

State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

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JUDGE THOMAS H. BARLAND
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: August 15, 2014

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

FROM: Michael Haas
Elections Division Administrator

SUBJECT: Departure of Staff Counsel Shane Falk

It is with sadness but great appreciation that we announce the resignation of Staff Counsel Shane Falk from the Government Accountability Board next week. Shane's last day with the agency will be Thursday, August 21st. He will be returning to private practice with a Madison law firm.

In announcing Shane's departure to the Board and staff, Director Kennedy wrote the following:

Shane exemplifies all that is great about the people who work at the Government Accountability Board. He is a dedicated public servant who puts the public and the agency first in his professional life. His contributions to the agency as staff counsel for the past six years have been critical to steering us through some extraordinarily challenging times. His keen legal mind and passionate commitment to the core mission of the agency will be sorely missed.

I agree wholeheartedly with those comments and want to add my personal appreciation for Shane's work. Shane and I came to the G.A.B. at the same time in October 2008. He brought to the new consolidated agency great expertise and experience in the areas of election and campaign finance law. He has often taken on complex and sticky legal matters.

Shane and I have worked together through 18 regular elections, as well as recounts, recalls, redistricting, nomination paper challenges, many legislative changes, investigations and litigation, I have learned much from Shane and was proud to serve with him on the G.A.B.'s legal team. I have also appreciated his advice and counsel in my current position, and the rest of our staff has as well.

We will miss Shane as a friend and colleague, although we will continue to benefit from his contributions and accomplishments. He will bring his excellent legal talents and passion to his new endeavor and we wish him the best. If you wish to deliver a farewell message to Shane, he can be reached at shane.falk@wi.gov or 608-266-2094.