

Evers rescinds 82 appointments

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Gov. Tony Evers today rescinded 82 appointments his predecessor made after they were overturned by a Dane County judge who found GOP actions in the December extraordinary session were unconstitutional.

The state Senate confirmed the appointments during the December lame-duck session, but yesterday's ruling overturned them. Citing that decision, Evers signed a letter today identifying the appointments he's withdrawing, including Ellen Nowak at the Public Service Commission and UW System Regents Scott Beightol and Torrey Tiedeman.

A spokeswoman for Evers said the seats are now considered vacant and the gov will move quickly to fill them.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, R-Juneau, slammed the move, noting the 3rd District Court of Appeals set a Monday deadline for parties to respond to the GOP request for an emergency stay. He said the move showed a "disrespect for the law and for the courts."

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"We absolutely believe that these nominees were nominated and confirmed legally and will continue to serve in those positions once the constitutionality of the extraordinary session is upheld," Fitzgerald said.