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2 D. Upon any roll call, no county shall have the right to yield the floor to another county.  
3  
4 E. In lieu of a roll call, and if agreed to by the convention, balloting on questions for which a  
5 roll call has been called, may be tabulated and reported by the County Chairman, and  
6 reported to the Convention Secretary in writing, on a ballot provided by the Secretary,  
7 and then reported electronically to the convention.  
8

9 **RULE 3: Convention Officers and Committees**

- 10  
11 A. There shall be four convention officers: Permanent Chairman, Vice Chairman,  
12 Parliamentarian, and Secretary. The officers shall be appointed by the State Chairman of  
13 the Republican Party of Wisconsin prior to the convening of the convention.  
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15 B. There shall be up to four major committees: Credentials, Resolutions, and Rules, and, in  
16 even numbered years, Platform. The Chairman or Co-Chairmen of each committee shall  
17 be appointed by the State Chairman of the Republican Party of Wisconsin prior to the day  
18 scheduled for state convention committee meetings. Two members from each  
19 Congressional District shall be elected to each committee at the District Caucus as  
20 required in the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin.  
21  
22 C. In the event a committee member from a particular Congressional District is not able to  
23 attend the committee meeting, the District Chairman shall be empowered to appoint a  
24 replacement prior to the convening of the committee meeting.  
25  
26 D. Only the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall be permitted to make an audio or video  
27 recording of any committee proceedings.  
28

29 **RULE 4: Parliamentary Authority**

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31 Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (latest edition), shall be the rules of this convention so  
32 far as they are applicable and not inconsistent with the Rules adopted.  
33

34 **RULE 5: Motion to Table / Motion to Remove From Table**

- 35  
36 A. A motion to table is not debatable and requires two-thirds of the votes cast for adoption.  
37  
38 B. A motion to remove from the table is not debatable and requires two-thirds of the votes  
39 cast for adoption.  
40

41 **RULE 6: Suspension of the Rules**

42  
43 A motion to suspend the Rules shall be in order only when authorized by a majority of voting  
44 delegates from the offeror's county and seconded by the majority vote of voting delegates  
45 present from at least two delegations, each from a Congressional District different from each

1 other and the district from which the motion has been made. After a motion to suspend has been  
2 placed before the convention, it shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the votes cast.

3  
4 **RULE 7: Recess for Securing Seconds**

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6 Upon demand, a five (5) minute recess shall be granted by the Chairman for the purpose of  
7 securing seconds for a motion made.

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9 **RULE 8: Time Limits**

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11 A voting delegate will not be recognized to speak except upon the request of their county  
12 chairman or vice chairman or designated alternate. Debate on any given motion shall be limited  
13 to a total of ten (10) minutes in favor and a total of ten (10) minutes in opposition. No voting  
14 delegate shall speak more than twice upon the same question or longer than two (2) minutes on  
15 the first occasion or one (1) minute on the second occasion, unless by suspension of the  
16 Convention Rules. No voting delegate shall speak a second time on a given question unless all  
17 others who wish to speak on said question have had the opportunity to do so within the time  
18 frame outlined above.

19  
20 **RULE 9: Convention Committee Proceedings**

- 21  
22 A. The Chairman of each Convention Committee shall name a Parliamentarian who shall  
23 advise the committee on matters relating to procedure.
- 24  
25 B. The following shall be established as the rules for debate at meetings of the Convention  
26 Committees:
- 27
- 28 1. A total of twenty (20) minutes shall be allowed to debate each motion that is  
29 made and seconded. This time shall be split evenly between Committee members  
30 wishing to speak in support and opposition of the motion to adopt. Each member  
31 wishing to speak shall be limited to three minutes. The Parliamentarian of the  
32 Committee shall record the time used and time remaining for both sides.
  - 33  
34 2. If an amendment is proposed to a motion to adopt, the 20 minutes for debate  
35 does not apply to ensuing debate on the amendment. Instead, Committee  
36 members wishing to speak in support and opposition of the amendment shall  
37 each receive three minutes to speak. Again, a motion to extend the time for  
38 debate is allowable.
  - 39  
40 3. Incidental motions (requests and inquiries) shall not apply to the time established  
41 for debate.
- 42

43 **RULE 10: Convention Resolutions, Floor Resolutions, and Floor Amendments**

- 44  
45 A. Only those resolutions adopted by a District Caucus shall be considered by the State  
46 Resolutions Committee.

