting your declaration of candidacy. An application form and sample nomination papers and DOC follow this information sheet.

Absentee voting procedure

You will not be able to request an absentee ballot online using MyVote.wi.gov. You will need to contact your municipal clerk directly to request an absentee ballot.

Nothing in Wis. Stat. § 757.07 exempts you from the requirement of Wis. Stat. § 6.87(2) to include your residential address on your absentee certificate envelope when voting absentee. Commission staff plan to provide training to municipal clerks to instruct that observers and the public should not be permitted to inspect or see your certificate envelope containing your residential address.

Election officials are not required to state the residential address of absent electors out loud when processing absentee ballots at the polling place on election day, just the absent elector's name. Wis. Stat. §§ 6.88(3)(a), 7.52(3)(a). Accordingly, if you vote by absentee ballot, your residential address should not be read aloud by election inspectors.

Polling place voting procedure

If you choose to vote in person, nothing in Wis. Stat. § 757.07 exempts you from the requirement of Wis. Stat. § 6.79(2)(a) to state your full name and address to election officials before signing the poll book, nor are you exempt from the requirement of showing your photo identification.

All of the above also applies to any immediate family members included in your request

If you included any immediate family members in your request, the Commission will protect their protected information in the same way as it will protect yours. All of the information in this info sheet will apply equally to any family members you include in your protection request. This means your protected immediate family members will also be unable to use MyVote to request an absentee ballot, and we would also strongly recommend that they register to vote directly with their municipal clerk.

Remember to Contact Your Municipal and County Clerks

The Commission is the records custodian of a wide variety of public records that may contain your personal information. Your county clerk and municipal clerk likely also possess public records pertinent to elections, so you should also ensure that you have made a duplicate request under § 757.07(4) to both your municipal and county clerks.

Your request will expire automatically after 10 years unless you renew it with the Commission

The judicial privacy protection statute ensures that your request to protect your personal information is valid for 10 years. Wis. Stat. § 757.07(4)(e)1. The Commission will protect your voter record for 10 years from the date of your application, but you must notify the Commission prior to the expiration of 10 years if you wish to continue your protected status. If you do not let us know that you wish to renew your request, it will automatically expire after 10 years, and your voter record will once again become public.

EL 19 **Judicial Privacy Protections**

19.01 **DEFINITIONS**

19.01(a) “Certification of Residence” means a document authorized by s. 8.10(8)(a) and applied for pursuant to this chapter.

~~19.01(b) “Judicial candidate” means a candidate for filling the office of a judicial officer, as defined in s. 757.07(1)(e).~~

19.01(~~cb~~) “Judicial officer” has the meaning given in s. 757.07(1)(e).

19.01(~~de~~) “Proof of residence” has the meaning given in s. 6.34(3).

19.01(e) “Residential address” means street name and number, apartment ~~or~~ /unit number, municipality, state, and ZIP code ~~that identifies the individual’s residence under s. 6.10. Residential address as used in this chapter may also include a mailing address if the mailing address identifies the same residence.~~

~~19.01(f) “WEC” means the Wisconsin Elections Commission~~

19.02 **APPLICATION**

19.02(a) In order to file a lawful certification of residence ~~from~~ with the commission, a judicial officer or judicial candidate must complete a certification of residence form prescribed by the commission pursuant to this chapter. A request for protection of personal information made pursuant to s. 757.07(4)(b)1. is not sufficient by itself to file a certification of residence pursuant to s. 8.10(8)(a).

19.02(b) A judicial officer or judicial candidate who wishes to be properly exempt from providing their residential address pursuant to s. 8.10(8) must file a certification of

residence before circulating or signing nomination papers or submitting a declaration of candidacy.

19.02(c) A judicial officer seeking to maintain a private address under s. 8.10(8)(a), Stats., shall file the certification of residence form currently prescribed by the commission for that purpose. A sufficient form must contain all of the following:

19.02(c)(1) Full legal name of judicial officer or judicial candidate.

19.02(c)(2) Name that will appear on ~~the a~~ judicial ~~officer's candidate's~~ declaration of candidacy ~~or and~~ nomination papers.;

19.02(c)(3) Judicial officer designation category under s. 757.07(1)(e).

