

## **Proposal for Restrictions on Election Officials**

This proposal is intended to engender public trust in the conduct of Madison elections by ensuring that individuals charged with administering elections are fair and unbiased.

### **Restrictions on the City Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Madison Board of Canvassers**

During their appointment, they shall be prohibited from

- Publicly endorsing or publicly campaigning for a candidate or referendum
- Contributing money to a campaign
- Holding elective office
- Being a candidate, campaign treasurer, or campaign officer for an elective office

For the Board of Canvassers, these restrictions only apply to contests for which the Board would conduct the recount should there be one.

### **Additional Restrictions on the Clerk and Deputy Clerk**

During their appointment, they shall be prohibited from

- Being an officer, committee chair, or director of a political party
- Being an officer or employee of a registered campaign finance group

### **Clean Slate**

For current employees and current members of the Board of Canvassers, any activities that occurred prior to 60 days after the enactment of this ordinance are exempt from the ordinance, provided that within the 60 days the activities are officially terminated.

### **Other Employees**

No other employees are subject to restrictions. The clerk is expected to effectively supervise the work of employees. A wide variety of people work on elections, and to restrict activities that occur outside of working hours is not practical and may conflict with labor contracts.

### **Pollworkers**

The Common Council should direct the city clerk to develop a procedure for assigning pollworkers who are elected officials, or pollworkers who are campaign treasurers for aldermanic contests. The procedure should call for assigning them outside the district of interest.

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