

## **Important rules to keep in mind when collecting signatures**

To recall Governor Scott Walker and Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, we must collect 540,208 signatures in two distinct petition drives. Understanding the requirements of circulating petitions and certifying valid signatures is critical to ensure that volunteer efforts and signatures are not wasted. The guidelines below can help you understand what is expected for recall signature gathering.

### **Circulators:**

A “circulator” is a person who witnesses and collects the petitioner’s signature or signatures on a recall petition. A circulator can be any *eligible* voter in the state of Wisconsin.

1. Must be over 18 years old,
2. A U.S. citizen or national,
3. Not a felon still serving a sentence,
4. Been a resident of Wisconsin for at least 28 days.

You **DO NOT** have to be *registered* to vote to be a petition circulator, *only eligible*.

### **Petitioners (aka “Signers”):**

A “petitioner” is a person who signs a petition in one of the ten numbered spots, affirming that they support the recall of Scott Walker from the office of governor (and Rebecca Kleefisch from the office of Lt. Governor *on a second petition*).

Any eligible voter in the state of Wisconsin can sign petitions. These are the same requirements for being a “Circulator” (*see above*). A *petitioner does NOT need to be a registered voter to sign—only eligible* to vote in the next statewide election. An ID is **NOT** required to sign the petition.

### **Circulating Guidelines:**

Circulators can circulate *freely in public and on public property*; they may circulate on private property with permission. They may also canvass door to door, as collecting signatures is organized political activity—**NOT** solicitation.

Ask if the person has already signed a petition. Duplicate signatures will not be thrown out but only one can be counted toward the recall. Encouraging duplicate signatures may complicate the efforts to tabulate the number needed but if the person is uncertain, they may sign a second petition without penalty.

The Circulator must personally witness each of the signatures on the petition. You **may not** leave recall petitions unattended on a table, in a lounge, on a bulletin board, etc. and ask people to sign. You **must be present** when each person signs the petition. You **may not use school property** (copiers, computers, phones, email, etc) to assist in the recall efforts. **Do not** obtain signatures or perform recall activities during contract time.

**A person can serve as both circulator and signer**—i.e. they can witness their own petition. This means that someone can download the petition from the website ([www.recallwalkerhq.org](http://www.recallwalkerhq.org)) sign it as both a petitioner and circulator, and mail it in.

### **Obtaining a Valid Signature**

Each valid petitioner’s signature requires four pieces of information on the petition:

1. A signature or mark made by the signer

2. A viable house number and street address, or rural route (**Note: PO Box addresses without a home street address will be disqualified**)
3. A **MUNICIPALITY** of residence in the state of Wisconsin (*i.e. where they vote*, which may not be the same as where they get their mail).
4. Ensure that the **box is checked** indicating whether the municipality is a *City, Village or Town*.
5. The signature **must be dated** within the 60-day collection period

### **Certifying the Petition**

After you have obtained the signatures, *review the information for accuracy and completeness*. If you discover errors in your review, *first ask the petitioner* to make the correction. If the petitioner is no longer accessible, you can make corrections to the information on the petition EXCEPT for the “*Signatures of Electors*” section. If a change is warranted, the correction *should be initialed by the Circulator*. **Only the circulator of the petition** can make corrections to the information if it is found to be in error or incomplete.

**Before the petition can be counted as valid**, you must complete the **Certification of Circulator** section at the **bottom of the petition**. By certifying the petition, the circulator acknowledges that he or she is aware that falsifying the certification is punishable under §12.13(3) (a), Wis. Stats.

**Failure to correctly certify the petition will result in the disqualification of all signatures on the petition. This is very important!**

1. **Print your full name** on the first line.
2. Include a viable house number and street address, or rural route (**Note: PO Box addresses without a home street address will be disqualified**).
3. **Also include your MUNICIPALITY** (*i.e. where you vote*, which may not be the same as where you get your mail).
4. **Sign your name**.
5. **Date the petition as certified. IMPORTANT**: The **DATE** the Circulator signature must be **AFTER THE LAST SIGNATURE DATE** on the petition and must be within the 60 day recall period beginning 11/15/2011!

**Check and double check your petitions to ensure that they comply with the above guidelines. If you have any questions, please contact [Jeff Knight \(knightj@madisonteachers.org\)](mailto:knightj@madisonteachers.org) at MTI or one of the [United Wisconsin](#) or [Recall Headquarters](#) for guidance.**

#### **Recall HQ Dane County West**

Phone: 608-692-4573

Address: 6602 Normandy Lane

Hours: 9AM – 9PM (7 Days/Week)

#### **Recall HQ Dane County East**

Phone: 608-692-9740

Address: 330 East Wilson Street

Hours: 9AM – 9PM

#### **United Wisconsin**

1605 Monroe St

Madison, WI 53711

608-251-0532

**Thank you for working to Recall Scott Walker!!**