

**BEFORE THE  
INDIANA RECOUNT COMMISSION**

**ORDER 2026-9  
ORDER FOR RECOUNT PROCEEDING**

IN THE MATTER OF THE RECOUNT )  
AND CONTEST FOR THE REPUBLICAN )  
PARTY NOMINATION FOR ELECTION )  
OF INDIANA STATE SENATE, )  
DISTRICT 23 )  
)  
)  
)  
PAULA K. COPENHAVER, Petitioner )  
)  
)  
v. )  
)  
)  
SPENCER R. DEERY, Respondent )

1. The Indiana Recount Commission convened on May 26, 2026, and adopted Order 2026-8, which is incorporated herein by reference.
2. Order 2026-8 employed Mr. Evan M. Norris as Recount Director and designated Mr. Norris to exercise any of the powers of the Commission, except for the powers listed in Indiana Code 3-12-10-7(a).
3. At 3:53 p.m., on May 18, 2026, a Verified Petition for Recount and Contest for the Election of Indiana State Senate, District 23, was filed with the Indiana Election Division by counsel representing Ms. Copenhaver, a candidate for the nomination of the Republican Party for election to the office of Indiana State Senate, District 23, who is a candidate entitled to petition for a recount or contest under IC 3-12-11.
4. The Recount Director, acting under Order 2026-8, having reviewed the Petition, makes the following findings on behalf of the Commission: (A) that the Verified Petition for Recount and Contest (“Petition”) was timely filed; (B) that the Petition complies with the requirements of Indiana Code 3-12-11-3, with regard to its content concerning the recount proceeding; (C) that the Petitioner has filed a cash deposit in the amount required under Indiana Code 3-12-11-10; (D) that the period under Indiana Code 3-12-11-4 for the filing of a Cross-Petition has expired; and (E) that proof of service of all notices of the filing of a petition for a recount or contest under IC 3-12-11-9 has been filed with the Indiana Election Division as required under IC 3-12-11-12.

6. The Recount Director, acting under Order 2026-8, orders on behalf of the Commission that the Verified Petition for a Recount be granted.

7. The Recount Director, acting under Order 2026-8, orders on behalf of the Commission that a manual recount of all votes cast within the precincts located within Indiana State Senate District 23 be conducted in accordance with Indiana Code Title 3, and the *Guidelines for Conduct of an Election Recount and Contest*, as adopted by the Commission.

8. A pre-recount inspection (as referenced in the *Guidelines*) shall begin on **May 27, 2026 at 9:00a**, local prevailing time, at **Vermillion County Courthouse**. The following dates/times/locations for the pre-recount inspection shall continue thereafter as follows:

- **May 28, 2026 (9:00a)** – Warren County EMA Government Building (14 Railroad St., Williamsport, IN)

- **May 28, 2026 (1:00p -or- immediately following Warren County inspection)** – Montgomery County Government Center (1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN)

- **May 29, 2026 (9:00a)** – Fountain County Courthouse

- **June 1, 2026 (9:00a)** – Tippecanoe County Government Building (20 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Lafayette, IN)

- **June 2, 2026 (9:00a)** – Parke County Courthouse

- **June 3, 2026 (9:00a)** – Tippecanoe County Government Building (20 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Lafayette, IN) (if necessary)

9. The Recount Director takes under advisement the Petitioner's Petition for Contest, and other than finding under Paragraph 4(A) that the Petition for Contest was timely filed with the Election Division, takes no further action regarding the requested Contest proceeding as part of this Order.

10. The Election Division shall send a certified copy of this order in accordance with Indiana Code 3-12-11-12(f) by electronic mail to the Petitioner and Respondents, unless the attorney for that party has filed an appearance for Petitioner or Respondent and by certified mail in all other cases.

**SO ORDERED THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY 2026**



Evan M. Norris, 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

William Bock, attorney for Petitioner

Samantha Dewester, attorney for Respondent