

Extension for Overseas Voters in Wisconsin

Romney for President, Inc. v. Wisconsin
(William M. Conley, W.D. Wis. 3:12-cv-745)

A presidential campaign sought an extension for absentee ballots because they were not mailed on time as required by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986 (UOCAVA). The matter settled.

Subject: Absentee and early voting. *Topics:* Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA); absentee ballots.

Mitt Romney’s presidential campaign filed a federal complaint in Madison, Wisconsin, on October 12, 2012, seeking an extension of time for overseas voters to mail back their absentee ballots because Wisconsin had not mailed them out by forty-five days before the November 6 general election, as required by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986 (UOCAVA).¹ With its complaint, the campaign filed a motion for a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction.²

Western District of Wisconsin District Judge William M. Conley drew the case and set the matter for hearing on October 26.³ On October 24, the parties stipulated dismissal without prejudice.⁴

1. Complaint, *Romney for President, Inc. v. Wisconsin*, No. 3:12-cv-745 (W.D. Wis. Oct. 12, 2012), D.E. 1; see Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, as amended, 52 U.S.C. §§ 20301–20311; see also Mark Guarino, *Romney Campaign Sues Over Absentee Ballots in Wisconsin*, *Christian Science Monitor*, Oct. 15, 2012 (“The campaign . . . is concerned about 44 ballots that the state’s Government Accountability Board says were sent out by local election officials after the Sept. 22 deadline.”). See generally Robert Timothy Reagan, *Overseas Voting: The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (Federal Judicial Center 2016).

2. Motion, *Romney for President, Inc.*, No. 3:12-cv-745 (W.D. Wis. Oct. 12, 2012), D.E. 2.

3. Docket Sheet, *id.* (Oct. 12, 2012).

4. Stipulation, *id.* (Oct. 24, 2012), D.E. 12.