TED BLAZEL

WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK

January 14, 2022

American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Winters and Ms. Colombo:

I received your requests dated December 8, 2021. I have attached request letter WI-REP-21-1756 and WI-REP-21-1757 to my response.

In my response I will cover the three requests you make in your letters separately.

I have no new records responsive to point 1 of your request. I have previously sent to you all contracts that I have in my possession.

I have no records responsive to point 2 of your request.

I am including all invoices that my office has received from the Office of the Special Counsel in answer to point 3 of your request. These records are the invoices that my office has received since my response to your last request.

Sincerely,

Ted Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
Wisconsin State Assembly

P.O. Box 8952 • 17 West Main St., Suite 401 • Madison, WI 53708-8952
Office: 608.266.1501 • **Fax**: 608.266.5617 • **Email**: Ted.Blazel@legis.wisconsin.gov • **Web**: https://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/acc

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Run Date: 2022-01-05
Run Time: 10:31:41

Consultare LLC
Michael Gableman

Business Unit: 76502
Voucher Number: 00006307
Voucher Style: SGLP
Supplier: SINGLEPAY
Supplier Location: 1
Single Payment Supplier
SINGLEPAY-001

Invoice Number: Dec'21 WISpecCounsel salaries
Invoice Date: 2022-01-05
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0

Chk# 1002323344 1-6-22

Invoice Total: 52510.31

Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount
1		WISpecCounsel salaries Dec'21	0	0		52510.31

Distribution Information

Distrib #	Account	Amount
1	7740000	4000
2	7740000	10000
3	7740000	5000
4	7740000	2096.77
5	7740000	1887.1
6	7399010	5986.44
7	7740000	6560
8	7740000	5040
9	7740000	4440
10	7775000	7500

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

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Hale, Janine

From: Coms <Coms@wispecialcounsel.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 1:38 PM
To: Hale, Janine
Subject: Re: Final Salary For month of December

Good Afternoon Janine,
There is a correction to my last email, the correction is John Irving made 5,986.44 so the month total would be 52,510.31

Very Respectfully,

Zakory Niemierowicz

From: Coms
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 1:21 PM
To: Hale, Janine <Janine.Hale@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Final Salary For month of December

Good Afternoon Janine,

Below is the summary of salaries for the month of December.

Zakory Niemierowicz	4,000
Clint Lancaster	10,000
Andrew Kloster	5,000
Carol Matheis	2,096.77
Ron Heuer	1887.10
John Irving	4,516.12
Thomas Obregon	6,560
Edward Chaim	5,040
John Karlovich	4,440
Total	$51,039.99

Kevin Scott = $7500.00

Please let me know if you have any questions

Very Respectfully,

Zakory Niemierowicz

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Zak Niemierowicz	$	4,000.00	Administrative Assistant
Andrew Kloster	$	5,000.00	Investigator 1
Ron Heuer	$	1,887.10	Investigator 2
Clint Lancaster	$	10,000.00	Investigator 3
Carol Matheis	$	2,096.77	Investigator 4
Thomas Obregon	$	6,560.00	Investigator 5
Edward Chaim	$	5,040.00	Investigator 5
John Karlovich	$	4,440.00	Investigator 5
John Irving	$	5,986.44	Data Analysis Contractor
Kevin Scott	$	7,500.00	Outside Legal Counsel
	$	**52,510.31**	

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Run Date: 2021-11-22
Run Time: 16:00:52

Consultare LLC
c/o Michael Gableman

Business Unit: 76502
Voucher Number: 00006226
Voucher Style: SGLP
Supplier: SINGLEPAY
Supplier Location: 1
Single Payment Supplier
SINGLEPAY-001

Invoice Number: Nov'21 officesup WISpecCounsel
Invoice Date: 2021-11-22
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0

Chk# 1002286472 11-23-21

Invoice Total: 5401.1

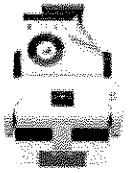
Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount	Distribution Information		
							Distrib #	Account	Amount
1		WISpecCounsel officesup Nov'21	0	0		5401.1	1	8070000	5401.1

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Arrives by Fri, Nov 26 (1 item)

Sold and shipped by Walmart



Brother Wireless High-Speed Desktop Document Scanner, ADS-2700W, Touchscreen LCD, Duplex Scanning

Qty 1 **$344.99**

Arrives by Sat, Nov 27 (6 items)

Sold and shipped by Walmart



LG 32" 1920x1080 HDMI VGA FreeSync IPS HD Monitor - 32MN50W-B

$238.00/ea

Qty 3 **$714.00**
$238.00 ea

Sold by ANETH INC
Fulfilled by Walmart



KONOS Dual Monitor Mount Stand, VESA 75/100, Fit for 13"-32" Monitor, Hold up to 17.6 lbs per arm, Full Motion Gas Spring...

Qty 3 **$179.85**
$59.95 ea

Arrives by Mon, Nov 29 (2 items)

Sold and shipped by antonline.com



Microsoft Surface Arc Mouse, Ice Blue, CZV-00065

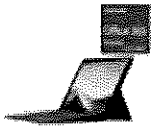
Actual Color: Ice Blue

Qty 2 **$117.98**
$58.99 ea

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Arrives by Wed, Dec 1 (5 items)

Sold and shipped by antonline.com



Microsoft Surface Pro 7 12.3" Core i5 8GB 256GB SSD Black - + Office 365 Bundle — Qty 3 — **$2,609.97** ($869.99 ea)

Sold and shipped by BlueProton

Microsoft Surface Slim Pen — Qty 2 — **$318.00** ($159.00 ea)

Arrives by Fri, Dec 3 (1 item)

Sold and shipped by Aztek Computers

Microsoft Surface Pen M1776 - Active stylus - 2 buttons - Bluetooth 4.0 - ice blue - commercial — Qty 1 — **$94.55**

Arrives by Mon, Dec 6 (2 items)

Sold and shipped by ACCO Brands Direct

Quartet Melamine Whiteboard, 96" x 48", Aluminum Frame — Qty 2 — **$510.00** ($255.00 ea)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Arrives by Tue, Dec 7 (3 items)

Sold and shipped by Joybuy



Mnycxen for Microsoft Surface Pro 7 Lightweight Slim Wireless Bluetooth Keyboard

Actual Color: Black

Qty 3

$233.94

$77.98 ea

Arrives by Thu, Dec 9 (1 item)

Sold and shipped by BICHE



Microsoft Surface Arc Mouse, Light Grey, CZV-00001

Actual Color: Light Gray

Qty 1

$32.99

Payment method

2 of 3

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Shipping, arrives between Fri, Nov 26—Thu, Dec 9

1 of 3

zakory Niemierowicz
17285 River Birch Drive, 108, Brookfield, WI 53045

Items details

View details

21 items



Subtotal (21 items)	$5,156.27
Estimated taxes	$244.83
Estimated total	**$5,401.10**

Payment method

2 of 3

ⓘ Add a payment method to continue.

Continue

Contact

3 of 3

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Run Date: 2021-11-23
Run Time: 09:54:13

Consultare LLC
Mike Stableman

Business Unit: 76502
Voucher Number: 00006227
Voucher Style: SGLP
Supplier: SINGLEPAY
Supplier Location: 1
Single Payment Supplier
SINGLEPAY-001

Invoice Number: Nov'21 WISpecCounsel salaries
Invoice Date: 2021-11-23
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0

Chk#1002287742 11-24-21

Invoice Total: 36674

Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount
1		WISpecCounsel salaries Nov'21	0	0		36674

Distribution Information

Distrib #	Account	Amount
1	7740000	5000
2	7740000	5000
3	7740000	4000
4	7740000	3250
5	7740000	10000
6	7740000	5800
7	7399010	2236.67
8	7399010	1387.33

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AMERICA OVERSIGHT

Hale, Janine

From: Coms <Coms@wispecialcounsel.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Hale, Janine; Blazel, Ted
Subject: WI Special Counsel Salary for November

Good Morning Janine,

Here I will provide the breakdown for the salaries of our office for the month of November:

Investigator 1: $5,000
Investigator 2: $5,000
Administrative Assistant: $4,000
Investigator 3: $3,250
Investigator 4: $10,000
Investigator 5: $5,800
Data Analysis Contractor 1: $2,236.67
Data Analysis Contractor 2: $1,387.33

Total Wages: $36,674

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very Respectfully,

Zakory Niemierowicz
WI Special Counsel

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Run Date: 2021-11-29
Run Time: 13:07:17

Business Unit: 76502

Voucher Number: 00006229
Voucher Style: REG
Supplier: 0000035432
Supplier Location: MAIN
US Legal Support
US LEGAL S-001
PO Box 4772-11 .

Houston, TX 77210-4772
Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Invoice Number: 20210014781-15 court reporting
Invoice Date: 2021-11-29
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0
Invoice Total: 224.5

Chk# 1002291257 11-30-21

Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount	Distribution Information		
							Distrib #	Account	Amount
1		WISpecCoun court report Nov'21	0	0		224.5	1	7740100	224.5

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

U.S. Legal Support

P.O. Box 4772
Houston, TX 77210
Phone: (832) 430-6386
Fax: (281) 260-0329

Accounts Payable
WI Special Counsel
155 South Executive Drive 212
Brookfield, WI53005

Date of Statement: 11/01/2021
Account No: 990187379

STATEMENT

Current	30 Days	60 Days
$224.50		
90 Days	**120 Days & Over**	**Total Due**
		$224.50

Lob	Inv Date	Inv No	Job Date/Order Date	Job No/Order No	Claim	Client Matter	Attorney	Case	Witness/RecordOf	Total
Court Reporting	10/20/2021	20210014781-15		6007294			Zakory Niemierowicz	In RE: Maik Krauter	Mark Krauter	$224.50
Total:										$224.50

Remit To: U.S. Legal Support, Inc.
P.O. Box 4772
Houston, TX 77210

If you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact our Account Receivable Department at (832) 430-6386.

Federal Tax ID (EIN) Number: 76-0523238

Thank you for your business!

290366

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Run Date: 2021-11-30
Run Time: 11:39:37

Business Unit: 76502

Voucher Number: 00006239
Voucher Style: REG
Supplier: 0000035432
Supplier Location: MAIN
US Legal Support
US LEGAL S-001
PO Box 4772-11 .

Houston, TX 77210-4772
Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Invoice Number: 20210047176-15 court reporting
Invoice Date: 2021-11-30
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0

CHK# 1002292577 12-1-21

Invoice Total: 352

Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount	Distribution Information		
							Distrib #	Account	Amount
1		WISpecCoun court report Nov'21	0	0		352	1	7740100	352

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AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

U.S. Legal Support

INVOICE

Invoice No.	Invoice Date	Payment Terms
20210047176-15	11/29/2021	Net 30

Job No.	Job Date	Balance
6031800	11/17/2021	$352.00

Case Name

State of Wisconsin v. County of Waukesha

Case No.

MW - WISCONSIN
411 East Wisconsin Center 411 East Wisconsin Avenue # 1625
Milwaukee WI 53202
Phone: 4142727878 Fax: 4142721806

Zakory Niemierowicz
WI Special Counsel
155 South Executive Drive 212
Brookfield WI 53005

Job Location	Ordered By	Reference Info.
Regus 200 South Executive Drive # 101 Brookfield WI 53005	Zakory Niemierowicz WI Special Counsel 155 South Executive Drive 212 Brookfield WI 53005	Client Matter No: Claim No: Insured:

Items Covered: Vanessa Chavez

Total Due	**$352.00**
AFTER 1/13/2022 PAY	$352.00
(-) Payments/Credits	**$0.00**
(+) Finance Charges/Late Fees	**$0.00**
(=) New Balance	**$352.00**

Tax ID : 76-0523238

Phone: 2622028722

Invoice not paid by due date is subject to interest of 1.5% per month. We will make reasonable efforts to allocate payments properly. U.S. Legal Support may recover any fees and costs it incurs in collecting any unpaid amounts. Any rights regarding allocations, refunds or adjustments after 90 days from payment shall be waived by payer. Review our Terms & Conditions for additional information at our website www.uslegalsupport.com.

"Please detach bottom portion and return with payment."

Zakory Niemierowicz
WI Special Counsel
155 South Executive Drive 212
Brookfield WI 53005

Invoice No.	20210047176-15	**Invoice Date**	11/29/2021
Job No.	6031800	**Case No.**	
Total Due	**$352.00**		

Remit To: **U.S. Legal Support, Inc.**
P.O. Box 4772
Houston, TX 77210

PAY BY CREDIT CARD

Cardholder's Name:

Card Number:

Exp. Date: **Phone:**

Billing Address:

Zip: **Card Security Code:**

Amount to Charge:

Cardholder's Signature:

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Run Date: 2021-12-13
Run Time: 10:48:49

Business Unit: 76502
Voucher Number: 00006260
Voucher Style: SGLP
Supplier: SINGLEPAY
Supplier Location: 1
Single Payment Supplier
SINGLEPAY-001

Consultare LLC
c/o Michael Gableman

Invoice Number: Dec'21 election contract
Invoice Date: 2021-12-13
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0

Chk# 1002303175 12-14-21

Invoice Total: 11000

Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount	Distribution Information		
							Distrib #	Account	Amount
1		Election contract Dec'21	0	0		11000	1	7740000	11000

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

U.S. Legal Support

INVOICE

Invoice No.	Invoice Date	Payment Terms
20210014781-15	10/20/2021	Net 30

Job No.	Job Date	Balance
6007294	10/15/2021	$224.50

Case Name

In RE: Mark Krauter

Case No.

MW - WISCONSIN
411 East Wisconsin Center 411 East Wisconsin Avenue # 1625
Milwaukee WI 53202
Phone: 4142727878 Fax: 4142721806

Zakory Niemierowicz
WI Special Counsel
155 South Executive Drive 212
Brookfield WI 53005

Job Location	Ordered By	Reference Info.
UNKNOWN 200 South Executive Drive 101 Brookfield WI 53005	Zakory Niemierowicz WI Special Counsel 155 South Executive Drive 212 Brookfield WI 53005	Client Matter No: Claim No: Insured:

Services/Items	Units	Type	Rate	Charges
HOLD NOTES: General				
Administration Fee	1.00	N/A	$32.00	$32.00
Reporter Appearance Fee Per Half Day	1.00	N/A	$95.00	$95.00
Waiting Time	1.00	Hours	$97.50	$97.50
	Total Due			**$224.50**
	(-) Payments/Credits			**$0.00**
	(+) Finance Charges/Late Fees			**$0.00**
	(=) New Balance			**$224.50**

Tax ID : 76-0523238

Phone: 2622028722

Invoice not paid by due date is subject to interest of 1.5% per month. We will make reasonable efforts to allocate payments properly. U.S. Legal Support may recover any fees and costs it incurs in collecting any unpaid amounts. Any rights regarding allocations, refunds or adjustments after 90 days from payment shall be waived by payer.
Review our Terms & Conditions for additional information at our website www.uslegalsupport.com.

"Please detach bottom portion and return with payment."

Zakory Niemierowicz
WI Special Counsel
155 South Executive Drive 212
Brookfield WI 53005

Invoice No.	20210014781-15	**Invoice Date**	10/20/2021
Job No.	6007294	**Case No.**	
Total Due	**$224.50**		

Remit To: **U.S. Legal Support, Inc.**
P.O. Box 4772
Houston, TX 77210

PAY BY CREDIT CARD

Cardholder's Name:

Card Number:

Exp. Date: **Phone:**

Billing Address:

Zip: **Card Security Code:**

Amount to Charge:

Cardholder's Signature:

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

ORACLE Enterprise Payables

Invoice

Page: 1 of 1
Run Date: 2021-12-21
Run Time: 12:33:45

Consultare LLC
Michael Gableman

Business Unit: 76502

Voucher Number: 00006293
Voucher Style: SGLP
Supplier: SINGLEPAY
Supplier Location: 1
Single Payment Supplier
SINGLEPAY-001

Invoice Number: Nov'21 WISpec Counsel expenses
Invoice Date: 2021-12-21
Miscellaneous: 0
Freight: 0
VAT: 0

Payment Terms: 00
Control Group:
Related Voucher Number:
Lease Number:

Currency: USD
Use Tax: 0
VAT Not on Invoice: 0

Chk# 1002311010 12-22-21

Invoice Total: 15326.98

Voucher Line Information

Line	Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Unit Of Measure	Amount
1		WISpec Counsel expense Nov'21	0	0		15326.98

Distribution Information

Distrib #	Account	Amount
1	7399006	6449.64
2	7399018	5093.3
3	8070000	798.33
4	7880000	260
5	7415000	2725.71

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Expense	Documentation	Amount	Category total	Page total	Notes
Hotels					
Comfort Inn	Statement 1-2	$93.97			
Double Tree	Statement 3-1	$136.29			
Holiday Inn	Statement 4-1	$473.60			
Sheraton	Statement 5-3	$362.86			
Sheraton	Statement 5-4	$241.90			
Expedia	Statement 6-7	$962.15			
Embassy Suites	Statement 6-9	$1,053.36			
Hilton Garden Inn	Statement 6-12	$966.07			
Hilton Garden Inn	Statement 6-13	$356.91			
			$4,647.11		
Flights					
Delta Flight	Statement 1-2	$548.40			
American Airlines?	Statement 4-2	$472.96			
United	Statement 5-6	$364.80			
American Airlines	Statement 6-2	$371.40			
American Baggage/fees	Statement 6-2	$66.09			
Delta Flight	Statement 6-2	$216.19			
Delta Check Bag	Statement 6-3	$30.00			
American Flight	Statement 6-6	$403.40			
American Checked Bag	Statement 6-6	$30.00			
American Checked bag	Statement 6-8	$30.00			
American	Statement 6-10	$397.70			
American Baggage and fee	Statement 6-10	$42.64			
Delta	Statement 6-14	$674.40			
			$3,647.98		
Transportation					
Uber Trip	Statement 1-2	$37.80			
Priceline	Statement 1-2	$91.13			Rental Car in Michigan
Rental Car	Statement 4-3	$471.23			Rental Car from Milwaukee to Green Bay and back
Uber Trip	Statement 5-1	$48.07			
Dalel Taxi Cab	Statement 5-2	$53.00			
Rental Car	Statement 5-5	$124.88			
Taxi Cab	Statement 5-8	$58.70			
Monthly Milage	Total Milage Sheet	$1,000.16			Please see attached Total Milage Document ✓
Uber Trip	Statement 6-1	$40.14			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-3	$33.95			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-3	$8.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-5	$13.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-5	$9.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-8	$8.88			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-8	$11.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-8	$11.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-8	$9.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-9	$31.99			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-9	$11.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-9	$8.51			
Uber Trip	Statement 6-10	$49.16			
Airport Parking	Statement 6-10	$56.68			

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Airport Parking	Statement 6-13	$56.68			
			$2,246.53		
Business Meals					
Hyatt Regency	Statement 1-3	$51.42			Dinner for 3 travel
Kwik Trip	Statement 1-3	$3.87			
Hi Way Harrys	Statement 1-3	$111.29			Lunch and Dinner for 4 travel
Kwik Trip	Statement 1-3	$4.72			
Rosatis Pizza	Statement 2-1	$32.02			Dinner for 3-Business Meeting
Clint Lancaster Meals	Statements 6-1 thru 6-12	$798.00			All meals were above daily budget, this amount reflects clints 38 dollars per day times 21 days
			$1,001.32		
Office Expenses					
Dropbox Subscription	Statement 1-1	$60.00			File Storage and Sharing
Printer Wolrd	Statement 1-2	$17.46			Ink Cartride
Wisconsineye	Statement 1-2	$9.99			Subsciption to Wisconsin eye
Gregg Investigations	Statement 1-2	$260.00			Service of Subpeonas
Tracfone	Statement 1-2	$26.97			Work phone Service Subsciption
Walmart Family Mobile	Statement 1-3	$40.67			Work phone Service Subsciption
Wisconsineye	Statement 1-3	$9.99			Subsciption to Wisconsin eye
Printer World	Statement 1-3	$102.60			5 ink cartridges
Fedex Office	Statement 1-3	$34.07			Paper and Document Scanning
Printer World	Statement 1-3	$31.66			XL HP Ink Cartridge
Spectrum	Statement 1-3	$245.94			Internet and Phone Service for office for October and November
Amazon	Statement 1-3	$33.60			Office Research David Plouff and Molly Hemmingway book
USPS	Statement 2-1	$28.00			WI Special Counsel PO Box Keys
Walmart Family Mobile	Statement 5-7	$157.38			Purchase of 2 work Phones and a data plan
			$1,058.33		
Office Rent					
Regus Office	CC Statement 1-1	$789.71			
Office Rent	Lease Contract	$1,936.00			Same Every Month
			$2,725.71		
Grand Total				$15,326.98	

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

1-1

Checking **Account Number** 0027793834

Statement Date 12/01/2021 **Page** 1

Date	Transaction Description	Amount	Ending Balance
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	50,938.98
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	45,938.98
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	40,938.98
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	37,688.98
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	34,438.98
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	34,102.87
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	34,004.46
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	30,850.21
11/06/2021	Debit POS/SIG Withdrawal - DROPBOX*R1Q7KNJPSHBG DB.TT/CCHELP DE POS 110401 **********3850 703639L3WFJK - V34	60.00	30,790.21
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	30,870.35
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	32,103.37
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	30,964.54
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	30,923.87
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	30,577.37
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	48,059.30
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	47,359.30
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	36,359.30
11/22/2021	Debit POS/SIG Withdrawal - RMG*REGUS 972-340-2021 NY POS 112006 **********3850 43286A55SWL8KE8	789.71	35,569.59
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	36,671.00
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	73,746.10

CONSULTARE LLC
PO BOX 510145
NEW BERLIN WI 53151-0145

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

1-2

TRANSACTION DATE↓	POST DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
10/27/21	10/28/21	+ Subway 12035 Delafield WI	$8.48
10/22/21	10/25/21	+ PRINTER WORLD LLC BROOKFIELD WI	$17.46
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
10/20/21	10/20/21	+ UBER TRIP HELP.UBER.COM CA	$37.80
10/19/21	10/20/21	+ PRICELN*COMFORT INN L 800-774-2354 CT	$93.97
10/19/21	10/20/21	+ PRICELN*AVIS RENT A C 800-774-2354 CT	$91.13
10/14/21	10/15/21	+ DELTA AIR0062151984058 ATLANTA GA	$548.40
10/13/21	10/14/21	+ WISCONSINEYE WWW.WISEYE.OR WI	$9.99
10/13/21	10/14/21	+ SQ *GREGG INVESTIGATIO Janesville WI	$260.00
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
10/12/21	10/13/21	+ TRACFONE *PHONES 800-867-7183 FL	$26.97

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PROD_OBC trancoreElan PROD-05

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

1-3

POSTED ? PENDING ? RECURRING ?

Search | Printer Friendly

TRANSACTION DATE↓	POST DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
11/17/21	11/19/21	+ HYATT REGENCY GREEN F& GREEN BAY WI	$51.42
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
11/12/21	11/15/21	+ WALMART FAMILY MOBILE 877-440-9758 FL	$40.67
11/13/21	11/15/21	+ WISCONSINEYE WWW.WISEYE.OR WI	$9.99
11/13/21	11/15/21	+ KWIK TRIP 24400002444 MENOMONEE FAL WI	$3.87
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
11/10/21	11/12/21	+ HI WAY HARRYS JOHNSON CREEK WI	$111.29
11/10/21	11/12/21	+ KWIK TRIP 65000006502 COTTAGE GROVE WI	$4.72
11/08/21	11/09/21	+ PRINTER WORLD LLC BROOKFIELD WI	$102.60
11/08/21	11/09/21	+ FEDEX OFFIC46600004663 BROOKFIELD WI	$34.07
11/05/21	11/08/21	+ PRINTER WORLD LLC BROOKFIELD WI	$31.66
11/06/21	11/08/21	+ SPECTRUM 855-707-7328 MO	$245.94
11/05/21	11/05/21	+ AMZN Mktp US*BY68Y6S53 Amzn.com/bill WA	$33.60
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Account Details

2-1

Free Checking
*4921

$3,905.27
Current Balance
Available Balance $3,905.27

My Cash Back Rewards ?
Total Earned: $0

VIEW ALL OFFERS



NEW

Hide rewards

Transaction Details

Type: All | Keyword: Enter Description, Check | Date: Last 60 Days

SEARCH clear search Show advanced

In Process Transactions

Date	Description	Amount
There are no upcoming transactions.		

Past Transactions

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
DEC 01	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
DEC 01	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 29	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 29	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 26	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 26	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 26	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 26	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 23	AMAZON.COM*[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 23	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 22	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 20	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 20	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 20	ROSATIS PIZZA - BROOKF POSBROOKFIELD WI 111813	-$32.02	$7,306.26
NOV 19	USPS PO 56864102 POSNEW BERLIN WI US 231045	-$28.00	$7,338.28
NOV 18	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 17	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
NOV 16	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

3-1

SIGNATURE

WELLS FARGO

VISA Signature

Account Number
Statement Billing Period
Page 2 of 4

Ending in 0625
10/27/2021 to 11/25/2021

Transactions

Trans	Post	Reference Number	Description		Credits	Charges
Payments						
11/06	11/06	74147189P36HH5WNG	ONLINE PAYMENT	WEST DES MOIN	2,300.00	
11/14	11/14	74147189Y36HH8114	ONLINE PAYMENT	WEST DES MOIN	4,495.30	
11/20	11/20	7414718A536HHA5EP	ONLINE PAYMENT	WEST DES MOIN	1,273.20	
		TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THIS PERIOD			$8,068.50	
Other Credits						
11/08	11/08	74204299R08X3RAAA	MFE*www.McAfee.com	866-6223911 CA	110.24	
11/08	11/08	74692169R2Y09Z0QM	MCAFEE *WWW.MCAFEE.COM	866-622-3911 TX	110.24	
11/12	11/12	74055239XRBGHHGB0	KEWAUNEE HOMETOWN PHARM KEWAUNEE WI		9.99	
11/17	11/17	7494300A2S4AGN58G	COSTCO WHSE #1162 BELLEVUE WI		15.82	
		TOTAL OTHER CREDITS FOR THIS PERIOD			$246.29	
Purchases, Balance Transfers & Other Charges						
10/18	10/27	24755429F7LZ4JPDH	HUMANA PHARMACY	800-3790092 AZ		6.33
10/21	10/27	74810649615S8W90P	FASTFILLINGS.COM BARCELONA ES			58.95
10/25	10/27	24137469BEJB5JZZ0	OFFICEMAX/DEPOT 6074 ASHWAUBENON WI			29.73
10/25	10/27	24164079B438XFVHK	OLIVE GARDEN 00013466 GREENBAY WI			33.37
10/26	10/27	24692169B2XM4K0QD	AMZN Mktp US*LU0K76XH3 Amzn.com/bill WA			26.36
10/27	10/27	24055239DRBGHKSY5	KEWAUNEE HOMETOWN PHARM KEWAUNEE WI			33.26
10/27	10/27	24137469D0122DWWW	USPS PO 5643100776 KEWAUNEE WI			8.70
10/28	10/28	24011349D000X8A8E	SP * MISSOURI STAR QUI HTTPSWWW.MISS MO			52.21
10/28	10/28	24055239EPLLTD8KK	ONSTAR DATA PLAN - AT&T	800-331-0500 TX		15.00
10/28	10/28	24231689DRBGKKJ5Z	CLARK 9908 BROOKFIELD WI			58.28
10/28	10/28	24427339DLYTGS4G7	MCDONALD'S F1163 BROOKFIELD WI			1.95
10/29	10/29	24435659E2DK2FLAA	FILTERSUSA.COM	847-669-3175 OH		77.44
10/30	10/30	24013399F02Y5FNYW	BASILS II DENMARK WI			36.05
10/30	10/30	24035999GS66EKMTY	1919 ANTIQUES BONDUEL WI			25.32
10/30	10/30	24055239FBM4K4V9K	BOTTLE HOUSE ANTIQUES SHAWANO WI			31.65
10/30	10/30	24055239F11H175L8	DOUBLETREE MILWAUKEE BRO BROOKFIELD WI			137.45
10/30	10/30	24164079GL3JQQBWY	KWIK TRIP 62000006205 SHAWANO WI			11.00
10/30	10/30	24559309GS66MMGA7	ANTLERS SUPPER CLUB DC P BONDUEL WI			84.82
10/31	10/31	24445009G8PPLRXPD	PICK N SAVE #408 TWO RIVERS WI			79.50
10/31	10/31	24692169G2XS24MPM	SQ *QUILT ESSENTIALS ON T Two Rivers WI			138.65
11/01	11/01	24013399H001ZJA7N	KONOP MEATS INC DENMARK WI			19.60
11/01	11/01	24204299HANE0NHRQ	Netflix.com	408-5403700 CA		18.98
11/01	11/01	24717059J515MMDSR	WI DFI WS2 CFI CC EPAY	608-2617222 WI		10.00
11/02	11/02	24377359K0002KZ4W	PUTNAM COUNTY TAXCOLL	888-8916064 FL		25.29
11/02	11/02	24377359K0002L0J7	PNP PUTNAMCO TAX FEE	888-8916064 FL		2.00
11/03	11/03	24055239LRBGHHEA7	KEWAUNEE HOMETOWN PHARM KEWAUNEE WI			49.83
11/03	11/03	24428069K5SE8JM1G	SIMONS - KROHN DAIRY STO APPLETON WI			12.20
11/03	11/03	24692169K2XLWRL0S	GB Press-Gazette	888-426-0491 IN		9.99
11/03	11/03	24692169K2X5ABN1D	SQ *LAFONDS FISH MARKET Kewaunee WI			30.47
11/03	11/03	24692169K2X6YAKE0	AMZN Mktp US*C92WW5Q33 Amzn.com/bill WA			13.66
11/03	11/03	24692169K2X9Y3GP8	ONSTAR SERVICES	888-4ONSTAR MI		31.64
11/03	11/03	24943009LS4AFKQEZ	COSTCO WHSE #1162 BELLEVUE WI			107.39
11/03	11/03	24943009LS4F86X5Y	COSTCO GAS #1162 BELLEVUE WI			34.86
11/04	11/04	24011349L000N5FG6	SP * MISSOURI STAR QUI HTTPSWWW.MISS MO			26.37
11/04	11/04	24204299L03LVGT9K	Netflix.com	408-5403700 CA		15.81
11/04	11/04	24492159LS16WFV1J	PAYPAL *QUILTINADAY	402-935-7733 CA		48.11
11/04	11/04	24943009MRQEB3Q42	DUNKIN #350367 Q35 KENOSHA WI			35.68
11/04	11/04	24943009MRQEB9JSP	CULVERS OF KENOSHA KENOSHA WI			10.63
11/05	11/05	24055239NRBGHHF4Q	KEWAUNEE HOMETOWN PHARM KEWAUNEE WI			48.21
11/05	11/05	24164059NB01FGRQE	EXXONMOBIL	97365472 PORT WASHINGT WI		54.82
11/05	11/05	24164059NRBGR13XB	EXXONMOBIL	97365472 PORT WASHINGT WI		3.67
11/05	11/05	24492159MJHV0T4NY	SP * FABRIC BASH HTTPSFABRICBA NE			24.99
11/05	11/05	24692169N2Y05F8SE	OPEN PANTRY #612 BROOKFIELD WI			6.39
11/05	11/05	24767259M0000JGPJ	EMPEROR'S KITCHEN BROOKFIELD WI			41.68
11/05	11/05	24906419M3WG27RNH	SHOPPER DISCOUNTS	800-889-8776 CT		14.00
11/06	11/06	24055239N11H1798A	DOUBLETREE MILWAUKEE BRO BROOKFIELD WI			136.29
11/06	11/06	24492159NSTATM6XY	PAYPAL *WERESEWCREA	402-935-7733 CA		194.96
11/06	11/06	24692169N2XAV6KBE	MCAFEE *WWW.MCAFEE.COM	866-622-3911 TX		110.24
11/07	11/07	24055239PBM4PXE3H	BOTTLE HOUSE ANTIQUES SHAWANO WI			58.03
11/07	11/07	24760629T8PQPMMK1	Longhorn Saloon SHAWANO WI			42.76
11/09	11/09	24055239V2MMDLEPJ	CHINA BUFFET 33 INC GREEN BAY WI			13.62
11/09	11/09	24137469S0121VJ7Q	USPS PO 5643100776 KEWAUNEE WI			8.70
11/09	11/09	24316059SFYJWD5ZW	SHELL OIL 54822500069 GREEN BAY WI			52.25
11/09	11/09	24427339TLYPM1N84	PIGGLY WIGGLY #76 KEWAUNEE WI			46.59
11/09	11/09	24692169T2XE4Y947	VZWRLSS*APOCC VISN	800-922-0204 FL		146.94
11/09	11/09	24943009SS4AFHXFN	COSTCO WHSE #1162 BELLEVUE WI			91.87
11/10	11/10	24122549VMLWYX1S5	BP#6291603CENTER COURT B KEWAUNEE WI			64.09
11/10	11/10	24204299S04G3L96R	Subway 21042 Kewaunee WI			10.29
11/10	11/10	24377359V0002BFR8	CULLIGAN 4 PLYMOUTH WI			2,991.43
11/10	11/10	24692169S2XJ13AVT	Amazon.com*YI3DB2SU3 Amzn.com/bill WA			9.48
11/10	11/10	24692169S2XPEA12S	AMZN Mktp US*2I85P29F3 Amzn.com/bill WA			18.96
11/10	11/10	24692169S2Y0N5P3A	Amazon.com*2A34F1Q23 Amzn.com/bill WA			35.09
11/11	11/11	24055239WRBGHKV35	KEWAUNEE HOMETOWN PHARM KEWAUNEE WI			26.86
11/11	11/11	24204299V003TW2QQ	Microsoft	425-6816830 WA		105.49
11/12	11/12	24071059XJ628DHDX	WATERFRONT BAR & GRIL KEWAUNEE WI			29.50
11/12	11/12	24122549XMLX5V1SK	BP#5884481BELGIUM PLAZA BELGIUM WI			28.64

Continued

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000024

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

4-1

Holiday Inn

53 11-2

Expedia.Com
333 108th Ave Ne
Bellevue 98004-5703
United States

Matheis, Carol

Folio No. : 268224
A/R Number :
Group Code :
Company : Business*
Membership No. :
Invoice No. :

Room No. : 209
Arrival : 11-1(
Departure : 11-20
Conf. No. : 48266
Rate Code : IYSW
Page No. : 1 of 1

Date	Description		Charges	Cred
11-16-21	*Accommodation		102.51	
11-16-21	State Tax		5.64	
11-16-21	City Tax 10%		10.25	
11-17-21	*Accommodation		102.51	
11-17-21	State Tax		5.64	
11-17-21	City Tax 10%		10.25	
11-18-21	*Accommodation		102.51	
11-18-21	State Tax		5.64	
11-18-21	City Tax 10%		10.25	
11-19-21	*Accommodation		102.51	
11-19-21	State Tax		5.64	
11-19-21	City Tax 10%		10.25	
11-20-21	American Express	XXXXXXXXXXXX2019		473
		Total	473.60	473
		Balance	0.00	

Guest Signature:

I have received the goods and / or services in the amount shown hereon. I agree that my liability for this bill is not waived and agree to be held personally liable in the event that the indicated person, company, or associate fails to pay for any part or the full amount of these charges. If credit card charge, I further agree to perform the obligations set forth in the cardholder's agreement with the issuer.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

4-2

Flight 1: Tuesday, 11/16/2021 Est. Travel Time: 5h 55m Wanna Get Away®

	DEPARTS		ARRIVES
FLIGHT # 5853	SNA 03:00PM Orange County, CA	✈	DEN 06:15PM Denver

Stop: Change planes

	DEPARTS		ARRIVES
FLIGHT # 6237	DEN 07:40PM Denver	✈	MKE 10:55PM Milwaukee

Flight 2: Saturday, 11/20/2021 Est. Travel Time: 7h 5m Wanna Get Away®

	DEPARTS		ARRIVES
FLIGHT # 2174	MKE 02:15PM Milwaukee	✈	PHX 05:10PM Phoenix

Stop: Change planes

	DEPARTS		ARRIVES
FLIGHT # 1558	PHX 07:00PM Phoenix	✈	SNA 07:20PM Orange County, CA

Payment information

Total cost

Air - 257GWB		
Base Fare	$	396.80
U.S. Transportation Tax	$	29.76
U.S. 9/11 Security Fee	$	11.20
U.S. Flight Segment Tax	$	17.20
U.S. Passenger Facility Chg	$	18.00
Total	**$**	**472.96**

Payment

Visa ending in [redacted]
Date: October 31, 2021

[redacted]

Fare Rules: If you decide to make a change to your current itinerary it may result in a fare increase. In the case you're left with travel funds from this confirmation number, you're in luck! We're happy to let you use them towards a future flight for the individual named on the ticket, as long as the new travel is completed by the expiration date.

Your ticket number: 5261447878973

Prepare for takeoff

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000026

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

4-3

RENTAL AGREEMENT NUMBER 676987393
Customer Name : MATHEIS,CAROL
Drivers Lic Number : USCAXX[redacted]
Methods of Payment : VISA XX[redacted]

Avis Car Number : 9 5 2 3 0 4 9 4
Plate Number : AZ CVJ6309
Veh Description : BLK MAZDA 3 SEDAN
Odometer Out : 32607 miles
Fuel Gauge Reading: Full

Pickup Date/Time : NOV 16,2021@04:49 PM
Pickup Location : 5300 SOUTH HOWELL AVENUE
MILWAUKEE,WI,53207,US

Return Date/Time : NOV 20,2021@11:00 AM
Return Location : 5300 SOUTH HOWELL AVENUE
MILWAUKEE,WI,53207,US

Additional Fees May Apply If Changes Are Made To Your Return Date, Time And/Or Location.

YOUR ESTIMATED VEHICLE CHARGES
Min: 1 Day IF NOT MET DLY RT=50.99 Max: 8 DAY
RATE CHART TIME AND MILEAGE

HRLY :	38.25		
AD DY:	50.99		
Period:	203.96	PR@ 203.96=	203.96
MILES:UNLIMITED			
Your Estimated Time & Mileage			203.96
FACILITY CHARGE 0.50/DY		+	2.00
VEH LICENSE RECOUP 0.85/DY		+	3.40
Energy Recovery Fee 0.60/DY		+	2.40
11.11% Concession Recovery Fee		+	41.82
Estimated Optional Services Tot Taxable		+	123.96
Estimated Subtotal Charges		=	377.54
Sales Tax 10.500%		+	39.64
3% SURCHARGE		+	11.33
Gas Service Option		+	42.72
YOUR ESTIMATED TOTAL CHARGES:X_AGREED___		=	471.23

YOUR OPTIONAL PRODUCTS/SERVICES

Loss Damage Waiver	30.99/Day	Accepted
Personal Accident Insurance	7.00/Day	Declined
Personal Effects Protection	2.95/Day	Declined
Additional Liability Insurance	16.25/Day	Declined

By my approval I accept or decline optional services/products as shown above. X_AGREED___

GSO/FUEL 3.24/Gal
42.72 Accepted X_AGREED___
Gas Service Option #
If you drive, 000-074 miles a 16.99 flat rate fee would apply
X_AGREED__
I understand that important information on cashless toll roads and e-Toll services can be found at avis.com/etoll. X_AGREED___

NOTICES AVIS NOTICES AVIS NOTICES AVIS NOTICES

Vehicles returned excessively dirty, with stained interiors or smelling of smoke will result in additional charges of up to $450.00. Additionally, due to poor weather conditions, excessive soilage, or lighting, you may be held responsible for damage until final inspection is completed. X_AGREED_____

I AGREE TO: BE CONTACTED ABOUT THE RENTAL BY CALLS OR TEXTS TO THE PHONE NUMBER(S) PROVIDED; AVIS'S COLLECTION AND USE OF VEHICLE DATA (INCLUDING DIAGNOSTIC, LOCATION, DAMAGE, PERFORMANCE & OPERATIONAL DATA LIKE MILEAGE, FUEL, CONDITION & OTHER DATA RELATED TO THE VEHICLE & ITS USE) PER OUR PRIVACY NOTICE AT WWW.AVIS.COM/privacy; AND MANUFACTURERS' COLLECTION AND USE OF DATA FROM THE RENTAL VEHICLE PER THEIR PRIVACY NOTICES.

I acknowledge having received all notices including the notice regarding damage waiver and my responsibility contained in the rental jacket. The Loss Damage Waiver is optional. An added daily cost of 30.99 covers your responsibility for dama to our car. Check with your insurer as this may be duplicative of your own car insurance. I agree the charges listed above estimates and that I have reviewed&agreed to all notices&terms here and in the rental jacket. No additional drivers allowe without prior written consent. Tickets, fines and admin fees to be charged to this rental.XX_____

If you have questions regarding this rental, call us at 414-482-8345. This vehicle was rented to you by MISTY.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

5-1

Uber

November 21, 2021

Thanks for tipping, Andrew

We hope you enjoyed your ride this evening.

Total	**$48.07**
Trip fare	$33.79
Subtotal	$33.79
Booking Fee	$5.03
IAD Airport Surcharge	$5.00
Montgomery County Surcharge	$0.25
Tips	$4.00

Amount Charged

VISA •••• 0418 $48.07

Receipt ID # 76957919-db02-4952-9938-ddea1d9c77bf

Trip ID: 76957919-db02-4952-9938-ddea1d9c77bf

Visit the trip page for more information, including invoices (where available)

You rode with Neteraru

Issued on behalf of Neteraru

UberX 21.65 miles | 32 min

3:10 PM | 8618 Falls Rd, Potomac, MD 20854, US

3:43 PM | Dulles, VA 20166, USA

Fare does not include fees that may be charged by your bank. Please contact your bank directly for inquiries.

AMERICAN COURT REPORTING OVERNIGHT

Gmail

5-2

Andrew Kloster <arkloster@gmail.com>

Receipt from Dalel taxi cab Milwaukee wi

Dalel taxi cab Milwaukee wi via Square <receipts@messaging.squareup.com>
Reply-To: Dalel taxi cab Milwaukee wi via Square
<CAESPxlAGjFyX21memZteTN5amZzeGd1dHRramIocXNzbWdqM2hvNmxya2kzZ3M1MnFrNTNnY3FxIghkaWFsb2d1ZSIg2bV0N9Fp2KhbH3/zu2L6ax0NxbfCyCr9zpifR/NUUA0=@reply2.squ
To: arkloster@gmail.com

Sun, Nov 21, 202

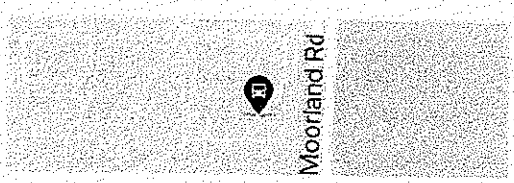
Square automatically sends receipts to the email address you used at any Square seller. Learn more

Dalel taxi cab Milwaukee wi

How was your experience?

$53.00

Custom Amount	$48.00
Purchase Subtotal	$48.00
Tip	$5.00
Total	$53.00



Dalel taxi cab Milwaukee wi
Last Location
612-227-7293

Visa 0418 (Chip)	Nov 21 2021 at 7:20 PM
VISA	#Vcxl
ANDREW KLOSTER	Auth code: 01348l

AID: A0000000031010
Signature Verified

Receipt Settings

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



S-3

Check-In: Sunday, November 21, 2021 03:00 PM

Check-Out: Wednesday, November 24, 2021 11:00 AM

Number of rooms	1 Room
Guests per room	1 Adult
Guarantee Method	Credit card deposit Visa
Total for Stay (all rooms)	362.86 USD

Room 1

Room Type › 2 Double Beds, Traditional Guest Room

Guaranteed Requests:

None

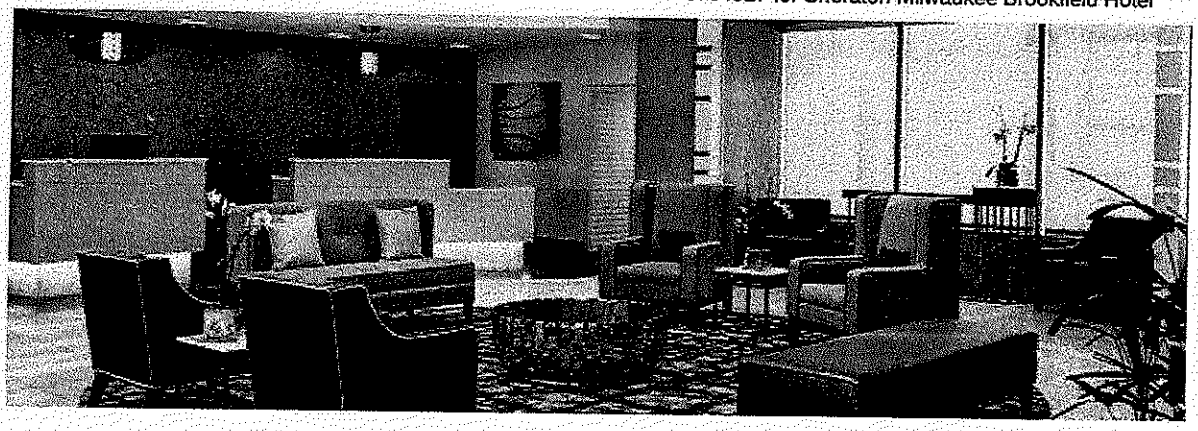
ALL REQUESTS ›

Modify or Cancel Reservation

Important Information About Your Stay

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

504



Check-In: Sunday, November 7, 2021 03:00 PM

Check-Out: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 11:00 AM

Number of rooms	1 Room
Guests per room	1 Adult
Guarantee Method	Credit card deposit Visa
Total for Stay (all rooms)	241.90 USD

Room 1

Room Type > 2 Double Beds, Traditional Guest Room

Guaranteed Requests:

None

ALL REQUESTS >

Modify or Cancel Reservation

Important Information About Your Stay

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

5-5

Itinerary # 72193086965803

Confirmation 48832812US0

Pick-up and Drop-off

Pick-up
Nov 7, 7:00pm
Milwaukee (MKE)

Pick-up instructions
Counter and car in terminal
Open 8:00am - 10:00pm

Drop-off
Nov 9, 6:00pm
Milwaukee (MKE)

Your rental car

Car type
Midsize
Toyota Corolla or similar

Read our Fuel Policy.

Car amenities
Air conditioning
Automatic transmission

Reserved for
ANDREW KLOSTER

Price Summary

Payable today: $124.88
Base Price: Included
Taxes & Fees: Included
Total due today: 0 PTS and $124.88
Trip Total: $124.88

Unless otherwise specified, rates are quoted in USD. The total price includes all mandatory taxes and fees.

Mileage: Unlimited mileage

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

5-6

Traveler(s)

ANDREW KLOSTER

United Mileage Plus ACW75467
Known Traveler Number 983815168

Update traveler details and make special requests. Please confirm all requests with your airline.

Price summary

Flight 1: IAD to MKE	
Traveler 1: Adult	$197.40
Flight	$170.23
Taxes & Fees	$27.17
Flight 2: MKE to DFW	
Traveler 1: Adult	$167.40
Flight	$142.33
Taxes & Fees	$25.07
Total due today	**$364.80 and 0 PTS**
Trip total:	$364.80

All prices are quoted in **USD**.

Rules and Restrictions

Flight 1: IAD to MKE

Additional fees

The airline may charge additional fees for checked baggage or other optional services.

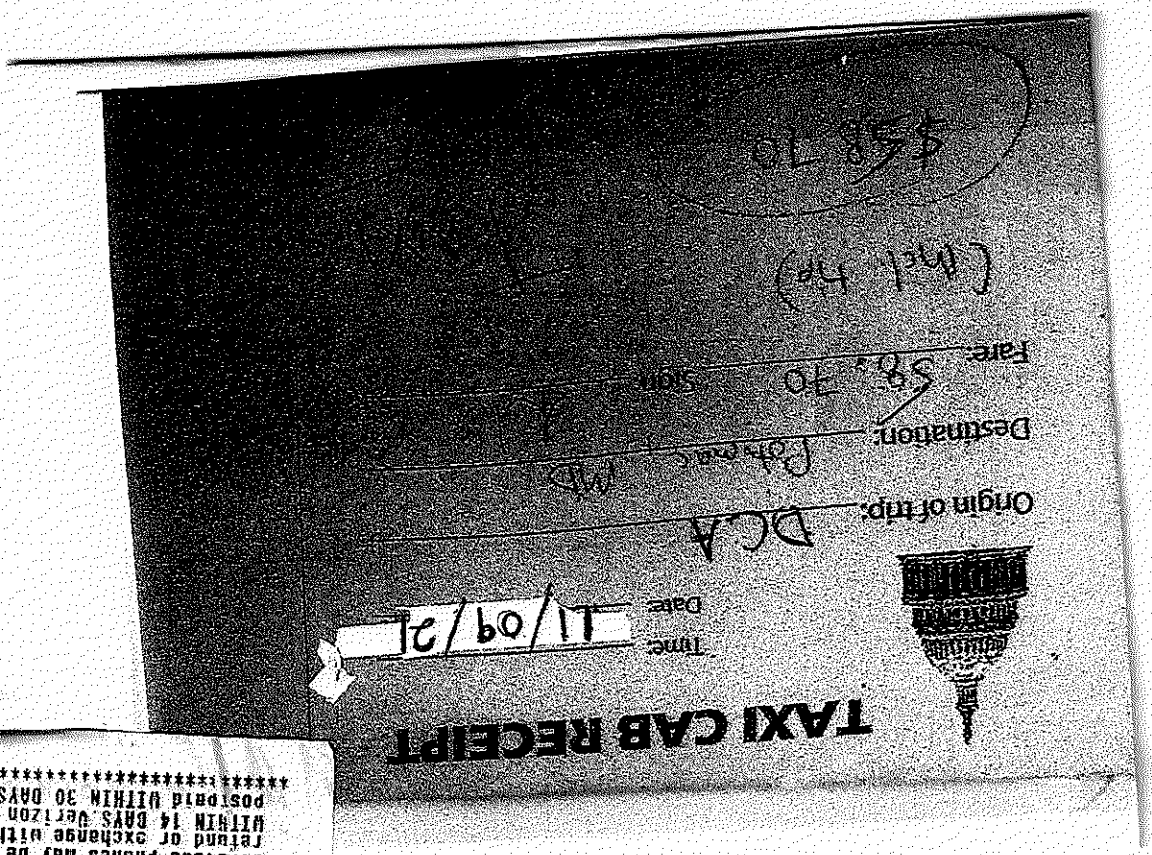
- Additional fees for your flight to Milwaukee

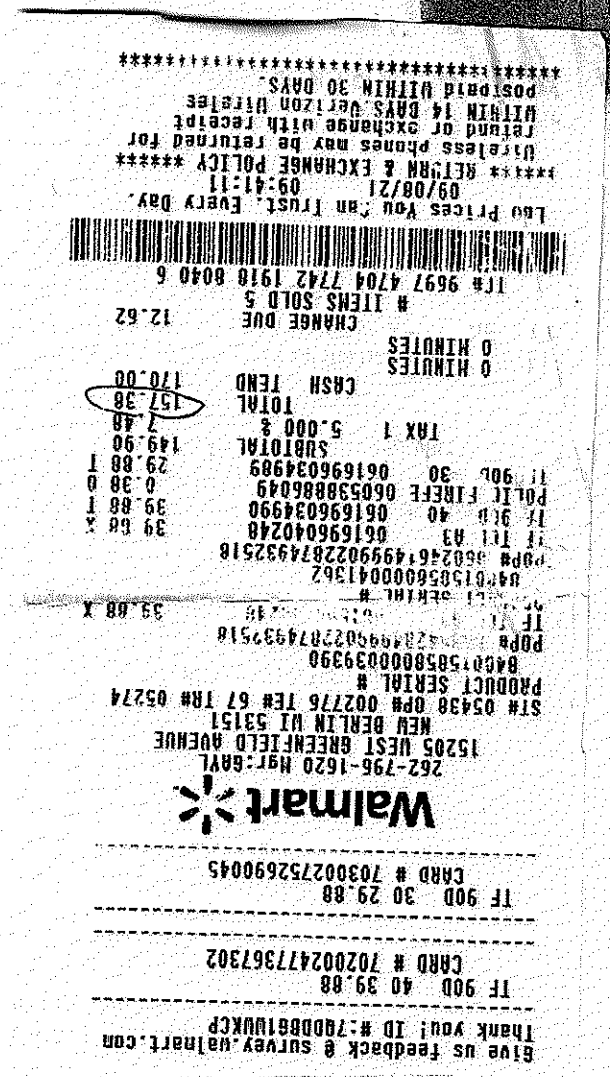
Airline rules and restrictions

We understand that sometimes plans change. We do not charge a cancel or change fee. When the airline charges such fees in accordance with its own policies, the cost will be passed on to you.

Please read the complete penalty rules for changes and cancellations applicable to this

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000034
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Walmart

262-796-1620 Mgr:GAYL
15205 WEST GREENFIELD AVENUE
NEW BERLIN WI 53151
ST# 05438 OP# 002776 TE# 67 TR# 05274

PRODUCT SERIAL #
8486015858000039390
PO#
UPC 0536015600004136Z
TC# 6024614999022874932518
09/08/21 09:41:11
***** RETURN & EXCHANGE POLICY *****
Wireless phones may be returned for
refund or exchange with receipt
WITHIN 14 DAYS Verizon Wireless
Postpaid WITHIN 30 DAYS.
Low Prices You Can Trust. Every Day.

TF 90D 40 39.88
CARD # 702002477367302

TF 90D 30 29.88
CARD # 703002752690045

Give us feedback @ survey.walmart.com
Thank you! ID #:7QDDB81UUKCP

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=dbe62c0608&view=pt&search=all&permmsgid=msg-f%3A1715705593484663037&simpl=msg-f%3A1715705593... 5/5

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

	AC-MERCH SVC -BKCRD DEP			
11/17/2021	11/17 01:56 UBER *TRIP HELP.8005928996 CA CKCD DEBIT 1578	*Select one*	40.14	Uber

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000035

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

11/15/2021	11/12 23:06 AMERICAN 8004337300 TX CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	371.40		Flight
11/15/2021	11/12 23:07 AMERICAN 8004337300 TX CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	66.09		Baggage
11/15/2021	11/11 21:54 BOBBY S BURGER PALA ATLANTA GA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	22.55		Food
11/12/2021	11/10 02:16 DELTA SEATTLE WA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	216.19		Flight
~~11/12/2021~~		Select one	~~164.55~~		

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000036

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

	11/11 10:35 HILTON GARDEN I 262-3300800 WI CKCD DEBIT 1578			
11/12/2021	11/12 08:51 UBER TRIP 8005928996 CA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	33.95	Uber
11/12/2021	11/10 09:48 HILTON GARDEN IN BROOKFIELD WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	31.65	Food
11/12/2021	11/11 05:23 DELTA MILWAUKEE WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	30.00	Check Bag
11/12/2021	11/10 09:50 STARBUCKS STORE 024 MADISON WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	16.25	Food
11/12/2021	11/10 22:09 UBER TRIP 8005928996 CA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	8.51	Uber

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000037

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

11/10/2021	11/08 04:52 WASABI SUSHI LOU BROOKFIELD WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	25.00	Food

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000038

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

11/09/2021	11/09 08:42 UBER TRIP 8005928996 CA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	13.51	Uber
11/09/2021	11/08 19:53 FRESH THYME #702 BROOKFIELD WI POS DEBIT 1578	Select one	22.33	Food
11/08/2021	11/04 20:25 CHARLEYS PHILLY BROOKFIELD WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	11.86	Food
11/08/2021	11/05 21:16 UBER TRIP 8005928996 CA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	9.51	Uber
11/08/2021				

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

11/05/2021	11/03 22:06 AMERICAN SEATTLE WA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	403.40	Flight
11/05/				
11/05/2021	11/03 20:25 AMERICAN LITTLE ROCK AR CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	30.00	check Bag
11/05/2021	11/04 20:03 FRESH THYME #702 BROOKFIELD WI POS DEBIT 1578	Select one	130.89	Grocery

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000040

11/04/2021	11/03 01:59 EXPEDIA 7219155 EXPEDIA.COM WA CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	962.15	Hotel
11/04/2021	11/03 09:56 CHICK-FIL-A POS LITTLE ROCK AR CKCD DEBIT 1578	Select one	12.86	Food
11/04/2021		Select one		

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000041

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Nov 19	Walmart	Grocery	Clinton L. ...5940	$48.18
Nov 19	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$8.88
~~Nov 19~~	~~Best Buy~~	~~Merchandise~~	~~Clinton L. ...5940~~	~~$346.49~~
Nov 19	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$11.51
Nov 18	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$11.51
Nov 18	American Airlines	Airfare	Clinton L. ...5940	$30.00
Nov 18	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$9.51
Nov 18	Chick-fil-A	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$5.47
Nov 17	Walgreens	~~Healthcare~~ Grocery	Clinton L. ...5940	$29.21
Nov 17	Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$55.35

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000042

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Nov 24	MKE TRIP ADVISOR SHOP	Merchandise Grocery	Clinton L. ...5940	$4.76
Nov 24	Embassy Suites	Lodging	Clinton L. ...5940	$1,053.36
Nov 23	DFWTEXASMONTHLYST2523	Grocery	Clinton L. ...5940	$4.33
Nov 23	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$31.99
Nov 23	Cantina Laredo	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$32.81
Nov 23	GrubHub	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$24.49
Nov 22	GrubHub	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$26.55
Nov 22	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$11.51
Nov 20	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$8.51
Nov 20	Charleys Philly Steaks	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$11.54

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000043

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Posted Transactions Since Your Last Statement

Account Ending in ...5940

DATE	DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	CARD	AMOUNT
Dec 01	WALLSTREETST2521	Airport Merchandise Food	Clinton L. ...5940	$4.33
Dec 01	Uber Technologies	Other Travel	Clinton L. ...5940	$49.16
Dec 01	American Airlines	Airfare	Clinton L. ...5940	$42.64
Dec 01	American Airlines	Airfare	Clinton L. ...5940	$397.70
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted] NW AK	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Nov 24	CLINTON NTL AIRPORT	Gas/Automotive Airport Parking	Clinton L. ...5940	$56.68

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000044

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Pending Transactions

Account Ending in ...5940

DATE	DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	CARD	AMOUNT
Pending	Gooseberry on the Square	Dining food	Clinton L. ...5940	$4.22
~~Pending~~	~~Microsoft~~	~~Internet~~	Clinton L. ~~...5940~~	~~$99.99~~
~~Pending~~	~~Microsoft~~	~~Internet~~	Clinton L. ~~...5940~~	~~$99.99~~
Pending	Subway	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$14.39
Pending	Chick-fil-A	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$13.63
Pending	Charleys Philly Steaks	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$12.90
Pending	Chick-fil-A	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$11.43
Pending	GrubHub	Dining	Clinton L. ...5940	$41.95

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000045

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Pending	Kwik Trip	Gas/Automotive	Clinton L. ...5940	$11.59
Pending	Hilton Garden Inn	Lodging	Clinton L. ...5940	$966.07
			Total:	$1,276.16

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

10/29/2021	10/27 20:20 CLINTON NTL AIR LITTLE ROCK AR CKCD DEBIT 1578	*Select one*	56.68	Airport Parking
10/29/2021	10/27 21:38 HILTON GARDEN IN BROOKFIELD WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	*Select one*	24.65	Meal
10/28/2021	10/27 09:55 HILTON GARDEN IN BROOKFIELD WI CKCD DEBIT 1578	*Select one*	356.91	Hotel
10/28/2021	10/27 10:19 ATL AIRP ATL MARKET ATLANTA GA CKCD DEBIT 1578	*Select one*	40.98	

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

10/25/2021	10/23 02:29 DELTA SEATTLE WA CKCD DEBIT 1578	*Select one*	674.40	Flight

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000048

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

OFFICE LEASE

BUILDING AND ADDRESS:
Executive Center I Building
155 S Executive Drive
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005

LANDLORD AND ADDRESS:
Executive Center I LP
150 N Sunnyslope Road Suite 240
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005

TENANT AND ADDRESS:
Consultare LLC
155 South Executive Drive Suite 212 & 110 A
Brookfield, WI 53005

DEMISED PREMISES: An area of 2697 rentable square feet on the second floor and 869 rentable square feet on the first floor.

PARKING: Tenant shall have use of the adjoining parking lot for its employees and invitees. Tenant shall comply with all reasonable rules or regulations which Landlord shall prescribe with respect to said parking.

DATE OF LEASE: September 13, 2021

1. LEASE OF PREMISES; BASE RENT. Landlord hereby leases to Tenant and Tenant accepts the Demised Premises for the Lease Term, unless sooner terminated as provided herein, to be occupied and used by Tenant as general offices subject to the agreements herein contained. Tenant shall pay the Annual Base Rent of $ 58,839.00 to the Landlord in equal monthly installments of $4,903.25 at its address set forth above in advance on or before the 1st day of each month of the Lease Term. All such Rent shall be paid without any set-off, counterclaim or deduction whatsoever.

2. ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE RENT Intentionally Deleted

3. TERM. The Lease Term shall be for a period of one (1) year commencing on October 1, 2021, and ending at midnight on September 30, 2022, (the "Initial Term").

4. SERVICES. The Landlord, as long as this Lease is in effect, shall furnish:

(a) Heating and air conditioning daily on a 24 hour basis to such temperatures as are customary in office buildings in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

(b) Electricity for standard building lighting fixtures provided by Landlord and for incidental uses for standard office equipment.

(c) Water in common with other tenants or used for business purposes. Tenant shall not waste or permit the waste of water.

(d) Janitor service and customary cleaning in and about the Demised Premises after 5:00 P. M. Monday through Friday. Tenant shall not provide any janitor services or cleaning without the Landlord's written consent and then only subject to supervision by Landlord and at Tenant's sole responsibility, and by janitor or cleaning contractor or employees at all times satisfactory to Landlord. Customary cleaning services shall be deemed to be the janitorial and cleaning services presently provided to the Demised Premises.

(e) Tenant shall make no alteration or additions to the electric equipment and/or appliances without the prior written consent of the Landlord in each instance. Landlord will supply and install, at Tenant's expense, all lamps, bulbs, ballast and starters used in the Demised Premises after

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

DocuSign Envelope ID: CD3BD843-670A-4831-B87D-C44FBC25DA55

Sublease Agreement

This Sublease is made and entered into by and between CONSULTARE LLC (hereinafter "Sublessor") and THOMAS MORE SOCIETY (hereinafter "Sublessee").

Recitations

0.1 Whereas, Sublessee desires to sub-lease office space from Sublessor at the offices located at 155 S. Executive Drive Suites 212 & 110A, located in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

0.2 Whereas, Sublessor has agreed to sublease 886 rentable square feet of space to Sublessee commencing October 1, 2021 through the Lease termination date of September 30, 2022.

0.3 Whereas, Sublessor and Sublessee desire to accommodate the sub-lease in accordance with the agreement below.

Agreement

Now, therefore, in consideration of the above Recitations and the promises and agreements hereinafter contained, it is agreed between Sublessor and Sublessee that:

1.1 Term. Sublessee agrees to sub-lease the 886 rentable square feet of space, shown on the attached Exhibit A as "TMS" and the common area spaces, for a period of One (1) Year, commencing October 1, 2021 and ending at midnight on September 30, 2022.

1.2 Base Rent. Sublessee will pay to Sublessor the Base Rent of $1218.25 per month. Rent shall be paid to Sublessor on or before the first day of each month of the term. Sublessor and Sublessee acknowledge and agree, and with its consent below, the Landlord acknowledges and agrees, that Sublesee's payment of Base Rent hereunder is Sublessee's only rental obligation with respect to its use and possession of the subleased premise and such payment of Base Rent includes Sublesee's share of real property taxes, insurance, utilities, building operation expenses and other services provided by Landlord under the Lease

1.3 Agreement. Sublessee agrees to abide by all terms, rules and regulations as set forth in Landlord's original Lease Agreement which is attached hereto and made part of this agreement. With respect to the subleased premises, Sublessee shall have all rights and obligations as Tenant has to the Demised Premises under said original Lease Agreement.

1.4 Improvements. None.

1.5 Warrant of Authority. Each party warrants and represents to the other that they have the power and authority to enter into and perform all their obligations under this Sub-lease and that such party has performed all acts and obtained all approvals necessary to make this Sub-lease a valid, binding legal obligation and each person who executes this Sub-lease in a representative capacity on behalf of either party individually warrants that (s)he is duly authorized to do so.

In witness whereof, this Sub-lease is duly executed and delivered as of the date specified below.

BY: _____ Date: 9/27/21
Sublessor: Michael Gablemen for Consultare LLC

DocuSigned by:
BY: Andrew Bath Date: 9/23/2021
Sublessee: Andrew Bath for Thomas More Society

DocuSigned by:
Landlord Consent: Jack Hoffman
John Hoffman, Managing Partner

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Sublease Agreement

This Sublease is made and entered into by and between CONSULTARE LLC (hereinafter "Sublessor") and MOHRMAN, KAARDAL & ERICKSON, P.A. (hereinafter "Sublessee").

Recitations

0.1 Whereas, Sublessee desires to sub-lease office space from Sublessor at the offices located at 155 S. Executive Drive Suites 212 & 110A, located in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

0.2 Whereas, Sublessor has agreed to sublease 1272 rentable square feet of space to Sublessee commencing October 1, 2021 through the Lease termination date of September 30, 2022.

0.3 Whereas, Sublessor and Sublessee desire to accommodate the sub-lease in accordance with the agreement below.

Agreement

Now, therefore, in consideration of the above Recitations and the promises and agreements hereinafter contained, it is agreed between Sublessor and Sublessee that:

1.1 Term. Sublessee agrees to sub-lease the 1272 rentable square feet of space for a period of One (1) Year, commencing October 1, 2021 and ending at midnight on September 30, 2022.

1.2 Base Rent. Sublessee will pay to Sublessor the Base Rent of $1749 .00 per month. Rent shall be paid to Sublessor on or before the first day of each month of the term.

1.3 Agreement. Sublessee agrees to abide by all terms, rules and regulations as set forth in Landlord's original Lease Agreement which is attached hereto and made part of this agreement.

1.4 Improvements. None.

1.5 Warrant of Authority. Each party warrants and represents to the other that they have the power and authority to enter into and perform all their obligations under this Sub-lease and that such party has performed all acts and obtained all approvals necessary to make this Sub-lease a valid, binding legal obligation and each person who executes this Sub-lease in a representative capacity on behalf of either party individually warrants that (s)he is duly authorized to do so.

In witness whereof, this Sub-lease is duly executed and delivered as of the date specified below.

DocuSigned by:

BY: _____ Date: 9/22/2021

Sublessor: Michael Gablemen for Consultare LLC

DocuSigned by:

BY: William Mohrman Date: 9/21/2021

Sublessee: William Mohrman for Mohrman, Kaardal & Erickson, P.A.

DocuSigned by:

Landlord Consent: Jack Hoffman 9/22/2021

John Hoffman, Managing Partner

Total Milage

Zakary Niemierowicz

Brookfield → Madison	128 miles
(Office → New Berlin P.O Box) x4	32 Miles
	9 Miles
Office → INET	
Office → Printer world) x3	12 Miles
	181 Miles (.56) = $101.36

Ron Heuer

Kewaunee → Kenosha → Racine → Brookfield	260 Miles
Brookfield → Kewaunee	121 Miles
Kewaunee → Racine → Kenosha → Kewaunee	316 Miles
Kewaunee → Green Bay → ledgeview → Kewaunee	118 Miles
	(.56) 815 Miles = $456.4

Mike Gableman

Brookfield → Madison	128 miles
Brookfield → Kenosha	70 Miles
Brookfield → Stevens Point	252 Miles
Brookfield → Green Bay	212 Miles
Brookfield → Madison	128 Miles
	790 Miles (.56) = $442.4

Totals: 1,786 Miles (.56) = $1,000.16

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Assembly Journal

One-Hundred and Fifth Regular Session

9:54 A.M. THURSDAY, November 11, 2021

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber located in the State Capitol.

Speaker Pro Tempore August in the chair.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent for a quorum call. Granted.

A quorum was present.

Speaker Vos in the chair.

The prayer was offered by Reverend Timothy Schwartz from Zion Lutheran Church in Columbus.

Representative Armstrong led the membership in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The roll was taken.

The result follows:

Present - Representatives Allen, Anderson, Andraca, Armstrong, August, Baldeh, Behnke, Billings, Born, Bowen, Brandtjen, Brooks, Brostoff, Cabral-Guevara, Cabrera, Callahan, Conley, Considine, Dallman, Dittrich, Doyle, Drake, Duchow, Edming, Emerson, Goyke, Gundrum, Haywood, Hebl, Hesselbein, Hintz, Hong, Horlacher, James, Katsma, Kerkman, Kitchens, Knodl, Krug, Kuglitsch, Kurtz, Loudenbeck, Macco, Magnafici, McGuire, B. Meyers, Milroy, Moore Omokunde, Moses, Murphy, Mursau, L. Myers, Neubauer, Neylon, Novak, Ohnstad, Oldenburg, Ortiz-Velez, Penterman, Petersen, Petryk, Plumer, Pope, Pronschinske, Ramthun, Riemer, J. Rodriguez, S. Rodriguez, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Shankland, Shelton, Sinicki, Skowronski, Snodgrass, Snyder, Sortwell, Spiros, Spreitzer, Steffen, Steineke, Stubbs, Subeck, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, Tranel, Tusler, VanderMeer, Vining, Vorpagel, Vruwink, Wichgers, Wittke, Zimmerman and Speaker Vos - 98.

Absent with leave - Representative Tauchen - 1.

Vacancies - None.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Representative Vorpagel asked unanimous consent for a leave of absence for today's session for Representative Tauchen. Granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Representative Vorpagel asked unanimous consent for a leave of absence for part of today's session for Representatives Behnke and VanderMeer. Granted.

Representative Spreitzer asked unanimous consent for a leave of absence for part of today's session for Representatives Anderson and Moore Omokunde. Granted.

SPECIAL GUEST

Representative Kurtz introduced Hometown Hero Award recipient Rhonda Larson, who founded the free healthcare clinic, Touched Twice, in Juneau County. Ms. Larson, accompanied by her husband, Brian, and daughter, Kendall, addressed the members from the rostrum.

SPECIAL GUEST

Representative L. Myers introduced Hometown Hero Award recipient Dresidan Gatlin, who serves as Club Manager of the Maple Tree Elementary School Community Learning Center, a school-based program of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee. Mr. Gatlin addressed the members from the rostrum.

SPECIAL GUEST

Representative Sanfelippo introduced Hometown Hero Award recipient Lieutenant Chris Williams of the West Allis Fire Department, in recognition of his selfless dedication and service to his community. Lieutenant Williams addressed the members from the rostrum.

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 396** offered by Representative Cabral-Guevara.

Assembly Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 600** offered by Representative Dittrich.

COMMUNICATIONS

November 10, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000053

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 72, relating to proclaiming the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Sincerely,
TOD OHNSTAD
State Representative
65th Assembly District

November 10, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 72, relating to proclaiming the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM PENTERMAN
State Representative
37th Assembly District

November 10, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 682, relating to grant related to the Verso Paper Mill in the city of Wisconsin Rapids, loan guarantee related to the Park Falls Pulp and Paper Mill in the city of Park Falls, substance abuse prevention on certain public projects, and granting rule-making authority.

Sincerely,
NICK MILROY
State Representative
73rd Assembly District

November 10, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 679, relating to hospital services provided in a home setting.

Sincerely,
SARA RODRIGUEZ
State Representative
13th Assembly District

November 10, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 82, relating to information about sudden cardiac arrest during youth athletic activities.

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Senate Bill 95, relating to information about sudden cardiac arrest during youth athletic activities.

Sincerely,
ELIJAH BEHNKE
State Representative
89th Assembly District

November 10, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 106, relating to eliminating certain abortion prohibitions.

Sincerely,
DANIEL RIEMER
State Representative
7th Assembly District

November 11, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 651, relating to allowing a parent to change a minor child's name when the other parent is convicted of certain homicide or sex offenses.

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 668, relating to law enforcement officer suicide prevention and reporting and making an appropriation.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000054

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 669, relating to right to carry a weapon in this state.

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 681, relating to employer liability under worker's compensation for mandatory or coerced COVID-19 vaccines.

Sincerely,
DAVID MURPHY
State Representative
56th Assembly District

November 11, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 651, relating to allowing a parent to change a minor child's name when the other parent is convicted of certain homicide or sex offenses.

Sincerely,
DAVID ARMSTRONG
State Representative
75th Assembly District

November 11, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 574, relating to the sales tax exemption for entertainment admission sales by nonprofit organizations.

Sincerely,
SUE CONLEY
State Representative
44th Assembly District

November 11, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 67, relating to storage and processing of sexual assault kits and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

Sincerely,
JOEL KITCHENS
State Representative
1st Assembly District

November 11, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Assembly Bill 321, relating to the possession of a firearm by a person who has committed a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence and providing a penalty.

Sincerely,
CHRIS LARSON
State Senator
7th Senate District

CALENDAR OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Resolution 19** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Assembly Resolution 19

Relating to: the life and public service of Ann Marie Hraychuck.

The question was: Shall **Assembly Resolution 19** be adopted?

Motion carried.

Representative Behnke asked unanimous consent that his leave of absence be lifted. Granted.

Representative VanderMeer asked unanimous consent that her leave of absence be lifted. Granted.

Representative Anderson asked unanimous consent that his leave of absence be lifted. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Joint Resolution 64** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Assembly Joint Resolution 64

Relating to: commending the life of Ed Nager.

The question was: Shall **Assembly Joint Resolution 64** be adopted?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Assembly Joint Resolution 64** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000055

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Senate Joint Resolution 69** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Senate Joint Resolution 69

Relating to: recognizing Employment Choice First as a means to preserve the dignity, self-esteem, and pride of individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin.

The question was: Shall **Senate Joint Resolution 69** be concurred in?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Joint Resolution 69** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Senate Bill 489** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Senate Bill 489

Relating to: procedural changes for applications under the Clean Water Fund Program and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program.

The question was: Shall **Senate Bill 489** be ordered to a third reading?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 489** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Senate Bill 489** having been read three times, shall the bill be concurred in?

Motion carried.

Representative Subeck asked unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor of **Senate Bill 489**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 489** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Assembly Bill 501

Relating to: procedural changes for applications under the Clean Water Fund Program and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program.

Representative Subeck asked unanimous consent to be added as a coauthor of **Assembly Bill 501**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Bill 501** be laid on the table. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Senate Bill 588** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Senate Bill 588

Relating to: various changes to insurance laws, including issuance of funding agreements, granting rule-making authority, and providing a penalty.

The question was: Shall **Senate Bill 588** be ordered to a third reading?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 588** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Senate Bill 588** having been read three times, shall the bill be concurred in?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 588** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Assembly Bill 622

Relating to: various changes to insurance laws, including issuance of funding agreements, granting rule-making authority, and providing a penalty.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Bill 622** be laid on the table. Granted.

Representative Moore Omokunde asked unanimous consent that his leave of absence be lifted. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Senate Bill 621** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Senate Bill 621

Relating to: legislative redistricting.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 621** offered by Representative Vos.

The question was: Shall Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 621** be adopted?

The roll was taken.

The result follows:

Ayes - Representatives Andraca, Baldeh, Considine, Doyle, Emerson, Hebl, McGuire, B. Meyers, Milroy, Ohnstad, Pope, Riemer, S. Rodriguez, Shankland, Shelton, Sinicki, Snodgrass, Stubbs, Subeck, Vining and Vruwink - 21.

Noes - Representatives Allen, Anderson, Armstrong, August, Behnke, Billings, Born, Bowen, Brandtjen, Brooks, Brostoff, Cabral-Guevara, Cabrera, Callahan, Conley, Dallman, Dittrich, Drake, Duchow, Edming, Goyke, Gundrum, Haywood, Hesselbein, Hintz, Hong, Horlacher, James, Katsma, Kerkman, Kitchens, Knodl, Krug, Kuglitsch, Kurtz, Loudenbeck, Macco, Magnafici, Moore Omokunde, Moses, Murphy, Mursau, L. Myers, Neubauer, Neylon, Novak, Oldenburg, Ortiz-Velez, Penterman, Petersen, Petryk, Plumer, Pronschinske, Ramthun, J. Rodriguez, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Skowronski, Snyder, Sortwell, Spiros, Spreitzer, Steffen, Steineke, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, Tranel, Tusler, VanderMeer, Vorpagel, Wichgers, Wittke, Zimmerman and Speaker Vos - 77.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000056

Absent or not voting - Representative Tauchen - 1.

Motion failed.

CALL OF THE ASSEMBLY

Representative L. Myers requested a call of the Assembly under Assembly Rule 83. There were sufficient seconds. The Sergeant at Arms was directed to close the doors and the Chief Clerk to call the roll.

Representative L. Myers withdrew her motion for a call of the Assembly. Granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Representative Spreitzer asked unanimous consent for a leave of absence for part of today's session for Representative Stubbs. Granted.

The question was: Shall **Senate Bill 621** be ordered to a third reading?

Motion carried.

Representative Spiros in the chair.

Representative Stubbs asked unanimous consent that her leave of absence be lifted. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 621** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Senate Bill 621** having been read three times, shall the bill be concurred in?

The roll was taken.

The result follows:

Ayes - Representatives Allen, Armstrong, August, Behnke, Born, Brandtjen, Brooks, Cabral-Guevara, Callahan, Dallman, Dittrich, Duchow, Edming, Gundrum, Horlacher, James, Katsma, Kerkman, Kitchens, Knodl, Krug, Kuglitsch, Kurtz, Loudenbeck, Macco, Magnafici, Moses, Murphy, Mursau, Neylon, Novak, Oldenburg, Penterman, Petersen, Petryk, Plumer, Pronschinske, Ramthun, J. Rodriguez, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Skowronski, Snyder, Sortwell, Spiros, Steffen, Steineke, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, Tranel, Tusler, VanderMeer, Vorpagel, Wichgers, Wittke, Zimmerman and Speaker Vos - 60.

Noes - Representatives Anderson, Andraca, Baldeh, Billings, Bowen, Brostoff, Cabrera, Conley, Considine, Doyle, Drake, Emerson, Goyke, Haywood, Hebl, Hesselbein, Hintz, Hong, McGuire, B. Meyers, Milroy, Moore Omokunde, L. Myers, Neubauer, Ohnstad, Ortiz-Velez, Pope, Riemer, S. Rodriguez, Shankland, Shelton, Sinicki, Snodgrass, Spreitzer, Stubbs, Subeck, Vining and Vruwink - 38.

Absent or not voting - Representative Tauchen - 1.

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 621** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Assembly Bill 624
Relating to: legislative redistricting.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Bill 624** be laid on the table. Granted.

Speaker Pro Tempore August in the chair.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Senate Bill 622** be withdrawn from today's calendar and taken up at this time. Granted.

Senate Bill 622
Relating to: congressional redistricting.

The question was: Shall **Senate Bill 622** be ordered to a third reading?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 622** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Senate Bill 622** having been read three times, shall the bill be concurred in?

The roll was taken.

The result follows:

Ayes - Representatives Allen, Armstrong, August, Behnke, Born, Brandtjen, Brooks, Cabral-Guevara, Callahan, Dallman, Dittrich, Duchow, Edming, Gundrum, Horlacher, James, Katsma, Kerkman, Kitchens, Knodl, Krug, Kuglitsch, Kurtz, Loudenbeck, Macco, Magnafici, Moses, Murphy, Mursau, Neylon, Novak, Oldenburg, Penterman, Petersen, Petryk, Plumer, Pronschinske, Ramthun, J. Rodriguez, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Skowronski, Snyder, Sortwell, Spiros, Steffen, Steineke, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, Tranel, Tusler, VanderMeer, Vorpagel, Wichgers, Wittke, Zimmerman and Speaker Vos - 60.

Noes - Representatives Anderson, Andraca, Baldeh, Billings, Bowen, Brostoff, Cabrera, Conley, Considine, Doyle, Drake, Emerson, Goyke, Haywood, Hebl, Hesselbein, Hintz, Hong, McGuire, B. Meyers, Milroy, Moore Omokunde, L. Myers, Neubauer, Ohnstad, Ortiz-Velez, Pope, Riemer, S. Rodriguez, Shankland, Shelton, Sinicki, Snodgrass, Spreitzer, Stubbs, Subeck, Vining and Vruwink - 38.

Absent or not voting - Representative Tauchen - 1.

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 622** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Assembly Bill 625
Relating to: congressional redistricting.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Bill 625** be laid on the table. Granted.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000057

Assembly Bill 682

Relating to: grant related to the Verso Paper Mill in the city of Wisconsin Rapids, loan guarantee related to the Park Falls Pulp and Paper Mill in the city of Park Falls, substance abuse prevention on certain public projects, and granting rule-making authority.

The question was: Shall **Assembly Bill 682** be ordered engrossed and read a third time?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Assembly Bill 682** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Assembly Bill 682** having been read three times, shall the bill be passed?

The roll was taken.

The result follows:

Ayes - Representatives Allen, Anderson, Andraca, Armstrong, August, Baldeh, Behnke, Billings, Born, Bowen, Brandtjen, Brooks, Cabral-Guevara, Cabrera, Callahan, Conley, Considine, Dallman, Dittrich, Doyle, Drake, Duchow, Edming, Emerson, Goyke, Gundrum, Haywood, Hebl, Hesselbein, Hintz, Hong, Horlacher, James, Katsma, Kerkman, Kitchens, Knodl, Krug, Kuglitsch, Kurtz, Loudenbeck, Macco, Magnafici, McGuire, B. Meyers, Milroy, Moore Omokunde, Moses, Murphy, Mursau, L. Myers, Neubauer, Neylon, Novak, Ohnstad, Oldenburg, Ortiz-Velez, Penterman, Petersen, Petryk, Plumer, Pope, Pronschinske, Ramthun, Riemer, J. Rodriguez, S. Rodriguez, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Shankland, Shelton, Sinicki, Skowronski, Snodgrass, Snyder, Spiros, Spreitzer, Steffen, Steineke, Stubbs, Subeck, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, Tranel, Tusler, VanderMeer, Vining, Vorpagel, Vruwink, Wichgers, Wittke, Zimmerman and Speaker Vos - 96.

Noes - Representatives Brostoff and Sortwell - 2.

Absent or not voting - Representative Tauchen - 1.

Motion carried.

Representatives Bowen and Tusler asked unanimous consent to be added as coauthors of **Assembly Bill 682**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Assembly Bill 682** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Senate Bill 71

Relating to: storage and processing of sexual assault kits and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

The question was: Shall **Senate Bill 71** be ordered to a third reading?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 71** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Senate Bill 71** having been read three times, shall the bill be concurred in?

Motion carried.

Representative Kitchens asked unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor of **Senate Bill 71**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 71** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Senate Bill 94

Relating to: tracking of sexual assault kits in sexual assault cases, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation.

The question was: Shall **Senate Bill 94** be ordered to a third reading?

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 94** be given a third reading. Granted.

The question was: **Senate Bill 94** having been read three times, shall the bill be concurred in?

The roll was taken.

The result follows:

Ayes - Representatives Allen, Anderson, Andraca, Armstrong, August, Baldeh, Behnke, Billings, Born, Bowen, Brandtjen, Brooks, Brostoff, Cabral-Guevara, Cabrera, Callahan, Conley, Considine, Dallman, Dittrich, Doyle, Drake, Duchow, Edming, Emerson, Goyke, Gundrum, Haywood, Hebl, Hesselbein, Hintz, Hong, Horlacher, James, Katsma, Kerkman, Kitchens, Knodl, Krug, Kuglitsch, Kurtz, Loudenbeck, Macco, Magnafici, McGuire, B. Meyers, Milroy, Moore Omokunde, Moses, Murphy, Mursau, L. Myers, Neubauer, Neylon, Novak, Ohnstad, Oldenburg, Ortiz-Velez, Penterman, Petersen, Petryk, Plumer, Pope, Pronschinske, Ramthun, Riemer, J. Rodriguez, S. Rodriguez, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Shankland, Shelton, Sinicki, Skowronski, Snodgrass, Snyder, Sortwell, Spiros, Spreitzer, Steffen, Steineke, Stubbs, Subeck, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, Tranel, Tusler, VanderMeer, Vining, Vorpagel, Vruwink, Wichgers, Wittke, Zimmerman and Speaker Vos - 98.

Noes - None.

Absent or not voting - Representative Tauchen - 1.

Motion carried.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 94** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Senate Bill 425

Relating to: authorization for metropolitan sewerage districts containing a first class city to finance and construct a dredged material management facility located in the city of Milwaukee

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000058

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Bill 425** be withdrawn from the Senate message and taken up at this time.

Representative Spreitzer objected.

Senate Joint Resolution 74

Relating to: observing November 11, 2021, as Veterans Day and honoring all veterans who have served our state and country.

The question was: Shall **Senate Joint Resolution 74** be concurred in?

Motion carried.

Representative Billings asked unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor of **Senate Joint Resolution 74**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Joint Resolution 74** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

Assembly Joint Resolution 94

Relating to: observing November 11, 2021, as Veterans Day and honoring all veterans who have served our state and country.

Representative Billings asked unanimous consent to be added as a coauthor of **Assembly Joint Resolution 94**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that **Assembly Joint Resolution 94** be laid on the table. Granted.

Senate Joint Resolution 72

Relating to: proclaiming the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The question was: Shall **Senate Joint Resolution 72** be concurred in?

Motion carried.

Representative Tusler asked unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor of **Senate Joint Resolution 72**. Granted.

Representative Steineke asked unanimous consent that the rules be suspended and that **Senate Joint Resolution 72** be immediately messaged to the Senate. Granted.

VISITORS

During today's session, the following visitors honored the Assembly by their presence and were welcomed by the presiding officer and the members:

A-Team member Kelly Yoss of Edgerton, guest of Representative Vruwink.

Bishop Dr. Godfrey Stubbs, husband and guest of Representative Stubbs.

Clifton Pinder and Calvanique Spence from Nassau Bahamas, guests of Representative Stubbs.

Willie and Jacqueline Holman of Madison, guests of Representative Stubbs.

Carol and Drew Beckley, parents and guests of Representative Vining.

A-Team members from Oconomowoc and Fort Atkinson, guests of Representative Dittrich.

Sam Goldstein, intern and guest of Representative Shankland.

Julie Smith and Jimmy Nelson of KANDU Industries in Janesville, guests of Representative Conley.

Helen Nager, Nicholas Edward Nager, Tamara Kelley, Sean Kelley, Ron Kelley, Tom McKenna, Diane Remeika, Larry Hamlin, and Oni Weaver, guests of Representative Hebl.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Edming asked unanimous consent that the Assembly adjourn in honor of his grandson, Riley, who graduated from Great Lakes Naval Basic Training Center and is now a sailor in the U.S. Navy. Granted.

Representative Hebl asked unanimous consent that the Assembly adjourn in honor of Paul Hebl, on the occasion of his birthday on November 19. Granted.

Representative Hebl asked unanimous consent that the Assembly adjourn in honor of Lynn Koloditch, on the occasion of her birthday on November 26. Granted.

Representative Hebl asked unanimous consent that the Assembly adjourn in honor of the birth of his granddaughter, Emelia Lynn Uhlenhake, born on September 4th to his daughter Jenny Hebl and Kyle Uhlenhake. Granted.

Representative Hebl asked unanimous consent that the Assembly adjourn in honor of Judith Curley, on the occasion of her 80th birthday. Granted.

Representative Hebl asked unanimous consent that the Assembly adjourn in honor of Rolf Wegenke of Sun Prairie, on the occasion of his retirement as President of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. Granted.

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Steineke moved that the Assembly stand adjourned pursuant to **Senate Joint Resolution 1**.

The question was: Shall the Assembly stand adjourned?

Motion carried.

The Assembly stood adjourned. 4:08 P.M.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000059

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Assembly Journal

One-Hundred and Fifth Regular Session

MONDAY, November 15, 2021

The Chief Clerk makes the following entries under the above date:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee on **Campaigns and Elections** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 21

Relating to: aids to counties and municipalities for certain special election costs and making an appropriation.

Passage:
Ayes: 9 - Representatives Brandtjen, Sanfelippo, Tusler, Thiesfeldt, Murphy, Rozar, Spreitzer, Emerson and Subeck.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JANEL BRANDTJEN
Chairperson
Committee on Campaigns and Elections

The committee on **Colleges and Universities** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 291

Relating to: University of Wisconsin commencement ceremonies.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 11 - Representatives Murphy, Dallman, Tranel, Duchow, Wittke, Summerfield, Krug, Petryk, Cabral-Guevara, Moses and Emerson.
Noes: 4 - Representatives Hesselbein, Anderson, Shankland and Stubbs.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 10 - Representatives Murphy, Dallman, Tranel, Duchow, Wittke, Summerfield, Krug, Petryk, Cabral-Guevara and Moses.
Noes: 5 - Representatives Hesselbein, Anderson, Emerson, Shankland and Stubbs.

To committee on **Rules**.

DAVID MURPHY
Chairperson
Committee on Colleges and Universities

The committee on **Constitution and Ethics** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 303

Relating to: prohibiting businesses from discriminating against customers due to vaccination record.

Passage:
Ayes: 6 - Representatives Wichgers, Thiesfeldt, Allen, Ramthun, Magnafici and Murphy.
Noes: 3 - Representatives Hebl, Cabrera and Pope.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 309

Relating to: prohibiting discrimination based on vaccination status.

Passage:
Ayes: 6 - Representatives Wichgers, Thiesfeldt, Allen, Ramthun, Magnafici and Murphy.
Noes: 3 - Representatives Hebl, Cabrera and Pope.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 316

Relating to: prohibiting discrimination based on whether the person has received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Passage:
Ayes: 6 - Representatives Wichgers, Thiesfeldt, Allen, Ramthun, Magnafici and Murphy.
Noes: 3 - Representatives Hebl, Cabrera and Pope.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 347

Relating to: prohibiting University of Wisconsin System institutions and technical colleges from requiring testing for, or vaccination against, the 2019 novel coronavirus.

Passage:
Ayes: 6 - Representatives Wichgers, Thiesfeldt, Allen, Ramthun, Magnafici and Murphy.
Noes: 3 - Representatives Hebl, Cabrera and Pope.

To committee on **Rules**.

CHUCK WICHGERS
Chairperson
Committee on Constitution and Ethics

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000060

The committee on **Corrections** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 214

Relating to: refusing or tampering with a global positioning system tracking device and providing a penalty.

Passage:
Ayes: 10 - Representatives Schraa, Callahan, Brandtjen, Snyder, James, Sortwell, Tittl, Bowen, Goyke and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 216

Relating to: measuring a school district's improvement for the school and school district accountability report.

Passage:
Ayes: 9 - Representatives Schraa, Callahan, Brandtjen, Snyder, James, Sortwell, Tittl, Bowen and Stubbs.
Noes: 1 - Representative Goyke.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 228

Relating to: excluding time for evaluation and treatment of certain medical conditions from the time limit for emergency detention without a hearing.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 8 - Representatives Schraa, Callahan, Brandtjen, Snyder, James, Tittl, Goyke and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 9 - Representatives Schraa, Callahan, Brandtjen, Snyder, James, Tittl, Bowen, Goyke and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 397

Relating to: the use of billboards to recruit Department of Corrections employees.

Passage:
Ayes: 10 - Representatives Schraa, Callahan, Brandtjen, Snyder, James, Sortwell, Tittl, Bowen, Goyke and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

MICHAEL SCHRAA
Chairperson
Committee on Corrections

The committee on **Criminal Justice and Public Safety** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 114

Relating to: boards of police and fire commissioners and protective services departments in populous cities.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 8 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, Krug, Steffen and Callahan.
Noes: 3 - Representatives McGuire, Bowen and Drake.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 8 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, Krug, Steffen and Callahan.
Noes: 3 - Representatives McGuire, Bowen and Drake.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 127

Relating to: sexual contact by a law enforcement officer with a person in detainment or custody and providing a penalty.

Passage:
Ayes: 13 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Sortwell, Duchow, Novak, James, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen, Drake, Emerson and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 199

Relating to: conducting juvenile proceedings by telephone or audiovisual means and appearance at any criminal proceeding by telephone or audiovisual means.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 14 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Sortwell, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, James, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen, Drake, Emerson and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 14 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Sortwell, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, James, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen, Drake, Emerson and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 225

Relating to: reckless handling of a vaccine or drug and providing a penalty.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 11 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, Krug, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen and Drake.
Noes: 0.

Assembly Amendment 2 adoption:
Ayes: 11 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, Krug, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen and Drake.
Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 11 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, Krug, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen and Drake.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 251

Relating to: impersonating a public officer, public employee, or employee of a utility and providing a penalty.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000061

Passage:
Ayes: 14 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Sortwell, Duchow, Novak, Schraa, James, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen, Drake, Emerson and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 400
Relating to: responses to reports relating to elder adults at risk and adults at risk.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 14 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Sortwell, Duchow, Novak, Krug, James, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen, Drake, Emerson and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 14 - Representatives Spiros, Horlacher, Sortwell, Duchow, Novak, Krug, James, Steffen, Callahan, McGuire, Bowen, Drake, Emerson and Stubbs.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JOHN SPIROS
Chairperson
Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

The committee on **Education** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 122
Relating to: microschools.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 7 - Representatives Thiesfeldt, Kitchens, Jagler, Ramthun, Wichgers, Duchow and Rozar.
Noes: 6 - Representatives Wittke, Pope, Considine, Hebl, L. Myers and Vruwink.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 7 - Representatives Thiesfeldt, Kitchens, Jagler, Ramthun, Wichgers, Duchow and Rozar.
Noes: 6 - Representatives Wittke, Pope, Considine, Hebl, L. Myers and Vruwink.

To committee on **Rules**.

JEREMY THIESFELDT
Chairperson
Committee on Education

The committee on **Environment** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 140
Relating to: expanding the clean sweep program to include collection of certain fire fighting foams and making an appropriation.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:
Ayes: 8 - Representatives Kitchens, Tusler, Oldenburg, Novak, Kuglitsch, Hebl, Anderson and Behnke.
Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:
Ayes: 8 - Representatives Kitchens, Tusler, Oldenburg, Novak, Kuglitsch, Hebl, Anderson and Behnke.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JOEL KITCHENS
Chairperson
Committee on Environment

The committee on **Financial Institutions** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 167
Relating to: requiring the Department of Financial Institutions to study and report on establishing a section 529A ABLE savings account program.

Passage:
Ayes: 8 - Representatives Duchow, Katsma, Allen, Murphy, Horlacher, Doyle, Brostoff and B. Meyers.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

CINDI DUCHOW
Chairperson
Committee on Financial Institutions

The committee on **Health** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 292
Relating to: composition of local boards of health.

Passage:
Ayes: 13 - Representatives Sanfelippo, Summerfield, Wichgers, VanderMeer, Skowronski, Murphy, Magnafici, Dittrich, Moses, Cabral-Guevara, Subeck, Riemer and Anderson.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 296
Relating to: funding for free and charitable clinics and defining telehealth.

Passage:
Ayes: 13 - Representatives Sanfelippo, Summerfield, Wichgers, VanderMeer, Skowronski, Murphy, Magnafici, Dittrich, Moses, Cabral-Guevara, Subeck, Riemer and Anderson.
Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JOE SANFELIPPO
Chairperson
Committee on Health

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000062

The committee on **Regulatory Licensing Reform** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 298

Relating to: license fee waivers for veterans' spouses.

Passage:

Ayes: 8 - Representatives Sortwell, Allen, Horlacher, Knodl, Cabral-Guevara, Dallman, Brostoff and Baldeh.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

SHAE SORTWELL
Chairperson
Committee on Regulatory Licensing Reform

The committee on **Substance Abuse and Prevention** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 41

Relating to: opioid and methamphetamine data system and making an appropriation.

Passage:

Ayes: 9 - Representatives James, Magnafici, Snyder, Plumer, Petryk, Gundrum, Billings, Ortiz-Velez and Shelton.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 317

Relating to: modifying administrative rules relating to driver safety plans and medication-assisted treatments.

Passage:

Ayes: 8 - Representatives James, Snyder, Plumer, Petryk, Gundrum, Billings, Ortiz-Velez and Shelton.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JESSE JAMES
Chairperson
Committee on Substance Abuse and Prevention

The committee on **Transportation** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 263

Relating to: discontinuance of certain special group plates.

Passage:

Ayes: 13 - Representatives Plumer, Spiros, Vorpagel, Thiesfeldt, Skowronski, Brooks, Callahan, Rozar, Considine, Moore Omokunde, Ortiz-Velez, Shelton and Snodgrass.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JON PLUMER
Chairperson
Committee on Transportation

The committee on **Ways and Means** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 227

Relating to: extending the time during which tax increments may be allocated and expenditures for project costs may be made for Tax Incremental District Number 2 in the city of Wisconsin Dells and extending the time during which expenditures for project costs may be made for Tax Incremental District Number 3 in the city of Wisconsin Dells.

Assembly Amendment 1 adoption:

Ayes: 13 - Representatives Macco, Wittke, Kerkman, Knodl, Snyder, Dittrich, Ramthun, Brooks, Armstrong, McGuire, Conley, Ohnstad and Riemer.

Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:

Ayes: 13 - Representatives Macco, Wittke, Kerkman, Knodl, Snyder, Dittrich, Ramthun, Brooks, Armstrong, McGuire, Conley, Ohnstad and Riemer.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

JOHN MACCO
Chairperson
Committee on Ways and Means

REFERRAL OF VETOES

Assembly Bill 173

Relating to: private resources used for election administration, appointment of election officials, and providing a penalty.

By Representatives Neylon, Duchow, Magnafici, Edming, Steffen, Spiros, Krug, Knodl, Brooks, Sortwell, Gundrum, Murphy, Jagler, Wichgers and VanderMeer; cosponsored by Senators Stroebel, Roth, Darling, Marklein, Jacque, Wanggaard, Bradley, Nass, Ballweg and Felzkowski.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 191

Relating to: eliminating the personal property tax and making an appropriation.

By Representatives Knodl, Armstrong, Allen, Brandtjen, Brooks, Cabral-Guevara, Callahan, Dallman, Dittrich, Duchow, Edming, Gundrum, Horlacher, James, Krug, Kuglitsch, Magnafici, Moses, Murphy, Neylon, Novak, Oldenburg, Pronschinske, Ramthun, Rozar, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Skowronski, Sortwell, Summerfield, Tauchen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, VanderMeer, Wichgers and Zimmerman; cosponsored by Senators Stroebel, Testin, Felzkowski, Jacque, Marklein, Nass, Wanggaard and Feyen.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 293

Relating to: restrictions on enforcing federal laws regulating firearms, firearm accessories, and ammunition, the use of public resources to confiscate firearms, and providing a penalty.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000063

By Representatives Pronschinske, August, Armstrong, Brandtjen, Cabral-Guevara, Callahan, Dallman, Edming, Gundrum, Horlacher, James, Kuglitsch, Magnafici, Moses, Murphy, Neylon, Novak, Rozar, Schraa, Skowronski, Sortwell, Steffen, Summerfield, Swearingen, Thiesfeldt, Tittl, VanderMeer, Vorpagel, Wichgers, Jagler, Tauchen, Allen and Born; cosponsored by Senators Felzkowski, Bernier, Jacque, Marklein, Nass, Roth and Wanggaard.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 367

Relating to: loan for the purchase of the Verso Paper Mill in the city of Wisconsin Rapids.

By Representatives Krug, Edming, Snyder, Callahan, Rozar, Spiros, VanderMeer, James and Mursau; cosponsored by Senators Testin, Felzkowski and Ballweg.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 369

Relating to: timeline for local redistricting in Wisconsin following the 2020 federal decennial census.

By committee on **State Affairs**

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 383

Relating to: school district membership in an interscholastic athletic association in the 2021-22 school year.

By Representatives Kuglitsch, Dittrich, Brandtjen, Duchow, Edming, Knodl, Magnafici, Murphy, Pronschinske and Rozar; cosponsored by Senators Jagler, Roth, Ballweg, Nass, Stroebel and Wimberger.

To committee on **Rules**.

COMMUNICATIONS

November 15, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 600, relating to state aid payments for pupils in grades kindergarten to 12 who transfer schools due to the existence or absence of mandates regarding pupil face coverings or COVID-19 vaccines; school district membership in an interscholastic athletic association in the 2021-22 school year; and making an appropriation.

Sincerely,
ROBERT BROOKS
State Representative
60th Assembly District

November 15, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 527, relating to authorizing community solar programs and granting rule-making authority.

Sincerely,
SAMBA BALDEH
State Representative
48th Assembly District

November 15, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 106, relating to eliminating certain abortion prohibitions.

Sincerely,
SUPREME MOORE OMOKUNDE
State Representative
17th Assembly District

November 15, 2021

Edward A. Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel:

Please add my name as a co-author of Assembly Bill 656, relating to qualification of international medical graduates to practice medicine and surgery.

Please add my name as a co-sponsor of Senate Bill 570, relating to limiting civil liability for firearm, firearm accessory, and ammunition manufacturers, distributors, importers, trade associations, sellers, and dealers.

Sincerely,
DAVID MURPHY
State Representative
56th Assembly District

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000064

From: "Martyn, Julie" <Julie.Martyn@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021, 4:41 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients:;
Subject: Assembly Journal November 11
Attachments: aj21_11_11.pdf

November 11 Regular Session Day Journal

Julie Martyn
Assembly Journal Clerk
17 W. Main St. Suite 401 | Madison, WI 53703
608-266-2406 | Julie.Martyn@legis.wisconsin.gov

<<aj21_11_11.pdf>>

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: "Martyn, Julie" <Julie.Martyn@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 11:18 AM
To: Undisclosed recipients:;
Subject: Assembly Journal November 15
Attachments: aj21_11_15.pdf

November 15 Chief Clerk Journal

Julie Martyn
Assembly Journal Clerk
17 W. Main St. Suite 401 | Madison, WI 53703
608-266-2406 | Julie.Martyn@legis.wisconsin.gov

<<aj21_11_15.pdf>>

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From: NCSL TODAY <ncsltoday@news.ncsl.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 9:49 AM
To: Cody Horlacher <rep.horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Biden signs infrastructure bill into law at rare bipartisan gathering

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NCSL Today

Daily news docket and resources for state legislators and staff

Nov. 16, 2021

CNN

Biden signs infrastructure bill into law at rare bipartisan gathering

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President Joe Bidenon Monday signed into law a $1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package and marked the major legislative victory at a White House event with lawmakers from both parties.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Jersey eyes financial breaks for Atlantic City casinos

New Jersey lawmakers are proposing financial relief for Atlantic City's casinos to help them continue to recover from the coronavirus pandemic by exempting two of the industry's fastest-growing revenue streams from calculations on how much the casinos should pay the city.

Read more

NASHVILLE TENNESSEEAN

Federal judge: Tennessee's new law on mask mandate law remains on hold

A court order blocking the implementation of a new Tennessee law preventing schools from issuing mask orders will remain in effect, likely throughat least Thanksgiving, as arguments in a lawsuit continue.

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Related:

Florida GOP moves to combat vaccine mandates

Idaho lawmakers meet to take on federal vaccine mandates

NCSL RESOURCE

NCSL statement on the bipartisan infrastructure investment and jobs act

"As the owners and operators of much of the nation's interconnected surface transportation systems, states know the importance of funding certainty for our country's infrastructure, and state legislators are grateful for the partnership with the federal government and the large investment that the bipartisan infrastructure package represents."

Read more

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma Legislature convenes redistricting special session

The Oklahoma Legislature convened aspecial sessionon Monday to approve new maps for the state's legislative and congressional districts, while hundreds of protesters descended on the Capitol to express their opposition to vaccine mandates.

GOVERNING

Anticipationgrows for Illinois high-speed rail project

With the passage of the federal infrastructure bill, transportation leaders in Illinois are gaining hope that the high-speed rail project that would connect Chicago to St. Louis can gain momentum.

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NCSL RESOURCE

Capitol to Capitol: Urge Congress to pass federal COVID aid flexibility

This strongly bipartisan bill from Representatives Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.) and Carolyn Bourdeaux (D-Ga.) would provide new flexibilities to states to spend the federal COVID-19 funds received under the American Rescue Plan Act on surface transportation infrastructure, disaster mitigation, and emergency response.

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BOMA International

The Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International is the leading professional association advancing a vibrant commercial real estate sector. We are a federated network of 86 local associations throughout the U.S., representing all commercial building types. As a recent example of the policy resources we provide, click below for our whitepaper on the tragic condominium collapse in Surfside.

Read more

Forward to a Friend

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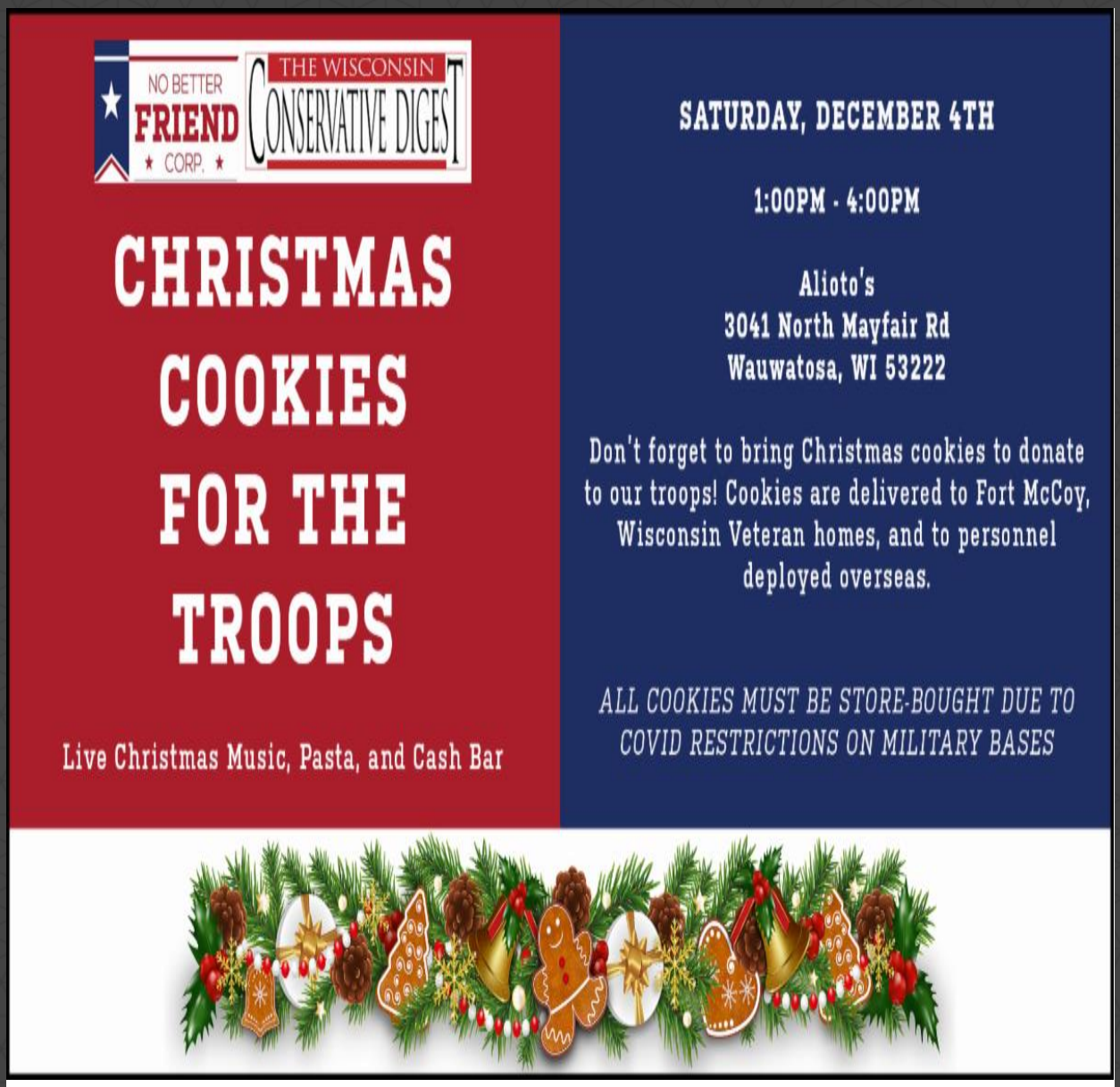
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Cookies for the Troops

Join Wisconsin Conservative Digest and No Better Friend Corp. at our Christmas Cookies for the Troops Christmas Party!

Don't forget to bring Christmas cookies to donate to our troops! Store bought cookies, ONLY.ALL COOKIES ARE DELIVERED TO TROOPS AT BASES

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This is also a Christmas Party so there will be food and cookies. The mostaccioli is free. Refreshments/Drinks are for purchase at the bar. There will be live Christmas theme music by Mrs. Southeastern Wisconsin Mrs. Cheryl McCrary. Christmas Sweaters are encouraged.

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Join No Better Friend Corp., The Wisconsin Conservative Digest, NRA, Republican Women of Greater Milwaukee, Pro-Life Wisconsin, and American Majority for a FREE Christmas Party at Clifford's Supper Club!

Free pizza will be provided and a cash bar will be available.

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Writer
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Monday, December 6, 2021 | 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts

3270 Mitchell Park Dr. | Brookfield, WI

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$125	*1 ticket to keynote speech and cocktail hour with food and beverages*
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Please RSVP no later than Monday, November 22

by clicking **here** **OR** send us a check made payable to **The MacIver Institute**.
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John K. MacIver Institute | 10 E. Doty St., Suite 800 | Madison, WI 53703

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Legislative Council confirms

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

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The scope of this audit included:

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- efforts by clerks to comply with election laws, including by administering elections, processing absentee ballots, and performing recount responsibilities, as well as the observations and concerns of clerks regarding elections administration;
- the use of electronic voting equipment, including the methodology and results of WEC's most-recent statutorily required post-election audit and the actions taken as a result of this audit; and
- General Election-related complaints filed with WEC and clerks, as well as how these complaints were addressed.

One of many things that makes Wisconsin unique is our decentralized election administration system. In fact, roughly 1 in 5 of all local election officials nationwide are in Wisconsin. That makes large-scale, coordinated "rigging" of our elections theoretically more difficult than in other states, but it also creates some logistical challenges.

In particular, we desperately need to ensure that elections administration is uniform statewide so all ballots are treated equally. The report identifies several areas in which practices and procedures differed across municipalities, often due to guidance from the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) which did not go through appropriate review channels.

The audit resulted in 30recommendations, of which18 would require legislative action. I look forward to studying this report in greater detail and working with my colleagues to make sure our elections are administrated as securely as possible.

