

# MINNESOTA STATE ELECTION LAW COMPLAINT FORM

## Instructions

This form may be used when any person believes a violation of Minnesota election law has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur. This includes complaints related to *Minnesota Statutes* Chapters 200, 201, 203B, 204C and 206.

Minnesota Fair Campaign Practice & Finance Acts (*Minnesota Statutes* 211A and 211B) complaints are under the purview of the State of Minnesota's Office of Administrative Hearings and are not applicable to this complaint form.

After completing this form and getting it notarized, return it to your County Attorney for investigation. The Office of Secretary of State will forward any complaints it receives to your County Attorney as provided by state law.

## Your Contact Information

Name Judy Kay Olson  
Address 81802 160th St. County Freeborn  
City Glenville State Mn Zip Code 56036  
Telephone 507-320-5175 Email jkayolson9@gmail.com

## Complaint Information

Person or organization against whom the complaint is brought. Limit of one person or organization per complaint.

Name Gene Dornink  
Address 104 NW Grove St. County Mower  
City Brownsdale State MN Zip Code 55918  
Telephone 651-296-5240 Email sen.gene.dornink@senate.mn

Title of office or position held or sought by this person (if any):

State Senate Legislative District 23

## Violation

If you believe any violations of election law have been committed, state the alleged specific violations committed by the person or organization named in this complaint:

See attached violation section

**Statement of Facts**

State in your own words the detailed facts that form the basis of your complaint. Identify any relevant person(s), include any relevant dates and times, and include the names and addresses of other persons who have knowledge of the facts. Give any reasons that you feel the alleged violation was committed by the person or organization against whom this complaint is brought. Attach supporting documentation, if any.  
See attached Statement of Facts

**Affirmation**

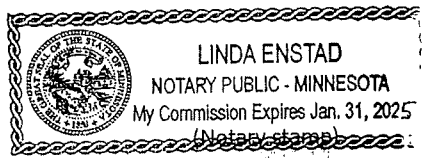
By my signature I swear or affirm that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided on this form is true.

Signature of complainant [Handwritten Signature] Date 6/21/2022

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022.

Linda Enstad

Signature of notary public or other officer empowered to take and certify acknowledgements. Under Minnesota law, an election judge acting in his or her official capacity may notarize this form.



**Violation:**

**If you believe any violations of election law have been committed, state the alleged specific violations committed by the person or organization named in this complaint:**

Pursuant to §204B.44 and §200.031, the petitioner "Judy Olson" alleges that Senator Gene Dornink is ineligible for the Legislative District 23 State Senate race on the grounds of residency requirements. Residence eligibility and requirements for legislative candidates are established within the Minnesota Constitution in Article IV, Section 6, notably that said candidate must reside within the district for at least six months preceding the general election.

The mentioned criteria established in Article IV, Section 6 of the Minnesota Constitution prevents Gene Dornink from being eligible to seek the State Senate seat of Legislative District 23. Dornink has failed to establish residency with action or clear intent to make his newly bought property, 104 Grove St. NW, Brownsdale, MN 55918, (later to be referred to as "The Brownsdale House") his primary residence. This is coupled with Gene Dornink and his family's continued residency at 74427 170th Ave. Hayfield, MN 55940 (later to be referred to as "The Hayfield House"), where Dornink serves as a Senator for Legislative District 27. With the redistricting of the Legislative Districts, the Hayfield House resides in the new State Senate District 24. The Hayfield House has been Dornink's primary residence for over two decades and Dornink is yet to prove residence at The Brownsdale House to be in compliance with the Minnesota Constitution and the relevant statutes.

The Minnesota Constitution, state statutes, and precedent found in case law in the state of Minnesota has provided adequate requirements and necessities to be filled in order to establish residency. Based upon the evidence presented in the Statement of Facts, Dornink has not provided himself with the essential "creature comforts" that the Minnesota Supreme Court has used as a basis for residence. Dornink additionally has not established physical presence and clear intent of living at The Brownsdale House.

If determined that Dornink is ineligible for the State Senate seat in Legislative District 23, the legal remedy is the removal of Dornink from the August 9, 2022 Republican Primary ballot and/or the disqualification of Dornink to serve as the GOP nominee in the general election for the State Senate seat in Legislative District 23.