1  
2 B. Resolutions to be considered by the State Resolutions Committee shall express the sense  
3 of the Republican Party of Wisconsin on specific issues related to timely matters not  
4 covered by the State Party Platform as adopted by voting delegates at the previous State  
5 Convention in an even year. If a resolution being considered for adoption by the State  
6 Resolutions Committee doesn't meet these guidelines, any member can request it be  
7 ruled out of order by the Chairman or the Chairman may rule it out or of order. This  
8 ruling can be overturned by a simple majority vote of the members of the committee.  
9

10 C. All resolutions being introduced from the floor must be submitted to the Secretary in  
11 writing, with 500 copies, together with a duplicate written list of the county introducing  
12 the resolution and the counties seconding the resolution, by 10:00a.m. on the first day of  
13 convention. Floor resolutions shall be considered as in order if the resolution was  
14 presented to the State Resolutions Committee. The Permanent Chairman of the  
15 convention shall announce to the convention, prior to the Resolutions Committee report,  
16 the substance of any resolution(s) coming from the floor. The pages shall distribute two  
17 copies of each resolution submitted from the floor to each county chairman at the start of  
18 the Resolutions Committee report. Those introducing the resolutions are responsible for  
19 arranging, paying, and making the copies. All resolutions submitted from the floor shall  
20 be considered after those submitted by the resolutions committee.  
21

22 D. All resolutions being introduced from the floor for Convention Resolutions and/or  
23 amendments to the State Party Platform, when the approval of the State Party Platform is  
24 an item on the Convention Agenda, must have the support of a majority of the voting  
25 delegates from the offeror's county, and be seconded by a majority vote of voting  
26 delegates present from at least four delegations, each from a Congressional district  
27 different from each other and the district from which the demand has been made.  
28

29 E. Amendments to resolutions shall not be entertained and any proposed amendments will  
30 be ruled out of order.  
31

32 F. Resolutions for which a roll call vote is called shall be held over until the end of the  
33 Resolutions Committee report and shall be taken up as a group. There may be a fifteen  
34 (15) minute recess for the purpose of balloting by convention voting delegates prior to the  
35 commencement of the balloting. The chairman of the convention shall declare the  
36 balloting closed at the completion of the recess and the commencement of the reporting  
37 of the votes by each county. Roll call under this Rule shall be the reporting of a  
38 county's vote to the Tellers Committee by a means designated by the chair. There is no  
39 required roll call of individual counties by the secretary of the party.  
40

41 G. Resolutions to be considered by the State Convention shall express the sense of the  
42 Republican Party of Wisconsin on specific issues related to timely matters not covered by  
43 the State Party Platform as adopted by voting delegates at the previous State Convention  
44 in an even year. Resolutions are not binding and cannot compel an agent of the  
45 Republican Party of Wisconsin or an elected official to take a certain action.  
46

1 **RULE 11: Caucusing During Floor Sessions**

2  
3 No county delegation may leave the convention floor for the purpose of caucusing without  
4 notification to the Convention Chairman or the Convention Secretary of the convention.

5  
6 **RULE 12: Convention Agenda**

7  
8 The convention shall follow the order of business as established by the Convention Committee  
9 and as published in the convention program or as distributed in two copies to each county chair  
10 and shall stay in continuous session until the business contained in the call for this convention  
11 and required by the Constitution is complete. Motions to the contrary shall be out of order.

12  
13 **RULE 13: Alterations to the Agenda**

14  
15 The Convention Chairman may rearrange the “Order of Business” (agenda) without suspending  
16 the rules.