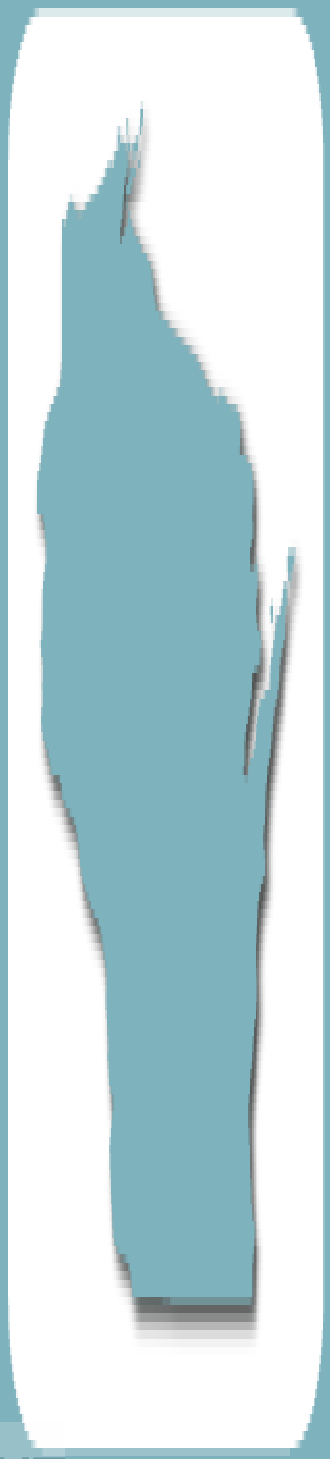
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(Joe Handrick is the Executive Director of Common Sense Wisconsin, and they led the fight that handed Gov. Evers a bipartisan lost on one of his top priorities: Redistricting)

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The China Threat



Will the U.S. Risk War with China to Save Taiwan?

By David A. Keene

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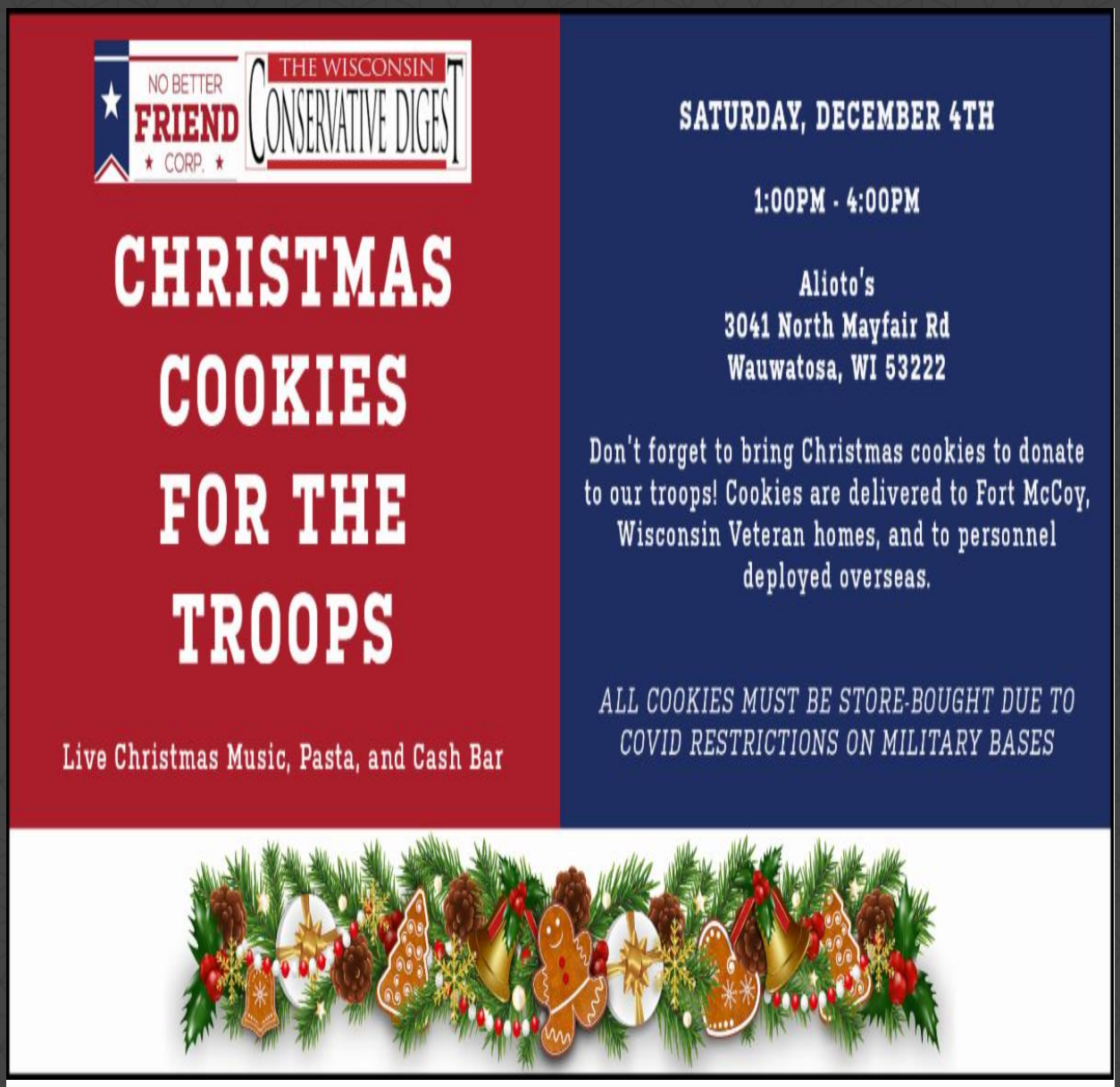
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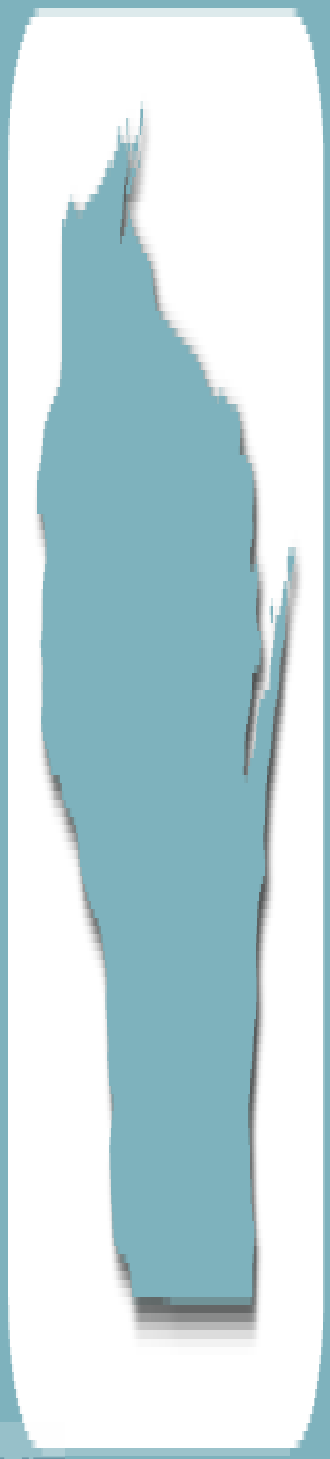
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Daily news docket and resources for state legislators and staff **Nov. 17, 2021**

STATELINE

Cryptocurrency fraud soars, spurring state action

While legitimate currencies such as Bitcoin can offer good, if often volatile, returns, scam artists are proficient at separating unwise investors from their money. Enforcement actions have been taken in a

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variety of other states, and bills to regulate, control or otherwise get a handle on the cryptocurrency market have been moving through legislatures as well. **NCSL data cited.**

Read more

NCSL resources on 2021 cryptocurrency legislation

SEATTLE TIMES

Washington redistricting commission admits failure to meet deadlines for new maps

The failure of the bipartisan panel means the state's election maps for the next decade — beginning with the 2022 midterms — will be in the hands of the state Supreme Court, which will have until April 30 to draw new boundaries.

Read more

NCSL resources on Congressional redistricting commissions

THE HILL

Tiny Missouri town is now the center of America

The population center of the United States is near a tiny town in rural Missouri with just 613 residents, the U.S. Census Bureau said Tuesday. The calculation of a population center, released every 10 years after the decennial census is taken, identifies the average point where Americans live.

Read more

NCSL RESOURCE

NCSL Town Hall | 11 a.m. ET | State and local impact of the Supreme Court

What impact may the Supreme Court have on state and local governments? Tune into our conversation with Lisa Soronen, Director of the State and Local Legal Center, to gain fresh insight into relevant 2021 cases.

Read more

OREGON PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Some Oregon food banks are feeling effects of supply chain

Across the country, supply chain snags are causing shortages in food. In Oregon, similar issues are emerging, but the effects can vary in different parts of the state.

NASHVILLE PUBLIC RADIO

Tennessee may funnel big money into dental schools in hopes of getting grads into rural areas

A proposal from the Tennessee Department of Health would expand dental school class sizes and forgive tuition for those who end up working in high-need areas. The five-year, $94 million pilot

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Read more

project was floated to Gov. Bill Leeduring this month's budget hearings.

Read more

NCSL rural health resources

STATE LEGISLATURES NEWS

Lawmaker pumps pedals to raise funds for storm-ravaged district

A beautiful sight awaited Tennessee Senator Kerry Roberts as he finished his 100-mile bicycle ride in the town square of flood-ravaged Waverly in Humphreys County, Tenn. People. Hundreds of people, crowding businesses that had been on the brink of closing after flooding caused by Hurricane Ida wrecked the small town in late August.



Read more

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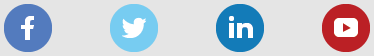


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From: "Soper, John" <John.Soper@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021, 3:55 PM

To: "Gillitzer, Erin" <erin.gillitzer@legis.wi.gov>; "Beighley, Jeffrey" <Jeffrey.Beighley@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Anderson, Cyrus" <Cyrus.Anderson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Franke, Alex" <Alex.Franke@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Macaulay, Lisa" <Lisa.Macaulay@legis.wisconsin.gov>

*Cc: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>*

Subject: Executive Session of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Legal Review and Consumer Protection

Attachments: Executive_Notice_11-4-21_Government_Operations,_Legal_Review_and_Consumer_Protection.docx

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Senate

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee on Government Operations, Legal Review and Consumer Protection

---

The committee will hold an executive session on the following items at the time specified below:

Thursday, November 4, 2021
10:00 AM
411 South

Senate Bill 621
Relating to: legislative redistricting.
By Senator LeMahieu; cosponsored by Representative Vos.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Senate Bill 622

Relating to: congressional redistricting.

By Senator LeMahieu; cosponsored by Representative Vos.

Senate Bill 574

Relating to: qualified bidders on state projects.

By Senators Stroebel, Cowles, Feyen and Jagler; cosponsored by Representatives J. Rodriguez, Callahan, Dallman, Edming, Horlacher, Katsma, Knodl, Rozar, Schraa, Thiesfeldt, Vorpagel, Wittke, Allen and VanderMeer.

Senate Bill 525

Relating to: censorship on social media platforms and providing a penalty.

By Senators Bradley, Nass, Darling, Stroebel and Testin; cosponsored by Representatives Horlacher, Callahan, Allen, Armstrong, Brandtjen, Cabral-Guevara, Dittrich, Edming, Gundrum, Knodl, Kuglitsch, Macco, Magnafici, Moses, Penterman, Rozar, Schraa, Tusler, VanderMeer, Wichgers and Steffen.

Senate Joint Resolution 58

Relating to: applying to Congress under Article V of the Constitution of the United States for a convention to propose an amendment providing that the Supreme Court of the United States shall be composed of 9 justices.

By Senators Bradley, Wimberger, Felzkowski and Marklein; cosponsored by Representatives Kurtz, Brandtjen, Cabral-Guevara, Dittrich, Horlacher, Krug, Kuglitsch, Magnafici, Moses, Ramthun, Rozar, Steffen, Tusler and Wichgers.

Duey Stroebel

Senator Duey Stroebel
Chair

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

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Duey Stroebel

Senator Duey Stroebel
Chair

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*** *RULES COMMITTEE NOTICE* ***

DATE: November 9, 2021

TO: Rules Committee Members, Interested Parties

FROM: Majority Leader Jim Steineke

RE: **Finalized Calendar for Thursday, November 11th**

The Assembly committee on Rules has scheduled the following legislation for session ***convening at 10:00 A.M.*** **on Thursday, November 11th.**

Please note that Representatives Kurtz, L. Myers, and Sanfelippo will be hosting hometown heroes.

The Rules committee has established the following debate times:

15 minutes: AB 622
30 minutes: AB 501
45 minutes: SB 71
90 minutes: AB 682 and SB 622
330 minutes: SB 621

Finalized Calendar for Thursday, November 11th

AR19 Magnafici
Relating to: the life and public service of Ann Marie Hraychuck.

AJR64 Hebl / Roys
Relating to: commending the life of Ed Nager.

AJR94 Skowronski / Wimberger
Relating to: observing November 11, 2021, as Veterans Day and honoring all veterans who have served our state and country.

SJR69 Nass / Dittrich
Relating to: recognizing Employment Choice First as a means to preserve the dignity, self-esteem, and pride of individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin.

SJR72 Darling / Emerson
Relating to: proclaiming the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

SJR74 Wimberger / Skowronski
Relating to: observing November 11, 2021, as Veterans Day and honoring all veterans who have served our state and country.

AB501 Kitchens / Cowles (30 minutes)
Relating to: procedural changes for applications under the Clean Water Fund Program and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program.
Committee on Government Accountability and Oversight 8-0.

AB622 Petersen / Felzkowski (15 minutes)
Relating to: various changes to insurance laws, including issuance of funding agreements, granting rule-making authority, and providing a penalty.
Committee on Insurance 11-0.

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Continued Finalized Calendar for Thursday, November 11th

AB624 Vos / LeMahieu
Relating to: legislative redistricting.
Committee on State Affairs 8-4.

AB625 Vos / LeMahieu
Relating to: congressional redistricting.
Committee on State Affairs 8-4.

AB682 Krug / Bewley (90 minutes)
Relating to: grant related to the Verso Paper Mill in the city of Wisconsin Rapids, loan guarantee related to the Park Falls Pulp and Paper Mill in the city of Park Falls, substance abuse prevention on certain public projects, and granting rule-making authority.
Committee on Forestry, Parks and Outdoor Recreation 12-0.

SB71 Cowles / Steffen (45 minutes)
Relating to: storage and processing of sexual assault kits and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety 7-0. Passed Senate by voice vote.

SB94 Darling / Thiesfeldt
Relating to: tracking of sexual assault kits in sexual assault cases, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation.
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety 7-0. Passed Senate: 32-0.

SB489 Cowles / Kitchens
Relating to: procedural changes for applications under the Clean Water Fund Program and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program.
Senate Committee on Utilities, Technology and Telecommunications 5-0. Passed Senate by voice vote.

SB588 Felzkowski / Petersen
Relating to: various changes to insurance laws, including issuance of funding agreements, granting rule-making authority, and providing a penalty.
Senate Committee on Insurance, Licensing and Forestry 5-0. Passed Senate by voice vote.

SB621 LeMahieu / Vos (330 minutes)
Relating to: legislative redistricting.
Senate Committee on Government Operations, Legal Review and Consumer Protection 3-2. Passed Senate: 21-12.

SB622 LeMahieu / Vos (90 minutes)
Relating to: congressional redistricting.
Senate Committee on Government Operations, Legal Review and Consumer Protection 3-2. Passed Senate: 21-12.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: "Rep.Steineke" <Rep.Steineke@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 3:43 PM

To: Undisclosed recipients:;

Subject: Finalized Calendar for Thursday, November 11th

Attachments: Finalized Calendar for November 11, 2021.pdf

*** *RULES COMMITTEE NOTICE* ***

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 9:01 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: FRI AM Update: Panelists talk redistricting; Blank defends critical race theory reference in training course

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FRI AM Update -- 19 Nov. 2021

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Wisconsin REALTORS Association

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- The state Supreme Court and the Voting Rights Act combined with Dem-packed cities likely will give Republicans an edge in the redistricting process now that Gov. Tony Evers has vetoed the GOP-drawn maps.

That's according to two Republicans who were part of a WisPolitics.com luncheon discussion yesterday in Madison.

Former Republican Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen and Executive Director of Common Sense Wisconsin Joe Handrick, a former GOP lawmaker, speculated the conservative court could just accept the GOP maps rather than try to draw its own district lines and that federal courts may be reluctant to get involved.

Former Dem Senate Majority Leader Chuck Chvala said a Republican-leaning court along with the traditional protection of majority-minority districts will hurt Dems because it packs many of their voters into solid blue areas. He hoped for a surprise move toward

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bipartisanship from Justices Pat Roggensack and Brian Hagedorn.

Chvala also said the Voting Rights Act is used as a "hammer" to beat minority voters into districts, which hurts Democrats because those populations can't be brought into other districts to create more competitive races.

Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org, said courts will make sure any final maps are compliant with legal criteria, which she supports. But she added through that process, "we just continue to see wasted votes."

"There isn't real representation when your votes are just diluted," Treviño added.

Jensen said Dems want to reinterpret the act to maximize the chances of Dems being elected instead of maximizing the chances of minorities being elected.

"I mean the dirty secret here is that the Democrats' strategy requires them to reduce the number of seats the minorities are likely to get elected to in the Legislature, yet they claim to be their champions," Jensen added.

Handrick said Dems need to use the same gerrymandering they complain about to have a chance at winning more seats. But, "the only way you get competitive districts, or a lot of them, is to gerrymander."

"So what do you want? Do you want fair districts, do you want balanced districts, competitive districts or do you want to end gerrymandering?"

Panelists panned Evers' People's Maps Commission, saying the effort and a subsequent vote that split Assembly Dems could hurt Dems in court.

But Treviño said truly independent commissions are beneficial because they remove elected officials from the process.

Listen to the luncheon here:
https://soundcloud.com/wispolitics/wispoliticscom-luncheon-panel-on-wisconsin-redistricting?si=4988415d487847b2815a470fc0dc5216

-- Wisconsin's delegates split along party lines as the House passed a roughly $2 trillion social spending bill.

The vote was 220-211.

See the roll call here:
https://clerk.house.gov/Votes/2021383?Page=1

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-- UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank is defending a reference to critical race theory in mandatory training on sexual violence prevention for graduate and professional students, writing the purpose is to make sure they understand it, not that they agree with it.

In a letter to Blank earlier this week, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, wrote it was unacceptable to require a "mandatory class that instills the university's negative opinion of white students and the idea that students should feel guilty simply because of their race."

GOP guv candidate Rebecca Kleefisch highlighted the training in a social media video last month, and Vos sent the letter after retweeting the post. In her video, Kleefisch highlighted slides from the training, including one that lists whites, Christians, men, native English speakers and citizens as privileged groups.

Blank wrote in yesterday's letter to Vos the two-hour webinar was created in response to a 2016 American Association of Universities survey that indicated UW grad students weren't well-informed about campus policies and resources related to sexual misconduct. She added the section mentioning critical race theory focused on understanding how "marginalized individuals and groups are often disproportionately impacted by sexual violence."

"It is inaccurate to suggest, as some have, that asking students to take a quiz to ensure they
understand the concepts taught in the webinar is tantamount to asking them to agree with a certain set of beliefs," Blank wrote.

"It is the role of an educational institution to expose students to a variety of educational concepts, but it is the role of the student to determine what and how to think about those concepts."

Read Blank's letter:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211118Blank.pdf

Read Vos' letter:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211116Vos.pdf

See Kleefisch's video:
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=SMS-UNK-UNK-UNK-IOS_GK0T-GK1C&v=572041244028788

-- In this week's Republican radio address, Rep. Warren Petryk, R-Town of Washington, highlighted National Youth Apprenticeship Week.

"The youth apprenticeship program began in 1991 as a school-to-work initiative to help

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students
explore potential career paths and prepare them for the workforce," he said. "This program connects high school juniors and seniors with participating employers, allowing them to work during school hours and giving them a chance to explore careers and perform the skills required by that industry in a hands-on manner."

Petryk added that he hopes youth apprenticeship programs can strengthen the Wisconsin workforce and recommended that interested students reach out to their school counselor to learn more.

Listen to the address:
https://www.wi-broadcasters.org/wp-content/uploads/11.17.2021-Radio-Address-Audio-Only.wav

-- In this week's Democratic radio address, Gov. Tony Evers highlighted a $20 million grant program that's part of DWD's Worker Advancement Initiative.

"These funds will help us get folks into the workforce by providing grants to subsidize employment and provide skill training opportunities for local employers for folks whose previous employment never came back after the pandemic," he said. "And it'll help those who weren't in our workforce even before this pandemic began."

This funding will go to 11 regions across the state and will help over 2,300 Wisconsinites facing barriers to employment.

Listen to the address:
https://www.wi-broadcasters.org/wp-content/uploads/Gov-Evers-Address-%E2%80%94-November-18-2021.mp

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

TOP HEADLINES

WI governor vetoes redistricting maps, calls them 'gerrymandering 2.0'
... the first rejection of redistricting maps this year, according to Cook Political Report. ... drawn by Republicans, would have given the GOP a four-seat majority in the eight-district state, effectively solidifying Republican control for the next decade. ... Before the Assembly even gave the bills the greenlight, however, the governor said he would reject the new lines. ... on Thursday said he was "delivering on that promise" ... Democrats proposed a separate set of maps last week, which would have given the party a 17-16 majority in the Senate, but it failed in a vote mainly along party lines, in addition to a pair of maps that were drawn by a commission established by Evers. Evers in a video: "the gerrymandered maps Republicans passed a decade ago have enabled legislators to safely ignore the people who elected them. And these maps here, they're more of the same. They're gerrymandering 2.0. This was about elected officials having the courage to do the right thing when it mattered most. And the members of this Legislature failed to deliver. So, with that, I'm now vetoing SB 621 and SB 622. These gerrymandered maps will not become law. ... Our state deserves better, and we're going to keep working as long as I'm governor to bring fair maps to Wisconsin." State Supreme Court will now preside over next steps, issuing a Nov. 17, 221 letter to WILL and WDOJ, "The court intends to issue an opinion on or about November 30, 2021, answering the first three questions posed in this court's order dated October 14, 2021. ... on or before 12:00 noon on December 15, 2021, each party (including all intervenors) may file a proposed map (for state assembly, state senate, and congress) ... on or before 12:00 noon on December 30, 2021, each party may file a responsive brief ... Any motion for leave with the proposed non-party brief attached shall be filed no later than 12:00 noon on January 4, 2022. ... on or before 12:00 noon on January 4, 2022, each party may file a reply brief." Dem suit sits before 3-judge federal panel, which has deferred to primacy of state court.
https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/582261-wisconsin-governor-vetoes-redistricting-maps-calls-them-gerrymandering

Sexual assault kit bills arrive at Gov. Evers' desk after bumpy political road
... final approval ... last week ... comes more than six years after [WDOJ] discovered the existence of more than 6,000 untested sexual assault kits ... some of which were several decades old. During Assembly debate last week, Rep. David Steffen hailed "long overdue" bills, Rep. Thiesfeldt touted "a victim's rights bill." Both bills passed Senate last session but were unified and altered by Assembly, which Senate never took up and faced veto threat. Sen. Cowles hailed bipartisanship in this year's reintro of original bills. Spokesperson for Evers confirmed Thursday he plans to sign them.
https://www.wpr.org/long-overdue-sexual-assault-kit-bills-arrive-gov-tony-evers-desk-after-bumpy-political-road

Prominent state executives back WMC amicus brief against federal vaccine mandate
... [QPS Employment, ITU Absorbtech] were included in the amicus brief [supporting WILL suit] filed Wednesday ... among seven companies that provided declarations explaining what they view as the "harmful effects" the employee vaccine mandate would have ... [WMC CE Bauer said] amicus brief had the unanimous support of the

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organization's board ... declined to disclose the names of WMC board members but provided the names of the board's officers [Kwik Trip VP Loehr, Johnson Bank Pres. Defnet, MB&F partner Krutz, Waupaca Foundry CEO Nikolai] ... "For Wisconsin businesses, not only is this mandate unlawful, it is unworkable," Bauer said. "If enacted, most employers would not be able to comply with the rigorous requirements and, to make matters worse, workers would end up walking off the job." ... executive from Johnson Bank [said] the bank has not taken a formal position on the federal mandate. Twin Disc CEO Batten is quoted in WMC"s release, "The OSHA ETS (emergency temporary standard) is an unfair burden and expense on employers like Twin Disc and poses a huge, unnecessary risk of not maintaining continuous production during the ETS if unvaccinated employees ... could walk across the street or drive across town to another employer with fewer than 100 employees and not have to do either [vax or test]?" ... While WMC members overwhelmingly oppose the federal mandate, a number of large employers in Southeast Wisconsin have enacted their own employee vaccine mandates including health care systems, Manpower, Fiserv, GE Healthcare, Molson Coors, BMO Harris. OSHA rule has been stayed since Nov. 12.
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/18/kwik-trip-johnson-bank-execs-back-challenge-of.html

Deliberations in Rittenhouse trial end without verdict for a third day
[opening pic of Sheriff Beth handing out cookies and coffee to media, protesters and onlookers at Courthouse.] ... On Thursday, jurors arrived at 9 a.m. and went straight into deliberations. ... remained at work throughout the day, never sending out any questions ... [before dismissing them, Schroeder asked if any questions.] One of the seven women [jurors asked] if she could take the jury instructions home for the night. ... He decided they could. "But you obviously can't talk to anyone about them." Defense atty. Richard worried jurors could try to do research on the questions at home. Asst. DA Binger asked to ensure they did not bring home trial notes, Schroeder sent bailiff to ensure that. Reviews charges for 3 men shot plus 2 men shot at, 2 pending mistrial motions. Kenosha atty. Bieleski agreed with Schroeder decision to wait on verdict, "If there's a verdict that is favorable to the defense, they may drop a mistrial motion ... If the jury hangs, they have to start over anyway. ... If the decision is unfavorable to the defense they will certainly push the issue and have already made their records for appeal."
https://www.kenoshanews.com/442dd01c-22cd-56c2-9d48-a6ecec110c35.html

Milwaukee alders voice concerns about proposed state marijuana legislation
... [Sortwell/Ortiz-Velez bill] would require a number of communities to lower their maximum fines. However, places like Milwaukee ... would see the penalty rise for those caught with 14 grams or less. ... leaves it up to local officials to set penalties for possessing more than 14 grams ... supported part of the bill that reduces the possibility of felony charges for repeat offenses. ... "This would make things much worse here in Milwaukee -- a diverse community where the numbers show huge historical disparities in the fines, charges and incarceration rates for black and brown people for possessing marijuana," [pres. Johnson, Alds. Kovac, Hamilton, Bauman, Dodd, Zamarripa, Lewis, Murphy, Pérez, Dimitrijevic, Stamper] said in a statement Thursday. Rep. Ortiz-Velez, also a county supv.: "The amount that we're losing is basically minuscule to all of the

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benefits that we're getting," including removing a patchwork of penalties across the state and limiting the liability of employers.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/19/milwaukee-council-members-voice-concerns-proposed-marijuana-bill/8670868002/

Ways and Means Committee members debate Biden's social spending bill cost
Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI) joins CNBC's 'Squawk Box' to discuss the price tag for Democrats' social spending bill, merits, extraneous items and McCarthy's lengthy speech. 7:07 video
https://www.cnbc.com/video/2021/11/19/ways-and-means-committee-members-debate-bidens-social-spending-bill-cost.html

Parents suing Kettle Moraine School District over gender identity policy
... [WILL, Alliance Defending Freedom filed suit in Waukesha for 2 sets of parents] in response to a [KMSD] policy that allows students, including minors, to determine their names and gender pronouns used in the school without parental consent. ... One set of parents ... allege their 12-year-old daughter "began to question her gender in December 2020" and was allowed to identify by a male name and pronouns while at school. "The family sought professional and medical support for her, and after extensive research, decided that immediately transitioning would not be in her best interest," [WILL] said. "They communicated this directly to [KMSD] staff in January 2021, and asked staff to continuing referring to their daughter using her legal name and female pronouns. But the [KMSD] refused to honor their decision." ... The family removed their daughter from the school. NO info available on other family. KMSD declined comment.
https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/diversity-inclusion/582194-parents-suing-wisconsin-school-district-over

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.: IBAW: Small business cyber security program.
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21119-IBAW.pdf

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https://web.mmac.org/events/WTAGlobal%20Compliance%20Roundtable-3976/details

- 9:30 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 9:01 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: FRI AM Update: Panelists talk redistricting; Blank defends critical race theory reference in training course

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FRI AM Update -- 19 Nov. 2021

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Wisconsin REALTORS Association

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- The state Supreme Court and the Voting Rights Act combined with Dem-packed cities likely will give Republicans an edge in the redistricting process now that Gov. Tony Evers has vetoed the GOP-drawn maps.

That's according to two Republicans who were part of a WisPolitics.com luncheon discussion yesterday in Madison.

Former Republican Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen and Executive Director of Common Sense Wisconsin Joe Handrick, a former GOP lawmaker, speculated the conservative court could just accept the GOP maps rather than try to draw its own district lines and that federal courts may be reluctant to get involved.

Former Dem Senate Majority Leader Chuck Chvala said a Republican-leaning court along with the traditional protection of majority-minority districts will hurt Dems because it packs many of their voters into solid blue areas. He hoped for a surprise move toward

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bipartisanship from Justices Pat Roggensack and Brian Hagedorn.

Chvala also said the Voting Rights Act is used as a "hammer" to beat minority voters into districts, which hurts Democrats because those populations can't be brought into other districts to create more competitive races.

Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org, said courts will make sure any final maps are compliant with legal criteria, which she supports. But she added through that process, "we just continue to see wasted votes."

"There isn't real representation when your votes are just diluted," Treviño added.

Jensen said Dems want to reinterpret the act to maximize the chances of Dems being elected instead of maximizing the chances of minorities being elected.

"I mean the dirty secret here is that the Democrats' strategy requires them to reduce the number of seats the minorities are likely to get elected to in the Legislature, yet they claim to be their champions," Jensen added.

Handrick said Dems need to use the same gerrymandering they complain about to have a chance at winning more seats. But, "the only way you get competitive districts, or a lot of them, is to gerrymander."

"So what do you want? Do you want fair districts, do you want balanced districts, competitive districts or do you want to end gerrymandering?"

Panelists panned Evers' People's Maps Commission, saying the effort and a subsequent vote that split Assembly Dems could hurt Dems in court.

But Treviño said truly independent commissions are beneficial because they remove elected officials from the process.

Listen to the luncheon here:
https://soundcloud.com/wispolitics/wispoliticscom-luncheon-panel-on-wisconsin-redistricting?si=4988415d487847b2815a470fc0dc5216

-- Wisconsin's delegates split along party lines as the House passed a roughly $2 trillion social spending bill.

The vote was 220-211.

See the roll call here:
https://clerk.house.gov/Votes/2021383?Page=1

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-- UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank is defending a reference to critical race theory in mandatory training on sexual violence prevention for graduate and professional students, writing the purpose is to make sure they understand it, not that they agree with it.

In a letter to Blank earlier this week, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, wrote it was unacceptable to require a "mandatory class that instills the university's negative opinion of white students and the idea that students should feel guilty simply because of their race."

GOP guv candidate Rebecca Kleefisch highlighted the training in a social media video last month, and Vos sent the letter after retweeting the post. In her video, Kleefisch highlighted slides from the training, including one that lists whites, Christians, men, native English speakers and citizens as privileged groups.

Blank wrote in yesterday's letter to Vos the two-hour webinar was created in response to a 2016 American Association of Universities survey that indicated UW grad students weren't well-informed about campus policies and resources related to sexual misconduct. She added the section mentioning critical race theory focused on understanding how "marginalized individuals and groups are often disproportionately impacted by sexual violence."

"It is inaccurate to suggest, as some have, that asking students to take a quiz to ensure they
understand the concepts taught in the webinar is tantamount to asking them to agree with a certain set of beliefs," Blank wrote.

"It is the role of an educational institution to expose students to a variety of educational concepts, but it is the role of the student to determine what and how to think about those concepts."

Read Blank's letter:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211118Blank.pdf

Read Vos' letter:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211116Vos.pdf

See Kleefisch's video:
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=SMS-UNK-UNK-UNK-IOS_GK0T-GK1C&v=572041244028788

-- In this week's Republican radio address, Rep. Warren Petryk, R-Town of Washington, highlighted National Youth Apprenticeship Week.

"The youth apprenticeship program began in 1991 as a school-to-work initiative to help

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students
explore potential career paths and prepare them for the workforce," he said. "This program connects high school juniors and seniors with participating employers, allowing them to work during school hours and giving them a chance to explore careers and perform the skills required by that industry in a hands-on manner."

Petryk added that he hopes youth apprenticeship programs can strengthen the Wisconsin workforce and recommended that interested students reach out to their school counselor to learn more.

Listen to the address:
https://www.wi-broadcasters.org/wp-content/uploads/11.17.2021-Radio-Address-Audio-Only.wav

-- In this week's Democratic radio address, Gov. Tony Evers highlighted a $20 million grant program that's part of DWD's Worker Advancement Initiative.

"These funds will help us get folks into the workforce by providing grants to subsidize employment and provide skill training opportunities for local employers for folks whose previous employment never came back after the pandemic," he said. "And it'll help those who weren't in our workforce even before this pandemic began."

This funding will go to 11 regions across the state and will help over 2,300 Wisconsinites facing barriers to employment.

Listen to the address:
https://www.wi-broadcasters.org/wp-content/uploads/Gov-Evers-Address-%E2%80%94-November-18-2021.mp

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

TOP HEADLINES

WI governor vetoes redistricting maps, calls them 'gerrymandering 2.0'
... the first rejection of redistricting maps this year, according to Cook Political Report. ... drawn by Republicans, would have given the GOP a four-seat majority in the eight-district state, effectively solidifying Republican control for the next decade. ... Before the Assembly even gave the bills the greenlight, however, the governor said he would reject the new lines. ... on Thursday said he was "delivering on that promise" ... Democrats proposed a separate set of maps last week, which would have given the party a 17-16 majority in the Senate, but it failed in a vote mainly along party lines, in addition to a pair of maps that were drawn by a commission established by Evers. Evers in a video: "the gerrymandered maps Republicans passed a decade ago have enabled legislators to safely ignore the people who elected them. And these maps here, they're more of the same. They're gerrymandering 2.0. This was about elected officials having the courage to do the right thing when it mattered most. And the members of this Legislature failed to deliver. So, with that, I'm now vetoing SB 621 and SB 622. These gerrymandered maps will not become law. ... Our state deserves better, and we're going to keep working as long as I'm governor to bring fair maps to Wisconsin." State Supreme Court will now preside over next steps, issuing a Nov. 17, 221 letter to WILL and WDOJ, "The court intends to issue an opinion on or about November 30, 2021, answering the first three questions posed in this court's order dated October 14, 2021. ... on or before 12:00 noon on December 15, 2021, each party (including all intervenors) may file a proposed map (for state assembly, state senate, and congress) ... on or before 12:00 noon on December 30, 2021, each party may file a responsive brief ... Any motion for leave with the proposed non-party brief attached shall be filed no later than 12:00 noon on January 4, 2022. ... on or before 12:00 noon on January 4, 2022, each party may file a reply brief." Dem suit sits before 3-judge federal panel, which has deferred to primacy of state court.
https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/582261-wisconsin-governor-vetoes-redistricting-maps-calls-them-gerrymandering

Sexual assault kit bills arrive at Gov. Evers' desk after bumpy political road
... final approval ... last week ... comes more than six years after [WDOJ] discovered the existence of more than 6,000 untested sexual assault kits ... some of which were several decades old. During Assembly debate last week, Rep. David Steffen hailed "long overdue" bills, Rep. Thiesfeldt touted "a victim's rights bill." Both bills passed Senate last session but were unified and altered by Assembly, which Senate never took up and faced veto threat. Sen. Cowles hailed bipartisanship in this year's reintro of original bills. Spokesperson for Evers confirmed Thursday he plans to sign them.
https://www.wpr.org/long-overdue-sexual-assault-kit-bills-arrive-gov-tony-evers-desk-after-bumpy-political-road

Prominent state executives back WMC amicus brief against federal vaccine mandate
... [QPS Employment, ITU Absorbtech] were included in the amicus brief [supporting WILL suit] filed Wednesday ... among seven companies that provided declarations explaining what they view as the "harmful effects" the employee vaccine mandate would have ... [WMC CE Bauer said] amicus brief had the unanimous support of the

organization's board ... declined to disclose the names of WMC board members but provided the names of the board's officers [Kwik Trip VP Loehr, Johnson Bank Pres. Defnet, MB&F partner Krutz, Waupaca Foundry CEO Nikolai] ... "For Wisconsin businesses, not only is this mandate unlawful, it is unworkable," Bauer said. "If enacted, most employers would not be able to comply with the rigorous requirements and, to make matters worse, workers would end up walking off the job." ... executive from Johnson Bank [said] the bank has not taken a formal position on the federal mandate. Twin Disc CEO Batten is quoted in WMC"s release, "The OSHA ETS (emergency temporary standard) is an unfair burden and expense on employers like Twin Disc and poses a huge, unnecessary risk of not maintaining continuous production during the ETS if unvaccinated employees ... could walk across the street or drive across town to another employer with fewer than 100 employees and not have to do either [vax or test]?" ... While WMC members overwhelmingly oppose the federal mandate, a number of large employers in Southeast Wisconsin have enacted their own employee vaccine mandates including health care systems, Manpower, Fiserv, GE Healthcare, Molson Coors, BMO Harris. OSHA rule has been stayed since Nov. 12.
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/18/kwik-trip-johnson-bank-execs-back-challenge-of.html

Deliberations in Rittenhouse trial end without verdict for a third day
[opening pic of Sheriff Beth handing out cookies and coffee to media, protesters and onlookers at Courthouse.] ... On Thursday, jurors arrived at 9 a.m. and went straight into deliberations. ... remained at work throughout the day, never sending out any questions ... [before dismissing them, Schroeder asked if any questions.] One of the seven women [jurors asked] if she could take the jury instructions home for the night. ... He decided they could. "But you obviously can't talk to anyone about them." Defense atty. Richard worried jurors could try to do research on the questions at home. Asst. DA Binger asked to ensure they did not bring home trial notes, Schroeder sent bailiff to ensure that. Reviews charges for 3 men shot plus 2 men shot at, 2 pending mistrial motions. Kenosha atty. Bieleski agreed with Schroeder decision to wait on verdict, "If there's a verdict that is favorable to the defense, they may drop a mistrial motion ... If the jury hangs, they have to start over anyway. ... If the decision is unfavorable to the defense they will certainly push the issue and have already made their records for appeal."
https://www.kenoshanews.com/442dd01c-22cd-56c2-9d48-a6ecec110c35.html

Milwaukee alders voice concerns about proposed state marijuana legislation
... [Sortwell/Ortiz-Velez bill] would require a number of communities to lower their maximum fines. However, places like Milwaukee ... would see the penalty rise for those caught with 14 grams or less. ... leaves it up to local officials to set penalties for possessing more than 14 grams ... supported part of the bill that reduces the possibility of felony charges for repeat offenses. ... "This would make things much worse here in Milwaukee -- a diverse community where the numbers show huge historical disparities in the fines, charges and incarceration rates for black and brown people for possessing marijuana," [pres. Johnson, Alds. Kovac, Hamilton, Bauman, Dodd, Zamarripa, Lewis, Murphy, Pérez, Dimitrijevic, Stamper] said in a statement Thursday. Rep. Ortiz-Velez, also a county supv.: "The amount that we're losing is basically minuscule to all of the

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benefits that we're getting," including removing a patchwork of penalties across the state and limiting the liability of employers.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/19/milwaukee-council-members-voice-concerns-proposed-marijuana-bill/8670868002/

Ways and Means Committee members debate Biden's social spending bill cost
Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI) joins CNBC's 'Squawk Box' to discuss the price tag for Democrats' social spending bill, merits, extraneous items and McCarthy's lengthy speech. 7:07 video
https://www.cnbc.com/video/2021/11/19/ways-and-means-committee-members-debate-bidens-social-spending-bill-cost.html

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https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 10:08 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: FRI News Summary: Evers vetoes “gerrymandering 2.0” GOP redistricting maps; Rittenhouse case jury deliberations continue

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FRI News Summary -- 19 Nov. 2021

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Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/fri-news-summary-evers-vetoes-gerrymandering-2-0-gop-redistricting-maps-rittenhouse-case-jury-deliberations-continue/

STORY TOPICS

- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- Federal government
- Local government
- Census
- Civil liberties
- Courts
- Economy
- Education

TOP STORIES

WI governor vetoes redistricting maps, calls them 'gerrymandering 2.0'

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- Elections
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- Media
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- Small business
- Taxes
- Technology
- Tourism
- Transportation
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- Columns

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Deliberations in Rittenhouse trial end without verdict for a third day

[opening pic of Sheriff Beth handing out cookies and coffee to media, protesters and onlookers at Courthouse.] ... On Thursday, jurors arrived at 9 a.m. and went straight into deliberations. ... remained at work throughout the day, never sending out any questions ... [before dismissing them, Schroeder asked if any questions.] One of the seven women [jurors asked] if she could take the jury instructions home for the night. ... He decided they could. "But you obviously can't talk to anyone about them." Defense atty. Richard worried jurors could try to do research on the questions at home. Asst. DA Binger asked to ensure they did not bring home trial notes, Schroeder sent bailiff to ensure that. Reviews charges for 3 men shot plus 2 men shot at, 2 pending mistrial motions. Kenosha atty. Bieleski agreed with Schroeder decision to wait on verdict, "If there's a verdict that is favorable to the defense, they may drop a mistrial motion ... If the jury hangs, they have to start over anyway. ... If the decision is unfavorable to the defense they will certainly push the issue and have already made their records for appeal." By Smith, KENOSHA NEWS https://www.kenoshanews.com/442dd01c-22cd-56c2-9d48-a6ecec110c35.html

11/17/2021 COVID data summary from DHS, WHA

... 841,023 confirmed cases, 8,833 confirmed deaths, 967 probable deaths, 7-day avg. deaths 16 - 3,604 more cases, 20 more deaths, 21,003 more negative tests since Wednesday ... WHA reports 3,503 more cases, 4,348 more negative tests since Wednesday, 51 more deaths this week ... 1,233 are currently hospitalized, 51 more, 327 in ICU, 1 less - than Wednesday] ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 2,963 -

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2,576 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 10.8% including multiple testers] ... 6,583,656 doses of the vaccines have been administered ... 83.7% age 65-up, 45.9% of 12-15 are fully vaccinated. ... 3,227,544 [55.4%] have received both shots ... [updated 11/17] 16 counties have "critically high" level, 52 counties have "very high" level ... 25 counties had "growing" level," Kewaunee and Marquette counties had "shrinking," 45 "no significant change" ... NW Region had "critically high" level, 6 regions had "Very High" 5 "growing" and 2 "no significant change." Top 10 Counties for cases per 100K: Menominee 21,422.3, Barron, Dodge, Chippewa, Polk, Fond du Lac, Jackson, Oconto, Langlade, Pepin 16,563.7 [Milwaukee 15,103.1, Dane 10,780.6].
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/data.htm
https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update

##########
STORY TOPICS
##########

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^
- Rittenhouse jury to return for 4th day of deliberations [Tarm, Bauer, Forliti]
https://apnews.com/27f812ba532d65c044617483c915e4de

- Rittenhouse case raises question: What makes a fair trial? [Forliti, Johnson, Richmond]
https://apnews.com/aed653b7f5157373e4e8139734e2ce13

- How long will Kyle Rittenhouse jury deliberate? It's already outlasted some high-profile cases [see Columns]
https://www.kenoshanews.com/fd4e712c-ac7f-5075-9e67-27e286491ca3.html

- The jury's verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial could hinge on the ruling of two mistrial motions: Baraboo atty. Martinez comments.
https://www.wpr.org/jurys-verdict-kyle-rittenhouse-trial-could-hinge-ruling-two-mistrial-motions

- Anthony Huber's girlfriend says Kyle Rittenhouse's verdict won't change what happened, but it can set precedent, Hannah Gittings wants to sit down with Rittenhouse, his mother
https://www.wpr.org/anthony-hubers-girlfriend-says-kyle-rittenhouses-verdict-wont-change-what-happened-it-can-set

- David Axelrod calls Rittenhouse judge 'defense attorney on the bench'
https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/581565-david-axelrod-calls-rittenhouse-judge-defense-attorney-on-the-bench?amp

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- Rittenhouse judge accuses freelance reporter for MSNBC of tailing jury van: NBC issued explanatory statement
https://www.cnbc.com/video/2021/11/18/rittenhouse-judge-accuses-freelance-reporter-for-msnbc-of-tailing-jury-van.html

- Police believe freelance journalist with NBC News tried photographing Rittenhouse jury
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/18/police-believe-freelance-reporter-tried-photographing-rittenouse-jury/8670388002/

CORONAVIRUS ^top^
- WI's Covid Condition: The pandemic hits its worst levels since 2020, The number of new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations across WI is growing rapidly as the holiday season begins for a second consecutive year, and health officials continue urging people who aren't vaccinated to do so to protect their loved ones and stave off more crisis conditions in hospitals.
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/wisconsins-covid-condition-the-pandemic-hits-its-worst-levels-since-2020/

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Ways and Means Committee members debate Biden's social spending bill cost, Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI) joins CNBC's 'Squawk Box' to discuss the price tag for Democrats' social spending bill, merits, extraneous items and McCarthy's lengthy speech. 7:07 video
https://www.cnbc.com/video/2021/11/19/ways-and-means-committee-members-debate-bidens-social-spending-bill-cost.html

- Rep. Kind votes for Build Back Better Act, says it 'will deliver for Wisconsinites' ... "The Build Back Better Act is not only fiscally responsible, it will also deliver for Wisconsinites with historic middle-class tax cuts, expanded access to affordable health care, lower child care costs, and millions of good-paying jobs. It's time to level the playing field and invest in working families across the nation." ... said the Build Back Better Act will reduce costs and cut taxes for families by:
• Improving access to child care and caregiving
• Lowering middle-class taxes
• Expanding access to affordable health care
• Investing in affordable clean energy to tackle climate change
* Making long-term investments in education, rural development, workforce training, affordable housing, and more
https://lacrossetribune.com/c174d801-65ff-558f-910d-2d1532f9e5c5.html

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ^top^

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- Ft. Atkinson tax bill has to increase ... [on] property tax levy totaling $8,098,750
https://www.dailyunion.com/aab22235-8d76-5d30-853c-5ad7a2887d29.html

CENSUS *^top^*
- Evers vetoes GOP-drawn WI voting maps ... tees up either the state Supreme Court or a federal three-judge panel to redraw [maps] ... At least one lawsuit is already underway in both courts. ... state's high court has "first dibs on drawing the lines," [UW Law prof.] Yablon told the Cap Times. The state's high court agreed in September to hear [WILL's] case about redistricting. Reviews State Supreme agreement to take case and Dallet dissent, Supreme's call for maps next month for potential Jan. trial, Democracy Docket and Law Forward suit before federal panel of Sykes with Obama- and Trump-appointees, partisan lean of vetoed maps.
https://captimes.com/1c62ebe7-689c-5aaa-b334-d0cdf8496f0b.html

- Evers vetoes Republican redistricting plans, sending maps to Wisconsin Supreme Court: Leader LeMahieu through a spokesman declined comment, spokeswoman for Speaker Vos did not respond
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/18/tony-evers-vetoes-gop-redistricting-plans-sending-maps-to-wisconsin-supreme-court/8664137002/

- Evers vetoed the election maps WI GOP drew. Here is what happens next.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/19/wisconsin-redistricting-whats-next-now-evers-vetoed-gop-maps/8667172002/

- Democrat Evers vetoes Republican-drawn redistricting [Bauer]
https://apnews.com/29104625c253dce689d662383a9a50ab

- [33-1] Dane County Board adopts new, nonpartisan map for voting districts ... drawn by a group of citizens instead of elected officials, preventing incumbents from drawing their districts in a way that would put them at an advantage in upcoming elections. ... will go into effect for the spring election, will likely pit incumbents against each other in next year's election and leave other seats open to be filled by new faces. Dissenter Stubbs voted NO because it had fewer competitive districts for minorities than other options, something she called "disheartening." Sups. Palm abstained, Levin and Peters were absent.
https://madison.com/wsj/f83d84d6-7e32-5a9a-b4b9-da6f3e473037.html

CIVIL LIBERTIES *^top^*
- Milwaukee council members voice concerns about proposed state marijuana legislation ... [Sortwell/Ortiz-Velez bill] would require a number of communities to lower their maximum fines. However, places like Milwaukee ... would see the penalty rise for those caught with 14 grams or less. ... leaves it up to local officials to set penalties for possessing more than 14 grams ... supported part of the bill that reduces the possibility of felony charges for repeat offenses. ... "This would make things much worse here in

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Milwaukee -- a diverse community where the numbers show huge historical disparities in the fines, charges and incarceration rates for black and brown people for possessing marijuana," [pres. Johnson, Alds. Kovac, Hamilton, Bauman, Dodd, Zamarripa, Lewis, Murphy, Pérez, Dimitrijevic, Stamper] said in a statement Thursday. Rep. Ortiz-Velez, also a county supv.: "The amount that we're losing is basically miniscule to all of the benefits that we're getting," including removing a patchwork of penalties across the state and limiting the liability of employers.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/19/milwaukee-council-members-voice-concerns-proposed-marijuana-bill/8670868002/

COURTS *^top^*

- Prominent state executives back WMC amicus brief against federal vaccine mandate ... [QPS Employment, ITU Absorbtech] were included in the amicus brief [supporting WILL suit] filed Wednesday ... among seven companies that provided declarations explaining what they view as the "harmful effects" the employee vaccine mandate would have ... [WMC CE Bauer said] amicus brief had the unanimous support of the organization's board ... declined to disclose the names of WMC board members but provided the names of the board's officers [Kwik Trip VP Loehr, Johnson Bank Pres. Defnet, MB&F partner Krutz, Waupaca Foundry CEO Nikolai] ... "For Wisconsin businesses, not only is this mandate unlawful, it is unworkable," Bauer said. "If enacted, most employers would not be able to comply with the rigorous requirements and, to make matters worse, workers would end up walking off the job." ... executive from Johnson Bank [said] the bank has not taken a formal position on the federal mandate. Twin Disc CEO Batten is quoted in WMC"s release, "The OSHA ETS (emergency temporary standard) is an unfair burden and expense on employers like Twin Disc and poses a huge, unnecessary risk of not maintaining continuous production during the ETS if unvaccinated employees ... could walk across the street or drive across town to another employer with fewer than 100 employees and not have to do either [vax or test]?" ... While WMC members overwhelmingly oppose the federal mandate, a number of large employers in Southeast Wisconsin have enacted their own employee vaccine mandates including health care systems, Manpower, Fiserv, GE Healthcare, Molson Coors, BMO Harris. OSHA rule has been stayed since Nov. 12.
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/18/kwik-trip-johnson-bank-execs-back-challenge-of.html

- After being found not guilty in homicide, man gets 17 years in prison for firing gun ... Joshua Morris, 33, was ultimately sentenced to 17 years in prison for possession of a firearm by a felon, a repeat offense, and first-degree recklessly endangering safety with use of a dangerous weapon, for firing a shot into the air. ... Judge Wynne Laufenberg reiterated Wisconsin Supreme Court case law "that a sentencing court may consider a charge for which the defendant was acquitted in assessing the defendant's character and the need for incarceration and rehabilitation."
https://journaltimes.com/ad874852-36f7-5f9c-90cc-4b47812d2541.html

- Wisconsin Supreme Court won't review Steven Avery's case ... issued a one-page

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letter Wednesday rejecting Avery's request for review without commenting ... receives about 1,000 petitions for review each term but agrees to hear only about 100 cases.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/steven-avery/2021/11/18/making-a-murderer-steven-averys-case-wont-reviewed-wisconsin-supreme-court-says/8667518002/

ECONOMY *^top^*
- Lucrative construction jobs turn students' heads at Madison career fair
https://captimes.com/043f1a43-40e7-5253-9fc9-89551b85cc5f.html

EDUCATION *^top^*
- Parents suing Wisconsin school district over gender identity policy ... [WILL, Alliance Defending Freedom filed suit in Waukesha for 2 sets of parents] in response to a [Kettle Moraine School] district policy that allows students, including minors, to determine their names and gender pronouns used in the school without parental consent. ... One set of parents ... allege their 12-year-old daughter "began to question her gender in December 2020" and was allowed to identify by a male name and pronouns while at school. "The family sought professional and medical support for her, and after extensive research, decided that immediately transitioning would not be in her best interest," [WILL] said. "They communicated this directly to [KMSD] staff in January 2021, and asked staff to continuing referring to their daughter using her legal name and female pronouns. But the [KMSD] refused to honor their decision." ... The family removed their daughter from the school. NO info available on other family. KMSD declined comment.
https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/diversity-inclusion/582194-parents-suing-wisconsin-school-district-over

- Parents sue Wisconsin school district over gender transition policy, The lawsuit by two sets of parents was filed in Waukesha County Circuit Court on Wednesday.
https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/rcna5965

- MPS approves $100 COVID vaccine incentive for students ages 5-11, and $250 staff bonus
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2021/11/18/mps-approves-100-vaccine-incentive-kids-5-11-and-250-staff-bonus/8667936002/

- State report card says Janesville schools met 'few expectations' last year
https://www.gazettextra.com/news/education/state-report-card-says-janesville-schools-met-few-expectations-last-year/article_a4391830-8ceb-561c-b2e4-ab58b19fc69f.html

- Falk analysis: The Sign Wars In Waukesha Schools, "We have a bullying problem," says a Waukesha school board member. ... [BLM sings were followed by Thin Blue Line signs] Rather than sorting out all the differences, [WSD Supt.] Sebert banned all "political" signs including the All Are Welcome rainbow signs ... Supporters of LGBTQ and minority students contend that taking down the signs sent a message that they

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were being marginalized.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/18/the-sign-wars

- Nov. 8 Melee at East High School started with dispute over boy, ended with gunfire
https://madison.com/wsj/e95ba921-da3c-56d0-a236-c63b19f63aea.html

ELECTIONS *^top^*
- PolitiFact: Elections administrator right on who can decide when someone is incompetent to vote ... Wolfe said "Only a court can decide that somebody is incompetent to vote" -- the state Election Commission "cannot force facilities, private facilities, to allow special voting deputies" inside. ... little, if any debate on the first part -- declarations of incompetency are the purview of the courts ... On the second part, Wolfe is on target, but in making the claim muddies the waters a bit on the issue at hand. ... whether ballots could be mailed directly to nursing homes. ... Mostly True.
https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2021/nov/18/meagan-wolfe/elections-administrator-right-who-can-decide-when-/

ENVIRONMENT *^top^*
- Judge [Brantmeier] says DNR broke the law, must allow wolf hunting immediately when protections dropped ... in response to a lawsuit brought by Hunter Nation ... "Today's historic ruling solidifies Wisconsin's constitutional right to hunt and our statutory wolf hunt requirements," [Hunter Nation's] Hilgemann said in a statement. However, a separate court injunction has put the current wolf season on hold while a Dane County judge considers a lawsuit filed in August by a coalition of wildlife advocacy groups seeking to stop the hunt and invalidate the law requiring it. DNR did not respond. [See Eisele column]
https://journaltimes.com/342b44de-566b-5f14-9ba3-89b7331f3923.html

- DNR: Signs point to successful gun deer season in Wisconsin
https://www.leadertelegram.com/b16f5bf2-d774-5974-b650-edf25b6c5f12.html

- WI's deer population is at a critical high, Advocates say hunters, scientists and legislators all have a role to play in managing the state's population of white-tailed deer
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsins-deer-population-critical-high

- Deer license sales on pace of last year's spike
https://www.dailyunion.com/429ef963-f361-5a8a-bb9f-f3e5405316e4.html

- Hunter sets his sights for a successful season
https://lakelandtimes.com/Content/Home/Home/Article/Hunter/-2/-2/48887

- Salmon to Swim Free as Infrastructure Money Flows
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/19/salmon-to-swim-free-as-infrastructure-money-flows

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HEALTH CARE ^top^

- Wisconsin's hospitals are relying heavily on travel nurses, and paying top dollar to staff their institutions ... This is another dynamic that has been greatly exacerbated this time around," said [WHA CEO] Borgerding. "The price of agency staff is going through the roof."... [DHS CMO Westergaard: "Our overall hospital capacity is strained. We've lost a lot of health care workers. We've had early retirements. People are tired. Our hospitals are doing amazing work -- we're able to take care of extremely sick patients and provide high levels of care -- but our capacity to do so is finite."] ... On average, acute care travel nurses can make between $55 to $110 per hour depending on the acuity of their patients, location and specialty they're servicing, said [PMSS owner] Hanoski. US Reps. Cassidy, McKInley, Kelly, Matsui have written to the White House to see if the actions of certain staffing agencies charging "extreme prices" in West Virginia, California, Arizona and Louisiana violates consumer protection laws.
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsins-hospitals-are-relying-heavily-travel-nurses-and-paying-top-dollar-staff-their

LAW AND ORDER ^top^

- 'Long overdue': Sexual assault kit bills arrive at Gov. Tony Evers' desk after bumpy political road ... final approval ... last week ... comes more than six years after [WDOJ] discovered the existence of more than 6,000 untested sexual assault kits ... some of which were several decades old. During Assembly debate last week, Rep. David Steffen hailed "long overdue" bills, Rep. Thiesfeldt touted "a victim's rights bill." Both bills passed Senate last session but were unified and altered by Assembly, which Senate never took up and faced veto threat. Sen. Cowles hailed bipartisanship in this year's reintro of original bills. Spokesperson for Evers confirmed Thursday he plans to sign them.
https://www.wpr.org/long-overdue-sexual-assault-kit-bills-arrive-gov-tony-evers-desk-after-bumpy-political-road

- 'A process of deep reflection,' After taking stock of the 2020 protests, will Madison act on new police recommendations?
https://isthmus.com/news/news/a-process-of-deep-reflection/

- In its first meeting since Norman's swearing-in, the FPC bans the use of no-knock search warrants ... took three actions in what it calls "significant policing reform policies" on Thursday: Banning police officers from seeking and executing no-knock search warrants *Granting whistleblower protection, which clarifies that officers have an affirmative duty to report serious misconduct, protects the reporting officers from retaliation
Adopting a new discipline matrix, which lays out a uniform system of disciplining officers for various violations
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/18/fire-and-police-commission-bans-use-no-knock-search-warrants/8676548002/

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- Religious leaders call on Milwaukee City Attorney Tearman Spencer to fire new hire [DeMasters] tied to anti-Muslim 'hate groups' ... "Would it be acceptable to hire staff who have actively worked to suppress the constitutional rights of Black Americans or Jewish Americans?" the group wrote. "We certainly hope not."
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/18/faith-groups-urge-milwaukee-city-attorney-tearman-spencer-fire-lawyer-anti-muslim-ties/8664947002/

MEDIA ^top^
- Bruce Murphy: Journal Sentinel's Drastic Decline, Sunday and daily subscription numbers continue to plummet.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/16/murphys-law-the-journal

MICHIGAN ^top^
- Higher Love latest to sue Menominee over marijuana retail license denial
https://www.ehextra.com/523f1b6e-886d-5a29-b0f5-8d5e2ddec11f.html

- Menominee Council's response to marijuana lawsuit is tardy, attorney says
https://www.ehextra.com/2f172bdf-21c7-59fc-806a-ac2535a8eb09.html

- New county billboard warns of marijuana use in pregnancy
https://www.ehextra.com/0a72c128-c1c5-5a2e-a980-f3f12c33cb73.html

NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Former ECSD board prez [Luginbill] won't be charged for misusing charity funds
https://www.wpr.org/former-eau-claire-school-board-president-wont-be-charged-misusing-charity-funds

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- DNR scraps groundwater protection effort ... said "the statutory process and associated firm timelines established by the Legislature do not allow adequate time for the department to complete this proposed rule." ... Under the law's timeline, the rule was to go to the policy board and governor this fall before undergoing legislative review this winter. [MEA] called the announcement "a devastating blow for many rural Wisconsin families"
https://madison.com/wsj/4c3fce60-4881-5e3f-998a-9c4274f3e16b.html

SMALL BUSINESS ^top^
- Evers tours Washburn businesses ... AdventureUs was among several Washburn businesses that Evers visited Thursday to see how state grants have helped revitalize downtown. Washburn businesses have received seven of the $10,000 grants given to

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businesses that occupy formerly vacant properties. Photo with caption only
https://www.apg-wi.com/42a1c549-3218-578b-b826-440af342668d.html

- Grants spark Washburn business boom: Seven startups open, expand with help of funds ... The program has been such a success that Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers was slated on Thursday to visit several local businesses that received grants.
https://www.apg-wi.com/2cf83fb8-66ed-5ba3-854e-0238c6373a31.html

- The pandemic created a boom of small businesses, but the road to success is filled with obstacles, Entrepreneurs seek help getting off the ground from business incubators across Wisconsin: SEWRPC's KOziol, UW Prof Conroy, SBDC's Merrill, gener8tor's Martin, entrepreneurs Scherer and Graybow comment.
https://www.wpr.org/pandemic-created-boom-small-businesses-road-success-filled-obstacles

TAXES ^top^
- Retailers sue city, again ... Walmart, Sam's Club and Scheels filed civil lawsuits this week against the City of Eau Claire in Eau Claire County Court, alleging that their stores are overassessed and their property bills should be cut about in half. ... [repped by] Christopher Strohbehn and Russell Karnes of Milwaukee-based law firm Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown.
https://www.leadertelegram.com/ce62866c-9549-5ce5-a9c8-c58644a00d1c.html

TECHNOLOGY ^top^
- How Common Are Ransomware Attacks? Lawmakers Want to Find Out.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/18/how-common-are-ransomware-attacks-lawmakers-want-to-find-out

TOURISM ^top^
- New book explores Superior's Frank Lloyd Wright connection, Exchanges between the famous architect and librarian Edith Carlson chronicle her quest for a dream home.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/community/history/7285574-New-book-explores-Superiors-Frank-Lloyd-Wright-connection

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Gov. Evers hosts I-39/90 completion ceremony
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/news/business-news/gov-evers-hosts-i-39-90-completion-ceremony/article_86a24080-44f4-50c6-851a-8a6e7a6c6727.html

- Appleton police focus more on education than tickets for Bird scooters
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/19/appleton-police-focus-more-education-than-tickets-bird-scooters/8631597002/

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EDITORIALS ^top^
- RJT editorial: The new zoom is tourism
https://journaltimes.com/opinion/editorial/journal-times-editorial-the-new-zoom-is-tourism/article_627e5281-2ec1-5140-8248-6915a85f51ec.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- Paul Fanlund: Joe Biden's declining popularity poses singular threat for Black people
https://captimes.com/6455de75-25d8-5edc-8639-a5e0f899c848.html

- John Nichols: The GOP Is Now "Gosar's Own Party," This is about more than Paul Gosar's online murder fantasy. This is about a political party's embrace of impunity.
https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/gosar-gop/

- Bill Kaplan: State Democrats Have a Rural Problem, But Evers and Baldwin did better than Biden or Clinton in rural Wisconsin.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/18/op-ed-state-democrats-have

- Joe Concha: Race is not central to Rittenhouse case -- but [social] media shout it anyway
https://thehill.com/opinion/criminal-justice/582180-race-is-not-central-to-rittenhouse-case-but-the-media-shout-it

- John McCormack: Why Didn't Tony Evers Prevent the Carnage in Kenosha?
https://www.nationalreview.com/2021/11/why-didnt-tony-evers-prevent-the-carnage-in-kenosha/

- Dan O'Donnell: The Enemy Of The People Of Kenosha: O'Donnell excoriates MSNBC for the latest in a long line of media attempts to dox and destroy ordinary people who dare to challenge liberalism.
https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2021/11/the-enemy-of-the-people-of-kenosha/

- UW Law prof. John Gross: Here's why Kyle Rittenhouse is likely to be acquitted -- and why the law on self-defense must change ... We could deny the right to act in self-defense to people who illegally possess a weapon and are in a place where they are not allowed to be.
https://madison.com/wsj/f1e4edf4-6fd2-5004-ae14-d45b009ab5a9.html

- Jonathan Tobin: Cities Brace for Left-Wing Riots--Again | Opinion
https://www.newsweek.com/cities-brace-left-wing-riotsagain-opinion-1650759

- Tim Eisele: Hunter Nation doesn't have the best interests of Wisconsin hunters in mind. We have to protect the resource.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/opinion/2021/11/19/hunter-nation-doesnt-care-

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much-wisconsin-hunters/8654351002/

- M.D. Kittle: Dallet silent on redistricting recusal
https://empowerwisconsin.org/dallet-silent-on-redistricting-recusal/

- Jerry Davis: Gun, CWD and COVID safety key this season
https://www.wiscnews.com/9003b146-9955-5d06-9835-0964c13832b7.html

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 10:08 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: FRI News Summary: Evers vetoes “gerrymandering 2.0” GOP redistricting maps; Rittenhouse case jury deliberations continue

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WISPOLITICS.COM
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FRI News Summary -- 19 Nov. 2021

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Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/fri-news-summary-evers-vetoes-gerrymandering-2-0-gop-redistricting-maps-rittenhouse-case-jury-deliberations-continue/

STORY TOPICS

- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- Federal government
- Local government
- Census
- Civil liberties
- Courts
- Economy
- Education

TOP STORIES

WI governor vetoes redistricting maps, calls them 'gerrymandering 2.0'

... the first rejection of redistricting maps this year, according to Cook Political Report. ... drawn by Republicans, would have given the GOP a four-seat majority in the eight-district state, effectively solidifying Republican control for the next decade. ... Before the Assembly even gave the bills the greenlight, however, the governor said he would reject the new lines. ... on Thursday said he was "delivering on that promise" ... Democrats proposed a separate set of maps last week, which would have given the party a 17-16 majority in the Senate, but it failed in a vote mainly along party lines, in addition to a pair of maps that were drawn by a commission established by Evers. Evers in a video: "the gerrymandered maps Republicans passed a decade ago have enabled legislators to safely ignore the people who elected them. And these maps here, they're more of the same. They're gerrymandering 2.0. This was about elected officials having the courage to do the right thing when it mattered most. And the members of this Legislature failed to deliver. So, with that, I'm now vetoing SB 621 and SB 622. These gerrymandered maps will not become law. ... Our state deserves better, and we're going to keep working as long as I'm governor to bring fair maps to Wisconsin."

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- Elections
- Environment
- Health care
- Law and order
- Media
- Michigan
- Non-profits
- Public health and safety
- Small business
- Taxes
- Technology
- Tourism
- Transportation
- Editorials
- Columns

State Supreme Court will now preside over next steps, issuing a Nov. 17, 221 letter to WILL and WDOJ, "The court intends to issue an opinion on or about November 30, 2021, answering the first three questions posed in this court's order dated October 14, 2021. ... on or before 12:00 noon on December 15, 2021, each party (including all intervenors) may file a proposed map (for state assembly, state senate, and congress) ... on or before 12:00 noon on December 30, 2021, each party may file a responsive brief ... Any motion for leave with the proposed non-party brief attached shall be filed no later than 12:00 noon on January 4, 2022. ... on or before 12:00 noon on January 4, 2022, each party may file a reply brief." Dem suit sits before 3-judge federal panel, which has deferred to primacy of state court. By Schnell, THE HILL https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/582261-wisconsin-governor-vetoes-redistricting-maps-calls-them-gerrymandering

Deliberations in Rittenhouse trial end without verdict for a third day

[opening pic of Sheriff Beth handing out cookies and coffee to media, protesters and onlookers at Courthouse.] ... On Thursday, jurors arrived at 9 a.m. and went straight into deliberations. ... remained at work throughout the day, never sending out any questions ... [before dismissing them, Schroeder asked if any questions.] One of the seven women [jurors asked] if she could take the jury instructions home for the night. ... He decided they could. "But you obviously can't talk to anyone about them." Defense atty. Richard worried jurors could try to do research on the questions at home. Asst. DA Binger asked to ensure they did not bring home trial notes, Schroeder sent bailiff to ensure that. Reviews charges for 3 men shot plus 2 men shot at, 2 pending mistrial motions. Kenosha atty. Bieleski agreed with Schroeder decision to wait on verdict, "If there's a verdict that is favorable to the defense, they may drop a mistrial motion ... If the jury hangs, they have to start over anyway. ... If the decision is unfavorable to the defense they will certainly push the issue and have already made their records for appeal." By Smith, KENOSHA NEWS https://www.kenoshanews.com/442dd01c-22cd-56c2-9d48-a6ecec110c35.html

11/17/2021 COVID data summary from DHS, WHA

... 841,023 confirmed cases, 8,833 confirmed deaths, 967 probable deaths, 7-day avg. deaths 16 - 3,604 more cases, 20 more deaths, 21,003 more negative tests since Wednesday ... WHA reports 3,503 more cases, 4,348 more negative tests since Wednesday, 51 more deaths this week ... 1,233 are currently hospitalized, 51 more, 327 in ICU, 1 less - than Wednesday] ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 2,963 -

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2,576 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 10.8% including multiple testers] ... 6,583,656 doses of the vaccines have been administered ... 83.7% age 65-up, 45.9% of 12-15 are fully vaccinated. ... 3,227,544 [55.4%] have received both shots ... [updated 11/17] 16 counties have "critically high" level, 52 counties have "very high" level ... 25 counties had "growing" level," Kewaunee and Marquette counties had "shrinking," 45 "no significant change" ... NW Region had "critically high" level, 6 regions had "Very High" 5 "growing" and 2 "no significant change." Top 10 Counties for cases per 100K: Menominee 21,422.3, Barron, Dodge, Chippewa, Polk, Fond du Lac, Jackson, Oconto, Langlade, Pepin 16,563.7 [Milwaukee 15,103.1, Dane 10,780.6].
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/data.htm
https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update

############
STORY TOPICS
############

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^
- Rittenhouse jury to return for 4th day of deliberations [Tarm, Bauer, Forliti]
https://apnews.com/27f812ba532d65c044617483c915e4de

- Rittenhouse case raises question: What makes a fair trial? [Forliti, Johnson, Richmond]
https://apnews.com/aed653b7f5157373e4e8139734e2ce13

- How long will Kyle Rittenhouse jury deliberate? It's already outlasted some high-profile cases [see Columns]
https://www.kenoshanews.com/fd4e712c-ac7f-5075-9e67-27e286491ca3.html

- The jury's verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial could hinge on the ruling of two mistrial motions: Baraboo atty. Martinez comments.
https://www.wpr.org/jurys-verdict-kyle-rittenhouse-trial-could-hinge-ruling-two-mistrial-motions

- Anthony Huber's girlfriend says Kyle Rittenhouse's verdict won't change what happened, but it can set precedent, Hannah Gittings wants to sit down with Rittenhouse, his mother
https://www.wpr.org/anthony-hubers-girlfriend-says-kyle-rittenhouses-verdict-wont-change-what-happened-it-can-set

- David Axelrod calls Rittenhouse judge 'defense attorney on the bench'
https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/581565-david-axelrod-calls-rittenhouse-judge-defense-attorney-on-the-bench?amp

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- Rittenhouse judge accuses freelance reporter for MSNBC of tailing jury van: NBC issued explanatory statement
https://www.cnbc.com/video/2021/11/18/rittenhouse-judge-accuses-freelance-reporter-for-msnbc-of-tailing-jury-van.html

- Police believe freelance journalist with NBC News tried photographing Rittenhouse jury
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/18/police-believe-freelance-reporter-tried-photographing-rittenouse-jury/8670388002/

CORONAVIRUS ^top^
- WI's Covid Condition: The pandemic hits its worst levels since 2020, The number of new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations across WI is growing rapidly as the holiday season begins for a second consecutive year, and health officials continue urging people who aren't vaccinated to do so to protect their loved ones and stave off more crisis conditions in hospitals.
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/wisconsins-covid-condition-the-pandemic-hits-its-worst-levels-since-2020/

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Ways and Means Committee members debate Biden's social spending bill cost, Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI) joins CNBC's 'Squawk Box' to discuss the price tag for Democrats' social spending bill, merits, extraneous items and McCarthy's lengthy speech. 7:07 video
https://www.cnbc.com/video/2021/11/19/ways-and-means-committee-members-debate-bidens-social-spending-bill-cost.html

- Rep. Kind votes for Build Back Better Act, says it 'will deliver for Wisconsinites' ... "The Build Back Better Act is not only fiscally responsible, it will also deliver for Wisconsinites with historic middle-class tax cuts, expanded access to affordable health care, lower child care costs, and millions of good-paying jobs. It's time to level the playing field and invest in working families across the nation." ... said the Build Back Better Act will reduce costs and cut taxes for families by:
• Improving access to child care and caregiving
• Lowering middle-class taxes
• Expanding access to affordable health care
• Investing in affordable clean energy to tackle climate change
* Making long-term investments in education, rural development, workforce training, affordable housing, and more
https://lacrossetribune.com/c174d801-65ff-558f-910d-2d1532f9e5c5.html

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ^top^

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- Ft. Atkinson tax bill has to increase ... [on] property tax levy totaling $8,098,750
https://www.dailyunion.com/aab22235-8d76-5d30-853c-5ad7a2887d29.html

CENSUS *^top^*
- Evers vetoes GOP-drawn WI voting maps ... tees up either the state Supreme Court or a federal three-judge panel to redraw [maps] ... At least one lawsuit is already underway in both courts. ... state's high court has "first dibs on drawing the lines," [UW Law prof.] Yablon told the Cap Times. The state's high court agreed in September to hear [WILL's] case about redistricting. Reviews State Supreme agreement to take case and Dallet dissent, Supreme's call for maps next month for potential Jan. trial, Democracy Docket and Law Forward suit before federal panel of Sykes with Obama- and Trump-appointees, partisan lean of vetoed maps.
https://captimes.com/1c62ebe7-689c-5aaa-b334-d0cdf8496f0b.html

- Evers vetoes Republican redistricting plans, sending maps to Wisconsin Supreme Court: Leader LeMahieu through a spokesman declined comment, spokeswoman for Speaker Vos did not respond
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/18/tony-evers-vetoes-gop-redistricting-plans-sending-maps-to-wisconsin-supreme-court/8664137002/

- Evers vetoed the election maps WI GOP drew. Here is what happens next.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/19/wisconsin-redistricting-whats-next-now-evers-vetoed-gop-maps/8667172002/

- Democrat Evers vetoes Republican-drawn redistricting [Bauer]
https://apnews.com/29104625c253dce689d662383a9a50ab

- [33-1] Dane County Board adopts new, nonpartisan map for voting districts ... drawn by a group of citizens instead of elected officials, preventing incumbents from drawing their districts in a way that would put them at an advantage in upcoming elections. ... will go into effect for the spring election, will likely pit incumbents against each other in next year's election and leave other seats open to be filled by new faces. Dissenter Stubbs voted NO because it had fewer competitive districts for minorities than other options, something she called "disheartening." Sups. Palm abstained, Levin and Peters were absent.
https://madison.com/wsj/f83d84d6-7e32-5a9a-b4b9-da6f3e473037.html

CIVIL LIBERTIES *^top^*
- Milwaukee council members voice concerns about proposed state marijuana legislation ... [Sortwell/Ortiz-Velez bill] would require a number of communities to lower their maximum fines. However, places like Milwaukee ... would see the penalty rise for those caught with 14 grams or less. ... leaves it up to local officials to set penalties for possessing more than 14 grams ... supported part of the bill that reduces the possibility of felony charges for repeat offenses. ... "This would make things much worse here in

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Milwaukee -- a diverse community where the numbers show huge historical disparities in the fines, charges and incarceration rates for black and brown people for possessing marijuana," [pres. Johnson, Alds. Kovac, Hamilton, Bauman, Dodd, Zamarripa, Lewis, Murphy, Pérez, Dimitrijevic, Stamper] said in a statement Thursday. Rep. Ortiz-Velez, also a county supv.: "The amount that we're losing is basically miniscule to all of the benefits that we're getting," including removing a patchwork of penalties across the state and limiting the liability of employers.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/19/milwaukee-council-members-voice-concerns-proposed-marijuana-bill/8670868002/

COURTS *^top^*

- Prominent state executives back WMC amicus brief against federal vaccine mandate ... [QPS Employment, ITU Absorbtech] were included in the amicus brief [supporting WILL suit] filed Wednesday ... among seven companies that provided declarations explaining what they view as the "harmful effects" the employee vaccine mandate would have ... [WMC CE Bauer said] amicus brief had the unanimous support of the organization's board ... declined to disclose the names of WMC board members but provided the names of the board's officers [Kwik Trip VP Loehr, Johnson Bank Pres. Defnet, MB&F partner Krutz, Waupaca Foundry CEO Nikolai] ... "For Wisconsin businesses, not only is this mandate unlawful, it is unworkable," Bauer said. "If enacted, most employers would not be able to comply with the rigorous requirements and, to make matters worse, workers would end up walking off the job." ... executive from Johnson Bank [said] the bank has not taken a formal position on the federal mandate. Twin Disc CEO Batten is quoted in WMC"s release, "The OSHA ETS (emergency temporary standard) is an unfair burden and expense on employers like Twin Disc and poses a huge, unnecessary risk of not maintaining continuous production during the ETS if unvaccinated employees ... could walk across the street or drive across town to another employer with fewer than 100 employees and not have to do either [vax or test]?" ... While WMC members overwhelmingly oppose the federal mandate, a number of large employers in Southeast Wisconsin have enacted their own employee vaccine mandates including health care systems, Manpower, Fiserv, GE Healthcare, Molson Coors, BMO Harris. OSHA rule has been stayed since Nov. 12.
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/18/kwik-trip-johnson-bank-execs-back-challenge-of.html

- After being found not guilty in homicide, man gets 17 years in prison for firing gun ... Joshua Morris, 33, was ultimately sentenced to 17 years in prison for possession of a firearm by a felon, a repeat offense, and first-degree recklessly endangering safety with use of a dangerous weapon, for firing a shot into the air. ... Judge Wynne Laufenberg reiterated Wisconsin Supreme Court case law "that a sentencing court may consider a charge for which the defendant was acquitted in assessing the defendant's character and the need for incarceration and rehabilitation."
https://journaltimes.com/ad874852-36f7-5f9c-90cc-4b47812d2541.html

- Wisconsin Supreme Court won't review Steven Avery's case ... issued a one-page

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letter Wednesday rejecting Avery's request for review without commenting ... receives about 1,000 petitions for review each term but agrees to hear only about 100 cases.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/steven-avery/2021/11/18/making-a-murderer-steven-averys-case-wont-reviewed-wisconsin-supreme-court-says/8667518002/

ECONOMY *^top^*
- Lucrative construction jobs turn students' heads at Madison career fair
https://captimes.com/043f1a43-40e7-5253-9fc9-89551b85cc5f.html

EDUCATION *^top^*
- Parents suing Wisconsin school district over gender identity policy ... [WILL, Alliance Defending Freedom filed suit in Waukesha for 2 sets of parents] in response to a [Kettle Moraine School] district policy that allows students, including minors, to determine their names and gender pronouns used in the school without parental consent. ... One set of parents ... allege their 12-year-old daughter "began to question her gender in December 2020" and was allowed to identify by a male name and pronouns while at school. "The family sought professional and medical support for her, and after extensive research, decided that immediately transitioning would not be in her best interest," [WILL] said. "They communicated this directly to [KMSD] staff in January 2021, and asked staff to continuing referring to their daughter using her legal name and female pronouns. But the [KMSD] refused to honor their decision." ... The family removed their daughter from the school. NO info available on other family. KMSD declined comment.
https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/diversity-inclusion/582194-parents-suing-wisconsin-school-district-over

- Parents sue Wisconsin school district over gender transition policy, The lawsuit by two sets of parents was filed in Waukesha County Circuit Court on Wednesday.
https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/rcna5965

- MPS approves $100 COVID vaccine incentive for students ages 5-11, and $250 staff bonus
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2021/11/18/mps-approves-100-vaccine-incentive-kids-5-11-and-250-staff-bonus/8667936002/

- State report card says Janesville schools met 'few expectations' last year
https://www.gazettextra.com/news/education/state-report-card-says-janesville-schools-met-few-expectations-last-year/article_a4391830-8ceb-561c-b2e4-ab58b19fc69f.html

- Falk analysis: The Sign Wars In Waukesha Schools, "We have a bullying problem," says a Waukesha school board member. ... [BLM sings were followed by Thin Blue Line signs] Rather than sorting out all the differences, [WSD Supt.] Sebert banned all "political" signs including the All Are Welcome rainbow signs ... Supporters of LGBTQ and minority students contend that taking down the signs sent a message that they

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were being marginalized.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/18/the-sign-wars

- Nov. 8 Melee at East High School started with dispute over boy, ended with gunfire
https://madison.com/wsj/e95ba921-da3c-56d0-a236-c63b19f63aea.html

ELECTIONS *^top^*
- PolitiFact: Elections administrator right on who can decide when someone is incompetent to vote ... Wolfe said "Only a court can decide that somebody is incompetent to vote" -- the state Election Commission "cannot force facilities, private facilities, to allow special voting deputies" inside. ... little, if any debate on the first part -- declarations of incompetency are the purview of the courts ... On the second part, Wolfe is on target, but in making the claim muddies the waters a bit on the issue at hand. ... whether ballots could be mailed directly to nursing homes. ... Mostly True.
https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2021/nov/18/meagan-wolfe/elections-administrator-right-who-can-decide-when-/

ENVIRONMENT *^top^*
- Judge [Brantmeier] says DNR broke the law, must allow wolf hunting immediately when protections dropped ... in response to a lawsuit brought by Hunter Nation ... "Today's historic ruling solidifies Wisconsin's constitutional right to hunt and our statutory wolf hunt requirements," [Hunter Nation's] Hilgemann said in a statement. However, a separate court injunction has put the current wolf season on hold while a Dane County judge considers a lawsuit filed in August by a coalition of wildlife advocacy groups seeking to stop the hunt and invalidate the law requiring it. DNR did not respond. [See Eisele column]
https://journaltimes.com/342b44de-566b-5f14-9ba3-89b7331f3923.html

- DNR: Signs point to successful gun deer season in Wisconsin
https://www.leadertelegram.com/b16f5bf2-d774-5974-b650-edf25b6c5f12.html

- WI's deer population is at a critical high, Advocates say hunters, scientists and legislators all have a role to play in managing the state's population of white-tailed deer
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsins-deer-population-critical-high

- Deer license sales on pace of last year's spike
https://www.dailyunion.com/429ef963-f361-5a8a-bb9f-f3e5405316e4.html

- Hunter sets his sights for a successful season
https://lakelandtimes.com/Content/Home/Home/Article/Hunter/-2/-2/48887

- Salmon to Swim Free as Infrastructure Money Flows
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/19/salmon-to-swim-free-as-infrastructure-money-flows

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HEALTH CARE ^top^

- Wisconsin's hospitals are relying heavily on travel nurses, and paying top dollar to staff their institutions ... This is another dynamic that has been greatly exacerbated this time around," said [WHA CEO] Borgerding. "The price of agency staff is going through the roof."... [DHS CMO Westergaard: "Our overall hospital capacity is strained. We've lost a lot of health care workers. We've had early retirements. People are tired. Our hospitals are doing amazing work -- we're able to take care of extremely sick patients and provide high levels of care -- but our capacity to do so is finite."] ... On average, acute care travel nurses can make between $55 to $110 per hour depending on the acuity of their patients, location and specialty they're servicing, said [PMSS owner] Hanoski. US Reps. Cassidy, McKInley, Kelly, Matsui have written to the White House to see if the actions of certain staffing agencies charging "extreme prices" in West Virginia, California, Arizona and Louisiana violates consumer protection laws.
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsins-hospitals-are-relying-heavily-travel-nurses-and-paying-top-dollar-staff-their

LAW AND ORDER ^top^

- 'Long overdue': Sexual assault kit bills arrive at Gov. Tony Evers' desk after bumpy political road ... final approval ... last week ... comes more than six years after [WDOJ] discovered the existence of more than 6,000 untested sexual assault kits ... some of which were several decades old. During Assembly debate last week, Rep. David Steffen hailed "long overdue" bills, Rep. Thiesfeldt touted "a victim's rights bill." Both bills passed Senate last session but were unified and altered by Assembly, which Senate never took up and faced veto threat. Sen. Cowles hailed bipartisanship in this year's reintro of original bills. Spokesperson for Evers confirmed Thursday he plans to sign them.
https://www.wpr.org/long-overdue-sexual-assault-kit-bills-arrive-gov-tony-evers-desk-after-bumpy-political-road

- 'A process of deep reflection,' After taking stock of the 2020 protests, will Madison act on new police recommendations?
https://isthmus.com/news/news/a-process-of-deep-reflection/

- In its first meeting since Norman's swearing-in, the FPC bans the use of no-knock search warrants ... took three actions in what it calls "significant policing reform policies" on Thursday: Banning police officers from seeking and executing no-knock search warrants *Granting whistleblower protection, which clarifies that officers have an affirmative duty to report serious misconduct, protects the reporting officers from retaliation
Adopting a new discipline matrix, which lays out a uniform system of disciplining officers for various violations
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/18/fire-and-police-commission-bans-use-no-knock-search-warrants/8676548002/

- Religious leaders call on Milwaukee City Attorney Tearman Spencer to fire new hire [DeMasters] tied to anti-Muslim 'hate groups' ... "Would it be acceptable to hire staff who have actively worked to suppress the constitutional rights of Black Americans or Jewish Americans?" the group wrote. "We certainly hope not."
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/18/faith-groups-urge-milwaukee-city-attorney-tearman-spencer-fire-lawyer-anti-muslim-ties/8664947002/

MEDIA ^top^
- Bruce Murphy: Journal Sentinel's Drastic Decline, Sunday and daily subscription numbers continue to plummet.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/16/murphys-law-the-journal

MICHIGAN ^top^
- Higher Love latest to sue Menominee over marijuana retail license denial
https://www.ehextra.com/523f1b6e-886d-5a29-b0f5-8d5e2ddec11f.html

- Menominee Council's response to marijuana lawsuit is tardy, attorney says
https://www.ehextra.com/2f172bdf-21c7-59fc-806a-ac2535a8eb09.html

- New county billboard warns of marijuana use in pregnancy
https://www.ehextra.com/0a72c128-c1c5-5a2e-a980-f3f12c33cb73.html

NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Former ECSD board prez [Luginbill] won't be charged for misusing charity funds
https://www.wpr.org/former-eau-claire-school-board-president-wont-be-charged-misusing-charity-funds

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- DNR scraps groundwater protection effort ... said "the statutory process and associated firm timelines established by the Legislature do not allow adequate time for the department to complete this proposed rule." ... Under the law's timeline, the rule was to go to the policy board and governor this fall before undergoing legislative review this winter. [MEA] called the announcement "a devastating blow for many rural Wisconsin families"
https://madison.com/wsj/4c3fce60-4881-5e3f-998a-9c4274f3e16b.html

SMALL BUSINESS ^top^
- Evers tours Washburn businesses ... AdventureUs was among several Washburn businesses that Evers visited Thursday to see how state grants have helped revitalize downtown. Washburn businesses have received seven of the $10,000 grants given to

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businesses that occupy formerly vacant properties. Photo with caption only
https://www.apg-wi.com/42a1c549-3218-578b-b826-440af342668d.html

- Grants spark Washburn business boom: Seven startups open, expand with help of funds ... The program has been such a success that Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers was slated on Thursday to visit several local businesses that received grants.
https://www.apg-wi.com/2cf83fb8-66ed-5ba3-854e-0238c6373a31.html

- The pandemic created a boom of small businesses, but the road to success is filled with obstacles, Entrepreneurs seek help getting off the ground from business incubators across Wisconsin: SEWRPC's KOziol, UW Prof Conroy, SBDC's Merrill, gener8tor's Martin, entrepreneurs Scherer and Graybow comment.
https://www.wpr.org/pandemic-created-boom-small-businesses-road-success-filled-obstacles

TAXES ^top^
- Retailers sue city, again ... Walmart, Sam's Club and Scheels filed civil lawsuits this week against the City of Eau Claire in Eau Claire County Court, alleging that their stores are overassessed and their property bills should be cut about in half. ... [repped by] Christopher Strohbehn and Russell Karnes of Milwaukee-based law firm Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown.
https://www.leadertelegram.com/ce62866c-9549-5ce5-a9c8-c58644a00d1c.html

TECHNOLOGY ^top^
- How Common Are Ransomware Attacks? Lawmakers Want to Find Out.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/18/how-common-are-ransomware-attacks-lawmakers-want-to-find-out

TOURISM ^top^
- New book explores Superior's Frank Lloyd Wright connection, Exchanges between the famous architect and librarian Edith Carlson chronicle her quest for a dream home.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/community/history/7285574-New-book-explores-Superiors-Frank-Lloyd-Wright-connection

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Gov. Evers hosts I-39/90 completion ceremony
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/news/business-news/gov-evers-hosts-i-39-90-completion-ceremony/article_86a24080-44f4-50c6-851a-8a6e7a6c6727.html

- Appleton police focus more on education than tickets for Bird scooters
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/19/appleton-police-focus-more-education-than-tickets-bird-scooters/8631597002/

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EDITORIALS ^top^
- RJT editorial: The new zoom is tourism
https://journaltimes.com/opinion/editorial/journal-times-editorial-the-new-zoom-is-tourism/article_627e5281-2ec1-5140-8248-6915a85f51ec.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- Paul Fanlund: Joe Biden's declining popularity poses singular threat for Black people
https://captimes.com/6455de75-25d8-5edc-8639-a5e0f899c848.html

- John Nichols: The GOP Is Now "Gosar's Own Party," This is about more than Paul Gosar's online murder fantasy. This is about a political party's embrace of impunity.
https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/gosar-gop/

- Bill Kaplan: State Democrats Have a Rural Problem, But Evers and Baldwin did better than Biden or Clinton in rural Wisconsin.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/18/op-ed-state-democrats-have

- Joe Concha: Race is not central to Rittenhouse case -- but [social] media shout it anyway
https://thehill.com/opinion/criminal-justice/582180-race-is-not-central-to-rittenhouse-case-but-the-media-shout-it

- John McCormack: Why Didn't Tony Evers Prevent the Carnage in Kenosha?
https://www.nationalreview.com/2021/11/why-didnt-tony-evers-prevent-the-carnage-in-kenosha/

- Dan O'Donnell: The Enemy Of The People Of Kenosha: O'Donnell excoriates MSNBC for the latest in a long line of media attempts to dox and destroy ordinary people who dare to challenge liberalism.
https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2021/11/the-enemy-of-the-people-of-kenosha/

- UW Law prof. John Gross: Here's why Kyle Rittenhouse is likely to be acquitted -- and why the law on self-defense must change ... We could deny the right to act in self-defense to people who illegally possess a weapon and are in a place where they are not allowed to be.
https://madison.com/wsj/f1e4edf4-6fd2-5004-ae14-d45b009ab5a9.html

- Jonathan Tobin: Cities Brace for Left-Wing Riots--Again | Opinion
https://www.newsweek.com/cities-brace-left-wing-riotsagain-opinion-1650759

- Tim Eisele: Hunter Nation doesn't have the best interests of Wisconsin hunters in mind. We have to protect the resource.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/opinion/2021/11/19/hunter-nation-doesnt-care-

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much-wisconsin-hunters/8654351002/

- M.D. Kittle: Dallet silent on redistricting recusal
https://empowerwisconsin.org/dallet-silent-on-redistricting-recusal/

- Jerry Davis: Gun, CWD and COVID safety key this season
https://www.wiscnews.com/9003b146-9955-5d06-9835-0964c13832b7.html

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 4:02 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: FRI REPORT: Johnson leads most Dem rivals in share of contributions from Wisconsin donors

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WISPOLITICS.COM

Quotes of the Week

This trial made clear that when authorities fail to utilize appropriate resources to protect public safety, violence and destruction often follows. The destruction in Kenosha did not need to occur. The events covered in the trial were avoidable if proper steps were taken last summer to reestablish public safety.
- U.S. Rep. Bryan Steil, R-Janesville, following the acquittal of Kyle Rittenhouse, who faced charges for shooting three people, killing two, during unrest in Kenosha last summer.

We must have peace in Kenosha and our communities, and any efforts or actions aimed at sowing division are unwelcome in our state as they will only hinder that healing.
- Gov. Tony Evers, who called for those who plan to protest the verdict to do so "safely and peacefully."

See more reaction on the WisPolitics.com press release page.

I think probably, but I'm not a district attorney. I'm certainly not a lawyer. But I certainly think anybody who breaks the law should pay the ultimate price to say I won't do it again. And you either plead guilty and you say I understand that

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was a mistake or you go to court and defend yourself. So I assume that that will be the process that plays out there.
- Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, suggesting Wisconsin elections commissioners could be charged for their votes suspending special voting deputy requirements for nursing homes.

I now find myself in the position of, in the worst-case scenario, choosing to be subject to either potential federal criminal prosecution or a finding of contempt by the Legislature and the threat of imprisonment in the Dane County Jail. As a state employee, I hope you can understand that this should not be the reality of public service for election officials in Wisconsin.
- Madison Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl on whether she should comply with a Senate subpoena to let state auditors physically handle election records. Witzel-Behl has cited Department of Justice guidance in denying auditors' request to handle the records. She's since suggested auditors be observed or be sworn in as election officials to handle the materials.

I invite you to work together on this initiative to right the most egregious injustice we have seen in our time. Then we can move forward together with confidence in our most sacred process, without disenfranchisement of our most sacred right, the right to elect our representation.
- Rep. Tim Ramthun, R-Campbellsport, in an email asking lawmakers to support his resolution to decertify Wisconsin's 2020 election results.

This is truly unhinged theater of the absurd from the Legislature's QAnon caucus. It clearly isn't based in reality or facts. But the fact that this rhetoric is coming from elected Assembly Republicans makes it even more dangerous to our democracy.
- Assembly Minority Leader Gordon Hintz, D-Oshkosh.

Political Stock Report

-A collection of insider opinion-
(Nov. 13 – 19, 2021)

Rising: Overdose deaths

Mixed: Frederick Prehn, Tim Ramthun, marijuana, Wisconsin schools

Falling: COVID containment

Read More

Johnson leads most Dem rivals in share of contributions from Wisconsin donors



U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson is pulling a higher percentage of his itemized contributions from Wisconsin donors than most of his top Dem rivals, according to a WisPolitics.com review of campaign finance reports.

He's also getting a bigger chunk of his individual contributions from those giving less than $200.

Among his top Dem rivals, Outagamie County Exec Tom Nelson is the only other Senate candidate who has raised more than half of his individual donations from Wisconsin residents, according to the filings.

Read More

Racist, profane language, drug slang among reasons for personalized plate rejections



Racist references, drug slang, sexual language and profanity led to more than 180 personalized license plate request denials in 2020, a WisPolitics.com review of state DOT records shows.

Several references to racial terms and slaves, such as "WHTPWR" and "XSLAVE," were among the list of denied personalized plate requests obtained by WisPolitics.com. Applicants were also denied for requesting plates with "KUNGFLU," "SASSH0L," "420B0I" and "B0SSBIH." The state Department of Transportation denied 183 personalized license plate requests last year for objectionable content, according to a list DOT provided.

That's slightly up from the 180 personalized plate requests DOT shot down in 2019. Both years fell below the 225 rejected in 2018.

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Political TV

(Check local listings for times in your area)

"UpFront" is a statewide commercial TV news magazine show airing Sundays around the state. This week's show features reaction to the KYLE RITTENHOUSE verdict.
*See more about the program here.
*Also see a recap of the show online each Monday at WisPolitics.com

"Rewind," a weekly show from WisconsinEye and WisPolitics.com, airs at 8 p.m. on Fridays and 10 a.m. on Sundays in addition to being available online. On this week's episode, WisPolitics.com's JR ROSS and CBS 58's EMILEE FANNON discuss redistricting, GOP guv candidate REBECCA KLEEFISCH's lawsuit against the Wisconsin Elections Commission, COVID-19, bipartisan marijuana legislation and the latest school report cards.
*Watch the show here.

Check out WisPolitics.com's Midday, which offers insights into the state's top political news.
*Listen to the podcasts here.

"The Insiders" is a weekly WisOpinion.com web show featuring former Democratic Senate Majority Leader CHUCK CHVALA and former Republican Assembly Speaker SCOTT JENSEN. This week the two handicap the Dem U.S. Senate field.
*Watch the video or listen to the show here.

"In Focus: Wisconsin" airs Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on Spectrum News 1 on channel 1. This week's program with host PETE ZERVAKIS features U.S. Rep. GLENN GROTHMAN, UW-Madison associate professor CLIFF ROBB and Kenosha Unified School District counselor JESSICA FESKO on the growing student loan debt crisis in Wisconsin.

PBS Wisconsin's "Here and Now" airs at 7:30 p.m. Fridays. This week's program with anchor FREDERICA FREYBERG features Black Leaders Organizing for Communities Executive Director ANGELA LANG on the KYLE

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RITTENHOUSE trial, Mayo Clinic Dr. MELANIE SWIFT on COVID-19 and REBECCA COOKE on her campaign for the 3rd CD.

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U.S. Senate

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ELEVEN changes were made to the lobbying registry in the past 10 days.

Follow this link for the complete list.

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 4:02 PM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: FRI REPORT: Johnson leads most Dem rivals in share of contributions from Wisconsin donors

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WISPOLITICS.COM

Quotes of the Week

This trial made clear that when authorities fail to utilize appropriate resources to protect public safety, violence and destruction often follows. The destruction in Kenosha did not need to occur. The events covered in the trial were avoidable if proper steps were taken last summer to reestablish public safety.
- U.S. Rep. Bryan Steil, R-Janesville, following the acquittal of Kyle Rittenhouse, who faced charges for shooting three people, killing two, during unrest in Kenosha last summer.

We must have peace in Kenosha and our communities, and any efforts or actions aimed at sowing division are unwelcome in our state as they will only hinder that healing.
- Gov. Tony Evers, who called for those who plan to protest the verdict to do so "safely and peacefully."

See more reaction on the WisPolitics.com press release page.

I think probably, but I'm not a district attorney. I'm certainly not a lawyer. But I certainly think anybody who breaks the law should pay the ultimate price to say I won't do it again. And you either plead guilty and you say I understand that

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was a mistake or you go to court and defend yourself. So I assume that that will be the process that plays out there.
- Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, suggesting Wisconsin elections commissioners could be charged for their votes suspending special voting deputy requirements for nursing homes.

I now find myself in the position of, in the worst-case scenario, choosing to be subject to either potential federal criminal prosecution or a finding of contempt by the Legislature and the threat of imprisonment in the Dane County Jail. As a state employee, I hope you can understand that this should not be the reality of public service for election officials in Wisconsin.
- Madison Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl on whether she should comply with a Senate subpoena to let state auditors physically handle election records. Witzel-Behl has cited Department of Justice guidance in denying auditors' request to handle the records. She's since suggested auditors be observed or be sworn in as election officials to handle the materials.

I invite you to work together on this initiative to right the most egregious injustice we have seen in our time. Then we can move forward together with confidence in our most sacred process, without disenfranchisement of our most sacred right, the right to elect our representation.
- Rep. Tim Ramthun, R-Campbellsport, in an email asking lawmakers to support his resolution to decertify Wisconsin's 2020 election results.

This is truly unhinged theater of the absurd from the Legislature's QAnon caucus. It clearly isn't based in reality or facts. But the fact that this rhetoric is coming from elected Assembly Republicans makes it even more dangerous to our democracy.
- Assembly Minority Leader Gordon Hintz, D-Oshkosh.

Political Stock Report

-A collection of insider opinion-
(Nov. 13 – 19, 2021)

Rising: Overdose deaths

Mixed: Frederick Prehn, Tim Ramthun, marijuana, Wisconsin schools

Falling: COVID containment

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Johnson leads most Dem rivals in share of contributions from Wisconsin donors



U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson is pulling a higher percentage of his itemized contributions from Wisconsin donors than most of his top Dem rivals, according to a WisPolitics.com review of campaign finance reports.

He's also getting a bigger chunk of his individual contributions from those giving less than $200.

Among his top Dem rivals, Outagamie County Exec Tom Nelson is the only other Senate candidate who has raised more than half of his individual donations from Wisconsin residents, according to the filings.

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Racist, profane language, drug slang among reasons for personalized plate rejections



Racist references, drug slang, sexual language and profanity led to more than 180 personalized license plate request denials in 2020, a WisPolitics.com review of state DOT records shows.

Several references to racial terms and slaves, such as "WHTPWR" and "XSLAVE," were among the list of denied personalized plate requests obtained by WisPolitics.com. Applicants were also denied for requesting plates with "KUNGFLU," "SASSH0L," "420B0I" and "B0SSBIH." The state Department of Transportation denied 183 personalized license plate requests last year for objectionable content, according to a list DOT provided.

That's slightly up from the 180 personalized plate requests DOT shot down in 2019. Both years fell below the 225 rejected in 2018.

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Political TV

(Check local listings for times in your area)

"UpFront" is a statewide commercial TV news magazine show airing Sundays around the state. This week's show features reaction to the KYLE RITTENHOUSE verdict.
*See more about the program here.
*Also see a recap of the show online each Monday at WisPolitics.com

"Rewind," a weekly show from WisconsinEye and WisPolitics.com, airs at 8 p.m. on Fridays and 10 a.m. on Sundays in addition to being available online. On this week's episode, WisPolitics.com's JR ROSS and CBS 58's EMILEE FANNON discuss redistricting, GOP guv candidate REBECCA KLEEFISCH's lawsuit against the Wisconsin Elections Commission, COVID-19, bipartisan marijuana legislation and the latest school report cards.
*Watch the show here.

Check out WisPolitics.com's Midday, which offers insights into the state's top political news.
*Listen to the podcasts here.

"The Insiders" is a weekly WisOpinion.com web show featuring former Democratic Senate Majority Leader CHUCK CHVALA and former Republican Assembly Speaker SCOTT JENSEN. This week the two handicap the Dem U.S. Senate field.
*Watch the video or listen to the show here.

"In Focus: Wisconsin" airs Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on Spectrum News 1 on channel 1. This week's program with host PETE ZERVAKIS features U.S. Rep. GLENN GROTHMAN, UW-Madison associate professor CLIFF ROBB and Kenosha Unified School District counselor JESSICA FESKO on the growing student loan debt crisis in Wisconsin.

PBS Wisconsin's "Here and Now" airs at 7:30 p.m. Fridays. This week's program with anchor FREDERICA FREYBERG features Black Leaders Organizing for Communities Executive Director ANGELA LANG on the KYLE

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Office of the Special Counsel

First Interim Report

Delivered to the Wisconsin State Assembly November 10, 2021

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"I am writing this, as I feel my mother was taken advantage of in her mental state. Parents and loved ones should be protected, not exploited, for an ink mark on a piece of paper and questionable agenda." *Judy Weshphal-Mitchell, discussing how actions of the Wisconsin Election Commission affected her family*

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Elections in the United States are the bedrock of our constitutional republic. They are subject to the law, including the fundamental laws found in the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Wisconsin. But fair elections are not a mere checkbox exercise. To secure republican government it is important not just that the law is followed, but that the citizens have confidence the law is followed. In the run up to the election of November 3, 2020, polling showed a majority of Americans did not have confidence their vote would count. In a democracy, this is as untenable as it is unacceptable.

To help address these concerns, the state Assembly established a new office, the Office of the Special Counsel, to investigate the recent elections in our state. As head of this new office, I am authorized by law to take all reasonable steps to investigate what happened in regard to the November 2020 election, what should have happened, why there was a difference between the two, and to recommend steps to enhance the transparency of our elections as well as restore public confidence in elections going forward.

This interim report is a first step in discharging that mission.

While this report does not definitively answer all questions that might be asked about the November 2020 election, it takes an important step in collating those questions and presenting them in a structured manner.

Over the approximately sixty days since my office was created and has been funded, we have spoken with, and listened to, everyone who has wanted to talk. This open-door policy will remain throughout the entirety of this investigation, and any future investigation with which this office is charged. We have drawn some criticism from those in the media who would suggest my discussions with various individuals or groups implies an endorsement of their views. This is not the case. I do not apologize for this open-door policy: the views of all Wisconsinites matter and sidelining or even laughing

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at serious concerns of any citizen of this state would call into question whatever may be discovered by my investigation.

In the short time the Office of the Special Counsel has been funded, we have not only met with many individuals and groups, but we have collected, and in some cases compelled by law, the production of relevant information. Further, our investigation has gone beyond, and will continue to go beyond, the investigation recently conducted by the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB). One purpose of this interim report is to lay out for the public how my Office's investigation differs significantly from the LAB investigation.

Notwithstanding lawsuits and threats of more lawsuits supported by high-priced, out-of-state lawyers, my office expects to depose government officials, under oath, to determine whether state and federal law were followed in our elections, whether good management held, and if not, who might have been responsible. If necessary, we stand prepared to refer all relevant information to appropriate state and federal law enforcement authorities. The wagon-circling by government entities in our state is concerning and is not limited to my investigation: the City of Madison, the City of Milwaukee, and the town of Little Suamico all refused to fully cooperate even with the LAB investigation, cooperation to which our legislature and the people are entitled by our State Constitution.

Make no mistake: I sincerely hope the law was followed in Wisconsin. It would give me the greatest satisfaction to deliver to the speaker of the Assembly and the public a final report which analyzes the November 2020 election in a complete and thorough manner, concludes no major overhaul of our laws or practice are necessary, and the election was administered in a legal and appropriate manner. And yet, as the following interim report demonstrates, many important questions remain unanswered. These questions include: were all lawful votes, and only lawful votes, counted? Did the machines work as advertised and expected? Were all election processes followed to the letter? Did clerks and other election officials have all the tools they needed to deal with the unprecedented

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challenge posed by the COVID lockdowns and historic levels of absentee voting? Did outside corporate money unduly influence the election and/or the administration of the election? Above all, what changes can the state of Wisconsin make to ensure our future elections are not only secure, but as important, widely known to be secure?

In the coming weeks, my Office will continue to collect and analyze information about the November 2020 election, because the public has a right to know what happened. I have no partisan agenda: I am not running for office, and I do not know of any lawful remedy in the state of Wisconsin to change the certification of its electors from our current President Joe Biden to former President Donald Trump. Furthermore, I do not come with preconceived answers to any questions. Why were so many voter registrations at a single address? Why were so many voter registrations given under a single phone number? Why was there a "blip" at 4:00 a.m. in the reported statewide returns the morning after the election? All of these questions may have innocent explanations. My investigation intends to discover facts which will allow the legislature and the people of Wisconsin to draw their own conclusions about the integrity of the November 2020 election.

Many of these answers might have already been obtained were it not for unjustified obstruction of this investigation. Specifically, I requested information from the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) and certain clerks about election procedures and information they possessed. With a large degree of political theater, some of this information has been withheld. I issued subpoenas, as I am lawfully authorized to do as part of my Office's investigation as a function of legislative oversight. Rather than simply provide the information, WEC has filed a lawsuit in an attempt to quash the subpoenas and avoid providing governmental data and information to my office. I am aggressively defending the subpoenas in our state courts—courts which I once helped to oversee in my capacity as a Justice—but WEC's actions beg the question: What are WEC and the recalcitrant city clerks hiding from the public and our legislature?

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Nevertheless, I have had many productive conversations with government officials. In fact, in the many discussions my Office has had with the fine public servants in the state of Wisconsin, I have learned that complicated questions may have simple answers. But many complicated questions deserve honest answers that take time to process and report. I ask each reader of this interim report to take this as a jumping-off point for learning about the administration of elections in Wisconsin. And again, please reach out to my office if you have any information of relevance. Your voice matters.

Michael J. Gableman

Special Counsel

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What is the OSC Investigation?

November 3, 2020, was election day nationwide, and was, in our State of Wisconsin, the culmination of months of work by dedicated election workers and volunteers. It was a monumental and expensive undertaking which is critical to our representative democracy. However, it is beyond debate that questions remain about the integrity of that election. In discharging its duty under both the Federal and State Constitutions, the Wisconsin State Assembly saw fit, on June 26, 2021, to appoint a Special Counsel, establish the Office of the Special Counsel to investigate the election, make findings, and report those findings and recommendations to the Assembly. This report is a first step in fulfilling that duty.

The Office of the Special Counsel is an authorized agency of the State of Wisconsin. Its staff, including and especially the Special Counsel himself, take care to abide by all applicable state and federal laws, including open records laws and regulations relating to the practice of law. My Office will abide by the highest ethical standards to maintain a commitment to transparency, inclusion, and accountability. As such, the Office has established various internal policies, continues to maintain records, and commits to full disclosure of all public records upon the conclusion of the present investigation.

To-date, my Office has already collected and reviewed thousands of governmental and other documents. My Office has interviewed numerous witnesses and will continue to do so until the conclusion of the present investigation. The Office has been allocated a comparatively modest budget and has relied heavily upon volunteers and input by citizens' groups: the vast majority of the Office's budget, while allocated, has not been spent.

The Office may be reached at (262) 202-8722 or online at www.wifraud.com. As noted below, testimony compelled by this Office bears with it the promise, mandated by Wisconsin law, that any information so compelled may not be used in a criminal

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proceeding against the individual from whom it was provided. *See* Wis. Stat. § 13.35. This Office has already been in contact with certain whistleblowers and commits to taking all steps to protect their interests and those of future whistleblowers.

Constitutional Authority

Pursuant to the federal Constitution, Article I, Section 4, it is state legislatures who are authorized to set "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives…" The Supreme Court of the United States has clarified that this means the Wisconsin legislature bears primary responsibility for establishing rules regarding things like voter registration, poll watching, penalties, ballot counting, and certification. This primacy of the state legislature is ratified by the Wisconsin Constitution, which in Article IV, Section 1 declares "The legislative power shall be vested in a senate and assembly." Whether this means the state Assembly and Senate may, by joint resolution and without gubernatorial signature, tighten up or loosen election security for federal elections, and whether there are limits on how much of this constitutional responsibility can and should be delegated to other state actors (such as the Wisconsin Elections Commission), is an open question in state law.