## Statement of Facts

- On 11/03/20 Minnesota State Senator Gene Dornink was first elected to his position to begin serving his term on 1/5/2021 to serve in the State Senate District 27. This encompassed the general areas of parts of Dodge, Faribault, Freeborn, Mower, and Steele counties. His residence at the time was 74427 170<sup>th</sup> Ave. in rural Hayfield, in Dodge County. See <https://www.lrl.mn.gov/legdb/fulldetail?id=15560> A screenshot, or PDF file is available from 06/16/2022 as evidence.
- Minnesota State Senate District 27 map was recorded and saved 06/16/2022 as evidence showing Dornink's residence of 74427 170<sup>th</sup> Ave. in rural Hayfield Mn in Dodge County, which falls within State Senate District 27 <https://www.lrl.mn.gov/legdb/fulldetail?id=15560#otherinfo>
- On 2/15/2022, the Minnesota Special Redistricting Panel released new district boundaries for Legislative Districts. With redistricting, Senator Gene Dornink, still living at the same residence of 74427 170<sup>th</sup> Ave. in rural Hayfield, MN in Dodge County, places his eligibility into Senate District 24. See <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/redist2020/Legislative/L2022/senate/interactive/map.html> A PDF copy of this map from 06/16/2022 is available as evidence.
- On 2/15/2022 the Minnesota Special Redistricting Panel approved the new boundaries of State Senate District 23. See <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/redist2020/Legislative/L2022/senate/maps/E-Size/23.pdf>, a copy of which was recorded 06/16/2022 and saved as evidence. State Senate District 23 clearly does not include rural Hayfield, MN in Dodge County, nor the address of 74427 170<sup>th</sup> Ave. in rural Hayfield.
- On 02/17/2022 Senator Gene Dornink went on KAALTV for an interview with Betsy Singer, stating that with redistricting, he was going to move into a house he had purchased as an investment property in Glenville, MN (which does fall into Legislative District 23) so that he could still serve the counties he was previously serving. An article stated that Gene Dornink, his wife, and three children still in school plan to continue to own his home in Hayfield. Proof of article: <https://www.bluestemprairie.com/bluestemprairie/2022/02/dornink-to-move-to-glenville-to-run-in-district-23-patriot-princess-lisa-hanson-declares-bid.html> Proof of interview: <https://www.kaaltv.com/news/senator-dornink-redistricting-maps-freeborn-county/6397098/>
- On 5/8/2022 A video residency check of Gene Dornink's Glenville Investment property located at 78928 150<sup>th</sup> Street in Glenville, MN showed a home under re-construction with bare walls, untapped sheetrock, empty electrical boxes, and more – in what would be uninhabitable condition. Multiple videos and still photos were taken during the period up to and through 6/2/2022 and although there was slight constructional progress, it was obvious that nobody was residing at the home. The lawn was unkept, there were no vehicles, and questionable if it was legally able or fit to be lived in with bare wires, no outlet boxes or wires in some areas, disconnected plumbing, and a garbage can still containing the same garbage since 05/08/2022.

- Minnesota State Constitution Article IV, Section 6 provides in pertinent part “Senators and Representatives shall be qualified voters in the state and shall have resided one year in the state and six months immediately preceding the election in the district from which elected.” With the scheduled election of 11/8/2022, that six month minimum deadline would have been 5/8/2022.
- On 5/8/2022, at 2:38 PM a videotaped Residency Check of Dornink’s KNOWN home for the past several years at 74427 170<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Hayfield, MN in Dodge County, including driving into the property showed an occupied lived in residence, with multiple vehicles registered to Dornink on the property, a well mowed lawn, toys on the lawn, etc. On multiple occasions between 05/08/2022 and 06/02/2022, additional checks were made with similar findings and on one documented occasion, Dornink’s daily driver, a green Pontiac Mn Lic. EGB-736, was present.
- On 05/25/2022, a videotaped residency check was conducted at 104 Grove Street NW in the City of Brownsdale, MN 55918 – the address that Gene Dornink filed with the Secretary of State on or about 05/05/2022 as his residence. There was no garbage container on the street as there were for local residents. There were no lights on in the home, no vehicles in the driveway nor in front of the home, and the lawn had survey flags in the front lawn. The door was walked up to and knocked; Nobody answered the door.
- On 5/27/2022, Gene Dornink filed to run for office for the position of State Senator in the newly created Senate District 23, and the Secretary of State’s website identifies that the address he resides at is 104 NW Grove St in Brownsdale, MN 55918. See MN SOS Listing at <https://candidates.sos.state.mn.us/CandidateInformation.aspx?county=22&municipality=&schooldistrict=&hospitaldistrict=&level=1&party=0&federal=False&judicial=False&executive=False&senate=True&representative=False&title=&office=27759&candidateid=47225> A PDF Printed copy attached herein as evidence. Previous mention of interview and article shown in point 5 explains that Dornink planned to move his family into the Glenville address
- 5/27/2022 5:03 PM a similar residency check, video and audio recorded, was conducted at 104 NW Grove St in Brownsdale. Additionally, a neighborhood across the street initiated and engaged in conversation and stated “you know how rumors go; some representative switched districts, redistrict, you know how they do that... so I think he bought it, to have an address in Brownsdale.” When asked about seeing any traffic in or out he stated that he did, for “cleaning and stuff”. The male also identified himself Ja\*\*\*, for privacy purposes the latter half of the name will remain concealed, who moved from Austin.
- On 5/28/2022 An additional residency check was made in which there was an audio/video malfunction. During this residency check, the next door neighbor to the west of the neighbor recorded on 5/27/2022 was out mowing and spoke to me. When asked if he had seen any moving trucks in the area in the past month or so, he literally pointed to several individual houses up and down the block, identifying their status ie: one in foreclosure and empty for

