# STATE OF WISCONSIN WISCONSIN ELECTION COMMISSION

I, Reese Wood, have read the challenge complaint and allegations brought against me by Trevor Ford. I respectfully acknowledge and believe to be true the errors and insufficiencies alleged by the complainant.

I believe this complaint deserves further consideration on behalf of the commission due to the conditions all candidates faced in collecting signatures during unprecedented times. As a candidate representing the Wisconsin Libertarian Party I would like to acknowledge that the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin's State Chair, Mathew Bughman, corresponded with the Wisconsin Elections Commission, Governor Ever and Lt. Governor Barnes, Speaker Robin Voss, Sen. Larson, and Rep. Sargent, regarding ballot access relief measures to be considered in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Wisconsin.

The Libertarian Party of Wisconsin petitioned the Governor, the State Assembly, and the Wisconsin Elections Commission, attempting to convey the negative effect the state of emergency would have on all candidates' abilities to achieve ballot access, and seeking a resolution. As a candidate and voter I am concerned about the integrity of our electoral process and for that reason I believe the challenges to nomination papers, however accurate, are unwarranted at this time. I understand a total of seven challenges have been filed so far against candidates and that I account for two of the challenges.

I am requesting the commission to consider making an exception to all challenges at this time. I am asking the commission to take into consideration that of the seven challenges to nomination papers, it is evident each candidate made an effort to submit well above the minimum requirement of 200, and each challenge is potentially unjustifiable at this time.

Reese Wood

1810 Green Valley Dr.

Janesville, WI, 53546

STATE OF WISCONSIN

County of Rock

Subscribed before me this 8 day of 100, 2020

Notary Public

Name printed or typed <u>Faith Oestraich</u>

My Commission expires: 11-110-2020

FAITH OESTREICH NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF WISCONSIN

#217784



# Fwd: A Message from Governor Tony Evers and Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes on Ballot Requirements

1 message

chair@lpwi.org <chair@lpwi.org>

To: rw4wia@gmail.com

Sun, Jun 7, 2020 at 2:07 PM

----- Original Message -----

Subject: A Message from Governor Tony Evers and Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes on Ballot

Requirements

Date: 2020-04-21 16:33 From: govinfo@wisconsin.gov

To: chair@lpwi.org

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting our administration with your questions about how candidates can file to run for elected office this fall.

We are currently in the period of time to collect nomination signatures for candidates who want to be on the November ballot. Trust us--we know this is a stressful but exciting time for many, compounded by the complications COVID-19 has thrown at us. We would like to provide some clarification to questions you might have about collecting nomination papers so you can continue to follow the guidelines provided by the Wisconsin Elections Commission while staying safer at home.

On April 13, the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC), the body tasked with administering elections in Wisconsin, issued guidance on how to safely collect signatures for candidacy nomination papers during this time. The Commission noted in its memo that the rules regarding provisions like signatures for nomination papers are set in state statute, and can consequently only be changed by the legislature. The Commission therefore encourages candidates to collect nomination paper signatures from supporters by mail. This can be done by sending via mail the blank nomination papers, and requesting that they be signed and returned via mail. You can review rules for proper signature collection here.

Whether it is the first time you are running for office or the fifth, signature collection is not only a requirement to be on the ballot, but an important opportunity to connect with constituents as well, even though doing so is more difficult at this time.

Thank you for stepping up to run for public office. It is no easy task, but it is in times like these that we see the value in dedicated public servants who have devoted their professional lives to advocating for the people of Wisconsin. Please contact the Wisconsin Elections Commission with further questions about elections laws.