19.02(c)(4) ~~If the judicial officer intends to be a candidate, they~~ A judicial candidate must indicate the title; jurisdiction; branch, district, or jurisdiction; and date of election for the office they seeksought.

19.02(c)(5) The address of the judicial officer or judicial candidate's residence for voting purposes, as defined by s. 6.10(1) Stats., which must include the street name and number, apartment/unit number, municipality, state, and ZIP code.

19.02(c)(6) Mailing address if different from the residential address.

~~19.02(c)(7)~~ Email address.

19.02(c)(~~7~~8) The following certification language: "I hereby certify that I am currently or formerally a judicial officer, or that I intend to be a candidate for filling the office of a judicial officer, as defined by Wis. Stat. § 757.07(1)(e). ~~I intend to be a candidate for judicial office, intend to circulate nomination papers on behalf of a candidate for nonpartisan office, or intend to sign nomination papers to support such a candidate.~~ This form constitutes my written request to the Wisconsin Elections Commission to

confidentially maintain my address unless I consent to disclosure under Wis. Stat. § 757.07(4)(e).

I certify that the residential address that I provided is the place where my habitation is fixed, without any present intent to move, and to which, when absent, I intend to return. I certify that the accompanying proof of residence submitted with this application accurately reflects my current legal name and residential address.

I certify that the information I provided in this application is true and correct. I understand that falsifying any portion of this application could result in prosecution and penalties, including, but not limited to, Wis. Stat. §§ 12.13(1)(b) and 12.13(3)(a).

I understand that I will need to submit a new request for certification of residence if there is any material change in the information presented on this application, including a change in address or election date.

I understand on what date I am required to be a resident of the jurisdiction for the office sought and that I may be required to move to qualify for the office.

I understand that if I am a judicial officer, I may place “Residence Certified with WEC” on my own nomination papers and Declaration of Candidacy for the office of a judicial officer in lieu of providing my residential address and, as a signatory or circulator, on the nomination papers of other nonpartisan candidates.

I understand that if I am only a candidate for filling the office of a judicial officer, I may place “Residence Certified with WEC” on my own nomination papers and Declaration of Candidacy for that office in lieu of providing my residential address.

I understand that a filing officer may contact me in writing to confirm that my residential address is still accurate or to request an updated form, and that I must confirm the accuracy of my residence or provide an updated form if requested.

I understand that the Wisconsin Elections Commission will maintain the confidentiality of my certification of residence and share it only with my filing officer unless compelled to release the information ~~pursuant to~~ by a court ~~order or other lawful authority~~, or unless I consent to its release.”

19.02(c)(89) A notarization or an unsworn declaration.

19.03 VERIFICATION OF ADDRESS

19.03(a) At the time of filing, a judicial officer or judicial candidate shall submit proof of residence, as defined by s. 6.34(3), so that the commission can verify the judicial officer or judicial candidate's residential address. The proof of residence document may be submitted electronically.

19.03(b) The proof of residence submitted under sec. (x) is considered part of the certification of residence under this chapter and shall be kept confidential by the commission

19.04 CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCE, PROCEDURE

19.04(a) Upon receipt of a certification of residence form under sec. (x), the commission shall first examine it for sufficiency. If the application is insufficient or does not include acceptable proof of residence under sec. (x), the commission ~~shall~~ should contact the judicial officer within one (31) business day to notify them of the deficiency and provide instructions for how it can be corrected.

19.04(b) If the application is sufficient, the commission shall then examine the provided proof of residence document to ensure that it meets the requirements of s. 6.34(3)(a). If it does, the commission shall conclude that the judicial officer or judicial candidate's residential address is verified.

19.04(c) ~~If the judicial officer has indicated on the form under sec. (x) that they intend to be a candidate for an identified office, the commission shall also determine whether the~~

~~residence provided makes them eligible for the office sought. The eligibility determination pertains to residence only and is based upon the judicial officer's information and certifications on the form.~~ Nothing in this section exempts a judicial officer candidate from a ballot access challenge, or guarantees ~~their~~ placement on the ballot.