years...then pointed to 104 NW Grove Street and said "That one is some elected official who just recently bought it to SAY that he was living there to be in the district that he's not really in, but nobody ever stays there more than a few minutes and aren't living there".

- On 6/15/2022 at 3:50 PM a videotaped residency check was done at the Brownsdale home and found Dornink's Green Pontiac not in the driveway, but in front of the home on the street. From the tree buds, pollen, and small branches, on the windshield and hood, it appeared the car had been there a while. While videotaping, Viki Dornink drove up in the brown family car and pulled in front of the Pontiac and unloaded a few different trips of hanging clothes, and a box or basket of what appeared to be other laundry. She also put one load into the green Pontiac known to be Gene's daily driver. Vicki did not stay in the home more than one minute each trip carrying things in. She left in the green Pontiac, leaving the brown colored family vehicle there.
- On 6/16/2022, a residence check was done and videotaped at the Brownsdale home. The home was, as usual, dark with no light on, no visual activity of persons, pets, or movement. The brown family car, MN Lic. NCG-581, which had been parked there and was videotaped on 6/15/22 where Viki Dornink was unloading hanging clothes and other boxes into the home, the vehicle was still parked on the street in the same spot. Walking up to the vehicle I noted small tree debris on the windshield, wipers, and hood area; Indicating the vehicle had not moved. Up to this residence check and continuing surveillance, Dornink's three children that reside in the same home and are still in school that were planning on moving with Gene Dornink to the Brownsdale house have not been present on the property. Especially if a child of Gene Dornink is under eighteen years of age, their claim to residence should match their parent's and they should be present in a majority of their home lives.
- On 3/24/2022 a listing with realtor.com shows this house was sold on 03/24/2022. The evidence also shows the buyer's (Gene Dornink's) real estate representation was Freeborn County GOP Chair Robert Hoffman.  
[https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/104-NE-Grove-St\\_Brownsdale\\_MN\\_55918\\_M83925-34728](https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/104-NE-Grove-St_Brownsdale_MN_55918_M83925-34728)
- On 6/17/2022 the Brownsdale City website was checked to verify any service providers that had active accounts for telephone service at the address 104 NW Grove St. ALL of the phone providers in the area that provide service were called including Frontier, MediaCom, and Metronet. All of the companies service the address but none of the companies have an active account or line there at this time, demonstrating that there is no "creature comfort" of a phone service. These calls were all video and audio recorded for evidence. It should be noted that with our several visits to the city, none of our researchers were able to access cell phone coverage within the city, through VERIZON, Straight Talk, nor T-Mobile as it is apparently largely a dead spot for cell coverage. Here is the link for the utility providers in the city of Brownsdale from the city's official website  
[https://www.brownsdalemn.com/index.asp?SEC=45808B48-C1C5-450A-867C-9AE39639B3E6&Tpe=B\\_BASIC](https://www.brownsdalemn.com/index.asp?SEC=45808B48-C1C5-450A-867C-9AE39639B3E6&Tpe=B_BASIC) Any DISH style TV or internet equipment on any of the buildings or any pole on the

property were searched for and none were present. This would indicate that there are no TV or Internet services at the address either.

- On 6/17/22 the Mower County Assessor's Office was contacted via an audio recorded phone call to learn that Gene Dornink had not applied to Mower County to have his Brownsdale house homesteaded. When asked if the Mower County Assessor's office had received an application for homesteading, the employee replied " Um, we have not. And based on who the owner is, I suspect it could either be a property that's potentially gonna be rented or flipped."
- On 6/17/22 the property classification of Dornink's home in Hayfield (74427 170th Ave. Hayfield, MN 55940) was checked with his 2022 tax records via the Dodge County Parcel Viewer and it was found that his home at this address was still homesteaded. See: <http://dodge.visualgov.com/Property/PrintBill>