



# How to be a Delegate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention

September 3-6, 2012  
Charlotte, NC

# What is the Democratic National Convention?

- Held every four years
- Delegates from all 50 states and American territories
- Nominate and confirm a candidate for President and Vice President
- Adopt a Party Platform
- Unify and celebrate the Democratic Party



*“This convention is...about Americans coming together to commit ourselves and our country to a path that creates more opportunity.”*

- The Democratic National Convention Committee

# What is the Role of a Convention Delegate?

- Attend the 2012 Democratic National Convention in Charlotte on Sept 3-6
- Vote for the Presidential and Vice Presidential Nominee
- Adopt the 2012 DNC Platform and Resolutions
- Establish the Rules to Govern the Democratic Party



*Delegates gather at the entrance of the 1912 Democratic National Convention*

# Who Can be a Delegate?

- Anyone 18 years or older on or before April 3, 2012
- A resident of Wisconsin and citizen of the United States
- A registered voter in the district which he/she is running
- Someone who supports the values of the Democratic Party



*Wisconsin delegates at the Democratic National Convention at the Pepsi Center in Denver, Co. on August 25, 2008.*

Note: Democratic Party of Wisconsin Membership is not required, but is suggested.

# The Four Delegate Types

## 1. District-level

- Elected by a two-tier caucus system: The first tier caucuses will be held at the county level and second tier caucuses will be held at the CD level

## 2. Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials

- Members of the Democratic National Committee
- Wisconsin's Democratic Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate

## 3. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO)

- Milwaukee and Madison mayors, state-wide elected officials, state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders

## 4. At-Large

- Elected by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's Administrative Committee
- May be used to achieve Affirmative Action goals

# Delegation Overview

*Wisconsin has a total of 111 delegates and 8 alternates*

## 1. District-level

- *66 Delegates, 6 Alternates*

## 2. Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials

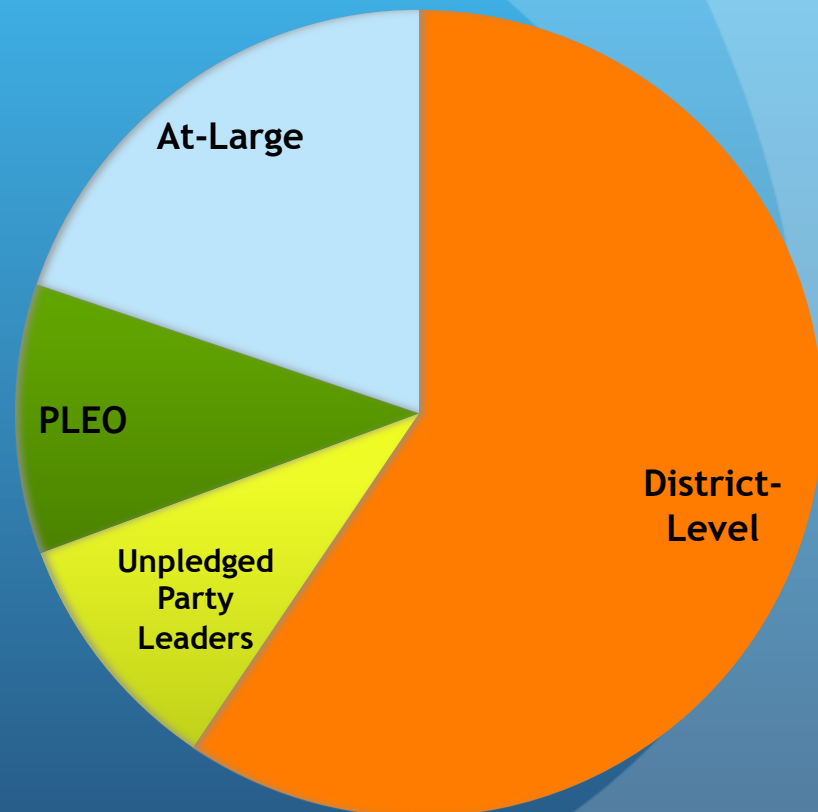
- *11 Delegates, 0 Alternates*

## 3. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO)

- *12 Delegates, 0 Alternates*

## 4. At-Large

- *22 Delegates, 2 Alternates*



# District-Level Delegates 1st (County) Tier

- Registration opens at 12:00 PM CST on Sunday, April 15th and closes at 2:00 PM CST when the caucuses begin
- Open to anyone who wishes to participate as a Democrat
- The order of business is as follows:
  - Election of a chair
  - Election of the allocated number of delegates (based upon presidential candidate 2012 primary performance in that given county)
  - Election of the allocated number of alternates
  - Adjournment