There is some debate that the Elections Clause of the United States Constitution authorizes states to regulate legislatures alone to dictate the time, places, and manner of elections. While the word "legislature," is used several times in the federal constitution, its meaning differs according to the context in which it appears, dependent upon the character of the function which the legislature is called upon in each respective instance to exercise. *Ariz. State Legislature v. Ariz. Indep. Redistricting Comm'n*, 576 U.S. 787, 808 (2015) (citing *Atlantic Cleaners & Dyers, Inc. v. United States,* 286 U.S. 427, 434 (1932)). Even if the constitution authorizes the Assembly and Senate to jointly amend parts of our election code without gubernatorial signature, the Wisconsin constitution provides that the legislature should create bills of law which become effective only when signed by the governor. Wis. Const. Art. 4, Section 17; Article 5, Section 10. It may be the case that the

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Senate and Assembly can change election regulations in the absence of a statute on the books, indeed Wisconsin law appears silent on this question, but it would be another matter for the Senate and Assembly to seek to repeal an extant portion of the election code.

This brings up a second, equally important issue—certification of the vote. There are serious and legitimate questions that the certification of Wisconsin's election results may have been undertaken in an unlawful and unconstitutional manner. While the Wisconsin legislature has specified how presidential electors are selected, that statute does not empower the governor or WEC to certify the results of the election. The acceptance of electors by the governor while recount challenges were pending deprived the legislature of the right to certify the vote pursuant to Article II of the United States Constitution. Hasty certification of electors in a tightly contested election may disenfranchise voters to the same extent as missing a deadline and failing to certify electors at all. While hasty certification may violate the state constitutional duties of the legislature, delaying certification of electors until resolution of relevant issues does no such violence to our legal system.

Statutory Authority

The authority of the Legislature brings with it the legislative prerogative to gather information, debate bills, and pass laws. In discharging these duties, the legislature bears the constitutional obligation and has the authority to conduct oversight, including the ability to compel production of documents and testimony. Under Wis. Stat. § 13.31, the legislature has the authority to subpoena information from individuals. Because this legislative subpoena is a part of common law legislative authority which holds that without access to all available information a legislature cannot properly legislate—and because this subpoena does not directly relate to or contemplate criminal proceedings, criminal due process rights are not implicated. *See* Wis. Stat. § 13.35. To this end, § 13.35 expressly provides that documents and testimony provided by a witness pursuant to a

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legislative subpoena cannot "be used in any trial or criminal proceeding against such person in court." This does not preclude this Office from turning over information to relevant law enforcement agencies, or by talking with this Office any given individual is somehow immune from criminal prosecution.

This office has, to-date, issued seventeen subpoenas for documents as well as testimony for governmental information from sitting government officials and has obtained some voluntary compliance. These subpoenas, properly issued pursuant to and in furtherance of the legislature's core oversight function, have nevertheless been attacked by the media, are subject to pending litigation, threats of more litigation, and have involved nationwide attention and the work of out-of-state partisan attorneys. Given the substantial recent history of municipal non-compliance with the LAB investigation and the plenary authority of the legislature, the Assembly and this Office are defending these subpoenas. The legislature, and the public, have a right to all available information and the testimony of election officials about elections administration in Wisconsin.

A. How This Investigation Differs from the LAB's Investigation.

The LAB, established in 1971, is authorized by Wisconsin statutes to "conduct...audits of the accounts and other *financial* records of departments to assure all *financial* transactions have been made in a legal and proper manner." Wis. Stat. § 13.94(1) (emphasis added). LAB has a large staff and a laudable history of working with all state instrumentalities, but its relatively narrow mission is to ensure taxpayer money is well-spent. Its report issued October 22, 2021, notes up-front that it is concerned with "audits and evaluations of public finances and the management of public programs." As such, its interest is neither in addressing policy concerns nor the concerns of the full legislature, but of responding to directed audits of the "records of each department" of the state of Wisconsin. Further, as the recommendations in the LAB report suggest, its ability to make recommendations is statutorily limited to the four corners of current Wisconsin law and it does not generally make recommendations to improve the law. When it does, as

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in the case of the current report, these changes are extraordinarily modest, perhaps recognizing its limited authorization. Finally, its sole product is a "detailed report" to the legislature, which includes discussion of any "illegal or improper expenditures." To the extent illegal or improper conduct does not implicate the state fisc, that conduct is beyond the purview of LAB inquiry.

By contrast, my Office's investigation has a wide mandate to investigate elections in Wisconsin, beyond mere "waste, fraud, and abuse," as well as the authority to gain access to necessary testimony and documents, even when recalcitrant individuals or municipalities are not otherwise inclined to "cooperate."

Can Private Groups be Involved in Running Wisconsin Elections?: Delegation and Undue Corporate Influence

While this Office draws no conclusions yet, initial interviews and discussions with clerks suggest there is widespread and substantial confusion about the appropriate role of outside money in the administration of Wisconsin elections. Evidence is already in this Office's possession indicates undue influence by well-funded private groups, who leveraged large grants to certain Wisconsin cities in order to co-opt our election apparatus to their benefit. The recent LAB investigation did not comprehensively investigate or address these concerns by clerks and the public, concerns which led to frustration and untimely resignation of at least one long-serving clerk and numerous unanswered complaints to WEC. Indeed, contracts made between outside groups and certain municipalities led directly to actions contrary to Wisconsin state law, which some clerks noted harmed both election security and the physical safety of voters. The public has a right to know if there was a *quid pro quo* arrangement between outside groups and cities, and if so, what the terms of that agreement were.

How much authority can clerks contract away to private organizations? As the LAB report contends: "Statutes do not specify the actions and responsibilities that consultants

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are allowed to take at polling places and central count locations on Election Day." Nevertheless, for the purposes of legislative inquiry, this is not, and cannot, be the end of the story. Whether certain organizations and individuals operated within a grey area in state law does not preclude obtaining all relevant facts and attempting to draw fine distinctions to facilitate legislative oversight, dialogue with the public, present legislative recommendations, and restore confidence in Wisconsin's system of elections. We need to gather all facts so the legislature can address any problems.

Oblique reference to at least one major issue is made in the LAB report which bears mentioning. Specifically, the LAB report notes the following:

"We asked the clerks of all thirty-nine municipalities [that used central count locations] whether consultants worked at central count locations during the November 2020 General Election. Clerks indicated consultants associated with private organizations worked at the central count locations in two of the thirty-nine municipalities. Specifically:

- One municipality indicated a consultant attended the August 2020 primary as an observer, helped to modify the municipality's election training materials from August 2020 until October 2020, and was at the central count location on Election Day in November 2020 to provide technical assistance for electronic voting equipment. The municipality indicated at least five poll workers monitored such assistance at all times.

- A second municipality indicated a consultant provided logistical support and offered elections administration recommendations but did not have the authority to make decisions and did not count ballots. The municipality indicated the consultant initially wore a city employee identification badge at the central count location on Election Day in November 2020 but subsequently became an observer after the deputy clerk spoke with WEC's administrator about this individual."

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This cursory reporting is concerning, because it substantially waters down already-public information relating to the involvement by a number of private groups in election administration, and it suggests problems were raised and adequately resolved by clerks and WEC.

In fact, in both instances, evidence is already available to this Office that is inconsistent with the LAB's report, and which indicates a more widespread and deeper issue. For example, one private organization referred to in the LAB report was directly involved in all aspects of management of election officials, was entrusted with the only sets of physical keys to the city's central count location, managed the transportation of ballots, and instructed the counting of unlawful ballots that had arrived at the central count location beyond the lawful time window.

Furthermore, under Wis. Statutes § 7.41, there are express rules for "members of the public" to exercise their right to observe Wisconsin elections, which include limitations on the ability of observers to obtain confidential voter information or to communicate with election officials. Individuals are, under Wisconsin law, either election officials or members of the public, and do not "become" observers, as the LAB report suggests. Finally, issues involving possible unauthorized access to election materials or impersonation of a municipal employee cannot be remedied by *ex parte* discussion with a single bureaucrat at WEC. None of these issues are directly addressed by the LAB report.

The LAB report also fails to address to what degree state instrumentalities may properly contract with private groups for purposes of administering public elections. Clerks have already raised concerns to this Office that there are certain election administration functions which they are simply unable to perform. Clerks and the public have raised concerns about the ability of outside contractors to legally bind election officials with onerous contractual terms.

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Contracts with private groups for election administration and management.

This Office is reviewing contracts between municipalities and private groups which gave preferential access to voter data to those private groups and prohibited contracting municipalities from exercising their legal right to change election procedures, lest they be on the hook for paying substantial sums of money back to those groups. Clerks have also raised concerns about technical contracts which limit their ability to review the inner workings of equipment and software related to voter registration and vote tabulation.

A major concern raised by numerous members of the public is whether outside contractors abided by all applicable state and federal antidiscrimination laws, a question not addressed in the LAB report.

This Office has also already uncovered evidence of selective targeting of voters by these private groups, raising questions as to what extent nonpartisan government agencies were turned into partisan get-out-the-vote operations, or whether this targeting was performed on any other unlawful basis. Some of this targeting was apparently in the context of recommending ballot "drop boxes" in certain locations, but not others, a violation of Wisconsin Stat. § 6.855 (see below). Each of these facts, if true, are concerning, and this Office continues to investigate the extent of this entanglement. Furthermore, without statutorily mandated training for clerks, the possibility of undue outside influence in our elections increases. In the vacuum created by WEC, understaffed and overworked clerks can find it all-too-easy to take money and personnel from private groups that might not have compliance with the law as their top priority.

Some clerks have noted to this office the complexity and scope of Wisconsin elections will *always* and *necessarily* require delegation of at least some election functions to private companies. But clerks have suggested a line must be drawn somewhere and many express concern over the 2020 election. Indeed, one current clerk specifically recommended to this Office that private money be prohibited. This Office continues to

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investigate precisely how much authority was ceded to private entities and whether that subservience hindered the fair administration of elections and/or diminished public confidence in that fairness.

Who Runs Wisconsin Elections? Finger-Pointing and the Wisconsin Elections Commission

Clerk Authority

The core of the constitutional and statutory responsibility for election administration in Wisconsin resides with county and municipal clerks. Under Wisconsin Statute § 7.15(1), the municipal clerk has "charge and supervision" of not only state, but also federal elections within a municipality. In turn, these municipal clerks report electoral results to the county clerk and provide county clerks with all materials the county clerks need to discharge their lawful duty to administer elections in their county. While municipal clerks are appointed by political officials such as mayors, county clerks in our state are directly elected.

Government Accountability Board Scandal and Creation of Wisconsin Elections Commission

To assist with developing best practices, the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) was established in 2016. Prior to 2016, a large, opaque, politically partisan, and unaccountable agency, the Government Accountability Board (GAB), was charged with administering vast swaths of statewide ethics and election law. In the wake of a major statewide scandal that drew national attention, the John Doe investigations, the legislature and Governor took the unprecedented step of abolishing that agency and amending state election laws. However, rather than returning the state to a system of clear delegations of authority and broad clerk autonomy, those amendments created WEC, drawing criticism from many quarters, including Kevin Kennedy, the outgoing Director of GAB, who remarked that

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the new system **would have essentially no changes, and that the new system would be "no more transparent" than the old one.**

One example of Kennedy's fulfilled prophecy is the abundance of inconsistent information relating to voter data in the registration database. In its waning days of 2015, the GAB was confronted with 28,906 voters whose information about their name and address as reported to the DMV was inconsistent with information for the same voter in the voter registration database. The GAB dismissed those concerns. However, as of 2021, those same numbers not only continue to exist and have never been adequately explained but increased in number under WEC's tenure.

Pursuant to Wisconsin law, WEC is tasked with certain portions of "the administration of...laws relating to elections." Wisconsin Statutes § 5.05(1). Precisely how far this delegation goes is an open question. WEC authority as expressly laid out in that section contemplates public rulemaking, investigation, and enforcement. However, the election code sections over which WEC has regulatory authority include numerous provisions which expressly delegate authority to individual actors, such as county and municipal clerks. In fact, Wisconsin law delegates to the "board" the duty to certify the state's electors in a presidential election, a job fulfilled in 2020 solely by the Chairperson of WEC, without board vote. *Compare* Wis. Stat. § 7.70(5). The LAB report does not make an effort to systematically review these delegations but does note in several places the "shared" election administration responsibilities.

Confusion about WEC Authority

While this Office draws no conclusions yet, initial interviews with clerks suggest there is widespread confusion about the lawful role of WEC in the state, and concern that WEC has acted outside its lawful purview. There is evidence numerous complaints by clerks to WEC were ignored. This problem is exacerbated by a lack of clarity as to the legal status of WEC guidance: some clerks are convinced compliance with WEC guidance

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provides them with a legal "safe harbor" in the event the Clerk's directives consistent with the guidance are challenged in court. In a recent statement, WEC expressly disavowed that its actions could provide a basis for a defense but instead opined that it is the clerks who bear all the responsibility for election related litigation.

Additionally, WEC guidance, such as online FAQs, are apparently issued without a full Commission vote. Other documents, as the LAB report notes in the case of the March 2020 Commission-approved guidance regarding Special Voting Deputies are flatly contrary to law. As noted above, much authority is delegated to the WEC administrator. Importantly, under Wisconsin law, there is slight legal recourse other than a petition to WEC to challenge such unlawful behavior. When WEC implicitly or explicitly authorizes actions contrary to Wisconsin law, such as enabling poor security for access to statewide voter registration data systems or authorizing "shortcuts" such as issuing absentee ballots without applications or enabling widespread ballot curing, voters and candidates are left with no choice but to file expensive and time-consuming lawsuits. The LAB report, consistent with the LAB mission discussed above, did not investigate these issues, which this Office continues to investigate and collate.

Lack of Legal Remedies

Furthermore, the LAB did not investigate various decisions WEC and others made in the run-up to the 2020 election, some of which appear designed to prevent the Wisconsin courts, including the Wisconsin Supreme Court, from weighing in. Specifically, the decision by WEC to quickly issue ballots without a Green Party candidate was the determining factor in the Wisconsin Supreme Court declining to address the merits of that exclusion. WEC's action was of dubious legality. In the 2020 case of *Hawkins v. Wisconsin Elections Commission*, the 4-3 majority held that because WEC had claimed it had already issued an unknown number of ballots, there was no time to properly address the claims of the excluded Green Party candidate. In other words, WEC's own actions operated to neuter the ability of our state's highest court to address whether WEC's

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actions were lawful and to provide a remedy if they were not. Then Chief Justice Patience D. Roggensack wrote a forthright dissent, noting "The court's silence not only affirms lawless conduct by the Commission, but also provides no directive for the required treatment of nomination papers in the future." This Office continues to formulate legislative options to ensure this remedial gap in Wisconsin law is repaired.

Absentee Balloting

A second action has evaded both LAB and state judicial review andinvolves the issue of absentee balloting. Precisely what rules govern the requirements for mail-in and in-person absentee voting in the state of Wisconsin? It is clear in some instances the safeguards mandated for the protection of honest absentee ballots were ignored by WEC.

Many of these safeguards were apparently abrogated by WEC and municipalities in 2020, with COVID-19 as a proffered excuse. One issue involved the illegal mass self-certification of individuals as "indefinitely confined" under the statute, a category which enables a voter to evade state voter ID requirements, but which is intended to apply to physically or physiologically immobile residents confined to their home because of their condition. Presented to the Wisconsin Supreme Court, again the majority ducked a ruling on the merits, prompting then Chief Justice Roggensack to note that it appears the Court "cannot be bothered with addressing what the statutes require to assure absentee ballots are lawfully cast." It is up to the state legislature to investigate if, how, and why state law was not followed and take legislative action.

One major issue identified involves "Democracy in the Park," which were citywide events in Madison before the election exclusively related to absentee ballots. The LAB report mentions this issue in passing as a "Special Event" occurring in a "specified outdoor setting." Without explaining the issue, the report recommends the Legislature "clarify" statutes so individuals know whether or not they can engage in absentee ballot activities contrary to the procedures laid down in Wis. Stat. § 6.855. In other words, the

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LAB report implicitly notes the statutes were violated by Democracy in the Park and recommends the law be changed.

What was Democracy in the Park, and why has it been the subject of numerous citizen complaints, lawsuits, and legislative inquiries apart from this Office's investigation?

While this Office draws no conclusions, we possess evidence that the events, which occurred on September 26 and October 3, 2020, involved numerous possible violations of state law, calling into question the validity of over 17,000 absentee ballots. Specifically, these involved large outdoor gatherings where purported designees of the City Clerk's office assisted with absentee ballots that yielded over 17,000 votes. Furthermore, it is not clear that all of the workers at those events were properly deputized and trained, swore and filed the mandatory oath of office, or documents related to absentee ballots were properly handled. Finally, this Office also seeks to review the processing of those ballots. Each of these fact-intensive avenues of inquiry are crucial for determining what was improper and how to prevent future impropriety in absentee voting.

Clerk Training

In addition, this office has obtained evidence that WEC failed to complete its statutorily mandated training duties. As the LAB report notes, Wisconsin Statutes § 12.01 *et seq*., lays out training protocols for clerks. But county clerks are politically accountable to their voters, and WEC certification or lack of certification does not affect a clerk's legal rights. However, if a clerk is *not* certificated by WEC, such as for failing to be properly trained, WEC is required by law to notify the "governing body" of that clerk's county or municipality. In other words, WEC is mandated by law to train clerks, and clerks who fail to complete training are reported by letter to the mayor or county board. Yet, as the LAB found, at least 17.5% of clerks were not properly trained, and no letters from WEC went out notifying cities and boards about the failure to complete training. This Office continues to review the issue. Moreover, this Office already has ample evidence that in

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the absence of this legally mandated training, certain private groups filled the vacuum, perhaps for their own, self-interested purposes, providing some municipalities with incorrect and even unlawful advice. In a statement, at least one clerk has noted outside advice negatively impacted the security of the vote and the physical safety of voters.

Exploitation of Elders

This Office continues to review the issues involving WEC more generally, as well as other plain rules that are apparently without remedy in Wisconsin law, such as the editing of ballot applications by clerks and voting procedures at nursing homes. A recent investigation and report by the Racine County Sheriff's Office highlighted the exploitation of some of our most vulnerable citizens. Furthermore, complaints were apparently made to WEC and ignored, in a system which the sheriff described as leading to our election system being "not just broken, but shattered." I believe many Wisconsinites share the Sheriff's sentiment. It is my hope a continued investigation and final report from this Office will help change those perspectives and sentiments.

In the run-up to the November 3, 2020, election, clerks and WEC took numerous steps to alleviate public fears about COVID-19. But in this perceived crisis there was the opportunity for electoral partisan advantage. For example, Wisconsin law mandates individuals in various types of communal living facilities may have special access to absentee voting in person, but only subject to the rules of § 6.875. These rules govern the "Special Voting Deputies" that a municipality may, in turn, train and authorize to collect absentee votes in person: this is the *only* lawful method for collecting absentee ballots outside normal procedures, as Special Voting Deputies swear an oath and become duly authorized "election officials." Without the availability of Special Voting Deputies under the statute, it would be much more difficult for many senior citizens or those in assisted living facilities to vote. Yet in 2020, at the recommendation of its top administrator, WEC voted to unilaterally prohibit the use of Special Voting Deputies, explaining that COVID-19 made it too dangerous to allow for Special Voting Deputies to enter these facilities.

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This Office has evidence that WEC and some clerks instructed residential care employees to act in a manner prohibited by law, collecting and assisting in completing ballots for individuals in these group facilities, including those with dementia. This led to record-high voting by individuals who had not voted for nearly a decade and may have lacked the cognitive ability to vote.

On its face, this type of activity could lead to criminal referral for the residential care employees, as the Chairperson of WEC has suggested. But residential care staff represent the "little fish" in this alleged criminal enterprise. This Office is reviewing the relevant Wisconsin statutes to facilitate the criminal referral process and make legislative recommendations. This includes reviewing legal methods for ensuring our senior citizens are not bullied or taken advantage of, and neither nursing homes nor their residents are used for any unlawful election activity, merely because these citizens are vulnerable, easy targets for partisan predators.

WEC: Self-Policing and Self-Serving

Numerous members of the public, as well as the clerks, have questioned the independent authority clerks have to administer an election consistent with state law in light of WEC's guidance, which in several instances was contrary to those voting laws. Some clerks feel WEC may legally bind the clerks in granular decisions about their local needs. Other clerks are concerned about repercussions for not following WEC guidance. Many clerks have expressed disagreement with WEC conclusions, and some have done so publicly. Numerous members of the public have raised concerns about WEC's ability to police itself: the discretionary nature of WEC intake, review, and response to complaints, and the fact that complaints about WEC are handled—or not handled, as the case may be—by WEC itself.

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This Office continues to interview clerks and expects to discuss with WEC staff precise nature of WEC's role in future Wisconsin elections.

How can the Public be Confident in Our Elections? The Black Box

As former GAB Director Kevin Kennedy noted, the new WEC system is, apparently, "no more transparent" than the old one which he ran. Without robust legislative oversight, many Wisconsinites are at risk of feeling their vote does not count, or that there is widespread election fraud in the state. Worse, their fears may be well-grounded. Two major areas of inquiry are being looked at by my Office, both dealing with the appropriate level of transparency for our election systems. First, my Office is reviewing the laws and procedures relating to the use of technological tools in administering elections: the "voting machines" and the various election databases used by WEC. Second, my Office is reviewing barriers to public access to information, such as excessive charges for public access to public registration data.

While this Office draws no conclusions, interviews with clerks, citizens, and other groups suggest there is widespread concern about the inability of an average citizen to track how elections are run. This inability has huge downstream consequences, as citizens are often presented with snippets of information reminiscent of the "confusopoly" in health insurance. Presented with outdated data sets of dubious accuracy, citizens seeking to use public information to confirm election results are unable to do so, while those with money and access (or preferential contracts, as noted above) can access better data, more quickly. Further, the precise operations of voting machines are not readily accessible or understood by the public, or by commissioners on WEC itself. As with health insurance, the system operates on autopilot, with the insured praying their bill is accurate, and with voters praying the system is working as it is supposed to.

Election systems in Wisconsin are governed by state and federal law. Specifically, the federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC) created under the Help America Vote Act

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of 2002 (HAVA) is tasked with approving all voting systems used in federal elections, and with approving all modifications of voting systems used in federal elections. 52 U.S.C. § 20971. As a part of this, voting systems vendors submit their proposed systems to the EAC for approval. Typically, once a system is tested and approved by the EAC, the vendor will make a similar application to WEC, which may approve the system for sale and use within the state of Wisconsin. However, beginning in 2015 the state of Wisconsin allowed GAB (and now WEC) to approve systems for use in the state which are not approved by the EAC. Wis. Stat. § 5.591. While there is thus wide discretion vested in WEC to approve changes to voting systems, federal law mandates that "all records and papers... relating to any application, registration, payment of poll tax, or other act requisite to voting in such election" be preserved by the State for twenty-two months following the election. 52 U.S.C. § 20701.

But as was made eminently clear in a recent WEC meeting held after a preservation request issued by this Office, WEC officials and staff are not at all clear as to what "modifications" to voting machines require WEC approval, which modifications can lawfully be made, or what certain software updates actually entail. Further, WEC approval of actions that might violate federal record keeping laws are no guarantee of legal immunity for clerks with final say over what happens to voting machines in their locales. In fact, as one machine vendor noted during that open meeting, in order to install a software update, that company would be obliged to entirely "wipe" a machine. That is, to delete all information from election hardware. Whether this technical process destroys election records in contravention of federal law is a question that WEC has yet been unable to answer.

In order to address this and related questions, this Office has been allocated a budget to engage neutral, certificated data security experts, and has already taken steps to initiate an open and full technical audit of various voting systems to understand and report on the security of these systems. Whatever the results, various clerks have already suggested they themselves do not know precisely how the voting machines work and

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rely entirely upon private contractors to assure them of system integrity. This in and of itself may be a problem. The problem is further exacerbated in that WEC, who is responsible for training the clerks on the machines, may not itself know how the machines work.

Prior to the establishment of this Office, the Special Counsel did personally engage with various outside individuals relating to various voting machine concerns. This Office neither endorses the views of any particular outside individual nor has this Office yet uncovered any evidence of foreign hacking of elections in the state of Wisconsin. Nevertheless, the opacity of elections systems has given rise to numerous theories and concerns about the 2020 election.

A second issue related to the transparency of our election system in the state is the public availability of voter data. While this Office as yet draws no conclusions, there is already evidence that security surrounding the WisVote (SVRS) system is lax. This statewide system enables clerks to track absentee ballot requests and includes highly sensitive personal information. As such, it is supposed to be subject to a high level of security laid out in WEC guidance. Nevertheless, there is already some evidence of unauthorized access to this database. Further, several clerks have complained that they were provided by WEC with numerous, unrequested access keys, leading to a security headache and concerns that the statewide system was not secure.

In addition to concerns about too much access, concerns have been raised about not enough access, or about unequal access, to voter registration information. This is important because access to this data is necessary for tracking the accuracy of reported election results. WEC does provide statewide voter registration data for a fee up to, and usually, $12,500. This fee is set by WEC administrative rule, and it is mandated by statute that the fee be set "at an amount estimated to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level." Wis. Stat. § 6.36(6). Nevertheless, it is apparently the case that the fee is charged for each reproduction, no matter the actual

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cost, and that subsequent individuals requesting a list that has already been produced are charged the same rack-rate. Further, there is some evidence that outside groups were provided privileged access to this data without fee, and on an expedited basis. This Office continues to investigate this matter, and again, this issue is not addressed in the LAB report.

Conclusion

The people of the state of Wisconsin have a right to know how our elections are run. The legislature has the common law and constitutional right and obligation to investigate how our state laws are being administered. Without adequate information and oversight, citizens in a democracy justifiably lose confidence that their vote counts and their system of government is working properly.

This Interim Report seeks to build upon the good work of many citizens and government officials including the vast majority of county and municipal clerks, and to shine a light on issues and concerns of interest. It is a healthy exercise in good government, not an attempt to overturn any election. As this investigation continues, my Office will vigorously seek out and obtain all available truthful information, so that it can present this information to the public and to the Assembly.

If, in the course of this investigation, the Office obtains information that could be used in a criminal prosecution, this Office will cooperate fully with all appropriate law enforcement entities.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 9:43 PM

To: kkonle95@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Kathleen Konle-Barth
206540 Hrebik Lane
Mosinee WI54455

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 5:00 PM

To: lynnkcarey@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Lynn Carey
W148N10217 Windsong Cir E
Germantown WI53022

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 12:27 PM

To: rebecca.schwarzloera@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Rebecca Schwarz
1507 Weston St
La Crosse WI54601

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 12:27 PM

To: rebecca.schwarzloera@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Rebecca Schwarz
1507 Weston St
La Crosse WI54601

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 10:39 AM

To: rrghsimon@aol.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Rita Simon
8581 105th St
Chippewa Falls WI54729

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 9:51 AM

To: mgoettl7@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Mike Goettl
754 Gilbert St
Eau Claire WI54703-2881

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2021, 12:01 AM

To: halberg01@sbcglobal.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Scott Halberg
302 Knollwood Dr
Hudson WI54016

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Sunday, November 28, 2021, 9:34 PM

To: aguilar.mcla@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Maricela Aguilar Monroy
716 S 22nd ST
Milwaukee WI53204

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Sunday, November 28, 2021, 11:53 AM

To: moonlightfav@aol.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Martha Munger
S8821 County Line Rd.
Mondovi WI54755

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Sunday, November 28, 2021, 11:05 AM

To: davidfulwiler@sbcglobal.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

David Fulwiler
505 N. 26th Street #408
Milwaukee WI53233

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Sunday, November 28, 2021, 7:32 AM

To: twn1953@hotmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Tom Nacey

Superior WI54880

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2021, 4:48 PM

To: bwishard@somtel.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

bradley wishard
lakeside lane
somerset WI54025

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2021, 12:16 PM

To: dturcany@frontier.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Donna Turcany
359 N Cedar St
Adams WI53910

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2021, 10:12 AM

To: scovillejb@aol.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

James Scoville
3142 James Way
Sturgeon Bay WI54235

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2021, 10:02 AM

To: selevin@hotmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Sandra Levin
4585 Fox Bluff Ln
Middleton WI53562

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2021, 9:10 AM

To: merryminion@tds.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Christine Morrissey
1102 N Union St
Appleton WI54911

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2021, 6:46 AM

To: pspier@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Phoebe Spier
1431 Moon Beach Ln
Saint Germain WI54558

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 10:54 PM

To: woodsmandavid@yahoo.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

David Hansen

Rhinelander WI54501

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 10:26 PM

To: khbriggs@yahoo.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Kathy Briggs
S.8170 Lowes Creek Road
Eau Claire WI54701

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 6:29 PM

To: dbuzzdavis@aol.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Buzz Davis Vets for Peace
813 S. Deer Meadow Loop
Tucson AZ85745

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 6:23 PM

To: lizkeefe@verizon.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Liz Keefe
484 W. 43 St #18N
NEW YORK NY10036

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 6:01 PM

To: cwbublitz@mac.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Cathy Bublitz
4908 N. Ardmore Ave.
Whitefish Bay WI53217

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 5:45 PM

To: biggreenfrog001@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

John Wanner
2024 S 77th
Merrimac WI53561

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 5:28 PM

To: barbarafogarty620@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Barbara Fogarty
220 Augusta St.
Racine WI53402

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 5:24 PM

To: lncookie44@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Lillian Nordin
N8851 William Severson Rd
Holmen WI54636

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 5:17 PM

To: vinmarjones77@sbcglobal.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Mary Jones
12917 n colony dr
Mequon WI53097

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 5:04 PM

To: kittjen@aol.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Kathleen Jennerman
858 Starr Ave
Eau Claire WI54703

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 26, 2021, 2:40 PM

To: patament@yahoo.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Pat Ament
8450 Riverview
Brooklyn Park MN55444

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021, 3:30 PM

To: eandjfamily@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Elizabeth Janvrin
2539 Barlow St
La Crosse WI54601

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021, 11:09 AM

To: kentgallaway@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

kent gallaway
S7608 deerpoint rd
Readstown WI54652

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021, 9:58 AM

To: cocoon@mwt.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Steven Adams
S4001 River Rd
Viroqua WI54665

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021, 7:22 AM

To: stargirl_46@hotmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Michelle Buerger

Middleton WI53562

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2021, 8:57 PM

To: bridgetbrow@earthlink.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Bridget Brown

La Crosse WI54601

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2021, 3:25 PM

To: saljones57@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Sarah Jones

Madison WI53703

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2021, 3:13 PM

To: lindaeffort@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Linda Weitzer
W161 N6298 Claremore Cir
MENOMONEE FALLS WI53051

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2021, 3:07 PM

To: Tina.Pohlman@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Tina Pohlman
624 10th Street North
La Crosse WI54601

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2021, 8:29 AM

To: redbetsy@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Elizabeth Ryan
505 Charles Ln
Madison WI53711

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 4:26 PM

To: jessenjane3@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Jane Jessen
1398 Range Line Rd
Washington Island WI54246

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 5:25 PM

To: james.balk44@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

James Balk
4347 South Packard Ave
Cudahy WI53110

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 1:57 PM

To: sophiajones99@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Sophia Jones

Racine WI53402

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 4:49 PM

To: fredericktrost@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Frederick Trost
2812 Windepoint Ct.
Sheboygan WI53083

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 4:24 PM

To: lintgo@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Matthew Scholtes
3441 S 15th Pl
Milwaukee WI53215

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 1:26 PM

To: deandresmith183@yahoo.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Deandre Smith
4209 Marquette Dr Racine, WI 53402
Racine WI53402

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 12:18 PM

To: bp.moreno@outlook.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Brandon Moreno
2242 N 64th St
Milwaukee WI53213

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 3:04 PM

To: kevinofthelake@yahoo.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Kevin Killeen JD
4884 Highland Park Dr
Slinger WI53086-9525

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 10:41 AM

To: kolpacks@charter.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Ruth Kolpack
3355 Riverside Drive
Beloit WI53511

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 1:20 PM

To: lindadefran12@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Linda DeFrancesco
4610 Ridgecrest Dr
Racine WI53403

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 9:37 AM

To: pgravunder@hotmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Paul Gravunder
W6809 Windward Drive
Greenville WI54942

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 8:50 AM

To: schlan5@wi.rr.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Carole Schlangen
6706 Dahlia Ln
Greendale WI53129

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 1:05 AM

To: estella.lauter@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Estella Lauter
3092 Gibraltar Rd.
Fish CreekFish Creek WI54212

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 3:50 AM

To: jo.adknsn@sbcglobal.net

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Joann Adkinson
2869 N 90th St
Milwaukee WI53222

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:28 PM

To: jean.gohlke16@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Jean Gohlke
916 E Main St
Stoughton WI53589

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:17 PM

To: marycolelsub@mac.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Mary Laub
6301 Offshore Dr, #319
Madison WI53705

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:16 PM

To: Taylorskt16@aol.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Sandra Taylor

Delafield WI53018

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:16 PM

To: allperrys5@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Doug Perry
1411 17th ave
South Milwaukee WI53172

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:16 PM

To: travis@citizenactionwi.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Travis Taylor
1326 west Hadley street
Milwaukee WI53206

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:15 PM

To: lindahreid@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Linda Reid
2857 N Lake Drive
Milwaukee WI53211

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: m.j.riekkoff@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Marcy Riekkoff
3530 E TESCH AVE, APT 6
Saint Francis WI53235

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: rcaldiero@wi.rr.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Ruth Caldiero
8963 N. 70th St.
Milwaukee WI53223

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: megtmcgrane@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Meg McGrane
2620 Notre Dame Drive
Fitchburg WI53711

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: thosehayes@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Tom Hayes
1914 e Kenmore pl
Shorewood WI53211

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: marywc@uwm.edu

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Mary Walz-Chojnacki
8007 Portland ave
Milwaukee WI53213

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: agilestra@me.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Arlene Gilestra
1209 Kings Lynn Rd
Stoughton WI53589

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:14 PM

To: ktalbot21@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Katrin Talbot
109 Everglade Drive
Madison WI53717

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:13 PM

To: bevj.bradford@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Beverly Bradford
112 W Wabash Ave
Waukesha WI53186

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:13 PM

To: shainadesotelle@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Shaina Desotelle
3233 N 79th St
Milwaukee WI53222

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <joannab@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 3:19 PM

To: valerier@citizenactionwi.org

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Valerie Ricks
4611 N 24th Street
MKE WI53209-6202

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: JoAnna Bautch <joannab@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 3:15 PM

To: zoerobertsecone@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Zoe Roberts
2710 Somona PKWY
Eau Claire WI54703

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Fair Maps Petition Signer <info@citizenactionwi.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 11:35 PM

To: joewiesner@gmail.com

Subject: I Support a Non-Partisan, Transparent, and Fair Redistricting Process!

I signed the petition!

To All Wisconsin State Legislators:I applaud Governor Ever's veto of the SB621 maps. I call on all of Wisconsin's state legislators to uphold the veto and work together to ensure that all of us in Wisconsin are fairly represented in anonpartisan, transparent, and fair redistrictingprocess.

Thank you,

Contact Information:

Joseph Wiesner
2161 N. Riverboat Road
Milwaukee WI53212

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 10:14 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: MON News Summary: 5 dead after SUV plows into Waukesha Christmas parade; Rittenhouse attorney criticizes Fox News over interview

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WISPOLITICS.COM
Wisconsin's Premier Political News Service

MON News Summary -- 22 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/mon-news-summary-5-dead-after-suv-plows-into-waukesha-christmas-parade-rittenhouse-attorney-criticizes-fox-news-over-interview/

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RSVP for the Dec. 7 virtual luncheon: 'The USMCA Post-COVID - How Trade Helps the North American Recovery'

Join WisPolitics.com, WisBusiness.com and the Wisconsin Technology Council for the fourth 2021 trade policy virtual event on Tuesday, Dec. 7, from noon to 1 p.m. CT. Attendance is free.

The topic is: 'The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Post-COVID - How Trade Helps the North American Recovery'

Hear from Canadian and Mexican officials and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation about how USMCA will impact Wisconsin businesses and economic recovery.

Panel:
--Aaron Annable, representing the Canadian consulate in Chicago
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2020-Aaron-Annable-Bio.docx

--Julian Adem, representing the Mexican consulate in Milwaukee:
https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/milwaukee/index.php/inicio/consul-titular

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--Stanley Pfrang, senior market development director at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. www.linkedin.com/in/stanley-pfrang-36402413/

This event is made possible with the support of the government of Canada, Michael Best Strategies and the Wisconsin District Export Council. This event is part of the WisPolitics.com-WisBusiness.com-Wisconsin Technology Council trade policy initiative: www.wisbusiness.com/trade-policy/

Event partners: Wisconsin Technology Council, Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS), World Trade Association (WTA) Madison International Trade Association (MITA) and International Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Register here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc21GwxauzVq2RONLJi6Tv2IXwQfglgNBxmp3cyOTCV3RQLRw/viewform

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STORY TOPICS

- White house
- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- State government
- Federal government
- Local government
- Census
- Education
- Elections
- Environment
- Health care

TOP STORIES

5 dead, 40+ injured after SUV plows into Christmas parade in Waukesha

... "There were some fatalities as a result of this incident," [WPD Chief] Thompson said during a news conference Sunday night. ... declined to specify ... A "person of interest" was taken into custody and a "suspect vehicle" was recovered, Thompson said, noting that the investigation is "fluid" and ongoing [with WDOJ assistance]. ... confirmed that shots were fired during the incident ... believe none of them were fired from the SUV. An officer fired several shots at the SUV ... No bystanders were hit ... declined to say whether police shot the SUV driver. [unknown if it was an act of terrorism] ... Waukesha School District announced that school will be canceled Monday. ... "Today we experienced a horrible, senseless tragedy," [Mayor] Reilly said. "My heart goes out to all those affected by this senseless act." Details, WFD Chief Howard, witness Tenorio, Ald. Payne comment. Gov. Evers, AG Kaul, Exec. Farrow statements. By AP, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL [see Law And Order]
https://madison.com/wsj/2e293b7b-b206-5b03-8c3d-4c3f536e26d4.html

Fox News says it didn't pay for Rittenhouse film, interview

... after it was announced that he would speak to Tucker Carlson for an interview to air on Monday. ... [Rittenhouse atty.] Richards said that a Fox documentary crew was embedded with Rittenhouse's team against his wishes. .... didn't think the filming was appropriate and that he had tossed the crew out of meetings several times. "It

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- Law and order - Public health and safety - Real estate - Small business - Editorials - Columns	was not approved by me, but I'm not always in control," he told the AP. "I think it detracted from what we were trying to do, and that was obviously to get Kyle found not guilty.". ... Carlson, on his show Friday ... "a day when all of us should be celebrating" ... showed portions of what his film crew had recorded, including Rittenhouse's first public comments after being acquitted ... "For the authoritarians among us, this is a disaster," Carlson said. "They can't let it go. Why? Because ... If Kyle Rittenhouse can save his own life from the mob then you can, too, and that drives them insane." ... colleagues Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham, took victory laps during their shows and attacked politicians and media members who thought Rittenhouse should be convicted. ... [Carlson's producer] Wells ... said no payment was made for access, footage rights, legal fees or any other purpose to Rittenhouse or his family. ... [Rittenhouse spokesman Hancock] said any potential payment by Fox "was never offered and it was never asked for and it was never discussed." ... Carlson was chosen to conduct the first post-trial interview with Rittenhouse because he "was honest. At the very beginning he saw what was happening and he pointed out that Kyle was defending himself." ... said Rittenhouse plans to do other interviews with other news organizations, although they haven't been set yet. ... Rittenhouse's family is putting the story before an audience most likely to be supportive. Conservatives paid his $2 million bail after his arrest last year. ... Richards [told CNN's Cuomo] that Rittenhouse "is going to have some hard choices in his life about the direction he goes and what he stands for. These will have to be made by Kyle eventually. ... He needs to learn how to take responsibility and to tell people 'no.'" ... told journalist Ashleigh Banfield ... while he's "not a big Fox guy," he also had harsh words for some coverage he saw on CNN and MSNBC. "It makes me angry that they can't take the time to at least get the generic, basic facts correct, because it didn't fit into the story they wanted to tell." By Bauder, AP https://apnews.com/333ca50c646421ae8802c77eccef1818

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STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE ^top^
- Rural Leaders Fear They'll Miss Out on Infrastructure Money
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/22/rural-leaders-fear-theyll-miss-out-on-infrastructure-money

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^

- Carlson Nabs Exclusive Interview With Kyle Rittenhouse ... "This case has nothing to do with race. It never had anything to do with race. It had to do with the right to self-defense," the 18-year-old tells Fox News host Tucker Carlson in an interview set to air Monday night. Rittenhouse is white, as were the men he shot. ... "I'm not a racist person. I support the BLM movement, I support peacefully demonstrating," Rittenhouse tells Carlson in excerpts of the interview released by Fox News ahead of its airing. https://www.newsweek.com/1651533

- 'Self-defense is not illegal': Kyle Rittenhouse tells Fox News after not-guilty verdict ... In a video promoting a Tucker Carlson Originals special on the case, Rittenhouse tells someone as he is apparently driven away from the courthouse: "The jury reached the correct verdict. Self-defense is not illegal. And I believe they came to the correct verdict and I'm glad that everything went well. It's been a rough journey, but we made it through it. We made it through the hard part." ... Verdict sheets ... signed not guilty verdicts to the five charges on different dates. Three verdict sheets were dated Wednesday and Thursday. ... Juror 54 signed [Huber] verdict sheet ... Wednesday. The two sheets signed Friday involved the fatal shooting of Joseph Rosenbaum and the charge of reckless endangerment of a man who was near Rittenhouse during the shooting. ... judge praised the jurors, saying he "couldn't have asked for a better jury."
Some jurors appeared fatigued as the verdicts were read -- their hands on their chins or rubbing their eyes, according to a pool reporter. Others seemed ill-at-ease, arms folded across their chests. Reviews trial, jury instruction, verdict. Defense atty. Richards, family spokesman Hancock comment. Statements from Pres. Biden, Gov. Evers, Asst. DA Binger, Huber family, Huber girlfriend, Rosenbaum fiance', Kimberley Motley and Milo Schwab, attorneys for Gaige Grosskreutz and Rosenbaum's estate, Justin Blake, https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/19/us/kyle-rittenhouse-trial-friday/index.html

- In Kenosha, a mostly calm Saturday, Friday night in response to Rittenhouse verdict; authorities remain wary
https://www.kenoshanews.com/d8e28c89-b577-5af5-865d-7be6e95a9ad9.html

- Kenosha protesters, rallying after Rittenhouse verdict, call for focus on case of sex trafficking victim Chrystul Kizer ... who is accused of killing her abuser when she was 17 years old. ... demonstrators chanted Kizer's name in the same breath as the names of the three men Rittenhouse shot, two fatally. ... Rep. David Bowen [also lt. guv candidate] called on the protesters to take up Kizer's case with the same energy they put into Rittenhouse and Jacob Blake, who was shot seven times by Kenosha police last summer. ... "if you truly believe in justice, just like the Lord believes in justice, then you too can fight for justice for that Black woman, who deserves it. ... We easily could give up. We easily could stop at this moment, but we are not," Bowen said. Rainbow PUSH's Grant, Justin BLake, marcher Revere comment.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/21/kenosha-protesters-demonstrate-sunday-after-rittenhouse-acquittal/8713460002/

- Protesters against Rittenhouse verdict seek federal investigation; Jacob Blake's uncle says president "sold us out' ... [Rev. Jackson] could not attend as he was preparing to

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meet with congressional leaders "to make a formal appeal" to [US DOJ] to open a formal investigation on the case, it was announced. Rainbow PUSH's Grant: "It is wrong in a land of laws for any individual to shoot three people and kill two of them in a peaceful protest where people are exercising their First Amendment right of freedom of speech and the right to publicly protest in peace," slammed Judge Schroeder for dismissing the weapon-possession-by-a-minor charge, "He was a minor carrying a weapon, a loaded weapon, unlicensed. He doesn't even have a damn license to drive a car," Grant said. "We're outraged about this and we're going to turn our pain into power," criticized Evers for not meeting with activists, "You cannot have a discussion without us. You cannot have a plan without us. You cannot have any type of arrangement without talking to the people because people power now makes a difference. People pain now makes a difference. And we want justice in this case," cited unequal justice from unequal justice Trayvon Martin back to Emmett Till, "we're going to use peace, and protest and civil disobedience and people using the power that we have ...to make sure this does not happen again." Justin Blake: "If it was an African-American young man carrying that style of weapon, there would be no court like that -- there was none for Jacob Blake. He'd have been shot down in the damn street and that would've been the end of the story," said Biden "sold us out" [Biden met with Blake family Sep. 3, 2020] "He betrayed our families, he betrayed the people behind us ... We want somebody to explain to us why this continues to happen and what the hell they're going to do about it." Biden, in a written statement Friday said that, like many Americans, he was "angry and concerned" with the jury acquittal. Asked by a reporter soon after the verdict if Biden stood by his campaign social media posting, Biden responded that "I stand by what the jury has concluded."
https://www.kenoshanews.com/0128f4aa-c9da-5eb1-ba15-8daf5499ad54.html

- IN PHOTOS: Protesters march in Downtown Kenosha on Sunday: Justin Blake with Rainbow PUSH reps had their own armed escort, pic shows father and 16 y/o daughter carrying scoped rifles. Rev. Jackson was unable to attend.
https://www.kenoshanews.com/6c687514-b5aa-5d0c-a58e-d4fb6441bae2.html

- Rev. Jesse Jackson unable to join marchers at Re-Imagine Kenosha rally Downtown Sunday afternoon ... Marchers traced the route Rittenhouse took the night in August last year when he shot and killed two people and wounded a third ... "Here you have a 17-year-old who illegally purchased a gun, traveled across state lines to protect property that was not his, for owners who did not invite him, and he put himself in harm's way based on the rhetoric that he's seen on social media platforms," [NAACP CEO] Johnson told CBS' "Face the Nation." He called it "a warning shot that vigilante justice is allowed in this country or in particular communities."
https://www.kenoshanews.com/f842f5a4-654f-578e-80bc-f7c0f339c444.html

- Protesters trace route Rittenhouse took in Kenosha, The Rev. Jesse Jackson was scheduled to appear but didn't
https://www.wpr.org/protesters-trace-route-rittenhouse-took-kenosha

- Jury finds Rittenhouse not guilty in Kenosha shootings ... "He wants to get on with his

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life," defense attorney Mark Richards said. "He has a huge sense of relief for what the jury did to him today. He wishes none of this ever happened. But as he said when he testified, he did not start this." ... Supporters donated more than $2 million toward his legal defense. ... "It seems to me that it's open season on human rights demonstrators," [Rev. Jesse Jackson] said. ... Biden called for calm, saying that while the outcome of the case "will leave many Americans feeling angry and concerned, myself included, we must acknowledge that the jury has spoken." ... [ex-pres Trump] issued a statement Friday congratulating Rittenhouse on the verdict, adding "if that's not self defense, nothing is!" ... [Kenosha DA] Graveley ... respects the jury's decision ... asked the public to "accept the verdicts peacefully and not resort to violence." ... [Evers had 500 WNG-ers on standby] But hours after the jury came back, there were no signs of any major protests or unrest in Kenosha. ... Judge Bruce Schroeder assured [jurors] the court would take "every measure" to keep them safe. Lt. Gov. Barnes, US Senate candidate growled "presumption of innocence until proven guilty ... standard is not always applied equally. We have seen so many black and brown youth killed, only to be put on trial posthumously, while the innocence of Kyle Rittenhouse was virtually demanded by the judge." ... Huber's parents, Karen Bloom and John Huber, said the outcome "sends the unacceptable message that armed civilians can show up in any town, incite violence, and then use the danger they have created to justify shooting people in the street." ... Other political figures on the right [McCloskey] welcomed the verdict and condemned the case brought against Rittenhouse. ... Fifteen minutes after the verdicts, the National Rifle Association tweeted the text of the Second Amendment. [reviews racial milieu, Arbery, Floyd killings, Blake shooting, Rittenhouse shootings and trial]. Rittenhouse faces no federal charges or civil suits yet, but city and police have been sued.
https://apnews.com/27f812ba532d65c044617483c915e4de

- Associated Press accuses Republicans of using Rittenhouse case 'to exploit national divide' on race ... with a headline on Sunday that read, "Rittenhouse acquittal tightens the political vise for Biden." ... White House reporter Aamer Madhani warned that this ruling could now be used against President Joe Biden ... "finds himself caught between outraged Democrats ... and Republicans looking to use the Rittenhouse case to exploit the national divide over matters of grievance and race," Madhani wrote. ... also referenced [Biden's] failing poll numbers ... Democrat loss in Virginia. Although ... Democrats [US Reps. Bush, Espaillat] and media pundits have already enflamed racial tensions from the acquittal. ... Meanwhile, MSNBC anchors have openly called out the GOP as "white supremacists" [post-acquital], including Tiffany Cross, who said that she was "disgusted" by people supporting a "little murderous white supremacist." Elie Mystal replied, "Welcome to the modern Republican Party. This is what these people want, and this is what a majority of white people vote for."
https://www.foxnews.com/media/associated-press-republicans-rittenhouse-case-national-divide-race

- Freedom Inc. hosts Madison 'community speak out' on Rittenhouse acquittal ... "This is exactly why we have been calling for community control over police," [Freedom Inc's] Adams said in the statement. ... encouraged conversations on how communities of color can protect themselves "from violence by the police and violence protected by the police

and even the courts," [FI's Ellis] said. ... "We know our people are frustrated with what we have seen the state do yet again: Protect a white supremacist murderer, and essentially send him home to his family," she said of Rittenhouse. "All this is not surprising. It is why we are making space to lift each other up and protect each other."
https://captimes.com/38ac560d-755b-54c2-974f-8ada072ec07c.html

- Kyle Rittenhouse not guilty verdict: Wisconsin reacts ... [US Sen.] Baldwin said. "I am afraid many more people will become victims of gun violence unless we take action at the federal and state level to pass common sense gun safety reforms that take on this epidemic and start saving lives. To me that's just common sense that most people in our state would agree with." ... Gov. Tony Evers said no verdict will bring back those lost in Kenosha or "heal the wounds or trauma experienced by Jacob Blake and his family. ... we have work to do toward equity, accountability, and justice that communities across our state are demanding and deserve." Guv candidate Kleefisch: "Our justice system worked today," dubbed the prosecution "a complete disgrace, praising the mob who burned our streets as 'heroes.'" ... UW Madison's BIPOC Coalition said it is working to distribute funds to organizers in Kenosha and Madison. MPD is working with outside agencies and established an incident command post earlier this week in case protests occur. UW Law prof. Clingele not surprised, the law is "fairly protective of the rights of a person defending himself against what he reasonably believes to be a serious threat of force against him. ... it has lots of racial overtones and implications for how we think about the role of the citizen versus the role of police in protecting public spaces." Nehemia Center's Cooper: "You have to bring race into the equation when you are talking about the criminal justice system. If this had been a young black boy, this would have definitely played out differently." US Senate candidate Barnes: "We have seen so many black and brown youth killed, only to be put on trial posthumously, while the innocence of Kyle Rittenhouse was virtually demanded by the judge. We must transform moments like this by raising our voices, together." US Sen. Johnson: "I believe justice has been served." Rep. Hong and staffer Elmikashfi, victim Huber's family, All In WI, ACLU-WI also comment.
https://captimes.com/a8017bb8-1d07-5a06-931b-a3fe41d165ee.html

- Rittenhouse acquittal sparks sporadic protests and Portland clashes -- but Kenosha remains peaceful, A Kenosha pastor [Cummings] urged the community to "now begin the long process of healing." ... Gov. Tony Evers (D) placed 500 National Guard members on standby ahead of the verdict in Kenosha. But, although protesters gathered outside the courthouse and expressed disappointment at the verdict, there were no signs of major clashes or unrest there Friday night or early Saturday. Protests in Portland, OR, Brooklyn, NY, Oakland, CA, Chicago, IL. New York protester, Kelly Cooper of Tulsa, flew to NY to join protests, lamented that she was protesting the same cause year after year. "They can't keep hurting us. We're stuck in a cycle. ... but no one hears our cry."
https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/11/20/kyle-rittenhouse-verdict-protests

- In Kenosha and beyond, guns become more common on US streets
https://apnews.com/dbc0c29cb1b29ad848a00d8830e2222e

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- Rittenhouse Lawyer Slams GOP Reps, Donald Trump Jr Over Offers of Jobs, Free Gun ... Richards has since called out those trying to use Rittenhouse's acquittal for their own ends. "There's a lot of people trying to profit on this, and I don't think people should," Richards told Insider. Florida Rep. Matt Gaetz [tweeted] he was hoping for a not guilty verdict because Rittenhouse "would probably make a pretty good congressional intern." [Rep. GOsar tweeted, "I will arm wrestle @mattgaetzto get dibs for Kyle as an intern."] ... Rep. Madison Cawthorn went live on Instagram to praise the verdict. "KYLE: IF YOU WANT AN INTERNSHIP, REACH OUT TO ME." ... Richards accused the Republicans of attempting to "trade on [Rittenhouse's] celebrity. They're raising money on it and you have all these Republican congressmen saying come work for me," he said. "They want to trade on his celebrity and I think it's disgusting." ... also issued a rebuke to Donald Trump Jr. for encouraging people [in a now-deleted tweet] to support [Gun Owners of America] that said it would "award" Rittenhouse an AR-15 for his "defense of gun rights."
https://www.newsweek.com/1651671

CORONAVIRUS ^top^
- New COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Wisconsin ... 3,448 new cases of COVID-19 Friday ... seven-day average sits at 3,004 cases, which is up 962 cases from a month ago. ... 55.5%, of the state's population is fully vaccinated.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/2021/11/19/total-3-448-new-covid-19-cases-were-reported/8687250002/

- Pediatric COVID-19 Trends in Wisconsin -- Nov. 17: Children's Hospital CEO Gutzeit comments.
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/20/pediatric-covid-19

STATE GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Moore analysis: WILL study: WI has 161K regulatory restrictions in administrative code, WI stands out as most heavily regulated in Great Lakes region ... Adam Hoffer, a WILL Bradley Freedom Fellow and UW-La Crosse professor, and James Broughel, a Mercatus Center Senior Research Fellow at George Mason University, conducted the study.
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92410

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Governors want CHIPS Act funded to boost domestic production ... Evers joined Whitmer in signing a letter to Congressional leaders Nov. 10 urging them to help improve supply of the computer chips used in cars and other equipment through federal incentives for domestic production.
https://www.ehextra.com/b1e04af7-8fb4-53a2-8544-c0c6908ab58d.html

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- Stauber, Tiffany discuss supply chain shortages with local industry leaders, U.S. Reps. Pete Stauber and Tom Tiffany said they plan to bring the concerns shared Friday back to Washington, D.C. to implement changes at roundtable Friday at Clyde Iron Works in Duluth. ... blame actions by the Biden administration for many of the supply chain issues, including depending on foreign raw and manufactured materials, and for the federal vaccine mandate amid a nationwide labor shortage. ... said they were going to look into what could be done about the age requirement [for commercial DL] in order to help expand the labor pool amid shortages. [biz owner] Kortesmaki said he has witnessed a lack of work experience in individuals seeking jobs, which he believes is due to too much dependence on government assistance. ... [Tiffany agreed] they were too prolonged and incentivized people to drop out of the labor pool. "The fabric of this country was built on work ethic," Stauber said. "Before you can get a better job, first you have to get a job." Douglas County Board Chair Mark Liebaert said the county is really struggling to keep enough service workers, especially at jails. ... "As a society, we haven't said, 'Truck driving's great work,'" [UWS prof.] Stewart said. "Whenever I speak to folks who ask why we can't get truck drivers, I say, 'So, how many of you encouraged your kids to be truck drivers?' Well, there's your answer." ... Stauber and Tiffany said many of the problems faced locally are the same that they've heard about across the nation. Tiffany said he expects efforts to combat these issues to be supported across party lines. [see Small Business]
https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/government-and-politics/7290922-Stauber-Tiffany-discuss-supply-chain-shortages-with-local-industry-leaders

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Winnebago Exec. Doemel's first budget led to record 15 Board changes ... Doemel's plan garnered criticism and confusion from some board members, including his attempt to add a $111,990 policy director position to his office after the board rejected a previous bid for a chief of staff.
https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2021/11/22/doemel-budget-led-to-changes-confusion-from-winnebago-county-board/6355394001/

- Annexation of land for new Beaver Dam subdivision approved
https://www.wiscnews.com/8d400e97-618b-5a57-bb95-c8dc83baa353.html

CENSUS ^top^
- Touting transparent process, Dane County Board approves new redistricting map
https://captimes.com/24bc340e-8f33-5af4-86cf-48235bcdb32a.html

EDUCATION ^top^
- Schools struggle to cover teacher absences amid worker shortage and pandemic
https://madison.com/wsj/ec7bc573-ec86-5931-bd2e-673164aa6df1.html

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- UW System concludes vax campaign, awards 70 students $7K scholarships ... The scholarship recipients span 11 campuses in the UW System where the vaccination rate reached above 70% by the end of October. Only one campus, UW-Platteville, did not meet Thompson's goal set this summer. ... "I believe in encouraging, rather than mandating, vaccines, and the scholarship incentive was a great motivator," a press release quoted Thompson. "We took up a challenge to educate and inform students as a part of a vaccination campaign to help keep our universities safe -- and it has succeeded." In a short video posted on social media, Thompson celebrated the conclusion of the campaign, announcing its success to the "Board of Mascots," a group of university mascots who silently cheered him in unison. Some recipients comment. https://captimes.com/6c5e7c04-2dd9-5c51-b7ef-9ea325278713.html

- As Appleton schools anticipate Afghan refugee students, MS teacher Chia Vang shares her experience as a newcomer over 30 years ago: came from Thailand at 15. https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/22/appleton-schools-prepare-afghan-refugees-heres-one-womans-story/6281148001/

ELECTIONS ^top^

- Rep. Ramthun drew praise from Trump for his call to decertify the 2020 vote. Here's why that won't happen. ... [Ramthun] resolution this week ... would overturn the results of Wisconsin's presidential election -- a move Trump praised in a news release blasted nationwide that also urged a member of the state Senate to co-sponsor. ... Majority Leader Jim Steineke said Thursday there would be no action on the resolution ... "I've always encouraged our members to have a full understanding of the law before putting out bills or resolutions. The resolution being discussed here does not follow the law as has been outlined by the nonpartisan Legislative Council," he said in a statement. ... "except in the case of presidential incapacity, impeachment is the only mechanism for removing a sitting U.S. President," [Legis Council attys.] Katie Bender-Olson and Peggy Hurley ... wrote in a Nov. 1, 2021, memo. ... Ramthun disagrees with the memo, citing a separate analysis drafted by a Michigan attorney general candidate endorsed by Trump that says the Ninth and Tenth amendments give state Legislatures the power to decertify elections on the basis of election fraud. ... LeMahieu [spokesman] declined to comment. ... Speaker Robin Vos on Sunday dismissing it as a "talking point of the far left and far right." Reviews 2020 election certification in WI, finalized by Congress on Jan. 6, 2021. Since then, Ramthun has called to "pull the electoral ballots back from Wisconsin," repeated in recent video, claims at Lindell's SD symposium. Reviews Johnson, Fitzgerald, Tiffany support for not certifying WI election ahead of Jan 6. 2 GOP state lawmakers sued Gov. Evers as part of a federal lawsuit to overturn 2020 results in WI, AZ, GA, MI, PA.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/19/wisconsin-gop-leader-rejects-trump-backed-call-decertify-election/8668447002/

- Gilbert analysis: Is Sen. Ron Johnson a 'vulnerable' incumbent? Sure. Will he be hard to beat? Probably. ... leaves us with some useful guides to Johnson's election prospects. One is the history of Senate elections, both nationally and in Wisconsin.

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Another is Johnson's current political standing, as measured by opinion polls. And a third is the broader political climate and how favorable it is to Johnson's party. (In a follow-up column, we'll take a similar look at how Democratic Gov. Tony Evers is positioned for re-election). ... one of them points to Johnson's vulnerability, but the other two suggest he could be very hard to beat. Analysis of 3 viewpoints. How popular is Wisconsin's senior U.S. Senator? ... Are there other danger signs for Johnson in the polls? ... How favorable is the broader political environment right now for Johnson? ... What does history tell us about Johnson's re-election prospects? ... On the one hand, Johnson is generally regarded as one of the two or three most vulnerable ... On the other, if he runs, he probably enters 2020 with no worse than 50-50 odds. And he is arguably the favorite unless the political climate improves for Democrats. [see Nichols column]
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/politics/analysis/2021/11/22/ron-johnsons-2022-re-election-prospects-vulnerable-but-hard-beat/8679675002/

- Split votes on WEC spiked during contentious 2020 election
https://madison.com/wsj/ba07c759-f98c-5999-974f-b3aca19c65e4.html

- Pollster: Americans are growing increasingly partisan ... "It sure looks like people are only voting by the party label now to a degree that absolutely was not the case 20 years ago," [MU Law pollster] Franklin said in a presentation at Pablo Center at the Confluence as part of the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce's Eggs & Issues series. ... "We don't love our party any better, but we despise the other party more, and that is something that drives our politics a lot ... the awfulness of the other party that it drives them to a point of a more extreme position. It may not be ideologically more extreme, but it is more extreme emotionally and personally," he said. "At that point, how could you possibly split your ticket, because you're splitting it between good and evil."
https://www.leadertelegram.com/b218af26-77fc-5842-b195-bdcbf432c86a.html

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- An elk was killed illegally on the opening day of Wisconsin gun deer hunting season ... [DNR] said the incident occurred at approximately 7 a.m. ... elk was seized as evidence. No additional details were released Sunday; the DNR said it would share additional information as it becomes available. ... fourth consecutive WI gun deer hunting season in which at least one elk has been illegally killed by a gun deer hunter. ... due to misidentification, according to the DNR. ... [review ColumbiaCo elk sighting, diff between elk and deer, brief history of elk in WI] ... Wisconsin has a limited elk hunt in the northern elk range, but elk are protected in the rest of the state, including Columbia County. Further, the elk season was closed Saturday. Its dates for 2021 are Oct. 16 to Nov. 14 and Dec. 9 to 17.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/outdoors/2021/11/22/wisconsin-dnr-investigating-elk-illegally-shot-columbia-county/8715173002/

- At Camp Nukkumaa, Wisconsin deer hunt tradition going strong
https://www.superiortelegram.com/northland-outdoors/7261191-At-Camp-Nukkumaa-

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Wisconsin-deer-hunt-tradition-going-strong

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- New county billboard warns of marijuana use in pregnancy
https://www.ehextra.com/0a72c128-c1c5-5a2e-a980-f3f12c33cb73.html

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Officials react after car plows through Waukesha Christmas Parade ... Statements from White House, Gov. Evers, Packers, J.J. Watt, Scott Walker, Barnes, Kaul, Farrow, Johnson, Baldwin, Tiffany, Fitzgerald, Kapenga, Hong.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2021/11/21/waukesha-parade-public-officials-react-after-car-plows-into-crowd/8715049002/

- SUV driver in parade crash may have been fleeing a crime ... Two law enforcement officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized the discuss the matter publicly, identified the person as 39-year-old Darrell Brooks. Online court records showed a person named Darrell Brooks, with a birthdate making him 39, has two open criminal cases in Milwaukee County. ... Investigators were questioning the person in custody about an earlier crime, which one of the officials described as an argument involving a knife. .... [WPD chief] Thompson gave no immediate details about the person or any possible motive. Thompson said that he did not know if the driver was hit by the officer's bullets but that no bystanders were wounded. [Bauer, et.al.]
https://apnews.com/04a0b91b3b7eed244145fe30ab805c73

- 'Some' killed, more than 20 injured after SUV speeds through Waukesha parade Sunday
https://www.wpr.org/some-killed-more-20-injured-after-suv-speeds-through-waukesha-parade-sunday

- 5 dead, more than 40 injured after SUV plows into crowd at Christmas parade in WI ... "We heard people screaming," Zack Heisler, a Milwaukee resident at the parade with his family, told The Washington Post. "It sounded like excitement, and the screaming sounded closer, then it sounded like terror. People sounded scared." Heisler said he saw a car "flying past us" and "people flying everywhere." ... Scott Walker, former governor of Wisconsin, said his mother attended the parade and watched the SUV drive past. She left before it collided with people, but people soon came running past her, Walker said on Twitter. "She said it felt like the images of people running in NYC on 9/11," Walker said. ... Gov. Tony Evers said he and his wife were "praying for Waukesha tonight and all the kids, families and community members affected by this senseless act."
https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/11/21/waukesha-parade-suv-crash/

- 'We have a criminal injustice system instead of a criminal justice system:' Appleton students, residents rally against Rittenhouse verdict ... organized by the Sunrise

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Movement Fox Valley and Appleton Students for a Democratic Society. ... "(The verdict) does make me feel a little less safe, even though I'm white-passing," [ASDS] Co-Chair Gustavo Zuniga said. "It gives the precedent for these right-wing vigilantes to target whoever they see to be a danger to them -- that is usually people of color and people who are protesting their movements." ... "The goal of this rally and other rallies like it is to build up the people's movement," said [ASDS'] Freeman ... "Change is derived from protests, from mass movements like this. I think this is just contributing to the construction of that mass movement."
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/19/lawrence-university-students-appleton-rally-against-kyle-rittenhouse-verdict/8689877002/

- 45 people ejected, 12 arrested during Badgers game, UW police say ... A dozen people were ticketed during the game, with eight being UW students ... Those ticketed and ejected included 11 for underage drinking and one for entering the playing surface. Of the 27 people ejected without being ticketed, 21 were for possession of alcohol, five for tobacco usage, three for disorderly conduct, and two for seating/ticketing issue. (Some received multiple citations
https://madison.com/wsj/ad7e9ed6-7d30-5522-8fb0-f3283b0202dc.html

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY *^top^*
- Email reveals DNR has abandoned groundwater rulemaking for nitrates, citing strict timeline and difficult process set by Legislature
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/19/dnr-abandons-groundwater-rulemaking-nitrates-citing-strict-timeline-and-difficult-process-set-legisl/8666389002/

- CHipVal Regional Airport's PFAS plan goes to DNR
https://www.leadertelegram.com/1b047dc1-3ad9-5dee-9649-ce4b30689548.html

REAL ESTATE *^top^*
- A $1.3B proposal in Ohio, a $50M hotel in Racine and the developer [Rachie] connected to both [Part 2 of series] ... proposal in Middletown is bigger. A lot bigger ... It's become known as "Hollywoodland," a riverfront project to include three hotels, a convention center, indoor theme park, waterpark, virtual reality experiences, high-rises and condominiums, a movie studio, perhaps a comedy club in addition to restaurants, fashion retail and a concert venue that promises to attract millions of visitors to Middleton, Ohio -- a city barely half the size of Racine. ... Middletown's city manager is Jim Palenick, who was Racine's city manager from 2017 to 2020. ... was the city manager of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, which built an arena ... has never turned a profit.
https://journaltimes.com/ed54c44d-7006-5230-93d0-97a29b37105e.html

SMALL BUSINESS *^top^*
- Latino Academy seeks $9.7 million to train truck drivers

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https://captimes.com/768ace49-cb94-555d-b5ea-f4f8d51930c8.html

EDITORIALS *^top^*

- WSJ editorial: Rittenhouse verdict sends a chilling message to Wisconsin and the rest of the country, Vigilantes carrying rifles in the streets won't make our society safer.
https://madison.com/wsj/7299e869-82f2-5a38-b7b2-2f078a57b0ab.html

COLUMNS *^top^*

- John Nichols: House Democrats Just Gave Their Party a Fighting Chance in 2022, Now, the Senate must make it possible for them to win the 2022 midterms by passing Biden's Build Back Better bill.
https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/house-bbb-vote/

- Dave Zweifel: WNA Hall of Fame a fitting tribute for Phil Haslanger
https://captimes.com/e9dd42a9-493a-536b-94c4-642bf711f342.html

- John Nichols: Ron Johnson wants to save his hide by gutting democracy
https://captimes.com/2bc7e662-f8a3-58e2-8c2c-0a74bd7c3f8e.html

- David Blaska: The war on school discipline must end
https://madison.com/wsj/541c5ebe-3663-529f-8e6f-2943d67ba151.html

- Garion Frankel: Parents revolt against education bureaucracies: Critical race theory in schools prompts pushback by parents in Wisconsin and across the nation
https://www.badgerinstitute.org/News/2021-2022/Parents-revolt-against-education-bureaucracies.htm

- John Nichols: Rittenhouse verdict sends a chilling message ... Feingold, who for many years sat on the Senate Judiciary Committee and chaired its subcommittee on the Constitution, knows Kenosha, and he knows the law. On Friday, he put things in perspective when he said, "In this context, a gunman's successful self-defense claim prioritizes the interests of white power structures to maintain historic racial hierarchies through armed intimidation and the threat of unaccountable physical violence. Allowing these weapons to be publicly brandished -- let alone used without penalty against those with whom one disagrees -- chills and thereby undermines civil liberties, including freedom of speech and assembly."
https://captimes.com/cd7fb760-a16d-5ddf-b76b-e07662e4b364.html

- M.D. Kittle: Evers doubles down on divisive politics after Rittenhouse verdict ... Evers and Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes again refused to take responsibility for helping to light the fuse on the riots that led to the homicide trial.
https://empowerwisconsin.org/evers-doubles-down-on-divisive-politics-after-rittenhouse-verdict/

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- Harvard Law prof. Ronald Sullivan: Kyle Rittenhouse verdict violates these 5 standards for claiming self-defense, The proliferation of 'stand your ground' laws in recent years complicates the analysis of self-defense involving the duty to retreat
https://www.marketwatch.com/story/kyle-rittenhouse-verdict-violates-these-5-standards-for-claiming-self-defense-11637358131

- Dan O'Donnell: Justice ... They tried their best to interfere in the Rittenhouse case, but the jurors tasked with actually administering justice refused to let them. Rittenhouse didn't win so much as justice itself did.
https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2021/11/justice/

- Gregory Humphrey: Dual justice systems exist for Black and white Americans
https://dekerivers.wordpress.com/2021/11/21/dual-justice-systems-exist-for-black-and-white-americans/

- Elie Mystal: Kyle Rittenhouse Has Gotten Away With Murder--as Predicted, Rittenhouse's acquittal is not a "miscarriage" of justice, as some might claim. It is our white justice system working as intended.
https://www.thenation.com/article/society/kyle-rittenhouse-verdict/

- Ryeshia Farmer: ARPA Funds Should Help Community, Not Police, City officials have made good decisions, but more community input needed.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/21/op-ed-arpa-funds

- Clean WI's Scott Laeser: Legislature Blocks DNR On Water Pollution, Legislators use rule making authority to prevent water pollution protections.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/21/op-ed-legislature-blocks

- Steven Walters: Why Capitol reporters change careers
https://www.gazettextra.com/33460a40-7b93-5ef8-be13-304b5f10a737.html

- Sen. Lena Taylor: I Guess Black Folks Didn't Get the Memo, Black Elected Positions Sacrificed As Part of National Election Strategy: in redistricting battle
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/20/i-guess-black-folks

- Alex Lasry: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Will Deliver Real Results
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/20/the-bipartisan-infrastructure

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 10:14 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: MON News Summary: 5 dead after SUV plows into Waukesha Christmas parade; Rittenhouse attorney criticizes Fox News over interview

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WISPOLITICS.COM
Wisconsin's Premier Political News Service

MON News Summary -- 22 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/mon-news-summary-5-dead-after-suv-plows-into-waukesha-christmas-parade-rittenhouse-attorney-criticizes-fox-news-over-interview/

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RSVP for the Dec. 7 virtual luncheon: 'The USMCA Post-COVID - How Trade Helps the North American Recovery'

Join WisPolitics.com, WisBusiness.com and the Wisconsin Technology Council for the fourth 2021 trade policy virtual event on Tuesday, Dec. 7, from noon to 1 p.m. CT. Attendance is free.

The topic is: 'The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Post-COVID - How Trade Helps the North American Recovery'

Hear from Canadian and Mexican officials and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation about how USMCA will impact Wisconsin businesses and economic recovery.

Panel:
--Aaron Annable, representing the Canadian consulate in Chicago
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2020-Aaron-Annable-Bio.docx

--Julian Adem, representing the Mexican consulate in Milwaukee:
https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/milwaukee/index.php/inicio/consul-titular

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--Stanley Pfrang, senior market development director at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. www.linkedin.com/in/stanley-pfrang-36402413/

This event is made possible with the support of the government of Canada, Michael Best Strategies and the Wisconsin District Export Council. This event is part of the WisPolitics.com-WisBusiness.com-Wisconsin Technology Council trade policy initiative: www.wisbusiness.com/trade-policy/

Event partners: Wisconsin Technology Council, Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS), World Trade Association (WTA) Madison International Trade Association (MITA) and International Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Register here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc21GwxauzVq2RONLJi6Tv2IXwQfglgNBxmp3cyOTCV3RQLRw/viewform

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STORY TOPICS

- White house
- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- State government
- Federal government
- Local government
- Census
- Education
- Elections
- Environment
- Health care

TOP STORIES

5 dead, 40+ injured after SUV plows into Christmas parade in Waukesha

... "There were some fatalities as a result of this incident," [WPD Chief] Thompson said during a news conference Sunday night. ... declined to specify ... A "person of interest" was taken into custody and a "suspect vehicle" was recovered, Thompson said, noting that the investigation is "fluid" and ongoing [with WDOJ assistance]. ... confirmed that shots were fired during the incident ... believe none of them were fired from the SUV. An officer fired several shots at the SUV ... No bystanders were hit ... declined to say whether police shot the SUV driver. [unknown if it was an act of terrorism] ... Waukesha School District announced that school will be canceled Monday. ... "Today we experienced a horrible, senseless tragedy," [Mayor] Reilly said. "My heart goes out to all those affected by this senseless act." Details, WFD Chief Howard, witness Tenorio, Ald. Payne comment. Gov. Evers, AG Kaul, Exec. Farrow statements. By AP, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL [see Law And Order]
https://madison.com/wsj/2e293b7b-b206-5b03-8c3d-4c3f536e26d4.html

Fox News says it didn't pay for Rittenhouse film, interview

... after it was announced that he would speak to Tucker Carlson for an interview to air on Monday. ... [Rittenhouse atty.] Richards said that a Fox documentary crew was embedded with Rittenhouse's team against his wishes. .... didn't think the filming was appropriate and that he had tossed the crew out of meetings several times. "It

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- Law and order - Public health and safety - Real estate - Small business - Editorials - Columns	was not approved by me, but I'm not always in control," he told the AP. "I think it detracted from what we were trying to do, and that was obviously to get Kyle found not guilty.". ... Carlson, on his show Friday ... "a day when all of us should be celebrating" ... showed portions of what his film crew had recorded, including Rittenhouse's first public comments after being acquitted ... "For the authoritarians among us, this is a disaster," Carlson said. "They can't let it go. Why? Because ... If Kyle Rittenhouse can save his own life from the mob then you can, too, and that drives them insane." ... colleagues Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham, took victory laps during their shows and attacked politicians and media members who thought Rittenhouse should be convicted. ... [Carlson's producer] Wells ... said no payment was made for access, footage rights, legal fees or any other purpose to Rittenhouse or his family. ... [Rittenhouse spokesman Hancock] said any potential payment by Fox "was never offered and it was never asked for and it was never discussed." ... Carlson was chosen to conduct the first post-trial interview with Rittenhouse because he "was honest. At the very beginning he saw what was happening and he pointed out that Kyle was defending himself." ... said Rittenhouse plans to do other interviews with other news organizations, although they haven't been set yet. ... Rittenhouse's family is putting the story before an audience most likely to be supportive. Conservatives paid his $2 million bail after his arrest last year. ... Richards [told CNN's Cuomo] that Rittenhouse "is going to have some hard choices in his life about the direction he goes and what he stands for. These will have to be made by Kyle eventually. ... He needs to learn how to take responsibility and to tell people 'no.'" ... told journalist Ashleigh Banfield ... while he's "not a big Fox guy," he also had harsh words for some coverage he saw on CNN and MSNBC. "It makes me angry that they can't take the time to at least get the generic, basic facts correct, because it didn't fit into the story they wanted to tell." By Bauder, AP https://apnews.com/333ca50c646421ae8802c77eccef1818

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STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE ^top^
- Rural Leaders Fear They'll Miss Out on Infrastructure Money
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/22/rural-leaders-fear-theyll-miss-out-on-infrastructure-money

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^

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- Carlson Nabs Exclusive Interview With Kyle Rittenhouse ... "This case has nothing to do with race. It never had anything to do with race. It had to do with the right to self-defense," the 18-year-old tells Fox News host Tucker Carlson in an interview set to air Monday night. Rittenhouse is white, as were the men he shot. ... "I'm not a racist person. I support the BLM movement, I support peacefully demonstrating," Rittenhouse tells Carlson in excerpts of the interview released by Fox News ahead of its airing. https://www.newsweek.com/1651533

- 'Self-defense is not illegal': Kyle Rittenhouse tells Fox News after not-guilty verdict ... In a video promoting a Tucker Carlson Originals special on the case, Rittenhouse tells someone as he is apparently driven away from the courthouse: "The jury reached the correct verdict. Self-defense is not illegal. And I believe they came to the correct verdict and I'm glad that everything went well. It's been a rough journey, but we made it through it. We made it through the hard part." ... Verdict sheets ... signed not guilty verdicts to the five charges on different dates. Three verdict sheets were dated Wednesday and Thursday. ... Juror 54 signed [Huber] verdict sheet ... Wednesday. The two sheets signed Friday involved the fatal shooting of Joseph Rosenbaum and the charge of reckless endangerment of a man who was near Rittenhouse during the shooting. ... judge praised the jurors, saying he "couldn't have asked for a better jury."
Some jurors appeared fatigued as the verdicts were read -- their hands on their chins or rubbing their eyes, according to a pool reporter. Others seemed ill-at-ease, arms folded across their chests. Reviews trial, jury instruction, verdict. Defense atty. Richards, family spokesman Hancock comment. Statements from Pres. Biden, Gov. Evers, Asst. DA Binger, Huber family, Huber girlfriend, Rosenbaum fiance', Kimberley Motley and Milo Schwab, attorneys for Gaige Grosskreutz and Rosenbaum's estate, Justin Blake, https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/19/us/kyle-rittenhouse-trial-friday/index.html

- In Kenosha, a mostly calm Saturday, Friday night in response to Rittenhouse verdict; authorities remain wary
https://www.kenoshanews.com/d8e28c89-b577-5af5-865d-7be6e95a9ad9.html

- Kenosha protesters, rallying after Rittenhouse verdict, call for focus on case of sex trafficking victim Chrystul Kizer ... who is accused of killing her abuser when she was 17 years old. ... demonstrators chanted Kizer's name in the same breath as the names of the three men Rittenhouse shot, two fatally. ... Rep. David Bowen [also lt. guv candidate] called on the protesters to take up Kizer's case with the same energy they put into Rittenhouse and Jacob Blake, who was shot seven times by Kenosha police last summer. ... "if you truly believe in justice, just like the Lord believes in justice, then you too can fight for justice for that Black woman, who deserves it. ... We easily could give up. We easily could stop at this moment, but we are not," Bowen said. Rainbow PUSH's Grant, Justin BLake, marcher Revere comment.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/21/kenosha-protesters-demonstrate-sunday-after-rittenhouse-acquittal/8713460002/

- Protesters against Rittenhouse verdict seek federal investigation; Jacob Blake's uncle says president "sold us out' ... [Rev. Jackson] could not attend as he was preparing to

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meet with congressional leaders "to make a formal appeal" to [US DOJ] to open a formal investigation on the case, it was announced. Rainbow PUSH's Grant: "It is wrong in a land of laws for any individual to shoot three people and kill two of them in a peaceful protest where people are exercising their First Amendment right of freedom of speech and the right to publicly protest in peace," slammed Judge Schroeder for dismissing the weapon-possession-by-a-minor charge, "He was a minor carrying a weapon, a loaded weapon, unlicensed. He doesn't even have a damn license to drive a car," Grant said. "We're outraged about this and we're going to turn our pain into power," criticized Evers for not meeting with activists, "You cannot have a discussion without us. You cannot have a plan without us. You cannot have any type of arrangement without talking to the people because people power now makes a difference. People pain now makes a difference. And we want justice in this case," cited unequal justice from unequal justice Trayvon Martin back to Emmett Till, "we're going to use peace, and protest and civil disobedience and people using the power that we have ...to make sure this does not happen again." Justin Blake: "If it was an African-American young man carrying that style of weapon, there would be no court like that -- there was none for Jacob Blake. He'd have been shot down in the damn street and that would've been the end of the story," said Biden "sold us out" [Biden met with Blake family Sep. 3, 2020] "He betrayed our families, he betrayed the people behind us ... We want somebody to explain to us why this continues to happen and what the hell they're going to do about it." Biden, in a written statement Friday said that, like many Americans, he was "angry and concerned" with the jury acquittal. Asked by a reporter soon after the verdict if Biden stood by his campaign social media posting, Biden responded that "I stand by what the jury has concluded."
https://www.kenoshanews.com/0128f4aa-c9da-5eb1-ba15-8daf5499ad54.html

- IN PHOTOS: Protesters march in Downtown Kenosha on Sunday: Justin Blake with Rainbow PUSH reps had their own armed escort, pic shows father and 16 y/o daughter carrying scoped rifles. Rev. Jackson was unable to attend.
https://www.kenoshanews.com/6c687514-b5aa-5d0c-a58e-d4fb6441bae2.html

- Rev. Jesse Jackson unable to join marchers at Re-Imagine Kenosha rally Downtown Sunday afternoon ... Marchers traced the route Rittenhouse took the night in August last year when he shot and killed two people and wounded a third ... "Here you have a 17-year-old who illegally purchased a gun, traveled across state lines to protect property that was not his, for owners who did not invite him, and he put himself in harm's way based on the rhetoric that he's seen on social media platforms," [NAACP CEO] Johnson told CBS' "Face the Nation." He called it "a warning shot that vigilante justice is allowed in this country or in particular communities."
https://www.kenoshanews.com/f842f5a4-654f-578e-80bc-f7c0f339c444.html

- Protesters trace route Rittenhouse took in Kenosha, The Rev. Jesse Jackson was scheduled to appear but didn't
https://www.wpr.org/protesters-trace-route-rittenhouse-took-kenosha

- Jury finds Rittenhouse not guilty in Kenosha shootings ... "He wants to get on with his

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life," defense attorney Mark Richards said. "He has a huge sense of relief for what the jury did to him today. He wishes none of this ever happened. But as he said when he testified, he did not start this." ... Supporters donated more than $2 million toward his legal defense. ... "It seems to me that it's open season on human rights demonstrators," [Rev. Jesse Jackson] said. ... Biden called for calm, saying that while the outcome of the case "will leave many Americans feeling angry and concerned, myself included, we must acknowledge that the jury has spoken." ... [ex-pres Trump] issued a statement Friday congratulating Rittenhouse on the verdict, adding "if that's not self defense, nothing is!" ... [Kenosha DA] Graveley ... respects the jury's decision ... asked the public to "accept the verdicts peacefully and not resort to violence." ... [Evers had 500 WNG-ers on standby] But hours after the jury came back, there were no signs of any major protests or unrest in Kenosha. ... Judge Bruce Schroeder assured [jurors] the court would take "every measure" to keep them safe. Lt. Gov. Barnes, US Senate candidate growled "presumption of innocence until proven guilty ... standard is not always applied equally. We have seen so many black and brown youth killed, only to be put on trial posthumously, while the innocence of Kyle Rittenhouse was virtually demanded by the judge." ... Huber's parents, Karen Bloom and John Huber, said the outcome "sends the unacceptable message that armed civilians can show up in any town, incite violence, and then use the danger they have created to justify shooting people in the street." ... Other political figures on the right [McCloskey] welcomed the verdict and condemned the case brought against Rittenhouse. ... Fifteen minutes after the verdicts, the National Rifle Association tweeted the text of the Second Amendment. [reviews racial milieu, Arbery, Floyd killings, Blake shooting, Rittenhouse shootings and trial]. Rittenhouse faces no federal charges or civil suits yet, but city and police have been sued.
https://apnews.com/27f812ba532d65c044617483c915e4de

- Associated Press accuses Republicans of using Rittenhouse case 'to exploit national divide' on race ... with a headline on Sunday that read, "Rittenhouse acquittal tightens the political vise for Biden." ... White House reporter Aamer Madhani warned that this ruling could now be used against President Joe Biden ... "finds himself caught between outraged Democrats ... and Republicans looking to use the Rittenhouse case to exploit the national divide over matters of grievance and race," Madhani wrote. ... also referenced [Biden's] failing poll numbers ... Democrat loss in Virginia. Although ... Democrats [US Reps. Bush, Espaillat] and media pundits have already enflamed racial tensions from the acquittal. ... Meanwhile, MSNBC anchors have openly called out the GOP as "white supremacists" [post-acquital], including Tiffany Cross, who said that she was "disgusted" by people supporting a "little murderous white supremacist." Elie Mystal replied, "Welcome to the modern Republican Party. This is what these people want, and this is what a majority of white people vote for."
https://www.foxnews.com/media/associated-press-republicans-rittenhouse-case-national-divide-race

- Freedom Inc. hosts Madison 'community speak out' on Rittenhouse acquittal ... "This is exactly why we have been calling for community control over police," [Freedom Inc's] Adams said in the statement. ... encouraged conversations on how communities of color can protect themselves "from violence by the police and violence protected by the police

and even the courts," [FI's Ellis] said. ... "We know our people are frustrated with what we have seen the state do yet again: Protect a white supremacist murderer, and essentially send him home to his family," she said of Rittenhouse. "All this is not surprising. It is why we are making space to lift each other up and protect each other."
https://captimes.com/38ac560d-755b-54c2-974f-8ada072ec07c.html

- Kyle Rittenhouse not guilty verdict: Wisconsin reacts ... [US Sen.] Baldwin said. "I am afraid many more people will become victims of gun violence unless we take action at the federal and state level to pass common sense gun safety reforms that take on this epidemic and start saving lives. To me that's just common sense that most people in our state would agree with." ... Gov. Tony Evers said no verdict will bring back those lost in Kenosha or "heal the wounds or trauma experienced by Jacob Blake and his family. ... we have work to do toward equity, accountability, and justice that communities across our state are demanding and deserve." Guv candidate Kleefisch: "Our justice system worked today," dubbed the prosecution "a complete disgrace, praising the mob who burned our streets as 'heroes.'" ... UW Madison's BIPOC Coalition said it is working to distribute funds to organizers in Kenosha and Madison. MPD is working with outside agencies and established an incident command post earlier this week in case protests occur. UW Law prof. Clingele not surprised, the law is "fairly protective of the rights of a person defending himself against what he reasonably believes to be a serious threat of force against him. ... it has lots of racial overtones and implications for how we think about the role of the citizen versus the role of police in protecting public spaces." Nehemia Center's Cooper: "You have to bring race into the equation when you are talking about the criminal justice system. If this had been a young black boy, this would have definitely played out differently." US Senate candidate Barnes: "We have seen so many black and brown youth killed, only to be put on trial posthumously, while the innocence of Kyle Rittenhouse was virtually demanded by the judge. We must transform moments like this by raising our voices, together." US Sen. Johnson: "I believe justice has been served." Rep. Hong and staffer Elmikashfi, victim Huber's family, All In WI, ACLU-WI also comment.
https://captimes.com/a8017bb8-1d07-5a06-931b-a3fe41d165ee.html

- Rittenhouse acquittal sparks sporadic protests and Portland clashes -- but Kenosha remains peaceful, A Kenosha pastor [Cummings] urged the community to "now begin the long process of healing." ... Gov. Tony Evers (D) placed 500 National Guard members on standby ahead of the verdict in Kenosha. But, although protesters gathered outside the courthouse and expressed disappointment at the verdict, there were no signs of major clashes or unrest there Friday night or early Saturday. Protests in Portland, OR, Brooklyn, NY, Oakland, CA, Chicago, IL. New York protester, Kelly Cooper of Tulsa, flew to NY to join protests, lamented that she was protesting the same cause year after year. "They can't keep hurting us. We're stuck in a cycle. ... but no one hears our cry."
https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/11/20/kyle-rittenhouse-verdict-protests

- In Kenosha and beyond, guns become more common on US streets
https://apnews.com/dbc0c29cb1b29ad848a00d8830e2222e

- Rittenhouse Lawyer Slams GOP Reps, Donald Trump Jr Over Offers of Jobs, Free Gun ... Richards has since called out those trying to use Rittenhouse's acquittal for their own ends. "There's a lot of people trying to profit on this, and I don't think people should," Richards told Insider. Florida Rep. Matt Gaetz [tweeted] he was hoping for a not guilty verdict because Rittenhouse "would probably make a pretty good congressional intern." [Rep. GOsar tweeted, "I will arm wrestle @mattgaetzto get dibs for Kyle as an intern."] ... Rep. Madison Cawthorn went live on Instagram to praise the verdict. "KYLE: IF YOU WANT AN INTERNSHIP, REACH OUT TO ME." ... Richards accused the Republicans of attempting to "trade on [Rittenhouse's] celebrity. They're raising money on it and you have all these Republican congressmen saying come work for me," he said. "They want to trade on his celebrity and I think it's disgusting." ... also issued a rebuke to Donald Trump Jr. for encouraging people [in a now-deleted tweet] to support [Gun Owners of America] that said it would "award" Rittenhouse an AR-15 for his "defense of gun rights."
https://www.newsweek.com/1651671

CORONAVIRUS ^top^
- New COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Wisconsin ... 3,448 new cases of COVID-19 Friday ... seven-day average sits at 3,004 cases, which is up 962 cases from a month ago. ... 55.5%, of the state's population is fully vaccinated.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/2021/11/19/total-3-448-new-covid-19-cases-were-reported/8687250002/

- Pediatric COVID-19 Trends in Wisconsin -- Nov. 17: Children's Hospital CEO Gutzeit comments.
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/20/pediatric-covid-19

STATE GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Moore analysis: WILL study: WI has 161K regulatory restrictions in administrative code, WI stands out as most heavily regulated in Great Lakes region ... Adam Hoffer, a WILL Bradley Freedom Fellow and UW-La Crosse professor, and James Broughel, a Mercatus Center Senior Research Fellow at George Mason University, conducted the study.
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92410

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Governors want CHIPS Act funded to boost domestic production ... Evers joined Whitmer in signing a letter to Congressional leaders Nov. 10 urging them to help improve supply of the computer chips used in cars and other equipment through federal incentives for domestic production.
https://www.ehextra.com/b1e04af7-8fb4-53a2-8544-c0c6908ab58d.html

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- Stauber, Tiffany discuss supply chain shortages with local industry leaders, U.S. Reps. Pete Stauber and Tom Tiffany said they plan to bring the concerns shared Friday back to Washington, D.C. to implement changes at roundtable Friday at Clyde Iron Works in Duluth. ... blame actions by the Biden administration for many of the supply chain issues, including depending on foreign raw and manufactured materials, and for the federal vaccine mandate amid a nationwide labor shortage. ... said they were going to look into what could be done about the age requirement [for commercial DL] in order to help expand the labor pool amid shortages. [biz owner] Kortesmaki said he has witnessed a lack of work experience in individuals seeking jobs, which he believes is due to too much dependence on government assistance. ... [Tiffany agreed] they were too prolonged and incentivized people to drop out of the labor pool. "The fabric of this country was built on work ethic," Stauber said. "Before you can get a better job, first you have to get a job." Douglas County Board Chair Mark Liebaert said the county is really struggling to keep enough service workers, especially at jails. ... "As a society, we haven't said, 'Truck driving's great work,'" [UWS prof.] Stewart said. "Whenever I speak to folks who ask why we can't get truck drivers, I say, 'So, how many of you encouraged your kids to be truck drivers?' Well, there's your answer." ... Stauber and Tiffany said many of the problems faced locally are the same that they've heard about across the nation. Tiffany said he expects efforts to combat these issues to be supported across party lines. [see Small Business]
https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/government-and-politics/7290922-Stauber-Tiffany-discuss-supply-chain-shortages-with-local-industry-leaders

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Winnebago Exec. Doemel's first budget led to record 15 Board changes ... Doemel's plan garnered criticism and confusion from some board members, including his attempt to add a $111,990 policy director position to his office after the board rejected a previous bid for a chief of staff.
https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2021/11/22/doemel-budget-led-to-changes-confusion-from-winnebago-county-board/6355394001/

- Annexation of land for new Beaver Dam subdivision approved
https://www.wiscnews.com/8d400e97-618b-5a57-bb95-c8dc83baa353.html

CENSUS ^top^
- Touting transparent process, Dane County Board approves new redistricting map
https://captimes.com/24bc340e-8f33-5af4-86cf-48235bcdb32a.html

EDUCATION ^top^
- Schools struggle to cover teacher absences amid worker shortage and pandemic
https://madison.com/wsj/ec7bc573-ec86-5931-bd2e-673164aa6df1.html

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

- UW System concludes vax campaign, awards 70 students $7K scholarships ... The scholarship recipients span 11 campuses in the UW System where the vaccination rate reached above 70% by the end of October. Only one campus, UW-Platteville, did not meet Thompson's goal set this summer. ... "I believe in encouraging, rather than mandating, vaccines, and the scholarship incentive was a great motivator," a press release quoted Thompson. "We took up a challenge to educate and inform students as a part of a vaccination campaign to help keep our universities safe -- and it has succeeded." In a short video posted on social media, Thompson celebrated the conclusion of the campaign, announcing its success to the "Board of Mascots," a group of university mascots who silently cheered him in unison. Some recipients comment. https://captimes.com/6c5e7c04-2dd9-5c51-b7ef-9ea325278713.html

- As Appleton schools anticipate Afghan refugee students, MS teacher Chia Vang shares her experience as a newcomer over 30 years ago: came from Thailand at 15. https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/22/appleton-schools-prepare-afghan-refugees-heres-one-womans-story/6281148001/

ELECTIONS ^top^

- Rep. Ramthun drew praise from Trump for his call to decertify the 2020 vote. Here's why that won't happen. ... [Ramthun] resolution this week ... would overturn the results of Wisconsin's presidential election -- a move Trump praised in a news release blasted nationwide that also urged a member of the state Senate to co-sponsor. ... Majority Leader Jim Steineke said Thursday there would be no action on the resolution ... "I've always encouraged our members to have a full understanding of the law before putting out bills or resolutions. The resolution being discussed here does not follow the law as has been outlined by the nonpartisan Legislative Council," he said in a statement. ... "except in the case of presidential incapacity, impeachment is the only mechanism for removing a sitting U.S. President," [Legis Council attys.] Katie Bender-Olson and Peggy Hurley ... wrote in a Nov. 1, 2021, memo. ... Ramthun disagrees with the memo, citing a separate analysis drafted by a Michigan attorney general candidate endorsed by Trump that says the Ninth and Tenth amendments give state Legislatures the power to decertify elections on the basis of election fraud. ... LeMahieu [spokesman] declined to comment. ... Speaker Robin Vos on Sunday dismissing it as a "talking point of the far left and far right." Reviews 2020 election certification in WI, finalized by Congress on Jan. 6, 2021. Since then, Ramthun has called to "pull the electoral ballots back from Wisconsin," repeated in recent video, claims at Lindell's SD symposium. Reviews Johnson, Fitzgerald, Tiffany support for not certifying WI election ahead of Jan 6. 2 GOP state lawmakers sued Gov. Evers as part of a federal lawsuit to overturn 2020 results in WI, AZ, GA, MI, PA. https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/19/wisconsin-gop-leader-rejects-trump-backed-call-decertify-election/8668447002/

- Gilbert analysis: Is Sen. Ron Johnson a 'vulnerable' incumbent? Sure. Will he be hard to beat? Probably. ... leaves us with some useful guides to Johnson's election prospects. One is the history of Senate elections, both nationally and in Wisconsin.

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Another is Johnson's current political standing, as measured by opinion polls. And a third is the broader political climate and how favorable it is to Johnson's party. (In a follow-up column, we'll take a similar look at how Democratic Gov. Tony Evers is positioned for re-election). ... one of them points to Johnson's vulnerability, but the other two suggest he could be very hard to beat. Analysis of 3 viewpoints. How popular is Wisconsin's senior U.S. Senator? ... Are there other danger signs for Johnson in the polls? ... How favorable is the broader political environment right now for Johnson? ... What does history tell us about Johnson's re-election prospects? ... On the one hand, Johnson is generally regarded as one of the two or three most vulnerable ... On the other, if he runs, he probably enters 2020 with no worse than 50-50 odds. And he is arguably the favorite unless the political climate improves for Democrats. [see Nichols column]
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/politics/analysis/2021/11/22/ron-johnsons-2022-re-election-prospects-vulnerable-but-hard-beat/8679675002/

- Split votes on WEC spiked during contentious 2020 election
https://madison.com/wsj/ba07c759-f98c-5999-974f-b3aca19c65e4.html

- Pollster: Americans are growing increasingly partisan ... "It sure looks like people are only voting by the party label now to a degree that absolutely was not the case 20 years ago," [MU Law pollster] Franklin said in a presentation at Pablo Center at the Confluence as part of the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce's Eggs & Issues series. ... "We don't love our party any better, but we despise the other party more, and that is something that drives our politics a lot ... the awfulness of the other party that it drives them to a point of a more extreme position. It may not be ideologically more extreme, but it is more extreme emotionally and personally," he said. "At that point, how could you possibly split your ticket, because you're splitting it between good and evil."
https://www.leadertelegram.com/b218af26-77fc-5842-b195-bdcbf432c86a.html

ENVIRONMENT *^top^*
- An elk was killed illegally on the opening day of Wisconsin gun deer hunting season ... [DNR] said the incident occurred at approximately 7 a.m. ... elk was seized as evidence. No additional details were released Sunday; the DNR said it would share additional information as it becomes available. ... fourth consecutive WI gun deer hunting season in which at least one elk has been illegally killed by a gun deer hunter. ... due to misidentification, according to the DNR. ... [review ColumbiaCo elk sighting, diff between elk and deer, brief history of elk in WI] ... Wisconsin has a limited elk hunt in the northern elk range, but elk are protected in the rest of the state, including Columbia County. Further, the elk season was closed Saturday. Its dates for 2021 are Oct. 16 to Nov. 14 and Dec. 9 to 17.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/outdoors/2021/11/22/wisconsin-dnr-investigating-elk-illegally-shot-columbia-county/8715173002/

- At Camp Nukkumaa, Wisconsin deer hunt tradition going strong
https://www.superiortelegram.com/northland-outdoors/7261191-At-Camp-Nukkumaa-

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Wisconsin-deer-hunt-tradition-going-strong

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- New county billboard warns of marijuana use in pregnancy
https://www.ehextra.com/0a72c128-c1c5-5a2e-a980-f3f12c33cb73.html

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Officials react after car plows through Waukesha Christmas Parade ... Statements from White House, Gov. Evers, Packers, J.J. Watt, Scott Walker, Barnes, Kaul, Farrow, Johnson, Baldwin, Tiffany, Fitzgerald, Kapenga, Hong.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2021/11/21/waukesha-parade-public-officials-react-after-car-plows-into-crowd/8715049002/

- SUV driver in parade crash may have been fleeing a crime ... Two law enforcement officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized the discuss the matter publicly, identified the person as 39-year-old Darrell Brooks. Online court records showed a person named Darrell Brooks, with a birthdate making him 39, has two open criminal cases in Milwaukee County. ... Investigators were questioning the person in custody about an earlier crime, which one of the officials described as an argument involving a knife. .... [WPD chief] Thompson gave no immediate details about the person or any possible motive. Thompson said that he did not know if the driver was hit by the officer's bullets but that no bystanders were wounded. [Bauer, et.al.]
https://apnews.com/04a0b91b3b7eed244145fe30ab805c73

- 'Some' killed, more than 20 injured after SUV speeds through Waukesha parade Sunday
https://www.wpr.org/some-killed-more-20-injured-after-suv-speeds-through-waukesha-parade-sunday

- 5 dead, more than 40 injured after SUV plows into crowd at Christmas parade in WI ... "We heard people screaming," Zack Heisler, a Milwaukee resident at the parade with his family, told The Washington Post. "It sounded like excitement, and the screaming sounded closer, then it sounded like terror. People sounded scared." Heisler said he saw a car "flying past us" and "people flying everywhere." ... Scott Walker, former governor of Wisconsin, said his mother attended the parade and watched the SUV drive past. She left before it collided with people, but people soon came running past her, Walker said on Twitter. "She said it felt like the images of people running in NYC on 9/11," Walker said. ... Gov. Tony Evers said he and his wife were "praying for Waukesha tonight and all the kids, families and community members affected by this senseless act."
https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/11/21/waukesha-parade-suv-crash/

- 'We have a criminal injustice system instead of a criminal justice system:' Appleton students, residents rally against Rittenhouse verdict ... organized by the Sunrise

Movement Fox Valley and Appleton Students for a Democratic Society. ... "(The verdict) does make me feel a little less safe, even though I'm white-passing," [ASDS] Co-Chair Gustavo Zuniga said. "It gives the precedent for these right-wing vigilantes to target whoever they see to be a danger to them -- that is usually people of color and people who are protesting their movements." ... "The goal of this rally and other rallies like it is to build up the people's movement," said [ASDS'] Freeman ... "Change is derived from protests, from mass movements like this. I think this is just contributing to the construction of that mass movement."
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/19/lawrence-university-students-appleton-rally-against-kyle-rittenhouse-verdict/8689877002/

- 45 people ejected, 12 arrested during Badgers game, UW police say ... A dozen people were ticketed during the game, with eight being UW students ... Those ticketed and ejected included 11 for underage drinking and one for entering the playing surface. Of the 27 people ejected without being ticketed, 21 were for possession of alcohol, five for tobacco usage, three for disorderly conduct, and two for seating/ticketing issue. (Some received multiple citations
https://madison.com/wsj/ad7e9ed6-7d30-5522-8fb0-f3283b0202dc.html

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY *^top^*
- Email reveals DNR has abandoned groundwater rulemaking for nitrates, citing strict timeline and difficult process set by Legislature
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/19/dnr-abandons-groundwater-rulemaking-nitrates-citing-strict-timeline-and-difficult-process-set-legisl/8666389002/

- CHipVal Regional Airport's PFAS plan goes to DNR
https://www.leadertelegram.com/1b047dc1-3ad9-5dee-9649-ce4b30689548.html

REAL ESTATE *^top^*
- A $1.3B proposal in Ohio, a $50M hotel in Racine and the developer [Rachie] connected to both [Part 2 of series] ... proposal in Middletown is bigger. A lot bigger ... It's become known as "Hollywoodland," a riverfront project to include three hotels, a convention center, indoor theme park, waterpark, virtual reality experiences, high-rises and condominiums, a movie studio, perhaps a comedy club in addition to restaurants, fashion retail and a concert venue that promises to attract millions of visitors to Middleton, Ohio -- a city barely half the size of Racine. ... Middletown's city manager is Jim Palenick, who was Racine's city manager from 2017 to 2020. ... was the city manager of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, which built an arena ... has never turned a profit.
https://journaltimes.com/ed54c44d-7006-5230-93d0-97a29b37105e.html

SMALL BUSINESS *^top^*
- Latino Academy seeks $9.7 million to train truck drivers

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https://captimes.com/768ace49-cb94-555d-b5ea-f4f8d51930c8.html

EDITORIALS *^top^*

- WSJ editorial: Rittenhouse verdict sends a chilling message to Wisconsin and the rest of the country, Vigilantes carrying rifles in the streets won't make our society safer.
https://madison.com/wsj/7299e869-82f2-5a38-b7b2-2f078a57b0ab.html

COLUMNS *^top^*

- John Nichols: House Democrats Just Gave Their Party a Fighting Chance in 2022, Now, the Senate must make it possible for them to win the 2022 midterms by passing Biden's Build Back Better bill.
https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/house-bbb-vote/

- Dave Zweifel: WNA Hall of Fame a fitting tribute for Phil Haslanger
https://captimes.com/e9dd42a9-493a-536b-94c4-642bf711f342.html

- John Nichols: Ron Johnson wants to save his hide by gutting democracy
https://captimes.com/2bc7e662-f8a3-58e2-8c2c-0a74bd7c3f8e.html

- David Blaska: The war on school discipline must end
https://madison.com/wsj/541c5ebe-3663-529f-8e6f-2943d67ba151.html

- Garion Frankel: Parents revolt against education bureaucracies: Critical race theory in schools prompts pushback by parents in Wisconsin and across the nation
https://www.badgerinstitute.org/News/2021-2022/Parents-revolt-against-education-bureaucracies.htm

- John Nichols: Rittenhouse verdict sends a chilling message ... Feingold, who for many years sat on the Senate Judiciary Committee and chaired its subcommittee on the Constitution, knows Kenosha, and he knows the law. On Friday, he put things in perspective when he said, "In this context, a gunman's successful self-defense claim prioritizes the interests of white power structures to maintain historic racial hierarchies through armed intimidation and the threat of unaccountable physical violence. Allowing these weapons to be publicly brandished -- let alone used without penalty against those with whom one disagrees -- chills and thereby undermines civil liberties, including freedom of speech and assembly."
https://captimes.com/cd7fb760-a16d-5ddf-b76b-e07662e4b364.html

- M.D. Kittle: Evers doubles down on divisive politics after Rittenhouse verdict ... Evers and Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes again refused to take responsibility for helping to light the fuse on the riots that led to the homicide trial.
https://empowerwisconsin.org/evers-doubles-down-on-divisive-politics-after-rittenhouse-verdict/

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- Harvard Law prof. Ronald Sullivan: Kyle Rittenhouse verdict violates these 5 standards for claiming self-defense, The proliferation of 'stand your ground' laws in recent years complicates the analysis of self-defense involving the duty to retreat
https://www.marketwatch.com/story/kyle-rittenhouse-verdict-violates-these-5-standards-for-claiming-self-defense-11637358131

- Dan O'Donnell: Justice ... They tried their best to interfere in the Rittenhouse case, but the jurors tasked with actually administering justice refused to let them. Rittenhouse didn't win so much as justice itself did.
https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2021/11/justice/

- Gregory Humphrey: Dual justice systems exist for Black and white Americans
https://dekerivers.wordpress.com/2021/11/21/dual-justice-systems-exist-for-black-and-white-americans/

- Elie Mystal: Kyle Rittenhouse Has Gotten Away With Murder--as Predicted, Rittenhouse's acquittal is not a "miscarriage" of justice, as some might claim. It is our white justice system working as intended.
https://www.thenation.com/article/society/kyle-rittenhouse-verdict/

- Ryeshia Farmer: ARPA Funds Should Help Community, Not Police, City officials have made good decisions, but more community input needed.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/21/op-ed-arpa-funds

- Clean WI's Scott Laeser: Legislature Blocks DNR On Water Pollution, Legislators use rule making authority to prevent water pollution protections.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/21/op-ed-legislature-blocks

- Steven Walters: Why Capitol reporters change careers
https://www.gazettextra.com/33460a40-7b93-5ef8-be13-304b5f10a737.html

- Sen. Lena Taylor: I Guess Black Folks Didn't Get the Memo, Black Elected Positions Sacrificed As Part of National Election Strategy: in redistricting battle
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/20/i-guess-black-folks

- Alex Lasry: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Will Deliver Real Results
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/20/the-bipartisan-infrastructure

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021, 10:25 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: MON News Summary: Madison clerk responds to Senate election records subpoena; Closing arguments in Rittenhouse trial set for today

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MON News Summary -- 15 Nov. 2021

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Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/mon-news-summary-madison-clerk-responds-to-senate-election-records-subpoena-closing-arguments-in-rittenhouse-trial-set-for-today/

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Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

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STORY TOPICS

- White house
- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- State government
- Federal government
- Local government
- Courts
- Culture
- Demographics
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Health care
- Public health and safety
- Race relations
- Tourism
- Transportation

TOP STORIES

Madison clerk responds to subpoena for 2020 election records

... [reviews Clerk Witzel-Behl vs LAB over requested ballot review, non-response from LAB to an August offer of copies, new Senate subpoenas requiring her to deliver records to Senate or arrange for LAB inspection] "I now find myself in the position of, in the worst case scenario, choosing to be subject to either potential federal criminal prosecution or a finding of contempt by the Legislature and the threat of imprisonment in the Dane County Jail," she wrote [to State Auditor Chrisman]. "As a state employee, I hope you can understand that this should not be the reality of public service for election officials in Wisconsin." ... proposed two options for LAB employees to inspect the city's election records: 1. Allow LAB staff, with clerk staff assistance, to "physically handle and inspect one record at a time." If auditors need to randomly select or sort records, "we can discuss how my staff can assist with accomplishing that under this method." 2. Allow Dane Co. LAB staffers to be sworn in as election officials. "This would provide me with the necessary confidence as custodian of the records that they will be handled and reviewed with the same care and chain of custody protocols as would be used by the City's election inspectors." Under this option, LAB staff could handle and inspect multiple records under clerk staff supervision. Witzel-Behl requested that the records review be scheduled either before or after the week of Nov. 22, since her staff spent Thanksgiving week last year assisting with the Dane County recount, "I trust that we share the same goal of providing the Legislature and the public with the most complete, accurate and transparent information and data regarding the administration of the 2020 General Election." LeMahieu spokesman "hopeful they can come to a quick resolution so we can complete our investigation." By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES https://captimes.com/49b05865-d7b7-529a-9a6b-0ec2b10718a8.html

After final word from attorneys, Rittenhouse jury takes over

Attorneys were set to make closing arguments Monday ... last word before a jury begins deliberating in a case that underscored Americans' bitter divisions on issues of guns, protests and policing. ... [review of shootings, trial] With prosecutors trying to focus jurors on the totality of what Rittenhouse did, starting with his decision to come to Kenosha with a gun, the defense tried to steer them toward the roughly 3 minutes that began with Rosenbaum's pursuit of Rittenhouse -- the period at the heart of his self-defense claim. After closing arguments, names were to be drawn to determine which 12 of the 18 jurors who heard testimony will deliberate. With a verdict near, Gov. Tony Evers said that 500 National Guard members would be prepared for duty in Kenosha if local law enforcement requested them. By Bauer, Tarm and Forliti, AP

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

- Utilities
- Editorials
- Columns

https://apnews.com/a5ee515a50f77ea4993bf7176859ef57

In the wealth race, Mandela Barnes trails far behind Dem primary rivals

... recorded $148,080.40 in income as the state's lieutenant governor, according to a federal financial disclosure he filed earlier this month. ... assets of between $5,000 and $75,000 in four mutual funds and a savings account. ... no dollar figure on a listing for his state retirement plan. ... no liabilities of $10,000 or greater. ... owns two condominiums, but they are not listed on the form. ... The form does not require a candidate to disclose his primary residence, nor a mortgage used for personal use. ... Godlewski and her husband ... [had assets] between $23.9-60M ... Lasry ... listed assets ranging from $100-273.1M ... U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson... worth between $16.5-78.1M ... "It's been widely reported ... " [he tweeted a WisPolitics.com "Capitol Report: Mandela Barnes trails top rivals in personal wealth"] ... [also tweeted] "As of 2018 a typical member of Congress was 12x richer than the typical American household. More than half are millionaires." ... [and] "The last thing we need is another millionaire (or billionaire) in Congress. That's why I'm fighting to change the game, to level the playing field. We're fighting for opportunity." By Marley, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/15/mandela-barnes-discloses-modest-savings-u-s-senate-financial-form/8592062002/

Fight over WI's next congressional map, and what it means for the two parties

... 6-2 GOP advantage [in GOP map] stands in contrast to a rival plan drafted by the governor's redistricting commission, which in most cases would result in either a 4-4 split or a 5-3 Republican edge (which is the current breakdown). ... Is there any common ground between the two plans? Yes. Both plans envision two safe Democratic seats and four safe GOP seats. ... Where do the maps most differ? The key differences involve [CD1 and 3] ... regions that combine red and blue turf ... Republican plan leaves the 1st mostly unchanged and politically safe for the GOP. ... makes the 3rd about two or three points more Republican than it is now. ... commission's plan would make [CD3] about three to four points more Democratic than it is today ... shifting [CD1] from about a 10-point GOP lean to about a 5-point Democratic ... There is virtually no political scenario under either plan where Democrats could win more than four of eight seats. ... reflects the GOP's natural geographic advantage ... Under the GOP plan, a little more than 6% of Wisconsinites would find themselves in a different U.S. House district ... Under the commission plan, 28% would. ... There would be at least six uncompetitive seats under both plans: the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th. But the commission's map creates a little more competition than the GOP map. By Gilbert, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/analysis/2021/11/12/wisconsin-redistricting-comparing-two-competing-congressional-maps/6355164001/

############
STORY TOPICS
############

WHITE HOUSE *^top^*
- PolitiFact: Steil's claim that Biden admin will pay out $450,000 to illegal immigrants is lacking information ... vastly oversimplifies what is happening. ... potential payments are the result of the Trump-era policy that saw thousands of children separated from their parents after crossing the southern border. And in some cases the families involved applied legally for asylum, and are not "illegal immigrants" at all. ... some sources say that individuals could receive $450,000 or more. But that number is far from certain ... Half True.
https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2021/nov/12/bryan-steil/steils-claim-biden-admin-will-pay-out-450000-illeg/

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL *^top^*
- Jury to get to weigh some lesser charges in Rittenhouse case ... Defense lawyers can object to lesser charges, and in some cases Friday, they did. For those that they didn't object to, Judge Bruce Schroeder asked Rittenhouse to confirm that he agreed with his attorneys' decision. Schroeder told Rittenhouse that by including the lesser charges, "you're raising the risk of conviction, although you're avoiding the possibility that the jury will end up compromising on the more serious crime. And you're also decreasing the risk that you'll end up with a second trial because the jury is unable to agree." ... Friday's arguments over jury instructions were contentious at times, with attorneys rehashing debates they had earlier in the case. ... Schroeder ultimately said he would allow the provocation instruction, which would ask the jury to consider whether Rittenhouse provoked Rosenbaum into attacking him. If the jury finds he did, that would negate self-defense. ... Prosecutors asked to add second-degree attempted intentional homicide, first-degree reckless endangerment and second-degree reckless endangerment options. Rittenhouse attorney Corey Chirafisi didn't object to the second-degree attempted homicide count, but he objected to adding the reckless endangerment counts, saying he doesn't believe someone can "attempt to be reckless." Review charges, shooting backdrop. Atty. Kim, MU Law prof. O'Hear comment.
https://apnews.com/c2fc277268d0597911064355f2554e59

- What charges does Kyle Rittenhouse face?
https://apnews.com/3febaa501c57a6b54e168353fe0b2a26

- Closing arguments in the Kyle Rittenhouse murder trial begin Monday
https://www.wpr.org/closing-arguments-kyle-rittenhouse-murder-trial-begin-monday

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- Polished final versions of competing narratives go to jury today in Rittenhouse trial https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/15/competing-narratives-go-jury-today-rittenhouse-trial/8617303002/

- As nationwide audience turns to Rittenhouse trial, Judge Schroeder's peculiar behavior stands out ... Bruce Schroeder, the longest-serving circuit court judge in Wisconsin, has emerged as a lightning rod ... But Schroeder has his defenders, too ... "We forget that judges are real people," said Milwaukee defense attorney Dan Adams, "He has idiosyncrasies, everyone has them. Part of the job of the trial lawyer is to learn about those and navigate the different opinions and stances of the jobs," he said. "I think (defense attorney) Mark Richards is doing a much better job doing that than (Assistant District Attorney Thomas) Binger is." ... Milwaukee attorneys who have practiced in front of Schroeder -- Julius Kim and John Birdsall -- said they understand why ... But both said onlookers shouldn't let that distract them. ... "He is who he is and I don't think that has any bearing on the case particularly," Birdsall said. ... [ex-Supreme] Geske called the [ruling against the term "victim"] "odd," but said it is "certainly within the bounds of his authority." ... [attys. comment on trial moments, including calling for applause for witness who was a veteran] "This move with the veterans and a witness is really concerning," Geske said. "I don't know what he's doing. My guess is he's extremely tired. Those are tough, emotionally exhausting cases to try. But none of that excuses having the jury applaud for a defense witness. I just can't even imagine." https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/rittenhouse-trial-judge-schroeder-draws-attention-peculiar-behavior/8588799002/

- Kyle Rittenhouse Trial Judge's Phone Rang With Lee Greenwood Trump Rally Theme ... Greenwood performed his song "God Bless The U.S.A" at former President Donald Trump's 2017 inauguration.
https://www.newsweek.com/1648958

- Anger Over Kyle Rittenhouse Trial Judge Grows After Week of Controversies: Stanford Prof. Dauber tweeted, "The biased judge in the Rittenhouse trial just made a thinly-veiled anti-Asian comment. When asked when lunch was coming he said "I hope the Asian food isn't on one of those boats in Long Beach harbor." Because all Asian food comes from China like the boats haha what a bigot." Civil rights activist DeRay Mckesson tweeted: "It's pretty clear that this man should not be a judge of anything."
https://www.newsweek.com/1648569

CORONAVIRUS ^*top*^
- WI's Covid Condition: Amid Aaron Rodgers drama, the pandemic surges again, Public health officials and advocates are concerned about how [star QB's vax] opposition ... will affect efforts to expand ... use, particularly among parents of newly eligible young children, even as new cases and hospitalizations start growing rapidly once again
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/wisconsins-covid-condition-amid-aaron-rodgers-drama-pandemic-surges-again/

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- As studies show SARS-CoV-2 in deer, DNR plans to start testing by winter ... [USDA study] showed 40% of [free-range] deer sampled in January in IL, MI, NY, PA had antibodies to COVID-19. ... 36% of 360 wild deer in the Ohio study were positive for the virus. ... 33% of 280 captive and free-ranging deer in Iowa ... "It's very concerning to me," said [OSU prof.] Saif ... "The question is, can it spill back from deer to humans? We don't know that yet. But if that's possible or if they could transmit it effectively to grazing livestock, then, obviously, this is a concern." ... "It was actually quite stunning to us," said [Penn St. prof.] Kapur ... researchers ... found SARS-CoV-2 in mink, otters, tigers, lions and non-human primates, mostly in captive settings. ... no report of clinical illness [in wild or captive deer] ... [USDA] leading work to test more deer for the disease in more states, including Wisconsin. ... [see if] animals can serve as a reservoir for the virus, potentially leading to new virus variants that may impact the health of deer, other animals and humans. DNR's Ryan said WI will participate but none tested so far. DHS' Miller said updated recommendations for deer hunters handling their kills coming soon, with gun deer season opening Saturday.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/outdoors/2021/11/14/coronavirus-documented-white-tailed-deer-iowa-and-ohio/8606456002/

- In a long line of medical conspiracy theories, ivermectin is the latest to seduce many, including Aaron Rodgers ... [reviews Johnson's hearing, starring Dr. Kory] ... Through Oct. 31 of this year, there have been 1,810 cases of ivermectin poisoning nationally, compared with 499 for the same period in 2019 ... "There could be a much larger incidence than we are aware of ... that goes unreported," said [Pharmacy assoc. Prez] Weber ... About 75% of the reported cases were considered to be of minor, minimal or no consequence. ... On Oct. 25, a large re-analysis by British researchers of 12 ivermectin clinical trials found that some of those trials had a high risk of bias or possible fraud. When those were excluded, ivermectin showed no significant survival benefit. That research has not yet been peer-reviewed. ... Two large studies, one in the U.S. and one in Great Britain, are ongoing; it might be months before results are in. ... "It's a conspiracy theory -- 100%," said [Yale Med prof.] Novella ... "We are living in a time when basic medical decisions have been politicized," he said. [more on Johnson, hydroxychloroquine] early in the pandemic, NIH did sponsor a clinical trial of hydroxychloroquine in patients hospitalized with COVID, but that trial was stopped in June 2020 when it was determined that while there was no harm, the drug was unlikely to be of benefit. ... [but Johnson claimed,] "So, again, there is something going on here," he said. "I believe it is sinister. I can't explain it. But hopefully, eventually, the truth will come out." ... We hear stories of people saying they were on ivermectin and they were doing well, then someone pulled it, and some of them ended up on a ventilator," said Twila Brase, president and co-founder of the Citizens' Council for Health Freedom, a national nonprofit group that has put up billboards in Wisconsin and other states urging people "Don't Be Bullied" into taking the vaccines against COVID-19. ... "There's information being withheld from them about adverse reactions (to the vaccines) and the early treatment options." ... [Elm Grover] Solie said he is 90% certain it was the ivermectin and not the illness running its course that led to him getting better. "I don't see any downside to trying it," he said. "It's cheap and it works." ... "I don't use it, and as far as I know, nobody in the Advocate Aurora system is using it at all," said [St. Luke's

Dr.] Husain ... "I have an obligation to do no harm. It would not be morally or ethically right to treat a patient with a drug where there is no data that supports its usage." ... [2014 JAMA study on medical conspiracies] ... Shortly after presenting [large, long-term negative ivermectin] study, McMaster University researcher Edward Mills said he got death threats. ... Death threats were received by 15% of 321 responding scientists in several countries, including the U.S., who responded to an October survey conducted by the journal Nature. The scientists had given media interviews about COVID. Another 22% said they got threats of physical or sexual violence. ... [U-Minn prof.] Boulware ... first encountered hate mail last year when he worked on studies of hydroxychloroquine and COVID. ... convinced Boulware to take his office phone number off the Internet.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/ivermectin-covid-sen-ron-johnson-medical-conspiracy-theory-aaron-rodgers-covid-19-pierre-kory/8473964002/

- Epic COVID vaccine passport tool now available to around 70 million patients
https://captimes.com/c3610e8f-9a78-5cde-bc31-0e24c29b99d5.html

- Lodi parents grateful for district hosting COVID vaccine clinic for young children
https://www.wiscnews.com/4017f4b8-cce8-5f1f-a344-d1d6455b8c48.html

- Hundreds of 5- to 11-year-olds receive their first COVID-19 vaccine dose at Fiserv Forum and then get a photo with the championship trophy
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/13/hundreds-5-11-year-old-children-receive-covid-vaccine-fiserv-forum-milwaukee-wisconsin/8605653002/

- How Are Kids Handling The Pandemic? We Asked Them. ... A poll conducted this past spring by the Children's Hospital of Chicago found 65 percent of parents believed the mental health consequences for kids will be worse than for adults. So we were surprised to find ... For example, we asked teens, ages 12 to 17, about the current state of their mental health and a vast majority had good things to say.
https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/we-polled-kids-about-the-pandemic-theyre-doing-surprisingly-ok/

STATE GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Evers meets with Wisconsin faith leaders in Beloit: private meeting on Friday at New Zion church
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/70d773a8-4d2f-51f1-bc69-191bea812765.html

- Beto O'Rourke announces campaign for Texas governor
https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/15/texas-election-2022-beto-orourke-run-governor/8622630002

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Fitzgerald: Democrats in 'disarray' with infrastructure bill ... [pictured with Sen. Jagler during] listening session at Watertown City Hall Friday ...

