

# State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 28, 2012

**TO:** All County Clerks and the Milwaukee County Board of Election Commissioners

**FROM:** Diane Lowe, Lead Elections Specialist

**SUBJECT:** Certification of Candidates for 2012 General Election, Type B Notice, Sample Ballots

## CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

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Accompanying this memo is the Certification of Candidates for the 2012 General Election and the General Election Ballot Order. The Certification of Independent Candidates which was sent to you previously can be found at this link: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/2012/fall>. Note: No registered write-in candidates received sufficient votes to qualify for the November ballot.

### Presidential Candidates

Ballot status parties have until September 4, 2012 to certify their presidential tickets. We have received certification from the Constitution Party. Americans Elect has indicated they will not certify a presidential ticket. The Republican Party will certify by the end of the week. The Democratic Party will not certify until the deadline as their convention is so late.

The deadline has passed for independent candidates for President and Vice president to qualify for the ballot. We have four independent tickets.

We will certify all Presidential tickets together, after September 4, 2012. Since we are relatively certain who the Republican and Democratic nominees will be, the GAB-207 Presidential Only ballot has the order of presidential tickets. You may use this for ballot set up. *The candidates for the office of President and Vice President have not been certified.*

## TYPE B NOTICE

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Sample Type B Notices for General Election is located in Publications/Election Notices/Type B Notice – General Election (Presidential) (<http://gab.wi.gov/node/2490>). Please review this sample notice and delete any paragraphs that do not apply to your county. The Type B Notice, which includes instructions to the electors and sample ballots, must be published the day before the election, November 5, 2012. Whenever a weekly newspaper is chosen for publication, the notice shall appear in the newspaper's closest issue preceding the election. You may chose to publish the Type B Notice on Saturday or Sunday preceding the election, if you determine that more effective notice will be given.

**Remember:** A copy of the Type B notice must be provided to municipal clerks for posting at each polling place on Election Day

## **BALLOT PREPARATION**

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Sample ballots are available on the G.A.B. website (<http://gab.wi.gov>) under Forms/Ballots. Municipalities utilizing optical scan equipment use the GAB-203ms. Hand-count paper ballot municipalities use the GAB-203. Paper ballot municipalities may choose to use a consolidated ballot. If a consolidated paper ballot is to be utilized, it shall be similar in format to the GAB-203ms.

The ballot should be modified so that any office not up for this election in your county is eliminated from the body of the ballot.

You will also find a GAB-207 President and Vice President-only ballot for new and former Wisconsin residents, as well as a federal-only ballot (GAB-203Fed) for overseas voters.

Americans Elect has been completely omitted from the ballots as they fielded no federal or state candidates. If you have any county candidates who have qualified for the ballot as Americans Elect candidates, you will have to insert an Americans Elect section (or column, for hand-count paper ballots) after the Constitution section (or column).

## **BALLOT REVIEW**

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It is very important that you send us final proofs of ballots **before** printing. Send only one representative example of each type of ballot (1 optical scan, 1 paper). You may make use of our FAX number 608-267-0500.

If you choose to email your ballot to an Elections Specialist, *please*

- Send only **one** representative example
- Send a proof to **one specialist only**. If you get impatient and forward your proof to another specialist, please be considerate and let the first specialist know if you have already received approval.

**Make sure you proof your ballots before sending them to us.** We will only review ballot proofs sent from you; we will not review ballots sent directly from your printer. This reduces the confusion, duplication of effort, and error caused by trying to work with county clerks, municipal clerks and vendors before the final ballot proofs are ready. We appreciate your continued cooperation.

If you have any questions concerning the information included in the mailing, please contact me or one of the other Elections Specialists.

Accompanying Documents: Certification of Nomination  
Ballot Order