19.04(d) If both the certification of residence form and proof of residence are sufficient, the commission shall issue an acknowledgement of the filing of the certification of residence.

19.04(e) The acknowledgement of the certification of residence shall be issued on commission letterhead and shall state substantially the following: "The Wisconsin Elections Commission has verified the residential address of (Name of Judicial Officer or judicial candidate) pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 8.10(8) and EL Chapter 19. (Name of Judicial Officer or judicial candidate) is exempt from providing ~~their~~ his or her residential address on his or her own nomination papers, ~~circulator statements~~, and declarations of candidacy." ~~If the individual is judicial officer, the acknowledgement shall also state that the judicial officer is exempt from providing his or her residential address as a circulator or as signatory on the nomination papers of a nonpartisan candidate. If the judicial officer has indicated they intend to be a candidate, the commission shall also include the following: "The Commission has determined that (Name of Judicial Officer) has certified that they reside at a location that renders them eligible for the office they seek for residence purposes."~~

19.05 MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCE, PROCEDURE

19.05(a) The commission shall create and confidentially maintain a database for sufficient certifications of residence.

19.05(b) The commission shall record that the judicial officer or judicial candidate's address was verified, the date of filing, along with the judicial officer or judicial candidate's name.

19.05(c) If the certification of residence is received by the commission, the commission shall notify the judicial officer within one ~~(31)~~ business days of the determination of sufficiency.

19.06 PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION PAPERS AND DECLARATIONS OF CANDIDACY

19.06(a) A judicial officer who properly files a certification of residence and has been issued an acknowledgement by the commission ~~shall~~ may, in lieu of providing their residential address on nomination papers or a declaration of candidacy, include the words ~~“Exempt – Certification of Residence”~~ Residence Certified with WEC.” If “Residence Certified with WEC” has been included at least once on an appropriate form for an individual with a certificate on file, subsequent spaces requiring residence information may use an abbreviated version.

19.06(a)(1) If a judicial officer or judicial candidate does not include the words in sec. 19.06(a), that omission shall not invalidate the nomination paper, signature, line, circulator statement, or declaration of candidacy if the commission or filing officer can determine that the judicial officer or judicial candidate ~~was~~ properly ~~issued~~ filed a certification of residence.

19.06(a)(2) If the space for a mailing address on a nomination paper is left blank for a judicial candidate that has filed a certificate of residence with the commission, the filing officer shall conclude that the mailing address is the same as the residential address for voting purposes that has been certified. If the mailing address is different than the residential address for voting purposes but still identifies the same residence, the candidate may leave the space blank or write “Residence Certified with WEC” in that space. Candidates may include a mailing address that is separate from the residence, and, if included, that information shall not be confidential.

19.07(b) If a judicial ~~officer-candidate~~ indicates on their application that ~~they~~ he or she intends to run as a candidate for an office for which the commission is not the filing officer, the commission shall provide the appropriate filing officer with the information provided on the certification of residence, as well as the county clerks covering the applicable district(s).

19.07(c) Filing officers may also contact the commission directly to determine whether a certification of residence has been ~~issued~~ filed.

~~19.07(d) A Judicial officer or a judicial candidate to fill the office of a judicial officer may only place “Residence Certified with WEC” on a nomination paper or declaration of candidacy if the information on file is accurate. If the information is inaccurate, including residence address, office sought, or election date, the judicial officer or judicial candidate must resubmit the form with updated information to qualify for the provisions of this chapter.~~

~~19.07 (e) If in receipt of nomination papers or a declaration of candidacy containing “Residence Certified with WEC,” and the filing officer has reason to believe that the address certified is no longer the correct address, a filing officer may request that a candidate confirm in writing that the address that was certified by the Commission is still the residential address or that a an updated certification be filed.~~

Judicial Candidate or Officer Certification of Residence Application Form



A judicial candidate may place "Residence Certified with WEC" on the candidate's own nomination papers and declarations of candidacy in lieu of the candidate's residential address upon proper completion of this application form. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(8)(a). Additionally, a current or former judicial officer may place "Residence Certified with WEC" when signing or circulating nomination papers for a candidate for nonpartisan office.