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https://www.dailyunion.com/51735cc0-dfe3-5a2e-9b29-4d34988b02bd.html

- Massive [fed] Cash Flow Sparks State Spending Sprees ... California, Indiana, Maine and Montana already have allocated all their money ... Twelve states haven't allocated a penny, and the remaining 34 have allocated some money.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/15/massive-cash-flow-sparks-state-spending-sprees

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Crowley signs $1.28B 2022 budget with no vetoes
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/12/milwaukee-county-executive-david-crowley-signs-1-28-b-2022-budget/6397434001/

COURTS *^top^*
- Schuldt analysis: What Covid Did To The Courts
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/14/court-watch-what-covid

- Woman charged for allegedly threatening Kenosha County judge ... Court Commissioner Larry Keating set a $5,000 cash bond for Melissa M. Metzger, of the 32000 block of 45th Street, who faces a total of 17 criminal charges, including her threat to kill Judge Jason A. Rossell.
https://journaltimes.com/196bebbc-525f-5534-aa29-0fc6bd300016.html

CULTURE *^top^*
- A 'starting point': Dane County employers make slow progress on diversity, inclusion
https://madison.com/wsj/710fd904-50d3-5aa9-b282-12b3ee358c0c.html

DEMOGRAPHICS *^top^*
- 'I have lost my everything': Afghans grapple with loss, hope as they prepare to leave Fort McCoy ... Tahiry ... with a group of 147 other students from the Asian University for Women. The young women could not bring their families. "I have lost my everything in Afghanistan. I left my home, my family, my everything. I'm thinking of starting a new life here," Tahiry said. "I'm hoping I can find everything here again." ... one of more than 11,000 Afghans at Fort McCoy ... still waiting to be resettled ... As of Nov. 8, "a couple thousand" Afghans had left Fort McCoy and more are departing each day, said [State Dept.'s] Kirking Loomis ... prioritized ... are "medically fragile" ... "a key challenge" is the "availability and the affordability of housing." ... students from the ... AUW ... based in Bangladesh ... all ended up at Fort McCoy ... had been attending school online in Afghanistan because of the pandemic. ... headed to 10 partner universities across the U.S. -- including UW-Milwaukee, Brown, Cornell and Arizona State University -- which have given them full-ride scholarships. ... [10 students will attend UWM] at least 50 Afghans will resettle to Madison, and possibly as many as 75. Other destinations

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include Green Bay, Wausau and the Fox Valley. ... Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway both said in separate statements that all Afghans should expect a warm welcome in Wisconsin. [more on escape from Kabul, US entry screening and vaccines, Ft. McCoy life] ... Some base personnel have told them a few months, others three to four weeks. Wahidyar said the waiting was difficult but added that Fort McCoy is "not that bad because we have everything we need." [sadness about perilous life for friends, family who could not escape Afghanistan] ... "It's about my future," Azami said. "I have to be the person that I wanted to be."
https://madison.com/wsj/18179611-1d61-5722-81e0-eda60a968c96.html

- First Afghan evacuees arrive in Fox Valley; up to 200 expected in coming months
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/2021/11/15/first-afghan-evacuees-arrive-fox-valley-up-to-200-expected/6288244001/

ECONOMY *^top^*
- Boom cycle: Economic recovery, home deliveries fuel demand for recycled materials ... [pre-pandemic] Wisconsin recyclers couldn't give away scrap paper. ... average price paid for used corrugated cardboard in the Midwest hit $185 a ton in October, the highest in two decades ... plastic milk jugs hit a record high of more than $2,000 a ton in August, and for the past year and a half has been worth more than aluminum ... five times what they did in 2019. ... All those plastic takeout containers and Amazon boxes have to come from somewhere, after all, and that has made recycled material more competitive. ... Many [munies] have seen revenues outperform their projections, in some cases enough to cover other program costs. ... Vernon County ... city of Madison ... in the black ... "You definitely have to have a long-range view to be in the recycling game," said [WM's] Morgan. "You have to be able to stomach the downturns." ... Wisconsin law bans #1 and #2 plastics -- used to make soda bottles and milk jugs -- from landfills, along with aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, cardboard and most paper. ... But single-stream recycling programs like Madison's also collect other plastics -- including dairy containers, PVC and buckets -- that may not be so easy to sell, especially if they can't be easily sorted. ... "Plastics are a very complex chemical material," [UW prof.] Huber said. "There's not one easy way to recycle all plastics." As a result, only about 13% of consumer plastic actually gets recycled ... "The demand is not going away," [DNR's] Semrau said. "I would be shocked if we go back to where paper is zero dollars."
https://madison.com/wsj/262d7e33-a94e-5eb2-93d2-1b0f557e86d4.html

EDUCATION *^top^*
- Mandates drove up COVID-19 vaccination rates at Wisconsin colleges and universities
https://madison.com/wsj/ebab2e40-5247-574e-bcb5-2d6f0ead5f41.html

ENVIRONMENT *^top^*
- Fight over US wolf protections heads to federal courtroom
https://journaltimes.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/fight-over-us-wolf-

protections-heads-to-federal-courtroom/article_6f8a2718-e14f-507f-a91c-52c3407ce560.html

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Open enrollment: How to select health insurance
https://www.ehextra.com/4dd576ed-218a-5b32-9bc8-d2cdd560250c.html

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- DHS' Haupt: Brace for flu season, get the vaccine ... "We really want people to be aware that the vaccines will protect you. They will protect you from becoming ill and in most cases, if you do come down with influenza, it will be a very mild illness. You probably would not seek medical care," said Haupt at a virtual press conference Friday.
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-health-officials-brace-flu-season-and-urge-people-be-get-vaccine

- Eau Claire takes action on a PFAS problem in its well water ... Eau Claire utility staff moved to test more samples, shut off wells where contamination was identified
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/eau-claire-takes-action-on-a-pfas-problem-in-its-well-water/

- WI communities tap into new funding, strategies to house those experiencing homelessness this winter, La Crosse, Madison renting hotel rooms to get unsheltered out of public parks; Madison also using new site with prefabricated shelters
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-communities-tap-new-funding-strategies-house-those-experiencing-homelessness-winter

RACE RELATIONS ^top^
- Why White Voters With Racist Views Often Still Support Black Republicans ... That question has come to the fore in the wake of Glenn Youngkin's gubernatorial victory in the blueish state of Virginia. Conservatives were quick to counter claims that Youngkin's win represented the effectiveness of stoking racial fears with results from Virginia's down-ballot election for lieutenant governor -- a contest where the Republican candidate, Winsome Sears, made history by becoming the first Black woman elected to statewide office in Virginia. ... Support for [Ben] Carson [in 2016 GOP primary] was positively correlated with the belief that Black Americans have too much influence on U.S. politics ... Whites who thought African Americans had "far too little" influence disliked Carson and preferred Hillary Clinton by 60 percentage points in a hypothetical general election matchup. Meanwhile, Carson was very popular among whites who were most concerned about African Americans having "too much" influence in politics. ... whites who thought African Americans have "far too much" influence preferred Carson to Clinton by 45 points. ... Black Republicans ... are perceived differently by racially prejudiced white Americans. Their embrace of the GOP and its conservative ideology help assure racially prejudiced whites that, unlike Black Democrats, they are

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not in the business of carrying water for their own racial group.
https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/why-racist-white-voters-often-favor-black-republicans/

TOURISM ^top^
- TSA doesn't anticipate holiday travel delays at WI airports due to vaccine mandate
https://www.wpr.org/tsa-doesnt-anticipate-holiday-travel-delays-wisconsin-airports-due-vaccine-mandate

- A 'really good boom': Tourism increases in state and Racine County after COVID-19 decimated industry
https://journaltimes.com/fd2a6324-8d15-5aa6-9bc5-987e50c3ab5e.html

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Analyst: Gas prices likely to remain high for next several months, Automobile, lodging associations predict holiday travel will lag behind pre-pandemic levels because of gas prices, COVID-19
https://www.wpr.org/analyst-gas-prices-likely-remain-high-next-several-months

UTILITIES ^top^
- Alliant Energy puts finishing touches on $670M natural gas plant ... West Riverside Energy Center ... began commercial operation in May 2020 but is currently offline while contractors correct defects in the plant's heat recovery system and steam generator. To be completed year end, at $30M below approved cost.
https://madison.com/wsj/2759f4b2-dc7c-58fd-afa6-d0f3f62c484e.html

EDITORIALS ^top^
- RJT editorial: Deer hunt continues a Wisconsin tradition
https://journaltimes.com/3f85b935-3c1d-586c-b7aa-4696d03b9cb1.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- Dave Zweifel: We should consider naming Municipal Building in Soglin's honor
https://captimes.com/e1d6713d-6d33-5f4e-b03b-faa8d90250c0.html

- Stoughton Dem/Progressives' Jeffrey Leverich: Don't believe the media; the Dems are alright
https://captimes.com/b33ce88c-7d92-5141-b0a9-d5a8b647bf0a.html

- biz owner Betty Harris Custer: Support BRT, but keep terminals off State Street
https://captimes.com/7d79c08a-999b-5748-ab04-fbfab08abe96.html

- M.D. Kittle: Evers' 'People's' redistricting plan gerrymanders 1st District

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https://empowerwisconsin.org/evers-peoples-redistricting-plan-gerrymanders-1st-district/

- Sen. Jeff Smith: People's maps would restore voter confidence
https://captimes.com/3b606ae2-5dfb-54b9-b881-2d3ee2813c50.html

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers: When lip service is not enough: The white moderate & 'Midwestern nice' ... The process and results of the PMC maps leave a lot to be desired. Absent within the process was a clear understanding of what was needed for majority minority districts--most of which are situated in the city of Milwaukee (due to population and hyper-segregation)--to remain viable.
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/when-lip-service-is-not-enough-the-white-moderate-midwestern-nice/

- Alan Borsuk: Politics is the guardian of the status quo when it comes to improving reading proficiency in Wisconsin
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2021/11/12/borsuk-inaction-rules-day-when-comes-improving-reading/8591819002/

- Steven Walters: Juvenile prison cost $812,252 for female inmate
https://www.gazettextra.com/a7da29d0-6529-590f-8e6a-cf5631209f4b.html

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*** RULES COMMITTEE NOTICE ***

DATE: November 5, 2021

TO: Rules Committee Members, Interested Parties

FROM: Majority Leader Jim Steineke

RE: **Proposed Calendar for Thursday, November 11th**

The Assembly committee on Rules will meet at 3:30 P.M. in the Assembly Parlor on Tuesday, November 9th to schedule the following legislation for session ***convening at 10:00 A.M.*** **on Thursday, November 11th.**

Proposed Calendar for Thursday, November 11th

AR19 Magnafici
Relating to: the life and public service of Ann Marie Hraychuck.

AJR64 Hebl / Roys
Relating to: commending the life of Ed Nager.

AJR94 Skowronski / Wimberger
Relating to: observing November 11, 2021, as Veterans Day and honoring all veterans who have served our state and country.

SJR69 Nass / Dittrich
Relating to: recognizing Employment Choice First as a means to preserve the dignity, self-esteem, and pride of individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin.

SJR72 Darling / Emerson
Relating to: proclaiming the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

AB624 Vos / LeMahieu
Relating to: legislative redistricting.
Pending action by the Assembly Committee on State Affairs.

AB625 Vos / LeMahieu
Relating to: congressional redistricting.
Pending action by the Assembly Committee on State Affair.

AB682 Krug / Bewley
Relating to: grant related to the Verso Paper Mill in the city of Wisconsin Rapids, loan guarantee related to the Park Falls Pulp and Paper Mill in the city of Park Falls, substance abuse prevention on certain public projects, and granting rule-making authority.
Pending action by the Assembly Committee on Forestry, Parks, and Outdoor Recreation.

SB71 Cowles / Steffen
Relating to: storage and processing of sexual assault kits and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety 7-0. Passed Senate by voice vote.

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From: "Rep.Steineke" <Rep.Steineke@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021, 2:27 PM

To: Undisclosed recipients:;

Subject: Proposed Calendar for Thursday, November 11th

Attachments: Proposed Assembly Calendar for November 11.pdf

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Relating to: proclaiming the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

AB624 Vos / LeMahieu
Relating to: legislative redistricting.
Pending action by the Assembly Committee on State Affairs.

AB625 Vos / LeMahieu
Relating to: congressional redistricting.
Pending action by the Assembly Committee on State Affair.

AB682 Krug / Bewley
Relating to: grant related to the Verso Paper Mill in the city of Wisconsin Rapids, loan guarantee related to the Park Falls Pulp and Paper Mill in the city of Park Falls, substance abuse prevention on certain public projects, and granting rule-making authority.
Pending action by the Assembly Committee on Forestry, Parks, and Outdoor Recreation.

SB71 Cowles / Steffen
Relating to: storage and processing of sexual assault kits and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety 7-0. Passed Senate by voice vote.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



TIMOTHY RAMTHUN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 59TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Rep. Timothy Ramthun (608) 266-9175

November 17, 2021

Rep. Ramthun: Calls Upon Wisconsin Legislature

MADISON - State Representative Timothy Ramthun (R-Campbellsport) released the following statement regarding the reclaiming of Wisconsin's 10 electoral ballots:

"Today I have formally called upon the entire legislature to answer the concerns the majority of Wisconsin citizens have regarding election integrity. I have openly and transparently provided every office with my joint resolution asking to reclaim Wisconsin's 10 electoral ballots, along with a legal memo that speaks truth to the process of decertification. I have also offered every office the opportunity to see all the provided evidence used to make the claim upon request, as well as proposed legislative solutions to ensure future elections are not manipulated."

"I look forward to working with my colleagues to resolve the issues demanded by the majority of our state. It is this time in history where we can correct the course of our state and our nation, to hold those who would manipulate our sacred right to vote accountable. It falls upon us to take a stand and set an example for the remaining states to follow. Accountability demands that if you do not follow the law, and seek to fraudulently effect election results, you will not succeed."

###

The 59th Assembly District includes Hartford, Kewaskum, Campbellsport, Eden, Cascade, Waldo, Mount Calvary, St. Cloud, and New Holstein.

P.O. Box 8953 • Madison, WI 53708-8953 • (608) 266-9175 • Toll Free: (888) 534-0059
Rep.Ramthun@legis.wisconsin.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021, 6:19 AM
To: "'vmandarich@wi.rr.com'" <vmandarich@wi.rr.com>
Subject: RE: Do what's right: Oppose SB 621/AB 624 and SB 622/AB 625

Hi Vic,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Representative Horlacher.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Vic Mandarich <vmandarich@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 8:41 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Do what's right: Oppose SB 621/AB 624 and SB 622/AB 625

State Assembly Member Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

I believe in democracy. Do you, because you have the power through your vote to carry on our democratic traditions? Or will you instead vote to continue your power grab? As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to oppose SB 621/AB 624 and SB 622/AB 625.

Wisconsin voters deserve better maps than these rigged, gerrymandered voting map plans for both state legislative and congressional districts in these bills. We have an opportunity for a state legislative mapmaking process that is fairer, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power. And by rejecting these bills, we can take that opportunity.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for a better map making process and for better redistricted maps for 2022. And instead these bills are put out to further maintain a rigged system that is not representative of the voters - including your voters.

Please do what is right for Wisconsin, right for your voters, and right for a representative democracy. Please vote against SB 621/AB 624 and SB 622/AB 625.

Thanks for listening to your voters like myself and valuing your constituents over partisan politics.

Vic Mandarich
vmandarich@wi.rr.com
W1099 Spleas Skoney Rd
East Troy, Wisconsin 53120

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021, 4:12 PM
To: 'Mariette Nowak' <nowakmariette70@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Redistricting

Hi Mariette,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Mariette Nowak <nowakmariette70@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 3:46 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Redistricting

Rep. Horlacher:
I am deeply disappointed that you recently voted YES to a Redistricting Joint Resolution (SJR63/AJR80). I am especially troubled by Section 3, which states that current districts should stay intact.
Courts carefully examined our current maps. They said map drafters moved millions more voters from one district to another than was necessary to equalize populations across districts. Districts were not kept intact. Far from it. The courts said it was done for political gain. That was not fair play.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

You are obviously trying to perpetuate the prior gerrymandering to retain your power. This is not fair play.
I support the People's Maps Commission maps. Will you be taking these up?
Will you support SB 389 & AB 395, the nonpartisan redistricting bills that have been proposed? If not, why?
I look forward to your prompt response . Thank you.

Your constituent,

Mariette Nowak
N9053 Swift Lake Dr.
East Troy, WI. 53120
262-642-2352All the best,
Mariette

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 9:05 AM
To: 'Laurel Tinkle' <laurel.tinkle@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Redistricting Reform

Hi Laurel,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Have a great day and please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Laurel Tinkle <laurel.tinkle@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 8:59 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Redistricting Reform

I am writing to encourage you to vote for bipartisan redistricting reform as stated in Assembly bill 395 which follows the "Iowas model". I don't believe it is fair to align our voting districts with the party in power through gerrymandering. This is not a Republican or Democratic issue, it is a fairness and democracy issue. If you are unsure whether your constituents would support this stance, please ask them through a questionnaire or in your regular update.

Thank you,
Laurel Tinkle

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021, 12:46 PM
To: 'Dondi Rae' <dondi2477@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Redistricting should be a non partisan process

Hi Dondi,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Dondi Rae <dondi2477@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 11:56 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Redistricting should be a non partisan process

Dear Rep Horlacher,

Please support and champion nonpartisan legislative and congressional redistricting in Wisconsin modeled after that used in Iowa, proposed in the 2021 session as Senate Bill 389 and Assembly

Bill 395. SB389 and AB395 would give us a fair, independent, nonpartisan and transparent way to draw new voting district maps. The bipartisan bill would empower career nonpartisan

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

civil servants at the Legislative Reference Bureau to draw the maps – and not the politicians.

Please join the three Republicans co-sponsoring the bipartisan proposal: Rep. Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay), Rep. Todd Novak (R-Dodgeville) and Rep. Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City). Last session, Rep. Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) and Rep. Loren Oldenburg (R-Viroqua) signed-on. Rep. Mursau co-sponsored after he received positive responses to a constituent survey question on the nonpartisan redistricting reform bill.

Thank you, sincerely your consituent,

Mrs Dondi Griffin
W608 Carlin Trl
Palmyra, WI 53156

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 5:20 AM
To: "Rep.Snodgrass" <Rep.Snodgrass@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Redistricting

Thanks Fawn!

Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Rep.Snodgrass <Rep.Snodgrass@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 6:21 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Redistricting

Hello,

Below is an email we received from one of your constituents.

Best wishes,

Fawn George
Legislative Assistant
Office of Rep. Lee Snodgrass
(608) 266-3070 / Room 21 North

From: Michelle Folk <mfolk18@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 5:01 PM
To: Rep.Snodgrass <Rep.Snodgrass@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Redistricting

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Redistricting impacts the whole state. I hope in cases such as this you seek input from all voters. I can't vote for you or against you, but I can campaign for and donate to those who step up and lead rather than follow those who care only about themselves.

Michelle Folk
208 Bluff Street
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

On Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 9:24 AM Rep.Snodgrass <Rep.Snodgrass@legis.wisconsin.gov> wrote:

> Hello Michelle,
>
> Thank you for contacting my office. Due to the high volume of emails I am prioritizing constituent responses. Please provide your address and phone number.
>
> Kindly,
>
> Rep. Snodgrass
>
> **From:** Michelle Folk <mfolk18@gmail.com>
> **Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 10:44 PM
> **Subject:** Redistricting
>
> Nearly half the country (21 states) have nonpartisan or bipartisan methods to draw their electoral boundaries.
>
> It is time for Wisconsin to do the same.
>
> Neither one party nor the other should have complete control over this process, because it is known that they are then drawn in only one party's interests.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

THIS.IS.WRONG.

You will earn more respect and favor from your constituents by making this a fair process, rather than continuing to arrogantly state that you have the right to draw the maps as you please, even though you know it unfairly benefits your own party.

Please bring back decency to the legislature. We are so tired of lies and arrogance. Please do what is right and draw the lines together. It's called compromise, and it used to be a real thing in the Wisconsin Capitol.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2021, 9:59 AM
To: "'doroughjohnson@hotmail.com'" <doroughjohnson@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: Support SB 389 and AB 395

Hi Elaine,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Elaine Dorough Johnson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2021 9:45 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Support SB 389 and AB 395

State Assembly Member Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to support SB 389 and AB 395.

Wisconsin voters deserve a better process like "the Iowa Model" for state legislative mapmaking that is fairer, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for this redistricting process that is open, fair, and transparent.

This redistricting reform measure is essential for democracy. Essential for voters. And it is right for Wisconsin.

Thanks for listening to your voters like myself and valuing your constituents over partisan politics. Please support SB 389 and AB 395!

Elaine Dorough Johnson
doroughjohnson@hotmail.com
1419 Jamesway
Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin 53538

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 6:33 AM
To: "'vmandarich@wi.rr.com'" <vmandarich@wi.rr.com>
Subject: RE: Support SB 389 and AB 395

Hi Vic,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Vic Mandarich <vmandarich@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 11:41 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Support SB 389 and AB 395

State Representative Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to support SB 389 and AB 395.

Wisconsin voters deserve a better process like "the Iowa Model" for state legislative mapmaking that is fairer, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for this redistricting process that is open, fair, and transparent.

This redistricting reform measure is essential for democracy. Essential for voters. And it is right for Wisconsin.

Thanks for listening to your voters like myself and valuing your constituents over partisan politics. Please support SB 389 and AB 395!

Vic Mandarich
vmandarich@wi.rr.com
W1099 Spleas Skoney Rd
East Troy, Wisconsin 53120

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 1:49 PM
To: "'onewish@charter.net'" <onewish@charter.net>
Subject: RE: Support SB 389 and AB 395

Hi Dennis,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Dennis Rybicke <onewish@charter.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 10:19 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Support SB 389 and AB 395

State Representative Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to support SB 389 and AB 395.

Wisconsin voters deserve a better process like "the Iowa Model" for state legislative mapmaking that is more fair, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for this redistricting process that is open, fair, and transparent.

This redistricting reform measure is essential for democracy. Essential for voters. And it is right for Wisconsin.

Thanks for listening to your voters like me and valuing your constituents over partisan politics. Please support SB 389 and AB 395!

Dennis Rybicke
onewish@charter.net
1050 East Street
Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin 53538

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 1:37 PM
To: "'cmarkson36@gmail.com'" <cmarkson36@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Support SB 389 and AB 395

Hi Carolyn,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Carolyn Markson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 10:40 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Support SB 389 and AB 395

State Representative Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to support SB 389 and AB 395.

Wisconsin voters deserve a better process like "the Iowa Model" for state legislative mapmaking that is fairer, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for this redistricting process that is open, fair, and transparent.

This redistricting reform measure is essential for democracy. Essential for voters. And it is right for Wisconsin.

Thanks for listening to your voters like myself and valuing your constituents over partisan politics. Please support SB 389 and AB 395!

Carolyn Markson
cmarkson36@gmail.com
339 Northwest St
Palmyra, Wisconsin 53156

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021, 9:20 AM
To: "'jmgeorgi7702@gmail.com'" <jmgeorgi7702@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Support SB 389 and AB 395

Hi Jill,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Jill Fuller <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 8:26 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Support SB 389 and AB 395

State Representative Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to support SB 389 and AB 395.

Wisconsin voters deserve a better process like "the Iowa Model" for state legislative mapmaking that is fairer, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for this redistricting process that is open, fair, and transparent.

This redistricting reform measure is essential for democracy. Essential for voters. And it is right for Wisconsin.

Thanks for listening to your voters like myself and valuing your constituents over partisan politics. Please support SB 389 and AB 395!

Jill Fuller
jmgeorgi7702@gmail.com
535 E. Church St.
Jefferson, Wisconsin 53549

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 6:05 AM
To: "'nowakmariette70@gmail.com'" <nowakmariette70@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Support SB 389 and AB 395

Hi Mariette,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Mariette Nowak <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:45 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Support SB 389 and AB 395

State Assembly Member Cody Horlacher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

As a Wisconsin voter in your district, I strongly urge you to support SB 389 and AB 395.

Wisconsin voters deserve a better process like "the Iowa Model" for state legislative mapmaking that is fairer, more transparent and puts voters and their communities above partisan concerns about holding political power.

There is overwhelming public support across Wisconsin from voters from all over the political spectrum for this redistricting process that is open, fair, and transparent.

This redistricting reform measure is essential for democracy. Essential for voters. And it is right for Wisconsin.

Thanks for listening to your voters like myself and valuing your constituents over partisan politics. Please support SB 389 and AB 395!

Mariette Nowak
nowakmariette70@gmail.com
N9053 Swift Lake Drive
East Troy, Wisconsin 53120

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021, 9:59 AM
To: "'Mariette Nowak (nowakmariette70@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message'" <kwautomail@phone2action.com>
Subject: RE: Supporting Fair Maps

Hi Mariette,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

-----Original Message-----
From: Mariette Nowak (nowakmariette70@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message <kwautomail@phone2action.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:16 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Supporting Fair Maps

Dear Rep. Cody Horlacher,

Fair maps are essential for democracy!

I am writing to request you take action on ending gerrymandering in Wisconsin by supporting an independent and transparent process for creating fair redistricting maps.

Representation matters to my community, and it is our responsibility to choose our representatives not the other way around. I am concerned that the process that played out in 2011, which was behind closed doors and resulted in multiple lawsuits which cost taxpayers millions of dollars will play out again in 2021 ?? unless a more transparent and inclusive process is put in place.

I?m asking you to oppose SB621 and AB624, which are gerrymandered maps, and hold a public hearing on SB389 and AB395, which are fair maps, so we can have our voices heard. We need you to support the independent and transparent processes the latter bills outline.

Our community is not alone in this need; 56 Wisconsin counties, representing a solid majority of the people of Wisconsin have backed fair maps through

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

referendums and resolutions. We are trusting in you to represent our voices, and our voices support fair maps in Wisconsin.

I look forward to hearing your public opposition to SB621 and AB624, as well as your public support for hearings on SB389 and AB395.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mariette Nowak
N9053 Swift Lake Dr
East Troy, WI 53120
nowakmariette70@gmail.com
(262) 642-2352

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 4:53 PM
To: "'EDWARD MRKVICKA (BIGKAHUNAO62@YAHOO.COM) Sent You a Personal Message'" <kwautomail@phone2action.com>
Subject: RE: Supporting Fair Maps

Hi Edward,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

-----Original Message-----
From: EDWARD MRKVICKA (BIGKAHUNAO62@YAHOO.COM) Sent You a Personal Message <kwautomail@phone2action.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Supporting Fair Maps

Dear Rep. Cody Horlacher,

I am writing to request you take action on ending gerrymandering in Wisconsin by supporting an independent and transparent process for creating fair redistricting maps.

Representation matters to my community, and it is our responsibility to choose our representatives not the other way around. I am concerned that the process that played out in 2011, which was behind closed doors and resulted in multiple lawsuits which cost taxpayers millions of dollars will play out again in 2021 ?? unless a more transparent and inclusive process is put in place.

I?m asking you to oppose SB621 and AB624, which are gerrymandered maps, and hold a public hearing on SB389 and AB395, which are fair maps, so we can have our voices heard. We need you to support the independent and transparent processes the latter bills outline.

Our community is not alone in this need; 56 Wisconsin counties, representing a solid majority of the people of Wisconsin have backed fair maps through referendums and resolutions. We are trusting in you to represent our voices, and our voices support fair maps in Wisconsin.

I look forward to hearing your public opposition to SB621 and AB624, as well as your public support for hearings on SB389 and AB395.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Sincerely,

Mr. EDWARD MRKVICKA
341 Whitewater Ave
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
BIGKAHUNAO62@YAHOO.COM
(920) 747-4070

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 10:38 AM
To: "'ggr71m-org@yahoo.com'" <ggr71m-org@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: the form Contact Me was submitted

Hi Randy,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:25 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: the form Contact Me was submitted

the form Contact Me was submitted, this is the list of values it contained, you can turn this email off under workflows in Umbraco Contour

Name
Randy Golz
Email
ggr71m-org@yahoo.com

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Street Address

700 Riverside Dr

City, State, Zip

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Phone Number

920-563-5293

Message

Dear Congressman Horlacher;

On October 19th, Congressman Robin Vos was interviewed on WPR and stated, with regard to his fake election investigation, "We want a system that's fair for everybody. I don't want to benefit either side." The current district maps were specifically designed for Republican partisan advantage. There is no disputing that fact. Rather than throwing those out and starting fresh, the proposed Republican maps are a mere tweak of the current maps, still maintaining specific partisan advantage. Robin Vos' support and promotion of these maps makes him an outright liar relative to his statement above.

I implore you to vote against the proposed partisan Republican maps. The most fair course of action is to start with the proposed People's Maps and make minimal adjustments to meet redistricting requirements.

Republicans have touted that the 1st round maps produced by the People's Maps Commission fail the Voting Rights requirements. What they don't say is that the legislator's originally implemented 2011 maps also failed the Voting Rights requirements and had to be tweaked as a result of a court challenge. There is no reason why the Peoples maps cannot be used as a starting point and fix those issues.

The Republican proposed districts miserably fail the requirement for compactness, with a mean rating of 0.216 (1.00 being optimally compact). If our schools were educating our children to a 21% grade average, we would consider that a total failure of our system.

Republican extremists have spent the last decade trying to address non-existent "voter fraud" while at the same time promoting their own fraud against voters. This fraud against voters includes their current gerrymandering (legislators choosing their voters rather than voters choosing their legislators), passing laws to make it harder to vote, and conducting fake investigations into non-existent fraud. This fraud against voters is far more sinister than any supposed voter fraud that they are touting. Their actions are an all-out attack on our democracy and our nation.

This is a matter of right and wrong. However, these fringe extremist Republicans have never learned right from wrong. They have no interest in democracy, or of upholding the American Experiment. They feel that they can no longer win an election based on promoting their ideas, They instead try to win elections by cheating, choosing their voters, and making it difficult for people in certain (democratic-leaning) areas to vote. Their behavior is despicable.

Please do the right thing and vote against the proposed Republican maps.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Randy Golz
700 Riverside Dr
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

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2019-2020 Blue Book

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AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021, 7:26 AM
To: 'Warren Metzger' <metzgerwarren@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Wisconsin voters demand a nonpartisan map-drawing process

---

Hi Warren,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Have a great Sundya and please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Warren Metzger <Warren.Metzger.408370837@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 10:28 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Wisconsin voters demand a nonpartisan map-drawing process

Dear Representative Horlacher,

My name is Warren Metzger, and I am from Mukwonago, Wisconsin, located in your district.

I am a firm believer that every vote should count. In that light, Wisconsin voters deserve a nonpartisan, map drawing process for redistricting in Wisconsin. Referenda and resolutions throughout the state demonstrate that over 70 percent of Wisconsin voters want nonpartisan maps.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Gerrymandering hurts democracy; all Wisconsinites deserve to be heard by their elected representatives, and all representatives should be held accountable by their constituents.

Do not divide my community into partisan voting districts. I am urging you to support an independent, nonpartisan and transparent map drawing process for 2021 - including public hearings.

Sincerely,
Warren Metzger
W331S8110 James Dr
Mukwonago, WI 53149

.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021, 6:59 AM
To: 'Leslie Ott' <sundancer425@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Wisconsin voters deserve a nonpartisan map-drawing process

---

Hi Leslie,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Have a good Sunday and please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Leslie Ott <Leslie.Ott.417791137@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2021 9:29 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Wisconsin voters deserve a nonpartisan map-drawing process

Dear Representative Horlacher,

My name is Leslie Ott, and I am from Palmyra, Wisconsin, located in your district.

I am a firm believer that every vote should count. In that light, Wisconsin voters deserve a nonpartisan, map drawing process for redistricting in Wisconsin. Referenda and resolutions throughout the state demonstrate that over 70 percent of Wisconsin voters want nonpartisan maps.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Gerrymandering hurts democracy; all Wisconsinites deserve to be heard by their elected representatives, and all representatives should be held accountable by their constituents.

Do not divide my community into partisan voting districts. I am urging you to support an independent, nonpartisan and transparent map drawing process for 2021 - including public hearings.

Sincerely,
Leslie Ott
1942 County Rd E
Palmyra, WI 53156

.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Steve.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021, 7:20 AM
To: 'Leslie Ott' <sundancer425@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Wisconsin voters deserve accountability

Hi Leslie,

Thank you for reaching out to Representative Horlacher. I will be sure to pass along your comments to Cody.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,
Steve Knudson
Office of State Representative Cody Horlacher
Room 214 North
P.O. Box 8952
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-5715

From: Leslie Ott <Leslie.Ott.417791137@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 7:58 PM
To: Rep.Horlacher <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Wisconsin voters deserve accountability

Dear Representative Horlacher,

My name is Leslie Ott, and I am from Palmyra, Wisconsin, located in your district.

I am a firm believer that every vote should count. In that light, Wisconsin voters deserve a nonpartisan, map drawing process for redistricting in Wisconsin. Referenda and resolutions throughout the state demonstrate that over 70 percent of Wisconsin voters want nonpartisan maps.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Gerrymandering hurts democracy; all Wisconsinites deserve to be heard by their elected representatives, and all representatives should be held accountable by their constituents.

Do not divide my community into partisan voting districts. I am urging you to support an independent, nonpartisan and transparent map drawing process for 2021 - including public hearings.

Sincerely,
Leslie Ott
1942 County Rd E
Palmyra, WI 53156

.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: "Rep.Vorpagel" <Rep.Vorpagel@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021, 4:10 PM
To: " Rep.Horlacher" <Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Rep. Vorpagel Legislative Update: November 15, 2021



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Phone: (608) 266-8530

Email:
Rep.Vorpagel@legis.wi.gov
Mail: Room 210 North

P.O. Box 8953

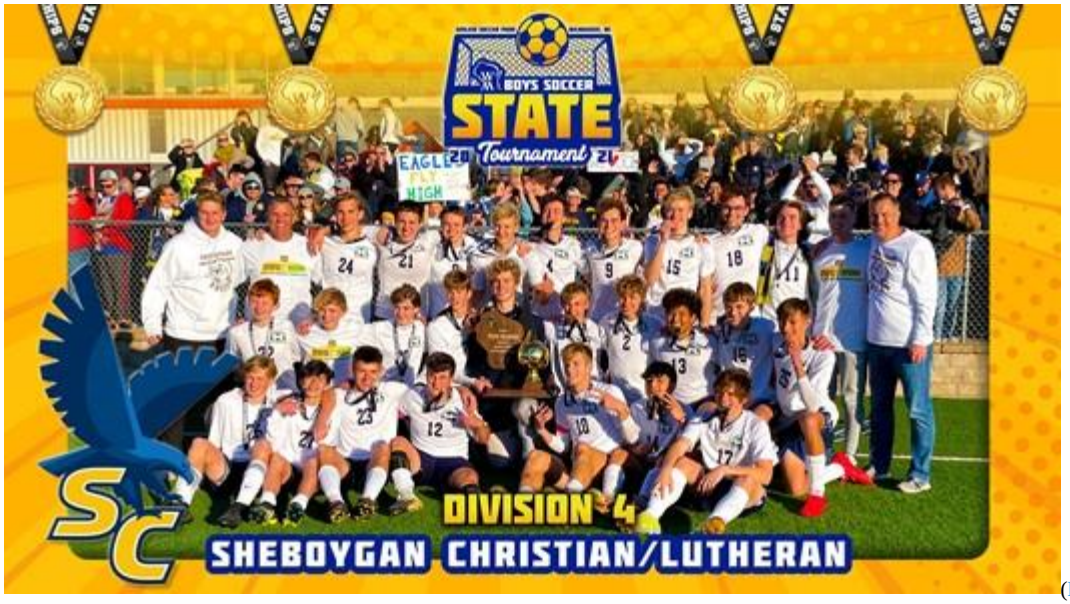
Madison, WI 53073



With Respect, Honor, and Gratitude, thank you to all who have served.

Congrats!

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(Photo Credit: Sheboygan Christian Facebook Page)

Congratulations to the Sheboygan Christian/Lutheran Boy's Soccer team on their Division 4 State Championship! They defeated Oostburg in shootout to claim the title, and finished their season with a record of 16-2-3.



(Photo Credit: Howards Grove School District Facebook Page)

Congratulations to the Howards Grove Girl's Volleyball team on their Division 3 State Championship! As the two-time defending champions they accomplished a stunning 3-peat with this year's state title. They defeated Lake Country Lutheran in the final.

Congratulations to all the players and coaches on both teams for their hard work this year bringing home the hardware!

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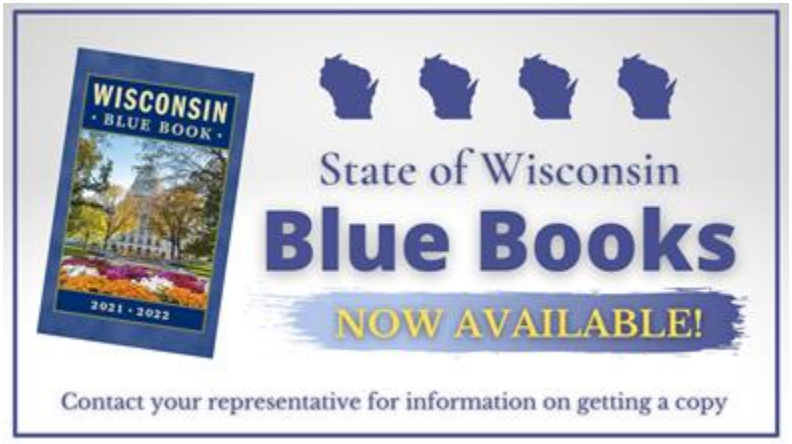
Legislature Passes Maps

Last week, both the State Senate and Assembly passed updated district maps. These are now headed to the Governor. This is the legislative redistricting process which happens every ten years after the census is concluded as laid out in the constitution.

Additionally, the Legislature also chose to take up the legislative maps drawn by Governor Evers' People's Maps Commission and put them up for a vote. A bipartisan super-majority of 77 representatives (including 17 Assembly Democrats) voted overwhelmingly to reject them.

Numerous Assembly Democrats spoke against the maps from Evers' People's Maps Commission during the Assembly floor session, slamming them for violating the Voting Rights Act and shrinking the representation of minorities in the Legislature. You can read more about that here.

Blue Books Available!



Blue books are here. If you are a resident of the 27th Assembly District and would like a copy please send an email with your name and address to Rep.Vorpagel@legis.wi.gov. Thanks!

Upcoming Events Around the Area

Santa's Village and Christmas in the Square, Elkhart Lake: November 27th 1pm-6:30pm. More information available here.
YMCA Doug Opel's Run for Kids, Sheboygan: November 25th 10:30am. More information available here.
If you have an event or events in the district you would like highlighted, please email the information to me at Rep.Vorpagel@legis.wi.gov for consideration in our upcoming E-Updates.

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From: NCSL TODAY <ncsltoday@news.ncsl.org>
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021, 10:04 AM
To: Cody Horlacher <rep.horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Rural leaders fear they'll miss out on infrastructure money

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NCSL Today

Daily news docket and resources for state legislators and staff

Nov. 22, 2021

STATELINE

Rural leaders fear they'll miss out on infrastructure money

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In theory, the $1.2 trillion infrastructure law that President Joe Biden signed last week should provide a huge boost. But rural leaders worry that they lack the staff and matching dollars to compete with bigger cities for their fair share of the bounty.

Read more

NCSL's summary of the infrastructure investment and jobs act

ROUTE FIFTY

Massive budget bill would open even more state and local funding

In a year that's already seen a major infrastructure package signed into law and billions in pandemic aid, domestic spending legislation the U.S. House approved last week promises to direct additional federal cash towards state and local priorities.

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THE HILL

Latino activists flex redistricting muscle after decades of growth

After two straight decades in which Latinos powered population growth in the United States, Latino and Hispanic activist groups are demanding more political representation in Congress and legislatures as states redraw their political boundaries.

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NCSL RESOURCE

Automatic expungement of juvenile records

All states have procedures that allow juveniles to petition to either seal or expunge their records in certain cases. However, these procedures can be confusing and cumbersome.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nebraska's 1.9% unemployment rate the lowest on record in US

The October rate reported by Nebraska's labor department and the Bureau of Labor Statistics marked the first time a state's unemployment rate dropped below 2%. Spokespeople for both agencies confirmed that Nebraska's rate is the country's lowest on record.

WRBI

Indiana lawmakers to meet in special session to vote on COVID emergency order

The Indiana legislature will hold a special one-day session next Monday to vote on the state's COVID-19 emergency order.

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STATE LEGISLATURES NEWS

NCSL Legislative Summit: State, federal policymakers tout ways to boost higher education outcomes

A panel of state lawmakers was joined by U.S. Undersecretary of Education James Kvaal to examine the challenges facing higher education students, potential policy solutions and the interplay between the state and federal roles in higher education.

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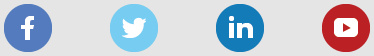


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From: NCSL TODAY <ncsltoday@news.ncsl.org>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 10:44 AM
To: Cody Horlacher <rep.horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Salmon to swim free as infrastructure money flows

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Nov. 19, 2021

STATELINE

Salmon to swim free as infrastructure money flows

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The $1.2 trillion federal infrastructure package signed into law this month creates a new billion-dollar program designed to open thousands of miles of congested transportation corridors.Those choked thoroughfares aren't roads and bridges, however. They are creeks and streams used by migrating salmon when they return from the ocean to reach their spawning grounds.

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NCSL resources on infrastructure investment and jobs act

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earlier absentee vote receipt deadline goes to North Carolina governor

North Carolina Republicans pushed a bill through the legislature on Thursday that would prohibit officials from counting mail-in absentee ballots received after Election Day.

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BATON ROUGE ADVOCATE

Eight casinos now offer sports betting in Louisiana

Eight casinos are accepting bets on sporting events and seven more applications are pending, Ronnie Johns, chair of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board, said Thursday.

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STATELEGISLATURES NEWS

Senator, baseball owner calls plays at ballpark and Statehouse

Colleagues of Washington Senate Majority Leader Andy Billig will forgive him if he uses baseball metaphors in his speeches. Billig (D) is also a part owner of theSpokane Indians, a minor league baseball affiliate of the Colorado Rockies. In fact, his staff sometimes uses baseball phrases to communicate with him.



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ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina Senate plans Dec. 6 special session

The South Carolina Senate is scheduled to return next month to the Statehouse for a special session where lawmakers are expected to address redistricting.

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

What 2021's recent elections tell us about voting in 2022 and beyond

Pick any election truism, and 2021's elections earlier this month may have killed it. **NCSL data cited.**

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STATELEGISLATURES NEWS

Cannabis can-do: Virgin Island legislators learn Colorado lessons

The U.S. Virgin Islands expects to legalize recreational cannabis soon, so the territory's lawmakers came to Colorado—the first state to do that—to learn what's working, and what's not.

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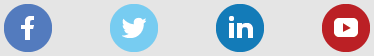


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No. _____, Original

In the Supreme Court of the United States

STATE OF [INSERT YOUR STATE],

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, VICE- PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES; SPEAKER OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PRESIDENT *PRO TEMPORE* OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, STATE OF ARIZONA, STATE OF GEORGIA, STATE OF MICHIGAN, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Defendants.

BILL OF COMPLAINT

[counsel name, address]

* *Counsel of Record*

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

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"You will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make a good use of it."

John Adams

INTRODUCTION

We are in unchartered territory as a Nation. The November 2020 election was stolen. Our Country is divided in a manner not seen in over a century. Just last month, 56% of respondents agreed that "it's likely that cheating affected the outcome of the 2020 presidential election"—a 5% increase since April 2021.[1] The fault for this deepening divide lies directly with the federal and state public officials who not only abdicated their sworn duty to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, but in many cases actively sought to subvert it. The Justices of this Court can no longer ignore what the public already sees—a time in history like that which Churchill once characterized as the gathering storm.

Revelations of rampant lawlessness by officials in states like Georgia, Michigan, Wisconsin, Arizona, and Pennsylvania (collectively, "Defendant States") involving outcome-changing illegal votes appear daily. For example, in Pennsylvania, after all counties had finally uploaded their official November 2020 election results, there were still 49,171 more votes

---

[1] That includes 84% of Republicans, 32% of Democrats, and 54% of Independents. Rasmussen Reports, *Vote-By-Mail: Most Voters Think It Will Cause More Cheating* (Oct. 11, 2021), https://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/general_politics/october_2021/vote_by_mail_most_voters_think_it_will_cause_more_cheating (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

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than voters—just one of many examples of illegal votes. Under express Pennsylvania law, the election should not have been certified.

This September, it was revealed that election officials in Maricopa County, Arizona were caught red-handed destroying election records from the November 2020 election—in violation of federal law—*after* a court rejected the County's attempt to thwart the Arizona Senate's investigation into the November 2020 election. That investigation also found tens of thousands of illegal ballots, and that there were hundreds of thousands of corrupted or missing ballot images—on which the November 2020 election vote count is based.

Also in September, a renowned cyber security expert, University of Michigan Professor J. Alex Halderman, revealed in a Georgia federal court that he had conclusively demonstrated that Dominion Voting Systems machines used in at least sixteen states can be easily hacked to "steal votes." Inexplicably, the district court denied Prof. Halderman's request to strategically unseal his expert report detailing these systemic vulnerabilities for the limited purpose of bringing it to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ("CISA") to attempt to fix these issues before the next election. Prof. Halderman also testified that Georgia Secretary of State Raffensperger, a defendant in that case, refused to even look at the report or meet with him to go over these dangerous security vulnerabilities. The district court's decision to bury Prof. Halderman's evidence

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and prevent it from being shared with authorities charged with protecting elections is unfathomable.

This October, the Racine County, Wisconsin, Sheriff announced the results of a felony criminal investigation of the Wisconsin Election Commission ("WEC") into illegal vote harvesting in nursing homes. The Sheriff stated that the governing "election statute was in fact not just broken but shattered" in all 72 counties across Wisconsin and referred the case for prosecution. The validity of up to 50,000 ballots may be at issue as a consequence.

Two issues regarding the November 2020 election are not in dispute. First, in the months leading up to the November 2020 election, a few non-legislative officials in the Defendant States used the COVID-19 pandemic as an excuse to unconstitutionally revise or violate their states' election laws. Their actions had one effect: to uniformly weaken security measures put in place *by state legislatures* to protect the integrity of the vote. These changes squarely violated the Electors Clause of Article II, Section 1, Clause 2 vesting state legislatures with plenary authority to make election law. These government officials then flooded the Defendant States with millions of illegal ballots to be sent through the mails, or placed in drop boxes, with little or no chain of custody as required by law.[2]

---

[2] *See, e.g.,* Tiffany Morgan, Five Months After 2020 Election, Georgia Still Has Not Produced Chain of Custody Records for 355,000 Absentee Vote by Mail Ballots Deposited in Drop Boxes, THE GEORGIA STAR NEWS, Apr. 8, 2021, available at https://georgiastarnews.com/2021/04/08/five-months-after-2020-election-georgia-still-has-not-produced-chain-of-custody-

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Second, the United States' failure to challenge the Defendant States' violations of Article II, including at a time when four of eight justices had evenly split on whether to hear such violations in October 2020, violated the Take Care Clause and the Guarantee Clause of the Constitution commanding that the Executive "shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed" and that "the United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government." A stolen election, as the November 2020 election was, neither faithfully executes the law nor provides a republican form of government.

Since *Marbury v. Madison* this Court has, on significant occasions, had to step into the breach in a time of tumult, declare what the law is, and right the ship. This is just such an occasion. In fact, it is situations precisely like the present—when the Constitution has been cast aside unchecked—that leads us to the current precipice. In times such as this, it is the duty of the Court to be a "faithful guardian[] of the Constitution." THE FEDERALIST NO. 78, at 470 (C. Rossiter, ed. 1961) (A. Hamilton).

Against that background, the State of [insert Your State] ("Plaintiff State") brings this action based on the following allegations:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff State challenges the Defendant States' administration of the 2020 election under the

---

records-for-355000-absentee-vote-by-mail-ballots-deposited-in-drop-boxes/ (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

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Electors Clause of Article II, Section 1, Clause 2, and the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and their obstruction of audits and investigations into their actions in attempt to cover up their participation in stealing the November 2020 election. which injured Plaintiff State.

2. Plaintiff State further challenges United States and five federal officers[3] for violating both the Guarantee Clause and Take Care Clause of Article IV, Section 4 and Article II, Section 3 of the United States Constitution, respectively, by failing to remedy the Electors Clause violations which destroyed the integrity of the Peoples' vote in the November 2020 election.

3. This case presents two core questions of law:

(i) Did Defendant States violate the Electors Clause or the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by taking—or by allowing—non-legislative actions to change the election rules that would govern the November 2020 election?

(ii) Did the federal defendants violate the Guarantee Clause or Take Care Clause by failing to pursue claims against the Defendant States for their constitutional

[3] The five officers are the President of the United States, Vice-President of the United States, Attorney General of the United States, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate (collectively, the "Officer Defendants").

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violations described above or by ignoring evidence of outcome-changing illegal votes in the Defendant States and worse by impeding investigations of illegal or fraudulent votes in at least one Defendant State?

4. By purporting to waive or otherwise modify the existing state law in a manner that was wholly *ultra vires* and not adopted by each state's legislature, Defendant States violated not only the Electors Clause, U.S. CONST. art. II, § 1, cl. 2, but also the Elections Clause, *id.* art. I, § 4 (to the extent that the Article I Elections Clause textually applies to the Article II process of selecting presidential electors).

5. Plaintiff State alleges that the United States flagrantly violated the Guarantee Clause and Take Care Clause permitting the November 2020 stolen election to stand.

6. Each of Defendant States acted in a common pattern. State officials, sometimes through pending litigation (*e.g.*, settling "friendly" suits) and sometimes unilaterally by executive fiat, announced new rules for the conduct of the 2020 election that were inconsistent with existing state statutes defining what constitutes a lawful vote—and uniformly made it easier for illegal or fraudulent mail-in ballots to be cast.

7. Millions of unconstitutional and illegal mail-in ballots flooded the election systems across the Country that resulted in an election in November 2020 that was not "one person one vote" as required by the Constitution.

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8. Further, officials in the Defendant States have since affirmatively impeded investigations and audits of the November 2020 election—in some instances in destroying election records—to conceal evidence demonstrating the illegal votes and fraud in the November 2020 election. Similarly, the federal Department of Justice has attempted to impede efforts to investigate election fraud, including threatening to investigate the Arizona State Senate for investigating election irregularities in Maricopa County.[4]

9. In addition, on January 7, 2021, the Director of National Intelligence ("DNI") concluded in an unclassified memorandum that "CIA Management took actions 'pressuring [analysts] to withdraw their support" for findings regarding China's actions to "interfere" in the election. Memo., John Ratcliffe, Director of National Intelligence, *Views on Intelligence Community Election Security Analysis*, at 2 (Jan. 7, 2021) (Tab 1). The DNI concluded that the CIA's actions violated Intelligence Community Tradecraft Standards. *Id.*

10. The unconstitutional acts and proof of a stolen election through illegal and fraudulent ballots is also demonstrated by new evidence arising since December 11, 2020, that the number of ballots cast in violation of the Electors Clause and Due Process Clause in Defendant States exceeds the reported

[4] *See* Letter from Pamela S. Karlan, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, to Arizona Sen. Karen Fann (May 5, 2021) (Tab 2).

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margin separating the candidates and thus the validity of the presidential electors from those States.

11. The number of votes called into question by these constitutional violations greatly exceeds the difference between the vote totals of the two candidates for President of the United States in each Defendant State.

12. In addition to injunctive relief sought for the November 2020 election, Plaintiff State seeks declaratory relief for all federal elections in the future. This problem is clearly capable of repetition yet evading review. The integrity of our constitutional democracy requires that states conduct presidential elections in accordance with the rule of law and federal constitutional guarantees.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

13. This action is within this Court's original jurisdiction under three distinct bases: (a) as a "controvers[y] between two or more States" with respect to Plaintiff State and Defendant States, 28 U.S.C. § 1251(a); U.S. CONST. art III, § 2, (b) as a "controvers[y] between the United States and a State" with respect to Plaintiff State and the United States, 28 U.S.C. § 1251(b)(2); U.S. CONST. art III, § 2, and (c) as an "action[] … by a State against the citizens of another State" with respect to Plaintiff State and the federal Officer Defendants. 28 U.S.C. § 1251(b)(3); U.S. CONST. art III, § 2; *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 307 (1966).

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Plaintiff State raises an Article III case or controversy.

14. In a presidential election, "the impact of the votes cast in each State is affected by the votes cast for the various candidates in other States." *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780, 795 (1983). The constitutional failures of the United States and the Defendant States injured the Plaintiff State by subverting the electoral process and disillusioning voters from the inherently dishonest process of federal elections controlled by non-legislative actors.

15. This Court's Article III decisions limit the ability of citizens to press claims under the Electors Clause. *Lance v. Coffman*, 549 U.S. 437, 442 (2007) (distinguishing citizen plaintiffs from citizen relators who sued in the name of a state); *cf. Massachusetts v. EPA,* 549 U.S. 497, 520 (2007) (courts owe states "special solicitude in standing analysis"). The Constitution is a compact among the States, and the Defendant States' breach of the terms of that compact injures the other states.

16. Because the Defendant States represent a dispositive number of electoral votes, this Court can redress Plaintiff State's injuries by vacating the certification of Defendant States' presidential electors and the vote of the Electoral College as certified by the Joint Session of Congress. Because redressability likely would undermine a suit against a single state officer or State because no single State's electoral votes would change the election outcome, this action against the United States and multiple State defendants is the only action that can redress Plaintiff State's injury.

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17. Under the circumstances presented, Plaintiff State has the right under the Twelfth Amendment to participate in an election of the President and Vice President in the House and Senate, respectively, U.S. CONST. art. XII, which the defendants' unlawful actions denied Plaintiff State and which this Court can redress by ordering that that election take place.

18. The States enjoy a right of suffrage in the Senate, U.S. CONST. art. V, and Vice-President casts the tie-breaking vote in the Senate. U.S. CONST. art. II, § 3, cl. 4. As of the certification of two Georgia run-off elections in January of 2021, the Senate is evenly divided, and the election of the Vice-President will determine which party—that of Plaintiff State's two senators or that of the opposition party—will have the majority in the Senate. The constitutional violations alleged herein denied Plaintiff State's senators the advantage of majority status in the Senate.

Sovereign immunity does not bar this action.

19. Defendant United States has waived its sovereign immunity for actions against the Attorney General, 5 U.S.C. § 702, and sovereign immunity does not protect the Officer Defendants from suits against unconstitutional action and inaction. *Franklin v. Massachusetts*, 505 U.S. 788, 800-01 (1992) (citing *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952)). "No separate waiver of sovereign immunity is required to seek a writ of mandamus to compel an official to perform a duty required in his official capacity." *Fornaro v. James*, 416 F.3d 63, 69 (D.C. Cir. 2005) (Roberts, J.); *cf.* 28 U.S.C. § 1361.

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Plaintiff State lacks an alternate remedy for this action.

20. Individual state courts or U.S. district courts do not—and under the circumstance of contested elections in multiple states, *cannot*—offer an adequate remedy to resolve election disputes within the timeframe set by the Constitution to resolve such disputes and to appoint a President via the electoral college. No court—other than this Court—can redress constitutional injuries spanning multiple States with the sufficient number of states joined as defendants or respondents to alter the result in the Electoral College.

21. This Court is the sole judicial forum in which to exercise the jurisdictional basis for this action.

22. The political branches do not provide an adequate forum which to resolve the claims against the Officer Defendants or the United States because the Officer Defendants control the executive and legislative branches of the United States government.

This action is timely.

23. In the absence of a directly applicable statute of limitations, actions against the United States must be brought within six years of the action's arising, 28 U.S.C. § 2401(a), and the limitation set by the equitable doctrine of laches cannot be less than the statute of limitations. *SCA Hygiene Prods. Aktiebolag v. First Quality Baby Prods., LLC*, 137 S.Ct. 954, 960 (2017). In any event, Plaintiff State has brought this action promptly after the development of

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new evidence that was previously unavailable. For these reasons, this action is timely.

PARTIES

24. Plaintiff is the State of [insert Your State], which is a sovereign State of the United States.

25. Defendants are the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the States of Georgia, Michigan, Arizona, and Wisconsin, which are sovereign States of the United States.

26. Defendant United States is the federal sovereign.

27. Defendants President of the United States, Vice- President of the United States, Attorney General of the United States, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, President *Pro Tempore* of the United States Senate (collectively, the "Officer Defendants") are officers of the United States sued in their official capacities and named by the office they hold. *See* S. Ct. Rule 35.4. The current officers—Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Kamala Harris, Nancy Pelosi, Patrick Leahy, and Merrick Garland—are citizens of Delaware, California, California, Vermont, and Maryland, respectively.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

28. Under the Supremacy Clause, the "Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof … shall be the supreme law of the land." U.S. CONST. Art. VI, cl. 2.

29. "The individual citizen has no federal constitutional right to vote for electors for the President of the United States unless and until the

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state legislature chooses a statewide election as the means to implement its power to appoint members of the electoral college." *Bush v. Gore*, 531 U.S. 98, 104 (2000) (citing U.S. CONST. art. II, § 1) ("*Bush II*").

30. State legislatures have plenary power to set the process for appointing presidential electors: "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors." U.S. CONST. art. II, §1, cl. 2; *see also Bush II*, 531 U.S. at 104 ("[T]he state legislature's power to select the manner for appointing electors is *plenary*." (emphasis added)).

31. At the time of the Founding, most States did not appoint electors through popular statewide elections. In the first presidential election, six of the ten States that appointed electors did so by direct legislative appointment. *McPherson v. Blacker*, 146 U.S. 1, 29-30 (1892).

32. In the second presidential election, nine of the fifteen States that appointed electors did so by direct legislative appointment. *Id.* at 30.

33. In the third presidential election, nine of sixteen States that appointed electors did so by direct legislative appointment. *Id.* at 31. This practice persisted in lesser degrees through the Election of 1860. *Id.* at 32.

34. Though "[h]istory has now favored the voter," *Bush II*, 531 U.S. at 104, "there is no doubt of the right of the legislature to resume the power [of appointing presidential electors] at any time, for *it can neither be taken away nor abdicated*." *McPherson*, 146 U.S. at 35 (emphasis added); *cf.* 3 U.S.C. § 2 ("Whenever any State has held an election for the

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purpose of choosing electors, and has failed to make a choice on the day prescribed by law, the electors may be appointed on a subsequent day in such a manner as the legislature of such State may direct.").

35. This Court has stated that "[m]ore recently, the Court has suggested that perhaps not all claims under the Guarantee Clause present nonjusticiable political questions." *New York v. United States*, 505 U.S. 144, 185 (1992). The acts of non-legislative officials in the Defendant States abrogating state election law indisputably "pose . . . realistic risk of altering the form or the method of functioning of [their States'] governments." *Id*. at 186. In fact, the Article II violations go to the very heart of a Republican form of government.

36. As Justice Thomas stated in his dissent in *United States Term Limits v. Thorton*, 514 U.S. 779 (1995):

> Our system of government rests on one overriding principle: All power stems from the consent of the people. To phrase the principle in this way, however, is to be imprecise about something important to the notion of 'reserved' powers. The ultimate source of the Constitution's authority is the consent of the people of each individual State, not the consent of the undifferentiated people of the Nation as a whole.

Id. at 846 (Thomas, J., dissenting, with the Chief Justice and Justices O'Connor and Scalia joining).

37. The Constitution is a voluntary compact among the people of the States. When the Defendant

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States disregarded the Constitution in a manner as fundamental to our republican form of government as is Article II here, the United States is required to under Article IV to step in and enforce the Constitution against such unlawful acts.

38. Independently, a government implemented through a stolen election is not a republican form of government. The failure of the United States to prevent the electoral manipulations by the Defendant States (and other States), also violated Article IV because that failure "risk[s] . . . altering the form or the method of functioning of [all States'] governments." *New York v. United States*, 505 U.S. at 185; *see also* Erwin Chemerinsky, *Cases Under the Guarantee Clause Should Be Justiciable*, 65 COLO. L. REV. 849, 868 (1994) ("[T]he key features of a republican form of government are a right to vote and a right of political participation.").

39. Given the State legislatures' constitutional primacy in selecting presidential electors, the ability to set rules governing the casting of ballots and counting of votes cannot be usurped by other branches of state government.

40. Defendant States' applicable laws are set out under the facts for each Defendant State.

FACTS

41. In December 2018, the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project and MIT Election Data & Science Lab issued a comprehensive report

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addressing election integrity issues.[5] The fundamental question they sought to address was: "How do we know that the election outcomes announced by election officials are correct?"

42. The Caltech/MIT Report concluded: "Ultimately, the only way to answer a question like this is to rely on procedures that independently review the outcomes of elections, to detect and correct material mistakes that are discovered. In other words, elections need to be audited." *Id.* at iii. The Caltech/MIT Report then set forth a detailed analysis of why and how such audits should be done for the same reasons that exist today—a lack of trust in our voting systems.

43. The constitutional violations committed by Defendant States and the federal defendants directly affected the outcome of the Electoral College vote. Those violations proximately caused the appointment of presidential electors for Mr. Biden and the improper certification of his election.

The uncontrolled use of mail-in ballots in 2020 made widespread election fraud inevitable.

44. The use of absentee and mail-in ballots skyrocketed in 2020, not only as a purported public-health response to the COVID-19 pandemic but also at the urging of mail-in voting's proponents, and most especially executive branch officials in Defendant States. According to the Pew Research Center, in the 2020 general election, a record number of votes—

[5] *See* Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project, Summary Report, Election Auditing, Key Issues and Perspectives (2018) (Tab 3).

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about 65 million—were cast via mail compared to 33.5 million mail-in ballots cast in the 2016 general election—an increase of more than 94 percent.

45. In the wake of the contested 2000 election, the bipartisan Jimmy Carter-James Baker commission identified absentee ballots as "the largest source of potential voter fraud." BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN U.S. ELECTIONS: REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON FEDERAL ELECTION REFORM, at 46 (Sept. 2005).

46. Concern over the use of mail-in ballots is not novel to the modern era, Dustin Waters, *Mail-in Ballots Were Part of a Plot to Deny Lincoln Reelection in 1864*, WASH. POST (Aug. 22, 2020),[6] and it remained a concern leading up to the November 2020 election. *Crawford v. Marion Cty. Election Bd.*, 553 U.S. 181, 194-96 & n.11 (2008); *see also* Texas Office of the Attorney General, *AG Paxton Announces Joint Prosecution of Gregg County Organized Election Fraud in Mail-In Balloting Scheme* (Sept. 24, 2020); Harriet Alexander & Ariel Zilber, *Minneapolis police opens investigation into reports that Ilhan Omar's supporters illegally harvested Democrat ballots in Minnesota*, DAILY MAIL, Sept. 28, 2020.

47. Absentee and mail-in voting are the primary opportunities for unlawful ballots to be cast in scale. As a result of the explosion in absentee and mail-in voting in Defendant States, combined with Defendant States' unconstitutional modification of

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[6] https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2020/08/22/mail-in-voting-civil-war-election-conspiracy-lincoln/ (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

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statutory protections designed to ensure election integrity, Defendant States created a massive opportunity for fraud. In addition, Defendant States made it difficult or impossible to separate the constitutionally tainted mail-in ballots from valid mail-in ballots.

48. Rather than augment safeguards against illegal voting in anticipation of the millions of additional mail-in ballots flooding into their States, Defendant States *all* materially weakened, or did away with, security measures, such as witness or signature verification procedures, and prohibitions on unmanned ballot drop boxes, required by their respective legislatures. Their legislatures established those commonsense safeguards to prevent—or at least reduce—fraudulent mail-in ballots.

49. Significantly, in Defendant States, Democrat voters voted by mail at two to three times the rate of Republicans. Mr. Biden thus greatly benefited from this unconstitutional usurpation of legislative authority, and the weakening of legislatively mandated ballot security measures.

Electronic voting systems are inherently vulnerable to hacking and manipulation.

50. In addition to the unconstitutional acts associated with mail-in and absentee voting, there are grave issues surrounding the vulnerability of electronic voting machines—such as the electronic voting systems provided by Dominion Voting Systems, Inc. ("Dominion") and Election Systems & Software ("ES&S")—that were in use in all of the Defendant

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States (and other states as well) during the November 2020 election.

51. In 2017, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") designated election infrastructure as critical infrastructure pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 5195c. *See Curling v. Kemp*, 334 F. Supp. 3d 1303, 1311 (N.D. Ga. 2018). The United States thus formally articulated its duty to protect the Nation's election systems.

52. On November 12, 2020, after the November 2020 election, members of Elections Infrastructure Government Coordinating Council & The Election Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Executive Committees issued a joint statement declaring that "[t]he November 3rd election was the most secure in American history." The purveyors of this statement provided no support for this bald-faced assertion.

53. In an ironic twist, four weeks later, on December 13, 2020, the U.S. Government announced *the largest cyberattack* in the Country's history affecting more than 18,000 public and private organizations—including at least one voting machine company.

54. As Plaintiff's expert, Col. John Mills (USAR Ret.), a former Director of Cybersecurity Policy, Strategy, and International Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Senior Civilian possessing almost 40 years of experience in the planning and use of U.S. cybersecurity-related instruments of national power testifies:

- The United States Government has the capability to project significant effects toward

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critical infrastructure worldwide—including election systems. This same capability now exists in other countries, such as China, Russian, Iran, and Venezuela, and these foreign powers now use these same, similar, and improved remote access operation methodologies at will to assert their own national agendas.

- These operations have created a growing talent base of personnel, software, and network-enabled, remote-access capabilities that are becoming ubiquitous in the hands of companies and personnel outside of the U.S. Government.
- Statements that the November 2020 election was "the most secure in American history" asserted in a November 12, 2020, posted on the CISA website, had little, if any, basis in fact.

Declaration of Col. John R. Mills, ¶¶ 9 -14 (USAR Ret.) (Tab 4).

55. Further highlighting the extreme risk of manipulation of our electronic voting systems is the public testimony of renowned cyber security expert, University of Michigan Professor J. Alex Halderman. On June 21, 2017, he testified to the United States Senate Intelligence Committee on how easy it is to hack electronic voting systems to change the outcome of a national election.

56. The following statement by Professor Halderman at this hearing is startling:

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> My conclusion from that work is that our highly computerized election infrastructure is vulnerable to sabotage and even to cyber attacks that could change votes. These realities risk making our election results more difficult for the American people to trust. … I know America's voting machines are vulnerable because my colleagues and I have hacked them repeatedly as part of a decade of research studying the technology that operates elections and learning how to make it stronger. We've created attacks that can spread from machine to machine, like a computer virus, and silently change election outcomes. … This puts the entire Nation at risk. In close elections, an attacker can probe the most important swing states or swing counties, find areas with the weakest protection, and strike there. In a close election year, changing a

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> few votes in key localities could be enough to tip national results.

Russian Interference in the 2016 U.S. Elections: Hearing before the Sen. Select Comm. on Intelligence, 115th Cong.,72 (2017). Professor Halderman's entire introductory remarks can be seen at the link in the footnote below. [7]

57. On September 21, 2021 Prof. Halderman filed a declaration in *Curling v. Raffensperger*, No. 1:17-cv-2989-AT (N.D. Ga.), requesting that the district court unseal his July 1, 2021 25,000-word expert report (the "Report") stating under the penalty of perjury, that the hacking/malware threat to Dominion voting machines used in 16 states is so "urgent" that his Report must be released to CISA to try to fix these issues, and that CISA has acknowledged that it is prepared to do so.[8]

58. Prof. Halderman testified that "These are not general weaknesses or theoretical problems but rather specific flaws in [Dominion's] ICX software and I am prepared to demonstrate proof-of-concept malware that can exploit them to steal votes." *Id.*

59. Prof. Halderman also testified that: "Informing responsible parties about the [Dominion] ICX's vulnerabilities is becoming more urgent by the day. Foreign or domestic adversaries who are intent

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[7] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AmivIHUAy8Q (opening testimony at 2:15:15 to 2:21:15) (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

[8] *See* Declaration of J. Alex Halderman (Tab 5). The 16 states are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Washington. *Id.* at ¶5

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on attacking elections certainly could have already discovered the same problems I did." *Id.*

60. Prof. Halderman testified that Georgia Secretary of State Raffensperger is refusing to address these issues and, along with the other defendant Georgia county election officials, has objected to disclosing his Report just to CISA leaving Prof. Halderman to state that "*continuing to conceal [these] problems . . . serves no one and only hurts voters*." *Id.* (emphasis added).

The State of Arizona's electoral votes were unlawfully certified and counted.

61. Arizona has 11 electoral votes, with a state-wide vote tally 1,661,686 for Mr. Trump and 1,672,143 for Mr. Biden, a margin of 10,457 votes.

62. The number of illegal votes and votes affected by the various constitutional violations far exceeds the margin of votes separating the candidates.

1. <u>Arizona's election violated the Electors' Clause.</u>

63. Since 1990, Arizona law has required that residents wishing to participate in an election submit their voter registration materials no later than 29 days prior to election day in order to vote in that election. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-120(A). For 2020, that deadline was October 5.

64. Such deadlines are permissible: "State is certainly justified in imposing some reasonable cutoff point for registration … which citizens must meet in

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order to participate in the next election." *Rosario v. Rockefeller*, 410 U.S. 752, 760 (1973).

65. In *Mi Familia Vota v. Hobbs*, 492 F. Supp. 3d 980 (D. Ariz. 2020), however, a federal district court violated the Electors Clause and enjoined that law, extending the registration deadline to October 23, 2020. The Ninth Circuit stayed that order on October 13, 2020, with a two-day grace period, *Mi Familia Vota v. Hobbs*, 977 F.3d 948, 955 (9th Cir. 2020).

66. Nonetheless, the Ninth Circuit did not apply the stay retroactively because neither the Arizona Secretary of State nor the Arizona Attorney General requested retroactive relief. *Id.* at 954-55. As a net result, the deadline was unconstitutionally extended from the statutory deadline of October 5 to October 15, 2021, thereby allowing more than 52,000 registrations in violation of Arizona law. Brahm Resnik, *Court cuts off extension of Arizona voter registration on Thursday*, 12 NEWS, Oct. 13, 2020.[9]

2. Audits of Maricopa County found outcome-determinative numbers of unlawful votes.

67. In addition the foregoing purely legal Electors Clause violation, audits of the 2020 election results in Maricopa County discovered evidence of outcome-determinative discrepancies and fraud.

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[9] https://www.12news.com/article/news/politics/elections/court-cuts-off-extension-of-arizona-voter-registration-after-2-more-days/75-86c59dfb-2950-4fea-89aa-6c38542b10de (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

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68. On December 15, 2020, the Arizona State senate served two subpoenas on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors (the "Maricopa Board") to audit scanned ballots, voting machines, and software based on voting irregularities. The Arizona Senate Judiciary Chairman stated in a public hearing earlier that day that "[t]here is evidence of tampering, there is evidence of fraud" with vote in Maricopa County.

69. Rather than comply with the subpoenas, the Maricopa Board fought the subpoenas in state court, which resulted in the issuance of two new, superseding subpoenas on January 12, 2021. Although the Maricopa Board complied in part, it continued to seek to withhold the balance of the subpoenaed election materials (*e.g.*, ballots, voting equipment) needed to audit election results.

70. Although the Arizona Senate prevailed on the lawfulness of the subpoenas, *Maricopa Cty. v. Fann*, No. CV 2020-016840 (Maricopa Cty. Super. Ct. Feb. 25, 2021), the Maricopa Board and other County officials continued to obstruct the audit and withheld materials covered by the subpoenas (*e.g.*, splunk logs, routers, and equipment) that could determine the extent of internet connectedness or intrusions.

71. After the Maricopa County Superior Court upheld the issuance of the operative subpoenas, on March 3, 2021, someone using an administrative account from a valid local network address accessed Maricopa County's Election Management System ("EMS") server and executed a script 37,686 times, with each execution resulting on the overwriting of one entry in the EMS server's security log (*i.e.*, the log

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has a fixed capacity, and each new entry displaced the oldest entry), thereby destroying evidence of the network accesses to the EMS during the 2020 election.

72. The Arizona Senate engaged systems and cybersecurity firms to audit the election materials produced by the County using forensic methods that exceed the type of hand recount typically conducted in close elections. Unlike a forensic audit, a recount would not detect fraud in the same way that recounting the money in a cash register would not detect whether a business had been passed counterfeit currency.

73. On September 24, 2021, the forensic auditors presented their reports to the Arizona State Senate in both written form and testimony.

74. The forensic auditors found numerous anomalies and outcome-determinative discrepancies with the Maricopa County election materials made available to them, including:

- 255,326 ballots included in the "final voted file" (the "VM55" file) as having voted early that were not included in the "early voting returns file" (the "EV33" file), when the EV33 file should have an entry for each early vote cast (whether by mail or in person) with the details as to when and how that vote was cast;
- 23,344 mail-in ballots cast when the registered voter had moved and where no one with the same surname remained at the address;
- 5,295 instances of multiple ballots from the same person;

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- 3,432 more votes in the official results than in the final-voted ("VM55") file;
- 2,592 more duplicate ballots than ballots sent for duplication;
- 1,528 voters who had moved to another state;
- 618 votes by persons not on the official precinct register 10 days prior to election;
- 397 mail-in ballots returned without any record of a ballot having been sent to the voter;
- 282 registered voters who died before October 5, 2020, and nonetheless voted;
- 198 votes by persons who registered after the cut-off date for registering to vote in the 2020 election.

Cyber Ninjas, *Maricopa County Forensic Election Audit*, vol. III, at 6, 51, 10, 12-14, 20-21, 25-26, 29-30, 34-36 (Sept. 24, 2021) (Tab 20).

75. Although Maricopa County withholding the router, Splunk, and NetFlow data prevented an audit of all internet connections with the Maricopa County election system, the audit network auditors did find evidence of internet activity in unallocated space—*i.e.*, portions of deleted files—on the Maricopa County election systems dated after the installation of the Dominion voting software suite on August 6, 2020. This finding proves that Maricopa County's claim that its election systems were not connected to the internet is false.

76. The forensic auditors were unable to determine whether votes or results had been electronically altered from the materials initially provided because Maricopa County officials withheld

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or overwrote equipment and data that would allow forensic auditors to determine whether intrusions had—or had not—occurred and, if so, from where those intrusions came.

77. In addition, A. V. Shiva Ayyadurai, Ph.D., analyzed signatures from the images of early-voting ballot envelopes that Maricopa County provided to the Arizona Senate. His findings included the following anomalies and outcome-determinative discrepancies from an analysis of the signature regions of the 1,929,240 early-voting ballot ("EVB") return envelope images provided:

- 17,322 duplicate mail-in voting early ballots by 17,126 voters who voted twice (16,934 voters), thrice (188 voters), or four times (4 voters);
- 9,589 fewer EVB return envelopes identified as even having a signature than Maricopa County submitted for signature verification;
- A 59.7% decrease in the number of EVB return envelopes rejected as having a signature mismatch versus the 2016 election, notwithstanding that the number of EVB return envelopes increased 52.6% from 2016 to 2020;
- 6,545 fewer EVB return envelope images made available than reported by Maricopa County's canvass report on the 2020 general election;
- 2,580 "scribbles" in the signature region—which would indicate a "bad signature" if a review were commissioned to analyze signatures—when Maricopa County reported having rejected only 587 "bad signature" EVB

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return envelopes in its canvass report on the 2020 general election;

- 464 more "no signature" EVB return envelopes—a total of 1,919—when Maricopa County reported having rejected only 1,455 "no signature" EVB return envelopes in its canvass report on the 2020 general election.

A. V. Shiva Ayyadurai, Ph.D., Pattern Recognition Classification of Early Voting Ballot (EVB) Return Envelope Images for Signature Presence Detection: An Engineering Systems Approach to Identify Anomalies to Advance the Integrity of US. Election Processes, at 62, 88-89 (Sept. 24, 2021) (Tab 21).

78. Based on his review of signature region on the EVB return envelopes, Dr. Shiva concluded that a full audit (*e.g.*, comparing the signature on EVB return envelope images with voters' signatures from voter registration files) of the Maricopa signature-verification process is needed.

The State of Georgia's electoral votes were unlawfully certified and counted.

79. Georgia has 16 electoral votes, with a statewide vote tally of 2,461,854 for Mr. Trump and 2,473,633 for Mr. Biden, a margin of approximately 11,779 votes.

80. The number of illegal votes and votes affected by the various constitutional violations far exceeds the margin of votes separating the candidates.

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1. <u>The violations of Article II in Georgia resulted in outcome-determinative numbers of unlawful votes.</u>

81. In July 2020, Georgia Secretary of State Raffensperger and the Georgia State Election Board, without legislative approval as required under Georgia's Constitution, authorized the use of 300 absentee ballot drop boxes beginning 49 days before the November 2020 election. Rule 183-1-14-0.8-.14 Secure Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes.

82. Under this Rule, each of Georgia's 159 counties is responsible for documenting the transfer of every batch of absentee ballots picked up at drop boxes and delivered to the county election offices with ballot transfer forms. The forms are required to be signed and dated, with time of pick up by the collection team upon pick up, and then signed, dated, with time of delivery by the registrar or designee upon receipt and accepted.

83. As of April 2021, officials at the state and county level in Georgia have failed to produce chain of custody records for more than 355,000 absentee vote by mail ballots deposited in drop boxes located around the state for that election.

84. In addition, Georgia's Secretary of State, Brad Raffensperger, without legislative approval, unilaterally abrogated Georgia's statutes governing the date a ballot may be opened, and the signature verification process for absentee ballots.

85. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386(a)(2) prohibits the opening of absentee ballots until after the polls open on Election Day. In April 2020, however, the State Election Board adopted Secretary of State Rule 183-1-

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14-0.9-.15, Processing Ballots Prior to Election Day. That rule purports to authorize county election officials to begin processing absentee ballots up to *three weeks* before Election Day. Outside parties were then given early and illegal access to purportedly defective ballots to "cure" them in violation of O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-386(a)(1)(C), 21-2-419(c)(2).

86. Specifically, Georgia law authorizes and requires a single registrar or clerk—after reviewing the outer envelope—to reject an absentee ballot if: the voter failed to sign the required oath or to provide the required information; the signature appears invalid or the required information does not conform with the information on file; or if the voter is otherwise found ineligible to vote. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386(a)(1)(B)-(C).

87. Georgia law provides absentee voters the chance to "cure a failure to sign the oath, an invalid signature, or missing information" on a ballot's outer envelope by the deadline for verifying provisional ballots (*i.e.*, three days after the election). O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-386(a)(1)(C), 21-2-419(c)(2). To facilitate cures, Georgia law requires the relevant election official to notify the voter in writing: "The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall promptly notify the elector of such rejection, a copy of which notification shall be retained in the files of the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk for at least two years." O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386(a)(1)(B).

88. There were 284,817 early ballots corrected and accepted in Georgia out of 4,018,064 early ballots used to vote in Georgia. Mr. Biden received nearly twice the number of mail-in votes as

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Mr. Trump and thus materially benefited from this unconstitutional change in Georgia's election laws.

89. In addition, on March 6, 2020, in *Democratic Party of Georgia v. Raffensperger*, No. 1:19-cv-5028-WMR (N.D. Ga.), Georgia's Secretary of State, a non-legislative actor, entered a Compromise Settlement Agreement and Release with the Democratic Party of Georgia (the "Settlement") to materially change the legislature's statutory requirements for reviewing signatures on absentee ballot envelopes to confirm the voter's identity by making it far more difficult to challenge defective signatures beyond the express mandatory procedures set forth at GA. CODE § 21-2-386(a)(1)(B).

90. Among other things, before a ballot could be rejected, the Settlement required a registrar who found a defective signature to now seek a review by two other registrars, and only if a majority of the registrars agreed that the signature was defective could the ballot be rejected but not before all three registrars' names were written on the ballot envelope along with the reason for the rejection. These cumbersome procedures are in direct conflict with Georgia's statutory requirements, as is the Settlement's requirement that notice be provided by telephone (*i.e.*, not in writing) if a telephone number is available. Finally, the Settlement purports to require State election officials to consider issuing guidance and training materials drafted by an expert retained by the Democratic Party of Georgia.

91. Georgia's legislature has not ratified these material purported changes to statutory law mandated by the Compromise Settlement Agreement

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and Release, including altered signature verification requirements and early opening of ballots. The relevant legislation that was violated by the Compromise Settlement Agreement and Release did not include a severability clause.

92. This unconstitutional purported change in Georgia law materially benefitted Mr. Biden. According to the Georgia Secretary of State's office, Mr. Biden had almost double the number of absentee votes (65.32%) as Mr. Trump (34.68%).

93. The effect of this unconstitutional change in Georgia election law, which made it more likely that ballots without matching signatures would be counted, had a material impact on the outcome of the election.

94. Specifically, there were 1,305,659 absentee mail-in ballots submitted in Georgia in 2020. There were 4,786 absentee ballots rejected in 2020. This is a rejection rate of .37%. In contrast, in 2016, the 2016 rejection rate was 6.42% with 13,677 absentee mail-in ballots being rejected out of 213,033 submitted, which is more than *seventeen times greater* than in 2020.

95. If the rejection rate of mailed-in absentee ballots remained the same in 2020 as it was in 2016, there would be 83,517 fewer tabulated ballots in 2020. The statewide split of absentee ballots was 34.68% for Trump and 65.2% for Biden. Rejecting at the higher 2016 rate with the 2020 split between Trump and Biden would decrease Trump votes by 28,965 and Biden votes by 54,552, which would be a net gain for Trump of 25,587 votes. This would be more than needed to overcome the Biden advantage of 11,779

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votes. Regardless of the number of ballots affected, however, the non-legislative changes to the election rules violated the Electors Clause.

2. <u>Georgia's use of electronic voting machines opened the door to electronic manipulation of the vote.</u>

96. In addition, Georgia uses Dominion's electronic voting machines throughout the State. Less than a month before the election, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia ruled on a motion brought by a citizen advocate group and others seeking a preliminary injunction to stop Georgia from using Dominion's voting systems due to their known vulnerabilities to hacking and other irregularities. *See Curling v. Raffensperger*, 493 F. Supp. 3d 1264 (N.D. Ga. 2020) ("*Curling*").

97. Though the district court found that it was bound by Eleventh Circuit law to deny plaintiffs' motion, it issued a prophetic warning stating:

> The Court's Order has delved deep into the true risks posed by the new BMD voting system as well as its manner of implementation. These risks are neither hypothetical nor remote under the current circumstances. ***The insularity of the Defendants' and Dominion's stance here in evaluation and management of the security and vulnerability of the BMD system does not benefit the public or citizens' confident exercise of the franchise.*** The stealth vote alteration or operational interference risks posed by

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> malware that can be effectively invisible to detection, whether intentionally seeded or not, are high once implanted, if equipment and software systems are not properly protected, implemented, and audited.

493 F. Supp. 3d at 1341 (emphasis added).

98. In a November 4, 2020, video interview, Fulton County, Georgia Director of Elections, Richard Barron, stated that the tallied vote of over 93% of ballots were based on a "review [panel's]" determination of the voter's "intent"—not what the voter actually voted. Specifically, he stated that "so far we've scanned 113,130 ballots, we've adjudicated over 106,000. . . . The only ballots that are adjudicated are if we have a ballot with a contest on it in which there's some question as to how the computer reads it so that the vote review panel then determines voter intent."[10] There is no way to know whether that vast number of ballots were accurately adjudicated in that short period of time to reflect the true vote.

99. This astounding figure demonstrates how easy it is for election officials to use electronic voting systems to modify votes on a massive scale with no oversight. These figures, in and of themselves in this one sample, far exceeds the margin of votes separating the two candidates in Georgia.

100. On November 9, 2021, a voting rights group, VoterGA, announced that 56 Georgia counties admitted that most or all of the images created

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[10] https://www.c-span.org/video/?477819-1/fulton-county-georgia-election-update (last visited Nov. 23, 2021) (from 0:20 through 1:21).

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automatically by the Dominion voting system for results tabulation have been destroyed, and that a total of 74 Georgia counties have been unable to produce all the original ballot images from the November 2020 election.

101. For example, VoterGA sent an open records act request to Fulton County for an "[e]lectronic Copy of all original Election Day ballot images for the November 3rd, 2020 election." The County responded:

> I recall our conversation and I appreciate you emailing me your requests. I can confirm that the County maintains no records which are responsive to your request. The answer is the same for both the request contained in this email as well as the email you just sent seeking "Electronic Copy of the approximately 315,000 original In-Person Advance Voting ballot images for the November 3rd, 2020 election". The County maintains nothing responsive.[11]

102. Thus, Fulton County apparently destroyed over 350,000 ballot images—the only records which can show the authenticity of the ballot cast such as through the proof of date and time when cast based on metadata contained on the images. Paper ballots have no such evidence that proves their authenticity.

103. The destruction of these election records violated 52 USC § 20701, which requires a 22-month

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[11] *See* email from Steven Rosenberg, Fulton County Deputy County Attorney to Garland Favorito dated September 27, 2021 (Tab 6).

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retention period for such records, and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-73 which requires a 24-month retention period for such records.

104. In addition, Fulton County is also missing 17,690 mail-in ballots, which alone far exceeds Biden's margin of victory in Georgia.

105. The response to VoterGA's open records act request included written confirmation from Chris Harvey, then-Georgia Election Director, granting permission to erase in-person ballot images from the memory cards.[12] The destruction of these election records violated 52 USC § 20701, and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-73 as described, *supra*.

3. The Georgia Senate Election Law Study Subcommittee found numerous outcome determinative numbers of unlawful votes and concluded the election results "must be viewed as untrustworthy."

106. On December 17, 2020, Georgia State Senator William Ligon—the Chairman of the Election Law Study Subcommittee of the Georgia Standing Senate Judiciary Committee—issued a detailed report discussing a myriad of voting irregularities and potential fraud in the Georgia 2020 general election (the "Report") (Tab 8). The Executive Summary states that "[t]he November 3, 2020 General Election (the 'Election') was chaotic and any reported results must be viewed as untrustworthy".

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[12] *See* email from State Election Director Chris Harvey dated December 2, 2020 (Tab 7).

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107. The Subcommittee unanimously approved the Report in a subsequent hearing on election fraud held on December 30, 2020. During that hearing investigating fraud, an expert on Dominion voting systems, Jovan Hutton Pulitzer, demonstrated in real-time that a Dominion poll pad could be hacked due to the fact that it was connected to the internet.

108. On January 2, 2021, Sen. Ligon, sent then-President Trump a letter requesting a forensic audit of the Dominion voting machines and ballots under DHS Cyber Hunt and Incident Response Teams Act of 2019. In his letter, Senator Ligon based his request in part on the following:

- The Dominion voting machines employed in Fulton County had an astounding 93.67% error rate in the scanning of ballots requiring some unknown "review panel" to "adjudicate" i.e. "determine" the voter's intent in over 106,000 ballots out of a total 113,130 ballots.
- Tens of thousands of votes were switched from Trump to Biden in several Georgia counties in Georgia. For example, in Bibb County, Trump had 29,391 votes at 9:11 pm EST while simultaneously Biden had 17,218 votes. Minutes later at the next update, these vote numbers switched and Trump had 17,218 votes and Biden had 29,391 votes—a switch of 12,173 votes in Biden's favor.

Letter, Sen. William Ligon, Georgia State Senate, to Donald J. Trump (Jan. 2, 2021) (Tab 9).

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The State of Michigan's electoral votes were unlawfully certified and counted.

109. Michigan has 16 electoral votes, with a statewide vote tally of 2,649,852 for Mr. Trump and 2,804,040 for Mr. Biden, a margin of 154,188 votes.

110. The number of votes affected by the various constitutional violations exceeds the margin of votes dividing the candidates.

1. <u>The violations of Article II in Michigan resulted in outcome-determinative numbers of unlawful votes.</u>

111. Michigan's then-Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, without legislative approval, unilaterally abrogated Michigan election statutes related to absentee ballot applications and signature verification. Michigan's legislature has not ratified these changes, and its election laws do not include a severability clause.

112. As amended in 2018, the Michigan Constitution provides all registered voters the right to request and vote by an absentee ballot without giving a reason. MICH. CONST. art. 2, § 4.

113. On May 19, 2020, however, Secretary Benson announced that her office would send unsolicited absentee-voter ballot applications by mail to all 7.7 million registered Michigan voters prior to the primary and general elections. Although her office repeatedly encouraged voters to vote absentee because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it did not ensure that Michigan's election systems and procedures were adequate to ensure the accuracy and legality of the

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historic flood of mail-in votes. In fact, it did the opposite and did away with protections designed to deter voter fraud.

114. Secretary Benson's flooding of Michigan with millions of absentee ballot applications prior to the 2020 general election violated M.C.L. § 168.759(3). That statute limits the procedures for requesting an absentee ballot to three specified ways:

> An application for an absent voter ballot under this section may be made in *any of the following ways*:
>
> (a) By a written request signed by the voter.
>
> (b) On an absent voter ballot application form provided for that purpose by the clerk of the city or township.
>
> (c) On a federal postcard application.

M.C.L. § 168.759(3) (emphasis added).

115. The Michigan Legislature thus declined to include the Secretary of State as a means for distributing absentee ballot applications. *Id.* § 168.759(3)(b). Under the statute's plain language, the Legislature explicitly gave *only local clerks* the power to distribute absentee voter ballot applications. *Id.*

116. Because the Legislature declined to explicitly include the Secretary of State as a vehicle for distributing absentee ballots applications, Secretary Benson lacked authority to distribute even a single absentee voter ballot application—much less the *millions* of absentee ballot applications Secretary Benson chose to flood across Michigan.

117. Secretary Benson also violated Michigan law when she launched a program in June 2020

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allowing absentee ballots to be requested online, *without* signature verification as expressly required under Michigan law. The Michigan Legislature did not approve or authorize Secretary Benson's unilateral actions.

118. MCL § 168.759(4) states in relevant part: "An applicant for an absent voter ballot shall sign the application. Subject to section 761(2), a clerk or assistant clerk shall not deliver an absent voter ballot to an applicant who does not sign the application."

119. Further, MCL § 168.761(2) states in relevant part: "The qualified voter file must be used to determine the genuineness of a signature on an application for an absent voter ballot", and if "the signatures do not agree sufficiently or [if] the signature is missing" the ballot must be rejected.

120. On October 6, 2020, Secretary Benson issued "guidance" to local election clerks in the form of a document entitled "Absent Voter Ballot Processing: Signature Verification and Voter Notification Standards." This document mirrored guidance Benson had previously issued. The stated purpose of this document was to "provide[ ] standards" for reviewing signatures, verifying signatures, and curing missing or mismatched signatures.

121. Under the heading entitled "Procedures for Signature Verification," the document states that signature review "begins with the presumption that" the signature on an absent voter ballot application or envelope is valid. Further, the document instructs clerks to, if there are "any redeeming qualities in the [absent voter] application or return envelope

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signature as compared to the signature on file, treat the signature as valid."

122. The section on signature-verification procedures repeats the notion that "clerks should presume that a voter's [absent voter] application or envelope signature is his or her genuine signature, as there are several acceptable reasons that may cause an apparent mismatch." Finally, the document concludes, that clerks "must perform their signature verification duties with the presumption that the voter's [absent voter] application or envelope signature is his or her genuine signature."

123. On March 9, 2021, the Michigan Court of Claims ruled that Benson's disregard of Michigan's statutory signature verifications requirements and procedures in her instructions to Michigan's election clerks were unlawful. *Genetski v. Benson*, Case No. 20-000216-MM, slip op. at 14 (Mich. Ct. Claims, March 9, 2021) (stating "the standards issued by defendant Benson on October 6, 2020, with respect to signature-matching requirements amounted to a 'rule' [and] is invalid.") (Tab 10).

124. Nonetheless, the damage caused by Benson's unlawful disregard of Michigan's statutory signature verifications requirements and procedures was done. In 2016 only 587,618 Michigan voters requested absentee ballots. In stark contrast, in 2020, 3.2 million votes were cast by absentee ballot, about 57% of total votes cast —and more than *five times* the number of ballots *even requested* in 2016.

125. Secretary Benson's unconstitutional modifications of Michigan's election rules resulted in the distribution of millions of absentee ballot

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applications without verifying voter signatures as required by MCL §§ 168.759(4) and 168.761(2). This means that *millions* of absentee ballots were disseminated in violation of Michigan's statutory signature-verification requirements. Democrats in Michigan voted by mail at a ratio of approximately two to one compared to Republican voters. Thus, Mr. Biden materially benefited from these unconstitutional changes to Michigan's election law.

126. In sum, the non-legislative modifications to Michigan's election statutes, and other discrepancies, resulted in a number of constitutionally tainted votes that far exceeds the margin of voters separating the candidates in Michigan. Regardless of the number of votes that were affected by the unconstitutional modification of Michigan's election rules, the non-legislative changes to the election rules violated the Electors Clause

2. <u>Election officials' illegal acts in Wayne County resulted in outcome determinative numbers of unlawful votes.</u>

127. Michigan also requires that poll watchers and inspectors have access to vote counting and canvassing. M.C.L. §§ 168.674-.675.

128. Michigan also has strict signature verification requirements for absentee ballots, including that the Elections Department place a written statement or stamp on each ballot envelope where the voter signature is placed, indicating that the voter signature was in fact checked and verified

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with the signature on file with the State. *See* MCL § 168.765a(6).

129. Local election officials in Wayne County made a conscious and express policy decision not to follow M.C.L. §§ 168.674-.675 for the opening, counting, and recording of absentee ballots. Wayne County made the policy decision to ignore Michigan's statutory signature-verification requirements for absentee ballots. Mr. Biden received approximately 587,074, or 68%, of the votes cast there compared to Mr. Trump's receiving approximate 264,149, or 30.59%, of the total vote. Thus, Mr. Biden materially benefited from these unconstitutional changes to Michigan's election law.

130. In addition, numerous poll challengers and an Election Department employee whistleblower have testified that the signature verification requirement was ignored in Wayne County. For example, Jesse Jacob, a decades-long City of Detroit employee assigned to work in the Elections Department for the 2020 election testified that:

> Absentee ballots that were received in the mail would have the voter's signature on the envelope. While I was at the TCF Center, I was instructed not to look at any of the signatures on the absentee ballots, and I was instructed not to compare the signature on the absentee ballot with the signature on file.

Affidavit of Jessy Jacob, at ¶15 (Tab 11).

131. In fact, a poll challenger, Lisa Gage, testified that not a single one of the several hundred to a thousand ballot envelopes she observed had a

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written statement or stamp indicating the voter signature had been verified at the TCF Center in accordance with MCL § 168.765a(6).[13]

132. The TCF was the only facility within Wayne County authorized to count ballots for the City of Detroit.

133. In addition, a member of the Wayne County Board of Canvassers ("Canvassers Board"), William Hartman, determined that 71% of Detroit's Absent Voter Counting Boards ("AVCBs") were unbalanced—*i.e.*, the number of people who checked in did not match the number of ballots cast—without explanation. Affidavit of William Hartman at ¶ 6 (Tab 12).

134. On November 17, 2020, the Canvassers Board deadlocked 2-2 over whether to certify the results of the presidential election based on numerous reports of fraud and unanswered material discrepancies in the county-wide election results. A few hours later, the Republican Board members reversed their decision and voted to certify the results after severe harassment, including threats of violence. *See* Affidavit of William Hartman at ¶¶ 18-19 (Tab 12), and Affidavit of Monica Palmer at ¶¶ 27-28 (Tab 13).

135. The following day, the two Republican members of the Board *rescinded their votes* to certify the vote and signed affidavits alleging they were bullied and misled into approving election results and do not believe the votes should be certified until serious irregularities in Detroit votes are resolved.

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[13] Affidavit of Lisa Gage ¶ 17 (Tab 14).

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136. On February 5, 2021, a news outlet called The Gateway Pundit revealed video footage from security cameras at the TCF Center it had received the prior week in connection with an open records request.[14] That video footage confirmed witness testimony that there were at least 50 mailbox bins of ballots unloaded at 3:30 am on November 4, 2020, in the back of the TCF Center, well after the 8:00 pm deadline for ballots cast. There were no poll watchers present nor was there any formal chain of custody observed to know when these ballots were cast or where the ballots came from.

3. A "glitch" in electronic voting machines in Antrim County wrongly awarding 6,000 votes to Mr. Biden.

137. Lastly, on November 4, 2020, Michigan election officials in Antrim County admitted that a purported "glitch" in Dominion voting machines caused 6,000 votes for Mr. Trump to be wrongly switched to Mr. Biden in just one county. Local officials discovered the so-called "glitch" after reportedly questioning Mr. Biden's win in the heavily Republican area and manually checked the vote tabulation.

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[14] Jim Hoft, *Exclusive: The TCF Center Election Fraud – Newly Discovered Video Shows Late Night Deliveries of Tens of Thousands of Illegal Ballots 8 Hours After Deadline*, THE GATEWAY PUNDIT, Feb. 5, 2021, https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/02/exclusive-tcf-center-election-fraud-newly-recovered-video-shows-late-night-deliveries-tens-thousands-illegal-ballots-michigan-arena/ (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

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138. In *Bailey v. Antrim County et al.*, Case No. 20-9238-CZ, cyber security expert, Benjamin R. Cotton, submitted an affidavit detailing his examination of, *inter alia*, the Dominion ICX system and the ES&S server used in the November 2020 election. What he found was shocking.

139. Specifically, Mr. Cotton found an IP address on the Dominion ICX machine that resolved to an address in Taiwan, and that the system was actively configured to communicate on a private network. Cotton concluded that "1) the device has been actively used for network communications, and 2) that this device has communicated to public IP addresses not located in the United States." Affidavit of Ben Cotton (Tab 15).

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's electoral votes were unlawfully certified and counted.

140. Pennsylvania has 20 electoral votes, with a statewide vote tally of 3,377,654 for Mr. Trump and 3,458,229 for Mr. Biden, a margin of 80,575 votes.

141. The number of illegal votes and votes affected by the various constitutional violations far exceeds the margin of votes separating the candidates.

1. <u>Pennsylvania's voter registration system can be easily hacked and manipulated.</u>

142. Pennsylvania is one of a handful of states that allow third party entities some type of access to voter registration systems via an application programming interface ("API"). Most states and most countries prohibit access to sensitive election data but

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in Pennsylvania, third party organizations are not only given access to the Statewide Uniform Registry of Electors ("SURE") system but they also have the ability to grant access to other "partner organizations." The registration system is thus totally vulnerable to someone adding fake registrations or illegally modifying registration data.

