



## Wisconsin Elections Commission

Preparing for the April Election  
March 8, 2017

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### Agenda

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▣ Recount Analysis</li><li>▣ Legislative Update</li><li>▣ Online Voter Registration (OVR)</li><li>▣ EL-122: Absentee Certificate Envelope</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▣ Registered Write-Ins</li><li>▣ Counting Votes</li><li>▣ Draw Downs</li><li>▣ Reminders!</li></ul>
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### Recount Analysis

- Poll Book Reconciliation
- Ballots/Ballot Containers
- Absentee Process and Absentee Ballots
- Voting Equipment and Elections Materials
- Required WEC Forms

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## Legislative Update

- ▶ Federal Legislation
  - Elimination of the EAC
- ▶ State Legislation
  - AB33: Requiring a municipal judge to be a licensed WI attorney
  - AB42 & SB15: Changes in administrative rules process
  - AB44 & SB13: Legislative/Congressional redistricting
  - AB64 & SB30: 2017-19 Budget Bill
  - AB85 & SB66: Allowing a local public official to serve as an election inspector

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## Online Voter Registration (OVR)

- ▶ When a voter registers online they:
  - Do not need to print and sign form
  - Do not need to provide proof of residence
- ▶ Clerk will receive a notification when a voter registers online
- ▶ Clerk does not need to print notification or registration
  - Official voter record housed in WisVote
- ▶ OVR only available during open registration
  - Can still print and deliver form less than 20 days before an election
- ▶ Voters who cannot use OVR can still print and deliver form
- ▶ Clerks can still use MyVote to create registration application during in-person registration and at the polls on Election Day

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## EL-122: Absentee Certificate Envelope

**OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION/CERTIFICATION**

**CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCE**

**CERTIFICATION OF ASSISTANT**

**CERTIFICATION OF CARE FACILITY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE**

**PERSONAL CLERK WAIVES THIS SECTION IF REQUESTED**

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### **“To Be Rejected” Absentee Envelopes**

- ▶ Envelopes missing either:
  - Signature of the voter
  - Signature and/or address of the witness
  - Signatures of both Special Voting Deputies
  - Certification language
  
- ▶ Voter may correct the certificate at the polls, but may not vote a new ballot.
  - Election inspector issues new certificate envelope
  - Voter must open original certificate envelope, verify ballot and seal in new envelope; original envelope is destroyed
  - The voter must not remove the ballot from voting area
  - The original witness must be present
  - Election inspector should document the EL-104

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### **Registered Write-Ins**



- ▶ A candidate who wishes to run as a write-in is required to file a Campaign Registration Statement (ETHCF-1) by 12:00 p.m. the Friday before the election.
- ▶ If the candidate has already filed an ETHCF-1 with the filing officer and decides to run as a write-in, WEC recommends the candidate submit a written statement to that effect to the filing officer.
- ▶ In some cases, the votes cast for write-in candidates who did not register may not be counted.
- ▶ The municipal clerk should give the election inspectors a list of registered write-ins. A voter who asks if there are any registered write-ins should be allowed to look at the list. The list should not be posted or otherwise offered to voters.

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### **Counting Votes**



- ▶ Always count votes for registered write-in candidates
  - Candidate must submit ETHCF-1 by noon the Friday before the election
- ▶ Count votes for nonregistered write-in candidates only if:
  - There are fewer ballot candidates for a given office than there are seats to fill
  - There are one or more candidates on the ballot for the office, but one or more is deceased

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### Counting Votes for Multiple Seat Offices



- ▶ If there are at least as many ballot candidates as there are seats to be filled, only votes for registered write-in candidates may be counted.
- ▶ If the number of write-in votes equals the number of seats to be filled, *whether or not they can be counted*, marked ballot candidates may not be considered.
- ▶ If the number of write-in votes is less than the number of seats to be filled, marked ballot candidates may be counted *only if* adding votes for marked ballot candidates to the eligible write-in votes does not exceed the number of votes to which the voter is entitled.

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### Draw Downs



- ▶ If there are more ballots than voters, election inspectors may face a draw down situation.
- ▶ Before drawing down ballots, be certain that there is no alternative reason for the ballot overage. For example:
  - The issuance of the same ballot number to two or more voters.
  - For two or more reporting units, there are more ballots than voters for one reporting unit and less ballots for the other reporting unit, but the total is equal to or less than the total number of voters.
  - Known inspector error such as allowing a voter to vote more than once.
  - Process outlined in Election Day Manual.
- ▶ Note the reason for difference on the Inspectors Statement (EL-104)

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### Reminders!



- ▶ Review the "Spoiling an Absentee Ballot" clerk guidance: <http://elections.wi.gov/node/4363>.
- ▶ Review "Missing or Insufficient Address on Absentee Certificate Envelopes" clerk guidance: <http://elections.wi.gov/node/4275>.
- ▶ Be sure to have copies of the IDPP handout at the polls.
- ▶ One Wisconsin Now court decision still in effect for spring elections:
  - 10-day residency, in-person absentee voting restrictions lifted except for the Monday prior to the election, etc.
  - Student IDs must meet statutory format requirements but can be expired.
- ▶ The Photo ID does not have to include a current address.
- ▶ Timekeeping

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Questions?

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**Thank You!**

Questions?  
Email: [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov)  
Elections Helpdesk: 608-261-2028

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