# District-Level Delegates 1st (County) Tier - Balloting Example

- Scenario:

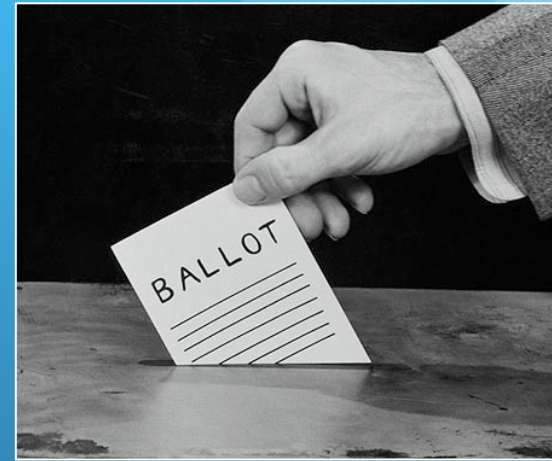
- Five delegates are to be elected
- One hundred ballots are cast
- 51 required for election

- Votes:

- Smith 82
- Anders 53
- Adams 51
- Lee 38
- Jones 29
- Brown 26
- Wendt 22
- Johnson 15

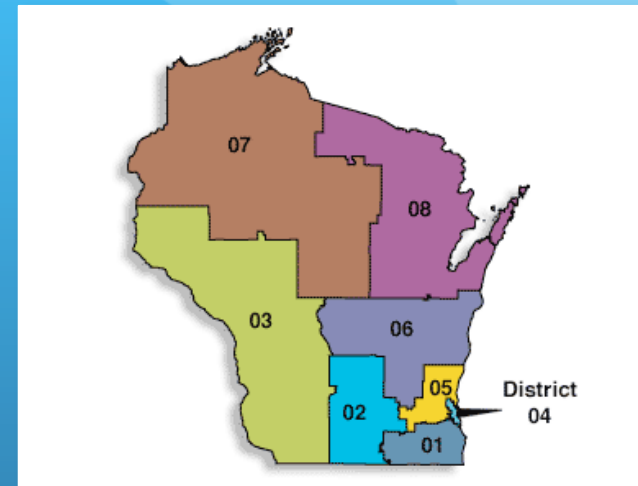
- Results:

- Smith, Anderson and Adams are elected because they received 51 or more votes.
- There are two remaining positions to fill. Drop the candidate(s) with the lowest vote totals (Johnson) until no more than twice the number of names (2) (Lee, Jones, Brown, and Wendt) remain for the position to be filled. Continue the balloting until a majority vote is reached.



# District-Level Delegates 2nd (CD) Tier

- Registration opens at 12:00 PM CST on Sunday, May 6th and closes at 2:00 PM CST when the caucuses begin
- Only those elected at the county level caucuses are eligible to vote at the CD level caucuses
- The order of business is as follows:
  - Election of a chair
  - Election of the allocated number of delegates (based upon presidential candidate 2012 primary performance in that given CD)
  - Election of the allocated number of alternates
  - Adjournment



Note: Delegates must be elected by a majority vote

## District-Level Delegates and Alternates by CD

District	Delegates			Alternates		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
#1	3	4	7	-	1	1
#2	6	6	12	1	-	1
#3	4	4	8	-	1	1
#4	5	5	10	1	-	1
#5	3	3	6	-	-	0
#6	4	3	7	-	-	0
#7	4	4	8	-	1	1
#8	4	4	8	1	-	1
Total	33	33	66	3	3	6

*Apportioned among the districts based on a formula giving equal weight to the vote for the Democratic candidates in the 2008 presidential election and the 2010 gubernatorial election.*

# Caucus Strategy


- Bring as many friends as you can to support you!
- Ask your friends to attend the County Caucus on April 15 and get elected
- Ask same friends to attend CD Caucus on May 6 and vote for *you*
- Form relationships with people from the other Counties within your CD



Note: The Statement of Intent Form is only required for those who wish to go to the National Convention in Charlotte

# District-Level Filing Requirements

- Must file a “Statement of Intent and Pledge of Support” form with the State Party by **5:00 PM on Friday, April 6**
- May run for election only within the district in which you are registered to vote
- Those not chosen at the CD caucus will be considered for alternate positions unless they specify otherwise when filing



DEMOCRATIC PARTY of WISCONSIN  
 110 KING STREET, SUITE 203 | MADISON, WI 53703 | WWW.WISDEMS.ORG | P. 608.255.5172 | F. 608.255.8919

STATEMENT OF INTENT AND PLEDGE OF SUPPORT FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR  
 DELEGATE TO THE 2012 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

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1 (Please print or type)  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address (City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legal Residence (if different from mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ (Office) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Demographic Information:     Male                       African American                       Disabled  
     Female                       Asian/Pacific American                       Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender  
     Caucasian                       Senior Citizen  
     Hispanic                       Youth (Under 36)  
     Native American                       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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3 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
(Elected/Public Office or Party Leader - Not Required)  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

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4 County \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District \_\_\_\_\_

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5 I hereby notify the Chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin that I wish to be a candidate for delegate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention and I pledge to support \_\_\_\_\_ for President.

