

State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

212 East Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor
Post Office Box 7984
Madison, WI 53707-7984
Voice (608) 266-8005
Fax (608) 267-0500
E-mail: gab@wisconsin.gov
<http://gab.wi.gov>



JUDGE THOMAS H. BARLAND
Chairperson

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: August 30, 2012

TO: Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
City of Milwaukee Election Commission
Wisconsin County Clerks
Milwaukee County Election Commission
G.A.B. Community Partner Organizations

FROM: Nathaniel E. Robinson
Elections Division Administrator
Government Accountability Board

SUBJECT: Voting 101: "Back to Basics!" A Guide and Resources for Wisconsin Voters
A G.A.B. Voter Outreach Initiative for the November 6 General Election

Wisconsin Election laws have undergone several changes since the last General Election. Over the past year, there have been reports of voter confusion over both new and old provisions. The Government Accountability Board has launched a "Back to Basics" Campaign to update both election officials and voters on the fundamentals of voting in Wisconsin.

As part of this "Back to Basics" initiative, the G.A.B. has created a program that specifically targets voters. We are calling our new voter focused program "Voting 101: Back to Basics!" *A Guide and Resources for Wisconsin Voters*. Our voter focused programs will include a speaker's bureau, a new web portal, an elections application, the use of social media, various print materials, and more. The G.A.B. would like your help in identifying groups who would benefit from this information.

G.A.B. staff created the Voting 101 Speaker's Bureau to help inform Wisconsin electors about election laws. We plan to reach voters through in-person, webinar, and pre-recorded presentations. Staff will partner with county and municipal clerks, the Wisconsin Towns Association, League of Wisconsin Municipalities, members of the Wisconsin Legislature, as well as community organizations to identify groups or organizations of concerned electors who will be interested in being a part of our "Back to Basics" presentations. The G.A.B.'s Voting 101 Speaker's Bureau will commence on September 5, 2012 and will continue through November 5, 2012.

We are requesting that you recommend a list of organizations within your community that may be interested in hosting a G.A.B. Speaker's Bureau event. We also encourage you to organize an event focused on voters and invite us to be a part of it. Once we receive your list we will contact the groups you recommend to see if they would like to schedule a Speaker's Bureau event, or if there are other ways we can assist them with their voter outreach efforts. At this time we are requesting that an audience of at least 30 participants be guaranteed in order to book a G.A.B. speaker. Events will be scheduled based on staff availability. If staff is unavailable, or if your group has less than 30 participants, the G.A.B. will offer the option of a webinar presentation or a pre-recorded presentation.

For questions about the Voting 101 Speaker's Bureau or to schedule an event, please contact Voter Services Specialist Meagan McCord Wolfe at (608) 266-8175 or meagan.wolfe@wi.gov.

We appreciate your help in our outreach efforts. Thank you.

cc: Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Government Accountability Board

Ross D. Hein
Elections Supervisor
Government Accountability Board