# State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

**JUDGE THOMAS H. BARLAND**
Chairperson

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Director and General Counsel

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**DATE:**        May 1, 2014

**TO:**          Wisconsin County Clerks
                 Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
                 Milwaukee County Board of Elections
                 City of Milwaukee Board of Elections

**FROM:**        Michael Haas
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**SUBJECT:**     G.A.B. Launches BADGER Voters – An Online Voter Data Request Site


The G.A.B. now offers BADGER Voters, (http://BADGERVoters.gab.wi.gov), a website designed to allow users to request, generate a price quote for, purchase, and download Wisconsin voter registration and election participation data from the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS).  Users can complete this entire process online and independently 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish the cost of purchasing SVRS data.  The price is $25 plus $5 per 1,000 voter records, rounded to the nearest 1,000.   The minimum charge is $30 and the maximum cost is $12,500 (2.475 million or more voter records).  Rather than first contacting G.A.B. staff or a municipal or county clerk, individuals can make any of six standard requests independently through the Badger Voters website.  These include data requests for:

- all statewide registered voters
- all registered voters in a jurisdiction or district
- voters in specific elections
- permanent absentee voters
- absentee voters in a specific election
- absentee ballot requests within a given date range

The site also allows users to submit a custom data request that is outside of the standard requests. Such requests require additional staff time to process, and additional charges may apply which could exceed the $12,500 cost limit.  A detailed manual is available on the site under *Help and FAQs* on the left-side menu and at this link: BADGER Voters Manual.

In order to access the BADGER Voters website, requesters must first obtain a State of Wisconsin username and password by registering for a Wisconsin External Domain Account (WIEXT). This account provides users with access to multiple State of Wisconsin web applications, including the BADGER Voters website.  Users can purchase the data by using a MasterCard or Visa credit card, electronic funds transfer (EFT, or "e-check"), or online through a secure website managed by the State of Wisconsin.  Payments by check or cash via mail or in-person are still acceptable.

The BADGER Voters site achieves several G.A.B. goals, including:

- helping to reduce the workload of local election officials
- improving public access to election information
- using technology to enhance efficiency, effectiveness, and the quality of customer service

County and municipal clerks may direct data requestors to the BADGER Voters site, or may continue to generate data requests directly from SVRS, per the established data cost requirements and pricing.  Requesters who are unable to access the BADGER Voters site to submit their voter data request or download the file should contact the G.A.B. Help Desk at GABHelpDesk@wi.gov or (608) 261-2028.