

# WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

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April 6, 2017

Sent Via Email Only

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**Re: Submission of Report to Legislature – Report of Suspected Election Fraud,  
Irregularities or Violations pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(g)**

Chief Clerks Fuller and Renk:

Enclosed please find the Wisconsin Election Commission's report to the Legislature of suspected election fraud, irregularities or violations as reported to the Commission by municipal clerks pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(g). This report is submitted to your offices pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 13.172(2), and notice of this report is to be included in the journals of each respective house, with distribution of the report to members of the Legislature upon request. The Commission unanimously approved submitting this report at its March 14, 2017 meeting.

Report Notes

The report provides the Legislature with five key pieces of information: timeframe of the report, date on which the Commission received information from the municipal clerk about the referral, the election the referral is related to, the county in which the referral was made and a brief description of the suspected election fraud, irregularity or violation. Where the referral was specific, or contained multiple instances of the same type of activity that was referred, the report notes the multiple activity referred in parentheses.

This report includes notices of referrals received June 30, 2016, the day the Wisconsin Elections Commission commenced its work, through February 15, 2017, and includes referrals from both the 2016 Spring Elections and the 2016 Fall Elections.

This report contains a large number of referrals related to "17 year-old voting." At the 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary, a number of factors contributed to a large number of 17

year- old voters that cast a ballot. The Government Accountability Board (“G.A.B.”) (at that time) received many calls and inquiries as to whether a 17-year-old who would be 18 years-old by the 2016 General Election was eligible to vote in the primary contest for that election. While the answer is clearly no in Wisconsin, that is not the case in other states. Additionally, some false and misleading information appeared on social media websites which spread inaccurate information to students who then believed they were eligible to vote.

After voter participation was entered into the statewide voter registration system, the G.A.B. staff ran a report of individuals who voted and appeared to be under the age of 18 at the Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary. This report was sent to the affected municipal clerks. Clerks were instructed to look at the list, and verify that there were no typographical errors in the information which was entered into the system. If the information was entered correctly, the G.A.B. advised clerks to refer these individuals to the appropriate District Attorney. For additional background on this issue, please see the clerk communication found on the Commission’s website here: <http://elections.wi.gov/node/3926>

The other referrals on this report are related to more common allegations of a voter that voted in more than one municipality, or voted absentee and at the polls for the same election. Per Wis. Stat. §6.56(3), clerks are automatically required to make a referral to the District Attorney if an address verification postcard sent to an Election Day registrant is returned to the clerk as undeliverable mail.

Finally, the report is limited in that it only reports referrals to District Attorney made by municipal clerks that the Commission has been made aware of, and it is possible that other suspected election frauds, irregularities or violations have been referred without the Commission’s knowledge. It is also possible that citizens or organizations have filed complaints directly with a District Attorney which the Commission has no way of knowing or tracking. For most types of referrals, the Commission has no information about whether the District Attorney found enough evidence to file charges or whether any charges resulted in a conviction.

If you have any questions regarding this report, I can be reached by phone at 608-266-0136 or by email at [Michael.Haas@wi.gov](mailto:Michael.Haas@wi.gov).

Sincerely,



Michael Haas  
Administrator  
**WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

Cc: Wisconsin Elections Commission

Enclosure

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## Report of Suspected Election Fraud, Irregularities or Violations

Pursuant to the requirement contained in Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(g), the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) submits to the Wisconsin Legislature the following report of “suspected election fraud, irregularities or violations” based on information submitted to the WEC by municipal clerks. This report is submitted to the chief clerks of each house of the Legislature per Wis. Stat. § 13.172(2).

The timeframe for this report is information the WEC received from June 30, 2016 through February 15, 2017. Please see the transmittal letter to the chief clerks which accompanies this report that describes the contents and limitations of this report.

