

FILED

January 10, 2025

**OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
SUPREME COURT**

A25-0017

Minnesota Voters Alliance; Greg
Ryan; Chris Bakeman,

Petitioners,

Republican Party of Minnesota,

Petitioner,

v.

Timothy Walz, in his official
capacity as Governor of the State of
Minnesota; Steve Simon, in his
official capacity as Secretary of
State of the State of Minnesota;
Tracy West, in her official capacity
as County Auditor of Ramsey
County, Minnesota; David Triplett,
in his official capacity as chief
election official of Ramsey County,
Minnesota, Ramsey County,

Respondents.

**AFFIDAVIT OF DAVID
TRIPLETT**

STATE OF MINNESOTA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

I, **DAVID TRIPLETT**, being first duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. I am the Deputy Director of Property Tax, Records and Elections Services for Ramsey County. Petitioners mistakenly identify me by my former title,

which was Ramsey County Elections Manager. I make this Affidavit upon personal knowledge.

I. County Election Staff are Already Preparing for the Special Election.

2. On December 27, 2024, Ramsey County Elections staff received the Writ of Special Election for Minnesota House of Representatives District 40B issued by Governor Walz.

3. On December 30, 2024, the next business day, Ramsey County Elections published notices of the special primary and special election for House District 40B on the County's website and public calendar, as well as on the public notice board in the County Elections office.

4. Also on December 30, 2024, County staff began coordinating with the polling place locations for the special primary (if it had been necessary) and special election, including sending them lease agreements. County staff have continued to be in communication with the locations since that date to confirm their availability and logistics.

5. On December 30, 2024, County staff also began coordinating with both the voting system and ballot printing vendors to ensure they had staff, time, and materials available for the special election. County staff continue to have ongoing and extensive communications with these vendors.

6. On December 31, 2024, County Elections staff received and processed filing paperwork from the candidates for the office of House District 40B.

7. Also on December 31, 2024, County staff began reaching out to qualified election judges to determine their availability to serve at a polling place for the special primary and special election. County Elections staff continued to communicate with potential election judges through January 7, 2025, when a sufficient number of them had notified the County of their intent to serve on election day.

8. January 1, 2025 was a state holiday.

9. On January 2, 2025, County staff were available to receive candidate withdrawal forms from candidates for the office of House District 40B.

10. On January 2, 2025, the County received the Secretary of State's Certification of Candidates for the special election, which certified that a special primary was no longer needed.

11. With no special primary required, on January 3, 2025, County Elections staff decided to begin absentee voting for the special election on January 10, 2025, and published notices to that effect. This decision was made based on when special election ballots would be available and in order to give absentee voters as much time and notice as reasonably possible.

12. Also on January 3, 2025, County staff began creating ballots for the special election in coordination with the County's voting system vendor.

13. On January 6 and 7, 2025, Ramsey County staff proofed election ballots. There are twelve unique ballot styles for this special election – one for each precinct.

14. On January 7, 2025, County staff transmitted ballot files to the County's print vendor for production.

15. Also on January 7, 2025, County Elections staff began preparing absentee ballot mailing envelopes to be mailed once ballots are received.

II. Absentee Voting will Begin on January 10, 2025.

16. The County anticipates receiving the ballots for the special election from its print vendor on January 9, 2025.

17. Absentee voting for the special election is scheduled to begin on January 10, 2025, when the County will be serving any voters choosing to vote absentee in-person at the County Auditor's Office and will also be mailing out approximately 1,050 absentee ballots to certain voters eligible to receive them.

18. In-person absentee voting for the special election is scheduled to continue through Monday, January 27, 2025, and voters have until election day to return other absentee ballots to the County Elections office.

III. Ramsey County has Already Expended Significant Resources Preparing for the January 28, 2025 Special Election.

19. As of the date of this Affidavit, the County has incurred (but not yet been invoiced for or paid) obligations to its voting system and ballot printing vendors for services already rendered totaling an estimated \$15,000.

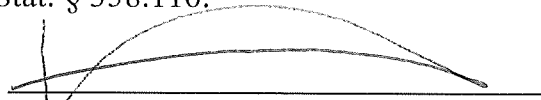
20. As of the date of this Affidavit, at least eleven County Elections staff members have performed work related to the special election, as have four Election Judges who are assisting with the preparations for absentee voting. The number of

staff and contractors involved will increase as the date of the special election approaches.

21. As of the date of this Affidavit, County Elections staff have spent an estimated 264 hours preparing for the special election. By January 15, 2025, this will rise to an estimated 528 hours of staff time. These estimates are based on the eleven County Elections staff members currently assisting in special election preparations having spent over half of their scheduled hours since December 30, 2025, in such preparations.

22. If the Dec. 27, 2024 Writ of Special Election is invalidated and a new special election date is set with a new filing period and, potentially, a new special primary, all or nearly all of the work performed by County staff to prepare for the January 28, 2025 special election and outlined in Sections 3 through 21 of this Affidavit will have to be repeated.

23. I declare under penalty of perjury that everything I have stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116.

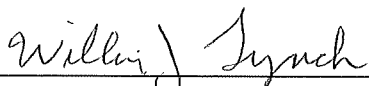


DAVID TRIPLETT

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY
TAX, RECORDS AND ELECTION
SERVICES FOR RAMSEY COUNTY



Subscribed and sworn to before me
on January 8, 2025.



Notary Public