143. On December 13, 2019, the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General ("DAG") issued a detailed report on its performance audit of the SURE system administered by the Pennsylvania Department of State ("DOS"). The DAG stated that the DOS obstructed its audit stating:

> DOS' denial of access to critical documents and excessive redaction of documentation resulted in DAG being unable to fully achieve three of the eight audit objectives. . . . This sustained refusal to cooperate with our information requests was done without DOS providing any plausible justification for their noncooperation. Accordingly, DAG was unable to establish with any degree of reasonable assurance that the SURE system is secure and that Pennsylvania voter registration records are complete, accurate, and in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and related guidelines.

Letter, Eugene A. DePasquale, Pennsylvania Auditor General, to Tom Wolf, Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Dec. 13, 2019) (Tab 22).

144. The DAG's warnings have proven true. For example, tens of thousands of voters were

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mysteriously added to the SURE system and backdated shortly before the November 2020 election.

145. Specifically, the SURE system includes a unique ID number for each registered voter. That number is proceeded by a hyphenated county code. The February 1, 2021, voter roll (the "Full Voter Export" or "FVE") contains 74,090 voters with the associated unique ID that have a registration date of April 6, 2020, or earlier—55,823 of these voters are recorded as having voted in 2020. However, the FVE dated April 6, 2020, has *no record* of these voters—meaning these purported 74,090 voters were inexplicably added to the SURE system and increased the voting population in the months leading up to the November 2020 election. These are *not* inactive voters. Inactive records are in the FVE and would have shown up in the April 6, 2020, FVE had they existed.

2. <u>Pennsylvania's final results show 49,141 more votes than voters and the Secretary of State unlawfully certified the Pennsylvania election results.</u>

146. Secretary Boockvar certified the election results on November 24, 2020. However, the SURE system, the official registrar of votes pursuant to 25 PA. STAT. § 1222, reflected that there were a whopping 784,752 more votes than voters.

147. Pennsylvania law expressly prohibits certifying until after the investigation of an over-vote:

> If . . . it shall appear that the total vote returned for any candidate or candidates for

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> the same office or nomination . . . *exceeds the total number of persons who voted in said election district or the total number of ballots cast therein . . . such excess shall be deemed a discrepancy and palpable error, and shall be investigated by the return board, and no votes shall be recorded from such district until such investigation shall be had . . . .*

25 PA. STAT. § 3154 (emphasis added).

148. No investigation of the 784,752 votes before certification, as required under 25 PA. STAT. § 3154, was undertaken.

149. On December 28, 2020, Boockvar tried to excuse the massive number of extra votes compared to the number of voters—still over 205,000 as of that date—by issuing a press release stating "[a]t this time, there are still a few counties that have not completed uploading their vote histories to the SURE system."

150. However, as of February 1, 2021, all Pennsylvania counties closed out their elections in the SURE system—meaning all counties had completed updating the voter information for the November 2020 election. The SURE system reflects that there are still 49,141 more ballots cast included in the certified vote tally, than there were voters in the November 2020 election. No explanation for this gross discrepancy has ever been given by the State.

151. As stated above, Boockvar's excuse that not all counties had finished uploading their results to the SURE system is now moot. That leaves the fact that there are at least 49,141 more confirmed votes

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than voters demonstrating the stark illegality of the Pennsylvania election.

152. In Philadelphia County alone, 792 out of 1703 precincts (also called "districts") had more votes for President than voters who participated in the election. Those 792 precincts had a total of 346,484 votes for President. In those 792 precincts, Biden received 286,014 votes and Trump received 57,253 votes, for a net margin of 228,761 votes for Biden. Under 25 PA. STAT. § 3154, "no votes shall be recorded from such district until such investigation shall be had . . . ." No investigation into these discrepancies has been conducted.

153. Biden's margin of 228,761 votes in those 762 precincts, none of which should have been recorded, far exceeds his margin of victory in Pennsylvania.

154. In Alleghany County, 767 out of 1,323 precincts had more votes for President than voters who participated in the election. In those 767 precincts, Biden received 246,446 votes and Trump received 153,060 votes, for a net margin of 93,386 votes for Biden—which alone exceeds Biden's margin of victory. Combined with Philadelphia County, Biden received 322,147 more votes than Trump. 25 PA. STAT. § 3154 prohibited from being counted until these discrepancies were resolved. Boockvar's certification of the vote 24, 2020 violated 25 PA. STAT. § 3154, and is therefore void.

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3. Pennsylvania misled this Court and continued to illegally count tens of thousands of ballots received after November 3, 2020.

155. On September 17, 2020, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court voted 4-3 that all mail-in ballots postmarked by 8:00 on Election Day, and received by 5:00 p.m. November 6, 2020, even those lacking a postmark or bearing an illegible postmark, would be counted. *Pennsylvania Democratic Party v. Boockvar*, 238 A.3d 345 (Pa. 2020).

156. On October 19, 2020, this Court split 4-4 on whether to stay that decision by Pennsylvania Supreme Court leaving that unconstitutional decision to stand.

157. After Justice Barrett's confirmation, the Republican Party sought expedited relief to resolve this issue before the November 2020 election. On October 28, 2020, in a classic bait and switch, Pennsylvania used guidance from its Secretary of State that Pennsylvania would segregate potentially unlawful ballots to argue that this Court should not expedite review. *See Republican Party of Pa. v. Boockvar*, 141 S. Ct. 1, 2 (2020) ("we have been informed by the Pennsylvania Attorney General that the Secretary of the Commonwealth issued guidance today directing county boards of elections to segregate [late-arriving] ballots") (Alito, J., concurring) The Court would reasonably rely on such a representation.

158. Before the ink was dry on that decision, however, Pennsylvania changed that guidance, breaking the State's promise to this Court. On November 6, 2020, Justice Alito ordered all county

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boards of election to comply with the guidance "that all ballots received by mail after 8:00 p.m. on November 3 be segregated and . . . if counted, be counted separately." *Republican Party v. Boockvar*, 208 L.Ed.2d 293, 294 (U.S. 2020) ("The application received today also informs the Court that neither the applicant nor the Secretary has been able to verify that all boards are complying with the Secretary's guidance, which, it is alleged, is not legally binding on them.") (Alito, J., Circuit Justice).

159. Before Justice Alito's order dated November 6, 2020, Pennsylvania illegally counted at least 61,855 illegal ballots which were received after the statutory 8:00 pm November 3, 2020, deadline by virtue of the fact that Pennsylvania did not segregate those ballots. The Department of State's records reflect that: 50,285 ballots were received between November 4 through November 6, 2020; 11,570 ballots were received between November 7 through November 11, 2020; and 10,038 were received after November 11, 2020. Pennsylvania was still counting ballots after November 17, 2020.[15]

160. Secretary Boockvar claimed that only about 10,000 ballots were counted after 8 p.m. on November 3, thereby admitting ballots were illegally counted, but she offered no proof that only 10,000 ballots were illegally counted.

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[15] https://www.media.pa.gov/pages/state-details.aspx?newsid=434 (last visited Nov. 23, 2021)

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4. <u>The Pennsylvania Secretary of State unconstitutionally threw out state election integrity laws governing mail-in ballots.</u>

161. In 2016, Pennsylvania received 266,208 mail-in ballots; 2,534 of them were rejected (.95%).[16] However, in 2020, Pennsylvania received 2,623,867 mail-in ballots—nearly 10 times the number of mail-in ballots compared to 2016. Despite this flood of ballots, the reported rejection rate was just 1.3% with just 34,171 ballots rejected.[17] As explained *below*, this vastly larger volume of mail-in ballots was treated in an unconstitutionally modified manner that included: (1) doing away with the Pennsylvania's signature verification requirements; and (2) blocking poll watchers in Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties in violation of State law.

162. The blatant disregard of statutory law renders all mail-in ballots constitutionally tainted and should not have formed the basis for appointing or certifying Pennsylvania's presidential electors to the Electoral College.

163. Specifically, Pennsylvania's then-Secretary of State, Kathy Boockvar, without legislative approval, unilaterally abrogated several Pennsylvania statutes requiring signature verification for absentee or mail-in ballots.

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16 U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Report to Congress, *Election Administration and Voting Survey: 2016 Comprehensive Report*, at 24 (2017).

17 U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Report to Congress Election Administration and Voting Survey: 2020 Comprehensive Report, at 36 (2021).

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Pennsylvania's legislature has not ratified these changes, and the legislation did not include a severability clause.

164. On August 7, 2020, the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania and others filed a complaint against Secretary Boockvar and other local election officials, seeking "a declaratory judgment that Pennsylvania existing signature verification procedures for mail-in voting" were unlawful for a number of reasons. *League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania v. Boockvar*, No. 2:20-cv-03850-PBT, (E.D. Pa. Aug. 7, 2020).

165. The Pennsylvania Department of State quickly settled with the plaintiffs, issuing revised guidance on September 11, 2020, stating in relevant part: "The Pennsylvania Election Code does not authorize the county board of elections to set aside returned absentee or mail-in ballots based solely on signature analysis by the county board of elections."

166. The Pennsylvania Department of State's guidance directly contradicted Pennsylvania law. First, Pennsylvania Election Code mandates that, for non-disabled and non-military voters, all applications for an absentee or mail-in ballot "shall be signed by the applicant." 25 PA. STAT. §§ 3146.2(d) & 3150.12(c). Second, Pennsylvania's voter signature verification requirements are expressly set forth at 25 PA. STAT. 350(a.3)(1)-(2) and § 3146.8(g)(3)-(7).

167. The Pennsylvania Department of State's guidance unconstitutionally did away with Pennsylvania's statutory signature verification requirements. Approximately 70% of the requests for absentee ballots were from Democrats and 25% from

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Republicans. Thus, this unconstitutional abrogation of state election law greatly inured to Mr. Biden's benefit.

168. In addition, in 2019, Pennsylvania's legislature enacted bipartisan election reforms, 2019 Pa. Legis. Serv. Act 2019-77, that set *inter alia* a deadline of 8:00 p.m. on election day for a county board of elections to receive a mail-in ballot. 25 PA. STAT. §§ 3146.6(c), 3150.16(c). Acting under a generally worded clause that "Elections shall be free and equal," PA. CONST. art. I, § 5, cl. 1, a 4-3 majority of Pennsylvania's Supreme Court in *Pa. Democratic Party v. Boockvar*, 238 A.3d 345 (Pa. 2020), extended that deadline to three days after Election Day and adopted a presumption that even *non-postmarked ballots* were presumed timely.

169. Absentee and mail-in ballots in Pennsylvania were thus evaluated under an illegal standard regarding signature verification. It is now impossible to determine which ballots were properly cast and which ballots were not.

170. In addition, on December 4, 2020, fifteen members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives led by Rep. Francis X. Ryan issued a report to Congressman Scott Perry (the "Ryan Report") (Tab 16) stating that "[t]he general election of 2020 in Pennsylvania was fraught with inconsistencies, documented irregularities and improprieties associated with mail-in balloting, pre-canvassing, and canvassing that the reliability of the mail-in votes in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is impossible to rely upon."

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171. The Ryan Report's findings are startling, including:

- Ballots with NO MAILED date. That total is 9,005.
- Ballots Returned on or BEFORE the Mailed Date. That total is 58,221.
- Ballots Returned one day after Mailed Date. That total is 51,200.

Id. at 5.

172. These nonsensical numbers alone total 118,426 ballots and exceed Mr. Biden's margin of 80,555 votes over Mr. Trump. But these discrepancies pale in comparison to the discrepancies in Pennsylvania's reported data concerning the number of mail-in ballots distributed to the populace—now no longer subject to legislatively mandated signature-verification requirements.

173. These stunning figures illustrate the out-of-control nature of Pennsylvania's mail-in balloting scheme. Democrats submitted mail-in ballots at more than two times the rate of Republicans.

The State of Wisconsin's electoral voters were unlawfully certified and counted.

174. Wisconsin has 10 electoral votes. Mr. Trump received 1,610,184 votes and Mr. Biden received 1,630,866 votes, a margin of 20,682 votes.

175. The number of illegal votes and votes affected by the various constitutional violations far exceeds the margin of votes separating the candidates.

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1. The Wisconsin Election Commission has obstructed investigations into the November 2020 election.

176. According to the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau ("LAB") Report 21-19 (the "LAB Report") (Tab 17), in the 2020 presidential election, 1,963,954 absentee ballots were cast, 59.6 percent of all ballots cast compared to 819,316 absentee ballots cast in 2016, or 27.3 percent of all ballots cast. *Id*. at 38.

177. Wisconsin statutes guard against fraud in mail-in absentee ballots: "[V]oting by absentee ballot is a privilege exercised wholly outside the traditional safeguards of the polling place. The legislature finds that the privilege of voting by absentee ballot must be carefully regulated to prevent the potential for fraud or abuse[.]" WISC. STAT. § 6.84(1).

178. Leading up to the November 2020 election, in direct contravention of Wisconsin law, the Wisconsin Elections Commission ("WEC") and other local officials unconstitutionally weakened or completely abrogated Wisconsin election laws—each time taking steps that did away with established security procedures put in place by the Wisconsin legislature to ensure absentee ballot integrity.

179. The WEC is now attempting to block any investigations into the widespread voter fraud in Wisconsin. In March 2021, the Wisconsin legislature voted to commence an investigation into election irregularities in the November 2020 election. In July 2021, Wisconsin Speaker of the Assembly Robin Vos

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appointed former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman, as special counsel.

180. After former Justice Gableman issued subpoenas to state and local election officials, the WEC, represented by the State Attorney General's office, sought a temporary restraining order against Speaker Vos, former Justice Gableman, and others seeking to block two subpoenas issued to the WEC and Elections Commission Administrator Meagan Wolfe claiming the subpoenas were part "of an unlawful investigation focused on debunked theories about the November 2020 Election." The WEC spoke too fast.

181. In October 2021, the nonpartisan LAB, and the Racine County Sheriff, revealed lengthy investigations that confirmed the WEC's massive violations of Wisconsin election law, including at least one felony and three misdemeanors caused by their illegal instructions to disregard Wisconsin election laws designed to ensure that fake ballots did not affect the integrity of the vote.

182. Indeed, Racine County found that the WEC knowingly "shattered" at least one statute likely causing fraudulent votes in nursing homes in all 72 counties across the State of Wisconsin.[18]

183. The LAB Report detailed the WEC's and other elections officials' lack of cooperation noting that the City of Madison refused to let the LAB auditors handle absentee ballots despite their county (Dane County) having the highest percentage of absentee ballots in the state at 74.4 percent of ballots. [LAB

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[18] The PowerPoint presentation used by the Sheriff is attached at Tab 18.

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Report at 6] The LAB also stated that county clerks for Milwaukee County and the Town of Little Suamic refused access to their ballots. Combined, these areas accounted for 623,700 of the 3.3 million ballots cast in the November 2020 election. (18.9 percent). Lab Report at 7. The LAB also noted that three WEC members refused to speak with the auditors (the audit doesn't mention which ones, but three are Democrats). *Id*. at 5.

184. After the Racine County Sheriff's Office released their findings, Wisconsin lawmakers, including Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, called on the Elections Commission Administrator Meagan Wolfe to resign.

2. <u>The Racine County Sheriff found the WEC committed a felony and three misdemeanors by encouraging voter fraud in nursing homes</u>

185. On October 28, 2021, the Racine County, Wisconsin Sheriff held a press conference and laid out the case of the WEC's criminal election fraud during the 2020 election related to the abuse of voters confined to nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

186. The Sheriff's investigators discovered that the WEC expressly discussed that their proposed conduct for the 2020 election would violate state law, and yet they decided to do it anyway, and memorialized their decision in letters disseminated to every single county clerk's office in Wisconsin. As such, the Sheriff concluded members of the WEC

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committed at least one felony and three misdemeanor crimes.

187. Specifically, the Sheriff commenced an investigation in early 2021, after a complaint by a nursing home resident's daughter that her dementia suffering mother cast a vote that she was entirely incompetent to make. An eight-month investigation the Sheriff's investigation discovered, *inter alia*, that the WEC sent nursing homes across the state letters March 12, 2020, June 24, 2020, and September 25, 2020, stating that "Municipalities shall not use the Special Voting Deputy process"—a key requirement under WISC. STAT. § 6.875(4)(a) to ensure that nursing home residents are not taken advantage to cast false ballots—and should instead mail the absentee ballots.

188. The investigation discovered that at that nursing facility about 10 residents would normally vote in a presidential election cycle but in 2020 42 residents voted. Though the focus of the Sheriff's investigation was on the WEC's clear orders to violate Wisconsin election law, the Sheriff noted seven other families also said their family members were not competent to cast their votes—and that all of these eight incompetent patients last voted in 2012.

189. The Sheriff stated the "election statute was in fact not just broken, but shattered" by the WEC in all 72 counties across the State of Wisconsin. As a result of WEC's clear violation of the law, as many as 50,000 fraudulent ballots may have been cast by incompetent nursing home residents.

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3. The WEC's and other officials illegal use of drop boxes in violation of Wisconsin law

190. The WEC undertook a campaign to position hundreds of drop boxes to collect absentee ballots—including the use of unmanned drop boxes. Wisconsin Elections Commission Memoranda, To: All Wisconsin Election Officials, at 3 (Aug. 19, 2020) (Tab 23).

191. The mayors of Wisconsin's five largest cities—Green Bay, Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, and Racine, which all have Democrat majorities—joined in this effort, and together, developed a plan to use purportedly "secure drop-boxes to facilitate the return of absentee ballots." Wisconsin Safe Voting Plan 2020 Submitted to the Center for Tech & Civic Life, June 15, 2020, by the Mayors of Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha and Green Bay, at 4 (Tab 24).

192. The use of *any* drop box—whether manned or unmanned—is directly prohibited by Wisconsin statute. The Wisconsin legislature specifically described in the Election Code "Alternate absentee ballot site[s]" and detailed the procedure by which the governing body of a municipality may designate a site or sites for the delivery of absentee ballots "other than the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners as the location from which electors of the municipality may request and vote absentee ballots and to which voted absentee ballots shall be returned by electors for any election." WIS. STAT. 6.855(1).

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193. Any alternate absentee ballot site "shall be staffed by the municipal clerk or the executive director of the board of election commissioners, or employees of the clerk or the board of election commissioners." WIS. STAT. 6.855(3). Likewise, WIS. STAT. 7.15(2m) provides, "[i]n a municipality in which the governing body has elected to establish an alternate absentee ballot site under s. 6.855, the municipal clerk shall operate such site as though it were his or her office for absentee ballot purposes and shall ensure that such site is adequately staffed."

194. Thus, the unmanned absentee ballot drop-off sites are prohibited by the Wisconsin Legislature as they do not comply with Wisconsin law expressly defining "[a]lternate absentee ballot site[s]." WIS. STAT. 6.855(1), (3).

195. In addition, the use of drop boxes for the collection of absentee ballots, positioned predominantly in Wisconsin's largest cities, is directly contrary to Wisconsin law providing that absentee ballots may only be "mailed by the elector, or delivered *in person* to the municipal clerk issuing the ballot or ballots." WIS. STAT. § 6.87(4)(b)1 (emphasis added).

196. The fact that other methods of delivering absentee ballots, such as through unmanned drop boxes, are *not* permitted is underscored by WIS. STAT. § 6.87(6) which mandates that, "[a]ny ballot not mailed or delivered as provided in this subsection may not be counted." Likewise, WIS. STAT. § 6.84(2) underscores this point, providing that WIS. STAT. § 6.87(6) "shall be construed as mandatory." The provision continues—"Ballots cast in contravention of the procedures specified in those provisions may not

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be counted. *Ballots counted in contravention of the procedures specified in those provisions may not be included in the certified result of any election*." WIS. STAT. § 6.84(2) (emphasis added).

197. Incredibly, the rejection rate for the 1,963,954 absentee ballots cast in the November 2020 election plummeted to .217%, or 4,270 rejected ballots, compared to the rejection rate in November 2016 election of 1.35% when there just 819,316 absentee ballots cast. The rejection rate in 2016 was more than six times greater than in 2020.

4. The WEC encouraged voters to illegally declare themselves "indefinitely confined" thereby avoiding ballot security requirements

198. The WEC and local election officials also took it upon themselves to encourage voters to unlawfully declare themselves "indefinitely confined"—which under Wisconsin law allows the voter to avoid security measures like signature verification and photo ID requirements.

199. Specifically, registering to vote by absentee ballot requires photo identification, except for those who register as "indefinitely confined" or "hospitalized." WISC. STAT. § 6.86(2)(a), (3)(a). Registering for indefinite confinement requires certifying confinement "because of age, physical illness or infirmity or [because the voter] is disabled for an indefinite period." *Id.* § 6.86(2)(a). Should indefinite confinement cease, the voter must notify

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the county clerk, *id.*, who must remove the voter from indefinite-confinement status. *Id.* § 6.86(2)(b).

200. Wisconsin election procedures for voting absentee based on indefinite confinement enable the voter to avoid the photo ID requirement and signature requirement. *Id.* § 6.86(1)(ag)/(3)(a)(2).

201. On March 25, 2020, in clear violation of Wisconsin law, Dane County Clerk Scott McDonnell and Milwaukee County Clerk George Christensen both issued guidance indicating that all voters should mark themselves as "indefinitely confined" because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

202. Believing this to be an attempt to circumvent Wisconsin's strict voter ID laws, the Republican Party of Wisconsin petitioned the Wisconsin Supreme Court to intervene. On March 31, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court unanimously confirmed that the clerks' "advice was legally incorrect" and potentially dangerous because "voters may be misled to exercise their right to vote in ways that are inconsistent with WISC. STAT. § 6.86(2)."

203. On May 13, 2020, the Administrator of WEC issued a directive to the Wisconsin clerks prohibiting removal of voters from the registry for indefinite-confinement status if the voter is no longer "indefinitely confined."

204. The WEC's directive violated Wisconsin law. WISC. STAT. § 6.86(2)(a) specifically provides that "any [indefinitely confined] elector [who] is no longer indefinitely confined … shall so notify the municipal clerk." WISC. STAT. § 6.86(2)(b) further provides that the municipal clerk "shall remove the name of any other elector from the list upon request of the elector

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or upon receipt of reliable information that an elector no longer qualifies for the service."

205. On December 16, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that Wisconsin officials, including Governor Evers, unlawfully told Wisconsin voters to declare themselves "indefinitely confined"—thereby avoiding signature and photo ID requirements. *See Jefferson v. Dane County*, 394 Wis. 2d 602, 951 N.W.2d 556 (Wis. 2020). Given the near fourfold increase in the use of this classification from 2016 to 2020, tens of thousands of these ballots could be illegal. The vast majority of the more than 216,000 voters classified as "indefinitely confined" were from heavily Democrat areas, thereby materially and illegally, benefited Mr. Biden.

206. The LAB found that according to statistics kept by the WEC, nearly 220,404 voters said they were indefinitely confined in the 2020 election, including 169,901 individuals (77.1 percent) who indicated for the *first time* that they were indefinitely confined. [LAB Report at 50]

207. Moreover, according to WEC's data, 48,554 of those first time individuals (22.0 percent) had not previously voted by methods that required them to have provided photo identification or did not have photo identifications on file with clerks. [LAB 51]. Thus, at a minimum there was zero verification that these 48,554 voters were who they said they were or were even real voters.

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5. The LAB found that 45,665 voters used identification to register that did not match the records on file

208. According to the LAB Report, in 2020, 957,977 Wisconsinites registered to be a new voter. Of that figure, 45,665 new voters registered with driver's license information that did *not* match DMV records or 4.8% of registrants. Of the 45,665 total non-matches, 63.1 percent were from a name non-match, meaning the name submitted by the new voter on the ballot application did not match the name on file at the DOT. Thus, at a minimum there was zero verification that these 45,665 voters were who they said they were or were even real voters.

6. The Office of the Special Counsel's findings of illegal votes in its First Interim Report.

209. In the Summer of 2021, the Wisconsin State Assembly established a new office, the Office of the Special Counsel, to investigate the November 2020 election.

210. On November 10, 2021, the Office of the Special Counsel delivered its First Interim Report to the Wisconsin State Assembly. First Interim Rept., Wisconsin Office of the Special Counsel (Nov. 10, 2021) (the "Report") (Tab 19).

211. The Office of the Special Counsel found that many of the "safeguards mandated for the protection of honest absentee ballots" were "abrogated by WEC" including "the illegal mass self-certification of individuals as 'indefinitely confined' under the statute, a category which enables a voter to evade

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state voter ID requirements, but which is intended to apply to physically or physiologically immobile residents confined to their home because of their condition." *Id*. at 18.

212. Another issue identified by the Office of the Special Counsel are "Democracy in the Park" events held prior to the election to harvest absentee ballots in Madison. The Report states "[w]hile this Office draws no conclusions, we possess evidence that the events, which occurred on September 26 and October 3, 2020, involved numerous possible violations of state law, calling into question the validity of over 17,000 absentee ballots. *Id*. at 19.

213. The Report also identified the Racine County Sheriff's referral of criminal charges against the WEC for violations of Wisconsin's laws designed to elderly voters from being taken advantage of in casting votes. The Report states:

> This Office has evidence that WEC and some clerks instructed residential care employees to act in a manner prohibited by law, collecting and assisting in completing ballots for individuals in these group facilities, including those with dementia. ***This led to record-high voting by individuals who had not voted for nearly a decade and may have lacked the cognitive ability to vote***.

Id. at 21 (emphasis added).

214. The Office of the Special Counsel also identified that the WisVote (SVRS) system, the statewide system that enables clerks to track absentee ballot requests and includes highly sensitive

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personal information, is not secure even though WEC guidance requires it to be subject to a high level of security. The Report states that "there is already some evidence of unauthorized access to this database." *Id.* at 24.

7. Democrat operatives were given access to "hidden" networks connecting "sensitive machines" at the ballot tabulation center in Green Bay, WI

215. In Wisconsin, Dominion machines that were not supposed to be connected to the internet were in fact connected to a "hidden" Wi-Fi network during voting.[19]

216. Specifically, Michael Spitzer-Rubenstein, a Democrat political operative, was given internet access to a hidden Wi-Fi network at the Wisconsin election center where votes were being counted. M.D. Kittle, *Democrats' Operative Got Secret Internet Connection at Wisconsin Election Center, Emails Show*, DAILY SIGNAL, Mar. 23, 2021.[20] Spitzer-Rubenstein received an email from Trent James, director of event technology at Green Bay's Central Count location, which stated, "One SSID [for a Wi-Fi network] will be hidden and it's: 2020vote. There will

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[19] M. D. Kittle, *EMAILS: GREEN BAY'S 'HIDDEN' ELECTION NETWORKS*, WISCONSIN SPOTLIGHT, Mar. 21, 2021, https://wisconsinspotlight.com/emails-green-bays-hidden-election-networks/ (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

[20] https://www.dailysignal.com/2021/03/23/democrats-operative-got-secret-internet-connection-at-wisconsin-election-center-emails-show/ (last visited Nov. 23, 2021).

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be no passwords or splash page for this one and it should only be used for the sensitive machines that need to be connected to the internet." *Id.* Four other individuals were copied on the email. *Id.*

COUNT I: ELECTORS CLAUSE

217. Plaintiff State repeats and re-alleges the allegations above, as if fully set forth herein.

218. The Electors Clause of Article II, Section 1, Clause 2, of the Constitution makes clear that only the legislatures of the States are permitted to determine the rules for appointing presidential electors. The pertinent rules here are the state election statutes, specifically those relevant to the presidential election.

219. Non-legislative actors lack authority to amend or nullify election statutes. *Bush II*, 531 U.S. at 104 (quoted *supra*).

220. Under *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 833 n.4 (1985), conscious and express executive policies—even if unwritten—to nullify statutes or to abdicate statutory responsibilities are reviewable to the same extent as if the policies had been written or adopted. Thus, conscious and express actions by State or local election officials to nullify or ignore requirements of election statutes violate the Electors Clause to the same extent as formal modifications by judicial officers or State executive officers.

221. The foregoing actions constitute non-legislative changes to State election law by executive-branch State election officials, or by judicial officials, in Defendant States Pennsylvania, Georgia,

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Michigan, Wisconsin, and Arizona in violation of the Electors Clause.

222. Electors appointed to the Electoral College in violation of the Electors Clause cannot cast constitutionally valid votes for the office of President.

COUNT II: DUE PROCESS

223. Plaintiff State repeats and re-alleges the allegations above, as if fully set forth herein.

224. When election practices reach "the point of patent and fundamental unfairness," the integrity of the election itself violates substantive due process. *Griffin v. Burns*, 570 F.2d 1065, 1077 (1st Cir. 1978); *Duncan v. Poythress*, 657 F.2d 691, 702 (5th Cir. 1981); *Florida State Conference of N.A.A.C.P. v. Browning*, 522 F.3d 1153, 1183-84 (11th Cir. 2008); *Roe v. State of Ala. By & Through Evans*, 43 F.3d 574, 580-82 (11th Cir. 1995); *Roe v. State of Ala.*, 68 F.3d 404, 407 (11th Cir. 1995); *Marks v. Stinson*, 19 F. 3d 873, 878 (3rd Cir. 1994).

225. Under this Court's precedents on procedural due process, not only intentional failure to follow election law as enacted by a State's legislature but also random and unauthorized acts by state election officials and their designees in local government can violate the Due Process Clause. *Parratt v. Taylor*, 451 U.S. 527, 537-41 (1981), *overruled in part on other grounds by Daniels v. Williams*, 474 U.S. 327, 330-31 (1986); *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517, 532 (1984). The difference between intentional acts and random and unauthorized acts is the degree of pre-deprivation review.

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226. Defendant States acted unconstitutionally to lower their election standards—including to allow invalid ballots to be counted and valid ballots to not be counted—with the express intent to favor their candidate for President and to alter the outcome of the 2020 election. In many instances these actions occurred in areas having a history of election fraud.

227. The foregoing actions constitute intentional violations of State election law by State election officials and their designees in Defendant States Pennsylvania, Georgia, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Arizona in violation of the Due Process Clause.

COUNT III: GUARANTEE CLAUSE

228. Plaintiff State repeats and re-alleges the allegations above, as if fully set forth herein.

229. The Guarantee Clause provides that "[t]he United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government." U.S. CONST. art. IV, cl. 1.

230. Although this Court dismissed *Texas v. Pennsylvania*, No. 22O155 (U.S.), citing a lack of standing, *Texas v. Pennsylvania*, 141 S.Ct. 1230 (2020) ("Texas has not demonstrated a judicially cognizable interest in the manner in which another State conducts its elections."), the United States has *parens patriae* standing to challenge the manner in which states conduct their elections: "Nor does a State have standing as the parent of its citizens to invoke these constitutional provisions against the Federal Government, the ultimate parens patriae of every American citizen." *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383

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U.S. 301, 324 (1966). The failure to pursue the United States' meritorious claim violates the Guarantee Clause.

231. The United States and the Officer Defendants have been aware of the constitutional violations and facts at issue in this action and have not acted either to avoid or to remedy these violations.

232. The foregoing actions violate the Guarantee Clause.

COUNT IV: TAKE CARE CLAUSE

233. Plaintiff State repeats and re-alleges the allegations above, as if fully set forth herein.

234. The Take Care Clause provides that "[the President] shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed." U.S. CONST. art. II, § 3, cl. 5.

235. The President, Attorney General, and Vice President have been aware of the constitutional violations and facts at issue in this action and have not acted either to avoid or to remedy these violations.

236. The foregoing actions violate the Take Care Clause.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff State respectfully requests that this Court issue the following relief:

1. Declare that Defendant States administered the November 2020 election in violation of the Electors Clause and the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

2. Declare that the United States and Officer Defendants violated the Guarantee Clause and the Take Care Clause with respect to allowing the

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foregoing constitutional violations by the Defendant States in administering the November 2020 election.

3. Declare that the Defendant States' certification of the November 2020 election results and of presidential electors on or about December 14, 2020, violated the Electors Clause and the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and vacate those certifications.

4. Declare that the Defendant States' certification of the November 2020 election results and of presidential electors on or about December 14, 2020, violated the Electors Clause and the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and vacate those certifications.

5. Declare that the United States violated the Guarantee Clause in allowing the November 2020 election to proceed on the basis of the unconstitutional results in Defendant States.

6. Declare that the President, Attorney General, and Vice-President violated the Take Care Clause by failing to act to remedy the violations of the Constitution in the November 2020 election.

7. Enjoin the use of vacated certifications in Defendant States' use of the 2020 election results for the Office of President to appoint presidential electors to the Electoral College.

8. Declare that the counting of electoral votes in the Joint Session of Congress on January 6-7, 2021, violated the Electors Clause, the Due Process Clause, the Guarantee Clause, the Take Care Clause, and the Twelfth Amendment, and vacate that count.

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9. Enjoin the Officer Defendants to convene special sessions of the House of Representatives and the Senate to vote for the President and Vice-President, respectively, pursuant to the Twelfth Amendment.

10. Alternatively, authorize, pursuant to the Court's remedial authority, the Defendant States to conduct a special election to appoint presidential electors.

11. Alternatively, authorize, pursuant to the Court's remedial authority, the Defendant States to conduct an audit of their election results, supervised by a Court-appointed special master, in a manner to be determined separately.

12. Enjoin Defendant States' use in future elections of revisions adopted by non-legislative actors to the election laws enacted by the state legislatures unless the legislature ratifies any such revisions by enacting them as state law before the election.

13. Award costs to Plaintiff State.

14. Grant such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

November __, 2021 Respectfully submitted,

_____

[Name/title]

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From: mark pinter <marcosharkobark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 7:25 PM
To: Rep.Allen@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Armstrong@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.August@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Behnke@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Born@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Brandtjen@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Rob.Brooks@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Cabral-Guevara@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Callahan@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Dallman@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Dittrich@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Duchow@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Edming@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Gundrum@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.James@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Katsma@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Kerkman@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov; "Rep.Knodl" <Rep.Knodl@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Krug@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Kuglitsch@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Kurtz@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Loudenbeck@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Macco@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Magnafici@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Moses@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Murphy@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Mursau@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Neylon@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Novak@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Oldenburg@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Penterman@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Petersen@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Plumer@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Pronschinske@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Rodriguez@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: Support Timothy Ramthun
Attachments: states-v-us-and-states-compl-2021-11-23.pdf; Tab 17 WI LAB Report.pdf; Tab 18 Election Integrity Presentation Sheriff's Office - Official Draft 10.19.21.pdf; Tab 19 WI OSC Interim Report FINAL.pdf

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Please supportRepresentative Timothy Ramthun to supportresolution to decertify the results of Wisconsin’s 2020 presidential election.
The evidence is now available and attached are theexhibits and evidence that proves laws were broken in Wisconsin. The first report is
what will be sent to the United States Supreme Court by Attorney Generals of different states.

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EXHIBIT 17

Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau Report (Oct. 2021)

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STATE OF WISCONSIN

Legislative Audit Bureau

NONPARTISAN • INDEPENDENT • ACCURATE

Report 21-19
October 2021

Elections Administration



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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000416

Joint Legislative Audit Committee Members

Senate Members:

Robert Cowles, Co-chairperson
Dale Kooyenga
Howard Marklein
Melissa Agard
Tim Carpenter

Assembly Members:

Samantha Kerkman, Co-chairperson
John Macco
Mark Born
Dianne Hesselbein
Francesca Hong

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Elections Administration



STATE OF WISCONSIN

Legislative Audit Bureau

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000448

Report 21-19
October 2021

Legislative Audit Bureau

State Auditor
Joe Chrisman

Deputy State Auditor for Performance Evaluation
Dean Swenson

Team Leaders
Nehemiah Chinavare
Ross Ryan
Maria Toniolo

Evaluators
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October 22, 2021

Senator Robert Cowles and
Representative Samantha Kerkman, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator Cowles and Representative Kerkman:

As requested by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, we have completed an evaluation of elections administration issues. The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) is responsible for ensuring compliance with state and federal election laws. County and municipal clerks administer elections.

We reviewed the training that WEC is statutorily required to provide to municipal clerks, analyzed how WEC and clerks maintained the accuracy of voter registration records, reviewed guidance that WEC and its staff provided to clerks for handling absentee ballots and processing ballots, examined issues pertaining to electronic voting equipment and the statutorily required post-election audit that WEC conducted after the November 2020 General Election, assessed how WEC and its staff considered complaints, and examined the costs of the recount after the General Election.

To complete this audit, we contacted WEC's staff, surveyed all 1,835 municipal clerks and 72 county clerks in April 2021, contacted 179 clerks to obtain additional information about elections administration issues, analyzed voter registration data, physically reviewed 14,710 certificates that accompanied absentee ballots returned to clerks in 29 municipalities throughout the state, reviewed the results of 175 statutorily required tests of electronic voting equipment that clerks in 25 municipalities completed before the November 2020 General Election, and reviewed all 45 sworn, written complaints pertaining to the General Election that were filed with WEC as of late-May 2021.

We make 30 recommendations for improvements, which are located throughout the report and comprehensively listed in Appendix 7. We include 18 issues for legislative consideration, which are located throughout the report and comprehensively listed in Appendix 8.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by WEC's staff, municipal clerks, and county clerks.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Chrisman
State Auditor

JC/DS/ss

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Introduction

WEC is responsible for ensuring compliance with state and federal election laws.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) is responsible for ensuring compliance with state and federal election laws, and county and municipal clerks administer elections. Statutes require WEC to provide training and guidance to municipal clerks in the state's 1,849 municipalities. Statutes also require WEC to design and maintain the state's electronic voter registration system, which is known as WisVote; maintain the MyVote Wisconsin website, through which individuals may register to vote and obtain absentee ballots and other election-related information; and approve electronic voting equipment before it can be used in Wisconsin. Statutes specify how individuals can submit complaints pertaining to elections administration issues to WEC. WEC was created by 2015 Wisconsin Act 118, which was enacted in December 2015, and began operation on June 30, 2016. WEC replaced the Government Accountability Board (GAB), which was abolished by Act 118.

WEC includes six commissioners who serve for five-year terms, including:

- one commissioner appointed by the Senate Majority Leader;
- one commissioner appointed by the Senate Minority Leader;
- one commissioner appointed by the Assembly Speaker;
- one commissioner appointed by the Assembly Minority Leader; and

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000456

- two commissioners appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. These two commissioners must have formerly served as county or municipal clerks. The Governor nominates one individual from each of the lists provided by the two political parties that received the most votes for President.

Appendix 1 lists the six WEC commissioners as of October 2021 and indicates how each commissioner was appointed.

WEC has delegated to the administrator limited authority to act without its involvement.

WEC is statutorily required to appoint an administrator with the advice and consent of the Senate. This administrator, who serves as the state's chief election officer, performs the duties assigned by WEC and appoints other staff as needed to help carry out these duties. Statutes require WEC's staff to be nonpartisan. WEC has delegated to the administrator limited authority to act without its involvement. In February 2020, WEC delegated the authority for the administrator to exempt municipalities from polling place accessibility requirements, exempt municipalities from using electronic voting equipment, and execute certain contracts up to $100,000. WEC also delegated the authority for the administrator to take specified actions in consultation with its chairperson, including when considering certain complaints.

Elections are administered by local election officials. Figure 1 shows the key statutory responsibilities of local election officials, including county clerks, municipal clerks, chief election inspectors, and election inspectors. The City of Milwaukee Election Commission, rather than the municipal clerk, administers elections in the City of Milwaukee.

Figure 1

Key Statutory Responsibilities of Local Election Officials

COUNTY CLERKS	MUNICIPAL CLERKS	CHIEF ELECTION INSPECTORS	ELECTION INSPECTORS
Prepare and provide ballots and election supplies	Register individuals to vote and administer elections	Direct the activities at polling places on Election Day	Serve at polling places to maintain order, ensure ballot boxes and poll lists are secure, and ensure that electronic voting equipment works properly; commonly known as "poll workers"
Section 7.10, Wis. Stats.	Section 7.15, Wis. Stats.	Section 7.36, Wis. Stats.	Section 7.37, Wis. Stats.

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The Legislative Audit Bureau has previously completed audits of elections administration issues, including *Complaints Considered by the Government Accountability Board* (report 15-13), *Government Accountability Board* (report 14-14), *Compliance with Election Laws* (report 07-16), and *Voter Registration* (report 05-12).

After the General Election on November 3, 2020, questions were raised about elections administration issues, including compliance with election laws, the use of electronic voting equipment, and complaints filed with WEC and clerks. On February 11, 2021, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee directed us to evaluate elections administration issues, including:

- efforts by WEC to comply with election laws, including by working with clerks to ensure voter registration data include only eligible voters, and by providing training and guidance to clerks;

- efforts by clerks to comply with election laws, including by administering elections, processing absentee ballots, and performing recount responsibilities, as well as the observations and concerns of clerks regarding elections administration;

- the use of electronic voting equipment, including the methodology and results of WEC's most-recent statutorily required post-election audit and the actions taken as a result of this audit; and

- General Election–related complaints filed with WEC and clerks, as well as how those complaints were addressed.

To complete this evaluation of issues pertaining to the November 2020 General Election:

- We contacted eight groups that are involved with elections administration issues. These groups are listed in Appendix 2.

- We reviewed statutory provisions pertaining to elections administration and WEC's administrative rules. We contacted WEC's staff and reviewed their written policies and procedures, the minutes and materials associated with WEC's meetings, and the written guidance provided by WEC and its staff to municipal and county clerks.

- In April 2021, we invited all six WEC commissioners to discuss elections administration issues. Two commissioners spoke with us, and one other commissioner provided written information.

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- In April 2021, we surveyed all 1,835 municipal clerks and all 72 county clerks to obtain their perspectives on various issues pertaining to the General Election. A total of 879 municipal clerks (47.9 percent) and 59 county clerks (81.9 percent) responded to our survey.

- We contacted a total of 179 clerks in 61 counties, including 157 municipal clerks and 22 county clerks, to obtain additional information about elections administration issues. The locations of these clerks are listed in Appendix 3.

- We analyzed WisVote data pertaining to voter registration records and absentee ballots cast in the General Election.

- We physically reviewed 14,710 absentee ballot certificates, which are typically the envelopes in which individuals return absentee ballots. We attempted to review certificates in 30 municipalities, including the 10 municipalities where the most absentee ballots were cast in the General Election, the 10 municipalities where the highest proportions of absentee ballots were cast in that election, and 10 municipalities we selected randomly from counties other than those in which the first 20 municipalities were located. However, the City of Madison clerk declined to allow us to physically handle the certificates. The clerk indicated that the clerk's office is responsible for maintaining the chain of custody of election records and ensuring these records are not inadvertently altered or damaged. As a result, we examined certificates in 29 municipalities. The results of our review are shown in Appendix 4.

- We reviewed a total of 1,233 Election Day forms completed by poll workers for the November 2020 General Election, including 571 forms completed by poll workers in 319 municipalities that we randomly selected and 662 forms completed by poll workers in 39 municipalities that had central count locations. On these forms, poll workers recorded information such as the numbers of absentee ballots that were remade and rejected. The results of our review are shown in Appendix 5.

- We reviewed a total of 175 statutorily required tests that municipal clerks had completed before the General Election for electronic voting equipment used in 25 municipalities. The results of our review are shown in Appendix 6.

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- We reviewed all 45 sworn, written complaints pertaining to the General Election that were filed with WEC as of late-May 2021, and we reviewed 1,521 election-related concerns that individuals provided through forms on WEC's website from January 2020 through mid-April 2021.

- We assessed 26 reports that expressed general concerns about how the General Election was conducted and that were made to our office's Fraud, Waste, and Mismanagement Hotline. Few reports provided information pertaining to specific municipalities or issues. One report expressed concerns about a post-election investigation. We also assessed one complaint forwarded to us by a legislative office by speaking with two municipal clerks, but we did not find information to substantiate the issues in this complaint.

- We reviewed information about the recount costs that Dane and Milwaukee counties submitted to WEC after the General Election.

- We reviewed information from other states about various elections administration issues, including ballot drop boxes, signature verification on absentee ballot certificates, indefinitely confined individuals, post-election audits, and recount costs.

Based on our audit work, we make 30 recommendations for improvements and include 18 issues for legislative consideration.

Based on our audit work:

- we make 30 recommendations for improvements, which are located throughout the report and comprehensively listed in Appendix 7; and

- we include 18 issues for legislative consideration, which are located throughout the report and comprehensively listed in Appendix 8.

Because our audit was not approved until three months after the November 2020 General Election, we did not directly observe Election Day practices, including how poll workers processed ballots and how electronic voting equipment operated. The U.S. Department of Justice indicated that election officials are responsible for retaining and preserving election records, regardless of who physically possesses them. In part as a result of this guidance from the Department of Justice, the City of Madison clerk did not allow us to physically handle election records. In addition, county clerks indicated that we would not be able to handle ballots for Milwaukee County and the Town of Little Suamico. Combined, the City of Madison, Milwaukee County, and the Town of Little Suamico accounted for 623,700 of the 3.3 million ballots cast in the November 2020 General Election (18.9 percent). Therefore, to complete our audit we relied on available evidence we were able to

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access, including WisVote data, absentee ballot certificates that we could physically handle, other election records, and information provided to us by municipal clerks, county clerks, WEC's staff, and other individuals.

Statutes require us at all times to observe the confidential nature of any audit being performed. As a result, we completed our audit independently from legislators, WEC, and all other individuals and organizations. Although we typically allow an audited entity the opportunity to review our draft audit report and respond in writing to it, we did not do so for this report. Because we contacted a total of 179 clerks, sharing the draft audit report with so many individuals would have compromised the report's confidentiality. In addition, because WEC's administrator has limited authority to act without WEC's involvement, we would have needed to provide our confidential draft audit report to WEC for its consideration. Statutes allow governmental bodies such as WEC to convene in closed session only for specified purposes, none of which pertains to reviewing draft audit reports. Thus, to preserve the statutorily required confidentiality of our audit until its completion, we did not provide WEC with an opportunity to review a confidential draft audit report and respond in writing to this report prior to its release.

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Training

Statutes require WEC to conduct regular training throughout the state for municipal clerks and other local election officials.

Statutes require WEC to conduct regular training throughout the state for municipal clerks and other local election officials. The training is intended to provide key information that clerks and other local election officials need to administer elections effectively, explain the state's election laws, and promote uniform procedures. WEC's staff train municipal clerks and the chief election inspectors who oversee individual polling places on Election Day, and they approve training provided by other entities. Municipal clerks are statutorily required to train other local election officials such as election inspectors, who are commonly known as poll workers. We reviewed training materials prepared by WEC's staff and contacted 20 clerks. We recommend WEC's staff work with WEC to promulgate and modify administrative rules and comply with the rules by notifying the governing bodies of municipalities when clerks have not reported that they completed the required training. We also include two issues for legislative consideration.

Municipal Clerks

Statutes require each municipal clerk to attend WEC-approved training at least once every two-year period that begins on January 1 of an even-numbered year and ends on December 31 of the following year. WEC's administrative rules require a clerk to attend three hours of training approved by WEC's staff in order to receive initial certification for the two-year period in which a clerk receives the training. A clerk must complete three additional hours of training, approved by WEC's administrator, in the same two-year period in order to maintain certification for the subsequent two-year period. Thereafter, a clerk

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must attend six hours of approved training in a given two-year period in order to maintain certification for the subsequent two-year period. Statutes require WEC to promulgate administrative rules specifying the training contents. WEC's administrative rules require the training to address topics such as:

- completing election-related forms and notices;
- handling confidential voter information and proof of residence documents;
- acquiring, testing, and auditing voting equipment;
- ensuring the security of ballots and voting equipment; and
- preparing and supplying polling places.

We reviewed WEC's election administration manual and materials for the three-hour training that municipal clerks must complete in order to obtain initial certification. We found that the training and the manual, which is referenced in the training, addressed all of the training provisions specified by WEC's administrative rules.

WEC's administrative rules for training municipal clerks have not been updated since June 2016 and contain outdated provisions.

We found that WEC's administrative rules for training municipal clerks have not been updated since June 2016 and contain outdated provisions. The administrative rules specify that training may include how municipal clerks are to use the former Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS), which was replaced by WisVote in January 2016. The administrative rules also require clerks to complete training during two-year periods that begin on January 1 of odd-numbered years, rather than the even-numbered years required by statutes. WEC's staff should work with WEC to modify administrative rules to reflect current statutory requirements for elections, such as training clerks on how to use WisVote.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to modify ch. EL 12, Wis. Adm. Code, to reflect current statutory requirements for elections; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

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WEC's staff provided municipal clerks with training in coordination with organizations such as the Wisconsin Towns Association and the Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association. WEC's staff provided us with information indicating that training occurred at locations throughout the state in the months before mid-March 2020, when they ceased to provide in-person training as a result of the public health emergency and instead provided training online. WEC's staff conducted:

- 20 sessions on electronic poll books in December 2019 and January 2020;
- 12 sessions on election security from January 2020 through mid-March 2020; and
- 5 tabletop exercises on election security in December 2019 and January 2020.

To increase training opportunities for municipal clerks, WEC's staff trained and certified county and municipal clerks to be clerk-trainers. For the current two-year training period that began in January 2020, WEC's staff certified nine individuals, including seven county clerks and two municipal clerks, to provide the training that municipal clerks need to obtain initial certification.

Compliance with Training Requirements

As of June 2021, 82.5 percent of municipal clerks who served in those positions before January 2020 reported having completed all required training.

WEC's staff relied on municipal clerks to self-report the number of training hours that the clerks completed. WEC's staff provided us with information for the two-year period from January 2018 through December 2019, which was the most recently completed training period at the time of our audit. Clerks who completed all required training during this period were certified for the two-year period that began in January 2020. As of June 2021, the information indicated that 175 clerks had started in their positions in January 2020 or later and, therefore, were not required to complete any training in the previous period, and 1 clerk position was vacant. Of the remaining 1,636 clerks who had served in those positions before January 2020:

- 1,349 municipal clerks (82.5 percent) reported having completed all required training; and
- 287 municipal clerks (17.5 percent) did not report having completed all required training.

We reviewed information on the training that municipal clerks reported having completed from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020. This information reflected training reported to WEC's staff as of June 2021. We found that 874 clerks reported having completed some training. These clerks reported having each completed an average of 6.7 hours of training.

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We attempted to determine the extent to which individuals who began working as municipal clerks in 2020 had completed the initial training before the November 2020 General Election. However, statutes do not require individuals to inform WEC of the dates they began working as clerks, and WEC's staff indicated that they are not consistently informed of these dates.

WEC's staff provided us with training information reported by 120 municipal clerks who, to the knowledge of WEC's staff, began working in those positions in 2020. This information reflected training reported as of June 2021. We found that:

- 76 clerks (63.3 percent) reported having each completed, on average, 6.0 hours of training from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020, including 71 clerks who reported having completed the initial training; and

- 44 clerks (36.7 percent) did not report having completed any training from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020. Some of these clerks may have completed training but did not report it, and some may have begun working as clerks after November 3, 2020.

WEC's staff did not comply with administrative rules because they did not contact governing bodies if clerks did not report having completed the required training for the two-year period that ended in December 2019.

Statutes require WEC to promulgate administrative rules that include a method for notifying the governing body of a given municipality if a municipal clerk does not complete the required training. WEC's administrative rules state only that WEC will notify a governing body if a clerk does not complete the training. WEC's staff indicated that they did not contact any governing bodies if clerks did not report having completed the required training for the two-year period that ended in December 2019. Instead, WEC's staff indicated that they contacted clerks and attempted to elicit their cooperation in completing and reporting the training. In addition, WEC's staff posted information on WEC's website about the amount of training that clerks reported having completed in the two-year period that ended in December 2019. This information could be misleading because it included clerks who began in their positions after that two-year period had ended and, therefore, were not expected to have completed any training during that two-year period.

WEC's staff should work with WEC to modify administrative rules to specify how they will notify the governing bodies of municipalities when clerks do not report having completed training required by administrative rules. WEC's staff should then consistently comply with administrative rules. Doing so may provide greater assurance that the training is completed and reported.

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☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to modify ch. EL 12.02 (7), Wis. Adm. Code, to specify how the governing bodies of municipalities will be notified when municipal clerks do not report having completed training required by administrative rules;*
- *consistently comply with administrative rules; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

Issues for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require clerks to complete the initial training before administering an election.

Currently, statutes require municipal clerks to attend training at least once every two years, and WEC's administrative rules require clerks to complete three hours of training in order to receive initial certification for the two-year period in which the training is received. However, statutes and administrative rules do not specify when a new clerk must complete the training for initial certification, and they do not require clerks to be certified before administering an election for the first time. As a result, a clerk could administer an election before having completed the initial training. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require clerks to complete the initial training before administering an election. Statutes could exempt from this training requirement those individuals who became clerks only shortly before an election.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require a municipal governing body to notify WEC within 30 days when there is turnover in the clerk position.

Currently, statutes do not require individuals to inform WEC of the dates they began working as municipal clerks, and WEC's staff indicated that they are not consistently informed of these dates. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require a municipal governing body to notify WEC within 30 days when there is turnover in the clerk position. If WEC were better informed, it could more accurately track whether clerks completed all required training.

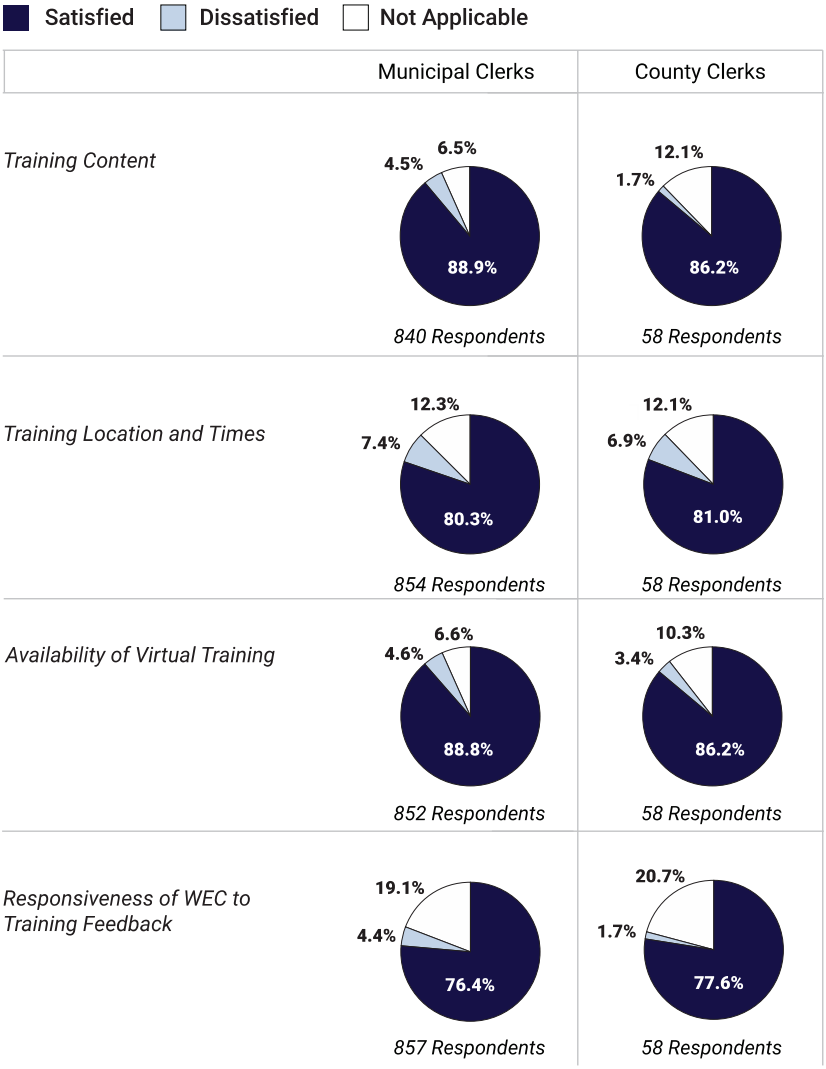
Satisfaction Levels of Clerks

Our April 2021 survey asked municipal and county clerks about the training provided by WEC's staff. As shown in Figure 2, most clerks who responded to our survey indicated that they were satisfied with the training content, training location and times, availability of virtual training, and the responsiveness of WEC to feedback on the training.

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Figure 2

Satisfaction of Clerks with Training Provided by WEC's Staff[1]



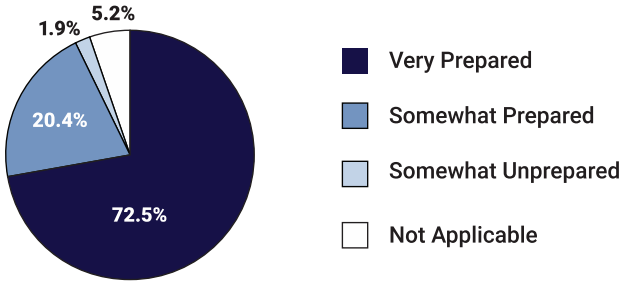
[1] As indicated by municipal and county clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

As shown in Figure 3, 72.5 percent of the municipal clerks who responded to our survey indicated they were very prepared to fulfill their duties in the November 2020 General Election as a result of training provided by WEC, and 20.4 percent indicated that they were somewhat prepared.

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Figure 3

Clerk Preparedness for the November 2020 General Election, as a Result of WEC's Training[1]



[1] As indicated by 858 municipal clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

We contacted 16 municipal clerks and 4 county clerks to obtain their perspectives on WEC's training. Similar to our survey, these clerks indicated that they were generally satisfied with the training. For example:

- one clerk indicated that there were adequate training opportunities and that WEC's staff did a good job using technology to deliver training virtually;
- a second clerk indicated that the training covered all necessary topics; and
- a third clerk indicated that WEC's staff did a good job providing training and other resources for clerks to obtain needed information.

We also contacted clerks who had indicated in their survey responses that they were dissatisfied with the training. For example:

- one clerk indicated that the training and guidance were contradictory at times;
- a second clerk indicated that the training was more useful for clerks in larger municipalities; and
- a third clerk indicated that the training should cover more topics and that WEC should improve WEC's election administration manual.

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Other Local Election Officials

Other local election officials help municipal clerks to administer elections. Chief election inspectors serve as the lead election official at polling places, election inspectors perform various duties at polling places, and special voting deputies visit residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes in order to conduct absentee voting in person.

Chief Election Inspectors

Statutes require municipal clerks to appoint an individual to serve as the chief election inspector at a given polling place. Statutes require WEC to establish requirements for certifying individuals to serve as chief election inspectors, including the requirement to attend at least one training session before serving as a chief election inspector. Individuals may not serve as chief election inspectors unless WEC certifies them. To maintain certification, chief election inspectors must attend at least one training session during every two-year period that begins on January 1 of each even-numbered year and ends on December 31 of the following year.

WEC's staff indicated that municipal clerks are responsible for ensuring that individuals who serve as chief election inspectors meet the training requirements and are certified. In the current two-year training period that began in January 2020, WEC's staff certified 47 individuals, including county clerks, municipal clerks, deputy clerks, and others, to provide baseline training to chief election inspectors. In response to the public health emergency, WEC's staff made this training publicly available on WEC's website.

We reviewed the chief election inspector training and found that it included a variety of topics related to administering an election, including conducting pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment, opening and closing polls, registering voters, processing absentee ballots, and completing election forms.

Chief election inspectors sign Election Day forms certifying that they had previously completed the required training and are certified. After Election Day, county clerks maintain these forms. We selected a random sample of 319 municipalities throughout the state and requested that the clerks of the 69 counties where these municipalities are located provide us with the forms completed for the November 2020 General Election. We reviewed all 571 forms provided to us and found that 567 forms (99.3 percent) contained signatures of chief election inspectors.

Other Election Officials

Statutes require WEC to promulgate administrative rules prescribing the contents of training that municipal clerks provide to other local

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election officials, including election inspectors and special voting deputies. In report 14-14, we found that GAB had approved draft administrative rules regarding the contents of training for election inspectors and special voting deputies and in August 2009 had directed its staff to complete the promulgation process. We also found that GAB's staff had not done so through September 2014 but had instead relied on election manuals to indicate the training contents. We recommended that GAB promulgate the statutorily required administrative rules.

WEC did not comply with statutes by promulgating administrative rules prescribing the contents of training for special voting deputies or election inspectors.

In our current audit, we found that WEC did not promulgate statutorily required administrative rules prescribing the contents of training for special voting deputies or election inspectors. WEC's staff indicated that they were unaware of any discussions WEC had regarding promulgating the statutorily required administrative rules. Instead, WEC's staff provided municipal clerks with written guidance on training special voting deputies and election inspectors.

WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate the statutorily required administrative rules regarding the contents of training that municipal clerks provide to special voting deputies and election inspectors. Although the written guidance that WEC's staff provided municipal clerks contained relevant information, provisions in administrative rules carry the force of law.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to promulgate statutorily required administrative rules prescribing the contents of training that municipal clerks provide to special voting deputies and election inspectors; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

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Maintenance of Voter Registration Records

WEC and clerks share responsibility for maintaining the accuracy of voter registration records.

WEC and clerks share responsibility for maintaining the accuracy of voter registration records. Statutes require WEC to maintain WisVote and municipal clerks to use WisVote to verify the accuracy of information provided by registrants, who are individuals registering to vote. Information provided by registrants is matched with personally identifiable information from the Department of Transportation (DOT). WEC obtains personally identifiable information from the departments of Health Services (DHS) and Corrections (DOC) and provides it to clerks. Clerks use this information to inactivate the voter registration records of individuals ineligible to vote because they are deceased or have ongoing felony sentences. We recommend WEC's staff work with WEC to execute written data-sharing agreements with these three state agencies, improve how they identify potentially duplicate voter registration records in WisVote, and establish a schedule for regularly obtaining data from the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), which is a nonprofit organization that helps member states to improve the accuracy of their voter registration systems by providing personally identifiable information on certain types of individuals. We also include two issues for legislative consideration.

Voter Registration

Any U.S. citizen age 18 or older is eligible to vote in a Wisconsin election district where he or she has resided for 28 consecutive days before an election, if he or she has not been determined by a judge to be incompetent to vote, has not bet on the election, and is not serving a sentence for a felony, treason, or bribery.

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000472

Almost one-half of the 957,977 individuals who registered to vote in Wisconsin from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020, did so online.

Statutes allow individuals to register to vote at any time except for the three days before Election Day. Individuals who register 20 days or more before Election Day may typically do so online through the MyVote Wisconsin website, at a clerk's office, or by mail. Individuals who register within 20 days before Election Day may typically do so only at a municipal clerk's office or on Election Day at the polls. As shown in Table 1, almost one-half of the 957,977 individuals who registered to vote in Wisconsin from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020, did so online.

Table 1

Individuals Who Registered to Vote, by Method[1]
January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020

Method	Number of Individuals	Percentage of Total
Online	476,605	49.8%
In Person	423,282	44.2
Mail[2]	58,090	6.1
Total	**957,977**	**100.0%**

[1] According to information that clerks entered into WisVote.

[2] Includes individuals who registered by email or fax.

Statutes require municipal clerks to enter information provided by individuals registering to vote by mail or in person into WisVote. Statutes allow any municipal clerk to designate another municipal clerk or a county clerk to enter such information into WisVote on the clerk's behalf. As of March 2021, 1,155 municipalities (62.5 percent) had arrangements with their counties or other municipalities for assistance in entering information into WisVote, including voter registration–related information.

Personally Identifiable Information

Registrants must provide their valid driver's license numbers or state identification card numbers, but they may provide the last four digits of their Social Security numbers if they do not have valid driver's licenses or state identification cards. Registrants must also provide their dates of birth and current addresses.

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Statutes require WEC's administrator and DOT's secretary to enter into an agreement to attempt to verify the personally identifiable information provided by registrants with DOT's information.

Statutes require WEC's administrator and DOT's secretary to enter into an agreement to attempt to verify the personally identifiable information provided by registrants with DOT's information on vehicle registrations, driver's licenses, and state identification cards. Each night, the personally identifiable information of individuals who registered to vote is electronically compared with DOT's information, including names, dates of birth, and driver's license or state identification card numbers. If registrants do not provide driver's license or state identification card numbers, DOT forwards the last four digits of their Social Security numbers to the federal Social Security Administration, which compares this information with its records. DOT electronically informs WEC whether it confirmed the information provided by registrants. If DOT did not confirm this information, it electronically informs WEC about the particular piece of information it could not confirm. However, DOT does not provide WEC with any personally identifiable information, such as names or dates of birth.

If an individual registers to vote online, statutes require the personally identifiable information provided by individuals to be instantly verified with DOT's information. If the information cannot be verified, statutes require individuals to be redirected to DOT's website in order to update their information. Individuals cannot complete their online registrations until the information they provide matches DOT's information.

The personally identifiable information provided by 93.8 percent of individuals who registered to vote matched DOT's information.

We used data provided by WEC's staff to determine the extent to which the personally identifiable information provided by individuals who registered to vote from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020, matched DOT's information. As shown in Table 2, the information provided by 93.8 percent of these 957,977 individuals matched DOT's information, but the information provided by 4.8 percent of these individuals did not. In report 14-14, we found that information provided by 92.4 percent of individuals who registered to vote in fiscal year (FY) 2012-13 matched DOT's information, but that 7.4 percent did not.

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Table 2

Comparison of Personally Identifiable Information Provided by Individuals Registering to Vote with DOT's Information[1]
January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020

	Number of Individuals	Percentage of Total
The Information:		
Matched DOT's Information	898,421	93.8%
Did Not Match DOT's Information	45,665	4.8
No Attempt Was Made to Match the Information	13,800	1.4
The Match Was Ongoing	91	<0.1
Total	**957,977**	**100.0%**

[1] As indicated by data provided by WEC's staff.

Non-matches occurred for 63.1 percent of the 45,665 individuals because the names the individuals provided when registering to vote did not match DOT's information. WEC's staff indicated that a non-match could have occurred if, for example, an individual registered to vote as "Robert" but was known as "Bob" on a driver's license. However, the data do not indicate precisely why the non-match occurred because DOT does not provide WEC with any personally identifiable information. As a result, clerks are uncertain whether a non-match occurred because of only a slight difference in a given individual's name, which may indicate little cause for concern, or a significant difference, which may indicate that an individual is attempting to register to vote by using another individual's information.

WEC's staff indicated that no attempts were made to match the personally identifiable information provided by 13,800 individuals for several reasons. Individuals serving in the military are not statutorily required to register to vote and, thus, do not provide driver's license, state identification card, or Social Security numbers, although WisVote contains voter records for these individuals. Similarly, no matching attempts were made if individuals updated registrations that had previously been made before WisVote's implementation and the individuals were not changing their names, driver's license or Social Security numbers, or dates of birth.

If the personally identifiable information provided by registrants does not match DOT's information, the relevant clerks receive automatic notifications in WisVote. WEC's staff instruct clerks to correct the voter registration if they can determine that the non-match was the result of a data entry error. Otherwise, clerks are instructed to inform the individuals that they should resolve the mismatched information.

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Statutes do not require clerks to inactivate the voter registration records of these individuals, who remain eligible to vote.

We contacted a total of 12 municipal and county clerks in order to learn how they reviewed instances when information provided by registrants did not match DOT's information. The clerks indicated that they typically reviewed the available information in order to determine why a non-match may have occurred. For example, they may discover a typo in the registration information that could have caused a non-match. However, one county clerk was unaware of the need to review non-matches, and one municipal clerk indicated not having time to review non-matches.

Data Agreement

WEC did not have a written data-sharing agreement with DOT at the time of our audit.

We found that WEC did not have a written data-sharing agreement with DOT at the time of our audit. The most-recent agreement was effective from January 5, 2017, until January 5, 2021. This agreement pertained only to verifying information provided by individuals who registered online to vote, and not to verifying information provided by individuals who registered to vote by other methods. WEC's staff indicated that they planned to update the agreement later in 2021.

We found that WEC's data-sharing agreement, which expired on January 5, 2021, did not specify any procedures that DOT should use to verify information provided by individuals who registered to vote by methods other than online. Instead, WEC's staff indicated that verification occurs based on procedures formally agreed upon with DOT in 2005.

WEC did not comply with statutes by obtaining from DOT the signatures of individuals who register online to vote.

Statutes require individuals who register online to vote to authorize WEC to obtain from DOT electronic copies of the signatures they provided when they obtained driver's licenses or state identification cards. Statutes require WEC to obtain these signatures. However, we found that WEC's most-recent agreement with DOT explicitly did not include the provision of these signatures. WEC's staff indicated that no signatures were obtained from DOT, in part, because a significant amount of electronic space would be needed to store them. DOT indicated that an individual's signature and photo are stored in one file, which could make it challenging to provide WEC with only the signatures.

Before January 1, 2022, WEC's staff should work with WEC to execute a new written data-sharing agreement with DOT. This agreement should include provisions for verifying the information provided by individuals who register to vote by all methods, and it should specify the procedures for verifying this information. WEC's staff should also establish a system to regularly review and update the agreement with DOT. Doing so will ensure that the data-sharing process reflects current technological processes and available data, and that the agreement does not expire in the future without a replacement agreement. In addition, WEC's staff should comply with statutes by working with DOT to obtain the electronic signatures of individuals who register online to vote. If WEC believes that such signatures cannot help it to ensure the

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accuracy of voter registration records, it should request that the Legislature modify the statutory requirement that it obtain the signatures.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *before January 1, 2022, work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to execute with the Department of Transportation a new written data-sharing agreement that includes provisions for verifying the information provided by individuals who register to vote by all methods and that specifies the procedures for verifying this information;*

- *establish a system to regularly review and update the data-sharing agreement;*

- *comply with statutes by working with the Department of Transportation to obtain the electronic signatures of individuals who register online to vote, or request that the Legislature modify the statutory requirement that the Wisconsin Elections Commission obtain them; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require that DOT provide additional information to WEC when DOT attempts to verify certain information provided by registrants.

As noted, DOT currently provides information that does not indicate precisely why a given non-match occurred because DOT does not provide WEC with any personally identifiable information. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require that DOT provide additional information to WEC when DOT attempts to verify the personally identifiable information provided by registrants. For example, statutes could be modified to require DOT to provide WEC with the names, dates of birth, and driver's license or state identification card numbers for individuals whose information did not match. WEC's staff and clerks we contacted indicated that this additional information would help them to identify and correct errors in voter registration records, such as misspelled names and typos.

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Duplicate Voter Registration Records

Each night, WisVote automatically compares personally identifiable information in voter registration records in order to identify potentially duplicate records.

Each night, WisVote automatically compares certain personally identifiable information in voter registration records in order to identify potentially duplicate records. The relevant clerks receive automatic notifications in WisVote whenever the information in one record matches the information in another record. When this occurs, WEC's staff instruct clerks to consider the available information and either merge the two records or determine a potential match was erroneous and allow the two records to remain separate. WisVote uses four sets of criteria to identify potentially duplicate records.

Duplicate voter registration records can be identified with additional sets of criteria not currently used by WisVote. We used only the driver's license and state identification card numbers to identify potentially duplicate records for all individuals who voted absentee in the November 2020 General Election. We identified 70 records in which either driver's license or state identification card numbers matched the numbers in 70 separate records. We provided WEC's staff with a list of these 140 total records for their review because the criteria WEC's staff use to identify potentially duplicate records would not have discovered these records.

We provided WEC's staff with the names of four individuals who may have voted twice by absentee ballot during the November 2020 General Election.

We found that the names and dates of birth of the individuals associated with 24 of the 70 voter registration records that we identified by using our criteria matched similar information in 24 other records. This suggests that the 24 individuals associated with these records had two active voter registration records. We analyzed absentee ballot data provided by WEC's staff and found that these data indicated 4 of the 24 individuals may have voted twice by absentee ballot during the November 2020 General Election. We provided WEC's staff with the names of these 24 individuals, including the 4 individuals who may have voted twice.

WEC's staff should improve how they identify potentially duplicate voter registration records in WisVote by comparing driver's license and state identification card numbers of all registered voters each night. Because driver's license and state identification card numbers should be unique, clerks should merge duplicate records or correct any information that resulted in the matches. For example, a mistyped driver's license number may have resulted in an erroneous match. Taking these actions will improve the accuracy of voter registration records.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *improve how they identify potential duplicate voter registration records in WisVote by comparing driver's license and state identification card numbers of all registered voters each night; and*

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- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

Deceased Individuals

Each month, DHS electronically provides WEC with personally identifiable information for all Wisconsin residents who died in the state.

Statutes require municipal clerks to use vital statistics reports to inactivate the voter registration records of deceased individuals. On an ongoing basis, DHS receives information about deceased individuals, primarily from funeral homes. Each month, DHS electronically provides WEC with personally identifiable information for all Wisconsin residents who died in the state, including names, last four digits of Social Security numbers, dates of birth and death, and the cities and counties where these individuals last lived. By the time that WEC obtains this information, varying amounts of time have elapsed.

WisVote automatically compares the information provided by DHS with the personally identifiable information in voter registration records, as well as with the personally identifiable information provided by registrants. The relevant clerks receive automatic notifications in WisVote whenever the information provided by DHS potentially matches the personally identifiable information in voter registration records. WEC's staff instruct clerks to consider the available information and either inactivate a given record or determine the potential match was erroneous and allow a given record to remain active. WisVote indicates whether clerks used the potential matches to make such determinations. In report 14-14, we found that clerks had acted on 93.6 percent of potential matches provided by DHS in FY 2012-13, but that clerks had not acted on 6.4 percent of potential matches.

We obtained data from WEC's staff on all 33,473 potential matches between the information provided by DHS and the personally identifiable information in voter registration records from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020. These data indicated whether clerks had acted on the potential matches as of mid-April 2021. If a clerk does not act on a potential match for a given individual, WEC's staff are uncertain if a clerk determined whether an individual is still alive and, therefore, whether the voter registration record is accurate.

Clerks did not consistently act on potential matches provided by DHS to inactivate the voter registration records of individuals who may have died.

As shown in Table 3, the data indicated that clerks had acted on the potential matches for 20,908 individuals (62.5 percent), but that clerks in 1,199 municipalities had made no determinations on the potential matches for 12,565 individuals (37.5 percent). Although the data indicated that clerks had not acted on the potential matches, other data provided by WEC's staff indicated that, in fact, clerks had inactivated the records of 12,406 of the 12,565 individuals (98.7 percent) as of the November 2020 General Election and had inactivated the records of all but 8 of the 12,565 individuals as of June 2021. To inactive these records, clerks used information sources other than the potential matches. In response to our April 2021 survey, 188 municipal clerks indicated that they had inactivated records before the General Election, including 144 clerks who relied on obituaries, 72 clerks who relied on personal knowledge about individuals, and 49 clerks who inactivated

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records after individuals did not respond to mailed notices about their potential ineligibility to vote.

Table 3

Resolution of Information Indicating That Registered Voters Were Deceased[1]
January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020

	Number of Individuals	Percentage of Total
Clerks Determined Individuals Were:		
Deceased	20,614	61.6%
Alive	294	0.9
Subtotal	20,908	62.5
Clerks Made No Determinations[2]	12,565	37.5
Total	**33,473**	**100.0%**

[1] As indicated by data that were provided by WEC's staff and that indicated the determinations clerks had made as of mid-April 2021.

[2] As of June 2021, clerks had inactivated the voter registration records of all but 8 of the 12,565 individuals.

If an individual submits an absentee ballot but dies before Election Day, statutes require that the absentee ballot not be counted if local election officials are aware of the death. Identifying deceased individuals in time to ensure that their absentee ballots are not counted is sometimes challenging because of the amount of time required for DHS to be notified of the deaths, for DHS to prepare the applicable data, and for the monthly data exchange with WisVote to occur. We found that it took clerks a median time of:

- 7 days from when they were informed about a potential match to when they determined that an individual was deceased or alive; and
- 56 days from when individuals died to when they determined that an individual was deceased or alive.

Eleven individuals who died before November 3, 2020, likely voted in the General Election.

We reviewed the voting records of the 20,614 individuals who clerks determined were deceased and the 12,565 individuals for whom clerks made no determinations. The available information indicates that 11 individuals who died before November 3, 2020, likely voted in the General Election. Clerks received potential data matches for all 11 individuals 10 days before the General Election. By that point in time, clerks had mailed absentee ballots to all 11 individuals. We notified WEC's staff about these 11 individuals.

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Data Agreement

WEC did not have a written data-sharing agreement with DHS at the time of our audit.

We found that WEC did not have a written data-sharing agreement with DHS at the time of our audit. The most-recent agreement was effective from January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016.

Before January 1, 2022, WEC's staff should work with WEC to execute a new written data-sharing agreement with DHS, and they should establish a system to regularly review and update the agreement. Doing so will ensure that the data-sharing process reflects current technological processes and available data, and that the agreement does not expire in the future without a replacement agreement.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *before January 1, 2022, work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to execute a new written data-sharing agreement with the Department of Health Services;*
- *establish a system to regularly review and update the data-sharing agreement; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

Individuals Serving Felony Sentences

DOC is statutorily required on a continuous basis to provide WEC with information on individuals who have been convicted of felonies.

Statutes prohibit individuals convicted of felonies from voting until they have completed their sentences, including parole and extended supervision, or completed probation. DOC is statutorily required on a continuous basis to provide WEC with the names and addresses of individuals who have been convicted of felonies and whose civil rights have not been restored, as well as the dates DOC expects these civil rights to be restored.

Each day, WisVote automatically compares the information provided by DOC with the personally identifiable information in voter registration records. The relevant clerks receive automatic notifications in WisVote whenever the information provided by DOC potentially matches information in voter registration records. WEC's staff instruct clerks to consider the available information and either inactivate a given record or determine the potential match was erroneous and allow a given record to remain active. WEC's staff indicated that clerks need to carefully consider potential matches because DOC's information changes frequently and can contain duplicate records. In report 14-14, we found that clerks had acted on 91.8 percent of potential matches

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provided by DOC in FY 2012-13, but that clerks had not acted on 8.2 percent of potential matches.

We obtained data on all potential matches between DOC's information and the personally identifiable information in voter registration records from January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020. We determined the extent to which clerks had acted on these potential matches as of mid-April 2021. If a clerk does not act on a potential match for a given individual, WEC's staff are uncertain whether a clerk determined whether an individual has an ongoing felony sentence and, therefore, whether the voter registration record is accurate.

Clerks did not consistently act on the potential match information provided by DOC to inactivate the voter registration records of individuals who may have been serving felony sentences.

As shown in Table 4, the data indicated that clerks had acted on the potential matches for 1,435 individuals (63.6 percent), and it took a median time of five days to act on these matches. Clerks in 296 municipalities had made no determinations on the potential matches for 821 individuals (36.4 percent). Although the data indicated that clerks had not acted on the potential matches, other data provided by WEC's staff indicated that, in fact, clerks had inactivated the records of 748 of the 821 individuals (91.1 percent) as of the November 2020 General Election and had inactivated the records of all but 1 of the 821 individuals as of September 2021.

Table 4

Resolution of Information Indicating That Registered Voters Had Ongoing Felony Sentences[1]
January 1, 2020, through November 3, 2020

	Number of Individuals	Percentage of Total
Clerks Determined Individuals:		
Had Ongoing Felony Sentences	1,115	49.4%
Did Not Have Ongoing Felony Sentences	320	14.2
Subtotal	1,435	63.6
Clerks Made No Determinations[2]	821	36.4
Total	**2,256**	**100.0%**

[1] As indicated by data that were provided by WEC's staff and that indicated the determinations clerks had made as of mid-April 2021.

[2] As of September 2021, clerks had inactivated the voter registration records of all but 1 of the 821 individuals.

Eight individuals with ongoing felony sentences may have voted in the General Election.

We reviewed the voting records of the 1,115 individuals whom clerks determined had ongoing felony sentences and the 821 individuals for whom clerks made no determinations. We found that the available data indicate that eight individuals with ongoing felony sentences may have voted in the November 2020 General Election. Clerks had

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received information about the potential matches for four of these eight individuals within 30 days before the General Election. WEC's staff were aware of all eight individuals based on their own post-election review conducted independently from our audit.

We selected a random sample of 75 of the 1,115 individuals whose voter registration records clerks inactivated. We reviewed the Wisconsin Court System's Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP) and found that the available information indicated the felony sentences of 3 of the 75 individuals had ended before the November 2020 General Election. We provided WEC's staff with the names of these individuals.

Data Agreement

To obtain information on individuals with ongoing felony sentences, GAB executed a data-sharing agreement of indefinite duration with DOC in October 2015. Although GAB executed this agreement, 2015 Wisconsin Act 118 stipulated that all ongoing contracts remained in effect after GAB was abolished.

WEC's data-sharing agreement with DOC contained outdated information.

We found that WEC's data-sharing agreement with DOC contained outdated information. The agreement referenced SVRS, which has been replaced by WisVote. In addition, WEC's staff indicated that the technology for transferring data between the two agencies was updated in recent years and that additional updates are anticipated. Although the agreement specified it was to be reviewed at least annually, WEC's staff indicated that such reviews did not occur.

Before January 1, 2022, WEC's staff should work with WEC to update the almost six-year-old data-sharing agreement with DOC, and they should establish a system to regularly review and update the agreement. Doing so will ensure that the data-sharing process reflects current technological processes and available data.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *before January 1, 2022, work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to execute a new data-sharing agreement with the Department of Corrections;*
- *establish a system to regularly review and update the data-sharing agreement; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

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Post-Election Review

After every election, statutes require WEC to compare the list of individuals provided by DOC with the list of individuals who registered to vote on Election Day or within 20 days before an election. If WEC determines that an individual with an ongoing felony sentence may have voted, statutes require it to notify the district attorney in the county where the vote occurred. Statutes require WEC to complete these reviews as soon as possible.

WEC's staff completed statutorily required post-election reviews for every election from June 2016 through November 2020.

In report 14-14, we found that GAB's staff had not completed these statutorily required reviews for several years, and we recommended that they be completed. In our current audit, we found that WEC's staff had completed these reviews for every election from WEC's inception in June 2016 through the November 2020 General Election, although some cases pertaining to the General Election were in the process of being reviewed by clerks at the time of our audit.

Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)

2015 Wisconsin Act 261, which was enacted in March 2016, requires WEC to belong to ERIC. As of March 2020, 30 states and the District of Columbia were members of ERIC. Member states such as Wisconsin provide ERIC with personally identifiable information from their voter registration and driver's license systems. ERIC also collects personally identifiable information from the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Postal Service. Each member state decides how often to request data from ERIC, but ERIC requires each state to request some data at least annually.

WEC can request that ERIC provide it with five types of data.

Under the terms of its agreement with ERIC, WEC can request that ERIC provide it with data containing personally identifiable information on:

- eligible Wisconsin residents who are not registered to vote;
- registered Wisconsin voters who may have moved within Wisconsin, who may have moved to and registered to vote in other states, or who submitted new address information to the U.S. Postal Service's National Change of Address program;
- registered Wisconsin voters who may have voted multiple times in the same election;
- registered Wisconsin voters who may have died in other states; and

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- registered Wisconsin voters who may have multiple voter registration records in Wisconsin.

Some types of ERIC data are available to WEC through other sources, such as data on voters who may have moved within Wisconsin. Nevertheless, WEC's staff indicated that ERIC's data-matching software is better than WEC's software at identifying individuals whose voter registration records may need to be inactivated or who may have more than one active voter registration record in Wisconsin. Other types of ERIC data are not readily available to WEC through other sources, such as data on registered Wisconsin voters who may have moved to and registered to vote in other states, who may have died in other states, and who may have voted multiple times in the same election.

WEC did not regularly obtain all types of data from ERIC in recent years.

As shown in Table 5, WEC did not regularly obtain all types of data from ERIC in recent years. From September 2016 to May 2021, WEC obtained some types of data every two years, but it obtained other types of data once during this period of time.

Table 5

ERIC Data that WEC Obtained, by Type[1]
As of July 2021

Type of Data	Sept. 2016	Sept. 2017	June 2018	Aug. 2019	Sept. 2019	May 2020	May 2021
Eligible residents who are not registered to vote	✓		✓			✓	
Registered voters who may have moved within Wisconsin, moved to and registered to vote in other states, or submitted new address information to the National Change of Address program		✓		✓			✓
Registered voters who may have voted multiple times in the same election					✓		
Registered voters who may have died in other states							✓
Registered voters who may have multiple voter registration records in Wisconsin							✓

[1] According to information provided by WEC's staff.

In August 2019, WEC obtained ERIC data on registered Wisconsin voters who may have moved within Wisconsin, who may have moved to and registered to vote in other states, or who submitted new address information to the National Change of Address program. It obtained these data for the time period from September 2017 through July 2019. These data included information on approximately 428,500 individuals, but WEC's staff eliminated duplicate and erroneous records, which left

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information for 232,579 individuals in the data. In June 2019, WEC approved a plan for its staff to inactivate the voter registration records of all individuals whose voter registration status remained unresolved after the April 2021 Spring Election. In October 2019, WEC's staff sent letters to the 232,579 individuals, who were informed that they needed to confirm their current addresses or update their voter registration information.

As of August 2021, the voter registration records for:

- 153,156 of the 232,579 individuals (65.9 percent) remained active because, for example, the individuals had contacted their clerks, updated their records through the MyVote Wisconsin website, or had voted since October 2019;

- 69,196 individuals (29.8 percent) had been inactivated by WEC's staff because the individuals had not contacted their clerks and had not voted since October 2019; and

- 10,227 individuals (4.4 percent) had been inactivated for other reasons.

In May 2021, WEC obtained data on 743 registered Wisconsin voters who may have died in other states and data on approximately 16,000 registered voters who may have had multiple voter registration records in Wisconsin. It obtained these data for the time period from April 2018 through April 2021 and was still processing them at the time of our audit. Obtaining data on Wisconsin residents who may have died in other states is particularly important because DHS does not provide such information to WEC. Although DHS provides WEC with information about Wisconsin residents who died in the state, it cannot provide it with information about Wisconsin residents who died in other states because it and the health departments in all other states have agreed to share such information only with each other.

We contacted all five other midwestern states that are members of ERIC in order to determine how often they obtained ERIC data. Ohio did not respond, but:

- Illinois indicated that it regularly obtained all types of the available data, as required by its statutes, including some types as frequently as six times per year and other types as infrequently as once every two years;

- Iowa indicated that it annually obtained some types of the available data and planned to obtain all types of the available data each month beginning in 2022;

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- Michigan indicated that it obtained some types of the available data every 18 months to 24 months; and

- Minnesota indicated that it obtained all types of the available data each month.

WEC's staff should work with WEC to establish a schedule for regularly obtaining each type of ERIC data.

ERIC data can help to ensure that Wisconsin's voter registration records are accurate and complete, as long as WEC obtains the data regularly and the data are acted upon before elections. WEC's staff should work with WEC to establish a schedule for regularly obtaining each type of data available from ERIC and a plan for acting on these data, including by deciding whether or not to inactivate relevant voter registration records. The schedule should allow sufficient time for WEC's staff and clerks to make such determinations before elections. In March 2021, WEC approved a schedule for obtaining each quarter the ERIC data on registered voters who may have moved within Wisconsin, who may have moved to and registered to vote in other states, or who submitted new address information to the National Change of Address program. These represent only one of the five types of data available from ERIC.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to establish a schedule for regularly obtaining each type of data available from the Electronic Registration Information Center and a plan for acting on these data; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to regularly obtain ERIC data and use them to improve the accuracy and completeness of WisVote.

Currently, statutes do not require WEC to obtain and use ERIC data. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to regularly obtain ERIC data and use them to improve the accuracy and completeness of WisVote. For example, statutes could be modified to require WEC to regularly obtain every three or six months ERIC data for registered Wisconsin voters who may have moved to and registered to vote in other states, who may have voted in Wisconsin and other states, and who may have died in other states.

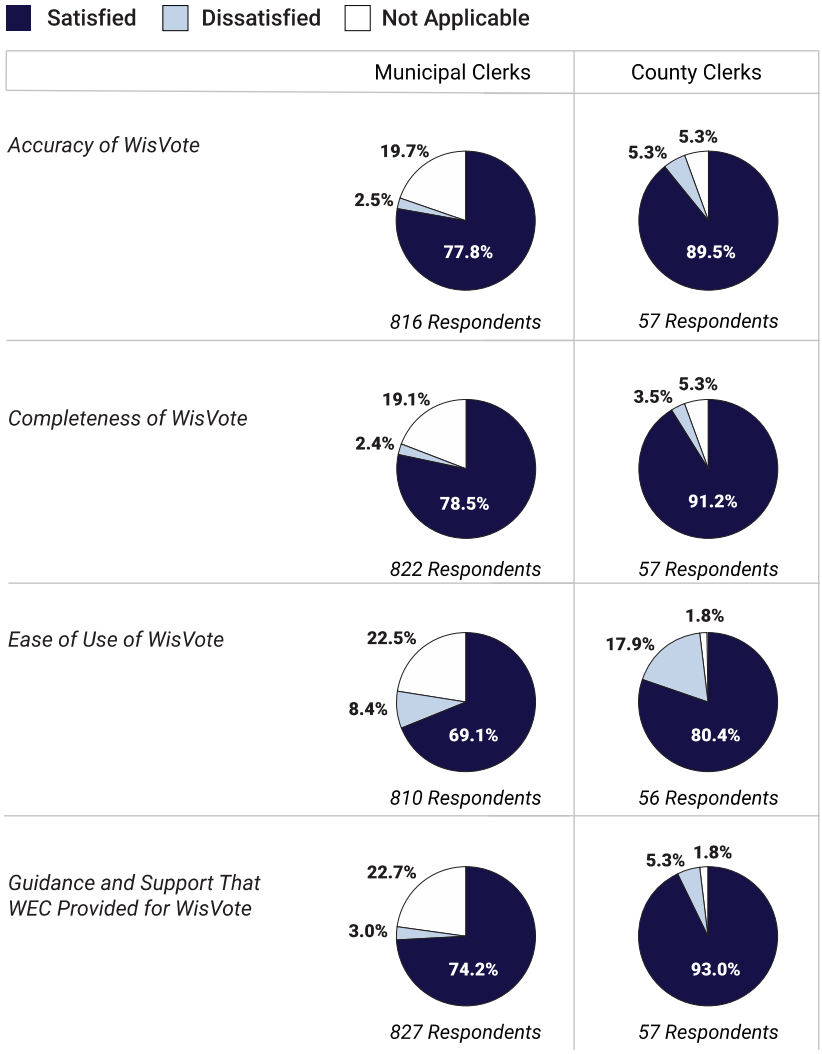
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Satisfaction Levels of Clerks

Our April 2021 survey asked all municipal and county clerks about their satisfaction with WisVote. As shown in Figure 4, most of the municipal and county clerks who responded to our survey indicated that they were satisfied with the accuracy, completeness, and ease of use of WisVote, as well as with the guidance and support provided by WEC for using WisVote. County clerks indicated that they were more satisfied than municipal clerks with each of these aspects.

Figure 4

Satisfaction of Clerks with Aspects of WisVote[1]



[1]As indicated by municipal and county clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

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Some clerks who responded to our survey commented on their satisfaction with WisVote. For example:

- one clerk indicated that WisVote is an "effective way to store and manage voter information;"
- a second clerk indicated that WisVote is a "wonderful, state of the art system;" and
- a third clerk indicated that WisVote is a "huge improvement" over SVRS, and that WEC's staff resolved problems "very quickly with thorough notice."

Other clerks who responded to our survey indicated their dissatisfaction with the accuracy of WisVote. For example:

- one clerk indicated that there have been data entry errors for many years; and
- a second clerk indicated that "a lot of the voter information," such as the birth dates of individuals who had registered to vote before Wisconsin had an electronic voter registration system, was inaccurate when first entered into SVRS and remains inaccurate in WisVote.

■ ■ ■ ■

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Absentee Ballots

Statutes permit individuals to vote by absentee ballot.

Statutes permit individuals to vote by absentee ballot. An individual must complete an absentee ballot in the presence of a witness and typically must complete a certificate that includes the addresses and signatures of the individual and a witness. In most instances, certificates are the envelopes in which absentee ballots are returned. To examine issues pertaining to absentee ballots cast in the November 2020 General Election, we examined WEC's data, contacted 48 clerks, and physically examined 14,710 certificates returned by individuals who voted in 29 municipalities. If WEC believes municipal clerks should be permitted to take certain actions pertaining to absentee ballots, we recommend WEC's staff work with WEC to promulgate applicable administrative rules. We also include five issues for legislative consideration.

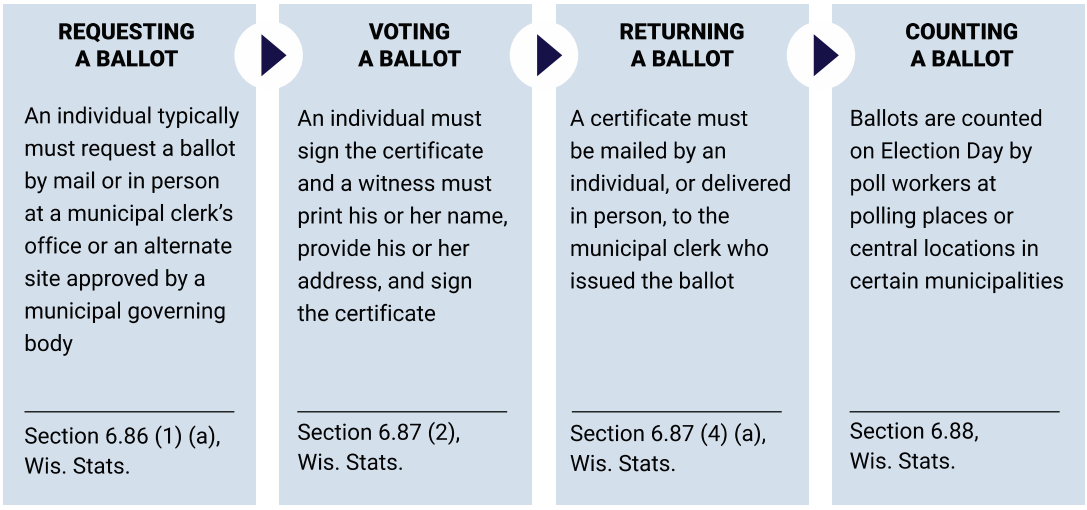
Voting by Absentee Ballot

Figure 5 summarizes the typical process by which an individual votes by absentee ballot. Statutes typically require an individual to request an absentee ballot by mail or in person at either the office of a municipal clerk or alternate sites approved by municipal governing bodies. After receiving an absentee ballot and selecting candidates, statutes require an individual to sign the certificate and a witness to print his or her name, provide his or her address, and sign the certificate. Statutes require a certificate to be mailed by the individual, or delivered in person, to the municipal clerk who issued the absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day by poll workers at polling places or central locations in certain municipalities.

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Figure 5

Typical Process for Voting by Absentee Ballot, as Statutorily Required



When requesting absentee ballots, statutes require that individuals provide photo identification, unless individuals:

- are indefinitely confined because of age, physical illness, or infirmity, or they are disabled for indefinite periods of time;
- are residents of a residential care facility or qualified retirement home voting in the presence of special voting deputies;
- are serving in the military or vote overseas; or
- previously voted absentee, provided photo identification, and have not changed their names or addresses since then.

November 2020 General Election

Considerably more absentee ballots were cast in the November 2020 General Election than had been cast in the November 2016 General Election.

Considerably more absentee ballots were cast in the November 2020 General Election than had been cast in the November 2016 General Election. We found that:

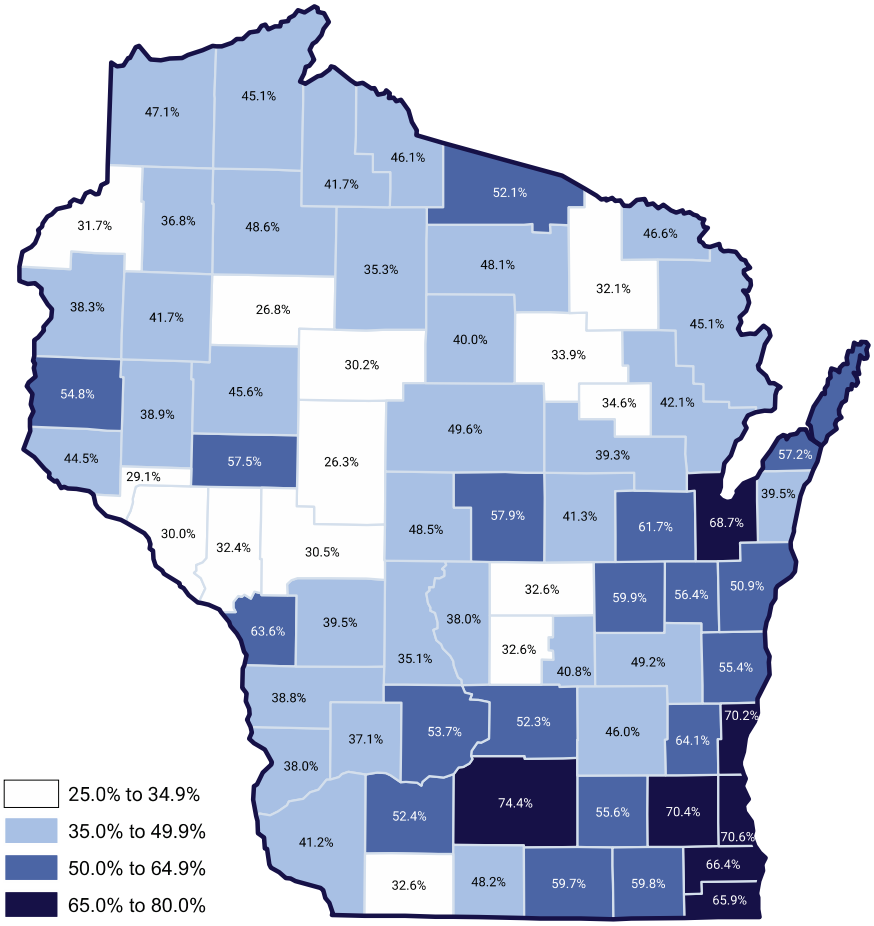
- in November 2016, 819,316 absentee ballots were cast, which was 27.3 percent of all ballots cast; and
- in November 2020, 1,963,954 absentee ballots were cast, which was 59.6 percent of all ballots cast.

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Figure 6 shows absentee ballots as a proportion of all ballots cast in each county in the November 2020 General Election. Dane County had the highest proportion of absentee ballots (74.4 percent), while Clark County had the lowest proportion (26.3 percent).

Figure 6

Absentee Ballots as a Proportion of All Ballots Cast, by County[1]
November 2020 General Election



[1] According to information in WisVote as of September 2021.

In February 2021, WEC used WisVote information to report that 4,270 of all absentee ballots in the November 2020 General Election (0.2 percent of all absentee ballots returned) were rejected. These ballots were rejected for a variety of reasons, including because the certificates were incomplete, the ballots were returned after Election Day, or

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individuals voted in person at polling places on Election Day after having returned absentee ballots.

Absentee Ballot Certificates

Before providing an absentee ballot, statutes typically require a municipal clerk to verify that an individual provided valid identification. Statutes typically require an individual to complete an absentee ballot in the presence of an adult witness who is a U.S. citizen.

An absentee ballot certificate must include the signature of the individual who cast the ballot, and a witness must write his or her printed name, address, and signature.

Section 6.87 (2), Wis. Stats., requires a certificate to include the address and signature of the individual who cast the ballot, and it requires a witness to write his or her printed name, address, and signature on the certificate. Statutes do not specify which components, such as a street name and number, an address must include. Statutes include provisions pertaining to an improperly completed or incomplete certificate that an individual returns to a municipal clerk, including:

- s. 6.87 (9), Wis. Stats., which indicates that a clerk may return a ballot and its certificate if an individual is able to correct an improperly completed certificate and return the ballot in time for it to be counted on Election Day, but statutes do not otherwise permit or prohibit clerks from correcting errors in witness addresses or adding missing witness address information; and

- s. 6.87 (6d), Wis. Stats., which indicates that a ballot shall not be counted if its accompanying certificate does not have a witness address.

Section 5.01 (1), Wis. Stats., indicates that elections-related requirements should be construed to give effect to the will of electors, even when full compliance with some statutory provisions does not occur. Section 6.84 (2), Wis. Stats., indicates that notwithstanding s. 5.01 (1), Wis. Stats., the statutory provisions that require certificates to have witness addresses are mandatory, and the ballots accompanying certificates that are missing this information shall not be counted. Section 6.84 (2), Wis. Stats., similarly indicates that ballots accompanying certificates without voter or witness signatures shall not be counted during a recount.

In October 2016, WEC approved written guidance indicating that municipal clerks must take action to correct errors in the witness addresses on certificates.

In October 2016, WEC approved written guidance indicating that municipal clerks must take action to correct errors in the witness addresses on certificates. This guidance indicated that clerks were not required to contact the individuals who cast the ballots but were required to include their initials next to any corrections they made to witness addresses. This guidance also indicated that a complete address must include at least a street name and number as well as a municipality. In October 2020, WEC's staff updated this guidance to indicate that clerks should attempt to resolve any missing witness

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address information before Election Day, and this can be done by using reliable information, such as personal knowledge, voter registration information, or a telephone call with a voter or witness. The guidance indicates that a witness does not need to appear in person to add a missing address. If certificates did not have signatures or contained other errors, the updated guidance indicated that clerks must require the individuals who cast the ballots or the witnesses to resolve these issues.

Our April 2021 survey asked municipal clerks whether they had received for the November 2020 General Election any certificates with missing information. In response, 507 clerks (58.9 percent) indicated that they had received certificates with missing information, 324 clerks (37.6 percent) indicated that they had not received such certificates, and 30 clerks (3.5 percent) indicated that they were uncertain whether they had received such certificates.

Municipal clerks indicated that they took various actions when they received certificates that did not have some or all components of witness addresses.

We contacted 21 municipal clerks about actions they took when they received certificates with missing information. All but one clerk indicated that they contacted the individuals who cast the ballots in order to allow them the opportunity to provide missing witness addresses. These clerks indicated that they took various actions when they received certificates that did not have some or all components of witness addresses. For example:

- 10 clerks indicated that they did not write any components of witness addresses on the certificates;
- 8 clerks indicated that they wrote components of witness addresses on the certificates;
- 2 clerks indicated that they accepted ballots returned in certificates that did not have any components of witness addresses; and
- 1 clerk indicated having rejected a certificate that did not have a witness address because the certificate was received the day before the election, which left too little time to obtain the missing address.

Statutes do not require municipal clerks to verify the signatures of individuals who cast absentee ballots. We reviewed information from 30 states where election officials verify signatures and found that ballot signatures are compared to signatures on other documents, such as absentee ballot applications, voter registration forms, and driver's licenses. Six of the 30 states specify criteria for verifying signatures, such as the writing slant, letter spacing, and letter shapes. In 28 of the 30 states, election officials notify individuals if their signatures are not verified, and 2 states require election officials to be trained to verify signatures. As noted, we found that WEC did not comply with statutes that require it to obtain from DOT the signatures of individuals who register online to vote.

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Review of Certificates

To determine the extent to which the certificates of absentee ballots cast for the November 2020 General Election contained statutorily required information, we selected certificates in 29 municipalities, including:

- 9 of the 10 municipalities where the most absentee ballots were cast, other than the City of Madison, which did not allow us to physically handle certificates;
- the 10 municipalities where absentee ballots made up the largest proportions of the total ballots cast; and
- 10 municipalities we chose at random from counties other than those in which the other 19 municipalities were located.

The certificates we reviewed included spaces for individuals to sign their names, and for witnesses to write their addresses and signatures. The certificate that WEC made available to municipalities statewide to use in the November 2020 General Election did not include spaces for witnesses to print their names, as required by statutes.

We physically reviewed 14,710 certificates in 29 municipalities.

We physically reviewed 14,710 certificates in the 29 municipalities, where a total of 470,028 absentee ballots were cast in the November 2020 General Election. We reviewed a random sample of certificates from 20 municipalities, all or almost all certificates from 8 municipalities, and a large number of certificates from 1 municipality. Because of the size of our random sample of certificates that we reviewed in the 20 municipalities, we can reasonably expect that the results of our review for a given municipality are representative of all certificates in that municipality during the November 2020 General Election. However, because we did not examine certificates other than in the 29 municipalities, we cannot reasonably expect that the results of our review are representative of certificates in municipalities statewide. Appendix 4 lists the 29 municipalities and selected results of our review of certificates.

Our review found that some certificates had incomplete witness addresses or did not have some statutorily required information.

Our review of the 14,710 certificates found that:

- 1,022 certificates (6.9 percent) in 28 municipalities had partial witness addresses because they did not have one or more components of a witness address, such as a street name, municipality, state, and zip code, including 799 certificates (5.4 percent) that did not have a zip code and 364 certificates (2.5 percent) that did not have a state;

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- 15 certificates (0.1 percent) in 10 municipalities did not have a witness address in its entirety;
- 8 certificates (less than 0.1 percent) in 7 municipalities did not have a witness signature; and
- 3 certificates (less than 0.1 percent) in 2 municipalities did not have a voter's signature.

Our review of the 14,710 certificates found evidence that municipal clerks had corrected witness addresses on 66 certificates (0.4 percent). This evidence included clerk initials or pen marks in the ink colors that clerks had indicated were used to make corrections. As noted, WEC's written guidance in October 2016 indicated that clerks must include their initials next to any corrections to witness addresses.

On Election Day, poll workers remove the returned ballots from certificates, which are retained separately from the ballots. As a result, almost all certificates we reviewed no longer contained ballots. However, we found 17 certificates in 3 of the 29 municipalities contained absentee ballots. Clerks in these three municipalities indicated that the corresponding ballots were likely not counted on Election Day because of oversights. Most of these 17 certificates were not in the 14,710 certificates in our sample.

We question whether clerks in four municipalities consistently complied with the statutory requirement for them to initial certificates in certain situations.

Statutes require municipal clerks to write their initials on certificates in certain situations, including when individuals request absentee ballots in person at clerk offices. These initials indicate that clerks verified the identification provided by these individuals when they requested absentee ballots. Statutes indicate that a ballot must not be counted if the accompanying certificate is not initialed by a clerk, when such initials are required. In contrast, statutes do not require clerks to write their initials on certificates accompanying absentee ballots requested online by individuals. Such individuals are statutorily required to provide clerks with a copy of their photo identification. During our review of the 14,710 certificates, we found that less than 1.0 percent of all certificates we reviewed in four municipalities contained clerk initials. Clerks at these municipalities indicated that they did not initial certificates for multiple reasons, including because the individuals who requested the ballots were registered and eligible to receive them; the clerks printed the names and addresses of the individuals on the certificates to signify the individuals were eligible to receive the ballots; and the clerks initialed the ballots rather than the certificates. We question whether the clerks in these four municipalities consistently complied with the statutory requirement for them to initial certificates in certain situations.

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Election Day Forms

Statutes require poll workers to complete a form that contains certain information.

Statutes require poll workers to complete a form that contains certain information, including the number of individuals on the poll list and the number of ballots returned. These forms also contain incident logs, where poll workers can describe election-related occurrences at polling places, such as ballots remade by workers and absentee ballots rejected by poll workers. County clerks typically retain these forms after an election.

We selected a random sample of 319 municipalities and requested that the relevant county clerks provide us with all forms that poll workers in these municipalities completed on Election Day in November 2020 at polling places other than central count locations, which is where some municipalities specify that all absentee ballots are counted on Election Day. The 319 municipalities are located in 69 counties and listed in Appendix 5. We received forms for all 319 municipalities.

In the 319 municipalities in our review, the forms we reviewed indicated that 2,187 ballots (0.6 percent) were remade and 231 absentee ballots (less than 0.1 percent) were rejected.

Poll workers are required by statutes to remake ballots if, for example, the electronic voting equipment cannot read ballots in poor condition, individuals select more candidates than allowed in a given contest, or individuals who are in the military or overseas return electronic ballots. When a ballot is remade, poll workers are statutorily required to complete a new ballot that reflects the choices made on the original ballot. Poll workers may reject absentee ballots if, for example, the accompanying certificates are incomplete or the voters who returned them died before Election Day. The 571 forms we reviewed indicated that a total of 392,177 ballots were cast in the 319 municipalities, including:

- 2,187 ballots (0.6 percent) remade in 146 municipalities; and
- 231 absentee ballots (less than 0.1 percent) rejected in 78 municipalities.

Improved Procedures

WEC's staff should work with WEC to ensure the certificates made available to municipalities comply with statutes by requiring witnesses to print their names, which will allow municipal clerks to more readily identify the witnesses. WEC's staff should provide municipal clerks with additional training on the statutory requirement to initial certificates in certain situations. If WEC believes that clerks should be permitted to correct or add missing witness addresses on certificates, WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules to permit clerks to take such actions. Promulgating administrative rules allows the Governor and the Legislature to participate in the process of determining how clerks are to act when they receive certificates that do not have statutorily required information, and administrative rules carry the force of law.

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☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *ensure that the absentee ballot certificates made available to municipalities comply with statutes by requiring witnesses to print their names;*
- *provide municipal clerks with additional training on the statutory requirement to initial absentee ballot certificates in certain situations;*
- *promulgate administrative rules to allow municipal clerks to correct or add missing witness address information to absentee ballot certificates, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be permitted to take such actions; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

Issues for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to specify the particular address components that a witness must provide on a certificate.

As noted, statutes do not define the components of a witness address that a certificate must contain, such as a street name and number, municipality, state, and zip code. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to specify the particular address components that a witness must provide on a certificate. For example, witnesses could be required to provide, at a minimum, street names and numbers, as well as their municipalities. Such a definition would allow an absentee ballot to be counted if a witness address excluded a state and a zip code.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to clarify whether municipal clerks themselves can correct errors in witness addresses or add missing witness address information.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to clarify the extent to which municipal clerks are permitted themselves to correct errors in witness addresses or add missing witness address information. As noted, statutes allow a clerk to return a ballot and its certificate if an individual is able to correct an improperly completed certificate and return the ballot in time for it to be counted on Election Day, but statutes do not otherwise permit or prohibit clerks from correcting errors in witness addresses or adding missing witness address information.

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The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require municipal clerks to verify the signatures of individuals who cast absentee ballots.

As noted, statutes require a certificate to include the signature of the individual who cast the ballot. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require municipal clerks to verify the signatures of individuals who cast absentee ballots. In doing so, it could specify the documents that clerks should use to verify these signatures, such as voter registration forms and driver's licenses, and the methods that clerks should use to verify these signatures, such as examining the writing slant, letter spacing, and letter shapes. In addition, it could require clerks to be trained on how to verify signatures.

Collection of Absentee Ballots

Statutes require a certificate to be mailed by the individual, or delivered in person, to the municipal clerk who issued the ballot.

