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Center for Hand-Counted Paper Ballots Sends Letter to Recall Candidates Regarding Election Protection

Dear [Candidate]

My name is Dr. Sheila Parks, and I am the founder of the national organization, Center for Hand-Counted Paper Ballots, <http://www.handcountedpaperballots.org>. We work closely with the recently formed grassroots group called Wisconsin Citizens for Election Protection (WCEP) <http://www.electionprotectionwisconsin.com>. This group of Wisconsin citizens is concerned with protecting the integrity of Wisconsin elections.

Many of them observed the Supreme Court recount and were appalled at what they saw. Although the limited media coverage highlighted the human errors in Waukesha County, there was an overwhelming number of problems in municipalities across the State of Wisconsin.

WCEP organized volunteers to observe poll closing procedures as a way to try to improve the integrity and security of Wisconsin's elections. They placed WI citizen volunteers in each of the nine senate districts for the July 2011 elections. The citizens of Wisconsin are especially concerned with integrity in the election process for the recalls because they all have the potential for being close races.

We are all, local and national groups, especially and very seriously concerned about the integrity of the process in the coming General Election on August 9th.

Therefore, I am asking your campaign to file an injunction immediately to impound all voting equipment and ballots when the polls close on election night. The election materials must be protected in the event of a potential recount or other challenges that could be made about the integrity of the election results. You may remember that recently, the Republicans in New York were granted this same injunction earlier this year. Ultimately, the Republicans lost the strongly-held Republican seat to the Democrat. Your injunction is the senate district's best chance for a fair election.

Here is a quote and some details from a paper I published earlier this summer:

“An injunction to preserve the evidence is what Corwin did in New York (NY-26) to bar certification of any results and impound all voting equipment and ballots immediately after the election. It is legal to do this in Wisconsin. Given the fact that Wisconsin statutes (See especially Sections 5.05, 5.06 (1), 5.06 (2), 5.06 (8), 5.08) clearly allow challenges to elections, voter registration and candidate qualifications, then clearly there needs to be preservation of records in the recalls ballots, records and other evidence, including the electronic voting machines. The same reasoning that applied in NY-26 governs Wisconsin. I am looking at this from the perspective of a reasonable judge. Any voter can seek an injunction preserving evidence that might substantiate the claim of election fraud. These are highly contested elections. There could be misconduct on the part of election officials. There is potential for some kind of fraud that election officials can't detect. It would be very powerful for a candidate to seek an injunction.”

For more information about the issue in NY and what Corwin did,¹ a link to the Impound Order² and the Wisconsin Statutes that show Wisconsin can do what NY did³ please see the notes at the end of this chapter.

Filing an injunction to protect the election materials on election night is essential to ensuring the integrity of the election results. Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures.

WCEP has worked tirelessly to communicate with municipality clerks throughout Wisconsin to educate them about the vulnerabilities in the Wisconsin election system. They have continuously reached out to the GAB for the very same reason.

I am eager to know how I may communicate most effectively with candidates. I welcome any questions and feedback you may have. A response from you would be much appreciated.

Please visit the WCEP website at www.electionprotectionwisconsin.com. If you have any questions, you may contact me at sheilaruthparks@comcast.net or Jim Mueller, the attorney for WCEP at jimmueller@charter.net.

Thank you for your time, attention and consideration.

Respectfully,

Sheila Parks, Ed.D.

Founder, Center for Hand-Counted Paper Ballots

<http://www.handcountedpaperballots.org/>

More Info:

Get involved in the Wave and EDA's 'No More Stolen Elections Campaign' centered around the Wisconsin recall elections on Tuesday, August 9th and 16th!

This article originally appeared in WisconsinWave, 07 August, 2011 (<http://wisconsinwave.org/news/center-hand-counted-paper-ballots-sends-letter-all-recall-candidates-regarding-election-protect>).

Endnotes

¹ Eric Kleefeld, “Corwin Gets Pre-Emptive Legal Action In NY-26,” [tpmdc/talkingpointsmemo](http://tpmdc.talkingpointsmemo.com/2011/05/corwin-gets-pre-emptive-legal-action-in-ny-26.php), 24 May, 2011 <<http://tpmdc.talkingpointsmemo.com/2011/05/corwin-gets-pre-emptive-legal-action-in-ny-26.php>>.

² For a link to the impound order, see <<http://www.scribd.com/doc/56182443/Impound-Order-For-Results-In-NY-26-Special-Election>>.

³ Here are the Wisconsin Statutes that show Wisconsin can do what NY did: <<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/Stat0005.pdf>>.