

State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

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JUDGE DAVID G. DEININGER
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Director and General Counsel

DATE: November 13, 2012

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

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

SUBJECT: Nat Robinson's Departure from the Government Accountability Board

Elections Division Administrator Nat Robinson will be leaving the Government Accountability Board effective December 31, 2012.

Nat's leadership has had a tremendous impact on the administration of the agency and elections in Wisconsin. Nat's passion for customer service and innovation has helped improve election administration in our state. However, I believe it is time for a change in leadership in the Elections Division, and the Board Members fully support my decision.

The G.A.B.'s two Division Administrators and the Director serve at the pleasure of the six Government Accountability Board members.

Under Nat's leadership, the Board completed a five-year election administration plan, improved its communications with county and municipal clerks, expanded accessibility audits of polling places to improve voting experiences for individuals with disabilities, and made greater use of technology to manage elections. Nat also put together staff teams that secured almost \$4 million in federal grants. Additionally, during Nat's tenure he oversaw the staff's work on several historic election events, including the statewide Supreme Court recount in 2011, and the unprecedented recall initiatives of 2011 and 2012.

Most recently, Nat led the G.A.B.'s efforts to ensure military and overseas electors were given enough time to vote, and he shepherded the agency's "Back to Basics" training program for local election officials for the November 2012 General Election. Perhaps Nat's enduring legacy is the high caliber of staff he recruited and trained during his tenure. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

Nat Robinson joined the G.A.B. when it began operations in 2008. Prior to joining the Board, he was a consultant and former executive assistant at the Wisconsin Technical College Board, and former Division of Energy administrator for the State of Wisconsin. Former Gov. Tommy Thompson appointed Nat to the international Great Lakes Commission in 1992, and he served as its chairman from 2000 to 2002.

At Nat's request, there will not be a going away social event.

The search for Nat's successor will begin immediately, and the Election Division Administrator position announcement will be posted by the end of the week.