Sincerely,

Tony Evers

Governor

Sincerely,

Mandela Barnes

Lieutenant Governor

**GOVERNOR TONY EVERS** 

evers.wi.gov

eversinfo@wisconsin.gov

P.O. Box 7863

Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-266-1212

Like Governor Tony Evers on Facebook

Follow Governor Tony Evers on Twitter

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MANDELA BARNES

barnes.wi.gov

Itgov@wisconsin.gov

P.O. Box 2043

Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-266-3516

Like Lt. Governor Barnes on Facebook

Follow Lt. Governor Barnes on Twitter



### Fwd: RE: Libertarian Ballot Relief Petition

1 message

chair@lpwi.org <chair@lpwi.org>

To: rw4wia@gmail.com

Sun, Jun 7, 2020 at 2:43 PM

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Libertarian Ballot Relief Petition

Date: 2020-05-11 16:42

From: Sen.Larson <Sen.Larson@legis.wisconsin.gov>

To: "chair@lpwi.org" <chair@lpwi.org>

Matthew,

Thank you for sharing this with me. The authority to make these modifications may require legislative action. At this point the Republican legislative leaders have not been willing to bring the legislature in to address election issues that are related to covid-19.

I will keep your thoughts in mind should they allow the legislature to meet.

----Original Message-----

From: chair@lpwi.org <chair@lpwi.org> Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 2:12 PM

To: Sen.Larson@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Libertarian Ballot Relief Petition

Sen. Larson,

Attached is a follow up petition citing recent federal court ruling in Illinois regarding ballot access relief. This is a follow up petition to the one I sent to Re.Vos, Sen. Fitzgerald, Gov. Evers, and the Wisconsin Elections Commission on 04/09/20.I have also included the ruling regarding the court case and our original petition. We have yet to receive response from any of these offices and are looking to avoid further legal action. I was hoping you might be able to assist at bringing some of the parties to the table. Thank you in advance for your review and assistance in this matter.

In Liberty,

Matthew Bughman State Chair Libertarian Party of Wisconsin chair@lpwi.org 920-723-4450



# Fwd: RE: Libertarian Party Petition on Ballot Requirements and COVID-19

1 message

**chair@lpwi.org** <chair@lpwi.org>
To: rw4wia@gmail.com

Sun, Jun 7, 2020 at 2:41 PM

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Libertarian Party Petition on Ballot Requirements and COVID-19

Date: 2020-05-13 12:50

From: Rep.Vos < Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

To: "chair@lpwi.org" <chair@lpwi.org>

Hi Matthew,

Thank you for reaching out to Speaker Vos' office and for sharing your letters about nomination papers. Upon receiving your email, we forwarded your concerns to staff who could get more information on this specific matter.

On April 10, 2020 the Wisconsin Election Commission held a special teleconference meeting. During that meeting, the WEC did discuss the upcoming election for the fall of 2020 and the nomination paper circulation period. In summary, the law has not changed to lower the nomination signature threshold. There is no present or future plan to change the law, as candidates are currently circulating petitions for the June 1 deadline.

If you would like to review more information on this issue you can find it on the Wisconsin Election Commission's website here: https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2020-04/Memo%20Nomination%20Paper% 20Circulation%20-%20Fall%202020%20Elections.pdf [1].

Again, we appreciate you writing in to Speaker Vos' office and I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any additional questions or concerns on state-related matters, please do not hesitate to reach out.

We hope you stay well during this time.

Sincerely,

\_Amanda Ledtke\_

\_Office of Speaker Robin J. Vos\_

\_Amanda.Ledtke@legis.wisconsin.gov\_

\_(608) 237-9203\_

-----Original Message-----

From: chair@lpwi.org <chair@lpwi.org>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 2:34 AM

To: Rep.Vos <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Libertarian Party Petition on Ballot Requirements and COVID-19

Importance: High

Rep. Vos,

Attached is a follow up petition citing recent federal court ruling in Illinois regarding ballot access relief. This is a follow up petition to the one I sent to you, Sen. Fitzgerald, Gov. Evers, and the Wisconsin Elections Commission on 04/09/20.I have also included the ruling regarding the court case. Thank you in advance for your review of this matter.