| Date    | County         | Suspected Election Fraud, Irregularity or Violation                             | Related Election                                     |
|---------|----------------|---|--|
| 6/30/16 | Sauk           | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (1 postcard)   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/1/16  | Milwaukee      | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (49 postcards) | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | La Crosse      | 17 year-old voting  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | Iowa/Lafayette | 17 year-old voting (2 individuals)  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | Dane           | 17 year-old voting  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | Rock           | 17 year-old voting (7 individuals)  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | Milwaukee      | 17 year-old voting  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | Washington     | 17 year-old voting  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/7/16  | Milwaukee      | 17 year-old voting  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16  | Waupaca        | 17 year-old voting  | 2016 Spring  |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>County</b> | <b>Suspected Election Fraud, Irregularity or Violation</b> | <b>Related Election</b>                              |
|-------------|---------------|--|--|
|             |               |  | Election/Presidential Preference Primary             |
| 7/8/16      | Milwaukee     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16      | Waukesha      | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16      | Dane          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16      | Columbia      | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16      | Milwaukee     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16      | Waukesha      | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/8/16      | Shawano       | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/11/16     | Waukesha      | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/11/16     | Barron        | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/11/16     | Clark         | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/11/16     | Washington    | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/12/16     | Ozaukee       | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/12/16     | Dane          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/12/16     | Kewaunee      | 17 year-old voting (9 individuals)                         | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>County</b> | <b>Suspected Election Fraud, Irregularity or Violation</b>                     | <b>Related Election</b>                              |
|-------------|---------------|--|--|
| 7/12/16     | Dane          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/12/16     | Wood          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/12/16     | Racine        | 17 year-old voting (5 individuals)   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/13/16     | Chippewa      | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/13/16     | Brown         | 17 year-old voting (multiple)  | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/13/16     | Menomonie     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/13/16     | Dane          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/13/16     | Green         | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/14/16     | Outagamie     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/14/16     | Sheboygan     | 17 year-old voting (2 individuals)   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/14/16     | Manitowoc     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/15/16     | Columbia      | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (5 postcards) | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/17/16     | Menomonie     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/18/16     | Kenosha       | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities                    | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/18/16     | Marinette     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential                    |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>County</b> | <b>Suspected Election Fraud, Irregularity or Violation</b>                         | <b>Preference Primary Related Election</b>           |
|-------------|---------------|--|--|
| 7/19/16     | Dunn          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/20/16     | Washington    | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/21/16     | Outagamie     | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/22/16     | Outagamie     | 17 year-old voting (3 individuals)   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/25/16     | Pierce        | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/27/16     | Kenosha       | 17 year-old voting (4 individuals)   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 7/28/16     | Polk          | 17 year-old voting   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 8/2/16      | Washington    | 17 year-old voting (2 individuals)   | 2016 Spring Election/Presidential Preference Primary |
| 8/15/16     | Manitowoc     | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities                        | 2016 Partisan Primary                                |
| 8/16/16     | Brown         | Voting twice in same election, absentee and in-person at the polls (2 individuals) | 2016 Partisan Primary                                |
| 8/23/16     | Brown         | Voting twice in same election, absentee and in-person at the polls                 | 2016 Partisan Primary                                |
| 10/13/16    | Sauk          | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities                        | 2016 General Election                                |
| 10/24/16    | Brown         | Voting twice in same election, in-person absentee and in-person at the polls       | 2016 General Election                                |
| 11/21/16    | Washington    | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities                        | 2016 General Election                                |
| 11/22/16    | Washington    | Voting twice in same election, absentee and in-person at the polls                 | 2016 General Election                                |
| 11/23/16    | Price         | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities                        | 2016 General Election                                |
| 11/28/16    | Manitowoc     | Voting while still on Department of Corrections supervision (felon voting)         | 2016 General Election                                |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>County</b>     | <b>Suspected Election Fraud, Irregularity or Violation</b>   | <b>Related Election</b> |
|-------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 12/8/16     | Ozaukee           | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities  | 2016 General Election   |
| 12/14/16    | Oconto            | Voting while still on Department of Corrections supervision (felon voting)                                 | 2016 General Election   |
| 12/27/16    | Eau Claire/Barron | Voting twice in same election, two different municipalities  | 2016 General Election   |
| 12/27/16    | Eau Claire        | Voting while still on Department of Corrections supervision (felon voting)                                 | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/9/17      | Eau Claire        | Voting twice in same election, absentee and in-person at the polls   | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/9/17      | Eau Claire        | Voting twice in same election, absentee and in-person at the polls   | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/12/17     | La Crosse         | Voter deemed incompetent for purposes of voting, registered and cast a ballot at the 2016 General Election | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/12/17     | La Crosse         | Potential stolen vote situation – common name issue  | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/12/17     | La Crosse         | Voting twice in same election, in-person absentee and in-person at the polls                               | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/23/17     | Manitowoc         | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (4 postcards)                             | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/26/17     | Brown             | Voting twice in same election, in-person absentee and in-person at the polls                               | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/27/17     | Oconto            | Voting while still on Department of Corrections supervision (felon voting)                                 | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/30/17     | Milwaukee         | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (32 postcards)                            | 2016 General Election   |
| 1/31/17     | Rock              | Voting twice in same election, in-person absentee via special voting deputy and mail-in absentee ballot    | 2016 General Election   |
| 2/1/17      | Manitowoc         | Voting while still on Department of Corrections supervision (felon voting)                                 | 2016 General Election   |
| 2/6/17      | Columbia          | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (1 postcard)                              | 2016 General Election   |
| 2/6/17      | Green             | Address verification postcard returned to clerk as undeliverable (5 postcards)                             | 2016 General Election   |