As noted, statutes require a certificate to be mailed by the individual, or delivered in person, to the municipal clerk who issued the ballot. Statutes allow a municipal governing body to designate a site other than a municipal clerk's office as the location where individuals may request, vote, and return absentee ballots for a given election. If such a site is designated, no functions related to voting and returning absentee ballots that are conducted at such a site may be conducted at a clerk's office. Statutes do not permit or prohibit ballot drop boxes.

In March 2020, WEC's staff issued written guidance indicating that municipal clerks can allow individuals to return absentee ballots to drop boxes that are secure, monitored, and emptied regularly, or return the ballots through mail slots at municipal facilities and book return slots at municipal libraries, as long as clerks collected such ballots daily. In July 2020, WEC's staff issued written guidance indicating that alternate sites for requesting, voting, and returning absentee ballots could be established according to the statutory requirements.

Drop Boxes

In response to our survey, 245 municipal clerks indicated that they used drop boxes for the November 2020 General Election.

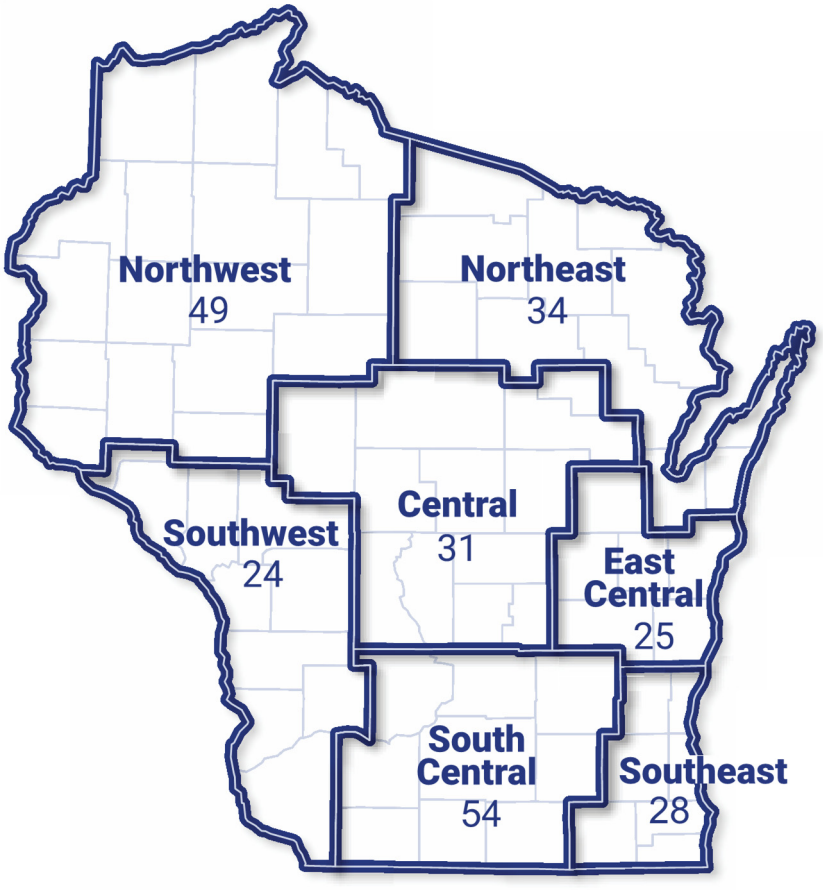
Our survey asked municipal clerks to indicate whether they used drop boxes, other than mail slots at municipal facilities, to collect absentee ballots for the November 2020 General Election. In response to our survey:

- 610 clerks (71.3 percent) indicated that they did not use drop boxes; and
- 245 clerks (28.7 percent) indicated that they used drop boxes, and the municipalities of these clerks were located throughout the state, as shown in Figure 7.

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Figure 7

Number of Municipalities That Used Ballot Drop Boxes, by Region[1]
November 2020 General Election



[1] As indicated by 245 municipal clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

A total of 26 of the 47 municipal clerks we contacted indicated that they used drop boxes, municipal return slots, or similar receptacles for the November 2020 General Election. We found that:

- 25 clerks indicated that absentee ballots were collected from drop boxes at least daily, and 1 clerk indicated that ballots were collected three times per week from a drop box that was locked and under surveillance;
- 25 clerks indicated that their drop boxes were locked or had tamper-evident seals; and
- 14 clerks indicated that they used camera or local law enforcement surveillance to monitor their drop boxes.

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Information from the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) indicates that 11 states, which are listed in Appendix 9, allowed drop boxes as of September 2020. In June 2021, a law firm asked the Waukesha County Circuit Court for a declaratory judgement that statutes do not allow drop boxes. As of September 2021, the court had not issued its decision.

If WEC believes that municipal clerks should be permitted to establish drop boxes where individuals can return absentee ballots, WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules to permit clerks to establish them. Such rules could establish minimum requirements for securing the drop boxes, as well as prescribe where clerks could locate drop boxes and how frequently clerks would be required to collect absentee ballots from drop boxes. Promulgating administrative rules allows the Governor and the Legislature to participate in the process of determining how individuals can return absentee ballots, and administrative rules carry the force of law.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *promulgate administrative rules to permit municipal clerks to establish drop boxes where individuals can return absentee ballots, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be permitted to establish drop boxes; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

Special Events

Media reports indicated that at least one clerk collected absentee ballots at specified outdoor locations before the November 2020 General Election. Our survey asked municipal clerks to indicate whether they had held events at sites other than their offices to collect absentee ballots for the General Election. In response:

- 842 clerks (98.5 percent) indicated that they had not held such events; and

- 13 clerks (1.5 percent) indicated that they had held such events.

We contacted 11 municipal clerks about events at sites other than their offices to collect absentee ballots. Some clerks, particularly in smaller municipalities, indicated that they did not have offices in municipal buildings and performed election-related duties in their homes. To minimize the number of individuals in their homes during the public

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health emergency, some clerks indicated that they had conducted in-person absentee voting at locations other than their homes. None of the 11 clerks indicated that their municipal governing bodies had designated alternate sites for in-person absentee voting. Among the 11 clerks:

- 7 clerks indicated that they had held special events at sites other than their offices, and individuals could return absentee ballots at these events;
- 4 clerks indicated that they had held special events at sites other than their offices, and individuals could both request and return absentee ballots at these events;
- 1 clerk indicated having conducted in-person absentee voting at the clerk's home, which was not the clerk's office; and
- 1 clerk indicated having conducted in-person absentee voting by visiting the homes of individuals who requested ballots.

Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to clarify whether individuals are allowed to return absentee ballots to drop boxes.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to clarify whether individuals are allowed to return absentee ballots to drop boxes. Some individuals believe that statutes allow absentee ballots to be returned to drop boxes or in person to clerk staff at locations other than a clerk's office, regardless of whether a municipal governing body established such locations. They believe that these actions are statutorily allowable because individuals requested ballots by statutorily allowable methods, the drop boxes were established by clerks, and clerk staff collected the ballots. Other individuals believe that statutes do not allow absentee ballots to be returned through drop boxes or to clerk staff at locations other than those designated by a municipal governing body.

Indefinitely Confined Individuals

Statutes allow individuals to sign statements indicating they are indefinitely confined because of age, physical illness, or infirmity.

Statutes allow individuals to sign statements indicating they are indefinitely confined because of age, physical illness, or infirmity, or because they are disabled for an indefinite period. Such individuals are not required to provide proof of their identification in order to receive absentee ballots. Instead, statutes allow them to submit signed statements from witnesses who observed them voting their ballots. These statements must contain the names and addresses of the individuals and verify the accuracy of this information.

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The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that individuals must decide, based on their age, physical illness, or infirmity, whether they are indefinitely confined.

In March 2020, WEC provided guidance to municipal clerks indicating that indefinitely confined designations are determined by individuals and are based on their circumstances, do not require permanent or total inability to travel outside of the home, and should not be used in order to avoid providing photo identification for voting. On December 14, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that individuals must decide, based on their age, physical illness, or infirmity, whether they are indefinitely confined.

Statutes require municipal clerks to automatically send absentee ballots to all indefinitely confined individuals unless:

- an individual does not cast and return an absentee ballot for a given election and does not respond within 30 days to a letter or a postcard mailed by a clerk;
- an individual requests to no longer be considered to be indefinitely confined; or
- a clerk receives reliable information that an individual is no longer indefinitely confined.

In the November 2020 General Election, 220,404 indefinitely confined individuals voted, including 169,901 individuals who first indicated in 2020 that they were indefinitely confined.

As shown in Table 6, 220,404 indefinitely confined individuals voted in the November 2020 General Election, including 169,901 individuals (77.1 percent) who first indicated in 2020 that they were indefinitely confined. We found that 1,001 individuals first indicated for the November 2020 General Election that they were indefinitely confined but, in fact, voted at the polls on November 3, 2020. Because these individuals were not indefinitely confined on Election Day, they are not included in the table.

Table 6

Indefinitely Confined Individuals Who Voted in the November 2020 General Election, by the Year When They First Indicated They Were Indefinitely Confined[1]

Year	Number of Individuals	Percentage of Total
Before 2016	16,573	7.5%
2016	12,658	5.7
2017	2,928	1.3
2018	13,840	6.3
2019	4,504	2.0
2020	169,901	77.1
Total	**220,404**	**100.0%**

[1] According to WEC's data.

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A total of 171,850 of the 220,404 indefinitely confined individuals (78.0 percent) had previously provided photo identification.

WEC's data indicated that 171,850 of the 220,404 indefinitely confined individuals (78.0 percent) had previously provided photo identification. According to WEC's data, the remaining 48,554 individuals (22.0 percent) had not previously voted by methods that required them to have provided photo identification or did not have photo identifications on file with clerks. These data indicated the locations from which 44,272 of the 48,554 individuals (91.2 percent) voted during the November 2020 General Election. We found that these individuals voted from each county in the state, as shown in Appendix 10.

Our survey asked municipal clerks to indicate whether they had sent absentee ballots to indefinitely confined individuals for the November 2020 General Election. In response to our survey:

- 829 clerks (95.6 percent) indicated that they had sent absentee ballots to indefinitely confined individuals;
- 36 clerks (4.2 percent) indicated that they had not sent ballots to such individuals; and
- 2 clerks (0.2 percent) indicated that they were uncertain whether they had sent ballots to such individuals.

We contacted seven municipal clerks regarding their perspectives on indefinite confinement and found that:

- four clerks indicated they had contacted individuals to verify their indefinitely confined status;
- two clerks indicated certain individuals who claimed indefinite confinement status did not meet the requirement, but they did not contact these individuals before sending them absentee ballots; and
- one clerk indicated postcards were not mailed to indefinitely confined individuals who had not returned absentee ballots in prior elections and, as a result, these individuals automatically received absentee ballots for the November 2020 General Election.

Information from NCSL indicated that nine other states, which are listed in Appendix 11, allow individuals with certain disabilities to automatically receive absentee ballots. Some states require physicians to verify that certain individuals are eligible to automatically receive absentee ballots, and states use various methods to determine when individuals are no longer eligible.

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Special Voting Deputies

Statutes set forth the exclusive means of absentee voting in person in residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes.

Statutes set forth the exclusive means of absentee voting in person in residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes. A municipal clerk must appoint at least two special voting deputies to supervise absentee voting by individuals living in such facilities and homes, a clerk is required to send deputies to each such facility and home where five or more individuals live and are registered to vote, and deputies must arrange one or more visits to each such facility and home. Instead of providing proof of identification, individuals may submit statements that verify their names and addresses, and both deputies must sign the statements. The individuals must vote in the presence of the deputies. A clerk may send an absentee ballot to an individual who is unable to vote during two separate visits by the deputies.

In March 2020, WEC's staff issued written guidance indicating that municipal clerks should not send special voting deputies to facilities and homes but should instead mail absentee ballots to individuals living in such facilities and homes. WEC's staff did so based on WEC's interpretation that the deputies were "non-essential" individuals prohibited from visiting facilities and homes as a result of Executive Order 72 and DHS directives pertaining to the public health emergency. In May 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court blocked an extension of DHS's "Safer at Home" directive.

Written guidance that WEC provided to municipal clerks in June 2020 did not comply with statutes.

In June 2020, WEC's staff recommended to WEC a motion to direct municipal clerks to contact facilities and homes in order to determine if special voting deputies would be permitted entry. In June 2020, WEC directed clerks not to send or attempt to send deputies to facilities and homes for the remainder of 2020. Instead, WEC directed clerks to mail absentee ballots to individuals living in these facilities and homes who requested the ballots. WEC's written guidance provided to clerks in June 2020, as well as the written guidance that WEC's staff had provided to clerks in March 2020, did not comply with statutes.

Our survey asked municipal clerks to indicate whether they tried to send special voting deputies to facilities or homes before the November 2020 General Election. In response to our survey:

- 502 clerks (58.8 percent) indicated that they did not have such facilities or homes in their municipalities;
- 342 clerks (40.0 percent) indicated that they had not tried to send deputies to such facilities and homes; and
- 10 clerks (1.2 percent) indicated that they had attempted to send deputies to such facilities and homes.

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We contacted nine municipal clerks about whether they had attempted to send special voting deputies to facilities or homes before the November 2020 General Election. Seven clerks told us that they had contacted facilities and homes, none of which permitted the deputies to enter, and two of these seven clerks indicated that staff of the facilities and homes helped individuals living there to complete absentee ballots.

In February 2021, the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules determined that WEC's written guidance to municipal clerks not to send special voting deputies to facilities and homes but to instead mail absentee ballots to individuals living there met the definition of a rule. As a result, the Joint Committee directed WEC to promulgate an emergency rule within 30 days. In March 2021, WEC issued new written guidance that directed clerks to contact facilities and homes before the April 2021 Spring Election and determine if deputies would be permitted entry, schedule two televisits with administrators of facilities and homes where deputies would not be permitted entry, and mail absentee ballots to individuals living in such facilities and homes. WEC also directed its staff to create a scope statement for a proposed emergency rule based on the March 2021 guidance. In April 2021, WEC passed a motion to allow this scope statement to expire, in part, because no further statewide elections were scheduled to occur in 2021.

Improved Procedures

If WEC believes clerks should be permitted in certain situations not to send special voting deputies to residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes, WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules to permit clerks to take alternative actions. Promulgating administrative rules allows the Governor and the Legislature to participate in the process of determining how clerks are to provide absentee ballots to individuals living in such facilities and homes, and administrative rules carry the force of law.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *promulgate administrative rules to specify the situations when municipal clerks should not send special voting deputies to residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be permitted to take alternative actions in these situations; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

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Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to prescribe circumstances when clerks are not required to send special voting deputies to facilities and homes.

Currently, statutes require municipal clerks to attempt to send special voting deputies to residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes, regardless of the circumstances. During a public health or other emergency, clerks and special voting deputies may risk disenfranchising individuals living in such facilities and homes if they cannot obtain entry. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to prescribe circumstances when clerks are not required to send special voting deputies to such facilities and homes, as well as the procedures clerks must follow in mailing and considering absentee ballots in such circumstances. In September 2021, WEC voted to request that the Governor categorize special voting deputies as essential visitors, which it indicated would allow the deputies entry into facilities and homes during a public health emergency.

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Ballot Processing

Statutes permit a municipal governing body to specify by ordinance that absentee ballots returned by individuals will be counted on Election Day at a central location.

Statutes permit a municipal governing body to specify by ordinance that absentee ballots returned by individuals will be counted on Election Day at a central location, rather than at each polling place. A municipal clerk, or an election official designated by a municipal or county clerk, must direct all central count proceedings, including counting ballots publicly. During the November 2020 General Election, 39 municipalities counted absentee ballots at central count locations. We contacted the clerks of all 39 municipalities and analyzed the written guidance WEC and its staff provided to clerks. We recommend WEC's staff work with WEC to retract statutorily noncompliant written guidance previously provided to municipal clerks, and WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules if WEC believes clerks should be permitted to take certain actions. We also include two issues for legislative consideration.

Central Count Locations

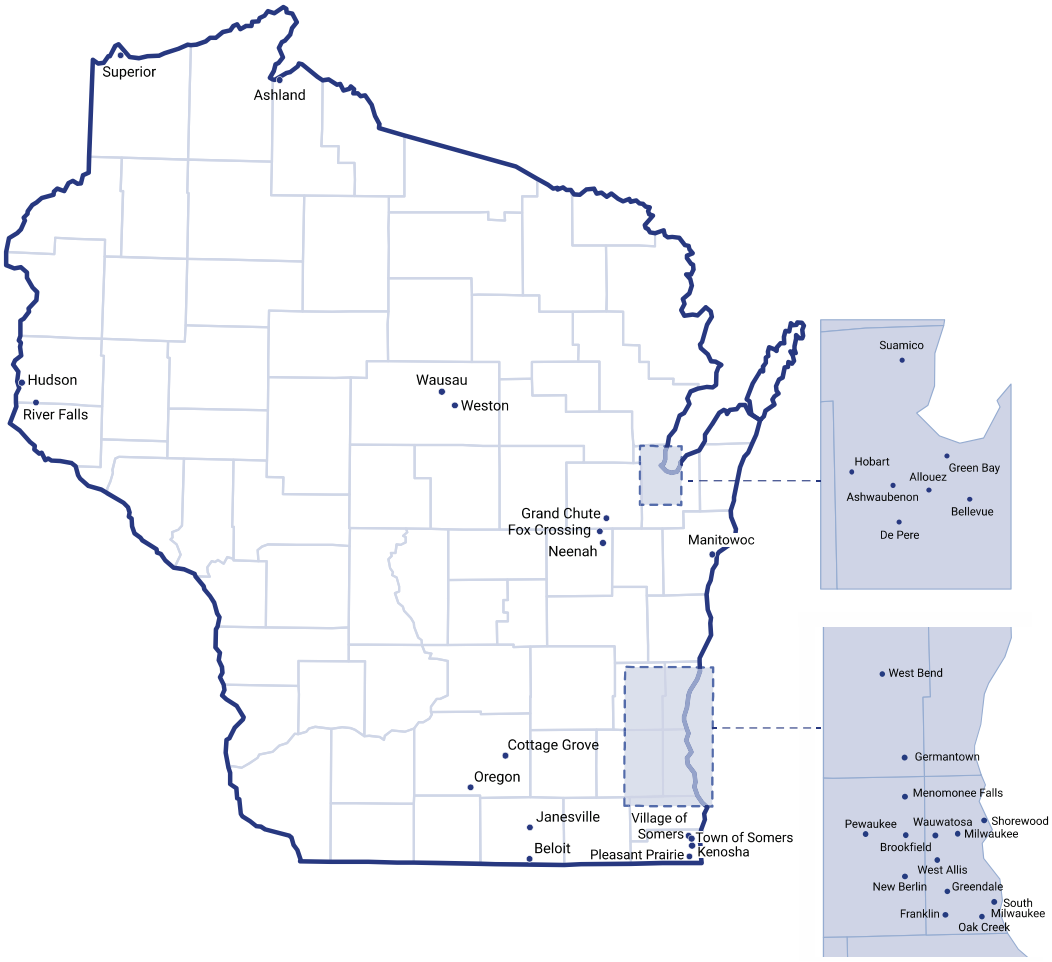
During the November 2020 General Election, 39 municipalities used central count locations.

Figure 8 shows the 39 municipalities that used central count locations during the November 2020 General Election. Municipal clerks indicated that 32 of the 39 municipalities authorized central count locations in 2016 or later, including 8 municipalities that authorized them in 2020.

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000508

Figure 8

Municipalities That Used Central Count Locations
November 2020 General Election



Election Day Forms

For the 39 municipalities that used central count locations, we reviewed 662 Election Day forms that poll workers completed for the November 2020 General Election for their central count locations. As noted, poll workers are required by statutes to remake ballots if, for example, the electronic voting equipment cannot read ballots in poor condition, individuals select more candidates than allowed in a given contest, or individuals who are in the military or overseas return electronic ballots. Absentee ballots may also be rejected on Election Day if, for example, the accompanying certificates are incomplete.

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For the November 2020 General Election, 12,237 absentee ballots (1.4 percent) were remade in the 39 central count municipalities.

The 662 Election Day forms indicated that 12,237 ballots were remade at central count locations in the 39 municipalities during the November 2020 General Election, which was approximately 1.4 percent of all ballots cast in these municipalities. This proportion was higher than the 0.6 percent of all ballots remade in our sample of 319 municipalities. This higher proportion may be explained, in part, because individuals who vote in person at polling places are allowed to spoil their ballots and recast them, whereas poll workers at central count facilities processed only absentee ballots.

Central count poll workers in 2 municipalities remade considerably larger proportions of ballots than poll workers in the other 37 municipalities. We found that central count poll workers in the:

- Town of Grand Chute in Outagamie County remade 2,249 absentee ballots, which was approximately 16.3 percent of all ballots cast in the municipality. The Outagamie County clerk indicated to WEC's staff that they had encountered an issue when printing absentee ballots, which caused the ballots to be completely unreadable when inserted into electronic voting equipment. As a result, poll workers remade the ballots.

- City of West Bend remade 1,881 absentee ballots, which was approximately 10.3 percent of all ballots cast in the municipality. The municipal clerk indicated to us that creases in the absentee ballots caused the electronic voting equipment to register over-votes, which occur when a ballot includes more votes than allowed for a given contest. As a result of these over-votes, poll workers remade the ballots.

For the November 2020 General Election, 633 absentee ballots (less than 0.1 percent) were rejected in 33 of the 39 central count municipalities.

The 662 Election Day forms indicated that 633 absentee ballots were rejected at central count locations in 33 of the 39 municipalities during the November 2020 General Election, which was less than 0.1 percent of the total ballots cast in these 33 municipalities. This proportion was similar to the proportion that poll workers rejected in our previously described sample of 319 municipalities.

Ballot Security

Municipal clerks indicated that central count locations used a variety of security measures on Election Day. A total of 23 municipal clerks indicated that cameras, locked doors, and vaults provided security. In addition, 30 clerks indicated either that law enforcement officers had offices at or patrolled the central count locations, or that these locations were in municipal halls, which the clerks believed increased the level of security.

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Absentee ballots returned by individuals are stored in the offices of municipal clerks before Election Day. Absentee ballots must be transported to a central count location on Election Day if such a location is separate from a clerk's office. Thirteen of the 39 municipal clerks indicated that the central count locations in November 2020 were separate from their municipal halls, although all 13 clerks indicated that these locations were within 15 minutes of travel time from their offices. Among the 13 clerks:

- 6 clerks indicated that they transported the absentee ballots to the central count locations;
- 6 clerks indicated that their staff, municipal employees, or poll workers transported the ballots; and
- 1 clerk indicated that law enforcement officers transported the ballots.

Poll Workers

Statutes require at least five poll workers to serve at each polling place. Poll workers maintain order, ensure that ballot boxes and poll lists are secure, and ensure that electronic voting equipment works properly. To help address poll worker shortages in 2020, WEC requested assistance from the National Guard.

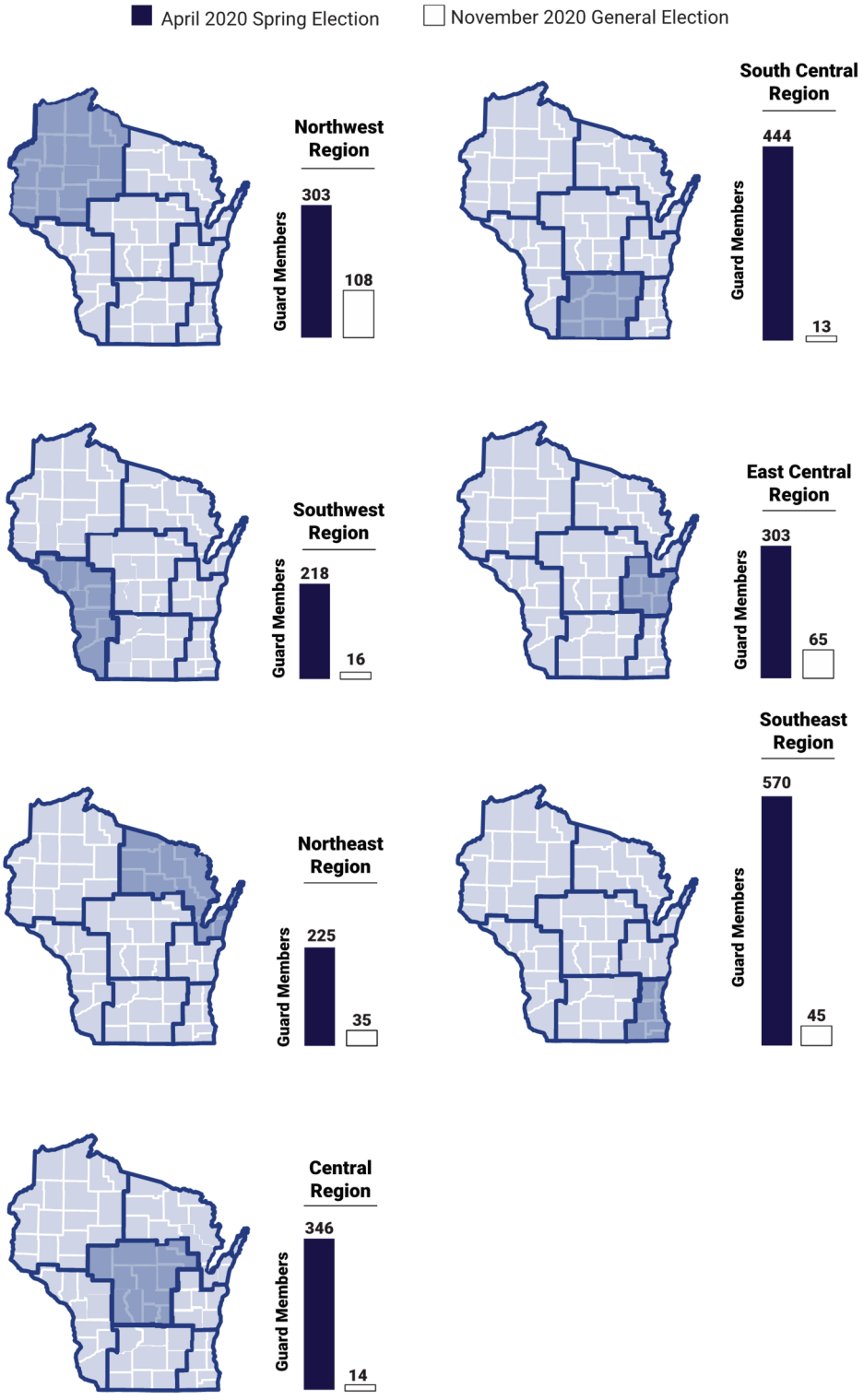
During four elections and primaries in 2020, 3,482 National Guard members worked at polling places in 71 counties.

Data provided by WEC's staff indicated that a total of 3,482 National Guard members worked at polling places in 71 counties during four elections and primaries from April 2020 through November 2020, including 2,409 members in April 2020 and 296 members in November 2020. A given member may have worked at multiple elections. Figure 9 shows the number of National Guard members who worked in each of seven regions in the April 2020 Spring Election and in the November 2020 General Election.

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Figure 9

National Guard Members Who Worked at Polling Places, by Region[1]
April 2020 Spring Election and November 2020 General Election



[1] According to data provided by WEC's staff.

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Statutes permit certain individuals other than poll workers to be present at polling places and central count locations. For example, a municipal governing body may authorize a municipal clerk to employ individuals to help count ballots, and trained technicians needed to operate automatic tabulating equipment may be present at central count locations. All proceedings at a central count location must be open to the public, but no individual other than those employed and authorized may touch any ballot, certificate, or electronic voting equipment. Statutes do not specify the actions and responsibilities that consultants are allowed to take at polling places and central count locations on Election Day.

Consultants associated with non-profit organizations worked at the central count locations in 2 of the 39 municipalities during the November 2020 General Election.

We asked the clerks of all 39 municipalities whether consultants worked at central count locations during the November 2020 General Election. Clerks indicated that consultants associated with non-profit organizations worked at the central count locations in 2 of the 39 municipalities. Specifically:

- One municipality indicated that a consultant attended the August 2020 primary as an observer, helped to modify the municipality's election training materials from August 2020 until October 2020, and was at the central count location on Election Day in November 2020 to provide technical assistance for electronic voting equipment. The municipality indicated that at least five poll workers monitored such assistance at all times.

- A second municipality indicated that a consultant provided logistical support and offered elections administration recommendations but did not have the authority to make decisions and did not count ballots. The municipality indicated that the consultant initially wore a city employee identification badge at the central count location on Election Day in November 2020 but subsequently became an observer after the deputy clerk spoke with WEC's administrator about this individual.

Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to specify the actions and responsibilities for consultants at polling places and central count locations on Election Day.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to specify the actions and responsibilities for consultants at polling places and central count locations on Election Day. For example, statutes could specify the particular actions that consultants are permitted to take, as well as the responsibilities that they are allowed to assume while helping municipal clerks to administer elections.

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Ballot Counting

Statutes require election officials to count ballots without adjourning until the counting is completed.

Regardless of whether a municipality uses a central count location, statutes require election officials to count ballots without adjourning until the counting is completed. Within two hours of completing such counting on Election Night, municipalities must report the results to the relevant county clerks.

Written guidance that WEC's staff provided to municipal clerks in October 2020 did not comply with statutes.

Because of the increased number of absentee ballots submitted in 2020, municipal clerks expressed concerns about their ability to count ballots without adjourning. In March 2020, WEC's staff issued written guidance indicating that clerks unable to count all absentee ballots on Election Day could reconvene the following morning. In April 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that all absentee ballots postmarked by Election Day for the Spring Election were valid, even if clerks did not receive them until after Election Day. In October 2020, WEC's staff issued written guidance indicating that although statutes do not permit adjourning while counting ballots and that clerks should complete all required tasks before adjourning on Election Night, inevitable circumstances may occur that require adjourning until the following day. This written guidance did not comply with statutes.

None of the clerks of the 39 municipalities with central count locations indicated to us that they had adjourned before having counted all ballots after the polls closed for the November 2020 General Election. Nevertheless, the potential exists that clerks could adjourn from counting ballots in future elections, based on written guidance from WEC's staff.

WEC's staff should retract their statutorily noncompliant written guidance indicating that although clerks should complete all required tasks before adjourning on Election Night, inevitable circumstances may occur that require adjourning until the following day. If WEC believes certain circumstances may justify adjourning before ballot counting is completed, WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules to permit adjourning. Promulgating administrative rules allows the Governor and the Legislature to participate in the process of determining how clerks are to count ballots, and administrative rules carry the force of law.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *retract their statutorily noncompliant written guidance that indicates municipal clerks may adjourn before counting all ballots as a result of inevitable circumstances;*

- *promulgate administrative rules to allow municipal clerks to adjourn in certain circumstances before*

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completing ballot counting, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be allowed to adjourn in these circumstances; and

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on its efforts to implement these recommendations.*

Polling Places

Statutes require a municipal governing body to establish polling places at least 30 days before an election.

Statutes require a municipal governing body to establish polling places at least 30 days before an election. In March 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 72, which directed DHS to take all necessary and appropriate measures to respond to the public health emergency. DHS subsequently issued directives that barred nonessential individuals from visiting nursing homes and other licensed care facilities, where polling places are often located.

Written guidance that WEC provided to municipal clerks in March 2020 did not comply with statutes.

In March 2020, WEC approved written guidance indicating that municipal clerks can relocate polling places without approval from municipal governing bodies. Because Executive Order 72 had been issued less than 30 days before the April 2020 election, WEC's staff indicated that clerks needed the flexibility to quickly establish new polling places and ensure that individuals were not disenfranchised because nursing homes and licensed care facilities were closed to the public. As of August 2021, WEC had not retracted or modified its written guidance, even though municipal governing bodies have had the opportunity since March 2020 to establish new polling places that are open to the public.

WEC's staff should work with WEC to retract the statutorily noncompliant written guidance that indicates municipal clerks can relocate polling places without approval from municipal governing bodies. If WEC believes that certain circumstances may justify permitting clerks to relocate polling places without approval, such as during a public health or other emergency, WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules to permit quick relocations. Promulgating administrative rules allows the Governor and the Legislature to participate in the process of determining how polling places are located, and administrative rules carry the force of law.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to retract the statutorily noncompliant written guidance for establishing polling places;*

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- *promulgate administrative rules to specify the circumstances when municipal clerks can relocate polling places without approval from municipal governing bodies, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be allowed to relocate polling places in these circumstances; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement these recommendations.*

Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to allow new polling places to be quickly established in certain situations.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to allow new polling places to be quickly established in certain situations, such as in a public health emergency or if a fire or a natural disaster were to damage a polling place to the extent that it could not be used on Election Day. Statutes could specify the situations, if any, in which a municipal clerk could establish polling places without approval from a municipal governing body. For example, a clerk could be given the authority to establish a new polling place for one election if certain types of situations occurred shortly before Election Day. Doing so would help to prevent individuals from being disenfranchised if a polling place were closed shortly before Election Day and insufficient time remained for a municipal governing body to establish a new polling place.

Reconciliation Process

Statutes require municipal clerks to electronically report to WEC certain information no later than 30 days after each primary and each election in which a state or national office is filled.

Statutes require municipal clerks to electronically report to WEC and the relevant county clerk certain information no later than 30 days after each primary and each election in which a state or national office is filled. This information must include the number of individuals who voted, the number who voted by absentee ballot, and the number who registered to vote before or on Election Day. Statutes require WEC to publish and then update this information on its website each month. After polls close on Election Day, poll workers record on the Election Day forms information such as the number of individuals who voted, as determined either by electronic voting equipment or poll workers who hand-counted the ballots. After an election, municipal clerks enter information from these forms into WisVote.

WEC's staff developed a reconciliation process to help municipal clerks accurately report the statutorily required information.

WEC's staff developed a reconciliation process to help municipal clerks accurately report the statutorily required information. WisVote informs clerks if information entered from the Election Day forms is inconsistent with other information in WisVote, such as the number of individuals who voted, and instructs them to determine the reasons for the inconsistencies. If inconsistencies cannot be reconciled, clerks enter into WisVote comments that WEC's staff subsequently review.

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As of September 2021, clerks of:

- 1,679 municipalities (90.8 percent) had entered into WisVote consistent information about the number of individuals who had voted in the November 2020 General Election;

- 164 municipalities (8.9 percent) had not entered into WisVote consistent information pertaining to 0.1 percent of all ballots cast in the General Election; and

- 6 municipalities (0.3 percent) had not entered any of this information into WisVote.

Clerks for 106 of the 164 municipalities entered information indicating that a total of 2,840 more individuals had voted than the number of ballots cast. We reviewed comments that WEC's staff had received from clerks in the three municipalities where the number of individuals who voted exceeded by the largest amounts the number of ballots cast, and we asked WEC's staff to provide us with additional information. These comments and information indicated that:

- poll workers in one municipality did not use a sequential number of voting slips on Election Day, which made the number of individuals who voted erroneously appear to be larger than the number of ballots cast;

- poll workers in a second municipality did not enter information from the Election Day forms into WisVote about the number of absentee ballots cast, although the poll books indicated that the individuals who cast these absentee ballots had voted; and

- poll workers in a third municipality did not count 386 absentee ballots on Election Day, although the poll books indicated that the individuals who cast these absentee ballots had voted. These 386 absentee ballots were counted during the subsequent recount.

Clerks for 58 of the 164 municipalities entered information indicating that a total of 186 more ballots were cast than the number of individuals who signed the poll books. We reviewed comments that WEC's staff had received from clerks in the four municipalities where the number of ballots cast exceeded by the largest amounts the number of individuals who voted. These comments indicated that:

- One municipality reported that 41 more ballots were cast than the number of individuals who

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signed the poll books. After paper jams occurred while electronic voting equipment was counting ballots, poll workers remade ballots that they were uncertain the equipment had counted.

- A second municipality reported that 19 more ballots were cast than the number of individuals who signed the poll books. This occurred, in part, as a result of paper jams. Poll workers erroneously believed that the electronic voting equipment had not counted the ballots before the jams occurred and thus had the equipment count the ballots a second time.

- Two municipalities each reported that 12 more ballots were cast than the number of individuals who signed the poll books. The two clerks indicated that electronic voting equipment issues caused the differences in the number of ballots cast and the number of individuals who signed the poll books. For example, paper jams resulted in one or more ballots being counted twice because poll workers erroneously believed that the equipment had not counted the ballots before the jams occurred and thus had the equipment count the ballots a second time.

The inconsistent information that municipal clerks entered into WisVote represented 0.1 percent of all ballots cast in the November 2020 General Election. Although some of the inconsistencies resulted from administrative errors, such as not entering information in WisVote, other inconsistencies resulted from ballots having not been properly counted on Election Day. Using the knowledge gained from the General Election, WEC's staff should take additional actions to address such circumstances and improve ballot processing in future elections. For example, WEC's staff could provide additional training to clerks.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *take additional actions to improve ballot processing in future elections, such as by providing additional training to clerks; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

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Electronic Voting Equipment

Statutes require WEC to approve the types of electronic voting equipment that municipalities are allowed to use, and statutes require municipal clerks to test the equipment.

Statutes require WEC to approve the types of electronic voting equipment municipalities are allowed to use, and statutes require municipal clerks to test each piece of equipment that will count ballots on Election Day. Municipalities with 7,500 or more residents must use electronic voting equipment, and all municipalities must equip each polling place with accessible voting equipment that permits individuals with disabilities to vote without assistance and with the same degree of privacy afforded to individuals without disabilities. All electronic voting equipment must generate a paper record of all votes cast. We contacted 47 clerks, reviewed 175 statutorily required tests that municipal clerks conducted on the equipment before the November 2020 General Election, and in July 2021 observed the results of the Special Election for the 37th Assembly District being electronically transmitted from polling places to the Dane County clerk's office. We recommend WEC's staff provide additional training to clerks on completing the pre-election tests, reviewing Election Day forms after each election, and investigating relevant issues. We also recommend WEC's staff work with WEC to promulgate statutorily required administrative rules to help ensure the security of software components in equipment. We also include two issues for legislative consideration.

Equipment Approval

Before WEC approves a given type of electronic voting equipment for use in Wisconsin, administrative rules require an equipment's vendor to submit certain documentation, including technical manuals, a list of the states and municipalities where the equipment is approved for use, and reports from an independent testing authority that demonstrate the equipment conforms to Federal Election Commission standards.

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Administrative rules require WEC's staff to conduct three mock elections to ensure the equipment meets statutory requirements, including:

- generating a paper record of all votes cast;
- enabling individuals to vote in secrecy, for candidates from different parties, and for write-in candidates;
- allowing individuals to verify their votes, and change their votes or obtain replacement ballots;
- preventing individuals from voting in the primaries of multiple political parties, for more candidates than a contest permits, or multiple times for the same candidate;
- recording correctly and counting accurately every vote properly cast and maintaining a cumulative tally of votes that is retrievable if a power outage or malfunction occurs; and
- minimizing the possibility of disenfranchising individuals as a result of their inability to understand how the equipment operates.

Our review of the documentation submitted by the vendor of one type of equipment found that it included all information required by administrative rules. WEC's staff reviewed the documentation, tested the equipment, and recommended that WEC approve the equipment. In December 2019, WEC approved the equipment for use in Wisconsin.

Administrative rules allow WEC to convene an advisory panel of local election officials and electors to help it review electronic voting equipment being considered for approval. In April 2021, we observed a meeting of this panel, which reviewed two types of equipment being considered for approval for use in the state. During this meeting, the vendor demonstrated the equipment and responded to questions from panel members, who included municipal clerks. WEC's staff indicated that they used input from panel members, as well as the results of the three required mock elections that they later conducted, when WEC's staff subsequently recommended approval of both types of equipment. In June 2021, WEC approved both types of equipment for use in Wisconsin.

Types of Equipment Used

In November 2020, municipalities used seven types of electronic voting equipment that require individuals to mark their choices on paper ballots and then automatically tabulate these ballots. Municipalities

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also used six types of accessible voting equipment in November 2020, including one type of direct recording equipment that presents individuals with electronic versions of the ballots, presents individuals with paper copies of their completed ballots, and counts their votes electronically. Municipalities that used this type of direct recording equipment hand-counted paper ballots that were not cast on the equipment.

In November 2020, 1,178 municipalities (63.7 percent) used automatic tabulating equipment, and 49 municipalities (2.7 percent) hand-counted all ballots.

Figure 10 shows the extent to which 1,849 municipalities used electronic voting equipment or hand-counted paper ballots in November 2020. A total of 1,178 municipalities (63.7 percent) used automatic tabulating equipment, 622 municipalities (33.6 percent) used direct recording equipment to electronically count some ballots and hand-counted other ballots, and 49 municipalities (2.7 percent) hand-counted all ballots. In recent years, more municipalities began using electronic voting equipment. In report 14-14, we found that 921 municipalities (49.7 percent) used a type of automatic tabulating equipment, 899 municipalities (48.5 percent) hand-counted all ballots, and 32 municipalities (1.7 percent) used direct recording equipment in January 2014.

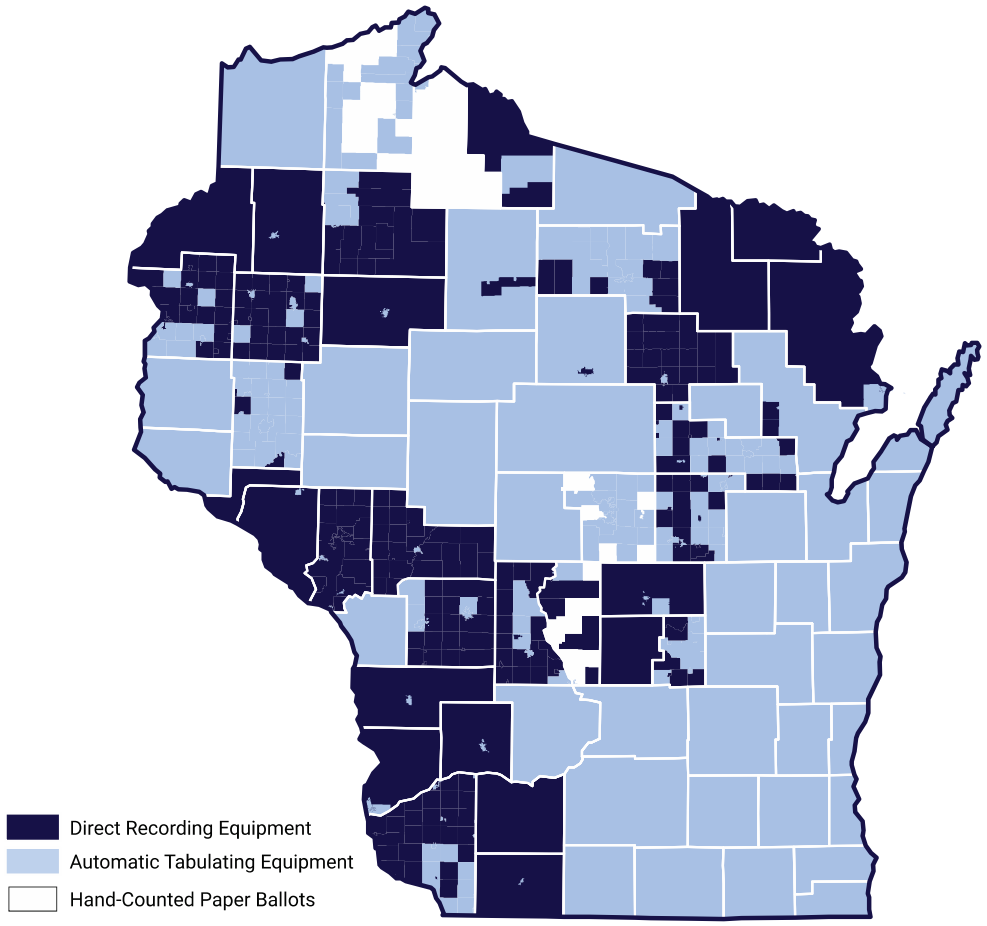
Administrative rules require vendors to inform WEC of any modifications they make to previously approved electronic voting equipment. WEC may require the equipment to be reapproved if the modifications are significant. Vendors may not offer for use, sale, or lease any modified equipment in Wisconsin if WEC notifies the vendors that the equipment must be reapproved. We reviewed materials for all meetings that WEC held from January 2020 through June 2021 and found that WEC's administrator approved 12 modifications, as permitted under the authority WEC delegated to the administrator, and informed WEC about these approvals. The materials indicated that WEC's staff had obtained and assessed information from the vendors before the administrator approved the modifications.

Statutes allow WEC to revoke its approval of a given type of electronic voting equipment at any time for cause. In September 2017, WEC approved a timeline to revoke its approval of one type of equipment, which WEC determined could no longer be used in Wisconsin beginning in January 2019 because of concerns that the equipment might not count ballots marked with writing utensils other than pencils and vendor-approved markers. WEC approved specific ballot-counting procedures that municipalities were required to implement if they continued to use the equipment before January 2019. We found that WEC's staff communicated these procedures to municipalities in a timely manner.

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Figure 10

Use of Electronic Voting Equipment and Hand-Counted Paper Ballots[1]
November 2020



[1] According to information reported by municipalities to WEC. Municipalities that used direct recording equipment also hand-counted ballots.

Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require municipal clerks to notify WEC's administrator if they rent electronic voting equipment.

Statutes require municipal clerks to notify WEC's administrator if they adopt and purchase a new or different type of electronic voting equipment. When municipalities rent equipment, such as to count absentee ballots at central count locations during elections at which many individuals are expected to vote, statutes do not require clerks to notify WEC's administrator. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require clerks to notify WEC's administrator if they rent electronic voting equipment. Doing so would allow WEC's administrator, and therefore WEC, to know that all equipment used in the state has been approved by WEC.

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Equipment Integrity

Statutes include provisions for helping to ensure the integrity of electronic voting equipment, including by requiring that:

- municipal clerks conduct pre-election tests of each piece of equipment that will be used to count ballots in an election; and
- poll workers ensure on Election Day that all equipment used to count ballots has a tamper-evident seal that is intact.

Pre-Election Tests

No more than 10 days before an election, statutes require a municipal clerk to publicly test each piece of electronic voting equipment that will count ballots on Election Day.

No more than 10 days before an election, statutes require a municipal clerk to publicly test each piece of electronic voting equipment that will count ballots on Election Day. Doing so helps to ensure that the equipment counts ballots accurately. During a test, a clerk must process a group of ballots marked to record a predetermined number of votes for each candidate. To determine whether the equipment properly rejects votes, a test must include more votes than allowed for each contest on the ballot, which is termed an over-vote. If the equipment errs in counting the votes, a clerk must determine the cause and correct the error. Statutes require each piece of equipment to make an errorless count before it can be used in an election.

We determined whether a sample of municipal clerks completed the statutorily required tests of electronic voting equipment before the November 2020 General Election and whether a sample of the tests indicated that the equipment counted the predetermined votes accurately. To do so, we requested the results of all pre-election tests that clerks in 29 municipalities throughout Wisconsin conducted and the ballots used in these tests. Appendix 6 summarizes the results of our analysis for each of the 29 municipalities, which included:

- 9 of the 10 municipalities where the most absentee ballots were cast, other than the City of Madison, which did not allow us to physically handle election-related materials;
- the 10 municipalities where absentee ballots made up the largest proportions of the total ballots cast; and
- 10 municipalities we chose at random from counties other than those in which the other 19 municipalities were located.

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Statutes allow election-related materials to be destroyed after specified periods of time have elapsed after an election. For example, ballots, applications for absentee ballots, registration forms, or other records and papers requisite to voting in any federal election, other than registration cards, can be destroyed after 22 months. If statutes do not specify how long a particular type of election-related material must be retained, statutes indicate that the material may be destroyed after 90 days. WEC's staff indicated that statutes do not specify how long the pre-election test results must be retained, and clerks did not agree on how long they must be retained. Some clerks indicated that the results must be retained for 22 months, while other clerks indicated that the results must be retained for 90 days.

Clerks provided us with the results of all statutorily required pre-election tests in 16 of 29 municipalities.

Clerks provided us with all statutorily required pre-election test results in 16 of 29 municipalities, some test results in 9 municipalities, and no test results in 4 municipalities. Clerks in the nine municipalities provided us with either no results of some tests or incomplete documentation of tests that were conducted. Some of these clerks were unable to find complete test results or no longer retained the test results.

Municipal clerks conducted 88 of 175 pre-election tests (50.3 percent) within the statutorily prescribed 10 days before theNovember 2020 General Election.

Among the 175 pre-election test results that we examined, we found that municipal clerks:

- conducted 88 tests (50.3 percent) within the statutorily prescribed 10 days before the November 2020 General Election; and
- conducted 87 tests (49.7 percent) more than 10 days before the General Election. These 87 tests were conducted between 11 and 22 days before the General Election.

In total, 59 of the 60 pre-election test results we examined indicated that the electronic voting equipment had accurately counted the votes for presidential candidates.

We reviewed in greater detail 60 of the 175 pre-election test results and determined whether the electronic voting equipment had accurately counted the votes for presidential candidates. To do so, we hand-counted the number of votes for each candidate, as indicated on the predetermined paper ballots used in the tests, and compared the results to the number of votes the equipment had counted during the tests. We found that:

- 59 of the 60 test results indicated that the equipment had accurately counted the votes for presidential candidates; and
- 1 test result included insufficient documentation, which prevented us from determining whether the equipment had accurately counted the votes for presidential candidates.

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Our review of the 60 pre-election test results also found that three pre-election tests conducted in three municipalities excluded the statutorily required over-votes on the predetermined ballots. One clerk indicated unfamiliarity with testing over-votes on newly purchased electronic voting equipment, a second clerk indicated that the test mistakenly excluded the over-votes, and a third clerk indicated that over-votes were never included in the tests.

WEC's staff should provide additional training to municipal clerks on completing the statutorily required pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment. Such training should emphasize the statutory requirement for clerks to complete the pre-election tests within 10 days before an election and for the tests to include over-votes on the predetermined ballots.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *provide additional training to municipal clerks on completing the statutorily required pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

Tamper-Evident Seals

Statutes require each piece of electronic voting equipment that will count ballots to have a tamper-evident seal.

Statutes require each piece of electronic voting equipment that will count ballots to have a tamper-evident seal. These seals are affixed after clerks have conducted the pre-election tests in order to secure the equipment in preparation for an upcoming election. On Election Day, statutes require poll workers to sign an Election Day form indicating that they verify having examined the seals and that they certify the integrity of the seals. These forms include spaces for chief election inspectors to write their initials and thereby certify the integrity of the seals when the polls opened and when the polls closed.

We selected a random sample of 319 municipalities and requested that the relevant county clerks provide us with all of the Election Day forms that poll workers in these municipalities completed on Election Day in November 2020 at polling locations other than central count locations. These municipalities, which are located in 69 counties, are listed in Appendix 5. We received forms for all 319 municipalities.

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A total of 513 of 589 Election Day forms (87.1 percent) contained the expected initials of poll workers, who thereby certified the integrity of the tamper-evident seals.

Among the 589 Election Day forms we included in this analysis:

- 513 forms (87.1 percent) contained the expected initials of poll workers, who thereby certified the integrity of the tamper-evident seals when the polls opened and when they closed; and

- 76 forms (12.9 percent) did not contain all of the expected initials of poll workers, including 42 forms without initials certifying seal integrity when the polls opened and when they closed, 31 forms without initials certifying seal integrity when the polls closed, and 3 forms without initials certifying seal integrity when the polls opened. The forms without initials may indicate poll workers found problems with the seals or forgot to initial the forms.

WEC's staff indicated that some poll workers may be hesitant to certify the integrity of the tamper-evident seals, in part, because of unfamiliarity with the electronic voting equipment and uncertainty about how to ascertain seal integrity. However, WEC's staff indicated that certifying seal integrity helps to instill confidence in the public that the equipment has not been tampered with before an election. WEC's staff should provide training to municipal clerks on reviewing the Election Day forms after each election and investigating relevant issues, such as forms on which poll workers have not certified the integrity of the tamper-evident seals on electronic voting equipment. By investigating such issues, a clerk could ascertain whether poll workers forgot to initial the forms or the seals were not intact and, as a result, a given clerk needs to investigate the ramifications of seals that were not intact. Investigating such issues may reveal the need for clerks to provide additional training to poll workers.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *provide training to municipal clerks on reviewing Election Day forms after each election and investigating relevant issues, including those related to tamper-evident seals; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

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Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to explicitly require materials related to the pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment to be retained for 22 months.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to explicitly require materials related to the pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment to be retained for 22 months after a federal election. Doing so would ensure that these pre-election test materials, which indicate whether electronic voting equipment counted ballots accurately, are retained for the same period of time as other election-related materials such as ballots and applications for absentee ballots.

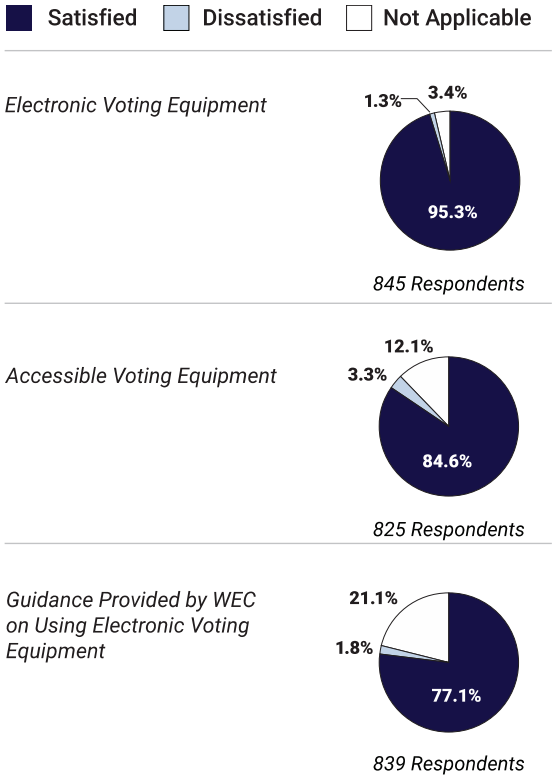
Satisfaction Levels of Clerks

Most municipal clerks who responded to our survey were satisfied with the electronic voting equipment.

Our April 2021 survey asked municipal clerks about their electronic voting equipment. As shown in Figure 11, most municipal clerks who responded to our survey were satisfied with the electronic voting equipment, the accessible voting equipment, and guidance from WEC on using this equipment.

Figure 11

Satisfaction of Municipal Clerks with the Electronic Voting Equipment Used in the November 2020 General Election[1]



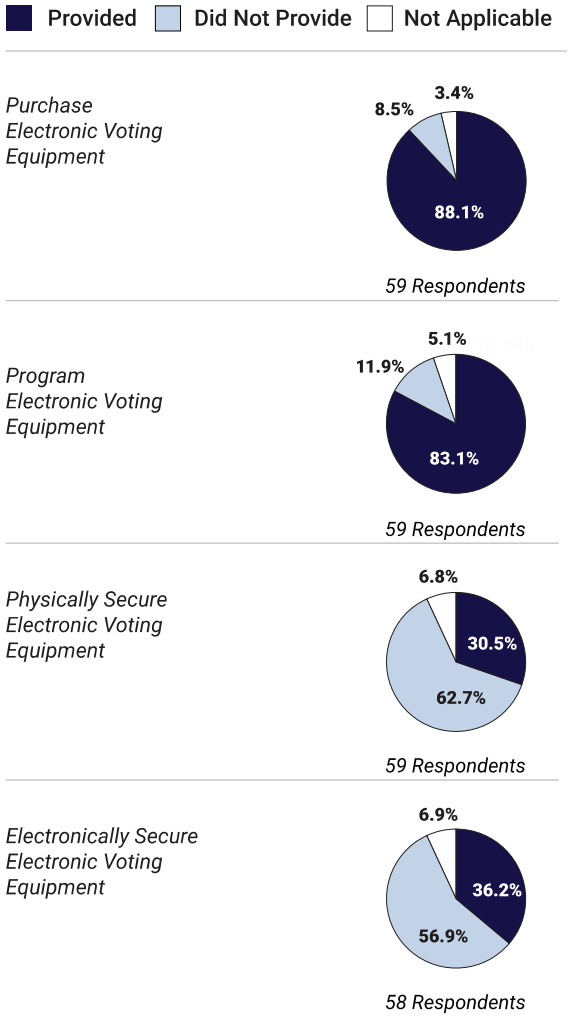
[1] As indicated by municipal clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

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Our survey asked county clerks about the assistance they provided to municipalities. As shown in Figure 12, most county clerks who responded to our survey indicated that they helped municipalities to purchase and program electronic voting equipment. Approximately one-third of county clerks indicated that they helped municipalities to physically or electronically secure the equipment.

Figure 12

Types of Assistance that County Clerks Provided to Municipalities[1]



[1] As indicated by county clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

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We contacted 40 municipal and 7 county clerks to obtain additional information. Similar to our survey results, these clerks indicated general satisfaction with the electronic voting equipment. For example:

- one clerk indicated that the equipment accurately counted ballots;
- a second clerk indicated that the security and reliability of the equipment was fantastic; and
- a third clerk indicated that WEC's staff frequently provided updated information, webinars, and other materials that enabled the clerk to handle all types of issues on Election Day.

We contacted clerks who had indicated in their survey responses dissatisfaction with the electronic voting equipment. For example:

- one clerk indicated that accessible voting equipment is expensive, requires significant storage space between elections, and is rarely used on Election Day;
- a second clerk indicated that the equipment is complicated, difficult to understand, and expensive; and
- a third clerk indicated that a printing error prevented absentee ballots from being fed into the equipment correctly and, as a result, a poll worker needed to remake ballots.

Administrative Rule Promulgation

WEC did not comply with statutes by promulgating administrative rules to address security-related issues for electronic voting equipment.

Statutes require WEC to promulgate administrative rules that ensure the security, review, and verification of the software components used with electronic voting equipment approved by WEC. Administrative rules contained requirements for vendors to submit certain documents that allow WEC's staff to review and verify such equipment, including the software components. However, we found that the administrative rules did not address security-related issues.

WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate the statutorily required administrative rules. These administrative rules should include provisions that help to ensure the security of the software components in electronic voting equipment approved by WEC.

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☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to promulgate statutorily required administrative rules for helping to ensure the security of software components in approved electronic voting equipment; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

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Post-Election Audit

After each General Election, statutes require WEC to audit the performance of each type of electronic voting equipment.

After each General Election, statutes require WEC to audit the performance of each type of electronic voting equipment and determine the equipment's error rate in counting ballots. If the error rate exceeds the standards of the Federal Election Commission that were in effect on October 29, 2002, statutes require WEC to take remedial action and order affected counties and municipalities to take remedial action to ensure compliance with the standard. We reviewed the results of the audit completed after the November 2020 General Election. We recommend WEC's staff provide municipal clerks with additional training and guidance on ensuring that ballots are counted accurately when paper jams occur in equipment, as well as comply with statutes by calculating an error rate for each type of equipment. We also include two issues for legislative consideration.

Post-Election Audit Procedures

Statutes do not stipulate how the post-election audits are to be conducted. In September 2020, WEC established that the audit for electronic voting equipment to be used in the November 2020 General Election should include:

- each piece of equipment used in a sample of 5.0 percent of the state's 3,698 reporting units, which are either a single ward or multiple wards that report combined election results;
- at least one piece of equipment used in each county;

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- at least five reporting units that used each type of equipment certified for use in the state; and

- the equipment used in up to four reporting units in the cities of Milwaukee and Madison, up to three reporting units in the 20 other largest municipalities, and up to one reporting unit in all other municipalities.

WEC's staff selected 190 reporting units to include in the post-election audit, but these included 7 reporting units in which no individuals voted in November 2020. As a result, the audit included 183 reporting units in 163 municipalities, and we found that it complied with the selection procedures that WEC had approved in September 2020.

Municipal clerks and local election officials completed the post-election audit work based on procedures provided by WEC's staff.

Municipal clerks and local election officials completed the post-election audit work based on procedures provided by WEC's staff. The procedures specified that at least two individuals should hand-count each ballot based on how the electronic voting equipment would have counted it, without considering voter intent. For example, if a voter had circled the name of a candidate on a ballot but had not filled in the oval next to the candidate's name, the equipment likely would not have considered that to be a vote for the candidate. The procedures instructed auditors to compare their hand-counted results to the results provided by the equipment on Election Day and provide reasonable explanations for any discrepancies in the results. We contacted 10 municipal clerks who were involved in the post-election audit. These clerks indicated that they were generally satisfied with the audit procedures and training that WEC's staff had provided them.

Statutes do not specify the date by which the audit must be completed. In report 14-14, we found that local election officials had conducted the electronic voting equipment audits associated with the November 2008, November 2010, and November 2012 General Elections and informed GAB that they had done so. However, not until October 2013 did GAB's staff complete the statutorily required post-election audits of the equipment that had been used in these three elections. In our current audit, we found that WEC established a deadline for completing the post-election audit before December 1, 2020, which was the statutory deadline for certifying the election results. All municipalities conducted their audits by that date.

WEC voted to reimburse municipalities $50 per reporting unit, plus $0.35 per audited ballot. According to information that WEC's staff provided to WEC in February 2021, 154 municipalities had requested reimbursement totaling $55,400.

Post-Election Audit Results

According to WEC's Election Day manual, electronic voting equipment indicates when an individual votes for more candidates than allowed in a given contest, which is termed an over-vote. When this occurs, the manual instructs poll workers to offer individuals who vote in person at

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polling places the opportunity to spoil their ballots and record their votes on new ballots. The manual instructs poll workers to review absentee ballots containing over-votes and, if voter intent can be determined, remake absentee ballots so that the equipment will count the votes.

WEC's staff determined that the electronic voting equipment for the most part accurately counted ballots, but they identified an issue with one type of equipment.

WEC's staff compiled the audit results provided by municipal clerks into a February 2021 report to WEC. This report indicated that 145,100 ballots were hand-counted during the audit, which determined that the electronic voting equipment for the most part accurately counted ballots in the November 2020 General Election. However, the report identified an issue with the equipment in 2 of the 28 reporting units that were audited and used this equipment. When absentee ballots were folded for mailing and creases ran through the write-in fields for certain contests, the equipment considered the creases to be votes because it was programmed to read marks in the write-in fields. If an individual actually voted for a candidate in one of these contests, the equipment concluded that the individual had voted both for that candidate and a write-in candidate. When an individual casts a ballot containing an over-vote, the equipment does not count any vote for that contest. WEC's staff reported that administrative procedures, rather than malfunctioning equipment, caused this issue, which affected 26 of the 2,747 ballots cast in these two reporting units.

In February 2021, WEC directed its staff to obtain reports from county clerks on the number of over-votes counted by the particular type of electronic voting equipment statewide. In March 2021, WEC's staff reported to WEC that municipalities in 19 counties had used this equipment in the November 2020 General Election, including municipalities in 12 counties that had used equipment programmed to read only marks in the ovals next to the names of write-in candidates. WEC's staff determined that the equipment did not count as over-votes the creases in ballots cast in these 12 counties. In contrast, municipalities in seven counties had used equipment programmed to read marks both in the ovals and the write-in fields and, as a result, the equipment counted as over-votes the creases in ballots cast in these seven counties.

WEC's staff examined 1,109 ballots cast in the seven counties and determined that:

- 724 over-votes occurred because of creases through the write-in fields;
- 376 over-votes occurred because of marks made by individuals who had, for example, voted for multiple candidates in a given contest or attempted to correct errors that they had made on ballots; and
- 72 over-votes occurred for other inadvertent reasons, such as ink that bled through ballots because individuals had voted for candidates on both sides of a given ballot.

Table 7 shows the seven counties and the contests in which the 724 over-votes occurred because of ballot creases. WEC's staff

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determined that the over-votes did not change the outcome of any contest. A total of 336 of the 724 over-votes (46.4 percent) occurred in uncontested contests. If the over-votes had not occurred on the ballots for the state senator contest in Winnebago County, 202 votes would have been counted for the losing candidate and 129 votes would have been counted for the winning candidate, who won by more than 16,000 votes.

Table 7

Over-Votes Caused by Ballot Creases, by County and Contest[1]
November 2020 General Election

County	President	State Senator	Assembly Representative	County Treasurer[2]	County Register of Deeds[2]	Total
Door	1					1
Green					87	87
Ozaukee		2		163		165
Vilas		1	5		37	43
Walworth	1		16		1	18
Washington	1	11		7	42	61
Winnebago	1	331	17			349
Total	**4**	**345**	**38**	**170**	**167**	**724**

[1] As determined by WEC's staff.

[2] All contests except for the Walworth County Register of Deeds were uncontested.

We reviewed 1,109 over-voted ballots cast in seven counties and found 468 over-votes occurred for reasons other than ballot creases.

We reviewed electronic copies of all 1,109 ballots from the seven counties that contained over-votes. We found that 468 over-votes occurred for reasons other than ballot creases, including 391 over-votes that occurred because of marks on the ballots made by individuals, 42 over-votes that occurred because ink bled through ballots, and 35 over-votes that occurred because a vertical line printed on ballots made marks in write-in fields. The electronic voting equipment did not count how the individuals voted in the contests involving the 468 over-votes.

In March 2021, WEC's staff indicated to WEC that they planned to emphasize in future training sessions for municipal clerks the importance of reviewing over-votes. We found that WEC's staff subsequently provided municipal clerks with additional training materials, including a webinar. We reviewed these materials and the webinar and found that they included information on ballots with over-votes and provided detailed instructions on how to remake them. We reviewed the post-election audit results reported by municipal clerks to WEC's staff and found no differences between the Election

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Day results and the audit results in 110 of the 183 reporting units (60.1 percent), but we found differences in 73 reporting units (39.9 percent). Most of these differences involved one vote or one ballot. One difference involved 21 ballots, which was the largest difference and which occurred because of ballot creases through the write-in fields. The most-common reason for a difference was a paper jam when ballots were fed into the equipment or the paper roll on which ballots were printed was replaced in the equipment, which occurred in 22 reporting units.

WEC's staff should ensure equipment vendors provide municipal clerks with additional training on ensuring that ballots are counted accurately when paper jams occur in electronic voting equipment.

Paper jams do not always result in electronic voting equipment inaccurately counting ballots. However, when paper jams occur, poll workers need to know how to ensure that ballots are counted accurately. Given the results of the post-election audit, WEC's staff should ensure equipment vendors provide municipal clerks with additional training on ensuring that ballots are counted accurately when paper jams occur in equipment.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *ensure equipment vendors provide additional training to municipal clerks on ensuring that ballots are counted accurately when paper jams occur in electronic voting equipment; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

Equipment Error Rate

As noted, statutes require WEC to determine an error rate for each type of electronic voting equipment after each General Election. The Federal Election Commission's standards that were in effect on October 29, 2002, specified that equipment should have an error rate that does not exceed one vote per 500,000 ballot positions, which is every choice that an individual could make when marking a ballot, including for write-in candidates. For example, if a ballot allowed an individual to vote for three candidates or write in a candidate, that ballot would have four ballot positions. If a given type of equipment exceeds the error rate, statutes require WEC to take remedial action and order affected counties and municipalities to take remedial action to ensure compliance with the standard. WEC's staff indicated that such remedial action may include amending the certification of the equipment, decertifying the equipment, or providing updated guidance to clerks on using the equipment.

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WEC's staff did not report to WEC the statutorily required error rates for any types of electronic voting equipment used in the November 2020 General Election.

WEC's staff did not report to WEC the statutorily required error rates for any types of electronic voting equipment used in the November 2020 General Election. The report WEC's staff provided to WEC in February 2021 indicated that the error rate is intended for equipment certification testing conducted in laboratory settings under optimized conditions, including by using ballots marked according to instructions, rather than typical absentee ballots that contain imperfections. The report also indicated that post-election audits require municipal clerks to use their best judgement when determining how the equipment counted ballots with ambiguous marks.

WEC's staff recommended that WEC amend the certification for the electronic voting equipment that had considered ballot creases through write-in fields to be votes. In February 2021, WEC approved this recommendation to require that the equipment be programmed to ensure that creases or marks in the write-in fields are not counted as votes. We found that WEC's staff sufficiently informed county and municipal clerks about the amended certification. Nevertheless, WEC's staff should comply with statutes by calculating an error rate for each type of equipment after each General Election.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *comply with statutes by calculating an error rate for each type of electronic voting equipment used in each General Election; and*
- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement this recommendation.*

Post-Election Audits in Other States

In Wisconsin, a post-election audit determines whether the electronic voting equipment counted ballots according to how it was programmed to count them. However, such an audit does not determine the validity of election results because it does not consider voter intent, and it does not necessarily review a sufficiently large sample of ballots needed to determine the validity of election results.

A risk-limiting audit uses statistical methods to review a sample of ballots cast in order to determine voter intent and the validity of the election results.

Figure 13 summarizes key characteristics of three types of post-election audits, including the traditional type used in Wisconsin and a procedural audit. A risk-limiting audit uses statistical methods to review a sample of ballots cast in order to determine voter intent and the validity of the election results. The number of ballots reviewed in a risk-limiting audit depends on the election results. If a given candidate's margin of victory is small, more ballots must be reviewed. If the initial results of the audit do not confirm the election results, additional ballots must be reviewed until the audit confirms the election results. If the additional ballots do not

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confirm the election results, a full recount may need to be conducted in order to determine the results.

Figure 13

Types of Post-Election Audits[1]

TRADITIONAL	PROCEDURAL	RISK-LIMITING
Examines a fixed proportion of reporting units or electronic voting equipment and compares paper ballot results to equipment-generated results; and audits the same number of ballots regardless of election results	Ensures prescribed processes and procedures were followed during an election	Uses statistical methods to review a sample of ballots cast in order to determine voter intent and the validity of the election results; reviews more ballots when a candidate's margin of victory is small

[1] According to information from NCSL.

Information from NCSL in February 2020 indicated that at least six states—Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Nevada, Rhode Island, and Virginia—conducted risk-limiting audits or planned to conduct them, and four states—California, Ohio, Oregon, and Washington—provided options for different types of audits, including risk-limiting audits, that can be conducted. Counties typically conducted these audits.

The cost of risk-limiting audits varies. Such an audit may be less expensive when the winning candidate has a large margin of victory, but it may be more expensive in tighter contests or when the initial audit results do not match the election results and the audit must be expanded to review more ballots or to conduct a full recount.

Issues for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to reflect the current federal standards for an acceptable equipment error rate.

As noted, statutes require WEC to take remedial action if the error rate found in electronic voting equipment exceeds the federal standards that were in effect on October 29, 2002, which was one vote per 500,000 ballot positions. We found that these standards were updated in 2015 to specify that the maximum acceptable error rate is 1 vote per 125,000 contests counted by a given type of equipment. Calculating the error rate based on the number of contests, rather than the number of ballot positions, is more straightforward because ballot positions may vary within and among municipalities, depending on the number of

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candidates in each contest. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to reflect the current federal standards for an acceptable equipment error rate.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to conduct risk-limiting post-election audits.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to conduct risk-limiting post-election audits. Such audits are intended to determine voter intent and determine the validity of the election results, which may be preferable to the current audits that confirm whether the equipment counted ballots according to how it was programmed. As noted, one type of equipment was programmed in such a way that it counted ballot creases as votes in some counties during the November 2020 General Election.

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Complaints Filed with Clerks

Our April 2021 survey asked all municipal and county clerks about the written complaints they had received concerning the November 2020 General Election.

Our April 2021 survey asked all municipal and county clerks about the written complaints they had received concerning the November 2020 General Election. We defined a complaint to include issues identified in writing by individuals, including those who identified themselves and those who were anonymous. A total of 59 county clerks (81.9 percent of the total) and 848 municipal clerks (46.2 percent) responded to our survey questions about election-related complaints. Most respondents indicated that they had received no written complaints about the General Election. We contacted 43 clerks, including 33 municipal clerks and 10 county clerks, in order to obtain additional information about complaints they had received and actions they had taken in response to the complaints.

Number of Complaints

In response to our survey, most clerks indicated that they had received no written complaints about the November 2020 General Election.

Our survey asked clerks to indicate a range that described the number of written complaints they had received about the November 2020 General Election. Of the 848 municipal clerks and 59 county clerks who responded to our survey:

- 791 municipal clerks (93.3 percent) and 38 county clerks (64.4 percent) indicated that they had received no written complaints; and
- 57 municipal clerks (6.7 percent) and 21 county clerks (35.6 percent) indicated that they had each received from 1 to 25 written complaints. Appendix 12 lists the locations of these clerks.

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Our survey asked the 57 municipal clerks and the 21 county clerks to indicate the issues discussed in the written complaints they had received about the November 2020 General Election. As shown in Table 8, 35 clerks indicated that they had received written complaints pertaining to absentee ballots. Clerks could indicate having received written complaints about multiple issues.

Table 8

Written Complaints That Clerks Received about the November 2020 General Election, by Issue[1]
As of April 2021

Issue	Number of Clerks		
	Municipal Clerks	County Clerks	Total
Absentee Ballots	27	8	35
Alleged Voter Fraud	16	7	23
Electronic Voting Systems	9	9	18
Polling Place Practices	10	4	14
Voter Registration	5	0	5
Other[2]	23	7	30

[1] As indicated by 57 municipal clerks and 21 county clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey. Clerks could indicate having received written complaints about multiple issues.

[2] Includes complaints about the MyVote Wisconsin website, polling place locations, potential illegal activity, in-person voting, and possible election misinformation.

We contacted 43 clerks to obtain additional information about complaints they had received. We selected most of these clerks because they had indicated in their survey responses that they had received written complaints about the November 2020 General Election, but we also contacted five clerks who had not responded to our survey.

A total of 25 of the 43 clerks (58.1 percent) we contacted indicated that they had received written complaints about the November 2020 General Election, and 30 of the 43 clerks (69.8 percent) indicated that they had received verbal complaints about the General Election. The number of complaints that a given clerk received was not related to the population of that clerk's municipality or county. Clerks reported having received verbal complaints regarding topics that were similar to those raised in the written complaints that they reported in the survey. Nine clerks indicated that they had received at least one complaint that was based on a media report a complainant had heard or read.

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Clerk Actions

In response to our survey, 44 clerks indicated that they had investigated issues pertaining to at least one written complaint.

Our survey asked clerks whether they had taken specific actions after having received written complaints about the November 2020 General Election. As shown in Table 9, 44 clerks indicated that they had investigated issues pertaining to at least one written complaint.

Table 9

Actions Taken by Clerks Who Received Written Complaints about the November 2020 General Election[1]
As of April 2021

Action Taken	Number of Clerks		
	Municipal Clerks	County Clerks	Total
Conducted an investigation	38	6	44
Provided an individual with information about filing a complaint with WEC	11	7	18
Referred a complaint to a district attorney	4	1	5
Other[2]	6	4	10

[1] As indicated by 57 municipal clerks and 21 county clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey. Clerks could indicate having taken multiple actions.

[2] Includes providing information to individuals about election laws and procedures and forwarding complaints to local law enforcement agencies.

Many of the 43 clerks we contacted provided us with specific examples of how they had handled complaints about the November 2020 General Election. For example:

- One municipal clerk reported having received one verbal complaint by a voter who was upset about having been asked at a polling place to remove a hat with a political statement on it. The clerk explained to the voter that wearing political apparel at a polling place, which is a form of electioneering, is prohibited by state law.

- A second municipal clerk reported having received from 10 to 20 written complaints about various misunderstandings about election laws and procedures. The clerk also reported having received from 10 to 20 verbal complaints, most of which pertained to issues about absentee ballots. The clerk

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indicated having provided all of these individuals with information to address their complaints.

- A third municipal clerk reported having received one verbal complaint about an individual who allegedly did not live in the municipality but was registered to vote there. The clerk referred the complaint to WEC. The clerk also reported having received one written complaint from an individual who alleged that all registered voters had received absentee ballots. After reviewing information in WisVote, the clerk determined that the individual had received an absentee ballot because the individual had previously registered as being indefinitely confined. At the individual's request, the clerk removed the individual from the list of indefinitely confined individuals.

- A fourth municipal clerk reported having received at least 70 verbal complaints about a variety of issues, including difficulties receiving and returning absentee ballots, the public health implications of in-person voting, and voter records not being updated immediately after an election. The clerk provided the complainants with information about election laws and procedures. The clerk also reported having received one written complaint about individuals who registered to vote using the address of a UPS mailbox. The clerk found that multiple individuals were registered to vote using this address and referred the issue to WEC and the district attorney. Media reports indicate that the district attorney determined these individuals were eligible voters and declined to file charges against them.

- A fifth municipal clerk reported having received from one to three verbal complaints from individuals whose voting records on the MyVote Wisconsin website had not been updated immediately after the election. The clerk explained to the individuals that clerks have 45 days after an election to update voting records.

- A county clerk reported having received one written complaint from a municipal clerk regarding an Illinois resident who had a Wisconsin driver's license and was registered to vote in the county. Using information from the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, the county clerk determined that the individual had voted in Wisconsin and Illinois, referred the issue to WEC, and believed that the district attorney became involved.

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A number of clerks indicated that handling complaints and administering the November 2020 General Election had caused them distress.

A number of clerks indicated that handling complaints and administering the November 2020 General Election had caused them distress. For example:

- A municipal clerk described stress caused by the need to send out four times the number of absentee ballots as had been sent out for prior presidential elections. The clerk indicated that this task had kept the clerk from fulfilling other job duties. The clerk indicated that potentially being required to send absentee ballots to every registered voter would be an impossible task and, therefore, caused the clerk to consider resigning from the position.

- A second municipal clerk indicated that a number of clerks had talked about resigning from their positions because of the disruptive effects of pre-election rule changes and increased rhetoric regarding elections administration. The clerk indicated an intention to not serve in the position during another presidential election.

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Complaints and Concerns Filed with WEC

Individuals can file election-related complaints and concerns with WEC in multiple ways.

Individuals can file election-related complaints and concerns with WEC in multiple ways. Statutes allow WEC to investigate sworn, written complaints alleging violations of election laws, as well as sworn, written complaints submitted by electors alleging that election officials acted contrary to the law in administering elections. In addition, individuals can provide election-related concerns through forms on WEC's website, email messages, and telephone calls. We found that WEC's staff informed WEC about the status of submitted complaints and handled complaints in a timely manner, but that WEC's staff did not have written policies for handling complaints and did not track how they responded to concerns, which are not sworn complaints. We recommend WEC's staff work with WEC to promulgate administrative rules for handling complaints and tracking concerns, and we include an issue for legislative consideration.

Number of Complaints

Statutes allow WEC to investigate an alleged violation of election laws if a reasonable suspicion exists that a violation occurred or is occurring, and it allows WEC to retain a special investigator. Anyone may submit a sworn, written complaint to WEC alleging such a violation. WEC's staff indicated that the $25,000 appropriated annually for investigations from FY 2016-17 through FY 2020-21 was lapsed each year because WEC has never retained a special investigator.

Statutes allow WEC to investigate whether an election official did not comply with legal requirements pertaining to issues such as elections administration, nominations, candidate qualifications, voting qualifications, ballot preparation, and election conduct. Individuals

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may submit a sworn, written complaint to WEC alleging such a violation by an election official in whose jurisdiction they vote.

Statutes allow individuals to submit sworn, written complaints that challenge the nomination papers of a candidate for elected office or the eligibility of a candidate to hold an elected office. WEC's staff consider such complaints to be ballot access challenges. For example, an individual may allege that an individual circulating nomination papers did not properly certify them after obtaining signatures, or that some of the obtained signatures are invalid. WEC's staff separately track this type of complaint because administrative rules require ballot access challenges to be filed within three days after the deadline for filing nomination papers, as well as because a challenge can prevent candidates from being placed on a ballot.

As of late-May 2021, WEC had received 45 complaints regarding the November 2020 General Election.

As of late-May 2021, WEC had received 45 complaints regarding the November 2020 General Election, as shown in Table 10. This total included 18 complaints about the conduct of election officials, 16 complaints about alleged violations of election laws, and 11 ballot access challenges. Individuals who submitted 38 of the 45 complaints indicated that their allegations were based on firsthand knowledge of issues described in their complaints.

Table 10

Complaints Filed with WEC Regarding the November 2020 General Election[1]
As of late-May 2021

Type of Complaint	Number	Percentage of Total
Conduct of Election Officials	18	40.0%
Alleged Violations of Election Laws	16	35.6
Subtotal	34	75.6
Ballot Access Challenges	11	24.4
Total	**45**	**100.0%**

[1] According to information provided by WEC's staff.

Complaint Resolution

Statutes allow WEC to resolve complaints alleging violations of election laws by taking various actions, including assessing a financial penalty up to $2,500 or referring an issue to a district attorney. Statutes allow WEC to resolve complaints about the conduct of election officials by ordering officials to comply with legal requirements, refrain from taking

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actions contrary to legal requirements, or correct an action or decision inconsistent with legal requirements. In February 2020, WEC authorized its administrator, in consultation with its chairperson, to resolve complaints about the conduct of election officials.

WEC's staff did not have written policies for considering complaints.

We found that WEC's staff did not have written policies for considering complaints. WEC's staff indicated that they relied on provisions in statutes and administrative rules to guide how they considered complaints. We note that administrative rules promulgated in 1994 describe procedures for considering complaints about the conduct of election officials. However, these administrative rules are no longer in effect for complaints alleging violations of election laws because statutes were modified by 2007 Wisconsin Act 1, which created GAB.

We found that WEC's staff did not request additional information from the individuals who had submitted 42 of the 45 complaints we examined, but they requested additional information from the individuals who had submitted 3 complaints. WEC's staff indicated that they try to minimize the number of times they request additional information from complainants and respondents in order to maintain their impartiality and avoid influencing a complaint's outcome. WEC's staff indicated that they represent WEC in legal matters and do not serve as the attorneys for complainants.

WEC's staff electronically tracked information about individual complaints and regularly informed WEC with relevant information about complaints.

We found that WEC's staff electronically tracked information about individual complaints. Such information included the date a given complaint was received, its ongoing status, the date it was resolved, and how it was resolved. We also found that WEC's staff regularly provided WEC with relevant information about complaints, including responses of individuals accused in the complaints. WEC's staff also recommended actions for WEC to take to resolve the complaints, including recommending that WEC dismiss 11 complaints, refer 3 complaints to district attorneys, deny ballot access based on 6 complaints, allow ballot access based on 2 complaints, and take other actions in response to 2 complaints.

WEC decided how to resolve 24 complaints, including 15 complaints that alleged violations of election laws and 9 ballot access challenges. According to the available minutes and materials from WEC's meetings from January 2020 through June 2021, WEC voted to fully implement its staff's recommendations for 18 of the 24 complaints, partially implement its staff's recommendations for 3 complaints, and reject its staff's recommendations for 3 complaints. In addition, WEC dismissed one complaint that its administrator in consultation with its chairperson had previously dismissed but that the complainant had appealed to WEC.

A total of 25 of 34 complaints about the conduct of election officials and alleged violations of election laws were dismissed.

We used information provided by WEC's staff to determine the resolution as of early-June 2021 of the 34 complaints about the conduct of election officials and alleged violations of election laws. As shown in Table 11:

- 25 complaints were dismissed by WEC or its administrator in consultation with its chairperson,

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including because reasonable suspicion or probable cause were not established, or because a violation was determined to be unintentional;

- 6 complaints were not yet resolved;
- 2 complaints were withdrawn by the individuals who had submitted them; and
- 1 complaint was resolved by the administrator in consultation with its chairperson. The decision directed an election official to follow election laws.

Table 11

Resolution of Complaints Filed with WEC Regarding the November 2020 General Election[1]
As of early-June 2021

Resolution	Number	Percentage of Total
Dismissed	25	73.5%
Unresolved	6	17.6
Withdrawn	2	5.9
Decision Issued	1	2.9
Total	**34**	**100.0%**

[1] According to information provided by WEC's staff. Excludes ballot access challenges.

Information provided by WEC's staff for the 11 ballot access challenges included in our review indicated that:

- 7 challenges resulted in a total of 5 candidates being denied ballot access;
- 2 challenges resulted in candidates being provided ballot access;
- 1 challenge was determined not to have been submitted in a timely manner; and
- 1 challenge was withdrawn.

Statutes and administrative rules do not specify the number of days by which WEC must resolve complaints. However, statutes limit the number of days that may pass between specific steps during the complaint process, such as between when WEC's staff receive a complaint and when they forward the complaint to the accused

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individual. We found that WEC's staff met these statutorily specified time periods and that the administrator in consultation with the chairperson acted in a timely manner when considering complaints about the conduct of election officials.

Concerns

Individuals can provide election-related concerns to WEC through various methods, including forms on WEC's website.

Election-related concerns are not sworn complaints, and individuals can remain anonymous when providing concerns. Individuals can provide election-related concerns to WEC through various methods, including forms on WEC's website, email messages, and telephone calls.

WEC's staff indicated that they collect election-related concerns to help identify and resolve issues. WEC's staff may take a variety of actions in response to concerns, including requesting additional information, providing individuals with information about submitting sworn complaints, and contacting clerks and other officials about the concerns. WEC's staff indicated that they try to quickly resolve concerns about the accessibility of polling places on Election Day by contacting clerks and poll workers.

Through May 2021, WEC's staff did not track whether or how they had responded to concerns.

Through May 2021, WEC's staff did not systematically track whether or how they had responded to concerns. However, WEC's staff tracked some information about concerns provided through forms on WEC's website, including the text of the concerns and the names and contact information of individuals who submitted concerns, if this information was provided. WEC's staff indicated that they retained email messages conveying concerns but kept these messages in multiple electronic files, and that they did not systematically track or retain information about concerns conveyed through telephone calls. WEC's staff indicated that the large number of concerns they received hindered their ability to track additional information about these concerns and how they responded to them.

WEC's staff provided us with information about 1,521 election-related concerns that had been provided through forms on WEC's website from January 2020 through mid-April 2021. Not all of these concerns pertained to the November 2020 General Election. We reviewed each concern and determined the types of issues discussed in them. Individuals could discuss multiple issues in a given concern.

A total of 611 of the 1,521 concerns provided through forms on WEC's website from January 2020 through mid-April 2021 pertained to absentee ballots.

As shown in Table 12, we found that 611 of the 1,521 concerns (40.2 percent) provided through forms on WEC's website from January 2020 through mid-April 2021 pertained to absentee ballots. Individuals indicated, for example, that they had not received absentee ballots they had requested or had not received them in a timely manner, and they had questions about the security of absentee ballots and whether such ballots were counted.

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Table 12

Election-Related Concerns Provided to WEC through Forms on its Website, by Issue[1]
January 2020 through mid-April 2021

Issue	Number	Percentage of Total
Absentee Ballots	611	40.2%
Public Health Crisis	574	37.7
Polling Place Location and Practices	366	24.1
Electioneering or External Group Involvement in Elections	110	7.2
Voter Registration	86	5.7
MyVote Wisconsin Website	82	5.4
Electronic Voting Equipment	34	2.2
Accessibility	28	1.8
Other[2]	119	7.8

[1] According to information WEC's staff provided on 1,521 election-related concerns. Individuals could discuss multiple issues in a given concern.

[2] Includes requests for information from WEC and concerns about WEC's integrity.

According to minutes and materials from WEC's meetings from January 2020 through June 2021, WEC's staff informed WEC about concerns on three occasions. On two of these occasions, WEC's staff informed WEC about the number of concerns that had been provided in a given time period.

Improving Procedures

In report 14-14, we found that GAB's staff did not have written policies for considering complaints and did not track information regarding all complaints.

In report 14-14, we found that GAB's staff did not have written policies for considering complaints and did not track information regarding all complaints. Therefore, we recommended that GAB's staff present written policies for considering complaints to GAB for its approval. We also recommended that GAB's staff maintain complete, centralized information about all complaints received. 2015 Wisconsin Act 118 required WEC to implement the recommendations in report 14-14.

In our current audit, we found that WEC's staff relied on statutes to guide their considerations, as well as administrative rules for considering complaints about the conduct of election officials. We were unable to determine how WEC's staff considered election-related concerns because they did not track such information through May 2021. In June 2021, WEC executed a two-year $93,000 contract with a firm to provide software that is intended, in part, to track election-related concerns and how its staff responded to these

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concerns. WEC's staff indicated that they plan to implement this software later in 2021.

Improvements should be made to how election-related complaints and concerns are considered.

Improvements should be made to how election-related complaints and concerns are considered. Because administrative rules for considering complaints alleging violations of election laws are no longer in effect, WEC's staff should work with WEC to promulgate rules for considering such complaints. Administrative rules could, for example, describe the types of information that should be included in complaints and allow a complainant to respond to any information provided to WEC's staff by the subject of a complaint. Promulgating administrative rules allows the Governor and the Legislature to participate in the process of determining how WEC's staff consider complaints, and administrative rules carry the force of law.

WEC's staff should also use the recently purchased software to track information about concerns, including those provided through forms on WEC's website, email messages, and telephone calls. Such information should at a minimum include the types of concerns received and how WEC's staff responded to these concerns. WEC's staff should regularly provide summary information about these concerns to WEC. Doing so will help WEC and staff managers to ensure that staff are taking consistent and appropriate actions, as well as to better understand the scope and breadth of the concerns provided.

☑ Recommendation

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- *work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to promulgate administrative rules for considering complaints alleging violations of election laws;*

- *use recently purchased software to track election-related concerns and regularly provide summary information about these concerns to the Wisconsin Elections Commission; and*

- *report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to comply with these recommendations.*

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Issue for Legislative Consideration

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to report to it certain information about election-related concerns every six months.

Currently, statutes do not require WEC to report any information to the Legislature about the considerable number of election-related concerns that it receives from individuals. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to report to it certain information about election-related concerns every six months. Such information could include the number of election-related concerns that individuals had provided to WEC, the types of issues addressed in these concerns, and how WEC's staff addressed these concerns.

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Election Recount Costs

If more than 4,000 votes are cast in an election, statutes permit a candidate trailing by no more than 1.0 percent of the total votes cast to petition for a recount.

If more than 4,000 votes are cast in an election, statutes permit a candidate trailing by no more than 1.0 percent of the total votes cast to petition for a recount. Upon receiving a recount petition, statutes require either clerks or WEC to estimate the costs of the recount. After the November 2016 General Election, a presidential candidate requested a statewide recount. After the November 2020 General Election, a different presidential candidate requested a recount in Dane and Milwaukee counties. In both counties, the estimated recount costs and the actual recount costs increased considerably from 2016 to 2020. In both counties, the actual recount costs in 2016 were lower than the estimated recount costs, and the actual recount costs in 2020 were lower than the estimated recount costs. Statutes do not require WEC to ensure that the estimated costs and the actual costs are reasonable and appropriate. We include two issues for legislative consideration.

If the difference in a vote total exceeds 0.25 percent, statutes require a petitioning candidate to prepay the estimated recount costs before a recount begins. If the actual cost of a recount differs from the estimated cost, a petitioning candidate either owes an additional amount or is refunded the excess amount that had been prepaid. If an election outcome changes because of a recount, the petitioning candidate is not required to pay. On November 18, 2020, a presidential candidate who trailed in the vote total by 0.62 percent filed a petition for a recount in Dane and Milwaukee counties and prepaid WEC $3.0 million. On November 19, 2020, WEC ordered a recount.

Statutes require a recount to be conducted by the county board of canvassers, which includes the county clerk and two qualified electors appointed by the county clerk for two-year terms. One of these two electors must belong to a political party other than the county clerk's

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party. A recount must begin no later than 9:00 a.m. on the third day after receipt of a recount order from WEC and be completed no later than 13 days after receipt of a recount order. Milwaukee County completed the recount on November 27, and Dane County completed it on November 29.

Estimated Recount Costs

In anticipation of a statewide recount, WEC provided all county clerks with a template for estimating recount costs.

In anticipation of a possible statewide recount after the November 2020 General Election, WEC advised all county clerks to estimate their recount costs and provided them with a template that:

- suggested allowable cost categories and indicated that certain costs were not reimbursable, including those for alcoholic beverages, traffic citations, and child care;
- included a link to a given county's estimated and actual recount costs in 2016 and indicated that clerks could use this information to estimate recount costs in 2020; and
- included a signature line for a clerk to attest that a county's estimated costs were accurate, reasonable, and necessary.

Although statutes require WEC to prescribe standard forms and procedures for conducting a recount, WEC's staff indicated that county clerks were not required to use the template to estimate recount costs. WEC's staff indicated that WEC interprets this statutory requirement to relate to the recount process, such as how ballots are counted, but not to how clerks should estimate recount costs.

We reviewed the estimated costs that all 72 county clerks provided to WEC for the 2016 and the 2020 recounts and found that these estimated costs:

- increased in 58 counties, including from $6,100 to $45,300 in Juneau County, where the 642.6 percent change was the largest percentage increase among all counties; and
- decreased in 14 counties, including from $141,000 to $20,000 in Pierce County, where the 85.8 percent change was the largest percentage decrease among all counties.

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From 2016 to 2020, the estimated cost of the recount increased in Milwaukee and Dane counties.

From 2016 to 2020, the estimated cost of the recount increased by 279.9 percent in Milwaukee County and by 116.1 percent in Dane County, as shown in Table 13. The percentage increase in Milwaukee County was the 12th largest among all counties, and the percentage increase in Dane County was the 32nd largest. For all other counties combined, the estimated cost for the 2020 recount was 69.0 percent greater than the estimated cost for the 2016 recount.

Table 13

Estimated Costs of the Recounts[1]
Recounts Conducted after the November 2016 and November 2020 General Elections

	2016	2020	Percentage Increase
Milwaukee County	$536,700	$2,039,000	279.9%
Dane County	342,800	740,800	116.1

[1] According to information that counties provided to WEC.

Many factors can affect recount costs, including the number of ballots to be recounted. From 2016 to 2020, the number of ballots cast increased by 11.4 percent in Dane County, 4.2 percent in Milwaukee County, and 12.0 percent in all other counties combined. In addition, WEC provided county clerks with guidance on costs that were reasonable to include in 2020 because of the public health emergency. Such costs included additional space rental to allow for social distancing, personal protective equipment, hand sanitizer and masks, and plexiglass dividers, as well as the costs of safely allowing recount observers and livestreaming services if in-person space was limited. In 2020, Milwaukee County included $15,500 for public health emergency–specific items in its estimated costs, and Dane County included $14,500. However, both counties indicated that most types of costs were affected by the public health emergency.

The estimated per-ballot cost of the recount increased from:

- $1.11 in 2016 to $2.15 in 2020 (93.7 percent) in Dane County;
- $1.22 in 2016 to $4.44 in 2020 (263.9 percent) in Milwaukee County; and
- $1.36 in 2016 to $2.05 in 2020 (50.7 percent) in all other counties combined.

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WEC's staff indicated that they briefly reviewed the estimated and actual recount cost information that county clerks provided before sending this information to petitioning candidates. WEC's staff indicated that WEC does not believe it has the statutory authority to question the cost information.

We question whether WEC's staff sufficiently reviewed the cost information in 2016 before sending it to the petitioning candidate. We found that WEC's staff:

- informed the petitioning candidate that the recount's estimated cost was $3.5 million, even though counties had provided estimated costs totaling $3.9 million; and
- did not realize the actual cost information provided by Dane County included $25,600 in duplicated costs, which the petitioning candidate subsequently paid.

Actual Recount Costs

In 2016 and 2020, the actual costs of the recount were lower than the estimated costs in Milwaukee and Dane counties.

As shown in Table 14, the actual costs of the recount in 2016 in Milwaukee and Dane counties were lower than the estimated costs, and the actual costs in 2020 in both counties were lower than the estimated costs. For all other counties in 2016, the average estimated cost was $43,100 per county, and the average actual cost was $21,900. Thirteen counties had actual costs that exceeded estimated costs by a total of $14,000.

Table 14

Comparison of Estimated Costs and Actual Costs of Recounts[1]
Recounts Conducted after the November 2016 and November 2020 General Elections

	2016		2020	
County	Estimated Costs	Actual Costs	Estimated Costs	Actual Costs
Milwaukee	$536,700	$271,500	$2,039,000	$1,719,200
Dane	342,800	201,700	740,800	729,700

[1] According to information that counties provided to WEC.

We examined in greater detail the actual costs of the recounts in 2016 and 2020. 2017 Wisconsin Act 120, which was enacted in

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November 2017, allowed WEC to include its own recount-related costs in the amounts paid by petitioning candidates. For the 2020 recount, the petitioning candidate paid $6,200 for WEC's costs.

The actual cost of the 2020 recount totaled $2.4 million in Milwaukee and Dane counties.

As shown in Table 15, the actual cost of the 2020 recount totaled $2.4 million for Milwaukee and Dane counties, which was more than five times greater than the $473,100 charged by the two counties for the 2016 recount. From 2016 to 2020:

- Milwaukee County's actual costs increased by 533.3 percent, and its per-ballot costs increased from $0.62 to $3.74; and
- Dane County's actual costs increased by 261.9 percent, and its per-ballot costs increased from $0.65 to $2.12.

Table 15

Actual Costs of the Recounts[1]
Recounts Conducted after the November 2016 and November 2020 General Elections

	2016	2020	Percentage Change
Milwaukee County			
Facilities	$ 7,500	$ 623,000	8,206.7%
Election Systems and Equipment	45,500	499,100	996.9
Staffing	167,200	408,800	144.5
Security	33,900	141,000	315.9
Other[2]	17,300	47,400	174.0
Subtotal	271,500	1,719,200	533.2
Dane County			
Staffing	125,500	279,400	122.6
Election Systems and Equipment	–	151,600	–
Facilities	22,200	144,100	549.1
Security	–	113,000	–
Other[2]	54,000 [3]	41,600	(23.0)
Subtotal	201,700	729,700	261.8
Total	**$473,100**	**$2,449,000**	417.6

[1] According to information that Dane and Milwaukee counties provided to WEC. Excludes $6,200 in WEC's costs in 2020.

[2] Includes supplies and municipal costs.

[3] Includes $25,600 in double-counted costs that the petitioning candidate paid.

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We examined the reasons that the actual costs of the recounts in Dane and Milwaukee counties increased from 2016 to 2020. To do so, we reviewed cost information the two counties provided. The two counties did not consistently report similar types of information.

Staffing

Statutes indicate that a board of canvassers may employ individuals to help complete recount work and that these individuals must be paid a reasonable daily compensation or a proportionate hourly rate. WEC's staff indicated that each county determines how much to pay. County staff and municipal employees may also complete recount work.

From 2016 to 2020, Dane County's recount costs for staffing increased from $125,500 to $279,400.

From 2016 to 2020, Dane County's recount costs for staffing increased from $125,500 to $279,400. Information provided by the county indicated that:

- From 2016 to 2020, the total cost of individuals it hired increased from $102,000 to $243,100.
- In 2016, the county paid all individuals it hired $20 per hour. In 2020, it paid 199 individuals $30 per hour, 5 individuals $45 per hour, and 1 individual $60 per hour. The county indicated that hourly rates increased, in part, because of cost of living adjustments and the need to ensure adequate staffing levels during a public health emergency.
- The county paid no overtime to individuals it hired in 2016, but it paid $19,300 for 373.5 hours of overtime to individuals it hired in 2020.
- In 2016, the costs of recount work performed by county staff totaled $21,800, including $7,000 for the county clerk. In 2020, county staff costs totaled $34,900, excluding work performed by the county clerk, for which the county did not seek reimbursement. The county indicated that although it was reimbursed for the costs of staff time, staff did not receive additional compensation for recount work.

From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's recount costs for staffing increased from $167,200 to $408,800.

From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's recount costs for staffing increased from $167,200 to $408,800. Each municipality in the county hired individuals and determined the amounts to pay them. Information provided by the county indicated that:

- The City of Milwaukee paid individuals it hired $15 per hour in 2016 and $23.91 in 2020. It indicated that it increased the hourly pay because of

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recruiting difficulties caused, in part, because Dane County paid individuals $30 per hour.

- In 2020, the cities of Milwaukee and West Allis paid individuals $138,500 for 3,691.4 hours of overtime, which accounted for 96.3 percent of all hours reported by these two cities.

- In 2016, the costs of recount work performed by county staff totaled $33,200. In 2020, county staff costs totaled $34,400, including the cost of 64 hours of work performed by the county clerk, for which the county sought reimbursement. The county indicated that although it was reimbursed for the costs of staff time, its staff did not receive additional compensation for recount work.

Facilities

In deciding on a facility in which to conduct a recount, counties consider factors such as accessibility, space, and cost. Facility costs may include rent, parking, and meals.

From 2016 to 2020, Dane County's facility costs increased from $22,200 to $144,100.

From 2016 to 2020, Dane County's facility costs increased from $22,200 to $144,100. Information provided the county indicated that:

- In 2016, the county used the Madison City-County Building to conduct the recount at a cost of $8,000. In 2020, it paid $103,400 to rent space at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center. The county indicated that it did not use the City-County Building because it needed more space to allow social distancing for recount workers and observers.

- In 2020, the county considered renting space at the Monona Terrace or the Alliant Energy Center but did not obtain a cost estimate for the Alliant Energy Center. The county indicated that it chose the Monona Terrace because of its proximity to the City-County Building and because the Alliant Energy Center was being used for public health emergency–related purposes.

- The contract with the Monona Terrace required the county to rent space and pay for catered meals for 13 days, which is the statutorily stipulated amount of time to complete a recount. After the county completed its recount in 10 days, it paid a $6,100 cancellation fee and was refunded a portion of the costs of meals it no longer needed.

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From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's facility costs increased from $7,500 to $623,000.

From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's facility costs increased from $7,500 to $623,000. Information provided by the county indicated that:

- In 2016, the county used a Milwaukee Election Commission warehouse to conduct the recount and reported no costs. In 2020, it paid $510,400 to rent space at the Wisconsin Center. The county indicated that it did not use the warehouse, in part, because the City of Milwaukee did not make the warehouse available, the county needed more space to allow social distancing, and the Wisconsin Center provided catering and security.

- Before renting space at the Wisconsin Center, the county considered using the Milwaukee County Sports Complex, the Fiserv Forum, and 501 West Michigan Avenue, where the City of Milwaukee had conducted its central count on Election Day.

- The county completed its recount in 8 days, but it paid to rent space at the Wisconsin Center for 12 days, including 2 days when voting equipment and other recount supplies were on-site.

A county may provide meals to individuals helping with a recount. The Department of Administration's (DOA's) guidelines indicate that state employees can be reimbursed up to $10 for lunch and $20 for dinner when traveling for work in the state. Statutes do not limit meal costs for recounts or require counties to follow DOA's meal reimbursement guidelines.

According to information provided by the counties, meal costs were included in the total facility costs in 2020. Information provided indicated:

- From 2016 to 2020, Dane County's meal costs increased from $4,000 to $28,400. The Monona Terrace catered box lunches for $10 per person and dinners for $20 per person.

- From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's meal costs increased from $7,500 to $72,300. The Wisconsin Center catered box lunches for $23 per person but did not provide dinners.

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Election Systems and Equipment

From 2016 to 2020, Dane County's election systems and equipment costs increased from $0 to $151,600.

In 2016, Dane County reported no costs for election systems and equipment because it recounted ballots by hand. In 2020, the county reported $151,600 in such costs, in part, because it used four automatic tabulating machines to complete most of the recount. This amount included $9,700 for various costs at Monona Terrace, including four television screens, two document cameras, two laptops, two web cameras, and microphones.

From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's election systems and equipment costs increased from $45,500 to $499,100.

From 2016 to 2020, Milwaukee County's election systems and equipment costs increased from $45,500 to $499,100. Information provided by the county indicated that:

- In 2016, the county counted ballots with four automatic tabulating machines provided by the City of Milwaukee, including two machines rented for $34,400 from the vendor of the machines and two machines provided at no cost by the city. In 2020, the city provided seven machines and charged the county $117,000 for costs associated with wear and tear. This amount was one-half of the amount that the manufacturer would have charged to rent the machines.

- In 2020, a portion of the Wisconsin Center's costs included technology, such as approximately $355,100 for audio-visual production and streaming, electronic systems, and equipment.

Issues for Legislative Consideration

We reviewed whether other midwestern states limit the amount of recount costs that can be charged to petitioning candidates. We found that:

- Minnesota requires each jurisdiction where a recount is conducted to make available at no cost all necessary equipment and facilities; and

- Michigan requires petitioning candidates to pay statutorily predetermined amounts of up to $250 per precinct, regardless of their actual recount costs.

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If the Legislature wanted to limit the types of recount costs charged to petitioning candidates, it could modify statutes to require that only certain types of costs could be charged.

If the Legislature wanted to limit the types of recount costs charged to petitioning candidates, it could modify statutes to require that only certain types of costs could be charged. For example, it could stipulate that petitioning candidates not be charged costs associated with facilities, certain types of equipment, or the salaries and fringe benefits of government employees, who may be expected to fulfill at no cost all duties pertaining to administering elections. Similarly, it could stipulate that recounts must occur in government facilities whenever possible, or require counties to show that they rented reasonably priced private facilities. However, circumstances such as a public health emergency could result in counties incurring new and unanticipated types of costs, and taxpayer funds could end up financing a portion of the recount costs that petitioning candidates currently cover.

If the Legislature wanted to limit the total recount costs charged to petitioning candidates, it could modify statutes to determine the amount that could be charged.

If the Legislature wanted to limit the total recount costs charged to petitioning candidates, it could modify statutes to determine the total amount that could be charged. For example, statutes could stipulate an amount per ballot to be recounted, and statutes could stipulate that this amount would increase over time, such as by the rate of inflation. Doing so would ensure a petitioning candidate knew in advance the cost of a recount. However, actual costs could vary considerably among counties, and taxpayer funds could end up financing a portion of the recount costs that petitioning candidates currently cover, particularly if costs increase during circumstances such as a public health emergency.

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Appendices

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Appendix 1

WEC Commissioners, by Appointing Authority

October 2021

Commissioner	Appointing Authority
Marge Bostelmann	Governor
Julie Glancey	Governor
Ann Jacobs	Senate Minority Leader
Dean Knudson	Assembly Speaker
Robert Spindell, Jr.	Senate Majority Leader
Mark Thomsen	Assembly Minority Leader

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Appendix 2

Eight Groups Involved with Elections Administration Issues That We Contacted

Disability Rights Wisconsin

League of Wisconsin Municipalities

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Counties Association

Wisconsin County Clerks Association

Wisconsin Election Integrity

Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association

Wisconsin Towns Association

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Appendix 3

Municipal Clerks and County Clerks That We Contacted, by County

County	Clerk
Adams	Adams, Town of
	Jackson, Town of
Ashland	Ashland, City of
Barron	Barron County
	Chetek, City of
	Stanfold, Town of
Brown	Allouez, Village of
	Ashwaubenon, Village of
	Bellevue, Village of
	De Pere, City of
	Green Bay, City of
	Hobart, Village of
	Rockland, Town of
	Suamico, Village of
Buffalo	Belvidere, Town of
	Cross, Town of
	Milton, Town of
Burnett	Sand Lake, Town of
	Union, Town of
Calumet	Brillion, City of
	Chilton, Town of
	Harrison, Town of
	New Holstein, City of
Chippewa	Chippewa Falls, City of
	Cornell, City of
	Tilden, Town of
Clark	Hendren, Town of
	Loyal, City of
	Thorp, City of
	Withee, Village of
Columbia	Cambria, Village of
	Lodi, City of
Crawford	Lynxville, Village of

County	Clerk
Dane	Christiana, Town of
	Cottage Grove, Town of
	Dane County
	Deerfield, Town of
	Madison, City of
	Maple Bluff, Village of
	Mount Horeb, Village of
	Oregon, Town of
	Perry, Town of
	Rutland, Town of
	Stoughton, City of
	Sun Prairie, City of
	Verona, City of
	Westport, Town of
Dodge	Chester, Town of
	Dodge County
	Lebanon, Town of
	Rubicon, Town of
Door	Door County
	Egg Harbor, Town of
	Jacksonport, Town of
	Liberty Grove, Town of
Douglas	Superior, City of
Dunn	Colfax, Village of
Eau Claire	Eau Claire, City of
Fond du Lac	Campbellsport, Village of
	Fond du Lac, City of
	Fond du Lac County
	Friendship, Town of
Grant	Bloomington, Town of
	Platteville, City of
Green Lake	Berlin, City of
	Brooklyn, Town of
	Green Lake County

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County	Clerk
Jackson	Alma, Town of
	Curran, Town of
Jefferson	Oakland, Town of
	Watertown, City of
Juneau	Juneau County
	Lemonweir, Town of
	Marion, Town of
	New Lisbon, City of
Kenosha	Kenosha, City of
	Kenosha County
	Pleasant Prairie, Village of
	Somers, Town of
	Somers, Village of
Kewaunee	Kewaunee County
La Crosse	La Crosse, City of
	Medary, Town of
Lafayette	Blanchardville, Village of
Langlade	Antigo, City of
Manitowoc	Manitowoc, City of
Marathon	Day, Town of
	Marathon City, Village of
	Marathon County
	Wausau, City of
	Weston, Village of
Marinette	Marinette County
	Niagara, City of
Marquette	Neshkoro, Town of
Menominee	Menominee County
Milwaukee	Franklin, City of
	Greendale, Village of
	Greenfield, City of
	Milwaukee, City of
	Milwaukee County
	Oak Creek, City of
	Shorewood, Village of
	South Milwaukee, City of
	Wauwatosa, City of
	West Allis, City of
	Whitefish Bay, Village of

County	Clerk
Monroe	Sparta, City of
	Wells, Town of
Oconto	Little River, Town of
	Oconto, City of
Outagamie	Grand Chute, Town of
	Little Chute, Village of
	Oneida, Town of
	Outagamie County
Ozaukee	Cedarburg, City of
	Port Washington, City of
Pepin	Durand, City of
	Stockholm, Town of
Pierce	Ellsworth, Town of
	River Falls, City of
Polk	Farmington, Town of
Portage	Sharon, Town of
Price	Price County
Racine	Mount Pleasant, Village of
	North Bay, Village of
Richland	Marshall, Town of
Rock	Beloit, City of
	Janesville, City of
	Johnstown, Town of
	Spring Valley, Town of
Rusk	Grant, Town of
	Willard, Town of
Sawyer	Sawyer County
	Winter, Village of
Shawano	Bartelme, Town of
Sheboygan	Holland, Town of
	Mitchell, Town of
	Random Lake, Village of
	Sheboygan Falls, City of
St. Croix	Baldwin, Village of
	Hudson, City of
	Roberts, Village of
	St. Croix County
	Star Prairie, Town of

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County	Clerk
Taylor	Greenwood, Town of
Vernon	Forest, Town of
	Viroqua, City of
Vilas	Lac du Flambeau, Town of
	Vilas County
Walworth	Elkhorn, City of
	Walworth County
	Whitewater, City of
Washington	Barton, Town of
	Erin, Town of
	Germantown, Village of
	Jackson, Town of
	Jackson, Village of
	Richfield, Village of
	Washington County
	West Bend, City of
Waukesha	Brookfield, City of
	Menomonee Falls, Village of
	New Berlin, City of
	Oconomowoc, City of
	Ottawa, Town of
	Pewaukee, City of
Waupaca	Little Wolf, Town of
	Waupaca County
Waushara	Richford, Town of
Winnebago	Algoma, Town of
	Clayton, Town of
	Fox Crossing, Village of
	Menasha, City of
	Neenah, City of
	Oshkosh, City of
	Winnebago County
Wood	Arpin, Town of
	Marshfield, City of
	Wisconsin Rapids, City of

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Appendix 4

Review of a Sample of Absentee Ballot Certificates in the November 2020 General Election

This appendix provides an overview of the 14,710 certificates we reviewed in 29 municipalities. We determined the extent to which these certificates had partial witness addresses. For purposes of our analysis, we determined a partial witness address to exclude one or more of the following: street name and number, municipality, state, and zip code. We also determined the extent to which these certificates did not have entire witness addresses, witness signatures, or voter signatures. The following tables present the results of our review.