"Residence Certified with WEC" cannot be used on a nomination paper or a declarations of candidacy prior to the candidate receiving an acknowledgment from the Commission that the address has been certified.

This form will remain confidential and will not be provided to the public. However, the Commission will provide a copy of the form to the filing officer for the office a judicial candidate seeks.



Contact Information

Judicial officers or candidates must provide the following information:

Full Legal Name

(Candidates only) your name as it would appear on the ballot

Municipality of Residence for Voting Purposes under Wis. Stat. § 6.10

House Number & Street

City

State

Zip

Mailing Address (If different)

House Number & Street

City

State

Zip

Current/former judicial officers: List your current/most recent judicial office

Title of Office

Jurisdiction & Branch/Dist./Seat No.

Candidates: List the office are you running for

Title of Office

Jurisdiction & Branch/Dist./Seat No.

Date of Election

/ /

Email address required for receiving acknowledgment of certification

STEP 2

Certification

I hereby certify that I am currently or formally a judicial officer or that I intend to be a candidate for filling the office of a judicial officer, as defined by Wis. Stat. § 757.07(1)(e). This form constitutes my written request to the Wisconsin Elections Commission to confidentially maintain my address unless I consent to disclosure under Wis. Stat. § 757.07(4)(e).

I certify that the residential address that I provided is the place where my habitation is fixed, without any present intent to move, and to which, when absent, I intend to return. I certify that the accompanying proof of residence submitted with this application accurately reflects my current legal name and residential address.

I certify that the information I provided in this application is true and correct. I understand that falsifying any portion of this application could result in prosecution and penalties, including, but not limited to, Wis. Stat. §§ 12.13(1)(b) and 12.13(3)(a).

I understand that I will need to submit a new request for certification of residence if there is any material change in the information presented on this application, including a change in address or election date.

I understand on what date I am required to be a resident of the jurisdiction for the office sought and that I may be required to move to qualify for the office.

I understand that if I am a judicial officer, I may place "Residence Certified with WEC" on my own nomination papers and Declaration of Candidacy for the office of a judicial officer in lieu of providing my residential address and, as a signatory or circulator, on the nomination papers of other nonpartisan candidates.

I understand that if I am only a candidate for filling the officer of a judicial officer, I may place "Residence Certified with WEC" on my own nomination papers and Declaration of Candidacy for that office in lieu of providing my residential address.

I understand that a filing officer may contact me in writing to confirm that my residential address is still accurate or to request an updated form, and that I must confirm the accuracy of my residence or provide an updated form if requested.

I understand that the Wisconsin Elections Commission will maintain the confidentiality of my certification of residence and share it only with my filing officer unless compelled to release the information by a court or other lawful authority, or unless I consent to its release.

Complete **either** step 2a, "Unsworn Statement," or Step 2b "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.



Unsworn Statement

I declare under penalty of false swearing under the law of Wisconsin that the foregoing is true and correct. Signed on the _____ day of _____, _____ at _____ (city or other location and state or country).

Printed Name

Signature



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

I, _____, being first duly sworn, on oath, state that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature

STATE OF WISCONSIN

County of, _____
(county of notarization)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on _____, _____ the _____ individual signing above..

Stamp
Here

(Signature of person authorized to administer oaths)

My commission expires on _____, or is permanent.

Notary Public or _____

(official title if not notary)



.....
Filing the Application form

Please send this completed form to the Wisconsin Elections Commission

Email:

elections@wi.gov

Please put your name
and "Judicial Application
Form" in the email subject
field

Mail:

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

Fax:

