

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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DATE: September 19, 2011

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

FROM: Nathaniel E. Robinson
Elections Division Administrator
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

SUBJECT: Requirement for Municipal Clerks to be Available to Receive Provisional Ballot Documents on Wednesday, April 4 and 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 6, 2012 (Good Friday)

Municipal clerks and executive directors should take note of a new statutory requirement of 2011 Wisconsin Act 23 that will require clerks to be available to accept proof of residence, proof of identification, and driver's license numbers between Wednesday, April 4 and Friday, April 6, 2012, including Good Friday, April 6, 2012, which is the third day after the Spring Election. Pursuant to Sections 6.97(3)(b), Wis. Stats., municipal clerks or executive directors having received notice from inspectors that provisional ballots were cast, must provide notice to the board of canvassers of each municipality, special purpose district, and county that is responsible for canvassing the election of the number of provisional ballots cast in each ward or election district.

Electors having failed to provide proof of identification or a copy thereof bear the burden of correcting the omission by providing the proof of identification or copy thereof at the polling place before the closing hour **or at the office of the municipal clerk no later than 4 p.m. on the Friday after the election.** The G.A.B. presumes this elector correction procedure also applies to electors having failed to provide proof of residence or driver's license number and having voted a provisional ballot as found in Secs. 6.97(1) and (2), Wis. Stats.

Since the Legislature and Governor have provided electors the opportunity to correct these errors no later than 4 p.m. on the Friday after the election, clerks and executive directors must be available to receive such documentation between Wednesday, April 4 and Friday, April 6, 2012, until 4 p.m. on Good Friday, April 6, 2012. Clerks or executive directors normally having regular office hours on Fridays must remain open on Good Friday, April 6, 2012.

Please take this into consideration when planning staffing for the Spring Election 2012.