

# **RECALL PETITION REPORT - SENATOR VAN WANGGAARD**

## **Submitted by True the Vote on Behalf of Verify the Recall**

### **Overview of True the Vote**

True the Vote is a nonpartisan, non-profit, citizen led initiative to inspire and equip fellow citizens to participate in our nation's electoral process. True the Vote's comprehensive program includes public outreach and education efforts, training and support of election workers, and research of publicly available election related records.

True the Vote's research focuses primarily on the review of election related records including audits of petition signatures, voter registration applications, voter registries, and other publicly available documents, for the purposes of assuring accuracy and authenticity of data used in electoral processes. Our work is supported by volunteer True the Vote researchers from across the country. True the Vote research projects range in size and scope; from narrow, county specific projects involving single datapoint analysis to national projects involving multipoint analysis, using research teams that span nationwide.

### **Overview of Verify the Recall**

In December of 2011, Wisconsin GrandSons of Liberty and We the People of the Republic, working with True the Vote, launched Verify the Recall, an online effort to allow the general public an opportunity to assist in developing a comprehensive digital dataset of all recall petition signatures. True the Vote then applied multivariate analyses to the dataset; determining the eligibility of each signature line and the total count of eligible signatures.

***13,000 people from 49 states have volunteered with Verify the Recall***

### **Goals**

- To conduct a comprehensive review of recall petition data
- To uphold the integrity of election processes
- To publicly present all findings

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## Recall Petition Audit Methodology

Volunteers transcribed each of the petitions' handwritten signature lines into a proprietary database, in a secure web-based environment, using tested True the Vote procedures to assure a high degree of accuracy. Once entered, True the Vote used its proprietary software program to examine each signature for eligibility.

Empowered By **TRUE the VOTE** 2012

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:**  
Please fill in each field using the information provided from the scanned copy of the page you are viewing. If you are unable to read some information, please make your best guess. Once a signature line has been entered, press the "NEXT" button. When you reach the last signature line, pressing next will fetch another page from the petition.

Printed Name:   
 Printed Matches Sign?  Yes  No  Can't Tell  
 Line# 1  
 Street:   
 City:   
 Zip:   
 Is this PO Box?  Yes

Municipality Type  Town  Village  City  
 Municipality Name:   
 Date Signed:   
 Phone:   
 Email:

**Next**

**RECALL PETITION**

To the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board: We, the undersigned qualified electors of the 32nd State Senate District of Wisconsin petition for the recall of State Senator Dan Kapanke from office pursuant to Article XIII, Section 12 of the Wisconsin Constitution and S.9.10 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

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.

PRINTED NAMES OF ELECTORS	SIGNATURES OF ELECTORS	STREET & NUMBER OR RURAL ROUTE <small>Rural addresses must also include box or fire no.</small>	MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE <small>Indicate Town, City, or Village</small>	DATE OF SIGNING	
Jon L. Rabbit	<i>Jon L. Rabbit</i>	12540 City Rd OA La Crosse, WI 54601	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Barre Mills	3/6/11	Em
2. Troy A. Schmutzer	<i>Troy A. Schmutzer</i>	3632 Cahoon Rd #210 La Crosse, WI 54601	<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City La Crosse	3/6/11	Em Plc
3. Theresa A. Martinson	<i>Theresa A. Martinson</i>	W2812 Shorewood Ct West Salem, WI 54609	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City Hamilton	3/6/11	Em Plc
4. MELVIN GLEN JEWICINS	<i>Melvin Glen Jewicins</i>	21642 HACKBERRY LANE LA CROSSE, WI 54601	<input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City LA CROSSE	3/6/11	Em Plc
5. Tim Thompson	<i>Tim Thompson</i>	43779 LOGGING ROAD West Salem, WI 54609	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City BARRE	3/6/11	Em Plc
6.		13501 Heath Rd.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> City	3/6/11	Em

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Pursuant to Wisconsin Election Code Chapter 9.10.2, each signature was examined and deemed ineligible if any of the following conditions were present:

- The signature is incomplete
- The signature is not unique in the dataset
- The signature is dated outside the circulation period
- The residency of the signer cannot be determined by the address given
- The signature is that of an individual who is not a resident of the jurisdiction or district from which the elective official being recalled is elected
- The signature is that of an individual who is known to be deceased
- The signature is that of an individual who is known to be fictitious

Petition pages were systematically distributed to data enterers, each page being completely entered a minimum of three times. Redundancy of entry provided a basis of comparison used to weigh the accuracy of signature line data, as well as the efficiency and accuracy of the data enterer.

This process of verification and evaluation was used to programmatically determine the eligibility of each signature line, using the following hierarchy for elimination:

1. Is the record incomplete?
2. Is the date out of range?
3. Is it potentially false name?
4. Is it a PO Box?
5. Is it out of area?
6. Is the signer dead?
7. Is the record a duplicate?

If the resulting determination was inconclusive, the signature line was examined by senior True the Vote researchers and eligibility determinations made on a case by case basis.

Typical records requiring further research included addresses that are not found in the US Post Office Address Register or signatures that do not match. Any records that remain indeterminable will be categorized as requiring further inspection, at which point the eligibility determination would be left to the GAB or challenging party.

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### Analysis

The Recall Petition of Senator Van Wanggaard required a minimum of 15,353 signatures in order to trigger a recall election. On January 17th, the Committee to Recall Wanggaard submitted an estimated 4000 petition pages containing 24,000 signatures.

Verify the Recall launched the Wanggaard audit on January 27th, shortly after the petition documents were posted online. Approximately 3200 volunteers participated in the data entry effort. Within 15 hours 327,348 records were entered; each signature line being entered approximately 8.41 times. This redundancy occurs by design, allowing for the capture of consistent information and isolation of aberrant information. The following is an overview of all findings:

<b>Variables Analyzed</b>	<b>Total Counts</b>
Total Number of Pages Processed	3892
Number of Pages Unable to Access	209
Number Records Processed	38,911
Blank Lines	16,211
Non-Blank Lines	22,700
Unique Records	22,480
Incomplete/Illegible Records	603
Sign Date Out of Range	90
False Names	0
PO Box	0
Out of Area	254
Duplicate Signatures	73
Deceased Signer (as per registry)	0
<b>Total Ineligible Signatures</b>	<b>1020</b>
<b>Total Signatures for Further Investigation*</b>	<b>1290</b>
<b>Total Eligible Signatures based on data available</b>	<b>20,170</b>

\* Signatures that were partially marked through, illegible, possible signature mismatched or otherwise compromised.