608-267-0500

NOMINATION PAPER FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE

Candidate's name (required); no titles may be used. <h1 style="margin: 0;">John Adams</h1>	Candidate's residential address (required) <i>No P.O. box addresses</i> Street, fire, or rural route number; box number (if rural route); and name of street or road <h3 style="margin: 0;">Residence Certified with WEC</h3>	Candidate's municipality for voting purposes (required) <input type="checkbox"/> Town <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village Residence Certified with WEC <input type="checkbox"/> City (name of municipality)		
Candidate's mailing address, including municipality for mailing purposes (required if different than residential address or voting municipality) <h3 style="margin: 0;">Residence Certified with WEC</h3>	State (required) <h1 style="margin: 0;">WI</h1>	Zip code <h1 style="margin: 0;">RCW</h1>	Type of election (required) <input type="checkbox"/> spring <input type="checkbox"/> special	Election date (required) <i>Do not use primary date.</i> Mo/Day/Year <h2 style="margin: 0;">April 7, 2026</h2>
Title of office (required) <h1 style="margin: 0;">Circuit Court</h1>	Branch, district or seat number (required if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Branch <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Seat <h1 style="margin: 0;">18</h1>	Name of jurisdiction or district in which candidate seeks office (required) <h1 style="margin: 0;">Dane</h1>		

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

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

Signatures of Electors	Printed Name of Electors	Residential Address (No P.O. Box Addresses) Street and Number or Rural Route (Rural address must also include box or fire no.)	Municipality of Residence Check the type and write the name of your municipality for voting purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> Town <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village RCW <input type="checkbox"/> City	Date of Signing Mo/Day/Year
<i>John Adams</i>	John Adams	Residence Certified with WEC	<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village RCW <input type="checkbox"/> City	12/15/2025
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	
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			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	

I, John Adams **CERTIFICATION OF CIRCULATOR** **Residence Certified with WEC** certify: I reside at _____.
(Name of circulator) (Circulator's residential address - Include number, street, and municipality.)

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

12/15/2025 *John Adams*
(Date) (Signature of circulator)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING NOMINATION PAPERS FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE

This is a sample nomination paper form. It conforms to the statutory requirements for nomination papers for nonpartisan office. All information concerning the candidate must be completed in full before circulating this form to obtain signatures of electors. All information concerning the signing electors and the circulator must be completed in full before filing with the appropriate filing officer. This form may be reproduced in any way. A candidate's picture and biographical data may also be added to this form. The Wisconsin Elections Commission has determined that no disclaimer or other attribution statement is required on nomination papers. Candidates are advised to send a sample of their completed form to the filing officer for review before circulation.

Page Numbers – Number each page consecutively, beginning with “1”, before submitting to the filing officer. A space for page numbers has been provided in the lower right-hand corner of the form.

Candidate's Name - Insert the candidate's name. A candidate may use his or her full legal name, or any combination of first name, middle name, and initials or nickname with last name. The Wisconsin Elections Commission has determined that, absent any evidence of an attempt to manipulate the electoral process, candidates are permitted to choose any form of their name, including nicknames, by which they want to appear on the ballot.

No titles are permitted. In addition, names such as “Red” or “Skip” are permitted, but names which have an apparent electoral purpose or benefit, such as “Lower taxes,” “None of the above” or “Lower Spending” are not permitted. It is also not permissible to add nicknames in quotes or parentheses between first and last names. For example, John “Jack” Jones or John (Jack) Jones are not acceptable, but John Jones, Jack Jones or John Jack Jones are acceptable.

Candidate's Address – Insert the candidate's residential address (*no P.O. Box addresses*) and the municipality for voting purposes. Indicate if the municipality of residence is a town, village, or city. If a candidate's mailing address is different from the residential address or voting municipality, a complete mailing address must also be given.

Date of Election - Insert the date of the election. If the nomination paper is being circulated for a spring election, the date is the first Tuesday in April. If the election is a special nonpartisan election, the date of the special election must be listed.

Title of Office - The name of the office must be listed **along with any branch, district, or seat number** (if applicable) that clearly identifies the office the candidate is seeking. If necessary, the name of the jurisdiction that identifies the office, such as Dane County Circuit Court Judge, Branch 3, must also be listed.

Name of Jurisdiction - The nomination papers must also indicate the municipality or jurisdiction in which the signing electors are qualified to vote, as it relates to the office sought by the candidate named on the nomination paper. For example, for a statewide office the jurisdiction is the State of Wisconsin. Others may be the county, town, village, city, aldermanic district, school district, or town sanitary district, as required.

