

## Barrow to challenge Detroit mayoral recount

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Two-time Detroit mayoral candidate Tom Barrow says he will challenge the certified Wayne County Board of Canvassers recount of the November election in court.

The Board of Canvassers voted 3-0 Wednesday to certify the recount, affirming the November general election results that showed Mayor Dave Bing as the winner with 65,946 votes to Barrow's 47,062.

Barrow attributes his loss to Bing to vote fraud or gross human error.

"Either way we can't tell the public that everything is fine ... there are too many things wrong here," Barrow said Wednesday.

The recount, conducted by canvassers Carol Larkin, Joseph Xuereb and Krista Licata-Haroutunian, began Dec. 9 with county Elections Department staff.

During the recount, Barrow challenged the November election results on several fronts: mismatched seals on more than 40,000 absentee ballot containers; mismatched seals from poll books of voters' signatures, and unaccounted for unused ballots that Barrow claims could have been counted for Bing.

Barrow wanted Licata-Haroutunian to recuse herself from the vote count because her father, Edward Haroutunian, serves on the Detroit Board of Canvassers.

The board upheld many of Barrow's challenges, including instances where ballot seals did not match the poll book.

But the board accounted for all of the unused ballots, and affirmed the election night absentee ballot results.

Bing's attorney Andrea Hansen said she was happy with the result and added that the board went out of its way to accommodate Barrow.

"The results were validated that we knew were valid in the first place," Hansen said.

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