Descriptions of key terms follow.

Total Certificates is the total number of certificates associated with absentee ballots cast in the November 2020 General Election in a given municipality, according to WisVote data.

Certificates We Reviewed includes the number of certificates we reviewed in a given municipality, the number of certificates that we found to have an issue (e.g., certificates with partial witness addresses), and the percentage of certificates that we found to have an issue (e.g., certificates with partial witness addresses).

Estimated Total Number of Certificates that had a given issue (e.g., certificates with partial witness addresses) presents our low estimate and high estimate of the number of all certificates in a given municipality that had a given issue. Based on statistical approximation, we are 95.0 percent confident that the total number of certificates with a given issue in a municipality is between these low and high estimates. If the certificates we reviewed did not indicate that a given issue occurred in a given municipality, we do not provide estimates for that municipality.

Because we reviewed all or almost all certificates in 8 of the 29 municipalities, we instead provide the actual total number of certificates in a given municipality that had a given issue.

In the City of Sun Prairie, we reviewed a large sample of certificates that we did not select randomly, so we cannot use statistical approximation to estimate the total number of certificates that had a given issue.

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Certificates with Partial Witness Addresses[1]

Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates with Partial Witness Addresses[2]		Actual Total Number of Certificates with Partial Witness Addresses
		Number	Number with Partial Witness Addresses	Percentage with Partial Witness Addresses	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Appleton, City of	24,196	551	15	2.72%	401	1,075	
Bayside, Village of	2,689	521	46	8.83	180	312	
Brookfield, City of	20,923	760	287	37.76	7,195	8,634	
Eau Claire, City of	22,348	469	15	3.20	436	1,165	
Franklin, Town of (Jackson County)	30	30	1	3.33			1
Glendale, City of	7,010	499	1	0.20	3	79	
Green Bay, City of	32,051	485	39	8.04	1,904	3,463	
Greenfield, Town of (La Crosse County)	744	744	66	8.87			66
Highland, Village of	186	186	8	4.30			8
Janesville, City of	22,515	631	27	4.28	666	1,386	
Kekoskee, Village of	162	162	62	38.27			62
Kenosha, City of	30,434	520	3	0.58	60	512	
Ledgeview, Town of (Brown County)	4,297	533	13	2.44	62	178	
Little Suamico, Town of (Oconto County)	1,772	886	67	7.56	107	169	
Loyal, Town of (Clark County)	62	62	11	17.74			11
McFarland, Village of	4,902	541	0	0.0			
Middleton, City of	11,202	507	6	1.18	61	287	
Milwaukee, City of	169,208	597	1	0.17	51	1,596	
Oshkosh, Town of (Winnebago County)	901	899	68	7.56			68
Racine, City of	20,739	506	7	1.38	140	587	
Rib Lake, Village of	139	139	2	1.44			2

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Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates with Partial Witness Addresses[2]		Actual Total Number of Certificates with Partial Witness Addresses
		Number	Number with Partial Witness Addresses	Percentage with Partial Witness Addresses	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Shorewood, Village of	7,947	521	141	27.06%	1,862	2,467	
Shorewood Hills, Village of	1,439	722	14	1.94	17	47	
Sullivan, Village of	146	146	3	2.05			3
Sun Prairie, City of[3]	16,758	1,000	24	2.40			
Verona, City of	7,095	504	13	2.58	108	310	
Waukesha, City of	26,355	563	33	5.86	1,108	2,140	
Wauwatosa, City of	25,508	524	27	5.15	910	1,886	
Whitefish Bay, Village of	8,270	502	22	4.38	241	542	
Totals	**470,028**	**14,710**	**1,022**	6.95			

[1] Certificates did not have one or more address components, including street name and number, municipality, state, and zip code.

[2] Based on statistical approximation, we are 95.0 percent confident that the total number of certificates with partial witness addresses is between the low and high estimates.

[3] Statistical approximation cannot be used to estimate the total number of certificates because we did not randomly select certificates for review.

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Certificates without an Entire Witness Address

Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates without an Entire Witness Address[1]		Actual Total Number of Certificates without an Entire Witness Address
		Number	Number without an Entire Witness Address	Percentage without an Entire Witness Address	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Appleton, City of	24,196	551	0	0.0%			
Bayside, Village of	2,689	521	2	0.38	3	38	
Brookfield, City of	20,923	760	0	0.0			
Eau Claire, City of	22,348	469	0	0.0			
Franklin, Town of (Jackson County)	30	30	0	0.0			0
Glendale, City of	7,010	499	0	0.0			
Green Bay, City of	32,051	485	2	0.41	37	478	
Greenfield, Town of (La Crosse County)	744	744	0	0.0			0
Highland, Village of	186	186	0	0.0			0
Janesville, City of	22,515	631	0	0.0			
Kekoskee, Village of	162	162	0	0.0			0
Kenosha, City of	30,434	520	0	0.0			
Ledgeview, Town of (Brown County)	4,297	533	1	0.19	2	46	
Little Suamico, Town of (Oconto County)	1,772	886	1	0.11	1	12	
Loyal, Town of (Clark County)	62	62	4	6.45			4
McFarland, Village of	4,902	541	0	0.0			
Middleton, City of	11,202	507	0	0.0			
Milwaukee, City of	169,208	597	0	0.0			
Oshkosh, Town of (Winnebago County)	901	899	0	0.0			0
Racine, City of	20,739	506	1	0.20	8	231	
Rib Lake, Village of	139	139	1	0.72			1

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Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates without an Entire Witness Address[1]		Actual Total Number of Certificates without an Entire Witness Address
		Number	Number without an Entire Witness Address	Percentage without an Entire Witness Address	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Shorewood, Village of	7,947	521	0	0.0%			
Shorewood Hills, Village of	1,439	722	0	0.0			
Sullivan, Village of	146	146	1	0.68			1
Sun Prairie, City of[2]	16,758	1,000	0	0.0			
Verona, City of	7,095	504	1	0.20	3	80	
Waukesha, City of	26,355	563	0	0.0			
Wauwatosa, City of	25,508	524	0	0.0			
Whitefish Bay, Village of	8,270	502	1	0.20	3	93	
Totals	**470,028**	**14,710**	**15**	0.10			

[1] Based on statistical approximation, we are 95.0 percent confident that the total number of certificates without an entire witness address is between the low and high estimates.

[2] Statistical approximation cannot be used to estimate the total number of certificates because we did not randomly select certificates for review.

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Certificates without a Witness Signature

Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates without a Witness Signature[1]		Actual Total Number of Certificates without a Witness Signature
		Number	Number without a Witness Signature[2]	Percentage without a Witness Signature	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Appleton, City of	24,196	551	0	0.0%			
Bayside, Village of	2,689	521	0	0.0			
Brookfield, City of	20,923	760	0	0.0			
Eau Claire, City of	22,348	469	1	0.21	9	268	
Franklin, Town of (Jackson County)	30	30	0	0.0			0
Glendale, City of	7,010	499	1	0.20	3	79	
Green Bay, City of	32,051	485	0	0.0			
Greenfield, Town of (La Crosse County)	744	744	0	0.0			0
Highland, Village of	186	186	0	0.0			0
Janesville, City of	22,515	631	2	0.32	20	259	
Kekoskee, Village of	162	162	0	0.0			0
Kenosha, City of	30,434	520	1	0.19	11	329	
Ledgeview, Town of (Brown County)	4,297	533	0	0.0			
Little Suamico, Town of (Oconto County)	1,772	886	0	0.0			
Loyal, Town of (Clark County)	62	62	0	0.0			0
McFarland, Village of	4,902	541	0	0.0			
Middleton, City of	11,202	507	0	0.0			
Milwaukee, City of	169,208	597	0	0.0			
Oshkosh, Town of (Winnebago County)	901	899	0	0.0			0
Racine, City of	20,739	506	0	0.0			
Rib Lake, Village of	139	139	1	0.72			1

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Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates without a Witness Signature[1]		Actual Total Number of Certificates without a Witness Signature
		Number	Number without a Witness Signature[2]	Percentage without a Witness Signature	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Shorewood, Village of	7,947	521	0	0.0%			
Shorewood Hills, Village of	1,439	722	0	0.0			
Sullivan, Village of	146	146	1	0.68			1
Sun Prairie, City of[3]	16,758	1,000	0	0.0			
Verona, City of	7,095	504	0	0.0			
Waukesha, City of	26,355	563	0	0.0			
Wauwatosa, City of	25,508	524	0	0.0			
Whitefish Bay, Village of	8,270	502	1	0.20	3	93	
Totals	**470,028**	**14,710**	**8**	0.05			

[1] Based on statistical approximation, we are 95.0 percent confident that the total number of certificates without a witness signature is between the low and high estimates.

[2] Individuals who returned five of the eight certificates without a witness signature voted in-person absentee, which typically involves clerk staff writing the witness signature.

[3] Statistical approximation cannot be used to estimate the total number of certificates because we did not randomly select certificates for review.

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Certificates without a Voter Signature

Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates without a Voter Signature[1]		Actual Total Number of Certificates without a Voter Signature
		Number	Number without a Voter Signature	Percentage without a Voter Signature	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Appleton, City of	24,196	551	0	0.0%			
Bayside, Village of	2,689	521	0	0.0			
Brookfield, City of	20,923	760	0	0.0			
Eau Claire, City of	22,348	469	1	0.21	9	268	
Franklin, Town of (Jackson County)	30	30	0	0.0			0
Glendale, City of	7,010	499	0	0.0			
Green Bay, City of	32,051	485	0	0.0			
Greenfield, Town of (La Crosse County)	744	744	0	0.0			0
Highland, Village of	186	186	0	0.0			0
Janesville, City of	22,515	631	2	0.32	20	259	
Kekoskee, Village of	162	162	0	0.0			0
Kenosha, City of	30,434	520	0	0.0			
Ledgeview, Town of (Brown County)	4,297	533	0	0.0			
Little Suamico, Town of (Oconto County)	1,772	886	0	0.0			
Loyal, Town of (Clark County)	62	62	0	0.0			0
McFarland, Village of	4,902	541	0	0.0			
Middleton, City of	11,202	507	0	0.0			
Milwaukee, City of	169,208	597	0	0.0			
Oshkosh, Town of (Winnebago County)	901	899	0	0.0			0
Racine, City of	20,739	506	0	0.0			
Rib Lake, Village of	139	139	0	0.0			0

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Municipality	Total Certificates	Certificates We Reviewed			Estimated Total Number of Certificates without a Voter Signature[1]		Actual Total Number of Certificates without a Voter Signature
		Number	Number without a Voter Signature	Percentage without a Voter Signature	Low Estimate	High Estimate	
Shorewood, Village of	7,947	521	0	0.0%			
Shorewood Hills, Village of	1,439	722	0	0.0			
Sullivan, Village of	146	146	0	0.0			0
Sun Prairie, City of[2]	16,758	1,000	0	0.0			
Verona, City of	7,095	504	0	0.0			
Waukesha, City of	26,355	563	0	0.0			
Wauwatosa, City of	25,508	524	0	0.0			
Whitefish Bay, Village of	8,270	502	0	0.0			
Totals	**470,028**	**14,710**	**3**	0.02			

[1] Based on statistical approximation, we are 95.0 percent confident that the total number of certificates without a voter signature is between the low and high estimates.

[2] Statistical approximation cannot be used to estimate the total number of certificates because we did not randomly select certificates for review.

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Appendix 5

319 Municipalities for Which We Reviewed Election Day Forms, by County

County	Municipality
Adams	Big Flats, Town of
	Colburn, Town of
	Friendship, Village of
	New Haven, Town of
Barron	Barron, Town of
	Cameron, Village of
	Cumberland, Town of
	Haugen, Village of
	Prairie Farm, Village of
	Turtle Lake, Village of
Bayfield	Barksdale, Town of
	Hughes, Town of
	Mason, Village of
Brown	Ashwaubenon, Village of
	Howard, Village of
	Lawrence, Town of
	Wrightstown, Village of
Buffalo	Canton, Town of
	Maxville, Town of
Burnett	Meenon, Town of
	Roosevelt, Town of
	Sand Lake, Town of
	Scott, Town of
	Siren, Town of
	Wood River, Town of
Calumet	Brillion, City of
	Potter, Village of
	Stockbridge, Village of
Chippewa	Anson, Town of
	Arthur, Town of
	Bloomer, City of
	Edson, Town of
	New Auburn, Village of

County	Municipality
Clark	Beaver, Town of
	Dewhurst, Town of
	Hewett, Town of
	Mentor, Town of
	Neillsville, City of
	Sherwood, Town of
	Warner, Town of
	York, Town of
Columbia	Lodi, City of
	Lodi, Town of
	Friesland, Village of
	Marcellon, Town of
	Newport, Town of
	West Point, Town of
	Wyocena, Town of
Crawford	Eastman, Town of
	Freeman, Town of
	Marietta, Town of
	Mount Sterling, Village of
	Soldiers Grove, Village of
	Steuben, Village of
Dane	Bristol, Town of
	Cottage Grove, Village of
	Cross Plains, Town of
	Dane, Town of
	DeForest, Village of
	Dunn, Town of
	Oregon, Town of
	Vermont, Town of
	Verona, City of
	York, Town of

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County	Municipality
Dodge	Beaver Dam, Town of
	Calamus, Town of
	Clyman, Village of
	Fox Lake, Town of
	Herman, Town of
	Iron Ridge, Village of
	LeRoy, Town of
	Reeseville, Village of
Door	Ephraim, Village of
	Sister Bay, Village of
Douglas	Amnicon, Town of
	Highland, Town of
	Lakeside, Town of
	Maple, Town of
	Parkland, Town of
Dunn	Colfax, Town of
	Peru, Town of
	Weston, Town of
Eau Claire	Clear Creek, Town of
	Eau Claire, City of
	Lincoln, Town of
Florence	Commonwealth, Town of
	Fern, Town of
	Florence, Town of
Fond du Lac	Byron, Town of
	Campbellsport, Village of
	Eden, Village of
	Eldorado, Town of
	Lamartine, Town of
	Marshfield, Town of
	Ripon, City of
Forest	Alvin, Town of
	Blackwell, Town of
	Freedom, Town of
	Popple River, Town of

County	Municipality
Grant	Bagley, Village of
	Boscobel, Town of
	Castle Rock, Town of
	Cuba City, City of
	Hazel Green, Village of
	Lancaster, City of
	Little Grant, Town of
	Millville, Town of
	Montfort, Village of
	Mount Hope, Town of
	Mount Ida, Town of
	Platteville, Town of
	Wyalusing, Town of
Green	Cadiz, Town of
	York, Town of
Green Lake	St. Marie, Town of
Iowa	Clyde, Town of
	Eden, Town of
	Linden, Village of
	Mifflin, Town of
	Pulaski, Town of
Jackson	Black River Falls, City of
	City Point, Town of
	Garfield, Town of
	Melrose, Town of
	Taylor, Village of
Juneau	Germantown, Town of
	Kildare, Town of
	Kingston, Town of
	Lemonweir, Town of
	Marion, Town of
	Wonewoc, Village of
Kenosha	Somers, Village of
Kewaunee	Ahnapee, Town of
La Crosse	Hamilton, Town of
	Shelby, Town of

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County	Municipality
Lafayette	Argyle, Village of
	Benton, Town of
	Blanchard, Town of
	Blanchardville, Village of
	Elk Grove, Town of
	Fayette, Town of
	Gratiot, Town of
	Shullsburg, City of
Langlade	Antigo, Town of
	Elcho, Town of
	Evergreen, Town of
	Norwood, Town of
Lincoln	Bradley, Town of
	Harrison, Town of
	Merrill, Town of
	Pine River, Town of
	Rock Falls, Town of
	Scott, Town of
Manitowoc	Gibson, Town of
	Maple Grove, Town of
	Mishicot, Village of
	Rockland, Town of
Marathon	Cassel, Town of
	Eau Pleine, Town of
	Franzen, Town of
	Green Valley, Town of
	Hewitt, Town of
	Kronenwetter, Village of
	Maine, Village of
	Marathon, Town of
	Marathon City, Village of
	Reid, Town of
	Schofield, City of
	Spencer, Town of
	Spencer, Village of
	Wausau, Town of

County	Municipality
Marinette	Athelstane, Town of
	Coleman, Village of
	Crivitz, Village of
	Lake, Town of
	Niagara, City of
	Wagner, Town of
Marquette	Montello, City of
	Neshkoro, Village of
	Newton, Town of
Menominee	Menominee, Town of
Milwaukee	Bayside, Village of
	Greendale, Village of
	Wauwatosa, City of
Monroe	Warrens, Village of
Onconto	Lena, Village of
	Little River, Town of
Oneida	Little Rice, Town of
	Monico, Town of
	Newbold, Town of
	Schoepke, Town of
Outagamie	Dale, Town of
	Deer Creek, Town of
	Kimberly, Village of
	Seymour, City of
	Seymour, Town of
Ozaukee	Belgium, Village of
Pepin	Frankfort, Town of
	Pepin, Town of
	Waterville, Town of
Pierce	Ellsworth, Village of
	Elmwood, Village of
	Gilman, Town of
	Maiden Rock, Village of
	Trenton, Town of
	Union, Town of

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County	Municipality
Polk	Balsam Lake, Village of
	Clayton, Town of
	Clear Lake, Village of
	Georgetown, Town of
	Johnstown, Town of
	Laketown, Town of
	St. Croix Falls, City of
	Sterling, Town of
Portage	Almond, Village of
	Junction City, Village of
	Sharon, Town of
	Stevens Point, City of
Price	Catawba, Village of
	Fifield, Town of
	Hill, Town of
	Knox, Town of
	Park Falls, City of
	Worcester, Town of
Racine	Waterford, Town of
Richland	Richland Center, City of
	Richwood, Town of
	Sylvan, Town of
Rock	Fulton, Town of
	Spring Valley, Town of
Rusk	Glen Flora, Village of
	Grow, Town of
	Hubbard, Town of
	Ingram, Village of
	Murry, Town of
	South Fork, Town of
	Strickland, Town of
	Stubbs, Town of
	Washington, Town of
Sauk	Dellona, Town of
	Fairfield, Town of
	Lake Delton, Village of
	La Valle, Town of
	Loganville, Village of
	Washington, Town of

County	Municipality
Sawyer	Ojibwa, Town of
	Radisson, Village of
	Round Lake, Town of
	Weirgor, Town of
	Winter, Village of
Shawano	Aniwa, Village of
	Hartland, Town of
	Lessor, Town of
	Richmond, Town of
	Shawano, City of
	Wittenberg, Town of
	Wittenberg, Village of
Sheboygan	Cascade, Village of
	Elkhart Lake, Village of
	Oostburg, Village of
	Plymouth, Town of
	Sheboygan, City of
St. Croix	Cylon, Town of
	Eau Galle, Town of
	Forest, Town of
	Richmond, Town of
	Roberts, Village of
	Star Prairie, Village of
	Warren, Town of
Taylor	Chelsea, Town of
	Deer Creek, Town of
	Gilman, Village of
	Medford, City of
	Stetsonville, Village of
	Taft, Town of
Trempealeau	Eleva, Village of
	Trempealeau, Town of
	Trempealeau, Village of
Vernon	Bergen, Town of
	Coon, Town of
	Forest, Town of
	Franklin, Town of
	Greenwood, Town of
	Ontario, Village of
	Stark, Town of

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County	Municipality
Vilas	Land O' Lakes, Town of
	Lincoln, Town of
Walworth	Fontana, Village of
	Lake Geneva, City of
Washburn	Brooklyn, Town of
	Minong, Town of
	Minong, Village of
	Spooner, Town of
	Springbrook, Town of
	Stinnett, Town of
	Stone Lake, Town of
Washington	Kewaskum, Town of
Waukesha	Brookfield, City of
	Eagle, Town of
	Eagle, Village of
	Elm Grove, Village of
	Genesee, Town of
	Lannon, Village of
	Muskego, City of
	Nashotah, Village of
	New Berlin, City of
	Oconomowoc Lake, Village of
Waupaca	Bear Creek, Town of
	Dupont, Town of
	Fremont, Town of
	Matteson, Town of
Waushara	Warren, Town of
Winnebago	Black Wolf, Town of
	Wolf River, Town of
Wood	Arpin, Town of
	Cranmoor, Town of
	Hewitt, Village of
	Marshfield, Town of
	Saratoga, Town of

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Appendix 6

Review of a Sample of Electronic Voting Equipment Test Results

Tests Conducted by Municipal Clerks before the November 2020 General Election

Municipal clerks conducted statutorily required tests of electronic voting equipment before the November 2020 General Election. This appendix provides an overview of the pre-election test results we requested from 29 municipalities.

Descriptions of key terms follow.

Pre-Election Tests Conducted by Clerks within 10 Days before the General Election indicates the number of test results that we examined in each municipality, as well as the number and percentage of test results that we found municipal clerks had conducted within 10 days before the General Election, as statutorily required. We examined a total of 175 test results for this analysis. In some municipalities, we examined all test results. In others, we examined a sample of test results.

Pre-Election Tests That Accurately Counted Votes indicates the number of test results that we examined in each municipality, as well as the number and percentage of test results that we found had accurately counted votes for the presidential contest. We examined a total of 60 test results for this analysis.

The following tables present the results of our review.

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Pre-Election Tests Conducted by Clerks within 10 Days before the General Election

Municipality	Number of Tests We Reviewed	Number of Reviewed Tests Conducted within 10 Days Before the Election	Percentage of Reviewed Tests Conducted within 10 Days Before the Election
Appleton, City of [1]	–	–	–
Bayside, Village of	1	0	0.0%
Brookfield, City of	34	34	100.0
Eau Claire, City of	23	1	4.3
Franklin, Town of (Jackson County)	1	1	100.0
Glendale, City of	1	0	0.0
Green Bay, City of	44	8	18.2
Greenfield, Town of (La Crosse County)	1	1	100.0
Highland, Village of	1	1	100.0
Janesville, City of	5	5	100.0
Kekoskee, Village of	1	0	0.0
Kenosha, City of	23	1	4.3
Ledgeview, Town of (Brown County)	2	2	100.0
Little Suamico, Town of (Oconto County)	2	2	100.0
Loyal, Town of (Clark County)	1	1	100.0
McFarland, Village of	6	6	100.0
Middleton, City of [1]	–	–	–
Milwaukee, City of	1	0	0.0
Oshkosh, Town of (Winnebago County)	2	2	100.0
Racine, City of [1]	–	–	–
Rib Lake, Village of	1	1	100.0
Shorewood, Village of	1	0	0.0
Shorewood Hills, Village of	1	1	100.0
Sullivan, Village of	1	1	100.0
Sun Prairie, City of	16	16	100.0
Verona, City of	4	4	100.0
Waukesha, City of [1]	–	–	–
Wauwatosa, City of	1	0	0.0
Whitefish Bay, Village of	1	0	0.0
Totals	**175**	**88**	

[1] This municipality did not provide us with any pre-election test results.

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Pre-Election Tests That Accurately Counted Votes

Municipality	Number of Tests We Reviewed	Number of Reviewed Tests That Accurately Counted Votes	Percentage of Reviewed Tests That Accurately Counted Votes
Appleton, City of [1]	–	–	–
Bayside, Village of	1	1	100.0%
Brookfield, City of	8	8	100.0
Eau Claire, City of	12	12	100.0
Franklin, Town of (Jackson County)	1	1	100.0
Glendale, City of	1	1	100.0
Green Bay, City of [2]	8	7	87.5
Greenfield, Town of (La Crosse County)	1	1	100.0
Highland, Village of	1	1	100.0
Janesville, City of	5	5	100.0
Kekoskee, Village of	1	1	100.0
Kenosha, City of	1	1	100.0
Ledgeview, Town of (Brown County)	2	2	100.0
Little Suamico, Town of (Oconto County)	2	2	100.0
Loyal, Town of [3] (Clark County)	–	–	–
McFarland, Village of	2	2	100.0
Middleton, City of [1]	–	–	–
Milwaukee, City of	1	1	100.0
Oshkosh, Town of (Winnebago County)	2	2	100.0
Racine, City of [1]	–	–	–
Rib Lake, Village of	1	1	100.0
Shorewood, Village of	1	1	100.0
Shorewood Hills, Village of	1	1	100.0
Sullivan, Village of	1	1	100.0
Sun Prairie, City of	2	2	100.0
Verona, City of	3	3	100.0
Waukesha, City of [1]	–	–	–
Wauwatosa, City of	1	1	100.0
Whitefish Bay, Village of	1	1	100.0
Totals	**60**	**59**	

[1] This municipality did not provide us with any pre-election test results.

[2] One pre-election test result included insufficient documentation, which prevented us from determining whether the equipment had accurately counted the votes for presidential candidates.

[3] This municipality provided us with incomplete pre-election test results.

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Appendix 7

Report Recommendations, by Chapter

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by March 31, 2022, on their efforts to implement our report recommendations.

Training *(p. 9)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to modify ch. EL 12, Wis. Adm. Code, to reflect current statutory requirements for elections *(p. 10)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to modify ch. EL 12.02 (7), Wis. Adm. Code, to specify how the governing bodies of municipalities will be notified when municipal clerks do not report having completed training required by administrative rules *(p. 13)*; and

- consistently comply with administrative rules *(p. 13)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to promulgate statutorily required administrative rules prescribing the contents of training that municipal clerks provide to special voting deputies and election inspectors *(p. 17)*.

Maintenance of Voter Registration Records *(p. 19)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- before January 1, 2022, work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to execute with the Department of Transportation a new written data-sharing agreement that includes provisions for verifying the information provided by individuals who register to vote by all methods and that specifies the procedures for verifying this information *(p. 24)*;

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- establish a system to regularly review and update the data-sharing agreement *(p. 24)*; and

- comply with statutes by working with the Department of Transportation to obtain the electronic signatures of individuals who register online to vote, or request that the Legislature modify the statutory requirement that the Wisconsin Elections Commission obtain them *(p. 24)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- improve how they identify potential duplicate voter registration records in WisVote by comparing driver's license and state identification card numbers of all registered voters each night *(p. 25)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- before January 1, 2022, work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to execute a new written data-sharing agreement with the Department of Health Services *(p. 28)*; and

- establish a system to regularly review and update the data-sharing agreement *(p. 28)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- before January 1, 2022, work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to execute a new data-sharing agreement with the Department of Corrections *(p. 30)*; and

- establish a system to regularly review and update the data-sharing agreement *(p. 30)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to establish a schedule for regularly obtaining each type of data available from the Electronic Registration Information Center and a plan for acting on these data *(p. 34)*.

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Absentee Ballots *(p. 37)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- ensure that the absentee ballot certificates made available to municipalities comply with statutes by requiring witnesses to print their names *(p. 45)*;
- provide municipal clerks with additional training on the statutory requirement to initial absentee ballot certificates in certain situations *(p. 45)*; and
- promulgate administrative rules to allow municipal clerks to correct or add missing witness address information to absentee ballot certificates, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be permitted to take such actions *(p. 45)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- promulgate administrative rules to permit municipal clerks to establish drop boxes where individuals can return absentee ballots, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be permitted to establish drop boxes *(p. 48)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- promulgate administrative rules to specify the situations when municipal clerks should not send special voting deputies to residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be permitted to take alternative actions in these situations *(p. 53)*.

Ballot Processing *(p. 55)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- retract their statutorily noncompliant written guidance that indicates municipal clerks may adjourn before counting all ballots as a result of inevitable circumstances *(p. 61)*; and
- promulgate administrative rules to allow municipal clerks to adjourn in certain circumstances before completing ballot counting, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be allowed to adjourn in these circumstances *(p. 61)*.

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We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to retract the statutorily noncompliant written guidance for establishing polling places *(p. 62)*; and

- promulgate administrative rules to specify the circumstances when municipal clerks can relocate polling places without approval from municipal governing bodies, if the Wisconsin Elections Commission believes municipal clerks should be allowed to relocate polling places in these circumstances *(p. 63)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- take additional actions to improve ballot processing in future elections, such as providing additional training to clerks *(p. 65)*.

Electronic Voting Equipment *(p. 67)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- provide additional training to municipal clerks on completing the statutorily required pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment *(p. 73)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- provide training to municipal clerks on reviewing Election Day forms after each election and investigating relevant issues, including those related to tamper-evident seals *(p. 74)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to promulgate statutorily required administrative rules for helping to ensure the security of software components in approved electronic voting equipment *(p. 78)*.

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Post-Election Audit *(p. 79)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- ensure equipment vendors provide additional training to municipal clerks on ensuring that ballots are counted accurately when paper jams occur in electronic voting equipment *(p. 83)*.

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- comply with statutes by calculating an error rate for each type of electronic voting equipment used in each General Election *(p. 84)*.

Complaints and Concerns Filed with WEC *(p. 93)*

We recommend staff of the Wisconsin Elections Commission:

- work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to promulgate administrative rules for considering complaints alleging violations of election laws *(p. 99)*; and

- use recently purchased software to track election-related concerns and regularly provide summary information about these concerns to the Wisconsin Elections Commission *(p. 99)*.

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Appendix 8

Legislative Considerations, by Chapter

Training *(p. 9)*

Currently, statutes require municipal clerks to attend training at least once every two years, and WEC's administrative rules require clerks to complete three hours of training in order to receive initial certification for the two-year period in which the training is received. However, statutes and administrative rules do not specify when a new clerk must complete the training for initial certification, and they do not require clerks to be certified before administering an election for the first time. As a result, a clerk could administer an election before having completed the initial training. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require clerks to complete the initial training before administering an election. Statutes could exempt from this training requirement those individuals who became clerks only shortly before an election *(p. 13)*.

Currently, statutes do not require individuals to inform WEC of the dates they began working as municipal clerks, and WEC's staff indicated that they are not consistently informed of these dates. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require a municipal governing body to notify WEC within 30 days when there is turnover in the clerk position. If WEC were better informed, it could more accurately track whether clerks completed all required training *(p. 13)*.

Maintenance of Voter Registration Records *(p. 19)*

As noted, DOT currently provides information that does not indicate precisely why a given non-match occurred because DOT does not provide WEC with any personally identifiable information. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require that DOT provide additional information to WEC when DOT attempts to verify the personally identifiable information provided by registrants. For example, statutes could be modified to require DOT to provide WEC with the names, dates of birth, and driver's license or state identification card numbers for individuals whose information did not match. WEC's staff and clerks we contacted indicated that this additional information would help them to identify and correct errors in voter registration records, such as misspelled names and typos *(p. 24)*.

Currently, statutes do not require WEC to obtain and use ERIC data. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to regularly obtain ERIC data and use them to improve the accuracy and completeness of WisVote. For example, statutes could be modified to require WEC to regularly obtain every three or six months ERIC data for registered Wisconsin voters who may have moved to and registered to vote in other states, who

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may have voted in Wisconsin and other states, and who may have died in other states *(p. 34)*.

Absentee Ballots *(p. 37)*

As noted, statutes do not define the components of a witness address that a certificate must contain, such as a street name and number, municipality, state, and zip code. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to specify the particular address components that a witness must provide on a certificate. For example, witnesses could be required to provide, at a minimum, street names and numbers, as well as their municipalities. Such a definition would allow an absentee ballot to be counted if a witness address excluded a state and a zip code *(p. 45)*.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to clarify the extent to which municipal clerks are permitted themselves to correct errors in witness addresses or add missing witness address information. As noted, statutes allow a clerk to return a ballot and its certificate if an individual is able to correct an improperly completed certificate and return the ballot in time for it to be counted on Election Day, but statutes do not otherwise permit or prohibit clerks from correcting errors in witness addresses or adding missing witness address information *(p. 45)*.

As noted, statutes require a certificate to include the signature of the individual who cast the ballot. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require municipal clerks to verify the signatures of individuals who cast absentee ballots. In doing so, it could specify the documents that clerks should use to verify these signatures, such as voter registration forms and driver's licenses, and the methods that clerks should use to verify these signatures, such as examining the writing slant, letter spacing, and letter shapes. In addition, it could require clerks to be trained on how to verify signatures *(p. 46)*.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to clarify whether individuals are allowed to return absentee ballots to drop boxes. Some individuals believe that statutes allow absentee ballots to be returned to drop boxes or in person to clerk staff at locations other than a clerk's office, regardless of whether a municipal governing body established such locations. They believe that these actions are statutorily allowable because individuals requested ballots by statutorily allowable methods, the drop boxes were established by clerks, and clerk staff collected the ballots. Other individuals believe that statutes do not allow absentee ballots to be returned through drop boxes or to clerk staff at locations other than those designated by a municipal governing body *(p. 49)*.

Currently, statutes require municipal clerks to attempt to send special voting deputies to residential care facilities and qualified retirement homes, regardless of the circumstances. During a public health or other emergency, clerks and special voting deputies may risk disenfranchising individuals

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living in such facilities and homes if they cannot obtain entry. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to prescribe circumstances when clerks are not required to send special voting deputies to such facilities and homes, as well as the procedures clerks must follow in mailing and considering absentee ballots in such circumstances. In September 2021, WEC voted to request that the Governor categorize special voting deputies as essential visitors, which it indicated would allow the deputies entry into facilities and homes during a public health emergency *(p. 54)*.

Ballot Processing *(p. 55)*

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to specify the actions and responsibilities for consultants at polling places and central count locations on Election Day. For example, statutes could specify the particular actions that consultants are permitted to take, as well as the responsibilities that they are allowed to assume while helping municipal clerks to administer elections *(p. 60)*.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to allow new polling places to be quickly established in certain situations, such as in a public health emergency or if a fire or a natural disaster were to damage a polling place to the extent that it could not be used on Election Day. Statutes could specify the situations, if any, in which a municipal clerk could establish polling places without approval from a municipal governing body. For example, a clerk could be given the authority to establish a new polling place for one election if certain types of situations occurred shortly before Election Day. Doing so would help to prevent individuals from being disenfranchised if a polling place were closed shortly before Election Day and insufficient time remained for a municipal governing body to establish a new polling place *(p. 63)*.

Electronic Voting Equipment *(p. 67)*

Statutes require municipal clerks to notify WEC's administrator if they adopt and purchase a new or different type of electronic voting equipment. When municipalities rent equipment, such as to count absentee ballots at central count locations during elections at which many individuals are expected to vote, statutes do not require clerks to notify WEC's administrator. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require clerks to notify WEC's administrator if they rent electronic voting equipment. Doing so would allow WEC's administrator, and therefore WEC, to know that all equipment used in the state has been approved by WEC *(p. 70)*.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to explicitly require materials related to the pre-election tests of electronic voting equipment to be retained for 22 months after a federal election. Doing so would ensure that these pre-election test materials, which indicate whether electronic voting equipment counted ballots accurately, are retained for the same

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period of time as other election-related materials such as ballots and applications for absentee ballots *(p. 75)*.

Post-Election Audit *(p. 79)*

As noted, statutes require WEC to take remedial action if the error rate found in electronic voting equipment exceeds the federal standards that were in effect on October 29, 2002, which was one vote per 500,000 ballot positions. We found that these standards were updated in 2015 to specify that the maximum acceptable error rate is 1 vote per 125,000 contests counted by a given type of equipment. Calculating the error rate based on the number of contests, rather than the number of ballot positions, is more straightforward because ballot positions may vary within and among municipalities, depending on the number of candidates in each contest. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to reflect the current federal standards for an acceptable equipment error rate *(p. 85)*.

The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to conduct risk-limiting post-election audits. Such audits are intended to determine voter intent and determine the validity of the election results, which may be preferable to the current audits that confirm whether the equipment counted ballots according to how it was programmed. As noted, one type of equipment was programmed in such a way that it counted ballot creases as votes in some counties during the November 2020 General Election *(p. 86)*.

Complaints and Concerns Filed with WEC *(p. 93)*

Currently, statutes do not require WEC to report any information to the Legislature about the considerable number of election-related concerns that it receives from individuals. The Legislature could consider modifying statutes to require WEC to report to it certain information about election-related concerns every six months. Such information could include the number of election-related concerns that individuals had provided to WEC, the types of issues addressed in these concerns, and how WEC's staff addressed these concerns *(p. 100)*.

Election Recount Costs *(p. 101)*

If the Legislature wanted to limit the types of recount costs charged to petitioning candidates, it could modify statutes to require that only certain types of costs could be charged. For example, it could stipulate that petitioning candidates not be charged costs associated with facilities, certain types of equipment, or the salaries and fringe benefits of government employees, who may be expected to fulfill at no cost all duties pertaining to administering elections. Similarly, it could stipulate that recounts must occur in government facilities whenever possible, or require counties to show that they rented reasonably priced private facilities. However, circumstances

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such as a public health emergency could result in counties incurring new and unanticipated types of costs, and taxpayer funds could end up financing a portion of the recount costs that petitioning candidates currently cover *(p. 110)*.

If the Legislature wanted to limit the total recount costs charged to petitioning candidates, it could modify statutes to determine the total amount that could be charged. For example, statutes could stipulate an amount per ballot to be recounted, and statutes could stipulate that this amount would increase over time, such as by the rate of inflation. Doing so would ensure a petitioning candidate knew in advance the cost of a recount. However, actual costs could vary considerably among counties, and taxpayer funds could end up financing a portion of the recount costs that petitioning candidates currently cover, particularly if costs increase during circumstances such as a public health emergency *(p. 110)*.

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Appendix 9

Statutory Provisions Related to Drop Boxes in Other States[1]

State	Summary of Selected Statutory Provisions
California	Individuals may return absentee ballots to drop boxes that are secure receptacles established by election officials.
Colorado	Individuals may deposit their mail-in ballots in any drop box designated by a county clerk and recorder. A county clerk and recorder must provide at least one drop box per 30,000 registered electors in a county. Drop boxes must be located to provide the greatest convenience to electors.
Georgia	A county Board of Registrars or absentee ballot clerk must establish at least one drop box. A drop box must prevent ballots from being tampered with or removed, be designed to minimize the ability for liquid to be poured into them, and must be labeled "Official Absentee Ballot Drop Box." Such drop boxes are required to be emptied daily.
Hawaii	Clerks may designate securely maintained places of deposit to which individuals can return ballots during the five business days before an election.
Illinois	Election authorities may maintain one or more collection sites for vote-by-mail ballots. These sites must be secured by locks that can be opened only by election authorities, who must collect ballots at the close of business each day.
Montana	An election administrator may designate places of deposit, other than his or her office, to which individuals may return ballots. These places of deposit must be staffed by at least two election officials at all times.
Nevada	Drop boxes are permitted during emergency declarations passed by the Legislature. A county or city clerk must establish at least one location for a ballot drop box to which individuals could return their ballots. A drop box must be constructed of metal or other rigid material, with the capability of being locked, and placed in an accessible and convenient location.
New Jersey	A county Board of Elections must establish at least 10 drop boxes. A drop box must be monitored by camera surveillance, and its location must meet accessibility requirements.
New Mexico	An individual may deposit an absentee ballot in a secured container made available by a county clerk. A secured container must be monitored by camera surveillance and have signage. A county clerk or full-time deputy clerk must collect ballots at least daily from a secured container.
Oregon	A county clerk may designate ballot drop sites that display signage. Individuals may return their ballots to any drop site. The Secretary of State is required to establish by rule security requirements and dates and times of use for drop sites.
Washington	County auditors must provide a ballot drop box at each voting center and at least one other location. County auditors must establish at least one drop box per 15,000 registered voters and at least one drop box in each city, town, and census-designated place with a post office. Ballots must be removed by at least two individuals. After removal, ballots must be transported in secured containers to a counting center.

[1] According to information provided by NCSL, as of September 2020.

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Appendix 10

Number of Indefinitely Confined Individuals Who Voted Without Providing Photo Identification, by County[1]

County	Number
Adams	93
Ashland	120
Barron	168
Bayfield	79
Brown	2,455
Buffalo	49
Burnett	73
Calumet	237
Chippewa	367
Clark	99
Columbia	346
Crawford	74
Dane	3,643
Dodge	577
Door	217
Douglas	488
Dunn	215
Eau Claire	741
Florence	32
Fond du Lac	794
Forest	45
Grant	319
Green	216
Green Lake	113
Iowa	127
Iron	66
Jackson	60
Jefferson	425
Juneau	151
Kenosha	1,627
Kewaunee	149
La Crosse	1,027
Lafayette	76

County	Number
Langlade	81
Lincoln	224
Manitowoc	633
Marathon	1,048
Marinette	326
Marquette	72
Menominee	9
Milwaukee	8,592
Monroe	189
Oconto	200
Oneida	357
Outagamie	1,340
Ozaukee	855
Pepin	25
Pierce	201
Polk	216
Portage	399
Price	76
Racine	1,938
Richland	103
Rock	1,237
Rusk	78
Sauk	466
Sawyer	110
Shawano	221
Sheboygan	961
St. Croix	423
Taylor	66
Trempealeau	101
Vernon	99
Vilas	166
Walworth	929
Washburn	75

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County	Number
Washington	1,045
Waukesha	3,793
Waupaca	384
Waushara	129
Winnebago	1,277
Wood	560
Total	**44,272**

[1] According to WEC's data on individuals who voted in the November 2020 General Election and who had not previously voted by methods that required them to provide photo identification or did not have photo identification on file with a municipal clerk.

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Appendix 11

Statutory Provisions Related to Permanent Absentee Voting for Individuals with Disabilities in Other States[1]

State	Summary of Selected Statutory Provisions
Alabama	Qualified individuals with permanent disabilities that prevents them from going to the polls may apply and be placed on a list that allows ballots to be automatically mailed to them before each election. An application for this process must be signed and notarized by an individual's primary physician. Individuals are required to apply on an annual basis.
Connecticut	An individual who is permanently disabled is eligible for permanent absentee status, which allows the individual to receive an absentee ballot before each election. An individual must provide a certification from a primary care provider stating that the individual is permanently disabled and unable to appear in person at a polling place. Annually, written notices are required to be sent to individuals with permanent absentee status. If such notices are not returned within 30 days these individuals must be removed from permanent absentee status.
Delaware	An individual who is sick or physically disabled may apply in writing for permanent absentee status. Absentee ballots must be sent before each election to all individuals with this status. This status must be removed if an absentee ballot or other correspondence is mailed to an individual and returned as undeliverable, if the individual dies or is otherwise disqualified, or if written notification of a change in status is provided by the individual.
Kansas	An individual with a permanent disability or illness may apply for permanent advance voting status. If an individual fails to vote in four consecutive general elections a notice may be mailed to inform the individual of removal of such status if the individual does not renew their status within 30 days.
Louisiana	An individual who is physically disabled or unable to vote in person, as well as those older than 65 or in nursing or veterans homes, may apply for the Automatic Absentee Ballot Program. An individual must provide a letter from a physician, current mobility impaired identification, or documentation showing eligibility for disability benefits. Individuals will remain within the program until they request to be removed, or until a mailed absentee ballot is returned to the Registrar of Voters Office as undeliverable.
Mississippi	An individual who is permanently physically disabled may apply to automatically receive absentee ballots before each election. An individual must provide a signed statement from a physician or nurse practitioner asserting that the individual is permanently physically disabled and would have difficulty voting in person.
New York	An individual who claims permanent illness or physical disability may apply to receive absentee ballots for all subsequent elections. The mailing of ballots will continue until the individual's registration is cancelled.
Tennessee	A county election commission must establish a permanent absentee voting register for individuals unable to vote in person due to sickness, hospitalization, or physical disability. To be placed on the register, an individual must file a statement from a physician asserting that the individual is medically unable to vote in person.
West Virginia	An individual who is physically disabled and unable to vote in person may apply to be placed on a special absentee voting list. An individual must provide a statement describing the disability and a second statement signed by a physician who concurs with this description. Individuals may remain on such a list until they request to be removed, they are no longer eligible or registered to vote, an absentee ballot is returned as undeliverable, the individual is no longer disabled, or the individual dies.

[1] According to information provided by NCSL, as of September 2020.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Appendix 12

Clerks Who Indicated Receiving Written Complaints about the November 2020 General Election, By County[1]

County	Clerk
Barron	Barron County
Brown	Ashwaubenon, Village of
	Hobart, Village of
	Howard, Village of
Calumet	Calumet County
Chippewa	Cleveland, Town of
Columbia	Lodi, City of
Dane	Dane County
	Deerfield, Town of
	Madison, City of
	Maple Bluff, Village of
	McFarland, Village of
	Mount Horeb, Village of
	Stoughton, City of
	Sun Prairie, City of
Dodge	Chester, Town of
Door	Door County
	Sevastopol, Town of
Dunn	Sherman, Town of
Eau Claire	Eau Claire, City of
Fond du Lac	Friendship, Town of
Grant	Grant County
Green	Brooklyn, Town of
	Green County
	Spring Grove, Town of
Jefferson	Jefferson County
Juneau	Kingston, Town of
	Lemonweir, Town of
Kenosha	Kenosha, City of
	Kenosha County
	Pleasant Prairie, Village of
	Twin Lakes, Village of
Kewaunee	Algoma, City of
La Crosse	La Crosse, City of
Manitowoc	Manitowoc, City of
Marathon	Kronenwetter, Village of
Marquette	Mecan, Town of
Milwaukee	Greendale, Village of
	Greenfield, City of
	Milwaukee, City of
	Milwaukee County
	Oak Creek, City of
	Shorewood, Village of
	Wauwatosa, City of
Onconto	Oconto County
Oneida	Woodboro, Town of
Outagamie	Buchanan, Town of
Ozaukee	Ozaukee County
	Port Washington, City of
Pierce	River Falls, City of
Price	Harmony, Town of
	Price County
Racine	Mount Pleasant, Village of
	North Bay, Village of
	Union Grove, Village of
Richland	Marshall, Town of
	Richland County
Rock	Beloit, City of
	Rock County
Sheboygan	Sheboygan County
St. Croix	Warren, Town of
Taylor	Taylor County
Trempealeau	Burnside, Town of
Vernon	Bergen, Town of
Vilas	Vilas County
Walworth	Elkhorn, City of
	Walworth County
Washburn	Spooner, Town of

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

County	Clerk
Washingon	Jackson, Town of
	Richfield, Village of
	Washington County
	West Bend, City of
Waukesha	New Berlin, City of
	Oconomowoc, City of
Waupaca	Waupaca County
Winnebago	Nekimi, Town of
	Oshkosh, Town of
	Winnebago County

[1] As indicated by clerks who responded to our April 2021 survey.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

EXHIBIT 18

Presentation, Sheriff, Racine County, Wisconsin (Oct. 28, 2021)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

RACINE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE



ELECTION INTEGRITY

Protecting Vulnerable Voters

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000615

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000616

JUDY INVESTIGATED HER MOTHER'S VOTING HISTORY

- Judy went on MyVote Wisconsin (www.myvote.wi.gov) and discovered her mother, Shirley, voted absentee for the November 3, 2020, election

- Shirley died on October 9, 2020 – Before the election

- According to My Vote Wisconsin, prior to being admitted to the Ridgewood Care Facility, Shirley last voted in 2016

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

JUDY CONTACTS RIDGEWOOD CARE CENTER

- Executive Director stated that the WEC gave facility staff the authority to help residents fill out their ballots

- Judy asked how Shirley could have voted without any knowledge of current events or the news

- The Executive Director stated the staff would ask the residents who they voted for in the past and following party lines that would be their choice

- Judy asked, “So if she could only recall JFK as President, Democrat would be their choice?”

- The Executive Director answered “Yes”

- Judy asked about Shirley’s broken glasses and impaired vision – how can we know the staff member assisting filled in the ballot correctly

- The Executive Director stated he “hoped” the staff would be honest

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000617

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT TO THE WISCONSIN ELECTION COMMISSION - NOVEMBER 24TH, 2020

- Judy filed a sworn affidavit with the Wisconsin Election Commission stating that she believed the Ridgewood Care Facility “took advantage” of her mother’s “diminished mental capacity and filled out ballot(s) in her name.”

- Shirley, Judy's Mother
  - Broken glasses – no interest in reading or keeping up on current events
  - Difficulty recognizing her daughter
  - Could not remember her last meal
  - Would not know what day it is
  - Saw flying objects outside of her room that were not there

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000618

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Mount Pleasant Village Hall

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000619

- They received letters from the Wisconsin Election Commission ("WEC") dated March 12, 2020, June 24, 2020, and September 25, 2020, stating that "Municipalities shall not use the Special Voting Deputy process" and should instead mail the absentee ballots

- No notice was posted at any of the facilities because of COVID-19

- 42 Ridgewood residents voted

- 38 Ridgewood residents made a fresh request for an absentee ballot during 2020

- The Voting Clerk stated during a Presidential or non-Presidential election, usually approximately 10 people will vote and 0 to 3 people will make a fresh request for an absentee ballot from the Ridgewood Care Center

- RASO received copies of the Request for Absentee Ballots and the Ballot Envelopes

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Mount Pleasant Village Hall

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000620

Wisconsin Elections Commission

212 East Washington Avenue | Third Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

DATE: For the March 12, 2020 Commission Meeting

TO: Members, Wisconsin Elections Commission

FROM: Meagan Wolfe, Administrator
Wisconsin Elections Commission

SUBJECT: **Guidance Regarding Election Procedures and Public Health Emergency**

Governor Evers issued Executive Order #72 today proclaiming that a public health emergency exists in the State of Wisconsin as a result of the COVID-19 Coronavirus. The Order designates the Department of Health Services as the lead agency in responding to the public health emergency and directs all state agencies to assist in the State's ongoing response to the emergency. A copy of the Executive Order is attached.

Also today, the Department of Health Services (DHS) issued directives related to public health, vulnerable populations and large public gatherings. The DHS directives included provisions related to nursing homes and other licensed care facilities, including that all "non-essential" individuals be prohibited from visiting such facilities. The directive includes some exceptions such as a visit from one family member per day but all individuals entering care facilities must be screened for coronavirus infection and recent travel.

The Executive Order and DHS directive make it necessary to provide guidance to local election regarding specific election procedures for the Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary as well as the May 12, 2020 Special Election in the 7th Congressional District. The two most immediate issues requiring Commission attention relate to the Special Voting Deputy process and polling places which are currently located at care facilities. WEC staff has received numerous inquiries from local election officials expressing concerns and seeking guidance regarding these issues.

Special Voting Deputy Process

Wis. Stat. § 6.875 outlines the process for voting by special voting deputy (SVD). SVD's are individuals who are deputized by the clerk of each municipality to not only bring enough ballots to each residential care facility to vote, but to assist the voters with the voting process. Beginning Monday, March 16, municipal clerks are required to begin sending two SVD's to each facility for two visits prior to the election to conduct in-person, on-site voting with the residents.

Sometimes this process happens in a common area in the facility, and sometimes the voting occurs in individual voters' rooms depending on the voter's mobility and health needs. The process also requires that public observers be allowed to watch the voting process in these

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners
Dean Knudson, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Julie M. Glancey | Ann S. Jacobs | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thom

Administrator
Meagan Wolfe

1) In light of Executive Order #72 and directives of the Department of Health Services, the Commission finds that Special Voting Deputies are "non-essential" individuals who are not permitted to enter nursing homes and other care facilities without completing a screening process that is not feasible to implement prior to the Spring Election and Presidential Primary. For that election and the May 12, 2020 Special Election in the 7th Congressional District, the Commission directs that municipalities shall not use the Special Voting Deputy process to serve residents in care facilities and instead shall transmit absentee ballots to those voters by mail.

SOURCE: WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION LETTER - MARCH 12, 2020

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Review of Documents

APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS

- Pre-filled out by facility staff

- The Certification of being “indefinitely confined” pre-checked by staff

OR

- The Certification of being “indefinitely confined” post-checked by the municipal clerk

VOTER ENVELOPES

- Certification of Witness – Facility staff

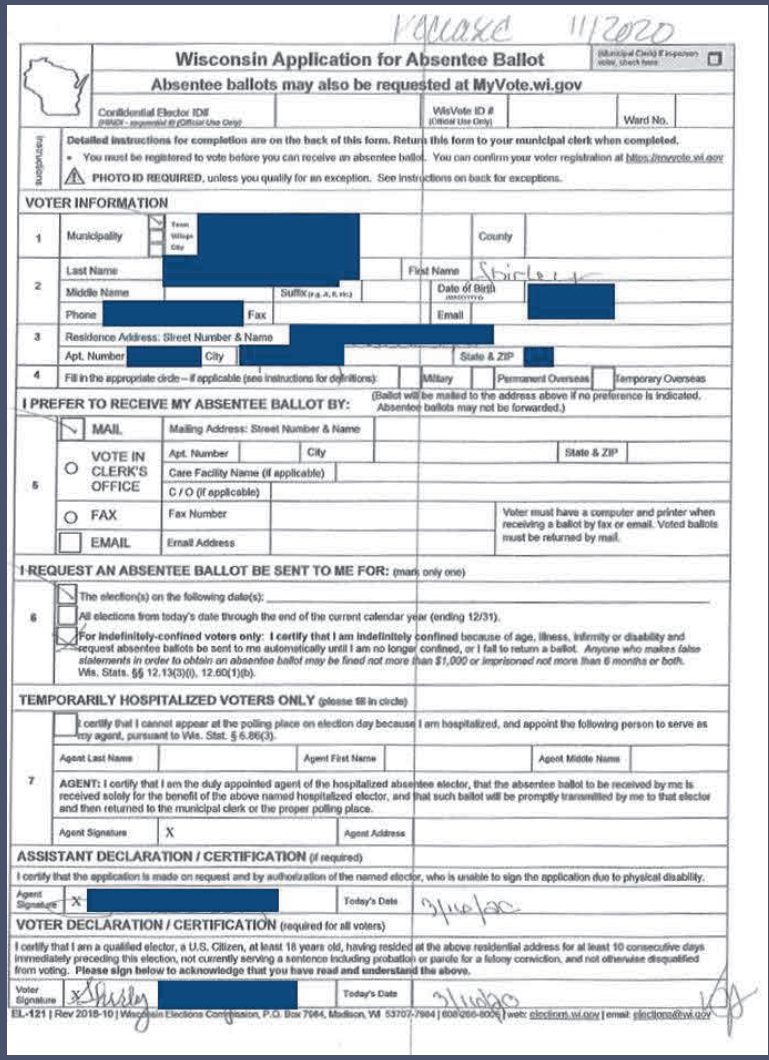
WEC LETTERS TO MUNICIPAL CLERKS

- Coordinate with the dates of the open meetings by the WEC
- Open meetings can be viewed on WisEye www.wiseye.org

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000621

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Review of Documents



Wisconsin Application for Absentee Ballot

Absentee ballots may also be requested at MyVote.wi.gov

SOURCE: WISCONSIN APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT - MARCH 16, 2020

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000622

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000623

6.84 WISCONSIN STATUTE

LEGISLATIVE POLICY. The legislature finds that voting is a constitutional right, the vigorous exercise of which should be strongly encouraged. In contrast, voting by absentee ballot is a privilege exercised wholly outside the traditional safeguards of the polling place. The legislature finds that the privilege of voting by absentee ballot must be carefully regulated to prevent the potential for **fraud or abuse**; to prevent **overzealous solicitation** of absent electors who may prefer not to participate in an election; to prevent **undue influence** on an absent elector to vote for or against a candidate or to cast a particular vote in a referendum; or other similar abuses.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000624

6.875 WISCONSIN STATUTE

Absentee Voting in Facilities

- This statute is the **"exclusive means"** of absentee voting in residential care facilities
- **Shall** dispatch two Special Voting Deputies ("SVDs") to the facility
- The SVDs **shall** personally deliver the ballot
- **NO employee (or past employee of the last two years) may be an SVD**
- Notice of the SVDs visit **shall** be posted at the facility
- The SVDs **shall** witness the vote and **may assist** in marking the ballot
- The SVDs **shall NOT** accept an absentee ballot not issued by an SVD
- **No individual** other the a SVD or relative **may assist** the voter
- The SVDs **shall** seal the ballot envelope and deliver it to the clerk

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

6.875 WISCONSIN STATUTE

Absentee Voting in Facilities

- § 6.875(6)(e) – "If a qualified elector is not able to cast his or her ballot on 2 separate visits by the deputies to the home or facility, the deputies shall so inform the municipal clerk . . . Who may then send the ballot to the elector . . ."

The WEC falsely reasoned that since the Special Voting Deputies could not be allowed into any facilities, the Special Voting Deputies "program" could be "suspended", and the municipalities could go directly to the mailing process. The WEC also improperly/illegally advised the facilities to have staff members assist the residents in voting.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000626

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

Article II, Section 1, paragraph 2 – The state legislature is to determine the "Manner" in which the President is elected

Article I, Section 4, paragraph 1 – It is up to the state legislature to determine "the Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives"

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

RIDGEWOOD CARE FACILITY
DECEMBER 18, 2020

- The Executive Director stated he “hoped” his staff was “honest” while marking the voting ballot for the residents

- The Director of Recreational Therapy stated that if a resident could only point to the ballot, her staff would fill in the appropriate dot

- The Director of Recreational Therapy was “confident” Shirley wanted to vote, but then admitted she did not have contact with Shirley – her staff would have contact with the residents

- The Activities Aid stated if the resident did not want to vote, she would come back later
  - The Activities Aid stated she would leave the news channel on for a few days and then come back and see if the resident wanted to vote (List of preferred channels or NBC)
  - The Activities Aid stated she would keep the ballots in her desk drawer when she was waiting for the residents to decide to vote

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000627

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

RIDGEWOOD CARE FACILITY
DECEMBER 18, 2020

- The procedure implemented by the facility did not comply with the instructions on the ballot envelope

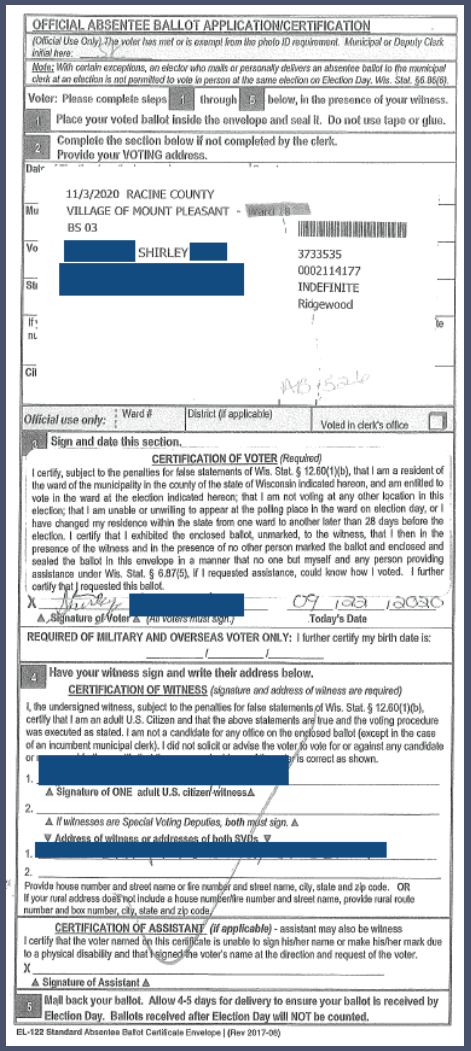
- The Director of Recreational Therapy and the Activities Aids agreed that:

  - If the resident did or did not vote, the Activities Aid would place the ballot in the envelope (unsealed) and give it to the Director of Recreational Therapy

  - The Director of Recreational Therapy would seal the ballot envelope and mail it to the municipal clerk

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000628

Review of Documents



OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION/CERTIFICATION

(Official Use Only) The voter has met or is exempt from the photo ID requirement. Municipal or Deputy Clerk initial here: _____

Note: With certain exceptions, an elector who mails or personally delivers an absentee ballot to the municipal clerk at an election is not permitted to vote in person at the same election on Election Day. Wis. Stat. §6.86(6).

Voter: Please complete steps 1 through 5 below, in the presence of your witness.

1 Place your voted ballot inside the envelope and seal it. Do not use tape or glue.

2 Complete the section below if not completed by the clerk.
Provide your VOTING address.

Date

11/3/2020 RACINE COUNTY
VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT - ward 18
BS 03

[redacted] SHIRLEY [redacted]
[redacted]

3733535
0002114177
INDEFINITE
Ridgewood

Official use only: Ward # | District (if applicable) | Voted in clerk's office ☐

3 Sign and date this section.

CERTIFICATION OF VOTER (Required)

I certify, subject to the penalties for false statements of Wis. Stat. § 12.60(1)(b), that I am a resident of the ward of the municipality in the county of the state of Wisconsin indicated hereon, and am entitled to vote in the ward at the election indicated hereon; that I am not voting at any other location in this election; that I am unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place in the ward on election day, or I have changed my residence within the state from one ward to another later than 28 days before the election. I certify that I exhibited the enclosed ballot, unmarked, to the witness, that I then in the presence of the witness and in the presence of no other person marked the ballot and enclosed and sealed the ballot in this envelope in a manner that no one but myself and any person providing assistance under Wis. Stat. § 6.87(5), if I requested assistance, could know how I voted. I further certify that I requested this ballot.

X [redacted] 09 / 23 / 2020
▲ Signature of Voter ▲ (All voters must sign.) Today's Date

REQUIRED OF MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTER ONLY: I further certify my birth date is:
___/___/___

4 Have your witness sign and write their address below.

CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS (signature and address of witness are required)

I, the undersigned witness, subject to the penalties for false statements of Wis. Stat. § 12.60(1)(b), certify that I am an adult U.S. Citizen and that the above statements are true and the voting procedure was executed as stated. I am not a candidate for any office on the enclosed ballot (except in the case of an incumbent municipal clerk). I did not solicit or advise the voter to vote for or against any candidate or [redacted] is correct as shown.

1. [redacted]
▲ Signature of ONE adult U.S. citizen witness ▲

2. _____
▲ If witnesses are Special Voting Deputies, both must sign. ▲

▼ Address of witness or addresses of both SVDs ▼

1. [redacted]

2. _____

Provide house number and street name or fire number and street name, city, state and zip code. OR If your rural address does not include a house number/fire number and street name, provide rural route number and box number, city, state and zip code.

CERTIFICATION OF ASSISTANT (if applicable) - assistant may also be witness
I certify that the voter named on this certificate is unable to sign his/her name or make his/her mark due to a physical disability and that I signed the voter's name at the direction and request of the voter.

X _____
▲ Signature of Assistant ▲

5 Mail back your ballot. Allow 4-5 days for delivery to ensure your ballot is received by Election Day. Ballots received after Election Day will NOT be counted.

EL-122 Standard Absentee Ballot Certificate Envelope | (Rev 2017-08)

SOURCE: WISCONSIN APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT ENVELOPE - SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000629

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Other Concerned Families

DF was adamant that her mother, OF, would not have requested an absentee ballot. She was unable to remember what she ate for breakfast that day. DF stated, "It is so hard to get her to sign something, even things that I need, you know, to conduct business, it is very hard to get her to sign anything. So, she would not have requested a ballot and then sat there and signed it, no. I just don't believe that." **According to My Vote Wisconsin (Since 2012), there is no record of OF voting in any other election.**

RP stated that her father, NG, had difficulty recognizing his own grandchildren. He would not know that Trump was the president nor who was elected the new president, and he would not know what the candidates stood for on the issues. RP stated NG only asked about "Doritos" and "Snickers". According to My Vote Wisconsin (Since 2012), there is no record of NG voting in any other election. When asked if NG would have the mental ability to express his desire for an absentee ballot and exercise his right to vote, RP responded, "No! No, I'm sorry, no!". **According to My Vote Wisconsin (Since 2012), there is no record of RP voting in any other election.**

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000630

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Other Concerned Families

LM stated her mother, RL, is confused, not sure where she is, does not recognize her own children, and is not right in her own mind. LM stated RL would not have known who the candidates were, and someone had to have taken advantage of her. **According to MyVote Wisconsin (since 2012), there is no record of RL voting in any other election.**

RS stated his mother, FP, is 102-years-old and is experiencing dementia. RS stated that FP is starting to forget to eat; that she cannot recognize her own children; that she is starting to forget to eat; and that she only remembers the past. **According to MyVote Wisconsin (since 2012), FP voted in this election and an election in 2012.**

TM stated his father, MR, did not have the desire to vote absentee. TM stated MR informed her and her mother that if he cannot vote in person, he did not want to vote. **According to MyVote Wisconsin (since 2012), there is no record of MR voting in any other election.**

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000631

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Other Concerned Families

RM is the legal guardian for SL, and RM stated that SL has been determined to be incompetent by a probate court. RM stated she believed SL's right to vote had been taken away. RM stated SL is unable to make any decisions for herself and she has no ability to know what is going on. RM stated SL would not know how to request an absentee ballot. RM stated SL is not allowed to sign any legal documents because she is so impaired. RM stated SL would have no inclination to vote and she would have no idea what she was doing. AS stated, her mother, SL, was suffering from dementia and she did not have the sound mind necessary to request an absentee ballot and to exercise her right to vote. **According to MyVote Wisconsin (since 2012), SL voted in this election and an election in 2012**

GH stated his mother, BH, would ask him, "Who are you?" and GH would respond, "I'm your youngest boy." GH stated BH believed her own mother died a few weeks ago but her mother actually died in 1965. **According to My Vote Wisconsin (since 2012), BH voted in two elections in 2020 and no other elections.**

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000632

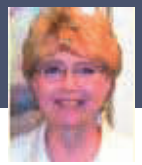
AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000633



SECRETARY
Marge Bostelmann



COMMISSIONER
Julie M. Glancey



CHAIR
Ann S. Jacobs



COMMISSIONER
Dean Knudson



COMMISSIONER
Robert F. Spindell, Jr.



VICE-CHAIR
Mark L. Thomsen

WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION -
HTTPS://ELECTIONS.WI.GOV/INDEX.PHP/ABOUT/MEMBERS

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Timeline

MARCH 10, 2020

- The WEC sent a letter to the Governor requesting the "suspension" of "several provisions of Wisconsin election law"
    - Special Voting Deputies
    - Moving the location of polling places

- The Governor's Office informed the WEC that **the Governor does not have the power to "suspend" parts of Wisconsin's voting law during an emergency**

MARCH 12, 2020

- Governor Ever's issued Executive Order #72

- The WEC issued a directive stating Special Voting Deputies shall not be sent to facilities

- Commissioner Knudsen, "what we are really saying here, is once again, we are saying that, despite what the law says, the election commission is saying, in this instance, we need to have some flexibility, **to not follow the law."**

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000634

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Timeline

MAY 26, 2020

- Governor's extended "Safer at Home" order expires

JUNE 24, 2020

- The WEC extended their previous March 12, 2020, orders

- Commissioner Knudson, **"We need to go back to following the law**, but for the Special Voting Deputies, following the letter of the law here would mean putting hundreds and hundreds of nursing home residents' lives at severe risk. There is got to be a way to do this without doing that."

- Commissioner Spindell was concerned **with fraud in nursing homes** and suggests PPE's

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000635

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Timeline

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

- The WEC extended their previous March 12, 2020 orders

- Commissioner Spindell stated the law stated the WEC is supposed to do something, and the WEC is not doing that task – **Spindell asked where that power came from. He also suggested use of technology to facilitate Special Voting Deputies.**

- Commissioner Knudson stated, "My thinking going back to March on this, from the time I first communicated with the Governor saying I thought that **we should not follow this law during this pandemic**."

- Chair Jacobs stated the "state law" or "rulings of DHS" would not allow for Special Voting Deputies inside of facilities

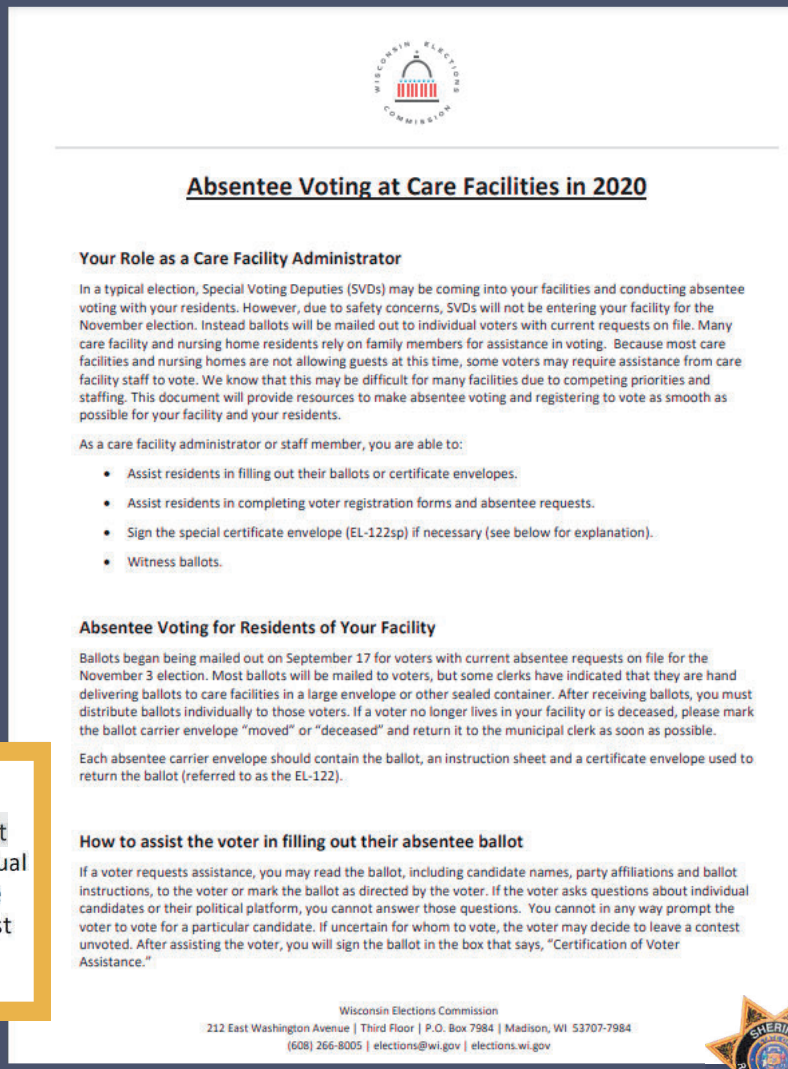
WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000636

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Review of Documents

How to assist the voter in filling out their absentee ballot

If a voter requests assistance, you may read the ballot, including candidate names, party affiliations and ballot instructions, to the voter or mark the ballot as directed by the voter. If the voter asks questions about individual candidates or their political platform, you cannot answer those questions. You cannot in any way prompt the voter to vote for a particular candidate. If uncertain for whom to vote, the voter may decide to leave a contest unvoted. After assisting the voter, you will sign the ballot in the box that says, "Certification of Voter Assistance."



Absentee Voting at Care Facilities in 2020

Your Role as a Care Facility Administrator

In a typical election, Special Voting Deputies (SVDs) may be coming into your facilities and conducting absentee voting with your residents. However, due to safety concerns, SVDs will not be entering your facility for the November election. Instead ballots will be mailed out to individual voters with current requests on file. Many care facility and nursing home residents rely on family members for assistance in voting. Because most care facilities and nursing homes are not allowing guests at this time, some voters may require assistance from care facility staff to vote. We know that this may be difficult for many facilities due to competing priorities and staffing. This document will provide resources to make absentee voting and registering to vote as smooth as possible for your facility and your residents.

As a care facility administrator or staff member, you are able to:

- Assist residents in filling out their ballots or certificate envelopes.
- Assist residents in completing voter registration forms and absentee requests.
- Sign the special certificate envelope (EL-122sp) if necessary (see below for explanation).
- Witness ballots.

Absentee Voting for Residents of Your Facility

Ballots began being mailed out on September 17 for voters with current absentee requests on file for the November 3 election. Most ballots will be mailed to voters, but some clerks have indicated that they are hand delivering ballots to care facilities in a large envelope or other sealed container. After receiving ballots, you must distribute ballots individually to those voters. If a voter no longer lives in your facility or is deceased, please mark the ballot carrier envelope "moved" or "deceased" and return it to the municipal clerk as soon as possible.

Each absentee carrier envelope should contain the ballot, an instruction sheet and a certificate envelope used to return the ballot (referred to as the EL-122).

How to assist the voter in filling out their absentee ballot

If a voter requests assistance, you may read the ballot, including candidate names, party affiliations and ballot instructions, to the voter or mark the ballot as directed by the voter. If the voter asks questions about individual candidates or their political platform, you cannot answer those questions. You cannot in any way prompt the voter to vote for a particular candidate. If uncertain for whom to vote, the voter may decide to leave a contest unvoted. After assisting the voter, you will sign the ballot in the box that says, "Certification of Voter Assistance."

Wisconsin Elections Commission
212 East Washington Avenue | Third Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

SOURCE: ABSENTEE VOTING AT CARE FACILITIES IN 2020 - SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000637

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Timeline

JANUARY 15, 2021

- The WEC extended their previous March 12, 2020, orders
- Commissioner Knudson:
  - Expressed his concern that the "policy" of the WEC was **"telling the clerks to break the law"** and he stated, "But I continue to have great discomfort with the idea that our motion is going to direct them, **that we're the ones directing them to break the law.**"
  - Suggested **the use of technology so that all of the policies "as required by law are being followed".**
  - The **"SVD law is a law"** and "some of the **prohibitions on visitors at nursing homes . . . was a guidance, a directive."**

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000638

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Timeline

FEBRUARY 11, 2021

- Legislative Council provided an opinion to the Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) that **state law does not empower the WEC to waive the Special Voting Deputies, nor does the law contain an exemption for a pandemic**

- **JCRAR notified the WEC to promulgate an emergency rule or cease issuing such directives**

MARCH 2, 2021

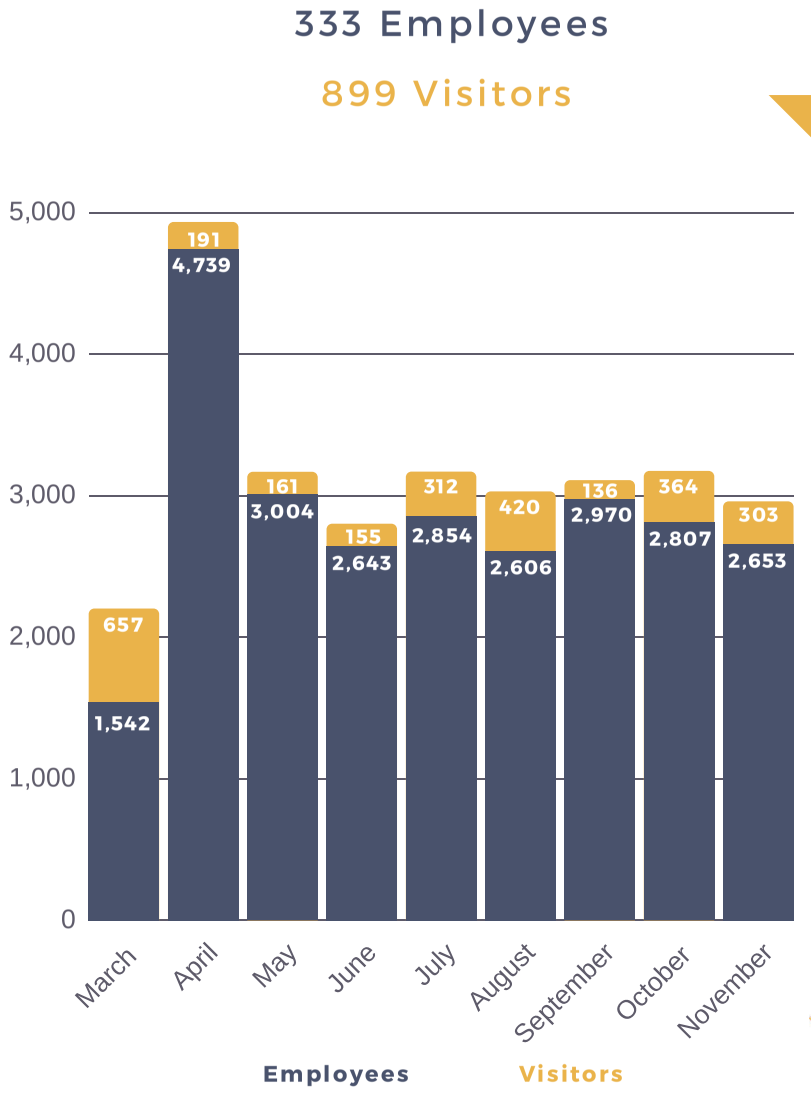
- WEC amends their directive and now calls for Special Voting Deputies to be sent to facilities two times prior to mailing the ballot

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000639

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Ridgewood Care Facility

Employees and Visitors



WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000640

TYPES OF VISITORS

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000641

Interview or Job Interview

24 Times

Instructor

4 Times and 19 Times with Students

Orkin Service

19 Times

Vendor/Vending Machine

17 Times

Kitchen or Kitchen Repair

17 Times

Cleaning Fish Tank, Cleaning Tanks, or Tank Maintenance

11 Times

Elevator

10 Times

Laundry or Laundry Repair

8 Times

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TYPES OF VISITORS

Maintenance

6 Times

Copier

4 Times

Clean Bird Cage

3 times

Inspection

2 times

Looking for a Job

DoorDash Delivery

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000642

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000643

12.13 WISCONSIN STATUTE

Election Fraud

- § 12.13(2)(b)(7) – "In the course of the person's official duties or on account of the person's official position, intentionally violate or intentionally cause any other person to violate any provision of chs. 5 to 12 for which no other penalty is expressly prescribed."

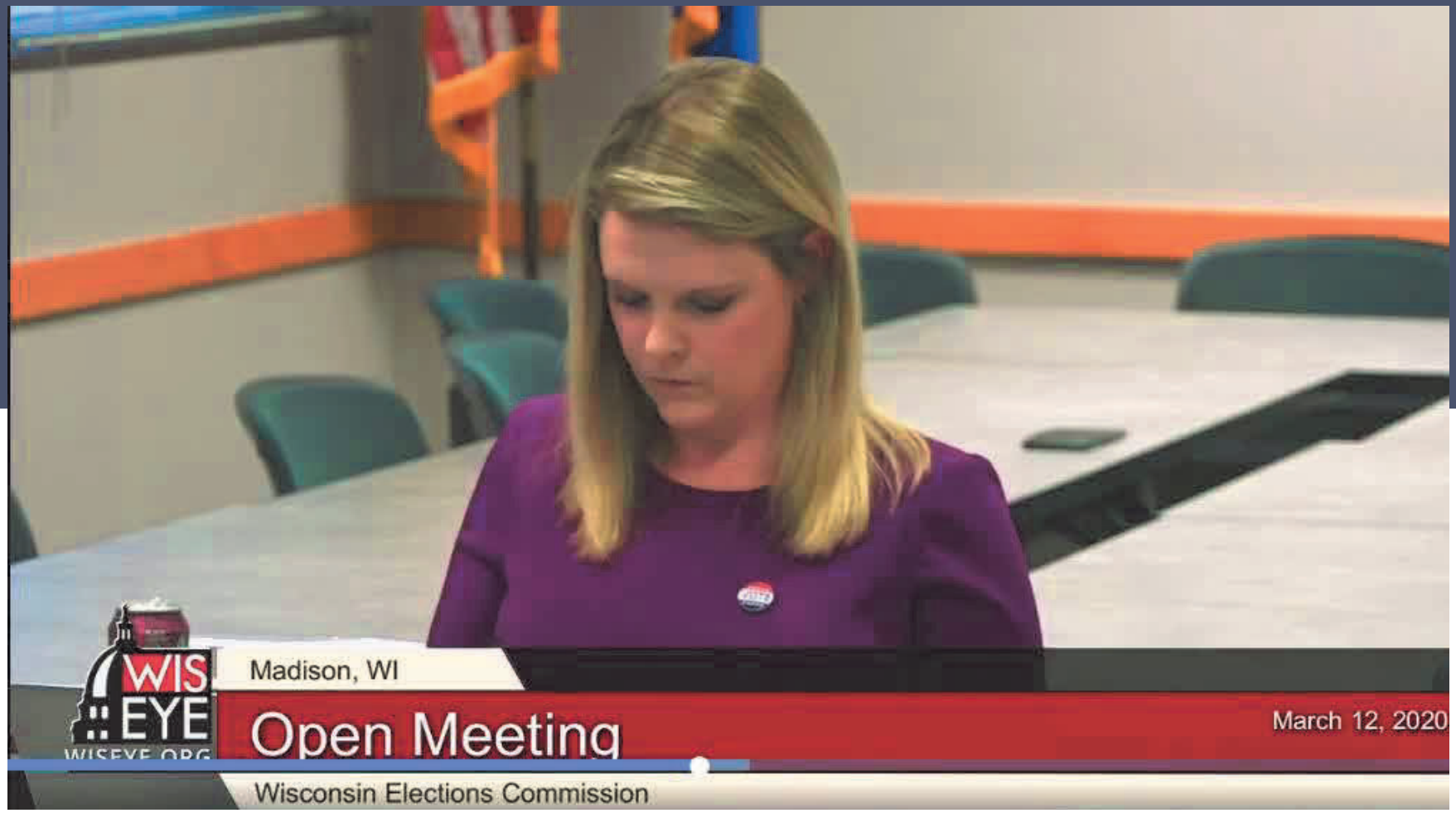
- § 12.13(3)(n) – "Receive a ballot from or give a ballot to a person other than the election official in charge."

- § 12.13(3)(p) – "Receive a completed ballot from a voter unless qualified to do so."

- § 12.13(3)(s) – "Solicit another elector to offer assistance under s. 6.82 (2) or 6.87 (5), except in the case of an elector who is blind or visually impaired to the extent that the elector cannot read a ballot."

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000644



SHERIFF RACINE COUNTY
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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000645



Wisconsin Elections Commission Special Teleconference Meeting

On June 24, 2020, the Wisconsin Elections Commission held a **special teleconference meeting** to discuss Special Voting Deputies for the August Election.

Categories: Meetings

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000646

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000648

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000649

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WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000650

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Moving Forward

Wisconsin State Legislature

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Governor

Tony Evers
Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

Attorney General

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

262-636-3853

voterintegrity@racinecounty.com

WI-REP-21-1756, 21-1757-A-000651

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EXHIBIT 19

First Interim Rept., Wisconsin Office of the Special Counsel (Nov. 10, 2021)

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Office of the Special Counsel

First Interim Report

Delivered to the Wisconsin State Assembly November 10, 2021

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"I am writing this, as I feel my mother was taken advantage of in her mental state. Parents and loved ones should be protected, not exploited, for an ink mark on a piece of paper and questionable agenda." *Judy Weshphal-Mitchell, discussing how actions of the Wisconsin Election Commission affected her family*

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Elections in the United States are the bedrock of our constitutional republic. They are subject to the law, including the fundamental laws found in the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Wisconsin. But fair elections are not a mere checkbox exercise. To secure republican government it is important not just that the law is followed, but that the citizens have confidence the law is followed. In the run up to the election of November 3, 2020, polling showed a majority of Americans did not have confidence their vote would count. In a democracy, this is as untenable as it is unacceptable.

To help address these concerns, the state Assembly established a new office, the Office of the Special Counsel, to investigate the recent elections in our state. As head of this new office, I am authorized by law to take all reasonable steps to investigate what happened in regard to the November 2020 election, what should have happened, why there was a difference between the two, and to recommend steps to enhance the transparency of our elections as well as restore public confidence in elections going forward.

This interim report is a first step in discharging that mission.

While this report does not definitively answer all questions that might be asked about the November 2020 election, it takes an important step in collating those questions and presenting them in a structured manner.

Over the approximately sixty days since my office was created and has been funded, we have spoken with, and listened to, everyone who has wanted to talk. This open-door policy will remain throughout the entirety of this investigation, and any future investigation with which this office is charged. We have drawn some criticism from those in the media who would suggest my discussions with various individuals or groups implies an endorsement of their views. This is not the case. I do not apologize for this open-door policy: the views of all Wisconsinites matter and sidelining or even laughing

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at serious concerns of any citizen of this state would call into question whatever may be discovered by my investigation.

In the short time the Office of the Special Counsel has been funded, we have not only met with many individuals and groups, but we have collected, and in some cases compelled by law, the production of relevant information. Further, our investigation has gone beyond, and will continue to go beyond, the investigation recently conducted by the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB). One purpose of this interim report is to lay out for the public how my Office's investigation differs significantly from the LAB investigation.

Notwithstanding lawsuits and threats of more lawsuits supported by high-priced, out-of-state lawyers, my office expects to depose government officials, under oath, to determine whether state and federal law were followed in our elections, whether good management held, and if not, who might have been responsible. If necessary, we stand prepared to refer all relevant information to appropriate state and federal law enforcement authorities. The wagon-circling by government entities in our state is concerning and is not limited to my investigation: the City of Madison, the City of Milwaukee, and the town of Little Suamico all refused to fully cooperate even with the LAB investigation, cooperation to which our legislature and the people are entitled by our State Constitution.

Make no mistake: I sincerely hope the law was followed in Wisconsin. It would give me the greatest satisfaction to deliver to the speaker of the Assembly and the public a final report which analyzes the November 2020 election in a complete and thorough manner, concludes no major overhaul of our laws or practice are necessary, and the election was administered in a legal and appropriate manner. And yet, as the following interim report demonstrates, many important questions remain unanswered. These questions include: were all lawful votes, and only lawful votes, counted? Did the machines work as advertised and expected? Were all election processes followed to the letter? Did clerks and other election officials have all the tools they needed to deal with the unprecedented

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challenge posed by the COVID lockdowns and historic levels of absentee voting? Did outside corporate money unduly influence the election and/or the administration of the election? Above all, what changes can the state of Wisconsin make to ensure our future elections are not only secure, but as important, widely known to be secure?

In the coming weeks, my Office will continue to collect and analyze information about the November 2020 election, because the public has a right to know what happened. I have no partisan agenda: I am not running for office, and I do not know of any lawful remedy in the state of Wisconsin to change the certification of its electors from our current President Joe Biden to former President Donald Trump. Furthermore, I do not come with preconceived answers to any questions. Why were so many voter registrations at a single address? Why were so many voter registrations given under a single phone number? Why was there a "blip" at 4:00 a.m. in the reported statewide returns the morning after the election? All of these questions may have innocent explanations. My investigation intends to discover facts which will allow the legislature and the people of Wisconsin to draw their own conclusions about the integrity of the November 2020 election.

Many of these answers might have already been obtained were it not for unjustified obstruction of this investigation. Specifically, I requested information from the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) and certain clerks about election procedures and information they possessed. With a large degree of political theater, some of this information has been withheld. I issued subpoenas, as I am lawfully authorized to do as part of my Office's investigation as a function of legislative oversight. Rather than simply provide the information, WEC has filed a lawsuit in an attempt to quash the subpoenas and avoid providing governmental data and information to my office. I am aggressively defending the subpoenas in our state courts—courts which I once helped to oversee in my capacity as a Justice—but WEC's actions beg the question: What are WEC and the recalcitrant city clerks hiding from the public and our legislature?

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Nevertheless, I have had many productive conversations with government officials. In fact, in the many discussions my Office has had with the fine public servants in the state of Wisconsin, I have learned that complicated questions may have simple answers. But many complicated questions deserve honest answers that take time to process and report. I ask each reader of this interim report to take this as a jumping-off point for learning about the administration of elections in Wisconsin. And again, please reach out to my office if you have any information of relevance. Your voice matters.

Michael J. Gableman

Special Counsel

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What is the OSC Investigation?

November 3, 2020, was election day nationwide, and was, in our State of Wisconsin, the culmination of months of work by dedicated election workers and volunteers. It was a monumental and expensive undertaking which is critical to our representative democracy. However, it is beyond debate that questions remain about the integrity of that election. In discharging its duty under both the Federal and State Constitutions, the Wisconsin State Assembly saw fit, on June 26, 2021, to appoint a Special Counsel, establish the Office of the Special Counsel to investigate the election, make findings, and report those findings and recommendations to the Assembly. This report is a first step in fulfilling that duty.

The Office of the Special Counsel is an authorized agency of the State of Wisconsin. Its staff, including and especially the Special Counsel himself, take care to abide by all applicable state and federal laws, including open records laws and regulations relating to the practice of law. My Office will abide by the highest ethical standards to maintain a commitment to transparency, inclusion, and accountability. As such, the Office has established various internal policies, continues to maintain records, and commits to full disclosure of all public records upon the conclusion of the present investigation.

To-date, my Office has already collected and reviewed thousands of governmental and other documents. My Office has interviewed numerous witnesses and will continue to do so until the conclusion of the present investigation. The Office has been allocated a comparatively modest budget and has relied heavily upon volunteers and input by citizens' groups: the vast majority of the Office's budget, while allocated, has not been spent.

The Office may be reached at (262) 202-8722 or online at www.wifraud.com. As noted below, testimony compelled by this Office bears with it the promise, mandated by Wisconsin law, that any information so compelled may not be used in a criminal

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proceeding against the individual from whom it was provided. *See* Wis. Stat. § 13.35. This Office has already been in contact with certain whistleblowers and commits to taking all steps to protect their interests and those of future whistleblowers.

Constitutional Authority

Pursuant to the federal Constitution, Article I, Section 4, it is state legislatures who are authorized to set "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives…" The Supreme Court of the United States has clarified that this means the Wisconsin legislature bears primary responsibility for establishing rules regarding things like voter registration, poll watching, penalties, ballot counting, and certification. This primacy of the state legislature is ratified by the Wisconsin Constitution, which in Article IV, Section 1 declares "The legislative power shall be vested in a senate and assembly." Whether this means the state Assembly and Senate may, by joint resolution and without gubernatorial signature, tighten up or loosen election security for federal elections, and whether there are limits on how much of this constitutional responsibility can and should be delegated to other state actors (such as the Wisconsin Elections Commission), is an open question in state law.

There is some debate that the Elections Clause of the United States Constitution authorizes states to regulate legislatures alone to dictate the time, places, and manner of elections. While the word "legislature," is used several times in the federal constitution, its meaning differs according to the context in which it appears, dependent upon the character of the function which the legislature is called upon in each respective instance to exercise. *Ariz. State Legislature v. Ariz. Indep. Redistricting Comm'n*, 576 U.S. 787, 808 (2015) (citing *Atlantic Cleaners & Dyers, Inc. v. United States,* 286 U.S. 427, 434 (1932)). Even if the constitution authorizes the Assembly and Senate to jointly amend parts of our election code without gubernatorial signature, the Wisconsin constitution provides that the legislature should create bills of law which become effective only when signed by the governor. Wis. Const. Art. 4, Section 17; Article 5, Section 10. It may be the case that the

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Senate and Assembly can change election regulations in the absence of a statute on the books, indeed Wisconsin law appears silent on this question, but it would be another matter for the Senate and Assembly to seek to repeal an extant portion of the election code.

This brings up a second, equally important issue—certification of the vote. There are serious and legitimate questions that the certification of Wisconsin's election results may have been undertaken in an unlawful and unconstitutional manner. While the Wisconsin legislature has specified how presidential electors are selected, that statute does not empower the governor or WEC to certify the results of the election. The acceptance of electors by the governor while recount challenges were pending deprived the legislature of the right to certify the vote pursuant to Article II of the United States Constitution. Hasty certification of electors in a tightly contested election may disenfranchise voters to the same extent as missing a deadline and failing to certify electors at all. While hasty certification may violate the state constitutional duties of the legislature, delaying certification of electors until resolution of relevant issues does no such violence to our legal system.

Statutory Authority

The authority of the Legislature brings with it the legislative prerogative to gather information, debate bills, and pass laws. In discharging these duties, the legislature bears the constitutional obligation and has the authority to conduct oversight, including the ability to compel production of documents and testimony. Under Wis. Stat. § 13.31, the legislature has the authority to subpoena information from individuals. Because this legislative subpoena is a part of common law legislative authority which holds that without access to all available information a legislature cannot properly legislate—and because this subpoena does not directly relate to or contemplate criminal proceedings, criminal due process rights are not implicated. *See* Wis. Stat. § 13.35. To this end, § 13.35 expressly provides that documents and testimony provided by a witness pursuant to a

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legislative subpoena cannot "be used in any trial or criminal proceeding against such person in court." This does not preclude this Office from turning over information to relevant law enforcement agencies, or by talking with this Office any given individual is somehow immune from criminal prosecution.

This office has, to-date, issued seventeen subpoenas for documents as well as testimony for governmental information from sitting government officials and has obtained some voluntary compliance. These subpoenas, properly issued pursuant to and in furtherance of the legislature's core oversight function, have nevertheless been attacked by the media, are subject to pending litigation, threats of more litigation, and have involved nationwide attention and the work of out-of-state partisan attorneys. Given the substantial recent history of municipal non-compliance with the LAB investigation and the plenary authority of the legislature, the Assembly and this Office are defending these subpoenas. The legislature, and the public, have a right to all available information and the testimony of election officials about elections administration in Wisconsin.

A. How This Investigation Differs from the LAB's Investigation.

The LAB, established in 1971, is authorized by Wisconsin statutes to "conduct...audits of the accounts and other *financial* records of departments to assure all *financial* transactions have been made in a legal and proper manner." Wis. Stat. § 13.94(1) (emphasis added). LAB has a large staff and a laudable history of working with all state instrumentalities, but its relatively narrow mission is to ensure taxpayer money is well-spent. Its report issued October 22, 2021, notes up-front that it is concerned with "audits and evaluations of public finances and the management of public programs." As such, its interest is neither in addressing policy concerns nor the concerns of the full legislature, but of responding to directed audits of the "records of each department" of the state of Wisconsin. Further, as the recommendations in the LAB report suggest, its ability to make recommendations is statutorily limited to the four corners of current Wisconsin law and it does not generally make recommendations to improve the law. When it does, as

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in the case of the current report, these changes are extraordinarily modest, perhaps recognizing its limited authorization. Finally, its sole product is a "detailed report" to the legislature, which includes discussion of any "illegal or improper expenditures." To the extent illegal or improper conduct does not implicate the state fisc, that conduct is beyond the purview of LAB inquiry.

By contrast, my Office's investigation has a wide mandate to investigate elections in Wisconsin, beyond mere "waste, fraud, and abuse," as well as the authority to gain access to necessary testimony and documents, even when recalcitrant individuals or municipalities are not otherwise inclined to "cooperate."

Can Private Groups be Involved in Running Wisconsin Elections?: Delegation and Undue Corporate Influence

While this Office draws no conclusions yet, initial interviews and discussions with clerks suggest there is widespread and substantial confusion about the appropriate role of outside money in the administration of Wisconsin elections. Evidence is already in this Office's possession indicates undue influence by well-funded private groups, who leveraged large grants to certain Wisconsin cities in order to co-opt our election apparatus to their benefit. The recent LAB investigation did not comprehensively investigate or address these concerns by clerks and the public, concerns which led to frustration and untimely resignation of at least one long-serving clerk and numerous unanswered complaints to WEC. Indeed, contracts made between outside groups and certain municipalities led directly to actions contrary to Wisconsin state law, which some clerks noted harmed both election security and the physical safety of voters. The public has a right to know if there was a *quid pro quo* arrangement between outside groups and cities, and if so, what the terms of that agreement were.

How much authority can clerks contract away to private organizations? As the LAB report contends: "Statutes do not specify the actions and responsibilities that consultants

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are allowed to take at polling places and central count locations on Election Day." Nevertheless, for the purposes of legislative inquiry, this is not, and cannot, be the end of the story. Whether certain organizations and individuals operated within a grey area in state law does not preclude obtaining all relevant facts and attempting to draw fine distinctions to facilitate legislative oversight, dialogue with the public, present legislative recommendations, and restore confidence in Wisconsin's system of elections. We need to gather all facts so the legislature can address any problems.

Oblique reference to at least one major issue is made in the LAB report which bears mentioning. Specifically, the LAB report notes the following:

"We asked the clerks of all thirty-nine municipalities [that used central count locations] whether consultants worked at central count locations during the November 2020 General Election. Clerks indicated consultants associated with private organizations worked at the central count locations in two of the thirty-nine municipalities. Specifically:

- One municipality indicated a consultant attended the August 2020 primary as an observer, helped to modify the municipality's election training materials from August 2020 until October 2020, and was at the central count location on Election Day in November 2020 to provide technical assistance for electronic voting equipment. The municipality indicated at least five poll workers monitored such assistance at all times.

- A second municipality indicated a consultant provided logistical support and offered elections administration recommendations but did not have the authority to make decisions and did not count ballots. The municipality indicated the consultant initially wore a city employee identification badge at the central count location on Election Day in November 2020 but subsequently became an observer after the deputy clerk spoke with WEC's administrator about this individual."

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This cursory reporting is concerning, because it substantially waters down already-public information relating to the involvement by a number of private groups in election administration, and it suggests problems were raised and adequately resolved by clerks and WEC.

In fact, in both instances, evidence is already available to this Office that is inconsistent with the LAB's report, and which indicates a more widespread and deeper issue. For example, one private organization referred to in the LAB report was directly involved in all aspects of management of election officials, was entrusted with the only sets of physical keys to the city's central count location, managed the transportation of ballots, and instructed the counting of unlawful ballots that had arrived at the central count location beyond the lawful time window.

Furthermore, under Wis. Statutes § 7.41, there are express rules for "members of the public" to exercise their right to observe Wisconsin elections, which include limitations on the ability of observers to obtain confidential voter information or to communicate with election officials. Individuals are, under Wisconsin law, either election officials or members of the public, and do not "become" observers, as the LAB report suggests. Finally, issues involving possible unauthorized access to election materials or impersonation of a municipal employee cannot be remedied by *ex parte* discussion with a single bureaucrat at WEC. None of these issues are directly addressed by the LAB report.

The LAB report also fails to address to what degree state instrumentalities may properly contract with private groups for purposes of administering public elections. Clerks have already raised concerns to this Office that there are certain election administration functions which they are simply unable to perform. Clerks and the public have raised concerns about the ability of outside contractors to legally bind election officials with onerous contractual terms.

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Contracts with private groups for election administration and management.

This Office is reviewing contracts between municipalities and private groups which gave preferential access to voter data to those private groups and prohibited contracting municipalities from exercising their legal right to change election procedures, lest they be on the hook for paying substantial sums of money back to those groups. Clerks have also raised concerns about technical contracts which limit their ability to review the inner workings of equipment and software related to voter registration and vote tabulation.

A major concern raised by numerous members of the public is whether outside contractors abided by all applicable state and federal antidiscrimination laws, a question not addressed in the LAB report.

This Office has also already uncovered evidence of selective targeting of voters by these private groups, raising questions as to what extent nonpartisan government agencies were turned into partisan get-out-the-vote operations, or whether this targeting was performed on any other unlawful basis. Some of this targeting was apparently in the context of recommending ballot "drop boxes" in certain locations, but not others, a violation of Wisconsin Stat. § 6.855 (see below). Each of these facts, if true, are concerning, and this Office continues to investigate the extent of this entanglement. Furthermore, without statutorily mandated training for clerks, the possibility of undue outside influence in our elections increases. In the vacuum created by WEC, understaffed and overworked clerks can find it all-too-easy to take money and personnel from private groups that might not have compliance with the law as their top priority.

Some clerks have noted to this office the complexity and scope of Wisconsin elections will *always* and *necessarily* require delegation of at least some election functions to private companies. But clerks have suggested a line must be drawn somewhere and many express concern over the 2020 election. Indeed, one current clerk specifically recommended to this Office that private money be prohibited. This Office continues to

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investigate precisely how much authority was ceded to private entities and whether that subservience hindered the fair administration of elections and/or diminished public confidence in that fairness.

Who Runs Wisconsin Elections? Finger-Pointing and the Wisconsin Elections Commission

Clerk Authority

The core of the constitutional and statutory responsibility for election administration in Wisconsin resides with county and municipal clerks. Under Wisconsin Statute § 7.15(1), the municipal clerk has "charge and supervision" of not only state, but also federal elections within a municipality. In turn, these municipal clerks report electoral results to the county clerk and provide county clerks with all materials the county clerks need to discharge their lawful duty to administer elections in their county. While municipal clerks are appointed by political officials such as mayors, county clerks in our state are directly elected.

Government Accountability Board Scandal and Creation of Wisconsin Elections Commission

To assist with developing best practices, the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) was established in 2016. Prior to 2016, a large, opaque, politically partisan, and unaccountable agency, the Government Accountability Board (GAB), was charged with administering vast swaths of statewide ethics and election law. In the wake of a major statewide scandal that drew national attention, the John Doe investigations, the legislature and Governor took the unprecedented step of abolishing that agency and amending state election laws. However, rather than returning the state to a system of clear delegations of authority and broad clerk autonomy, those amendments created WEC, drawing criticism from many quarters, including Kevin Kennedy, the outgoing Director of GAB, who remarked that

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the new system **would have essentially no changes, and that the new system would be "no more transparent" than the old one.**

One example of Kennedy's fulfilled prophecy is the abundance of inconsistent information relating to voter data in the registration database. In its waning days of 2015, the GAB was confronted with 28,906 voters whose information about their name and address as reported to the DMV was inconsistent with information for the same voter in the voter registration database. The GAB dismissed those concerns. However, as of 2021, those same numbers not only continue to exist and have never been adequately explained but increased in number under WEC's tenure.

Pursuant to Wisconsin law, WEC is tasked with certain portions of "the administration of...laws relating to elections." Wisconsin Statutes § 5.05(1). Precisely how far this delegation goes is an open question. WEC authority as expressly laid out in that section contemplates public rulemaking, investigation, and enforcement. However, the election code sections over which WEC has regulatory authority include numerous provisions which expressly delegate authority to individual actors, such as county and municipal clerks. In fact, Wisconsin law delegates to the "board" the duty to certify the state's electors in a presidential election, a job fulfilled in 2020 solely by the Chairperson of WEC, without board vote. *Compare* Wis. Stat. § 7.70(5). The LAB report does not make an effort to systematically review these delegations but does note in several places the "shared" election administration responsibilities.

Confusion about WEC Authority

While this Office draws no conclusions yet, initial interviews with clerks suggest there is widespread confusion about the lawful role of WEC in the state, and concern that WEC has acted outside its lawful purview. There is evidence numerous complaints by clerks to WEC were ignored. This problem is exacerbated by a lack of clarity as to the legal status of WEC guidance: some clerks are convinced compliance with WEC guidance

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provides them with a legal "safe harbor" in the event the Clerk's directives consistent with the guidance are challenged in court. In a recent statement, WEC expressly disavowed that its actions could provide a basis for a defense but instead opined that it is the clerks who bear all the responsibility for election related litigation.

Additionally, WEC guidance, such as online FAQs, are apparently issued without a full Commission vote. Other documents, as the LAB report notes in the case of the March 2020 Commission-approved guidance regarding Special Voting Deputies are flatly contrary to law. As noted above, much authority is delegated to the WEC administrator. Importantly, under Wisconsin law, there is slight legal recourse other than a petition to WEC to challenge such unlawful behavior. When WEC implicitly or explicitly authorizes actions contrary to Wisconsin law, such as enabling poor security for access to statewide voter registration data systems or authorizing "shortcuts" such as issuing absentee ballots without applications or enabling widespread ballot curing, voters and candidates are left with no choice but to file expensive and time-consuming lawsuits. The LAB report, consistent with the LAB mission discussed above, did not investigate these issues, which this Office continues to investigate and collate.

Lack of Legal Remedies

Furthermore, the LAB did not investigate various decisions WEC and others made in the run-up to the 2020 election, some of which appear designed to prevent the Wisconsin courts, including the Wisconsin Supreme Court, from weighing in. Specifically, the decision by WEC to quickly issue ballots without a Green Party candidate was the determining factor in the Wisconsin Supreme Court declining to address the merits of that exclusion. WEC's action was of dubious legality. In the 2020 case of *Hawkins v. Wisconsin Elections Commission*, the 4-3 majority held that because WEC had claimed it had already issued an unknown number of ballots, there was no time to properly address the claims of the excluded Green Party candidate. In other words, WEC's own actions operated to neuter the ability of our state's highest court to address whether WEC's

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actions were lawful and to provide a remedy if they were not. Then Chief Justice Patience D. Roggensack wrote a forthright dissent, noting "The court's silence not only affirms lawless conduct by the Commission, but also provides no directive for the required treatment of nomination papers in the future." This Office continues to formulate legislative options to ensure this remedial gap in Wisconsin law is repaired.

Absentee Balloting

A second action has evaded both LAB and state judicial review andinvolves the issue of absentee balloting. Precisely what rules govern the requirements for mail-in and in-person absentee voting in the state of Wisconsin? It is clear in some instances the safeguards mandated for the protection of honest absentee ballots were ignored by WEC.

Many of these safeguards were apparently abrogated by WEC and municipalities in 2020, with COVID-19 as a proffered excuse. One issue involved the illegal mass self-certification of individuals as "indefinitely confined" under the statute, a category which enables a voter to evade state voter ID requirements, but which is intended to apply to physically or physiologically immobile residents confined to their home because of their condition. Presented to the Wisconsin Supreme Court, again the majority ducked a ruling on the merits, prompting then Chief Justice Roggensack to note that it appears the Court "cannot be bothered with addressing what the statutes require to assure absentee ballots are lawfully cast." It is up to the state legislature to investigate if, how, and why state law was not followed and take legislative action.

One major issue identified involves "Democracy in the Park," which were citywide events in Madison before the election exclusively related to absentee ballots. The LAB report mentions this issue in passing as a "Special Event" occurring in a "specified outdoor setting." Without explaining the issue, the report recommends the Legislature "clarify" statutes so individuals know whether or not they can engage in absentee ballot activities contrary to the procedures laid down in Wis. Stat. § 6.855. In other words, the

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LAB report implicitly notes the statutes were violated by Democracy in the Park and recommends the law be changed.

What was Democracy in the Park, and why has it been the subject of numerous citizen complaints, lawsuits, and legislative inquiries apart from this Office's investigation?

While this Office draws no conclusions, we possess evidence that the events, which occurred on September 26 and October 3, 2020, involved numerous possible violations of state law, calling into question the validity of over 17,000 absentee ballots. Specifically, these involved large outdoor gatherings where purported designees of the City Clerk's office assisted with absentee ballots that yielded over 17,000 votes. Furthermore, it is not clear that all of the workers at those events were properly deputized and trained, swore and filed the mandatory oath of office, or documents related to absentee ballots were properly handled. Finally, this Office also seeks to review the processing of those ballots. Each of these fact-intensive avenues of inquiry are crucial for determining what was improper and how to prevent future impropriety in absentee voting.

Clerk Training

In addition, this office has obtained evidence that WEC failed to complete its statutorily mandated training duties. As the LAB report notes, Wisconsin Statutes § 12.01 *et seq*., lays out training protocols for clerks. But county clerks are politically accountable to their voters, and WEC certification or lack of certification does not affect a clerk's legal rights. However, if a clerk is *not* certificated by WEC, such as for failing to be properly trained, WEC is required by law to notify the "governing body" of that clerk's county or municipality. In other words, WEC is mandated by law to train clerks, and clerks who fail to complete training are reported by letter to the mayor or county board. Yet, as the LAB found, at least 17.5% of clerks were not properly trained, and no letters from WEC went out notifying cities and boards about the failure to complete training. This Office continues to review the issue. Moreover, this Office already has ample evidence that in

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the absence of this legally mandated training, certain private groups filled the vacuum, perhaps for their own, self-interested purposes, providing some municipalities with incorrect and even unlawful advice. In a statement, at least one clerk has noted outside advice negatively impacted the security of the vote and the physical safety of voters.

Exploitation of Elders

This Office continues to review the issues involving WEC more generally, as well as other plain rules that are apparently without remedy in Wisconsin law, such as the editing of ballot applications by clerks and voting procedures at nursing homes. A recent investigation and report by the Racine County Sheriff's Office highlighted the exploitation of some of our most vulnerable citizens. Furthermore, complaints were apparently made to WEC and ignored, in a system which the sheriff described as leading to our election system being "not just broken, but shattered." I believe many Wisconsinites share the Sheriff's sentiment. It is my hope a continued investigation and final report from this Office will help change those perspectives and sentiments.

In the run-up to the November 3, 2020, election, clerks and WEC took numerous steps to alleviate public fears about COVID-19. But in this perceived crisis there was the opportunity for electoral partisan advantage. For example, Wisconsin law mandates individuals in various types of communal living facilities may have special access to absentee voting in person, but only subject to the rules of § 6.875. These rules govern the "Special Voting Deputies" that a municipality may, in turn, train and authorize to collect absentee votes in person: this is the *only* lawful method for collecting absentee ballots outside normal procedures, as Special Voting Deputies swear an oath and become duly authorized "election officials." Without the availability of Special Voting Deputies under the statute, it would be much more difficult for many senior citizens or those in assisted living facilities to vote. Yet in 2020, at the recommendation of its top administrator, WEC voted to unilaterally prohibit the use of Special Voting Deputies, explaining that COVID-19 made it too dangerous to allow for Special Voting Deputies to enter these facilities.

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This Office has evidence that WEC and some clerks instructed residential care employees to act in a manner prohibited by law, collecting and assisting in completing ballots for individuals in these group facilities, including those with dementia. This led to record-high voting by individuals who had not voted for nearly a decade and may have lacked the cognitive ability to vote.

On its face, this type of activity could lead to criminal referral for the residential care employees, as the Chairperson of WEC has suggested. But residential care staff represent the "little fish" in this alleged criminal enterprise. This Office is reviewing the relevant Wisconsin statutes to facilitate the criminal referral process and make legislative recommendations. This includes reviewing legal methods for ensuring our senior citizens are not bullied or taken advantage of, and neither nursing homes nor their residents are used for any unlawful election activity, merely because these citizens are vulnerable, easy targets for partisan predators.

