



KEN BENNETT
SECRETARY OF STATE
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PRESS RELEASE

July 8, 2011

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Today, Secretary of State Ken Bennett notified Governor Jan Brewer of his determination that recall petition serial number RC-04-2011, filed by the Citizens for a Better Arizona Committee, exceeds the number of minimum signatures required by the Arizona Constitution to be placed on the ballot at the next consolidated election date that is 90 days or more after the order calling the election. Today constitutes the official filing date of the petition.

- On May 31, 2011, the Committee originally filed 1,711 petition signature sheets containing 18,076 signatures.
- On June 3, 2011, after performing its duties required by ARS § 19-121.01, the office of the Secretary of State forwarded 1,648 petition signature sheets containing 16,949 signatures to the Maricopa County Recorder for verification.
- On July 8, 2011, the County Recorder returned 1,648 petition sheets and certified that they contained 10,365 valid voter signatures.

The total number of verified signatures for recall petition serial number RC-04-2011 exceeds the 7,756 minimum required by the constitution to subject the Honorable Russell Pearce, state senator for legislative district 18, to a recall election.

Senator Pearce may choose to resign from office within five business days, in which case the recall election would not be needed and the vacancy in office would be filled as otherwise provided by law. If Senator Pearce chooses not to resign, he will automatically become a candidate in the recall election.

The Governor now has 15 days to issue an order calling the special recall election. There is also a ten day period within which the County Recorder's certification of signatures may be challenged in the Superior Court.

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KEN BENNETT
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STATE OF ARIZONA
RECALL PETITION
FACT SHEET



RC-04-2011, Citizens for a Better Arizona
Revised July 8, 2011

Application for recall petition serial number RC-04-2011 was filed in the office of the Secretary of State on January 31, 2011 by Chad Snow, Chairman of Citizens for a Better Arizona, PO Box 41232, Mesa, AZ 85274.

7,756 valid signatures are required. [*Az. Constitution, Article VIII, Part 1, § 1*]

The deadline for filing the petition signature sheets is May 31, 2011. [*A.R.S. § 19-203(B)*]

The Secretary of State's office has **10 days** to issue a receipt to the applicant of the total number of signatures eligible for verification. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.01(A)*]

Copies of the petition signature sheets are mailed or delivered to the appropriate County Recorder. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.01(A)*]

County Recorders have **60 days** to verify that petition signers are or are not qualified electors. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.02*]

After the certifications from each County Recorder are received, the Secretary of State's office has **5 days** (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) to tabulate the number of valid signatures. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.03*]

If a sufficient number of certified signatures equals or exceeds the amount required by the Constitution, the Secretary of State shall officially file the petition, notify the Governor and place the recall on the ballot. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.03*]

The Secretary of State's office has **48 hours** after the official filing date (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) to notify the person being recalled. [*A.R.S. § 19-207*]

The person being recalled has **5 days** (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) from the official filing date to resign if the person so chooses or may submit a statement of defense within **10 days** of being notified of the recall. [*A.R.S. §§ 19-207 & 19-208*]

Any elector has **10 days** after the official filing date to challenge the signatures certified by each County Recorder in the Superior Court. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.04(B)*]

Either party has **10 days** after the judgment by the Superior Court to appeal to the Supreme Court. [*A.R.S. § 19-208.04(B)*]

The Governor has **15 days** from the official filing date to call a special recall election. [*A.R.S. § 19-209*]

The election must be held at least **90 days** after the order calling the election and on a consolidated election date. [*A.R.S. § 19-209*]

Candidates may be placed on the ballot after filing a nomination petition that is signed by **621 qualified electors**. [*A.R.S. § 19-212(A)*]

Candidates may begin to file nomination petitions **90 days** before the election date. [*A.R.S. § 19-212(F)*]

All nomination petitions must be filed no later than **60 days** before the election date. [*A.R.S. § 19-212(F)*]