

# State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

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Director and General Counsel

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** October 19, 2012

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

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

**SUBJECT:** Fall Annexations Impacting the November Election

The Government Accountability Board staff have received many calls in the last few weeks from cities and villages with annexations taking place leading up to the November Election. This communication provides guidance on handling annexations that occur between now and the November Election

- Any voters impacted by the annexation become residents of the new municipality immediately upon enactment of the annexation. They do NOT need to re-establish residency.
- If an annexation passes prior to the election, the annexation will be in effect for that election, and any impacted voters must vote in the new municipality and ward.
- For municipalities over 35,000 and are required to report ward by ward, if the annexation requires creation of the new ward, the new ward must be reported on your election results.
- Therefore, Board staff strongly recommends that any new annexations between now the November Election be passed with an effective date AFTER the November Election. This allows municipalities to continue to annex property as necessary, but alleviates last-minute election preparation and voter notification issues.

Please contact the Government Accountability Board Help Desk at [gabhhelpdesk@wi.gov](mailto:gabhhelpdesk@wi.gov) or 608-261-2028 if you have any questions regarding this.

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