17  
18 **RULE 14: Access to the Floor**

19  
20 No persons, except members of the several delegations and officers of the convention, shall be  
21 admitted to the section of the hall apportioned to the voting delegates and alternates except for  
22 the Sergeants-at-Arms, Pages, members of the news media and others authorized by the  
23 Convention Arrangements Committee and/or who have been certified by the State Executive  
24 Committee. In the years in which endorsements are considered, each candidate on the ballot for  
25 endorsement or those properly nominated from the floor shall be entitled to have access to the  
26 floor and to also have five (5) properly credentialed campaign representatives, who are not  
27 voting delegates or alternates, on the floor. Each campaign shall provide a list to the Republican  
28 Party of Wisconsin 96 hours prior to the convening of the State Convention.

29  
30 **RULE 15: Radio Communication Regulations**

- 31  
32 A. No candidate, voting delegate or other group or entity may use any wireless transmitter or  
33 receiver that interferes with frequencies used by the Republican Party of Wisconsin.  
34  
35 B. Speaking on cell phones shall be prohibited on the Convention floor, and cell phones and  
36 all electronic devices must be kept silent during convention proceedings.

37  
38 **RULE 16: State Convention Endorsement**

- 39  
40 A. Endorsements shall be made by the Republican Party of Wisconsin in convention  
41 assembled in years in which there is an election for the five state constitutional offices  
42 and/or for the office of United States Senator. Only those candidates determined to be  
43 viable by the State Executive Committee at a meeting prior to the convention shall be  
44 considered for endorsement. In addition:

- 1 B. Candidates must be a member in good standing in their county’s Republican Party  
2 organization by the date of the current year’s county caucus to be eligible for  
3 consideration of endorsement.  
4
- 5 C. Each Republican candidate for U.S. Senate must be eligible for the office, must have  
6 properly filed Federal Elections Commission Form 2, and must have filed a year-end  
7 campaign finance report with the Federal Election Commission for the year immediately  
8 preceding the state convention.  
9
- 10 D. Each Republican candidate for any of the five state constitutional offices must be eligible  
11 for the office for which he or she has filed, must have properly filed the appropriate  
12 forms with the Wisconsin Election Commission, and must have filed a year-end  
13 campaign finance report with the Wisconsin Election Commission for the year  
14 immediately preceding the state convention if required to do so.  
15
- 16 E. Nothing in Rule 16 (A), (B), (C) or (D) shall preclude the nomination from the  
17 convention floor of any candidate eligible for the office for which he or she seeks  
18 endorsement from the Party, although candidates nominated from the floor must also be  
19 determined to be viable by the State Executive Committee at a special meeting prior to  
20 the convening of the state convention. When notified by a potential candidate who will  
21 be seeking nomination from the floor after the last meeting of the State Executive  
22 Committee prior to the state convention, the State Executive Committee must meet prior  
23 to the convening of the state convention to determine viability. All nominations for  
24 endorsement being introduced from the floor must have the support of a majority of  
25 voting delegates from the nominator’s county and be seconded by a majority vote of  
26 voting delegates present from at least two delegations, each from a Congressional district  
27 different from each other and the district from which the demand has been made, and  
28 must be submitted to the Secretary in writing, signed by all three (3) chairmen, or  
29 alternates designated by the county or district chairman as specified in Rule 1 (C),  
30 certifying that a vote of the respective delegations was conducted by 10:00 a.m. on the  
31 day the nominations are first considered. A county may only nominate or second one  
32 candidate for endorsement for the same position.  
33
- 34 F. Candidates who are determined to be viable by the State Executive Committee are  
35 officially nominated under these rules and further nomination and seconding by voting  
36 delegates during the state convention are not required.  
37
- 38 G. No delegate shall have the option to cast a vote of ‘no endorsement’ for any office. Any  
39 such indication on the ballot shall render that ballot invalid.  
40
- 41 H. A candidate must receive a sixty percent supermajority of the votes cast by the counties  
42 to obtain the endorsement of the Republican Party of Wisconsin.  
43
- 44 I. If there are two (2) candidates for any of the offices for which the convention may make  
45 an endorsement, the convention shall conduct its balloting on endorsement for that office  
46 in one (1) ballot only. If, after the completion of such balloting on endorsement, no

1 candidate receives a sixty percent supermajority of the votes cast by counties, the  
2 Convention Chairman shall rule that the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall not endorse  
3 a candidate for the office for which that balloting has been completed and the convention  
4 shall take no further action on the endorsement of a candidate for that office.  
5

