

The Office of the Elections Inspector General

Building Election Confidence Across Wisconsin

Mission: Wisconsin needs an Office of the Inspector General (EIG) to meet increasing public expectations and to ensure the Commission builds election confidence with voters.

The Office of the Elections Inspector General will build public confidence in elections by conducting more frequent and in-depth research into allegations of election irregularities or crimes.

- The EIG would create a new division within our agency that would research and respond to public and legislative inquiries, especially those that involve allegations of unlawful, non-compliant, or inefficient behavior.
- The EIG would aid agency attorneys in presenting information to the Commission regarding formal complaints of election law violations.

The Office of the Elections Inspector General demonstrates Wisconsin's commitment to election integrity by increasing checks on elections infrastructure and equipment.

- The EIG would increase the agency's ability to aid local jurisdictions in conducting an increasing number of post-election voting equipment audits. The Commission recently doubled the number of reporting units to be audited statewide from 5% to 10%. Overseeing and training local election officials on the best ways to hand audit nearly 400 reporting units will require additional staff to ensure accurate and timely completion of the audits prior to state certification.
- The EIG would facilitate security audits and maintenance of the statewide voter registration database and voter registration records.

Wisconsinites expect and deserve an elections agency that rapidly resolves their concerns and questions about elections.

- The EIG will increase the agency's ability to rapidly respond to election concerns from Wisconsinites, who are increasingly turning to the WEC for answers.
- The EIG will boost the agency's ability to quickly fulfill public records requests, which have increased eight-fold since 2016.
- Additional information system data specialists would increase the agency's ability to address questions from clerks and the public on election data and information technology systems.

The Office of the Elections Inspector General will monitor consistency and accessibility in election administration across jurisdictions.

- The EIG would oversee compliance with accessibility requirements by increasing the number of polling place accessibility audits and beginning an in-person absentee site accessibility review program.
- The EIG would ensure consistency of election practices by providing research support regarding polling place procedures, elections processes, and accessibility requirements.
- The EIG would boost the agency's ability to provide election training to municipal and county clerks, increasing consistency of election practices across the state.