In Liberty,

Matthew Bughman

State Chair

Libertarian Party of Wisconsin

Links:

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[1] https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2020-04/Memo%20Nomination%20Paper% 20Circulation%20-%20Fall%202020%20Elections.pdf



# Fwd: RE: Libertarian Party Petition on Ballot Requirements and COVID-19

1 message

chair@lpwi.org <chair@lpwi.org>

To: rw4wia@gmail.com

Sun, Jun 7, 2020 at 2:42 PM

**Elections Commission Response** 

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Libertarian Party Petition on Ballot Requirements and COVID-19

Date: 2020-05-12 11:28

From: "Judnic, Nathan - ELECTIONS" < Nathan.Judnic@wisconsin.gov>

To: "chair@lpwi.org" <chair@lpwi.org>

Cc: "Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS" < Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>, "Rydecki, Richard H - ELECTIONS" < Richard.Rydecki@wisconsin.gov>, "Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS" < Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>,

"Lowe, Diane - ELECTIONS" < Diane.Lowe@wisconsin.gov>, "Magney, Reid - ELECTIONS"

<Reid.Magney@wisconsin.gov>

THIS EMAIL IS SENT ON BEHALF OF ADMINISTRATOR MEAGAN WOLFE, WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION.

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#### Mr. Bughman,

This email is in response to your communications to the Commission dated April 9 and May 1 regarding the circulation of nomination papers for the upcoming General Election. I apologize for the delay in the Commission's response. At the Commission's April 10, 2020 meeting, members discussed the circulation of nomination papers for the 2020 General Election given the current public health emergency. The Commission unanimously passed the following three motions:

- 1) The Commission reaffirms that it does not have the statutory authority to change or modify current statutory procedures related to the circulation of nomination papers for the 2020 General Election.
  2) In light of the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Commission reaffirms the use of "single signed and circulated" nomination papers to limit the amount of in-person/face-to-face contact that normally occurs during the circulation of nomination papers.
- 3) The Commission encourages candidates circulating nomination papers for the 2020 General Election use the U.S. Mail to obtain signatures on nomination paper during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

While the Commission certainly appreciates the challenges associated with collecting nomination signatures during the current public health emergency, the motions reflect the reality that the Commission does not have the authority to waive or otherwise change the statutory process for getting on the ballot. The motions also offer some suggestions on methods candidates could use to procure signatures without traditional face-to-face solicitation. While candidates are certainly not required

to use any of the potential methods referenced by the Commission, the motions were an attempt to highlight some potential alternatives that candidates had previously inquired about using. All candidates will be held to the same sufficiency standards for nomination papers, be required to submit the same minimum number of signatures and be required to submit them by the same due date. The Commission believes that changes to the statutory processes required to gain ballot access, even during a public health emergency, can only be made by the Legislature.

For more information from the Commission on circulation of nomination papers for the 2020 General Election, please see the following link on its website: https://elections.wi.gov/candidates/nomination-papers [1]

I hope you find this information helpful.

Regards,

Nathan W. Judnic Attorney/Senior Elections Specialist

Wisconsin Elections Commission 212 East Washington Ave, Third Floor P.O. Box 7984 Madison, WI 53707-7984 608.267.0953 (direct) 608.228.7697 (cell) 608.264.9319 (fax) nathan.judnic@wi.gov

----Original Message-----

From: chair@lpwi.org <chair@lpwi.org> Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 2:30 AM

To: Elections HelpDesk <elections@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Libertarian Party Petition on Ballot Requirements and COVID-19

Importance: High

Members of the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

Attached is a follow up petition citing recent federal court ruling in Illinois regarding ballot access relief. This is a follow up petition to the one I sent to Rep.Vos, Sen. Fitzgerald, Gov. Evers, and the Wisconsin Elections Commission on 04/09/20.I have also included the ruling regarding the court case. Thank you in advance for your review of this matter.

In Liberty,

Matthew Bughman State Chair Libertarian Party of Wisconsin

#### Links:

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[1] https://elections.wi.gov/candidates/nomination-papers