6 J. If there are three (3) or more nominated candidates for any of the offices for which the  
7 convention may make an endorsement, multiple ballots may be cast by the convention on  
8 endorsement for those offices in accordance with the following:  
9

10 1. If none of the nominated candidates receives a sixty percent supermajority of  
11 votes cast by counties on any ballot, the nominated candidate receiving the fewest  
12 number of votes plus all candidates receiving fewer than 20% of the county  
13 allotted vote shall be dropped from consideration on the subsequent ballot and any  
14 ballots that may be cast thereafter. A vote for any name that has been dropped  
15 from consideration shall render that ballot invalid.  
16

17 2. If more than two candidates are on the ballot, and no candidate receives the  
18 number of votes required for endorsement, but fewer than two candidates receive  
19 20% of the vote, the two candidates receiving the most votes will be considered  
20 on a subsequent ballot. Should there be a tie for the top positions, each of those  
21 candidates shall advance.  
22

23 3. In the case where voting for endorsement of candidates for the offices there shall  
24 be a maximum of three ballots cast. If no candidate receives a sixty percent  
25 supermajority of the allotted strength, then there is no endorsement.  
26

27 4. At such time that only two (2) candidates remain, the Convention Chairman shall  
28 invoke the rule at Rule 16 (I).  
29

30 K. If, at the close of any reporting of the votes by each county, a candidate for endorsement  
31 has received a sixty percent supermajority of the votes cast, the Convention Chairman  
32 shall announce the question to be: "Shall the endorsement of the candidate be made  
33 unanimous?"  
34

35 L. Candidates seeking endorsement at the State Party Convention shall not be permitted to  
36 provide services of value to voting delegates and alternates, including, but not limited to,  
37 the provision of transportation, the purchase of lodging, and the payment of convention  
38 registration fees or county party dues or payment of cash. Neither can a 3rd party  
39 organization nor any other person provide such prohibited services or cash as listed  
40 above. An exception to this shall be made for campaign staff and family members of the  
41 candidate who are also voting delegates or alternates. Allowable expenditures that  
42 candidates can make include break refreshments, hospitality room refreshments, and low-  
43 value promotional items. The Endorsement Committee shall have the responsibility to  
44 ensure candidates are aware of this policy and adhere to it. A finding of the Endorsement  
45 Committee that a candidate has violated this policy could result in action by the State  
46 Executive Committee to remove the candidate from endorsement consideration.

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**RULE 17: Balloting on Endorsement**

- A. All voting shall be done by secret, printed ballots certified by the Rules Committee.
- B. Only properly qualified and credentialed voting delegates and alternates, as certified by the Credentials Committee, shall be eligible to cast ballots. The voting rights of each voting delegate and alternate shall be determined by such voting delegate's or voting alternate's county.
- C. The validity of any ballot cast as provided at Rule 17 (A) and (B) shall be determined in accordance with the following:
1. Only ballots marked with a reasonable denotation of a vote for any candidate nominated as provided at Rule 16 shall be valid.
  2. Any and all ballots marked with a denotation of a vote for any person other than a candidate nominated as provided at Rule 16, or that contain any marking, inscription, declaration or expression that does not reasonably denote a vote for a candidate nominated as provided at Rule 16, or that contain no marking shall be invalid. An invalid ballot shall be marked as such across the reverse side of the ballot by the chairman of the county delegation or his or her designated alternate during the tally and recording of ballots as provided at Rule 17 (H). Invalid ballots shall not be included in the tally and the total voting delegate allocation for the county shall be divided by the number of valid ballots cast to determine the outcome of the county's balloting. Only valid ballots cast shall determine who is endorsed.
  3. The Tellers Committee shall have final authority to determine the validity of any ballot cast.
- D. The chairman of the Tellers Committee shall certify to the chairman of the convention prior to the commencement of business on the first day of the convention that the appropriate number of teller envelopes has been prepared for balloting on endorsement for each office for which there are nominees for endorsement as described at Rule 17 (A), (B), and (C).
- E. The chairman of the convention, prior to the balloting, shall instruct the Tellers Committee to distribute the teller envelopes to the chairmen of each county delegation or his or her designated alternate. A county's ballot package shall include:
1. The number of ballots equal to the number of voting delegates registered at the convention by the Credentials Committee.
  2. A vote certification document that sets forth (a) the number of raw votes cast for each nominated candidate and the number of raw votes cast invalidly pursuant to Rule 17 (C) (2), and (b) a certification by the county chairman or his or her



