
**BEFORE THE
INDIANA RECOUNT COMMISSION**

**ORDER 2026-5
ORDER OF IMPOUNDMENT**

The Indiana Recount Commission convened on May 15, 2026, and adopted Order 2026-4, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Order 2026-4 employed Ms. Jessica Dickinson as Recount Director, and designated Ms. Dickinson to exercise any of the powers of the Commission, including the ordering of the impoundment of any election records and equipment under Indiana Code 3-12-10.

On May 18, 2026, at 3:53 EDT, a petition for the impoundment of election equipment and materials utilized or related to the Republican Party primary election nomination for Indiana State Senate District 23 on May 5, 2026, was filed with the Indiana Election Division by counsel for Paula K. Copenhaver, a candidate for the Republican Party primary nomination in Indiana State Senate District 23 which is incorporated herein by reference.

Under IC 3-12-11-16(a), the Indiana Recount Commission may, by order, impound and provide for the protection of any election records or equipment described by IC 3-12-10-5(a), namely any election records or equipment relate to a recount.

Having determined, based on the filing of the aforesaid request, that the following nomination for election to a state legislative office may be subject to a recount proceeding, namely:

The Republican Party primary election for Indiana State Senate District 23

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Indiana State Police immediately impound and secure the following election materials, currently in the possession of the Fountain, Parke, Vermillion, Warren, Montgomery, and Tippecanoe County Election Boards for **all precincts** within Indiana State Senate District 23, which consists of all precincts within Fountain, Parke, Vermillion, and Warren Counties and portions of Montgomery (All precincts in Brown, Coal Creek, Ripley, and Wayne Townships) and Tippecanoe (All precincts in Jackson, Randolph, Shelby, Union, Wabash, and Wayne Townships) Counties:

- (1) All ballots and voting systems (as defined in IC 3-5-2.1) used (or prepared for use) at the May 5, 2026 primary election for casting votes in Indiana State Senate District 23.
- (2) All tally sheets and canvass sheets related to the votes cast in Indiana State Senate District 23 at that election.
- (3) All poll lists and electronic pollbooks relating to the votes cast in Indiana State Senate District 23 at that election.

(4) All other election materials, records, or equipment, including all absentee ballot applications, affidavits and envelopes and canvass materials used in the election for this office within the precincts or any vote center, or created during any canvass conducted under IC 3-12-4; the central count of absentee ballots under IC 3-11.5; the counting of provisional ballots under IC 3-11.7; and the counting of overseas ballots under IC 3-12-1-17.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this specified election material remain impounded until further order of the Indiana Recount Commission.

So ordered this 19th day of May 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Dickinson', written over a horizontal line.

/s/ Jessica Dickinson
Jessica Dickinson, Recount Director
Acting on behalf of and
Under the authority of the
Indiana Recount Commission

Copies to:

Indiana State Police
Indiana State Board of Accounts

Fountain County Election Board
Parke County Election Board
Vermillion County Election Board
Warren County Election Board
Montgomery County Election Board
Tippecanoe County Election Board

Petitioner Paula K. Copenhaver
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Covington, IN 47932

Respondent Spencer R. Deery
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West Lafayette, IN 47907