



Office of the County Clerk

Elections Division

Cathy M. Garrett
Wayne County Clerk

May 28, 2026

STAFF REPORT (REVIEW OF NOMINATING PETITIONS)

Shalanda C. Leggs
Candidate for Judge of Probate Court – Wayne County – Non-Incumbent Position

NUMBER OF VALID SIGNATURES REQUIRED: 4,000 signatures

TOTAL FILING: 5,011 signatures submitted (maximum number allowed 8,000)

RESULTS OF FACIAL REVIEW:	5,011 signatures
Incomplete or Improper Headers	- 0
Incomplete or Improper Circulator Certificate	- 19
Incomplete or missing signatures	- 0
Incomplete or missing date of signing	- 72
Incomplete address or improper jurisdiction	- 9

Total number of reviewable signatures: **4,911 signatures**

ANALYSIS OF CHALLENGE

TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURES QUESTIONED UNDER CHALLENGE: As a result of the challenge filed by Matthew Wilk, 2,390 signatures are at issue. After a facial review, candidate Leggs had a cushion of 911 signatures. Because the number of signatures challenged exceeded candidate Leggs' cushion, staff began to process the challenge.

Staff review of the challenges submitted by Matthew Wilk and provides the following staff report of its findings:

The challenger alleges through his sworn complaint that candidate Leggs' petitions contain an insufficient number of valid signatures, duplicate signatures, header defects regarding the office designation, and fraudulent circulators known to commit massive signature fraud. The challenger indicates that he hired a professional data verification firm, Victory Field Operations ("VFO") to conduct a line-by-line analysis against the Michigan Qualified Voter File (the "QVF"), the State of Michigan's official record of



registered voters in Michigan. He further alleges that the line-by-line analysis estimates that a total of 3,552 signatures matched to a registered voter within the QVF.

The challenger alleges that candidate Leggs' petitions fail to strictly comply with MCL 168.544c in that they do not properly identify the office sought. He indicates that 220 petition pages indicate the term as a "6-year term" instead of the statutorily required "Regular Term", thus rendering each affected sheet as invalid.

Leggs' nominating petitions all clearly state that she is seeking election to a "Non-Incumbent Judicial position" on the Wayne County Probate Court. A regular term is a 6-year term. There is no confusion to the elector or the petition signor as to what position Leggs is seeking. Furthermore, all three judicial positions on the court are "Non-Incumbent positions" with regular (6-year) terms. We recommend this challenge should be *rejected*.

The challenger also alleges that circulators Nanci Gibson, Laurence Gooden, Bridgette Hawkins, Loren Primm and Gersena Guyton are documented by the State Bureau of Elections in an official Staff Memorandum titled "Staff Memo on Petition Sheets Showing Clear Indications of Fraud" dated May 24, 2024. Wilk claims that between the five circulators approximately 110 petition sheets containing 1,059 petition signatures must be stricken as the signatures are tainted due to the determinations made by the Secretary of State during the 2024 election cycle.

Staff is aware of the fraud allegations and findings from the 2024 election cycle. On February 23, 2026, the Michigan Board of State Canvassers issued a memo to Candidates, petition sponsors, and petition circulators with the subject: "Disqualification of persons and organizations from collecting petition signatures". (see attached) In the memo the State Board of Canvassers identified two individuals and three companies that were disqualified from circulating petitions for four years in the State of Michigan, pursuant to MCL 158.544c(13)(c). The memo goes on to state that from the date of issuance until February 23, 2030, "each petition signature identified in a challenge as gathered and found to be gathered by the following individuals or by a circulator hired by the following companies shall be determined to be invalid."

The five circulators listed in the challenge were not named in the memorandum, nor was any information provided to the County Clerk identifying these five individuals as being employed or previously employed by one of the three companies disqualified from circulating petitions. In addition, no information was provided that any of the individuals listed were convicted of submitting fraudulent petition signatures nor have they been banned by the Board of State Canvassers from circulating petitions. An extensive check shows no signs of forgery or nefarious activity on behalf of the circulators. Most issues noticed were signor and date errors. We recommend this portion of the challenge should be *rejected*.

County Clerk staff reviewed the entirety of the petition filing and identified petitions #000350 and #000353 as the only questionable petition sheets where the same or similar handwriting appears on each line of the petition sheet. Both petitions, containing 11 reviewable signatures, appear to be forged or fraudulently signed by a person not purported to be the petition signer. The petitions were signed by circulator "Carlen Neely" at 600 Algonquin St., Detroit, MI 48215. Same or similar flourishes, slants,

distinctive letters, and obvious entries with the same handwriting are found on both petitions. For the reasons stated above, these petitions are *disqualified*.

RESULTS OF PETITION CHALLENGE:	4,911
	- 12 (Disqualified)
	4,899 (reviewable signatures)
Not Registered/Not Registered in District	- 544
Duplicates	- 264
Signature Errors/Miscellaneous Identifying issues	- <u>118</u>
Total Number of Valid Signatures	3,973

72 overlapping challenges for invalid date, address, header and/or circulator errors, 544 challenges recommended to be upheld, 685 challenges recommended to be rejected, 67 challenges with miscellaneous identifying issues, 51 signature errors, and 264 duplicates and 700 signatures crossed out prior to filing.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: **Determine petition insufficient.**

INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

NOMINATING PETITION

000350

(COUNTYWIDE NONPARTISAN)

* The "Countywide" Nonpartisan Petition form may be used by any nonpartisan candidate. Exceptions: the form may not be used by a candidate who seeks a school board position, intermediate school board position, community college trustee position, library board position or a district library board position.