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6 I wish to qualify as a candidate for delegate in the following category:  
 District Level \*     If I am not elected as a delegate, I do not wish to be considered as an alternate candidate.  
 Pledged Party Leader/Elected Official \*\*  
 At-Large \*\*

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7 I am duly registered to vote and consider myself a Democrat.  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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\* If filing for a District Level position, your application must be received at the above address no later than 5:00 PM CST on Friday, April 6, 2012.  
 \*\* If filing for a Pledged Party Leader/Elected Official, At-Large, your application must be received at the above address no later than 5:00 PM CST on Friday, May 25, 2012.

AUTHORIZED AND PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN, MIKE TATE, CHAIR

# Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates

- Selection occurs at 1:00 PM on Friday, June 8 at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's Administrative Committee meeting to be held prior to the State Party Convention in Appleton, WI
- Must file "Statement of Intent and Pledge of Support" form with the State Party no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, May 25



*Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, WI*

# At-Large Delegates

- The selection occurs at 2:00 PM CST on Friday, June 8 at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's Administrative Committee meeting in Appleton, WI
- Priority of consideration shall be given to historically under-represented groups
- May be used to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and to achieve representation goals
- Must file a statement of candidacy with the State Party by 5:00 PM on Friday, May 25

# Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- District-Level Delegates & Alternates
  - Delegates submitted to campaign on Monday, April 16
  - Campaign has one week to make changes
  - Three times the number of delegates and alternates (198) must remain
- Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates & Alternates
  - Delegates submitted to campaign on Tuesday, May 29
  - Campaign has three days to make changes
  - Two times the number of delegates (24) must remain
- At-Large Delegates & Alternates
  - Delegates submitted to campaign on June 8
  - Campaign must submit any changes same day
  - Two times the number of delegates and alternates (44) must remain

# Affirmative Action Committee

- The Affirmative Action Committee is responsible for:
  - Reviewing the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair
  - Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action section of the Delegate Selection Plan
  - Implementing a financial assistance program for delegates and alternates
  - Ensuring, on behalf of the State Party Committee, that district lines used in the delegate selection process are not gerrymandered to discriminate against African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans and women

# The Democratic Party of Wisconsin's Representation Goals

	African Americans	Hispanics	Native Americans	Asian/Pacific Americans	LGBT Americans	People with Disabilities	Youth
% in Democratic Electorate	12.00%	5.90%	3.00%	2.00%	12.40%	9.00%	20.10%
Numeric Goals for Delegation	14	7	5	2	15	11	24

- Goals for African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian/Pacific Americans are required by the Democratic National Committee
- The Democratic Party of Wisconsin also created goals for LGBT Americans, People with Disabilities, and Youth
- Goals reflect *minimums*

# What is the Schedule for Charlotte?

- **Monday, September 3:** Family-friendly Labor Day event at Charlotte Motor Speedway
- **Tuesday, September 4, and Wednesday, September 5:** The convention's opening session and convention proceedings at Time Warner Cable Arena
- **Thursday September 6:** The President will accept the nomination at Bank of America Stadium



# What are the Convention Costs?

- Delegates and Alternates are responsible for cost of travel and hotel
  - Hotel rooms can be shared
- Breakfast will be provided
- Ground transportation between hotel and events is provided
- Can fundraise for yourself!



Embassy Suites Charlotte

# Fundraising Ideas

- Send a fundraising letter to your family members and friends through U.S. mail or email
- Work with your local County Party to hold a fundraising event
- Ask your employer to sponsor you
- Create a free fundraising website
- Use social networking sites such as facebook and twitter



# For More information



- Forms and more information are available online at [www.wisdems.org/charlotte](http://www.wisdems.org/charlotte) or by calling the DPW at (608) 255-5172
- Forms must be submitted to the Democratic Party of Wisconsin:
  - 110 King Street, Suite 203, Madison, WI 53703
  - Fax: 608-255-8919
- More info about the 2012 Convention:
  - <http://www.democrats.org>
  - <http://charlottein2012.com>
  - <http://www.demconvention.com>

**It's Up to Us All.**

