



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Tony Evers, Governor  
Kathy Blumenfeld, Secretary  
Jana Steinmetz, Administrator

October 1, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL

**Star News - Black Earth**

Chris Ford  
1126 Mills Street  
PO Box 286  
Black Earth, WI 53515-0286

**RE: Certification of Legal Notice Rates for January – December 2025**

This is a request for information to certify your newspaper for publishing legal notices per Chapters 10 and 985, Wis. Stats. Follow the steps below:

1. **\*\*Review your current 2024 Certification Letter**
2. **\*\*Complete the attached Application form, DOA-3417 (pre-populated with information from the database)**
3. **\*\*Submit a Statement of Ownership (PS-3526) from your USPS office or alternative method listed on DOA-3417.**
4. **\*\*Send in a full-page tear sheet from your legal/public notice section of your newspaper**
5. **\*\*There are 3 places on the Application that need addressing. The County is only supposed to have one county listed. I began entering 2 or more as a way of identifying where that newspaper provides coverage. My decision has caused problems meaning we need to correct it by going back to only listing the county where your newspaper is located.**
6. **\*\*In addition to number 5, on the application for PLACE OF PUBLICATION needs to be entered for every newspaper. This is requirement of state statutes. I have only a few newspapers who have provided this information.**
7. **\*\*There is a new section will clear up the county problem. This section is labeled AREAS COVERED BY NEWSPAPER. To help assist every user of the Legal Notice program, they need to know which newspaper will provide the best results for their legal notice. Please enter every city, town, and village your newspaper provides coverage.**

**\*\*Due to working out of my home, please send all items electronically to my email address**

([william2.goff@wisconsin.gov](mailto:william2.goff@wisconsin.gov)). Please do not mail anything. If you find you must mail anything, please contact me so I know to look for it when I am in the office.

All of the instructions are on the attached DOA form. Form DOA-3417 is also available as a fillable electronic form on our VendorNet website: Newspaper Rates for Publication of Legal Notices at <https://doa.wi.gov/Forms/DOA-3417ApplicationtoCertifyNewspaperLegalNoticeRates.docx>.

To be certified for 2025 you must return items 2 – 7 listed above. Please return by October 31, 2024 by email ([william2.goff@wisconsin.gov](mailto:william2.goff@wisconsin.gov)). **FAXED paperwork will not be accepted.**

*Failure to return the three items listed above (2 – 7) will deny your newspaper the legal right to collect a fee for publishing legal notices.*

This application process is performed annually for certifying newspapers to publish legal notices and updating information throughout the year concerning font sizes, column widths, address or name changes and closures. State agencies, universities and municipalities shall not be held to any rate changes until your newspaper is certified by the Department of Administration.

If you have, any questions regarding this program please contact me, Bill Goff at [william2.goff@wisconsin.gov](mailto:william2.goff@wisconsin.gov) and I will be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your time and assistance with this process. I look forward to your certification paperwork.

Sincerely,

Bill Goff  
Procurement Specialist  
Newspaper Certification Program  
State Bureau of Procurement  
Division of Enterprise Operations  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Madison, WI 53703-3405

Enclosure(s)  
Form DOA-3417



## Application to Certify Newspaper Legal Notice Rates

**Instructions:** State of Wisconsin newspapers must apply to receive any compensation or fee for publishing legal notices by completing this form. **To renew your certification or apply for the first time, please complete all five (5) sections of this form.**

After renewal, if you need to update your information, only fill in the spaces on this form that apply to the change(s) and submit ten days prior to the effective date of the change so that new rates issued by the Department of Administration can be sent to the newspaper.

Return all of the required documents to the address above by US mail.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renew		<input type="checkbox"/> New		<input type="checkbox"/> Change to current information		Effective Date of Change		January 1, 2025							
<b>1. Newspaper Name:</b> Star News - Black Earth						Contact Person for placing legal notices Chris Ford									
Street Address 1126 Mills Street			PO Box PO Box 286			**County Sauk									
City Black Earth			State WI			Zip+4 53515-0286									
Telephone Number (608) 767-3655			Fax Number (608) 767-2222			Contact Email Address legals@fingerpub.com									
**Place of Publication, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 985.01(5) Sauk City, WI						Will you accept emailed legal notices? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO									
<b>**Areas covered by Newspaper</b> (list all cities, towns, and villages which your newspaper provides circulation)															
Published on:		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday X		Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
Total Circulation		Paid Circulation		WEB Address www.wiscstarnews.com						TAX ID NUMBER 93-3749676					
Column Width (measured in picas)      ** Please Verify Column Widths and Font List **															
Col 1	Col 2	Col 3	Col 4	Col 5	Col 6	Col 7	Col 8	Col 9	Col 10	Col 11	Col 12	Col 13	Col 14	Col 15	Col 16
9.000	19.500	30.000	39.500	50.000	60.500										
<b>New applicants must complete the section below.</b> Renewing applicants should skip to Section 2 unless changing or adding fonts.															
Font & Size		Font & Size		Font & Size		Font & Size		Font & Size		Font & Size		Font & Size		Font & Size	
Arial 8pt															
<b>ONLY if you are changing or adding fonts, submit a SAMPLE of the fonts.</b> A font sample consists of three (3) alphabet lengths a through z in <u>lowercase</u> , repeated in one continuous line. The sample must NOT contain kerning, ligatures, and must be flush left (ragged right) e.g.: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz															
<b>One sample of each point size and style (bold or italic) must be submitted with name and size of font on a separate sheet.</b>															

<b>2. Parent Company Information: (if different than #1 above)</b>		
Parent Company Name <b>Finger Publishing, Inc</b>		Parent Company Contact Person Amanda Schlimgen
Street Address 1126 Mills St	PO Box PO Box 286	Tax ID Number 93-374967
City Black Earth	State WI	Zip + 4 53515-0286
Telephone Number (608) 767-3655	Fax Number (608) 767-2222	Email for Parent Company
Have you submitted the completed DOA-6448 Taxpayer Identification Number Verification form? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO      **Please verify TAX ID # for both Newspaper Company and Parent Company**		

**3. Required Verification of Paid Circulation:**

To verify your newspaper's total paid circulation, you are required to submit one of the forms listed below every year from an independent third party. The State of Wisconsin Department of Administration requires the most recent 12 months of your paid circulation numbers on or before the 15th of October of each year. This will certify that your publication meets the requirements of Statute 985.03.

- United States Postal Service Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (PREFERRED)  
(All Periodicals Publications except Requester Publications) PS Form 3526
- Audit Bureau of Circulation: [www.accessabc.com](http://www.accessabc.com)       Verified Audit Circulation: <http://www.verifiedaudit.com/>
- Circulation Verification Council: <http://www.cvcaudit.com/>       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Required Sample**

Please scan as much of a full page as possible of your newspaper that displays your legal notice or classifieds section.

**5. Certification**

By signing below, I certify that the newspaper named above meets the criteria in Wis. Stat. § 985.03(1) and that the information I have provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false, misleading, or missing information may disqualify me from consideration.

Print Name	Print Title	Telephone Number ( ) -
Signature		Date (mm/dd/ccyy)