Signatures and Printed Name of Electors - Only qualified electors of the jurisdiction or the district the candidate seeks to represent may sign the nomination papers. Each signer must also legibly print their name. Each elector must provide their **residential** address (*no P.O. Box addresses*), including any street, fire or rural route number, box number (if rural route) and street or road name, and municipality of residence. A post office box number alone does not show where the elector actually resides. The name of the Municipality of Residence must be listed for each signing elector and must clearly identify the town, village or city where the elector's voting residence is located. The date the elector signed the nomination paper, including month, day and year, must be indicated. Ditto marks that follow correct and complete address or date information are acceptable. The circulator may add any missing or illegible address or date information before the papers are filed with the filing officer.

Signature of Circulator - The circulator should carefully read the language of the *Certification of Circulator*. **THE CIRCULATOR MUST PERSONALLY PRESENT THE NOMINATION PAPER TO EACH SIGNER. THE NOMINATION PAPER MAY NOT BE LEFT UNATTENDED ON COUNTERS OR POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARDS.** The circulator's complete residential address including municipality of residence must be listed in the certification. **After** obtaining signatures of electors, the circulator must sign and date the certification.

Other Instructions - Candidates and circulators should review Ch. Wisconsin Elections Commission §§ 2.05, 2.07, Wis. Adm. Code.

- *Original* nomination papers must be in the physical custody of the appropriate filing officer by the filing deadline. A postmark on the filing deadline is **NOT** sufficient. Nomination papers **CANNOT** be faxed to the filing officer. Ch. Wisconsin Elections Commission § 6.04(2), Wis. Adm. Code.
- Nomination papers with the required number of signatures must be filed with the appropriate filing officer **no later than 5:00 p.m.** on the first Tuesday in January (or the next day if the first Tuesday is a holiday) before the spring election. Special elections may have different filing deadlines. Check with the filing officer.
- In order for a candidate's name to be placed on the ballot, a candidate must file a *Campaign Registration Statement* (ETHCF-1), a *Declaration of Candidacy* (EL-162), and *Nomination Papers* (EL-169) containing the appropriate number of signatures for the office sought no later than the filing deadline. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(3). Candidates for state office and municipal judge must also file a statement of economic interests with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission by the third business day after the nomination paper filing deadline. Wis. Stat. § 19.43. If any one of these required forms is not filed by the deadline, the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot. Wis. Stat. § 8.30.
- If a candidate or circulator has any questions, he or she should contact the filing officer.

Declaration of Candidacy

(See instructions for preparation on back)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Is this an amendment?

Yes (if you have already filed a DOC for this election)

No (if this is the first DOC you have filed for this election)

I, John Adams, being duly sworn, state that
Candidate's name

I am a candidate for the office of Dane County Circuit Court Branch 18
Official name of office - Include district, branch or seat number

representing _____
If partisan election, name of political party or statement of principle - five words or less (Candidates for nonpartisan office may leave blank.)

and I meet or will meet at the time I assume office the applicable age, citizenship, residency and voting qualification requirements, if any, prescribed by the constitutions and laws of the United States and the State of Wisconsin, and that I will otherwise qualify for office, if nominated and elected.

I have not been convicted of a felony in any court within the United States for which I have not been pardoned.¹

My present address, including my municipality of residence for voting purposes is:

Residence Certified with WEC				Town of <input type="checkbox"/>	
				Village of <input type="checkbox"/>	
				City of <input type="checkbox"/>	
House or fire no.	Street Name	Mailing Municipality and State	Zip code	Municipality of Residence for Voting	

My name as I wish it to appear on the official ballot is as follows:

John Adams

(Any combination of first name, middle name or initials with surname. A nickname may replace a legal name.)

John Adams
(Signature of candidate)

STATE OF WISCONSIN }
County of _____ } ss.
(County where oath administered)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, _____.

(Signature of person authorized to administer oaths)

**NOTARY SEAL
REQUIRED, IF OATH
ADMINISTERED BY
NOTARY PUBLIC**

Notary Public or other official _____
(Official title, if not a notary)

If Notary Public: My commission expires _____ or is permanent.