1 designated alternate that the numbers of raw votes recorded for each candidate  
2 and the numbers of raw votes cast invalidly pursuant to Rule 17 (C) (2) are true  
3 and accurate, and (c) a certification of the same by the chairman of the Tellers  
4 Committee.

5  
6 3. An Envelope to be used to return any unused ballots to the Tellers Committee.  
7

8 4. A tally sheet to be kept by the county chairman for his or her use during the  
9 reporting of the votes by each county.  
10

11 F. The county chairman or his or her designated alternate shall upon receipt of the packet  
12 immediately distribute one ballot to each voting delegate or alternate entitled to vote, one  
13 at a time, checking the person's credentials. The county chairman or his or her  
14 designated alternate may appoint a county tellers' committee to assist with ballot  
15 distribution in the same manner. County Tellers, if any, shall wear visually designated  
16 vests.  
17

18 G. The chairman of the convention shall call for the vote on endorsement for the current  
19 office under consideration. There may be a fifteen (15) minute recess for the purpose of  
20 balloting by convention voting delegates prior to the commencement of the balloting.  
21 The chairman of the convention shall declare the balloting closed at the completion of the  
22 recess and the commencement of the reporting of the votes by each county. Roll call  
23 under this Rule shall be the reporting of a county's vote to the Tellers Committee by a  
24 means designated by the chair. There is no required roll call of individual counties by the  
25 secretary of the party.  
26

27 H. Each county chairman or his or her designated alternate(s) shall tally the votes cast by  
28 voting delegates and alternates in his or her county. The tally shall be done in full view of  
29 the delegation and candidates subject to that ballot are each entitled to an observer. The  
30 tally shall be recorded on the vote certification document referenced in Rule 17 (E) (2)  
31 and the county chairman or his or her designate alternate shall sign it. The vote  
32 certification document, the used ballots (both valid and invalid), and the envelope  
33 containing any unused ballots shall be placed in the teller envelope and returned to the  
34 Tellers Committee.  
35

36 I. The same procedure shall be followed on any subsequent ballots, in the event that more  
37 than one (1) ballot is required as provided by Rule 16 (J).  
38

39 J. The Tellers Committee shall consist of three (3) persons from each congressional district  
40 appointed by the district chairman from such district before the commencement of the  
41 state convention. In addition, each congressional district with at least ten (10) counties  
42 shall appoint one (1) additional person to the Tellers Committee, and add an additional  
43 one (1) person for every additional five (5) counties. Tellers shall be prohibited from  
44 wearing any endorsement material for any candidate seeking endorsement. They shall  
45 also be prohibited from endorsing and/or campaigning for any candidate seeking  
46 endorsement while performing this role. The state chairman shall appoint the chairman of

1 the Tellers Committee before the commencement of the state convention. The Tellers  
2 Committee members shall wear visually designated vests and have a name tag  
3 designating their appointment and District. The Tellers Committee members will assist  
4 counties when requested to do so, observe, report any irregularities, and act on behalf of  
5 the Chair of the Tellers Committee or Convention Chairman when so directed. Tellers  
6 Committee members will also assist the Chairman of the Tellers Committee or the  
7 convention chairman at their direction.  
8

