

WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 2, 2016

TO: Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
City of Milwaukee Election Commission
Wisconsin County Clerks
Milwaukee County Election Commission

FROM: Michael Haas, Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Survey Input

The Wisconsin Elections Commission has received requests from two organizations to assist in obtaining survey results from Wisconsin municipal clerks. As we are sometimes asked about the source of widespread communications to clerks, we are passing along this information to advise you of these efforts and encourage you to participate in the surveys. Both surveys are being conducted by reputable organizations, and the cumulative responses will help to improve election administration in general and for Wisconsin voters specifically. The survey requests are described below:

1. Request from Election Academy related to remaking of absentee ballots:

The Elections Academy is affiliated with the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. Information regarding the Elections Academy's programs and initiatives can be found at <https://www.hhh.umn.edu/center-study-politics-and-governance/election-academy>

Professor Doug Chapin is working with the Council of State Governments' Overseas Voting Initiative on a project aimed at helping states and localities better manage the UOCAVA voting process. He will be sending a very brief survey seeking information regarding duplication of UOCAVA ballots at the local level, which will assist in identifying best practices in this area. Elections Commission staff has provided information regarding existing statutes and our guidance related to remaking ballots so that the responses sought from municipal clerks will be less time-consuming.

Professor Chapin will send his survey shortly but understands that Wisconsin election officials are focused on next week's Partisan Primary. Given the brevity of the survey, you may wish to complete it immediately, but waiting until after the election has passed

will also be acceptable. He intends to follow up with municipalities that have not responded during the week of August 22nd in order to complete the data collection and analysis by Labor Day.

2. Request from the U.S. Vote Foundation to update the Election Official Directory (EOD)

This week, [U.S. Vote Foundation](#) will send all Wisconsin municipal clerks its annual notice to update your contact record in its [Election Official Directory \(EOD\)](#) database. The email notice will indicate exactly what is currently on file for your individual jurisdiction contact record and how to update it or confirm that the data is correct. We ask that you please review and respond to the request from the U.S. Vote Foundation as soon as possible.

Your effort to update your record will have many benefits. The data in the EOD is used by numerous organizations including U.S. Vote Foundation, Overseas Vote, Rock the Vote, Vote.org, Microsoft BING! Elections, United States Postal Service, canivote.org, MyMove, USA.gov, The League of Women Voters, and other organizations which license or link to U.S. Vote Foundation's data services.

If you have questions or prefer to send in your changes, please email: eod@usvotefoundation.org and you will receive an individual response. If you do not receive the email notice in the next couple of days, it may be that your address on file is out of date or the notice went into your spam folder. You can always access your record on the U.S. Vote Foundation site (www.usvotefoundation.org) under the [Election Official Directory](#). Every record has an "Update" link associated with it – click that to edit your record and submit your changes.

Thank you to the many clerks who have responded to this request in previous years. According to the U.S. Vote Foundation, Wisconsin's municipal clerks have a great record of responsiveness to their survey and we hope the same will be true for 2016.

If you have questions or and concerns related to these requests, please contact the Elections Commission HelpDesk at elections@wi.gov or at (608) 261-2028.