The information on this form is required by Wis. Stat. § 8.21, Art. XIII, Sec. 3, Wis. Const., and must be filed with the filing officer in order to have a candidate's name placed on the ballot. Wis. Stats. §§ 8.05 (1)(j), 8.10 (5), 8.15 (4)(b), 8.20 (6), 120.06 (6)(b), 887.01.

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608-266-8005 | web: elections.wi.gov | email: elections@wi.gov

1 A 1996 constitutional amendment bars any candidate convicted of a misdemeanor which violates the public trust from running for or holding a public office. However, the legislature has not defined which misdemeanors violate the public trust. A candidate convicted of any misdemeanor is not barred from running for or holding a public office until the legislature defines which misdemeanors apply.

Instructions for Completing the Declaration of Candidacy

All candidates seeking ballot status for election to any office in the State of Wisconsin must properly complete and file a **Declaration of Candidacy**. This form must be **ON FILE** with the proper filing officer no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers or the candidate's name will not appear on the ballot. A facsimile will be accepted if the FAX copy is received by the filing officer no later than the filing deadline **and** the signed original declaration is received by the filing officer with a postmark no later than the filing deadline.

Information to be provided by the candidate:

- Type or print your name on the first line.
- The title of the office and **any district, branch, or seat number** for which you are seeking election must be inserted on the second line. *For legislative offices insert the title and district number, for district attorneys insert the title and the county, for circuit court offices insert the title, county and branch number, and for municipal and school board offices insert the title and any district or seat number.*
- Type or print the political party affiliation or principle supported by you in five words or less on the third line. *Nonpartisan candidates may leave this line blank.*
- **Felony convictions: Your name cannot appear on the ballot if you have been convicted of a felony in any court in the United States for which you have not been pardoned. Please see footnote on page 1 for further information with respect to convictions for misdemeanors involving a violation of public trust. These restrictions only apply to candidates for state and local office.**
- Your current address, including your municipality of residence for voting purposes, must be inserted on the fourth line. This must include your entire mailing address (**street and number, municipality where you receive mail**) and the name of the municipality in which you reside and vote (town, village, or city of ___). If your address changes before the election, an amended Declaration of Candidacy must be filed with the filing officer. Wis. Stat. § 8.21. *Federal candidates are not required to provide this information, however an address for contact purposes is helpful.*
- Type or print your name on the fifth line as you want it to be printed on the official ballot. You may use your full legal name, former legal surname, or any combination of first name, middle name, and initials, surname or nickname with last name.

Note: The Wisconsin Elections Commission has determined that, absent any evidence of an attempt to manipulate the electoral process, candidates are permitted to choose any form of their name, including nicknames, by which they want to appear on the ballot.

No titles are permitted. In addition, names such as “Red” or “Skip” are permitted, but names which have an apparent electoral purpose or benefit, such as “Lower taxes,” “None of the above” or “Lower Spending” are not permitted. It is also not permissible to add nicknames in quotes or parentheses. For example, John “Jack” Jones or John (Jack) Jones are not acceptable, but John Jones, Jack Jones or John Jack Jones are acceptable.

This form must be sworn to and signed in the presence of a notary public or other person authorized to administer oaths, such as a county or municipal clerk. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.21(2), 887.01(1).

Information to be provided by the person administering the oath:

- The county where the oath was administered.
- The date the Declaration of Candidacy was signed and the oath administered.
- The signature and title of the person administering the oath. If signed by a notary public, the notary seal is required and the date the notary's commission expires must be listed.

All candidates for offices using the nomination paper process must file this form (*and all school district candidates must file the EL-162sd*) with the appropriate filing officer no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers. Wis. Stats. §§ 8.10 (5), 8.15 (4)(b), 8.20 (6), 8.21, 8.50 (3)(a), 120.06 (6)(b). Candidates nominated for local office at a caucus must file this form with their municipal clerk within 5 days of receiving notice of nomination. Wis. Stat. § 8.05 (l)(j).