- 9 K. While the votes are being tabulated for any given endorsement, the convention, at the  
10 discretion of the convention chairman, may proceed with the nomination of candidates  
11 for the next endorsement speeches by candidates for other offices or any other business  
12 until such time that all endorsement votes are taken and the results of the endorsement  
13 ballot are verified by the committee.  
14
- 15 L. Following certification by the Tellers Committee Chairman, proportional votes will be  
16 tabulated electronically by RPW Staff and electronically transmitted and prominently  
17 displayed on the Convention Floor.  
18
- 19 M. Each candidate on the endorsement ballot currently under consideration is entitled to  
20 have one (1) observer, who is one of the five properly credentialed campaign  
21 representatives, in the area designated for the Tellers Committee while the endorsement  
22 balloting is being verified. Electronic transmission or recording shall be prohibited in the  
23 area designated for the Tellers Committee.  
24
- 25 N. The convention chairman may change the order in which endorsements are considered  
26 take up endorsements for which there is only one candidate under consideration so that a  
27 single reporting of the votes by each county vote can be taken for all of those candidates  
28 together.  
29

### 30 **RULE 18: Time Limits on Endorsement**

- 31
- 32 A. Prior to the endorsement votes for the office for which they have been nominated,  
33 speeches by candidates, nominating speeches, seconding speeches, videos, or other  
34 demonstrations on behalf of candidates shall be limited to a combined twelve (12)  
35 minutes for candidates for Governor and U.S. Senator, eight (8) minutes for Lt.  
36 Governor, and six (6) minutes for other state constitutional offices. Nominating speeches,  
37 seconding speeches, videos, or other floor demonstrations are allowed, but not required.  
38
- 39 B. Acceptance speeches by the endorsed candidates shall be limited to three (3) minutes for  
40 all candidates.  
41
- 42 C. Candidates on the certified ballot shall speak in an order determined by lot.  
43
- 44 D. The Convention Chairman or Sergeant-at-Arms shall strictly enforce all time limits in  
45 Rule 18.  
46

1 **RULE 19: RPW Constitution**

2  
3 These rules shall not be in conflict with the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin.  
4 In the event of a conflict, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall supersede  
5 these rules.  
6

7 **RULE 20: Credentials**

- 8  
9 A. In accordance with Article VIII, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Republican Party of  
10 Wisconsin, “the members in good standing at the County Caucus may authorize the  
11 County Chairman to substitute voting delegates after the County Caucus if the County  
12 Chairman certified in writing that the added voting delegate is a member in good standing  
13 of that County and the deleted voting delegate, if any, has no objection to the deletion.  
14 No substitutions shall be allowed after the last meeting of the Credentials Committee  
15 prior to the convening of the convention.” As further stated in Article VIII, Section 4 (b),  
16 “only members in good standing of the Republican organization of each County at the  
17 time of such County Caucus shall be eligible to vote in such County Caucus,  
18 Congressional District Caucus, and the State Convention.”  
19  
20 B. The County Chairman or an alternate designated by the county or district chairman as  
21 specified in Rule 1 (C), must use a form approved by the Credentials Committee in  
22 making a substitution.  
23  
24 C. Credentials challenges shall be considered by the Credentials Committee on an individual  
25 basis. Challenges must be submitted in writing to the Republican Party of Wisconsin, the  
26 Credentials Committee and the County Party Chairman no later than 96 hours prior to the  
27 convening of the State Convention and must state the basis of the challenge and include  
28 any evidence to substantiate the challenge. Challenges will be heard and decided at the  
29 last meeting of the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the State Convention.  
30 Challenges can only be filed by a member in good standing from the county for which a  
31 challenge is being filed.  
32

33 **RULE 21: Campaign Signage and Literature**

34  
35 Prior to the start of a Convention in years in which there is an election for the five state  
36 constitutional offices and/or for the office of United States Senator, all challenger and incumbent  
37 campaigns will be allotted equal opportunity to display a limited amount of campaign signs,  
38 literature, and other collateral. All content must abide by pertinent campaign finance and election  
39 law and venue specific requirements, including but not limited to legal disclaimers and special  
40 adhesion standards. All campaigns will be allowed 60 minutes access to the Convention Hall at a  
41 time specified by RPW Staff. During this time, campaigns will be permitted to display campaign  
42 signs and distribute campaign literature or collateral to voting delegate seating area. Campaigns  
43 will be allowed to display a maximum of forty (40) 13”x18” campaign signs and/or two (2)  
44 larger campaign signs with a maximum size allowed of 4’x8’. Should any issues or concerns  
45 arise regarding content of collateral, express authority is granted to the RPW Executive Director  
46 to remove said collateral.