

**LAW LIBRARY**  
**ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL**

SAM MACALUSO - Originator  
ROBERT MURLLESS }  
FRANK SAGARINO } Concurring  
CLARK KENNEDY }

March 6, 1962  
Letter Opinion No. 62-36-L

REQUESTED BY: Hon. David G. Hawkins  
State Representative

QUESTION: Is it legal to rotate political party  
names on election ballots?

CONCLUSION: No.

The Arizona Constitution, Art. VII, Suffrage and Elections,  
is silent on this subject.

However, A.R.S. §16-844, Conduct of Elections, Chap.7, Art. 8,  
Title 16, reads as follows:

" . . .  
E. The lists of the candidates of the several  
parties shall be arranged with the names of the  
parties in alphabetical order, commencing with the  
left-hand column, and on the right-hand side of the  
ballot there shall be a column headed nonpartisan. . . ."  
(Emphasis supplied).

It is plain that under our present law the names of the various  
party labels shall be placed on the election ballot in alphabetical  
order and that the rotation or alternating of political party names  
on the ballots is not permitted.

N.B. as to rotation of names of candidates, see: A.R.S. §16-533.

ROBERT W. PICKRELL  
The Attorney General

SAMUEL J. MACALUSO  
Assistant Attorney General

SJM:vbk/dd

62-36-L