

Government Accountability Board

State of Wisconsin

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Campaign Finance Deadline Approaches

MADISON, WI – The deadline is quickly approaching for Wisconsin candidates and committees to file campaign finance reports.

Candidates, political parties and other state-registered committees have until midnight on Monday, February 1 to file financial reports for the second half of 2009, according to Kevin J. Kennedy, director and general counsel of the Government Accountability Board.

Most Wisconsin campaign finance registrants file their reports electronically on the Campaign Finance Information System, which is available online at <http://cfis.wi.gov>. As of Thursday morning, more than half of the 1,270 registrants have already filed, according to Jonathan Becker, ethics and accountability division administrator.

“Members of the public can go online to the CFIS web site and view campaign finance reports as soon as they are filed with the G.A.B.,” said Kennedy. “CFIS is designed to provide greater transparency and accountability in Wisconsin elections. Before CFIS, people had to come to our offices and request paper reports, or they had to wait for the information to be posted to our web site.”

In anticipation of heavy system use by filers in the days leading up to the deadline, G.A.B. campaign finance auditors will be working throughout the weekend to provide assistance, Becker said.

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The Government Accountability Board is responsible for administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws in Wisconsin. The board is made up of six non-partisan, former judges and is supported by an agency of non-partisan staff members. Additional information about the mission of the Government Accountability Board is available by telephone at **608-266-8005**, by electronic mail at gab@wi.gov, or through the Internet at <http://gab.wi.gov>.