We, the undersigned, registered and qualified voters of the County of Wayne, and State of Michigan, nominate Shalanda C. Leggs 17605 Birchcrest Dr.
Detroit as a candidate for the office of Wayne Judge of Probate Court Non-Incumbent, 6-year Term
(City or Township) (Title of Office/Term Expiration Date) (District, if any)
to be voted for at the Primary Election to be held on the 4th day of August, 20 26

WARNING – A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY SIGNS MORE PETITIONS FOR THE SAME OFFICE THAN THERE ARE PERSONS TO BE ELECTED TO THE OFFICE, SIGNS A PETITION MORE THAN ONCE, OR SIGNS A NAME OTHER THAN HIS OR HER OWN IS VIOLATING THE PROVISIONS OF THE MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	STREET ADDRESS OR RURAL ROUTE	NAME OF CITY OR TOWNSHIP	ZIP CODE	DATE OF SIGNING		
					MO.	DAY	YEAR
1. <u>Marsha Hall</u>	<u>Marsha Hall</u>	<u>3934 Buckingham</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48224</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
2. <u>Briana Starks</u>	<u>Briana Starks</u>	<u>5266 Alter Rd</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48224</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
3. <u>Carlen Neely</u>	<u>Carlen Neely</u>	<u>600 Algonquin</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48215</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
4. <u>B. Keeler</u>	<u>Brandon Neely</u>	<u>600 Algonquin</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48215</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
5. <u>Kelcie Jordan</u>	<u>Kelcie Jordan</u>	<u>3667 Tarnsworth</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48211</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
6. <u>Johnnie Hubbard</u>	<u>Johnnie Hubbard</u>	<u>17687 Sunderland</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48219</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
7. <u>Braden Neely</u>	<u>Braden Neely</u>	<u>Conley</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48219</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
8. <u>Linda Fields</u>	<u>Linda Fields</u>	<u>3670 Ferry</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48211</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
9. <u>Sherry Sims</u>	<u>Sherry Sims</u>	<u>Brewster Projects</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48201</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>
10. <u>Monique Porter</u>	<u>Monique Porter</u>	<u>Chrysler Dr</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48201</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2026</u>

CERTIFICATE OF CIRCULATOR

The undersigned circulator of the above petition asserts that he or she is 18 years of age or older and a United States citizen; that each signature on the petition was signed in his or her presence; that he or she has neither caused nor permitted a person to sign the petition more than once and has no knowledge of a person signing the petition more than once; and that, to his or her best knowledge and belief, each signature is the genuine signature of the person purporting to sign the petition, the person signing the petition was at the time of signing a registered elector of the city or township indicated following the signature, and the elector was qualified to sign the petition.

☐ If the circulator is not a resident of Michigan, the circulator shall make a cross [X] or check mark [✓] in the box provided, otherwise each signature on this petition sheet is invalid and the signatures will not be counted by a filing official. By making a cross or check mark in the box provided, the undersigned circulator asserts that he or she is not a resident of Michigan and agrees to accept the jurisdiction of this state for the purpose of any legal proceeding or hearing that concerns a petition sheet executed by the circulator and agrees that legal process served on the Secretary of State or a designated agent of the Secretary of State has the same effect as if personally served on the circulator.

WARNING—A circulator knowingly making a false statement in the above certificate, a person not a circulator who signs as a circulator, or a person who signs a name other than his or her own as circulator is guilty of a misdemeanor.

CIRCULATOR—Do not sign or date certificate until after circulating petition.

Carlen Neely
(Signature of Circulator)

4.20.2026
(Date)

Carlen Neely
(Printed Name of Circulator)

600 Algonquin St.
(Complete Residence Address (Street and Number or Rural Route)) Do not enter a post office box

Detroit MI 48215
(City or Township, State, Zip Code)

Wayne
(County of Registration, if Registered to Vote, of a Circulator who is not a Resident of Michigan)

INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

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000353

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					MO.	DAY	YEAR
1. <u>O. Addy</u>	<u>Olympia Addy</u>	<u>10054 Strathmoor</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48227</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
2. <u>Tyrion Sterling</u>	<u>Tyrion Sterling</u>	<u>17223 Mackay St</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48212</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
3. <u>Jasmine Campbell</u>	<u>Jasmine Campbell</u>	<u>2450 W. Grand Blvd</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48208</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
4. <u>Truman Hamilton</u>	<u>Truman Hamilton</u>	<u>11257 Roxbury</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48224</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
5. <u>Holly Cheatham</u>	<u>Holly Cheatham</u>	<u>15486 Mark Twain</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48227</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
6. <u>Charnise King</u>	<u>Charnise King</u>	<u>16321 Joy Rd</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48228</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
7. <u>LaQuiece Young</u>	<u>LaQuiece Young</u>	<u>601 Algonquin St</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48215</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
8. <u>Kathy Foster</u>	<u>Kathy Foster</u>	<u>17745 Cooley</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48219</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
9. <u>James Foster</u>	<u>James Foster</u>	<u>17745 Cooley</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48219</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>
10. <u>William Hollingsworth</u>	<u>William Hollingsworth</u>	<u>17745 Cooley</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>48219</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>

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