

State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

212 East Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor
Post Office Box 7984
Madison, WI 53707-7984
Voice (608) 266-8005
Fax (608) 267-0500
E-mail: gab@wisconsin.gov
<http://gab.wi.gov>



JUDGE DAVID G. DEININGER
Chairperson

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: November 6, 2012

TO: Wisconsin Municipal Clerks in Racine and Kenosha
City of Milwaukee Election Commission

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

SUBJECT: G.A.B. Representatives Conducting Accessibility Compliance Surveys on Election Day
(Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha)
Ensuring Compliance with § 5.25(4)(a)

This information is to alert clerks in the Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha, that the Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) representatives will be conducting onsite Accessibility Compliance Surveys in accordance with Wis. Stats. § 5.25(4)(a). Our representatives will present you with a Letter of Introduction, a State of Wisconsin, Government Accountability Board badge and picture identification. Our representatives are visiting polling places in your municipalities to conduct a survey to determine its compliance with State accessibility standards spelled out in § 5.25(4)(a).

Each polling place shall be accessible to all individuals with disabilities. The Board is statutorily required to ensure that the voting system used at each polling place will permit all individuals with disabilities to vote without the need for assistance and with the same degree of privacy that is accorded to nondisabled electors voting at the same polling place. This paragraph however does not apply to any individual who is disqualified from voting under § 6.03(1)(a).

Please note our representatives are visiting polling places only to examine your polling places' accessibility and will not provide guidance on other election administration issues. In addition, our representative will examine your electronic voting equipment but only to verify that proper voting system security procedures are being followed.

In order to verify that the municipal clerk and chief election inspector have secured the electronic voting equipment, our representatives will need to review your Inspectors' Statement (GAB-104). If your county or municipal clerk created their own ballot and electronic voting equipment security document to supplement the GAB-104, please provide that to our representative. Our representatives may also take pictures to document specific circumstances and for training purposes. I ask that you and your election official colleagues help facilitate this task in any way necessary to ensure a timely and effective completion of our representative's mission.

Accessibility to and throughout polling places is a priority program for the Government Accountability Board. The statewide assessment of polling places is a significant tool in our continuing joint efforts to improve and ensure access to polling places for all of Wisconsin's voters, including those with disabilities. We use the results of our Survey Audits to assess and respond to the needs of electors with

disabilities at polling places throughout the State. We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in this process.

Should you have questions about Accessibility Compliance in-and-outside of the polling place environment or about our representative's role, please contact me directly at (608) 267-0715. If you have questions about Election Day Activities please contact the G.A.B. Help Desk at (608) 261-2028, or email to gabhelpdesk@wi.gov.

Note that our representatives conducting the Accessibility Audits will not be able to respond to questions about the details of the Audit process or their preliminary findings. Please refer such inquires to me. Thank you!

cc: Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Government Accountability Board