WEC: Self-Policing and Self-Serving

Numerous members of the public, as well as the clerks, have questioned the independent authority clerks have to administer an election consistent with state law in light of WEC's guidance, which in several instances was contrary to those voting laws. Some clerks feel WEC may legally bind the clerks in granular decisions about their local needs. Other clerks are concerned about repercussions for not following WEC guidance. Many clerks have expressed disagreement with WEC conclusions, and some have done so publicly. Numerous members of the public have raised concerns about WEC's ability to police itself: the discretionary nature of WEC intake, review, and response to complaints, and the fact that complaints about WEC are handled—or not handled, as the case may be—by WEC itself.

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This Office continues to interview clerks and expects to discuss with WEC staff precise nature of WEC's role in future Wisconsin elections.

How can the Public be Confident in Our Elections? The Black Box

As former GAB Director Kevin Kennedy noted, the new WEC system is, apparently, "no more transparent" than the old one which he ran. Without robust legislative oversight, many Wisconsinites are at risk of feeling their vote does not count, or that there is widespread election fraud in the state. Worse, their fears may be well-grounded. Two major areas of inquiry are being looked at by my Office, both dealing with the appropriate level of transparency for our election systems. First, my Office is reviewing the laws and procedures relating to the use of technological tools in administering elections: the "voting machines" and the various election databases used by WEC. Second, my Office is reviewing barriers to public access to information, such as excessive charges for public access to public registration data.

While this Office draws no conclusions, interviews with clerks, citizens, and other groups suggest there is widespread concern about the inability of an average citizen to track how elections are run. This inability has huge downstream consequences, as citizens are often presented with snippets of information reminiscent of the "confusopoly" in health insurance. Presented with outdated data sets of dubious accuracy, citizens seeking to use public information to confirm election results are unable to do so, while those with money and access (or preferential contracts, as noted above) can access better data, more quickly. Further, the precise operations of voting machines are not readily accessible or understood by the public, or by commissioners on WEC itself. As with health insurance, the system operates on autopilot, with the insured praying their bill is accurate, and with voters praying the system is working as it is supposed to.

Election systems in Wisconsin are governed by state and federal law. Specifically, the federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC) created under the Help America Vote Act

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of 2002 (HAVA) is tasked with approving all voting systems used in federal elections, and with approving all modifications of voting systems used in federal elections. 52 U.S.C. § 20971. As a part of this, voting systems vendors submit their proposed systems to the EAC for approval. Typically, once a system is tested and approved by the EAC, the vendor will make a similar application to WEC, which may approve the system for sale and use within the state of Wisconsin. However, beginning in 2015 the state of Wisconsin allowed GAB (and now WEC) to approve systems for use in the state which are not approved by the EAC. Wis. Stat. § 5.591. While there is thus wide discretion vested in WEC to approve changes to voting systems, federal law mandates that "all records and papers... relating to any application, registration, payment of poll tax, or other act requisite to voting in such election" be preserved by the State for twenty-two months following the election. 52 U.S.C. § 20701.

But as was made eminently clear in a recent WEC meeting held after a preservation request issued by this Office, WEC officials and staff are not at all clear as to what "modifications" to voting machines require WEC approval, which modifications can lawfully be made, or what certain software updates actually entail. Further, WEC approval of actions that might violate federal record keeping laws are no guarantee of legal immunity for clerks with final say over what happens to voting machines in their locales. In fact, as one machine vendor noted during that open meeting, in order to install a software update, that company would be obliged to entirely "wipe" a machine. That is, to delete all information from election hardware. Whether this technical process destroys election records in contravention of federal law is a question that WEC has yet been unable to answer.

In order to address this and related questions, this Office has been allocated a budget to engage neutral, certificated data security experts, and has already taken steps to initiate an open and full technical audit of various voting systems to understand and report on the security of these systems. Whatever the results, various clerks have already suggested they themselves do not know precisely how the voting machines work and

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rely entirely upon private contractors to assure them of system integrity. This in and of itself may be a problem. The problem is further exacerbated in that WEC, who is responsible for training the clerks on the machines, may not itself know how the machines work.

Prior to the establishment of this Office, the Special Counsel did personally engage with various outside individuals relating to various voting machine concerns. This Office neither endorses the views of any particular outside individual nor has this Office yet uncovered any evidence of foreign hacking of elections in the state of Wisconsin. Nevertheless, the opacity of elections systems has given rise to numerous theories and concerns about the 2020 election.

A second issue related to the transparency of our election system in the state is the public availability of voter data. While this Office as yet draws no conclusions, there is already evidence that security surrounding the WisVote (SVRS) system is lax. This statewide system enables clerks to track absentee ballot requests and includes highly sensitive personal information. As such, it is supposed to be subject to a high level of security laid out in WEC guidance. Nevertheless, there is already some evidence of unauthorized access to this database. Further, several clerks have complained that they were provided by WEC with numerous, unrequested access keys, leading to a security headache and concerns that the statewide system was not secure.

In addition to concerns about too much access, concerns have been raised about not enough access, or about unequal access, to voter registration information. This is important because access to this data is necessary for tracking the accuracy of reported election results. WEC does provide statewide voter registration data for a fee up to, and usually, $12,500. This fee is set by WEC administrative rule, and it is mandated by statute that the fee be set "at an amount estimated to cover both the cost of reproduction and the cost of maintaining the list at the state and local level." Wis. Stat. § 6.36(6). Nevertheless, it is apparently the case that the fee is charged for each reproduction, no matter the actual

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cost, and that subsequent individuals requesting a list that has already been produced are charged the same rack-rate. Further, there is some evidence that outside groups were provided privileged access to this data without fee, and on an expedited basis. This Office continues to investigate this matter, and again, this issue is not addressed in the LAB report.

Conclusion

The people of the state of Wisconsin have a right to know how our elections are run. The legislature has the common law and constitutional right and obligation to investigate how our state laws are being administered. Without adequate information and oversight, citizens in a democracy justifiably lose confidence that their vote counts and their system of government is working properly.

This Interim Report seeks to build upon the good work of many citizens and government officials including the vast majority of county and municipal clerks, and to shine a light on issues and concerns of interest. It is a healthy exercise in good government, not an attempt to overturn any election. As this investigation continues, my Office will vigorously seek out and obtain all available truthful information, so that it can present this information to the public and to the Assembly.

If, in the course of this investigation, the Office obtains information that could be used in a criminal prosecution, this Office will cooperate fully with all appropriate law enforcement entities.

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 8:19 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: THU AM Update: Supreme Court to hear lawsuit seeking to force Prehn off Natural Resources Board

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THU AM Update -- 18 Nov. 2021

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- The state Supreme Court has agreed to hear Dem AG Josh Kaul's lawsuit seeking to force Chair Fredrick Prehn off the Natural Resources Board.

A Dane County judge rejected the request, citing Supreme Court precedent.

In an order yesterday, the court granted Kaul's request to bypass the appeals court and gave the Department of Justice 30 days to file a brief. The order also set a schedule for other briefs and said the court will decide in a later order whether to grant the Legislature's motion to intervene.

Prehn's term ended in May, but he has declined to step down from the board until the state Senate confirms Sandra Naas, appointed by Gov. Tony Evers to replace him. That nomination hasn't moved in the GOP-run Senate, and the board remains controlled by appointees of former Gov. Scott Walker 4-3.

Writing in a concurring opinion joined by fellow conservatives Annette Ziegler and Pat Roggensack, Justice Rebecca Bradley complained the court has been inconsistent on granting petitions to bypass the appeals court. Bradley wrote the court has previously deemed premature petitions to bypass prior to the parties filing briefs with the appeals court and cited other cases the justices have declined to take. She cited the court's decision to decline a request to bypass the appeals court in a challenge to COVID-19 restrictions issued by Public Health of Madison & Dane County.

Justice Rebecca Dallet, joined by fellow liberal Jill Karofsky, argued in a concurring opinion of her own that this warrants "an exception to that practice." She wrote DOJ alleges "an ongoing
injury that threatens the functioning of an important state agency."

See the order:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211117Order2.pdf

-- Sarah Godlewski did slightly better against GOP U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson than Dem rival Mandela Barnes in head-to-head matchups, according to polling conducted for her campaign.

Both matchups were within the margin of error.

Godlewski's campaign wrote in a memo released today that the state treasurer was backed by 48 percent of voters, while 46 percent supported Johnson, R-Oshkosh.

Meanwhile, it was Johnson 50, Barnes 47.

In both cases, pollster Public Policy Polling provided positive messages about Barnes and Godlewski. The numbers came after respondents heard those messages. Before learning about the two Dems, both trailed Johnson, though within the margin of error, according to the memo.

Godlewski's campaign told WisPolitics.com there were no negative messages read to respondents about either Barnes or Godlewski. Also, respondents weren't provided any messages about Johnson. The memo didn't include details of the messages read about Godlewski and Barnes.

The poll also found 43 percent of voters had a favorable impression of Johnson, while 49 percent had an unfavorable one. Meanwhile, 66 percent didn't have an opinion of Godlewski.

PPP conducted the survey of 636 Wisconsin voters Nov. 12-13. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.9 percentage points. Sixty-two percent of the surveys were conducted via text message, while 38 percent were done over the phone.

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PPP is rated an A-minus pollster by FiveThirtyEight.

See the memo:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211118Godlewski.pdf

-- The latest Marquette University Law School national poll found President Biden's numbers underwater. But former President Trump was in even worse shape.

The poll of adults found 45 percent had a favorable opinion of Biden, while 49 percent had an unfavorable one. His job approval was at 49-51, largely unchanged from September. In July, his split was 58-42.

Trump was viewed favorably by 32 percent and unfavorably by 65 percent. Among Republicans, his split was 73-26.

In a hypothetical rematch, 42 percent favored Biden, while 34 percent supported Trump.

Among all adults, 71 percent don't want to see Trump run again, while 28 percent do. Among Republicans, 60 percent want him to run, while 40 percent don't.

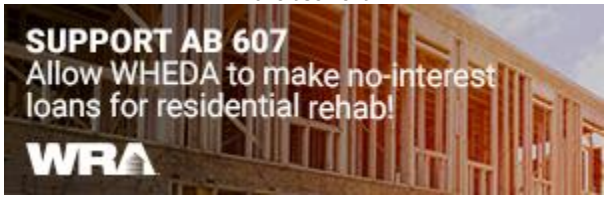
The survey of 1,004 adults was conducted Nov. 1-10. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.

See the release:
https://law.marquette.edu/poll/

-- In this week's DC Wrap: U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin highlights her provisions in the recently-passed infrastructure bill, and U.S. Rep. Glenn Grothman introduces a bill aimed at protecting consumers against predatory lending practices.

See more here:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/baldwin-highlights-her-legislation-in-the-recently-passed-infrastructure-bill-grothman-introduces-bill-to-protect-against-predatory-lending/

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Wisconsin REALTORS Association

TOP HEADLINES

Speaker Vos attacks UW-Madison for references to CRT in student training
... [Vos letter Tuesday to Chancellor Blank] demanded answers about a training course called "Graduate and Professional Students Preventing and Responding to Sexual and Relationship Violence." ... [that] discusses how critical race theory and critical race feminism "can help students understand privilege better and 'how a regime of white supremacy and its subordination of people of color have been created and maintained in America.' ... "Students are not only required to take this course and pass with a 100% score in order to enroll in classes but they are also required to agree that whiteness means privilege," Vos wrote. ... [UW's] Lucas said the training makes a brief reference to critical race theory and the concepts mentioned are supported by academic research. "We will continue to review the webinar, as we do with all of our programs, and make any appropriate changes for Spring 2022," said Lucas. "Graduate and professional students are encouraged to share any questions or concerns about the program or their participation with University Health Services Violence Prevention." Reviews Kleefisch Oct. 12 FB video denouncing UW's CRT requirements. UWM emeritus prof. Lee said GOP turned obscure academic theory into a "wedge issue . .. out of thin air, all of a sudden they're mobilizing the grassroots based on CRT, and now they're calling it parents' rights. And it's effective. It has traction with people, and Democrats just don't seem to be able to handle it," said UW-Madison and tolerance teaching isn't intimidating and people should remember Wisconsin's embarrassing history as it relates Black voting. Brief history of Jim Crow in WI. "Whether it's about this exchange on CRT and diversity training or anything else," said Lee, "I think it shows us how much we've lost in Wisconsin politics -- and that's the idea of compromise."
https://www.wpr.org/assembly-speaker-robin-vos-attacks-uw-madison-references-critical-race-theory-student-training

Kleefisch contends Madison is using a vax mandate to prevent GOP poll workers
... City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl said the policy was set by the city's human resources department. ... "Interesting how after we've been making a big push to get more conservatives working polls, Madison is now requiring all poll workers to be vaccinated," Kleefisch tweeted. "Do you think they are trying to keep you from seeing what goes on behind the scenes?" Kleefisch did not agree to an interview ... "The fact that she is choosing this as her battle I think shows she is every bit as out of touch now as she was when she was lieutenant governor," [Rep.] Subeck said. "This sounds like someone who is trying to rile up the extremes of her party in a primary than somebody who wants to govern for all the people of the state." ... "Unlike the former Lt. Gov., we have been working non-stop since the early days of the pandemic to keep everyone safe from this deadly disease and to facilitate safe voting practices for all," [Mayor Rhodes-Conway] said in a written statement. ... "Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy and any qualified person should be able to serve as a poll worker or election official without restriction," [GOP AG candidate] Toney tweeted. AG candidate Jarchow dittoed, would

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ban the "illegal" vax req if elected, "One of the most important jobs of the Attorney General is ensuring the integrity of our elections." Rep. Spreitzer: "Certainly Madison is always a favorite punching bag for Republicans, so I think this is red meat for the base." https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/17/wisconsin-rebecca-kleefisch-says-vaccine-rule-stop-republicans-working-polls/8656335002/

Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge to declare mistrial over drone video
... that prosecutors showed to the jury in closing arguments in a bid to undermine Rittenhouse's self-defense claim and portray him as the instigator ... Chirafisi said the defense initially received a smaller compressed version of the video and didn't get the higher-quality larger one used by the prosecution until the evidence portion of the case was over. ... said the mistrial request would be made "without prejudice," meaning prosecutors could still retry Rittenhouse. ... Judge Bruce Schroeder did not immediately rule ... The jury deliberated a second full day without reaching a verdict and will return in the morning. ... Last week, the defense asked for a mistrial with prejudice [over Binger cross-exam of Rittenhouse] ... The dispute over the video erupted after the jurors asked to rewatch footage on Day 2 of their deliberations. ... "We're focusing too heavily on a technological glitch," prosecutor James Kraus said. The judge said he had "qualms" about admitting the video during the trial, but because it had already been shown in court, he would allow the jury to rewatch ... But if it turns out the video should not have been admitted into evidence, "it's going to be ugly," Schroeder warned. ... said the mistrial request will have to be addressed if there is a guilty verdict. Earlier in the day, the judge criticized news coverage, second-guessing from legal experts in the media, media criticism over his disallowing the term 'victim,' having Rittenhouse draw jury lottery and not ruling on first mistrial motion, saying he would "think long and hard" about allowing televised trials in the future. "It's just a shame that irresponsible statements are being made," the judge said of comments in a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel story from law school professors. Defense atty. Kim, UW Law prof. Meyn comment.
https://apnews.com/0e4b6ad5a286af9ddbb8c8546550f1dc

For the second time, defense requests mistrial in Kyle Rittenhouse case
Reviews debate over drone video quality, trial, protests, Blake shooting. Rittenhouse facing multiple charges: * Count 1: First-degree reckless homicide [Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon. * Count 2: First-degree recklessly endangering safety [McGinnis, videographer helping Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon. * Count 3: First-degree recklessly endangering safety, use of a dangerous weapon. Re: videos show Rittenhouse being kicked by an unknown man and then shooting at him. * Count 4: First-degree intentional homicide [Huber], use of a dangerous weapon. lesser charges include second-degree intentional homicide, first-degree reckless homicide. *Count 5: Attempted first-degree intentional homicide [Grosskreutz], use of a dangerous weapon. lesser charges include attempted second-degree intentional homicide, first-degree recklessly endangering safety. bout 40 protesters/supporters outside Court Tuesday. Among them was Rainbow PUSH's Grant, dubbed case an example of a "white privileged, white entitled justice system" and a "Black and brown disenfranchisement system," argued Black defendants don't get "a $2 million, high performing, high paid,

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high profile law firm representing them," don't get "humanized or sanitized like Kyle Rittenhouse, nationally." Leaders of Kenosha's McLean called for peace while awaiting the verdict, "We denounce those who feel emboldened by the murders of Anthony and Jojo to threaten, hurt and kill us, to follow us home, to scare us and to try to intimidate us, but we will not be intimidated." KCSD/KPD joint release: "At this time, we have no reason to facilitate road closures, enact curfews or ask our communities to modify their daily routines." Gov. Evers has authorized 500 WNG-ers to deploy to Kenosha if needed.
https://www.wpr.org/second-time-defense-requests-mistrial-kyle-rittenhouse-case

Jury consultant in O.J. Simpson case assists Kyle Rittenhouse defense team
... spokesperson for her firm, Dimitrius & Associates, confirmed her involvement ... first reported by the Washington Post. ... reportedly was tasked with watching the jury's reaction to witnesses and assisting with the defense's questioning. ... wouldn't comment on the Rittenhouse case until after a verdict is reached.
https://www.wisn.com/article/jury-consultant-oj-simpson-case-assisting-kyle-rittenhouses-defense/38281729

US Senate candidate McCloskey shows support for Rittenhouse
... [MO candidate Mark McCloskey-R] and his wife, Patricia, were both in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on Monday and Tuesday to show support for Rittenhouse. The McCloskeys gained national attention after they waved guns at racial injustice protesters who were marching in their gated St. Louis subdivision last summer. ... McCloskeys pleaded guilty in June to misdemeanor charges ... were ordered to pay fines, but Mark McCloskey left the courthouse defiantly pledging to "do it again" if faced with the same circumstances. Both McCloskeys were pardoned by GOP Gov. Mike Parson.
https://apnews.com/5a99406766017207b24f892312b0b1b2

Supreme Court to weigh effort to oust Natural Resources Board chair
... [after] Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn dismissed the case, citing the Supreme Court precedent. Kaul ... asked the Supreme Court to take the case, bypassing the court of appeals, to address "time-sensitive issues" raised by Prehn's refusal to step down. ... Prehn also asked the high court to hear the case ... to clarify "the long-standing but little known hold over rule that applies to appointive offices in Wisconsin government." ... Justice Rebecca Bradley [for Ziegler, Roggensack] said the case "presents purely legal issues of statutory interpretation, which implicate the separation of powers." Two liberal justices agreed to take the case for different reasons. "Petitioner alleges an ongoing injury that threatens the functioning of an important state agency," wrote justices Rebecca Dallet and Jill Karofsky. "Delaying access to this court while the parties file briefs in the court of appeals may unnecessarily prolong that alleged harm." Hagedorn and Walsh Bradley did not sign the order.
https://madison.com/wsj/97fdb627-25c1-5ccb-9b93-fd7efb66d9a0.html

Solar opponents say utilities, developers exploiting legal loophole
... Invenergy, a Chicago-based developer, is seeking a permit to build a 300-megawatt solar plant on about 2,400 acres east of Cambridge that would include a 165-megawatt

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battery storage system. Three utilities, including We Energies and Madison Gas and Electric, are seeking to purchase the project for $649M. ... town of Christiana [+ 2 residents] have asked the [PSC] to deny the project's permit application, claiming ... "This proceeding is not designed or directed at processing an application for what Koshkonong is intended to be -- a utility-owned power plant," attorney Frank Jablonski wrote ... "What the PSC seems to have decided is we are going to subject apparently hundreds of square miles of Wisconsin farmland to solar panels. That's a big decision," Jablonski said. "What's happening is that's being developed incrementally using these loopholes." ... utilities will need a separate permit to buy the plant, and that application process includes a review of need, cost and alternatives. But Jablonski argues the acquisition review is less rigorous ... PSC is scheduled to consider the denial request Thursday, though it has rejected previous challenges to the two-step permitting process, which has been used in eight of the 11 large-scale solar farms approved to date. CUB's Content does not object to the process, but sees a larger problem, "The way we're planning our energy future isn't working effectively. ... it's disjointed but it also risks overbuilding. The PSC doesn't have an ability to take into account the big picture. ... investors on Wall Street have more information sometimes than the PSC on the utilities' decarbonization goals and plans." Invenergy, MGE's Schultz, We Energies' Cullen comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/2b4973f1-8c64-5a1d-b4cd-612279f1962e.html

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 5 a.m.: Marquette Law School releases national poll on political topics.
https://law.marquette.edu/community/marquette-law-school-national-poll-political-topics

- 7:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Sustain Dane Summit.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sustain-dane-summit-weaving-stories-of-change-registration-161151924745

- 9 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.: SCORE workshop: "Connecting Women Entrepreneurs: Navigating a New Normal"
https://wisconsintechnologycouncil.com/event/score-connecting-women-entrepreneurs-navigating-a-new-normal/

- 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.: Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce webinar: "E-Commerce Essentials - Sell Your Products & Services Online."
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/e-commerce-essentials-sell-your-products-services-online-virtual-tickets-173058220797?aff=ebdsoporgprofile

- 9:30 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/

- 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.: WisPolitics luncheon panel on Wisconsin redistricting. Panelists

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include: Panelists: Former GOP Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen, former Dem Senate Minority Leader Chuck Chvala, former GOP state Rep. Joe Handrick and Allontheline.org Wisconsin State Director Elizabeth Treviño.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Women's Fund presents "Disruptors, Changing the Power Dynamics."
https://womensfundmke.org/event/womens-fund-presents2021-event-page/

- 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: UW-Madison public debate: "Boycott, Divest and Sanction Chinese State-Owned Enterprises?"
https://thompsoncenter.wisc.edu/event/public-debate-boycott-divest-and-sanction-chinese-state-owned-enterprises/

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 8:19 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: THU AM Update: Supreme Court to hear lawsuit seeking to force Prehn off Natural Resources Board

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

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In an order yesterday, the court granted Kaul's request to bypass the appeals court and gave the Department of Justice 30 days to file a brief. The order also set a schedule for other briefs and said the court will decide in a later order whether to grant the Legislature's motion to intervene.

Prehn's term ended in May, but he has declined to step down from the board until the state Senate confirms Sandra Naas, appointed by Gov. Tony Evers to replace him. That nomination hasn't moved in the GOP-run Senate, and the board remains controlled by appointees of former Gov. Scott Walker 4-3.

Writing in a concurring opinion joined by fellow conservatives Annette Ziegler and Pat Roggensack, Justice Rebecca Bradley complained the court has been inconsistent on granting petitions to bypass the appeals court. Bradley wrote the court has previously deemed premature petitions to bypass prior to the parties filing briefs with the appeals court and cited other cases the justices have declined to take. She cited the court's decision to decline a request to bypass the appeals court in a challenge to COVID-19 restrictions issued by Public Health of Madison & Dane County.

Justice Rebecca Dallet, joined by fellow liberal Jill Karofsky, argued in a concurring opinion of her own that this warrants "an exception to that practice." She wrote DOJ alleges "an ongoing
injury that threatens the functioning of an important state agency."

See the order:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211117Order2.pdf

-- Sarah Godlewski did slightly better against GOP U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson than Dem rival Mandela Barnes in head-to-head matchups, according to polling conducted for her campaign.

Both matchups were within the margin of error.

Godlewski's campaign wrote in a memo released today that the state treasurer was backed by 48 percent of voters, while 46 percent supported Johnson, R-Oshkosh.

Meanwhile, it was Johnson 50, Barnes 47.

In both cases, pollster Public Policy Polling provided positive messages about Barnes and Godlewski. The numbers came after respondents heard those messages. Before learning about the two Dems, both trailed Johnson, though within the margin of error, according to the memo.

Godlewski's campaign told WisPolitics.com there were no negative messages read to respondents about either Barnes or Godlewski. Also, respondents weren't provided any messages about Johnson. The memo didn't include details of the messages read about Godlewski and Barnes.

The poll also found 43 percent of voters had a favorable impression of Johnson, while 49 percent had an unfavorable one. Meanwhile, 66 percent didn't have an opinion of Godlewski.

PPP conducted the survey of 636 Wisconsin voters Nov. 12-13. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.9 percentage points. Sixty-two percent of the surveys were conducted via text message, while 38 percent were done over the phone.

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PPP is rated an A-minus pollster by FiveThirtyEight.

See the memo:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211118Godlewski.pdf

-- The latest Marquette University Law School national poll found President Biden's numbers underwater. But former President Trump was in even worse shape.

The poll of adults found 45 percent had a favorable opinion of Biden, while 49 percent had an unfavorable one. His job approval was at 49-51, largely unchanged from September. In July, his split was 58-42.

Trump was viewed favorably by 32 percent and unfavorably by 65 percent. Among Republicans, his split was 73-26.

In a hypothetical rematch, 42 percent favored Biden, while 34 percent supported Trump.

Among all adults, 71 percent don't want to see Trump run again, while 28 percent do. Among Republicans, 60 percent want him to run, while 40 percent don't.

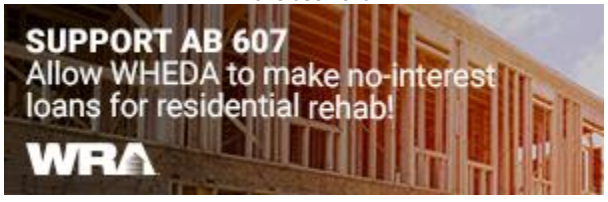
The survey of 1,004 adults was conducted Nov. 1-10. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.

See the release:
https://law.marquette.edu/poll/

-- In this week's DC Wrap: U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin highlights her provisions in the recently-passed infrastructure bill, and U.S. Rep. Glenn Grothman introduces a bill aimed at protecting consumers against predatory lending practices.

See more here:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/baldwin-highlights-her-legislation-in-the-recently-passed-infrastructure-bill-grothman-introduces-bill-to-protect-against-predatory-lending/

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Wisconsin REALTORS Association

TOP HEADLINES

Speaker Vos attacks UW-Madison for references to CRT in student training
... [Vos letter Tuesday to Chancellor Blank] demanded answers about a training course called "Graduate and Professional Students Preventing and Responding to Sexual and Relationship Violence." ... [that] discusses how critical race theory and critical race feminism "can help students understand privilege better and 'how a regime of white supremacy and its subordination of people of color have been created and maintained in America.' ... "Students are not only required to take this course and pass with a 100% score in order to enroll in classes but they are also required to agree that whiteness means privilege," Vos wrote. ... [UW's] Lucas said the training makes a brief reference to critical race theory and the concepts mentioned are supported by academic research. "We will continue to review the webinar, as we do with all of our programs, and make any appropriate changes for Spring 2022," said Lucas. "Graduate and professional students are encouraged to share any questions or concerns about the program or their participation with University Health Services Violence Prevention." Reviews Kleefisch Oct. 12 FB video denouncing UW's CRT requirements. UWM emeritus prof. Lee said GOP turned obscure academic theory into a "wedge issue . .. out of thin air, all of a sudden they're mobilizing the grassroots based on CRT, and now they're calling it parents' rights. And it's effective. It has traction with people, and Democrats just don't seem to be able to handle it," said UW-Madison and tolerance teaching isn't intimidating and people should remember Wisconsin's embarrassing history as it relates Black voting. Brief history of Jim Crow in WI. "Whether it's about this exchange on CRT and diversity training or anything else," said Lee, "I think it shows us how much we've lost in Wisconsin politics -- and that's the idea of compromise."
https://www.wpr.org/assembly-speaker-robin-vos-attacks-uw-madison-references-critical-race-theory-student-training

Kleefisch contends Madison is using a vax mandate to prevent GOP poll workers
... City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl said the policy was set by the city's human resources department. ... "Interesting how after we've been making a big push to get more conservatives working polls, Madison is now requiring all poll workers to be vaccinated," Kleefisch tweeted. "Do you think they are trying to keep you from seeing what goes on behind the scenes?" Kleefisch did not agree to an interview ... "The fact that she is choosing this as her battle I think shows she is every bit as out of touch now as she was when she was lieutenant governor," [Rep.] Subeck said. "This sounds like someone who is trying to rile up the extremes of her party in a primary than somebody who wants to govern for all the people of the state." ... "Unlike the former Lt. Gov., we have been working non-stop since the early days of the pandemic to keep everyone safe from this deadly disease and to facilitate safe voting practices for all," [Mayor Rhodes-Conway] said in a written statement. ... "Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy and any qualified person should be able to serve as a poll worker or election official without restriction," [GOP AG candidate] Toney tweeted. AG candidate Jarchow dittoed, would

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ban the "illegal" vax req if elected, "One of the most important jobs of the Attorney General is ensuring the integrity of our elections." Rep. Spreitzer: "Certainly Madison is always a favorite punching bag for Republicans, so I think this is red meat for the base." https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/17/wisconsin-rebecca-kleefisch-says-vaccine-rule-stop-republicans-working-polls/8656335002/

Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge to declare mistrial over drone video
... that prosecutors showed to the jury in closing arguments in a bid to undermine Rittenhouse's self-defense claim and portray him as the instigator ... Chirafisi said the defense initially received a smaller compressed version of the video and didn't get the higher-quality larger one used by the prosecution until the evidence portion of the case was over. ... said the mistrial request would be made "without prejudice," meaning prosecutors could still retry Rittenhouse. ... Judge Bruce Schroeder did not immediately rule ... The jury deliberated a second full day without reaching a verdict and will return in the morning. ... Last week, the defense asked for a mistrial with prejudice [over Binger cross-exam of Rittenhouse] ... The dispute over the video erupted after the jurors asked to rewatch footage on Day 2 of their deliberations. ... "We're focusing too heavily on a technological glitch," prosecutor James Kraus said. The judge said he had "qualms" about admitting the video during the trial, but because it had already been shown in court, he would allow the jury to rewatch ... But if it turns out the video should not have been admitted into evidence, "it's going to be ugly," Schroeder warned. ... said the mistrial request will have to be addressed if there is a guilty verdict. Earlier in the day, the judge criticized news coverage, second-guessing from legal experts in the media, media criticism over his disallowing the term 'victim,' having Rittenhouse draw jury lottery and not ruling on first mistrial motion, saying he would "think long and hard" about allowing televised trials in the future. "It's just a shame that irresponsible statements are being made," the judge said of comments in a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel story from law school professors. Defense atty. Kim, UW Law prof. Meyn comment.
https://apnews.com/0e4b6ad5a286af9ddbb8c8546550f1dc

For the second time, defense requests mistrial in Kyle Rittenhouse case
Reviews debate over drone video quality, trial, protests, Blake shooting. Rittenhouse facing multiple charges: * Count 1: First-degree reckless homicide [Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon. * Count 2: First-degree recklessly endangering safety [McGinnis, videographer helping Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon. * Count 3: First-degree recklessly endangering safety, use of a dangerous weapon. Re: videos show Rittenhouse being kicked by an unknown man and then shooting at him. * Count 4: First-degree intentional homicide [Huber], use of a dangerous weapon. lesser charges include second-degree intentional homicide, first-degree reckless homicide. *Count 5: Attempted first-degree intentional homicide [Grosskreutz], use of a dangerous weapon. lesser charges include attempted second-degree intentional homicide, first-degree recklessly endangering safety. bout 40 protesters/supporters outside Court Tuesday. Among them was Rainbow PUSH's Grant, dubbed case an example of a "white privileged, white entitled justice system" and a "Black and brown disenfranchisement system," argued Black defendants don't get "a $2 million, high performing, high paid,

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high profile law firm representing them," don't get "humanized or sanitized like Kyle Rittenhouse, nationally." Leaders of Kenosha's McLean called for peace while awaiting the verdict, "We denounce those who feel emboldened by the murders of Anthony and Jojo to threaten, hurt and kill us, to follow us home, to scare us and to try to intimidate us, but we will not be intimidated." KCSD/KPD joint release: "At this time, we have no reason to facilitate road closures, enact curfews or ask our communities to modify their daily routines." Gov. Evers has authorized 500 WNG-ers to deploy to Kenosha if needed.
https://www.wpr.org/second-time-defense-requests-mistrial-kyle-rittenhouse-case

Jury consultant in O.J. Simpson case assists Kyle Rittenhouse defense team
... spokesperson for her firm, Dimitrius & Associates, confirmed her involvement ... first reported by the Washington Post. ... reportedly was tasked with watching the jury's reaction to witnesses and assisting with the defense's questioning. ... wouldn't comment on the Rittenhouse case until after a verdict is reached.
https://www.wisn.com/article/jury-consultant-oj-simpson-case-assisting-kyle-rittenhouses-defense/38281729

US Senate candidate McCloskey shows support for Rittenhouse
... [MO candidate Mark McCloskey-R] and his wife, Patricia, were both in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on Monday and Tuesday to show support for Rittenhouse. The McCloskeys gained national attention after they waved guns at racial injustice protesters who were marching in their gated St. Louis subdivision last summer. ... McCloskeys pleaded guilty in June to misdemeanor charges ... were ordered to pay fines, but Mark McCloskey left the courthouse defiantly pledging to "do it again" if faced with the same circumstances. Both McCloskeys were pardoned by GOP Gov. Mike Parson.
https://apnews.com/5a99406766017207b24f892312b0b1b2

Supreme Court to weigh effort to oust Natural Resources Board chair
... [after] Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn dismissed the case, citing the Supreme Court precedent. Kaul ... asked the Supreme Court to take the case, bypassing the court of appeals, to address "time-sensitive issues" raised by Prehn's refusal to step down. ... Prehn also asked the high court to hear the case ... to clarify "the long-standing but little known hold over rule that applies to appointive offices in Wisconsin government." ... Justice Rebecca Bradley [for Ziegler, Roggensack] said the case "presents purely legal issues of statutory interpretation, which implicate the separation of powers." Two liberal justices agreed to take the case for different reasons. "Petitioner alleges an ongoing injury that threatens the functioning of an important state agency," wrote justices Rebecca Dallet and Jill Karofsky. "Delaying access to this court while the parties file briefs in the court of appeals may unnecessarily prolong that alleged harm." Hagedorn and Walsh Bradley did not sign the order.
https://madison.com/wsj/97fdb627-25c1-5ccb-9b93-fd7efb66d9a0.html

Solar opponents say utilities, developers exploiting legal loophole
... Invenergy, a Chicago-based developer, is seeking a permit to build a 300-megawatt solar plant on about 2,400 acres east of Cambridge that would include a 165-megawatt

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battery storage system. Three utilities, including We Energies and Madison Gas and Electric, are seeking to purchase the project for $649M. ... town of Christiana [+ 2 residents] have asked the [PSC] to deny the project's permit application, claiming ... "This proceeding is not designed or directed at processing an application for what Koshkonong is intended to be -- a utility-owned power plant," attorney Frank Jablonski wrote ... "What the PSC seems to have decided is we are going to subject apparently hundreds of square miles of Wisconsin farmland to solar panels. That's a big decision," Jablonski said. "What's happening is that's being developed incrementally using these loopholes." ... utilities will need a separate permit to buy the plant, and that application process includes a review of need, cost and alternatives. But Jablonski argues the acquisition review is less rigorous ... PSC is scheduled to consider the denial request Thursday, though it has rejected previous challenges to the two-step permitting process, which has been used in eight of the 11 large-scale solar farms approved to date. CUB's Content does not object to the process, but sees a larger problem, "The way we're planning our energy future isn't working effectively. ... it's disjointed but it also risks overbuilding. The PSC doesn't have an ability to take into account the big picture. ... investors on Wall Street have more information sometimes than the PSC on the utilities' decarbonization goals and plans." Invenergy, MGE's Schultz, We Energies' Cullen comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/2b4973f1-8c64-5a1d-b4cd-612279f1962e.html

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 5 a.m.: Marquette Law School releases national poll on political topics.
https://law.marquette.edu/community/marquette-law-school-national-poll-political-topics

- 7:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Sustain Dane Summit.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sustain-dane-summit-weaving-stories-of-change-registration-161151924745

- 9 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.: SCORE workshop: "Connecting Women Entrepreneurs: Navigating a New Normal"
https://wisconsintechnologycouncil.com/event/score-connecting-women-entrepreneurs-navigating-a-new-normal/

- 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.: Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce webinar: "E-Commerce Essentials - Sell Your Products & Services Online."
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/e-commerce-essentials-sell-your-products-services-online-virtual-tickets-173058220797?aff=ebdsoporgprofile

- 9:30 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/

- 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.: WisPolitics luncheon panel on Wisconsin redistricting. Panelists

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include: Panelists: Former GOP Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen, former Dem Senate Minority Leader Chuck Chvala, former GOP state Rep. Joe Handrick and Allontheline.org Wisconsin State Director Elizabeth Treviño.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Women's Fund presents "Disruptors, Changing the Power Dynamics."
https://womensfundmke.org/event/womens-fund-presents2021-event-page/

- 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: UW-Madison public debate: "Boycott, Divest and Sanction Chinese State-Owned Enterprises?"
https://thompsoncenter.wisc.edu/event/public-debate-boycott-divest-and-sanction-chinese-state-owned-enterprises/

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 10:00 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: THU News Summary: Vos demands answers to UW-Madison CRT references in student training; Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge for mistrial

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WISPOLITICS.COM
Wisconsin's Premier Political News Service

THU News Summary -- 18 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/thu-news-summary-vos-demands-answers-to-uw-madison-crt-references-in-student-training-rittenhouse-lawyers-ask-judge-for-mistrial/

STORY TOPICS

- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- Local government
- Census
- Courts
- Demographics
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Health care

TOP STORIES

Speaker Vos attacks UW-Madison for references to CRT in student training

... [Vos letter Tuesday to Chancellor Blank] demanded answers about a training course called "Graduate and Professional Students Preventing and Responding to Sexual and Relationship Violence." ... [that] discusses how critical race theory and critical race feminism "can help students understand privilege better and 'how a regime of white supremacy and its subordination of people of color have been created and maintained in America.' ... "Students are not only required to take this course and pass with a 100% score in order to enroll in classes but they are also required to agree that whiteness means privilege," Vos wrote. ... [UW's] Lucas said the training makes a brief reference to critical race theory and the concepts mentioned are supported by academic research. "We will continue to review the webinar, as we do with all of our programs, and make any appropriate changes for Spring 2022," said Lucas. "Graduate and professional students are encouraged to share any questions or concerns about the program or their participation with University Health Services Violence Prevention." Reviews Kleefisch Oct. 12 FB video denouncing UW's CRT requirements. UWM emeritus prof. Mordecai Lee said GOP turned obscure academic theory into a

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- Law and order
- Manufacturing
- Military
- Non-profits
- Real estate
- Small business
- Technology
- Utilities
- Editorials
- Columns

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https://www.wpr.org/assembly-speaker-robin-vos-attacks-uw-madison-references-critical-race-theory-student-training

Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge to declare mistrial over drone video

... that prosecutors showed to the jury in closing arguments in a bid to undermine Rittenhouse's self-defense claim and portray him as the instigator ... Chirafisi said the defense initially received a smaller compressed version of the video and didn't get the higher-quality larger one used by the prosecution until the evidence portion of the case was over. ... said the mistrial request would be made "without prejudice," meaning prosecutors could still retry Rittenhouse. ... Judge Bruce Schroeder did not immediately rule ... The jury deliberated a second full day without reaching a verdict and will return in the morning. ... Last week, the defense asked for a mistrial with prejudice [over Binger cross-exam of Rittenhouse] ... The dispute over the video erupted after the jurors asked to rewatch footage on Day 2 of their deliberations. ... "We're focusing too heavily on a technological glitch," prosecutor James Kraus said. The judge said he had "qualms" about admitting the video during the trial, but because it had already been shown in court, he would allow the jury to rewatch ... But if it turns out the video should not have been admitted into evidence, "it's going to be ugly," Schroeder warned. ... said the mistrial request will have to be addressed if there is a guilty verdict. Earlier in the day, the judge criticized news coverage, second-guessing from legal experts in the media, media criticism over his disallowing the term 'victim,' having Rittenhouse draw jury lottery and not ruling on first mistrial motion, saying he would "think long and hard" about allowing televised trials in the future. "It's just a shame that irresponsible statements are being made," the judge said of comments in a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel story from law school professors. Defense atty. Kim, UW Law prof. Meyn comment. By Tarm, Bauer and Forliti, AP
https://apnews.com/0e4b6ad5a286af9ddbb8c8546550f1dc

Bipartisan sexual assault kit bills pass Wisconsin Legislature

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... awaits Gov. Tony Evers' approval after Assembly votes last week. [Cowles-Agard SB 71] would establish procedures for the collection and processing of sexual assault evidence kits -- also referred to as rape kits -- and require law enforcement agencies to provide the state Department of Justice with more data on them than currently required. ... requires unprocessed kits to be stored for 10 years. [Darling-Agard SB 94] would require the state DOJ to create a database known as the Wisconsin Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System to allow victims to access information about the status of any kits they have provided. ... also allows health care workers, law enforcement professionals and forensic laboratories to update and track the kits' location. Kaul statement: "Passing this legislation has been a goal since I was first elected, and I am proud we finally got it done this session. Testing sexual assault kits can lead to justice for survivors and help put violent criminals behind bars. This sexual assault kit reform legislation is an important step forward for public safety." Agard, Assembly sponsor Steffen, WCASA'a Meyers comment. By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES
https://captimes.com/00eeaee4-21b0-5f8e-a0a3-9fe6afb55938.html

Evers signs Purple Heart Memorial Highway bill in Necedah
... joined by [sponsor] State Senator Howard Marklein on Veteran's Day ... signed the bill in the presence of several Purple Heart recipients, including two-time recipient Starr and Necedah Police Officer John Miller. ... "Throughout history, our Purple Heart recipients have put their lives on the line in defense of the liberties we hold dear, so I am glad to sign this bill into law today, designating the entirety of State Highway 21 as a Purple Heart Memorial Highway," said Evers. "I am also proud to take this action on Veterans Day as we celebrate and recognize our state and nation's veterans. My hope is that this Purple Heart Memorial Highway serves as a reminder of the incredible sacrifices made by our service members who know the true cost of freedom." By Jardine, JUNEAU COUNTY STAR
https://www.wiscnews.com/1f6e5876-e5aa-5afe-beaf-13f2cfeab0ec.html

############
STORY TOPICS
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RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^
- Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge to declare mistrial over video [see Columns]
https://apnews.com/0e4b6ad5a286af9ddbb8c8546550f1dc

- Rittenhouse trial comes to the brink of mistrial during the second day of jury

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deliberations: drone video at issue
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2021/11/17/rittenhouse-trial-defense-seeks-mistrial-jury-deliberations-continue/8657044002/

- For the second time, defense requests mistrial in Kyle Rittenhouse case: reviews debate over drone video quality, trial, protests, Blake shooting. Rittenhouse multiple charges:
* Count 1: First-degree reckless homicide [Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon.
* Count 2: First-degree recklessly endangering safety [McGinnis, videographer helping Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon.
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https://www.wpr.org/second-time-defense-requests-mistrial-kyle-rittenhouse-case

- On the steps of the Kenosha County Courthouse, a surreal scene unfolds as people wait for the Kyle Rittenhouse verdict
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/17/kyle-rittenhouse-trial-draws-emotional-mix-steps-kenosha-courthouse/8654824002/

- Rittenhouse Judge Says He Allowed Defendant to Pick Jurors to Protect 'Optics' ... "I [allow the defendant to pick the numbers] because of an incident that I had in a case I tried in Racine," Kenosha County Circuit Judge Bruce Schroeder told the courtroom on Wednesday. ... case from nearly 20 years ago involved a Black defendant and 13 jurors, one of whom was Black. "When the clerk--the clerk, the government official drew the name out of the tumbler, it was a Black, the Black, the only Black [juror]," he said. "There was nothing wrong with it. It was all okay, but what do they talk about? Optics nowadays? Is that the word for things? That was a bad optic I think. ... I am now reading about how bizarre and unusual it was to have the defendant pick the [juror] numbers out of the tumbler yesterday," Schroeder said. "I would admit that I don't know there's a large number of courts that do that. Maybe not any."

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https://www.newsweek.com/1650409

- Judge could rule on Kyle Rittenhouse mistrial at any time. Is that normal?
https://www.kenoshanews.com/7caebcc9-2fa0-5411-a47d-78457e13d3cc.html

- Letters of support, criticism pour into Kenosha courthouse for Rittenhouse trial judge
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/17/rittenhouse-trial-judge-flooded-critiques-letters-support/8652027002/

- Jury consultant in O.J. Simpson case assists Kyle Rittenhouse defense team ... spokesperson for her firm, Dimitrius & Associates, confirmed her involvement ... first reported by the Washington Post. ... reportedly was tasked with watching the jury's reaction to witnesses and assisting with the defense's questioning. ... wouldn't comment on the Rittenhouse case until after a verdict is reached.
https://www.wisn.com/article/jury-consultant-oj-simpson-case-assisting-kyle-rittenhouses-defense/38281729

- Rittenhouse case raises question: What makes a fair trial?
https://apnews.com/aed653b7f5157373e4e8139734e2ce13

- US Senate candidate McCloskey shows support for Rittenhouse ... [MO candidate Mark McCloskey-R] and his wife, Patricia, were both in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on Monday and Tuesday to show support for Rittenhouse. The McCloskeys gained national attention after they waved guns at racial injustice protesters who were marching in their gated St. Louis subdivision last summer. ... McCloskeys pleaded guilty in June to misdemeanor charges ... were ordered to pay fines, but Mark McCloskey left the courthouse defiantly pledging to "do it again" if faced with the same circumstances. Both McCloskeys were pardoned by Republican Missouri Gov. Mike Parson.
https://apnews.com/5a99406766017207b24f892312b0b1b2

- 2 arrested outside Kenosha County Courthouse on Wednesday
https://www.kenoshanews.com/38f9f4b8-7ffd-53ab-9f1a-a309a72dd274.html

CORONAVIRUS ^*top*^
- COVID-19 cases increase 50% in Milwaukee County ... over the last 2 weeks
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/16/covid-19-cases-increase-50-in-milwaukee-county.html

- St. Croix County contact tracing and Pierce County vaccines
https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/83b5ed12-47be-11ec-bfdb-e787a6d5cd31.html

- Officials caution potential repeat of holiday COVID-19 surge
https://www.leadertelegram.com/covid-19/officials-caution-potential-repeat-of-holiday-covid-19-surge/article_fc9d4b09-2541-593d-8c5d-567b88e57bbb.html

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*

- Madison to require poll workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19 ... city is asking election workers who are fully vaccinated to send a completed vaccination attestation form and both sides of a CDC COVID-19 vaccine card via email to the clerk's office by Jan. 7. Proof of vaccination through Wisconsin's Immunization Registry is also accepted in lieu of a vaccine card.
https://captimes.com/25439668-e2d1-5960-9ab4-4472d83cc161.html

- Kleefisch contends Madison is using a vaccine mandate to keep Republicans from serving as poll workers ... City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl said the policy was set by the city's human resources department. ... "Interesting how after we've been making a big push to get more conservatives working polls, Madison is now requiring all poll workers to be vaccinated," Kleefisch tweeted. "Do you think they are trying to keep you from seeing what goes on behind the scenes?" Kleefisch did not agree to an interview ... "The fact that she is choosing this as her battle I think shows she is every bit as out of touch now as she was when she was lieutenant governor," [Rep.] Subeck said. "This sounds like someone who is trying to rile up the extremes of her party in a primary than somebody who wants to govern for all the people of the state." ... "Unlike the former Lt. Gov., we have been working non-stop since the early days of the pandemic to keep everyone safe from this deadly disease and to facilitate safe voting practices for all," [Mayor Rhodes-Conway] said in a written statement. ... "Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy and any qualified person should be able to serve as a poll worker or election official without restriction," [GOP AG candidate] Toney tweeted. AG candidate Jarchow echoed, would ban the "illegal" vax req if elected, "One of the most important jobs of the Attorney General is ensuring the integrity of our elections." Rep. Spreitzer: "Certainly Madison is always a favorite punching bag for Republicans, so I think this is red meat for the base."
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/17/wisconsin-rebecca-kleefisch-says-vaccine-rule-stop-republicans-working-polls/8656335002/

- Parisi pressures Dane County Board to move forward on stalled jail project with 'hybrid' options
https://captimes.com/473040ba-e6e6-54c7-b603-3e0e59bf8f80.html

- New 'hybrid' options for Dane County Jail project cost $155M or less
https://madison.com/wsj/8548401a-6c16-51de-8d98-580e17de254c.html

- [13-1 Alfheim] Appleton extends stay of big head sculpture on East College Avenue for 5½ months ... extended Sculpture Valley's two-year lease of public right of way for displaying "The Collective" to April 30 [to accommodate bad weather that endangers returning it to the sponsoring Foundation in WY.] Statue is a Human head and neck composed of propane tanks painted with faces. Pic shows someone has placed a mask on it.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/17/appletons-big-head-sculpture-stay-another-5-and-half-months/6250401001/

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

CENSUS ^top^

- Sauk County passes new voting maps ... With no discussion and a lack of public comment during the scheduled hearing Tuesday,
https://www.wiscnews.com/920b601c-3d88-56dc-b7f0-9cb83ec9faa8.html

- Thompson analysis: Comparing GOP And People's Maps
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/17/data-wonk-comparing-gop

- How a Cure for Gerrymandering Left U.S. Politics Ailing in New Ways, Independent commissions to oversee the redrawing of electoral maps were thought to be the solution to an age-old problem. Instead, they have become bogged down in political trench warfare. ... In Wisconsin, where a court battle over redistribution is already underway between Republicans who control the legislature and Gov. Tony Evers, a Democrat, state Assembly Speaker Robin Voss rejected the governor's People's Maps commission. "There is no such thing as a nonpartisan commission," Mr Vos, a Republican, said at a hearing last month. All commissioners are partisan, he said. "If they vote, they vote for either of the two parties."
https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/17/us/politics/gerrymandering-redistricting.html

COURTS ^top^

- Supreme Court to weigh effort to oust Natural Resources Board chair ... [after] Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn dismissed the case, citing the Supreme Court precedent. Kaul ... asked the Supreme Court to take the case, bypassing the court of appeals, to address "time-sensitive issues" raised by Prehn's refusal to step down. ... Prehn also asked the high court to hear the case ... to clarify "the long-standing but little known hold over rule that applies to appointive offices in Wisconsin government." ... Justice Rebecca Bradley [for Ziegler, Roggensack] said the case "presents purely legal issues of statutory interpretation, which implicate the separation of powers." Two liberal justices agreed to take the case for different reasons. "Petitioner alleges an ongoing injury that threatens the functioning of an important state agency," wrote justices Rebecca Dallet and Jill Karofsky. "Delaying access to this court while the parties file briefs in the court of appeals may unnecessarily prolong that alleged harm." Hagedorn and Walsh Bradley did not sign the order.
https://madison.com/wsj/97fdb627-25c1-5ccb-9b93-fd7efb66d9a0.html

DEMOGRAPHICS ^top^

- Noon Wednesday: Unhoused and underfunded, While an estimated 20,000 people are without suitable housing nightly, the state Legislature has not moved to address homelessness issues. Joe Volk, executive director of the Wisconsin Coalition Against Homelessness, explains why solutions continue to stall.
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/noon-wednesday-unhoused-and-underfunded/

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

ECONOMY ^top^
- Why are so many Americans quitting? 7 Wisconsinites give their reasons
https://captimes.com/dd8befb6-fec6-53b6-921a-0a388d3a0a18.html

EDUCATION ^top^
- 70 UW System students win $7,000 scholarships for getting COVID-19 vaccine ... "We took up a challenge to educate and inform students as a part of a vaccination campaign to help keep our universities safe -- and it has succeeded," Thompson said in a statement. "I believe in encouraging, rather than mandating, vaccines, and the scholarship incentive was a great motivator."
https://www.wiscnews.com/99c62316-96e3-5067-a265-39f7417bae33.html

- GOP leaders wants answers on UW-Madison training that references critical race theory: Kleefisch video, VOs letter, UW's Lucas comments.
https://madison.com/wsj/4a17fc6f-6a4d-5eb6-b9fb-c7ebf9ce738d.html

- DPI releases first school report cards since the pandemic, with several changes, 95 percent of public school districts met or exceeded expectations, though the scoring changed this year
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-releases-first-school-report-cards-pandemic-several-changes

- Verona High student arrested with loaded, semi-automatic handgun at school, police say
https://madison.com/wsj/2290a43b-499a-5370-892c-fe12a9356460.html

- Why the Badgers expect a smaller crowd at Camp Randall despite being in the hunt for Big Ten title ... "This weekend has traditionally been a tough weekend for us, no matter who we're playing and no matter what the stakes are," said Brian Lucas, UW's director of football brand communications. "It's hunting weekend and that's built into the fabric of a lot of our fans, and we recognize that." 20,384 unscanned tickets last week.
https://madison.com/wsj/7e295692-891a-548b-911a-f721fe77b581.html

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- With SARS-CoV-2 spreading in deer, state health officials urge extra precautions while hunting, DNR officials also encourage hunters to have deer tested for CWD
https://www.wpr.org/sars-cov-2-spreading-deer-state-health-officials-urge-extra-precautions-while-hunting

- Wild elk spotted in Columbia County, had come south in September, DNR says
https://madison.com/wsj/9b8b2cd5-60ce-5881-96ee-8e4dc482f94b.html

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Boo-U play 'The God Committee' explores ethics of organ transplants
https://www.wiscnews.com/47c24418-a29d-53c9-bd63-eeef0bec40b8.html

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Twin Ports crime spree, standoff suspect indicted on federal charges, The alleged crime spree that has already resulted in 26 charges in Minnesota and Wisconsin state courts now has Cody Walker-Nelson facing significant federal prison time.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/crime-and-courts/7287018-Twin-Ports-crime-spree-standoff-suspect-indicted-on-federal-charges

MANUFACTURING ^top^
- DNR welcomes Kimberly-Clark Marinette To Wisconsin's Green Tier Program
https://www.ehextra.com/news/dnr-welcomes-kimberly-clark-marinette-to-wisconsins-green-tier-program/article_d94cfb2f-8472-5449-b7d1-22041162f499.html

MILITARY ^top^
- Four Wisconsin National Guardsmen went to Afghanistan together. All returned home safely. Within months, all took their own lives.
https://www.jsonline.com/in-depth/news/investigations/2021/11/18/military-suicides-take-toll-wisconsin-national-guard-soldiers-afghanistan/8570815002/

- What should the Guard do to reduce suicides? More transparency, improved communication, better medication guidance among possible solutions.
https://www.jsonline.com/in-depth/news/solutions/2021/11/18/resources-solutions-address-wisconsin-national-guard-suicides/6180730001/

NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Packers stock sale tops $36M, 110K shares sold in first two days
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/11/17/green-bay-packers-stock-sale-tops-36-million-110-000-share-sold/8650215002/

REAL ESTATE ^top^
- Ascent's mass timber world record puts Milwaukee in front of national discussion
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/17/ascent-mass-timber-world-record-puts-milwaukee-in.html

- GE Healthcare wins approval for first phase of $50M West Milwaukee expansion
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/17/ge-healthcare-wins-approval-for-50m-expansion.html

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SMALL BUSINESS ^top^
- Black Business Week in Beloit kicks off Monday
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/89a7ba42-9091-594a-ba78-502111a88473.html

TECHNOLOGY ^top^
- How Common Are Ransomware Attacks? Lawmakers Want to Find Out. ... After his local library had to shut down because of a ransomware attack, Indiana state Rep. Mike Karickhoff realized the state didn't know much about the frequency of such security breaches. Spurred by similar crimes across Indiana last year, he decided to author a bill requiring all public agencies to report cyberattacks to the state. "It's like neighborhood watch," said Karickhoff, a Republican. ... passed both chambers unanimously, and Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb signed it into law in April. ... All 50 states already have security breach notification laws that require businesses to report a data breach to consumers whose personal information was compromised ... Many states also require government entities to do the same, as well as report such breaches to the attorney general's office or state information technology office.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/18/how-common-are-ransomware-attacks-lawmakers-want-to-find-out

UTILITIES ^top^
- Solar opponents say utilities, developers exploiting legal loophole ... Invenergy, a Chicago-based developer, is seeking a permit to build a 300-megawatt solar plant on about 2,400 acres east of Cambridge that would include a 165-megawatt battery storage system. Three utilities, including We Energies and Madison Gas and Electric, are seeking to purchase the project for $649M. ... town of Christiana [+ 2 residents] have asked the [PSC] to deny the project's permit application, claiming ... "This proceeding is not designed or directed at processing an application for what Koshkonong is intended to be -- a utility-owned power plant," attorney Frank Jablonski wrote ... "What the PSC seems to have decided is we are going to subject apparently hundreds of square miles of Wisconsin farmland to solar panels. That's a big decision," Jablonski said. "What's happening is that's being developed incrementally using these loopholes." ... utilities will need a separate permit to buy the plant, and that application process includes a review of need, cost and alternatives. But Jablonski argues the acquisition review is less rigorous ... PSC is scheduled to consider the denial request Thursday, though it has rejected previous challenges to the two-step permitting process, which has been used in eight of the 11 large-scale solar farms approved to date. CUB's Content does not object to the process, but sees a larger problem, "The way we're planning our energy future isn't working effectively. ... it's disjointed but it also risks overbuilding. The PSC doesn't have an ability to take into account the big picture. ... investors on Wall Street have more information sometimes than the PSC on the utilities' decarbonization goals and plans." Invenergy, MGE's Schultz, We Energies' Cullen comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/2b4973f1-8c64-5a1d-b4cd-612279f1962e.html

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EDITORIALS ^top^
- CT Editorial: Jim Steineke is a lying sack of partisanship
https://captimes.com/e794f48b-0771-5eb7-9975-6c1ea545ed92.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- Dave Zweifel: Nursing home hoopla another means for GOP hacks to fix elections
https://captimes.com/763b1086-71d1-57f2-9964-a097671de5a4.html

- FFRF's Karen Heinemann: Advice to Aaron Rodgers: Follow the (veterinary) science ... [as] a veterinarian as well as an attorney. ... I am familiar with ivermectin and vaccines. ... with ... serious potential complications. [such as] neurologic abnormalities, including coma and death. ... it isn't used to treat viral infections. Rodgers' admission -- late in the game -- that he is not vaccinated and chose to treat his COVID-19 infection with medications, including ivermectin, which are not approved for this use, is frustrating.
https://captimes.com/0bd5d677-1beb-5af0-8391-dacdf3f8c44a.html

- David D. Haynes: Kyle Rittenhouse a hero? No, he was a callow, foolish boy who had no business being in Kenosha ... a I see is recklessness.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2021/11/17/kyle-rittenhouse-hero-no-he-foolish-being-kenosha/8651605002/

- David French: Kyle Rittenhouse Is No Hero, If a jury acquits him, it will not be a miscarriage of justice--but an acquittal does not make a foolish man a hero.
https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/11/kyle-rittenhouse-right-self-defense-role-model/620715/

- Farhad Manjoo: The Truth About Kyle Rittenhouse's Gun
https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/17/opinion/kyle-rittenhouse-guns.html

- Rep. Hong Chief of Staff Nada Elmikashfi: School resource officers are not the answer ... while strict, fair and immediate disciplinary procedures should be in place, that discipline must be built on the principles of restorative justice and with children's emotional and mental health a priority. https://isthmus.com/opinion/the-new-colossus/school-resource-officers-are-not-the-answer/

- Joan Downs: Removing buses from State Street would mean no accessibility for many
https://captimes.com/52d6290f-50b9-5df4-a10d-d8aad30de759.html

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021, 10:00 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: THU News Summary: Vos demands answers to UW-Madison CRT references in student training; Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge for mistrial

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THU News Summary -- 18 Nov. 2021

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Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/thu-news-summary-vos-demands-answers-to-uw-madison-crt-references-in-student-training-rittenhouse-lawyers-ask-judge-for-mistrial/

STORY TOPICS

- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- Local government
- Census
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- Demographics
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Health care

TOP STORIES

Speaker Vos attacks UW-Madison for references to CRT in student training

... [Vos letter Tuesday to Chancellor Blank] demanded answers about a training course called "Graduate and Professional Students Preventing and Responding to Sexual and Relationship Violence." ... [that] discusses how critical race theory and critical race feminism "can help students understand privilege better and 'how a regime of white supremacy and its subordination of people of color have been created and maintained in America.' ... "Students are not only required to take this course and pass with a 100% score in order to enroll in classes but they are also required to agree that whiteness means privilege," Vos wrote. ... [UW's] Lucas said the training makes a brief reference to critical race theory and the concepts mentioned are supported by academic research. "We will continue to review the webinar, as we do with all of our programs, and make any appropriate changes for Spring 2022," said Lucas. "Graduate and professional students are encouraged to share any questions or concerns about the program or their participation with University Health Services Violence Prevention." Reviews Kleefisch Oct. 12 FB video denouncing UW's CRT requirements. UWM emeritus prof. Mordecai Lee said GOP turned obscure academic theory into a

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"wedge issue . .. out of thin air, all of a sudden they're mobilizing the grassroots based on CRT, and now they're calling it parents' rights. And it's effective. It has traction with people, and Democrats just don't seem to be able to handle it," said UW-Madison and tolerance teaching isn't intimidating and people should remember Wisconsin's embarrassing history as it relates Black voting. Brief history of Jim Crow in WI. "Whether it's about this exchange on CRT and diversity training or anything else," said Lee, "I think it shows us how much we've lost in Wisconsin politics -- and that's the idea of compromise." By Kremer, WPR [see Education]
https://www.wpr.org/assembly-speaker-robin-vos-attacks-uw-madison-references-critical-race-theory-student-training

Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge to declare mistrial over drone video

... that prosecutors showed to the jury in closing arguments in a bid to undermine Rittenhouse's self-defense claim and portray him as the instigator ... Chirafisi said the defense initially received a smaller compressed version of the video and didn't get the higher-quality larger one used by the prosecution until the evidence portion of the case was over. ... said the mistrial request would be made "without prejudice," meaning prosecutors could still retry Rittenhouse. ... Judge Bruce Schroeder did not immediately rule ... The jury deliberated a second full day without reaching a verdict and will return in the morning. ... Last week, the defense asked for a mistrial with prejudice [over Binger cross-exam of Rittenhouse] ... The dispute over the video erupted after the jurors asked to rewatch footage on Day 2 of their deliberations. ... "We're focusing too heavily on a technological glitch," prosecutor James Kraus said. The judge said he had "qualms" about admitting the video during the trial, but because it had already been shown in court, he would allow the jury to rewatch ... But if it turns out the video should not have been admitted into evidence, "it's going to be ugly," Schroeder warned. ... said the mistrial request will have to be addressed if there is a guilty verdict. Earlier in the day, the judge criticized news coverage, second-guessing from legal experts in the media, media criticism over his disallowing the term 'victim,' having Rittenhouse draw jury lottery and not ruling on first mistrial motion, saying he would "think long and hard" about allowing televised trials in the future. "It's just a shame that irresponsible statements are being made," the judge said of comments in a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel story from law school professors. Defense atty. Kim, UW Law prof. Meyn comment. By Tarm, Bauer and Forliti, AP
https://apnews.com/0e4b6ad5a286af9ddbb8c8546550f1dc

Bipartisan sexual assault kit bills pass Wisconsin Legislature

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... awaits Gov. Tony Evers' approval after Assembly votes last week. [Cowles-Agard SB 71] would establish procedures for the collection and processing of sexual assault evidence kits -- also referred to as rape kits -- and require law enforcement agencies to provide the state Department of Justice with more data on them than currently required. ... requires unprocessed kits to be stored for 10 years. [Darling-Agard SB 94] would require the state DOJ to create a database known as the Wisconsin Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System to allow victims to access information about the status of any kits they have provided. ... also allows health care workers, law enforcement professionals and forensic laboratories to update and track the kits' location. Kaul statement: "Passing this legislation has been a goal since I was first elected, and I am proud we finally got it done this session. Testing sexual assault kits can lead to justice for survivors and help put violent criminals behind bars. This sexual assault kit reform legislation is an important step forward for public safety." Agard, Assembly sponsor Steffen, WCASA'a Meyers comment. By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES
https://captimes.com/00eeaee4-21b0-5f8e-a0a3-9fe6afb55938.html

Evers signs Purple Heart Memorial Highway bill in Necedah
... joined by [sponsor] State Senator Howard Marklein on Veteran's Day ... signed the bill in the presence of several Purple Heart recipients, including two-time recipient Starr and Necedah Police Officer John Miller. ... "Throughout history, our Purple Heart recipients have put their lives on the line in defense of the liberties we hold dear, so I am glad to sign this bill into law today, designating the entirety of State Highway 21 as a Purple Heart Memorial Highway," said Evers. "I am also proud to take this action on Veterans Day as we celebrate and recognize our state and nation's veterans. My hope is that this Purple Heart Memorial Highway serves as a reminder of the incredible sacrifices made by our service members who know the true cost of freedom." By Jardine, JUNEAU COUNTY STAR
https://www.wiscnews.com/1f6e5876-e5aa-5afe-beaf-13f2cfeab0ec.html

############
STORY TOPICS
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RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^
- Rittenhouse lawyers ask judge to declare mistrial over video [see Columns]
https://apnews.com/0e4b6ad5a286af9ddbb8c8546550f1dc

- Rittenhouse trial comes to the brink of mistrial during the second day of jury

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

deliberations: drone video at issue
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2021/11/17/rittenhouse-trial-defense-seeks-mistrial-jury-deliberations-continue/8657044002/

- For the second time, defense requests mistrial in Kyle Rittenhouse case: reviews debate over drone video quality, trial, protests, Blake shooting. Rittenhouse multiple charges:
* Count 1: First-degree reckless homicide [Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon.
* Count 2: First-degree recklessly endangering safety [McGinnis, videographer helping Rosenbaum], use of a dangerous weapon.
* Count 3: First-degree recklessly endangering safety, use of a dangerous weapon. Re: videos show Rittenhouse being kicked by an unknown man and then shooting at him.
* Count 4: First-degree intentional homicide [Huber], use of a dangerous weapon. lesser charges include second-degree intentional homicide, first-degree reckless homicide.
* Count 5: Attempted first-degree intentional homicide [Grosskreutz], use of a dangerous weapon. lesser charges include attempted second-degree intentional homicide, first-degree recklessly endangering safety.
About 40 protesters/supporters outside Court Tuesday. Among them was Rainbow PUSH's Grant, dubbed case an example of a "white privileged, white entitled justice system" and a "Black and brown disenfranchisement system," argued Black defendants don't get "a $2 million, high performing, high paid, high profile law firm representing them," don't get "humanized or sanitized like Kyle Rittenhouse, nationally." Leaders of Kenosha's McLean called for peace while awaiting the verdict, "We denounce those who feel emboldened by the murders of Anthony and Jojo to threaten, hurt and kill us, to follow us home, to scare us and to try to intimidate us, but we will not be intimidated." KCSD/KPD joint release: "At this time, we have no reason to facilitate road closures, enact curfews or ask our communities to modify their daily routines." Gov. Evers has authorized 500 National Guard troops to deploy to Kenosha if needed.
https://www.wpr.org/second-time-defense-requests-mistrial-kyle-rittenhouse-case

- On the steps of the Kenosha County Courthouse, a surreal scene unfolds as people wait for the Kyle Rittenhouse verdict
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/17/kyle-rittenhouse-trial-draws-emotional-mix-steps-kenosha-courthouse/8654824002/

- Rittenhouse Judge Says He Allowed Defendant to Pick Jurors to Protect 'Optics' ... "I [allow the defendant to pick the numbers] because of an incident that I had in a case I tried in Racine," Kenosha County Circuit Judge Bruce Schroeder told the courtroom on Wednesday. ... case from nearly 20 years ago involved a Black defendant and 13 jurors, one of whom was Black. "When the clerk--the clerk, the government official drew the name out of the tumbler, it was a Black, the Black, the only Black [juror]," he said. "There was nothing wrong with it. It was all okay, but what do they talk about? Optics nowadays? Is that the word for things? That was a bad optic I think. ... I am now reading about how bizarre and unusual it was to have the defendant pick the [juror] numbers out of the tumbler yesterday," Schroeder said. "I would admit that I don't know there's a large number of courts that do that. Maybe not any."

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https://www.newsweek.com/1650409

- Judge could rule on Kyle Rittenhouse mistrial at any time. Is that normal?
https://www.kenoshanews.com/7caebcc9-2fa0-5411-a47d-78457e13d3cc.html

- Letters of support, criticism pour into Kenosha courthouse for Rittenhouse trial judge
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/17/rittenhouse-trial-judge-flooded-critiques-letters-support/8652027002/

- Jury consultant in O.J. Simpson case assists Kyle Rittenhouse defense team ... spokesperson for her firm, Dimitrius & Associates, confirmed her involvement ... first reported by the Washington Post. ... reportedly was tasked with watching the jury's reaction to witnesses and assisting with the defense's questioning. ... wouldn't comment on the Rittenhouse case until after a verdict is reached.
https://www.wisn.com/article/jury-consultant-oj-simpson-case-assisting-kyle-rittenhouses-defense/38281729

- Rittenhouse case raises question: What makes a fair trial?
https://apnews.com/aed653b7f5157373e4e8139734e2ce13

- US Senate candidate McCloskey shows support for Rittenhouse ... [MO candidate Mark McCloskey-R] and his wife, Patricia, were both in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on Monday and Tuesday to show support for Rittenhouse. The McCloskeys gained national attention after they waved guns at racial injustice protesters who were marching in their gated St. Louis subdivision last summer. ... McCloskeys pleaded guilty in June to misdemeanor charges ... were ordered to pay fines, but Mark McCloskey left the courthouse defiantly pledging to "do it again" if faced with the same circumstances. Both McCloskeys were pardoned by Republican Missouri Gov. Mike Parson.
https://apnews.com/5a99406766017207b24f892312b0b1b2

- 2 arrested outside Kenosha County Courthouse on Wednesday
https://www.kenoshanews.com/38f9f4b8-7ffd-53ab-9f1a-a309a72dd274.html

CORONAVIRUS ^*top*^
- COVID-19 cases increase 50% in Milwaukee County ... over the last 2 weeks
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/16/covid-19-cases-increase-50-in-milwaukee-county.html

- St. Croix County contact tracing and Pierce County vaccines
https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/83b5ed12-47be-11ec-bfdb-e787a6d5cd31.html

- Officials caution potential repeat of holiday COVID-19 surge
https://www.leadertelegram.com/covid-19/officials-caution-potential-repeat-of-holiday-covid-19-surge/article_fc9d4b09-2541-593d-8c5d-567b88e57bbb.html

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*

- Madison to require poll workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19 ... city is asking election workers who are fully vaccinated to send a completed vaccination attestation form and both sides of a CDC COVID-19 vaccine card via email to the clerk's office by Jan. 7. Proof of vaccination through Wisconsin's Immunization Registry is also accepted in lieu of a vaccine card.
https://captimes.com/25439668-e2d1-5960-9ab4-4472d83cc161.html

- Kleefisch contends Madison is using a vaccine mandate to keep Republicans from serving as poll workers ... City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl said the policy was set by the city's human resources department. ... "Interesting how after we've been making a big push to get more conservatives working polls, Madison is now requiring all poll workers to be vaccinated," Kleefisch tweeted. "Do you think they are trying to keep you from seeing what goes on behind the scenes?" Kleefisch did not agree to an interview ... "The fact that she is choosing this as her battle I think shows she is every bit as out of touch now as she was when she was lieutenant governor," [Rep.] Subeck said. "This sounds like someone who is trying to rile up the extremes of her party in a primary than somebody who wants to govern for all the people of the state." ... "Unlike the former Lt. Gov., we have been working non-stop since the early days of the pandemic to keep everyone safe from this deadly disease and to facilitate safe voting practices for all," [Mayor Rhodes-Conway] said in a written statement. ... "Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy and any qualified person should be able to serve as a poll worker or election official without restriction," [GOP AG candidate] Toney tweeted. AG candidate Jarchow echoed, would ban the "illegal" vax req if elected, "One of the most important jobs of the Attorney General is ensuring the integrity of our elections." Rep. Spreitzer: "Certainly Madison is always a favorite punching bag for Republicans, so I think this is red meat for the base."
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/17/wisconsin-rebecca-kleefisch-says-vaccine-rule-stop-republicans-working-polls/8656335002/

- Parisi pressures Dane County Board to move forward on stalled jail project with 'hybrid' options
https://captimes.com/473040ba-e6e6-54c7-b603-3e0e59bf8f80.html

- New 'hybrid' options for Dane County Jail project cost $155M or less
https://madison.com/wsj/8548401a-6c16-51de-8d98-580e17de254c.html

- [13-1 Alfheim] Appleton extends stay of big head sculpture on East College Avenue for 5½ months ... extended Sculpture Valley's two-year lease of public right of way for displaying "The Collective" to April 30 [to accommodate bad weather that endangers returning it to the sponsoring Foundation in WY.] Statue is a Human head and neck composed of propane tanks painted with faces. Pic shows someone has placed a mask on it.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/17/appletons-big-head-sculpture-stay-another-5-and-half-months/6250401001/

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

CENSUS ^top^

- Sauk County passes new voting maps ... With no discussion and a lack of public comment during the scheduled hearing Tuesday,
https://www.wiscnews.com/920b601c-3d88-56dc-b7f0-9cb83ec9faa8.html

- Thompson analysis: Comparing GOP And People's Maps
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/17/data-wonk-comparing-gop

- How a Cure for Gerrymandering Left U.S. Politics Ailing in New Ways, Independent commissions to oversee the redrawing of electoral maps were thought to be the solution to an age-old problem. Instead, they have become bogged down in political trench warfare. ... In Wisconsin, where a court battle over redistribution is already underway between Republicans who control the legislature and Gov. Tony Evers, a Democrat, state Assembly Speaker Robin Voss rejected the governor's People's Maps commission. "There is no such thing as a nonpartisan commission," Mr Vos, a Republican, said at a hearing last month. All commissioners are partisan, he said. "If they vote, they vote for either of the two parties."
https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/17/us/politics/gerrymandering-redistricting.html

COURTS ^top^

- Supreme Court to weigh effort to oust Natural Resources Board chair ... [after] Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn dismissed the case, citing the Supreme Court precedent. Kaul ... asked the Supreme Court to take the case, bypassing the court of appeals, to address "time-sensitive issues" raised by Prehn's refusal to step down. ... Prehn also asked the high court to hear the case ... to clarify "the long-standing but little known hold over rule that applies to appointive offices in Wisconsin government." ... Justice Rebecca Bradley [for Ziegler, Roggensack] said the case "presents purely legal issues of statutory interpretation, which implicate the separation of powers." Two liberal justices agreed to take the case for different reasons. "Petitioner alleges an ongoing injury that threatens the functioning of an important state agency," wrote justices Rebecca Dallet and Jill Karofsky. "Delaying access to this court while the parties file briefs in the court of appeals may unnecessarily prolong that alleged harm." Hagedorn and Walsh Bradley did not sign the order.
https://madison.com/wsj/97fdb627-25c1-5ccb-9b93-fd7efb66d9a0.html

DEMOGRAPHICS ^top^

- Noon Wednesday: Unhoused and underfunded, While an estimated 20,000 people are without suitable housing nightly, the state Legislature has not moved to address homelessness issues. Joe Volk, executive director of the Wisconsin Coalition Against Homelessness, explains why solutions continue to stall.
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/noon-wednesday-unhoused-and-underfunded/

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ECONOMY ^top^
- Why are so many Americans quitting? 7 Wisconsinites give their reasons
https://captimes.com/dd8befb6-fec6-53b6-921a-0a388d3a0a18.html

EDUCATION ^top^
- 70 UW System students win $7,000 scholarships for getting COVID-19 vaccine ... "We took up a challenge to educate and inform students as a part of a vaccination campaign to help keep our universities safe -- and it has succeeded," Thompson said in a statement. "I believe in encouraging, rather than mandating, vaccines, and the scholarship incentive was a great motivator."
https://www.wiscnews.com/99c62316-96e3-5067-a265-39f7417bae33.html

- GOP leaders wants answers on UW-Madison training that references critical race theory: Kleefisch video, VOs letter, UW's Lucas comments.
https://madison.com/wsj/4a17fc6f-6a4d-5eb6-b9fb-c7ebf9ce738d.html

- DPI releases first school report cards since the pandemic, with several changes, 95 percent of public school districts met or exceeded expectations, though the scoring changed this year
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-releases-first-school-report-cards-pandemic-several-changes

- Verona High student arrested with loaded, semi-automatic handgun at school, police say
https://madison.com/wsj/2290a43b-499a-5370-892c-fe12a9356460.html

- Why the Badgers expect a smaller crowd at Camp Randall despite being in the hunt for Big Ten title ... "This weekend has traditionally been a tough weekend for us, no matter who we're playing and no matter what the stakes are," said Brian Lucas, UW's director of football brand communications. "It's hunting weekend and that's built into the fabric of a lot of our fans, and we recognize that." 20,384 unscanned tickets last week.
https://madison.com/wsj/7e295692-891a-548b-911a-f721fe77b581.html

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- With SARS-CoV-2 spreading in deer, state health officials urge extra precautions while hunting, DNR officials also encourage hunters to have deer tested for CWD
https://www.wpr.org/sars-cov-2-spreading-deer-state-health-officials-urge-extra-precautions-while-hunting

- Wild elk spotted in Columbia County, had come south in September, DNR says
https://madison.com/wsj/9b8b2cd5-60ce-5881-96ee-8e4dc482f94b.html

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HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Boo-U play 'The God Committee' explores ethics of organ transplants
https://www.wiscnews.com/47c24418-a29d-53c9-bd63-eeef0bec40b8.html

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Twin Ports crime spree, standoff suspect indicted on federal charges, The alleged crime spree that has already resulted in 26 charges in Minnesota and Wisconsin state courts now has Cody Walker-Nelson facing significant federal prison time.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/crime-and-courts/7287018-Twin-Ports-crime-spree-standoff-suspect-indicted-on-federal-charges

MANUFACTURING ^top^
- DNR welcomes Kimberly-Clark Marinette To Wisconsin's Green Tier Program
https://www.ehextra.com/news/dnr-welcomes-kimberly-clark-marinette-to-wisconsins-green-tier-program/article_d94cfb2f-8472-5449-b7d1-22041162f499.html

MILITARY ^top^
- Four Wisconsin National Guardsmen went to Afghanistan together. All returned home safely. Within months, all took their own lives.
https://www.jsonline.com/in-depth/news/investigations/2021/11/18/military-suicides-take-toll-wisconsin-national-guard-soldiers-afghanistan/8570815002/

- What should the Guard do to reduce suicides? More transparency, improved communication, better medication guidance among possible solutions.
https://www.jsonline.com/in-depth/news/solutions/2021/11/18/resources-solutions-address-wisconsin-national-guard-suicides/6180730001/

NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Packers stock sale tops $36M, 110K shares sold in first two days
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/11/17/green-bay-packers-stock-sale-tops-36-million-110-000-share-sold/8650215002/

REAL ESTATE ^top^
- Ascent's mass timber world record puts Milwaukee in front of national discussion
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/17/ascent-mass-timber-world-record-puts-milwaukee-in.html

- GE Healthcare wins approval for first phase of $50M West Milwaukee expansion
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/17/ge-healthcare-wins-approval-for-50m-expansion.html

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SMALL BUSINESS ^top^
- Black Business Week in Beloit kicks off Monday
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/89a7ba42-9091-594a-ba78-502111a88473.html

TECHNOLOGY ^top^
- How Common Are Ransomware Attacks? Lawmakers Want to Find Out. ... After his local library had to shut down because of a ransomware attack, Indiana state Rep. Mike Karickhoff realized the state didn't know much about the frequency of such security breaches. Spurred by similar crimes across Indiana last year, he decided to author a bill requiring all public agencies to report cyberattacks to the state. "It's like neighborhood watch," said Karickhoff, a Republican. ... passed both chambers unanimously, and Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb signed it into law in April. ... All 50 states already have security breach notification laws that require businesses to report a data breach to consumers whose personal information was compromised ... Many states also require government entities to do the same, as well as report such breaches to the attorney general's office or state information technology office.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/18/how-common-are-ransomware-attacks-lawmakers-want-to-find-out

UTILITIES ^top^
- Solar opponents say utilities, developers exploiting legal loophole ... Invenergy, a Chicago-based developer, is seeking a permit to build a 300-megawatt solar plant on about 2,400 acres east of Cambridge that would include a 165-megawatt battery storage system. Three utilities, including We Energies and Madison Gas and Electric, are seeking to purchase the project for $649M. ... town of Christiana [+ 2 residents] have asked the [PSC] to deny the project's permit application, claiming ... "This proceeding is not designed or directed at processing an application for what Koshkonong is intended to be -- a utility-owned power plant," attorney Frank Jablonski wrote ... "What the PSC seems to have decided is we are going to subject apparently hundreds of square miles of Wisconsin farmland to solar panels. That's a big decision," Jablonski said. "What's happening is that's being developed incrementally using these loopholes." ... utilities will need a separate permit to buy the plant, and that application process includes a review of need, cost and alternatives. But Jablonski argues the acquisition review is less rigorous ... PSC is scheduled to consider the denial request Thursday, though it has rejected previous challenges to the two-step permitting process, which has been used in eight of the 11 large-scale solar farms approved to date. CUB's Content does not object to the process, but sees a larger problem, "The way we're planning our energy future isn't working effectively. ... it's disjointed but it also risks overbuilding. The PSC doesn't have an ability to take into account the big picture. ... investors on Wall Street have more information sometimes than the PSC on the utilities' decarbonization goals and plans." Invenergy, MGE's Schultz, We Energies' Cullen comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/2b4973f1-8c64-5a1d-b4cd-612279f1962e.html

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EDITORIALS ^top^
- CT Editorial: Jim Steineke is a lying sack of partisanship
https://captimes.com/e794f48b-0771-5eb7-9975-6c1ea545ed92.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- Dave Zweifel: Nursing home hoopla another means for GOP hacks to fix elections
https://captimes.com/763b1086-71d1-57f2-9964-a097671de5a4.html

- FFRF's Karen Heinemann: Advice to Aaron Rodgers: Follow the (veterinary) science ... [as] a veterinarian as well as an attorney. ... I am familiar with ivermectin and vaccines. ... with ... serious potential complications. [such as] neurologic abnormalities, including coma and death. ... it isn't used to treat viral infections. Rodgers' admission -- late in the game -- that he is not vaccinated and chose to treat his COVID-19 infection with medications, including ivermectin, which are not approved for this use, is frustrating.
https://captimes.com/0bd5d677-1beb-5af0-8391-dacdf3f8c44a.html

- David D. Haynes: Kyle Rittenhouse a hero? No, he was a callow, foolish boy who had no business being in Kenosha ... a I see is recklessness.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2021/11/17/kyle-rittenhouse-hero-no-he-foolish-being-kenosha/8651605002/

- David French: Kyle Rittenhouse Is No Hero, If a jury acquits him, it will not be a miscarriage of justice--but an acquittal does not make a foolish man a hero.
https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/11/kyle-rittenhouse-right-self-defense-role-model/620715/

- Farhad Manjoo: The Truth About Kyle Rittenhouse's Gun
https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/17/opinion/kyle-rittenhouse-guns.html

- Rep. Hong Chief of Staff Nada Elmikashfi: School resource officers are not the answer ... while strict, fair and immediate disciplinary procedures should be in place, that discipline must be built on the principles of restorative justice and with children's emotional and mental health a priority. https://isthmus.com/opinion/the-new-colossus/school-resource-officers-are-not-the-answer/

- Joan Downs: Removing buses from State Street would mean no accessibility for many
https://captimes.com/52d6290f-50b9-5df4-a10d-d8aad30de759.html

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <info@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 9:26 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: TOMORROW: Wisconsin redistricting will be discussed at a Nov. 18 WisPolitics luncheon in Madison

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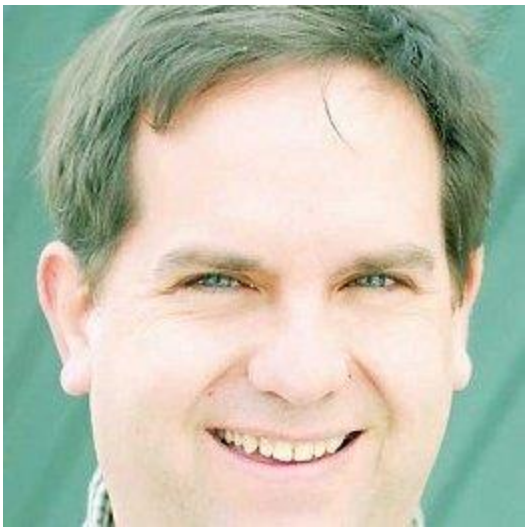
November 18: WisPolitics.com luncheon with panel discussion on Wisconsin redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin. There's already been a lot of legal activity surrounding redistricting. Which party will have the advantage in next year's elections? An expert panel weighs in. It features three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director ofallontheline.org. Jensen and Chvala are the WisOpinion Insiders. See some of their commentary on redistricting and other political topics:www.wispolitics.com/category/opinion/the-insiders/

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Chuck Chvala and Scott Jenson
former Senate Majority Leader and former Assembly Speaker / WisOpinion.com Insiders



Joe Handrick
former Republican state lawmaker / Executive Director, Common Sense Wisconsin

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Elizabeth Treviño

State Director: All On The Line + National Democratic Redistricting Committee + National Redistricting Foundation

The program is scheduled to run from noon to 1 p.m. It will feature a moderated discussion with the panel and a Q&A session with the audience.

Thank you to our WisPolitics.com Madison luncheonseries sponsors: Husch Blackwell Strategies, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association. Their support makes this programming possible.

REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

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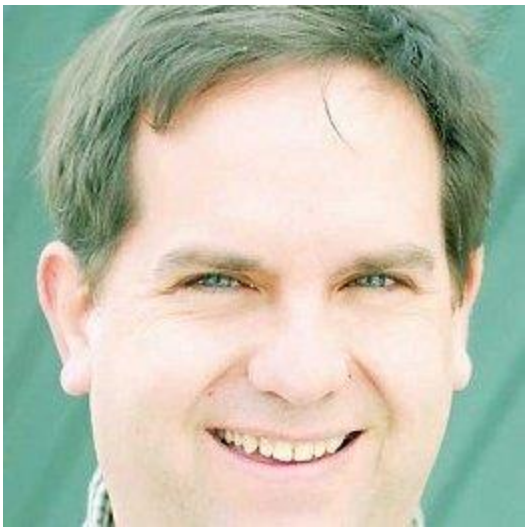
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From: Tony Urso <tonyeurso@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021, 7:02 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Subject: Trivia, Ramthun and Gableman Report
Attachments: Ramthun Letter 11.17.21.jpg; Gableman Interim Report FINAL 11.10.21.pdf

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TRIVIA: Does the WEC system allow you to register with an email address that contains a forbidden character?
The answerhttps://AP76.org/trivia.php

ATTACHMENT: Rep Ramthun looking for ONE senator to co-author his Delegate Decertify Joint Resolution.***As of this writing not ONE has come forward. NOT.ONE!***We're consistently hearing the assembly and senate talking point that there is NO mechanism to rescind delegates. Not possible, go away, quit asking. Ask your legislator to cite when the fraud statues were repealed. Ummmm, yes Virginia there are several avenues to pursue .... if you look.

Attachment II: Gableman 25 page Interim Report

Thanks,

Tony Urso
Cell: 608-338-8776

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 8:14 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: TUE AM Update: Curtis passes on AG bid

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TUE AM Update -- 30 Nov. 2021

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Republican Jake Curtis, a Milwaukee attorney and first lieutenant in the Wisconsin Air National Guard, is passing on a bid for AG, saying it's not the right time for his family.

Curtis called it an "excruciating" decision. He said he will be on extended military leave this spring, and "I must place my services and family ahead of politics."

His decision leaves Fond du Lac County DA Eric Toney and former GOP state Rep. Adam Jarchow as the only announced Republicans in the race to take on Dem AG Josh Kaul. While he has registered to run for the office, Jarchow has said his main intent by filing was to oppose Toney and he hoped another conservative would get into the race. Jarchow has indicated he was holding off on taking contributions and would consider moving ahead with a bid for AG if no other conservatives ran.

Toney has drawn the ire of some conservatives because he filed and later dropped

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charges against those who violated Gov. Tony Evers' original stay-at-home order during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Curtis said in his statement the attorney general must be the state's "top cop" and its "top lawyer." The latter includes promoting and defending issues such as parental rights, religious liberty, election integrity and Second Amendment rights while fighting "against unconstitutional mandates, the poison of cancel culture, the abuses of Big Tech, open borders and efforts to defund the police."

"I continue to have grave concerns that Mr. Toney is none of these things," Curtis said. "When the state was looking for leadership throughout 2020, Mr. Toney was busy charging fellow Wisconsinites for getting together with friends and family and running their respective businesses. I'm hopeful another qualified constitutional conservative joins the race."

Curtis said Jarchow would have his full support if the former lawmaker is in the race and raising money.

Jarchow wrote in a text message to WisPolitics.com this morning that he's "very disappointed" that Curtis isn't running, but understands his reasons. Jarchow added he will make a decision soon on whether to fully commit to the raise and to begin raising money.

See the release:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/jake-curtis-statement/

-- Agency staff is recommending the Elections Commission respond to the LAB's audit of the 2020 election by calling many of the report's recommendations "quite reasonable" on their face.

Still, the agency also drafted a background document for commissioners that calls some of the Legislative Audit Bureau's conclusions "wrong" and misleading.

The staff prepared both documents ahead of tomorrow's meeting to review the audit and consider an initial response to the report, released last month. The draft letter prepared by Elections Commission staff stresses the LAB's finding that the 2020 election cycle was "fair and secure and the results are accurate."

LAB recommended 30 changes to how the commission administers elections while raising another 18 issues for the Legislature to consider.

The bureau typically gives the audited agency a draft report so it can include a response in the final document. But LAB declined to give the commission an advance report, noting the agency board can only meet in closed session for certain reasons. Considering a response to an audit isn't one of them, and LAB sought to keep details of

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the report private until it was formally released.

The letter that Elections Commission staff drafted for commissioners to review proposes telling LAB the agency is interested in working with auditors "to establish a process to update the report with corrections and clarifications as needed. Given the agency was not provided a draft version of the report to deal with such anomalies, WEC has a keen interest in doing so after the fact. We remain very open to dialogue with the LAB on those points of contention, from mild to significant."

The letter lists no examples of errors the agency believes were included in the LAB report.

-- The background document outlines several issues, including some errors that WEC Administrator Meagan Wolfe had already raised during her appearance before the Joint Legislative Audit Committee earlier this month.

That includes the agency's contention that LAB incorrectly asserted that the Elections Commission missed opportunities to obtain data from the Electronic Registration Information Center. The system allows 32 states to check on voters to see if they've moved, for example, or voted in other states during an election.

According to the background document, states are required to provide ERIC data every 60 days and request it once every calendar year. It states Wisconsin exceeds the minimum data exchange requirements and is fully compliant despite the LAB's contention that it missed opportunities to obtain information from the system.

"Unfortunately, the LABs discussion of ERIC contains numerous inaccuracies," the document reads.

In some cases, the background document recommends the commission wait before promulgating rules on drop boxes and special voting deputies as LAB suggested. It notes those topics are currently the subject to lawsuits that could shape the issue.

The background document also takes issue with some recommendations such as the LAB's suggestion that the commission promulgate administrative rules for considering complaints alleging violations of election laws.

The document states the current administrative rule in place for complaints was superseded by a state law that provides a detailed set of procedures for how complaints must be filed. That includes the burden of proof and the types of decisions the commission can make in response to the complaint.

The document says agency staff will discuss the issue with the commission, but it's not clear what additional information should be included in the recommended rule that isn't already in state law.

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"The process under the statute has been in place since the WEC has existed and has worked well," the document states.

See the draft letter:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211129Draft.pdf

See the background document:
https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2021-11/LAB%20Recomendations%20Background%20Memo.pdf

-- The state Department of Justice contends the Joint Finance Committee's approval isn't needed to sign off on Wisconsin's role in a $26 billion settlement in a multi-state lawsuit against opioid manufacturers.

But DOJ wrote in a memo to the committee that it was submitting the settlement for review anyway to "ensure the finality of the resolutions." The committee will meet on the request this afternoon.

Dem AG Josh Kaul and the GOP-controlled committee have been at odds over a Republican law approved during the December 2018 lame-duck session to require the agency to submit some settlements it reaches to the committee before they can be finalized.

In a Nov. 23 memo to the committee, Charlotte Gibson, the Division of Legal Services administrator, and Corey Finkelmeyer, the division deputy administrator, wrote the resolution was time sensitive. It asked the committee to meet on the settlement by Friday.

Along with the settlement, DOJ submitted to the committee an MOU it reached with local governments in Wisconsin that were part of the suit.

See the DOJ memo on the settlement:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211129Memo.pdf

See the MOU between DOJ and local governments:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211129MOU.pdf

-- The Senate Education Committee voted along party lines to advance legislation that backers say would ban the teaching of critical race theory in K-12 schools.

The committee voted via paper ballot 4-3 to advance SB 411 and AB 411. The deadline for ballots was late yesterday afternoon, and all Republicans on the committee supported the bills, while all Dems were opposed.

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--Stanley Pfrang, senior market development director at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. www.linkedin.com/in/stanley-pfrang-36402413/

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TOP HEADLINES

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/30/wisconsin-election-review-taxpayers-bankrolled-gableman-arizona-trip/8797452002/

Taxpayers paid Berrada Properties nearly $7M as DOJ prepared to sue landlord giant
... [lists some charges in DOJ suit] Berrada has denied the charges, several of which had previously been reported ... Meanwhile, during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Berrada Properties received nearly $1.5 million in rent assistance through programs administered by the Social Development Commission. An additional $5.4 million was paid to Berrada Properties through programs administered by Community Advocates. "Our tax dollars should be used to provide a good place live," [Rep.] Goyke said, [not enriching] a landlord "who won't repair a dishwasher."... [rental aid is federal money filtered through state govt to local non-profits] ... Berrada attorney [thru Madison PR firm] called the DOJ investigation a "fishing expedition" that makes it more difficult for "Mr. Berrada to provide high-quality, affordable housing." ... [non-profits denied preference] "SDC's rent assistance process is the same for every landlord and tenant," the nonprofit said in an email. [Community Advocates embedded staffer in Berrada office to facilitate applications for assistance, helped reduce evictions] ... "I don't think we've had tenants calling complaining about (Berrada Properties) rental practices," [Community Advocates' Elliott] said, but after JS story, several tenants contacted the newspaper with complaints. Some examples.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/landlord-berrada-subject-wisconsin-lawsuit-got-7-million-aid/8750134002/

Voces de la Frontera urges Barrett to veto Milwaukee aldermanic district maps
Pushing for more Latino representation ... city's Latino communities now represent 20.1% of the total city population ... [Voces'] new map ... would include a new near-majority, or "influence" Latino district [46%] on the south side ... District 13 include 12 contiguous majority Latino wards ... As it stands, the city currently has two strong majority Latino Districts 8 and 12. ... "The rushed process of passing a new map, while not intentional, contributed to a lack of meaningful engagement from the community," [Voces' Neumann-Ortiz] said. ... District 8 Ald. JoCasta Zamarripa was the only person to vote against the new aldermanic district lines ... spokesman for Barrett said Monday that the mayor was reviewing the map and discussing it with [unspecified] "a wide variety of people." ... expected to make a decision this week.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/voces-de-la-frontera-urges-barrett-veto-milwaukee-election-maps/8798117002/

Gamblers at Oneida Casino near Green Bay can now legally bet on sports, a WI first
... A ribbon-cutting ceremony is set for Tuesday at the tribe's main casino ... near Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport, with Oneida "Bingo Queens" Sandra Brehmer

and Alma Webster scheduled to place the first bets. [after Sep. 2020 opening was delayed] ... "Sports betting is nothing new here in Wisconsin, but legal betting is new," said Louise Cornelius, Oneida Nation gaming general manager. "We hope to provide an environment for our clientele that is clean and up-to-date with the best technology possible." ... "The Potawatomi look forward to bringing sports betting to Milwaukee in the future," the statement read. New American Gaming Association survey found illegal gambling receded as legal ways grew. MI, IA, IN made sports gambling legal in 2018. Oneida CFA Fuss comments.
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/native-american-issues/2021/11/29/wisconsin-legalizes-sports-betting-packers-bucks-brewers-oneida-casino/8799957002/

Mental health calls to UW-Madison Police now bring cops, counselors to some scenes
... too early to assess the effectiveness of the pilot program, which was initially available twice a week, expanded this month to three days per week, and is expected to run through the end of the school year. ... From Oct. 4, when the pilot launched, through mid-November, 34 mental health-related calls ... 13 were for students who qualified for the co-responder program, ... Four of the 13 calls occurred ... when mental health counselors are available ... counselors' roles may also sometimes include driving students to the hospital in a van as opposed to police transport by squad car. UW-Madison Police Chief Kristen Roman said she has wanted to start a co-responder program for several years, but it wasn't something the department could initiate on its own. Similar to MPD's CARES pilot.
https://madison.com/wsj/2498d3cd-ee31-56c2-9538-9d3518bdadd4.html

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Madison Region Economic Development & Diversity Virtual Summit. Keynote speaker is Essence CEO Caroline Wanga.
https://madisonregion.swoogo.com/madisonregionsummit

- 8:45 a.m.: UW System Presidential Search & Screen Committee. Closed session interviews.
https://bit.ly/3197IBx

- 9 a.m.: Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules executive session on EmR 2113, related to the uniform CPA examination deadline.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1647619

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Ways and Means executive session on AB 575, relating to property tax exemption for regional planning commissions.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1647548

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- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 10:05 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Ways and Means public hearing.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1647549

- 11 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.: WEDC Board.
https://wedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/11.30.2021-Board-Meeting-Agenda.pdf

- 2 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 3 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Fundraiser for Rep. Tusler.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/fundraiser-for-rep-tusler/

- 6 p.m.: Association of Marquette University Women Eleanor H. Boheim Lecture with Dána-Ain Davis, professor of urban studies and anthropology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, who is to present, "Historicizing Obstetric Racism."
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KF5dxdu4TQWxpcC3l9TP0Q

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 8:14 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: TUE AM Update: Curtis passes on AG bid

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TUE AM Update -- 30 Nov. 2021

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Republican Jake Curtis, a Milwaukee attorney and first lieutenant in the Wisconsin Air National Guard, is passing on a bid for AG, saying it's not the right time for his family.

Curtis called it an "excruciating" decision. He said he will be on extended military leave this spring, and "I must place my services and family ahead of politics."

His decision leaves Fond du Lac County DA Eric Toney and former GOP state Rep. Adam Jarchow as the only announced Republicans in the race to take on Dem AG Josh Kaul. While he has registered to run for the office, Jarchow has said his main intent by filing was to oppose Toney and he hoped another conservative would get into the race. Jarchow has indicated he was holding off on taking contributions and would consider moving ahead with a bid for AG if no other conservatives ran.

Toney has drawn the ire of some conservatives because he filed and later dropped

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charges against those who violated Gov. Tony Evers' original stay-at-home order during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Curtis said in his statement the attorney general must be the state's "top cop" and its "top lawyer." The latter includes promoting and defending issues such as parental rights, religious liberty, election integrity and Second Amendment rights while fighting "against unconstitutional mandates, the poison of cancel culture, the abuses of Big Tech, open borders and efforts to defund the police."

"I continue to have grave concerns that Mr. Toney is none of these things," Curtis said. "When the state was looking for leadership throughout 2020, Mr. Toney was busy charging fellow Wisconsinites for getting together with friends and family and running their respective businesses. I'm hopeful another qualified constitutional conservative joins the race."

Curtis said Jarchow would have his full support if the former lawmaker is in the race and raising money.

Jarchow wrote in a text message to WisPolitics.com this morning that he's "very disappointed" that Curtis isn't running, but understands his reasons. Jarchow added he will make a decision soon on whether to fully commit to the raise and to begin raising money.

See the release:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/jake-curtis-statement/

-- Agency staff is recommending the Elections Commission respond to the LAB's audit of the 2020 election by calling many of the report's recommendations "quite reasonable" on their face.

Still, the agency also drafted a background document for commissioners that calls some of the Legislative Audit Bureau's conclusions "wrong" and misleading.

The staff prepared both documents ahead of tomorrow's meeting to review the audit and consider an initial response to the report, released last month. The draft letter prepared by Elections Commission staff stresses the LAB's finding that the 2020 election cycle was "fair and secure and the results are accurate."

LAB recommended 30 changes to how the commission administers elections while raising another 18 issues for the Legislature to consider.

The bureau typically gives the audited agency a draft report so it can include a response in the final document. But LAB declined to give the commission an advance report, noting the agency board can only meet in closed session for certain reasons. Considering a response to an audit isn't one of them, and LAB sought to keep details of

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the report private until it was formally released.

The letter that Elections Commission staff drafted for commissioners to review proposes telling LAB the agency is interested in working with auditors "to establish a process to update the report with corrections and clarifications as needed. Given the agency was not provided a draft version of the report to deal with such anomalies, WEC has a keen interest in doing so after the fact. We remain very open to dialogue with the LAB on those points of contention, from mild to significant."

The letter lists no examples of errors the agency believes were included in the LAB report.

-- The background document outlines several issues, including some errors that WEC Administrator Meagan Wolfe had already raised during her appearance before the Joint Legislative Audit Committee earlier this month.

That includes the agency's contention that LAB incorrectly asserted that the Elections Commission missed opportunities to obtain data from the Electronic Registration Information Center. The system allows 32 states to check on voters to see if they've moved, for example, or voted in other states during an election.

According to the background document, states are required to provide ERIC data every 60 days and request it once every calendar year. It states Wisconsin exceeds the minimum data exchange requirements and is fully compliant despite the LAB's contention that it missed opportunities to obtain information from the system.

"Unfortunately, the LABs discussion of ERIC contains numerous inaccuracies," the document reads.

In some cases, the background document recommends the commission wait before promulgating rules on drop boxes and special voting deputies as LAB suggested. It notes those topics are currently the subject to lawsuits that could shape the issue.

The background document also takes issue with some recommendations such as the LAB's suggestion that the commission promulgate administrative rules for considering complaints alleging violations of election laws.

The document states the current administrative rule in place for complaints was superseded by a state law that provides a detailed set of procedures for how complaints must be filed. That includes the burden of proof and the types of decisions the commission can make in response to the complaint.

The document says agency staff will discuss the issue with the commission, but it's not clear what additional information should be included in the recommended rule that isn't already in state law.

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"The process under the statute has been in place since the WEC has existed and has worked well," the document states.

See the draft letter:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211129Draft.pdf

See the background document:
https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2021-11/LAB%20Recomendations%20Background%20Memo.pdf

-- The state Department of Justice contends the Joint Finance Committee's approval isn't needed to sign off on Wisconsin's role in a $26 billion settlement in a multi-state lawsuit against opioid manufacturers.

But DOJ wrote in a memo to the committee that it was submitting the settlement for review anyway to "ensure the finality of the resolutions." The committee will meet on the request this afternoon.

Dem AG Josh Kaul and the GOP-controlled committee have been at odds over a Republican law approved during the December 2018 lame-duck session to require the agency to submit some settlements it reaches to the committee before they can be finalized.

In a Nov. 23 memo to the committee, Charlotte Gibson, the Division of Legal Services administrator, and Corey Finkelmeyer, the division deputy administrator, wrote the resolution was time sensitive. It asked the committee to meet on the settlement by Friday.

Along with the settlement, DOJ submitted to the committee an MOU it reached with local governments in Wisconsin that were part of the suit.

See the DOJ memo on the settlement:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211129Memo.pdf

See the MOU between DOJ and local governments:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211129MOU.pdf

-- The Senate Education Committee voted along party lines to advance legislation that backers say would ban the teaching of critical race theory in K-12 schools.

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/30/wisconsin-election-review-taxpayers-bankrolled-gableman-arizona-trip/8797452002/

Taxpayers paid Berrada Properties nearly $7M as DOJ prepared to sue landlord giant
... [lists some charges in DOJ suit] Berrada has denied the charges, several of which had previously been reported ... Meanwhile, during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Berrada Properties received nearly $1.5 million in rent assistance through programs administered by the Social Development Commission. An additional $5.4 million was paid to Berrada Properties through programs administered by Community Advocates. "Our tax dollars should be used to provide a good place live," [Rep.] Goyke said, [not enriching] a landlord "who won't repair a dishwasher."... [rental aid is federal money filtered through state govt to local non-profits] ... Berrada attorney [thru Madison PR firm] called the DOJ investigation a "fishing expedition" that makes it more difficult for "Mr. Berrada to provide high-quality, affordable housing." ... [non-profits denied preference] "SDC's rent assistance process is the same for every landlord and tenant," the nonprofit said in an email. [Community Advocates embedded staffer in Berrada office to facilitate applications for assistance, helped reduce evictions] ... "I don't think we've had tenants calling complaining about (Berrada Properties) rental practices," [Community Advocates' Elliott] said, but after JS story, several tenants contacted the newspaper with complaints. Some examples.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/landlord-berrada-subject-wisconsin-lawsuit-got-7-million-aid/8750134002/

Voces de la Frontera urges Barrett to veto Milwaukee aldermanic district maps
Pushing for more Latino representation ... city's Latino communities now represent 20.1% of the total city population ... [Voces'] new map ... would include a new near-majority, or "influence" Latino district [46%] on the south side ... District 13 include 12 contiguous majority Latino wards ... As it stands, the city currently has two strong majority Latino Districts 8 and 12. ... "The rushed process of passing a new map, while not intentional, contributed to a lack of meaningful engagement from the community," [Voces' Neumann-Ortiz] said. ... District 8 Ald. JoCasta Zamarripa was the only person to vote against the new aldermanic district lines ... spokesman for Barrett said Monday that the mayor was reviewing the map and discussing it with [unspecified] "a wide variety of people." ... expected to make a decision this week.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/voces-de-la-frontera-urges-barrett-veto-milwaukee-election-maps/8798117002/

Gamblers at Oneida Casino near Green Bay can now legally bet on sports, a WI first
... A ribbon-cutting ceremony is set for Tuesday at the tribe's main casino ... near Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport, with Oneida "Bingo Queens" Sandra Brehmer

and Alma Webster scheduled to place the first bets. [after Sep. 2020 opening was delayed] ... "Sports betting is nothing new here in Wisconsin, but legal betting is new," said Louise Cornelius, Oneida Nation gaming general manager. "We hope to provide an environment for our clientele that is clean and up-to-date with the best technology possible." ... "The Potawatomi look forward to bringing sports betting to Milwaukee in the future," the statement read. New American Gaming Association survey found illegal gambling receded as legal ways grew. MI, IA, IN made sports gambling legal in 2018. Oneida CFA Fuss comments.
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/native-american-issues/2021/11/29/wisconsin-legalizes-sports-betting-packers-bucks-brewers-oneida-casino/8799957002/

Mental health calls to UW-Madison Police now bring cops, counselors to some scenes
... too early to assess the effectiveness of the pilot program, which was initially available twice a week, expanded this month to three days per week, and is expected to run through the end of the school year. ... From Oct. 4, when the pilot launched, through mid-November, 34 mental health-related calls ... 13 were for students who qualified for the co-responder program, ... Four of the 13 calls occurred ... when mental health counselors are available ... counselors' roles may also sometimes include driving students to the hospital in a van as opposed to police transport by squad car. UW-Madison Police Chief Kristen Roman said she has wanted to start a co-responder program for several years, but it wasn't something the department could initiate on its own. Similar to MPD's CARES pilot.
https://madison.com/wsj/2498d3cd-ee31-56c2-9538-9d3518bdadd4.html

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Madison Region Economic Development & Diversity Virtual Summit. Keynote speaker is Essence CEO Caroline Wanga.
https://madisonregion.swoogo.com/madisonregionsummit

- 8:45 a.m.: UW System Presidential Search & Screen Committee. Closed session interviews.
https://bit.ly/3197IBx

- 9 a.m.: Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules executive session on EmR 2113, related to the uniform CPA examination deadline.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1647619

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Ways and Means executive session on AB 575, relating to property tax exemption for regional planning commissions.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1647548

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- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 10:05 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Ways and Means public hearing.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1647549

- 11 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.: WEDC Board.
https://wedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/11.30.2021-Board-Meeting-Agenda.pdf

- 2 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 3 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101574

- 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Fundraiser for Rep. Tusler.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/fundraiser-for-rep-tusler/

- 6 p.m.: Association of Marquette University Women Eleanor H. Boheim Lecture with Dána-Ain Davis, professor of urban studies and anthropology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, who is to present, "Historicizing Obstetric Racism."
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KF5dxdu4TQWxpcC3l9TP0Q

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 8:12 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: TUE AM Update: Evers asks GOP leaders to send him redistricting bills for likely veto

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TUE AM Update -- 16 Nov. 2021

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Gov. Tony Evers has called on GOP legislative leaders to send him their bills to redraw Wisconsin's political boundaries.

Once the guv receives the redistricting bills -- SB 621 and 622 -- he will have seven days to act on them.

Evers has already vowed to veto the legislation.

See the letter he sent GOP leaders late yesterday:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211115Letter.pdf

-- The Dem group Opportunity Wisconsin is out with a new TV ad that accuses U.S. Sen. Ron Johnnson, R-Oshkosh, of using "his office to serve himself."

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The group said it's a seven-figure buy that will run on broadcast, cable, streaming services and digital platforms in the Green Bay, Madison, Milwaukee and Wausau markets. The group said it has now spent more than $3 million in this calendar year targeting Johnson.

The ad features a man identified as Daniel, who says he was a Navy submariner for more than 20 years. He said Johnson passed a special tax break that benefited his family's business and "then cashed out of the company for $5 million."

"Ron Johnson has doubled his wealth since he's been elected. That's not what service is about," Daniel says to close the spot. "Tell Ron Johnson to stop voting for tax laws that benefit himself."

See the ad:
https://youtu.be/hWHNMuZN-o0

-- The state DOJ is arguing that using a drop box meets the requirement under state law that absentee ballots are delivered in person to the municipal clerk.

The Department of Justice made the argument yesterday in response to motions from the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty in a lawsuit seeking to ban the use of drop boxes. The suit argues drop boxes aren't allowed under state law and voters may only return absentee ballots by mail or in person to their local clerks.

The suit focuses on the phrase in state law "[t]he envelope shall be mailed by the elector, or delivered in person, to the municipal clerk issuing the ballot or ballots."

DOJ argues that the guidance the Elections Commission issued last year included that drop boxes in public locations authorized by the local clerk can be used for returning absentee ballots with various security measures. When an absentee ballot is placed in a secure drop box authorized by the clerk, it meets the requirement under state law for delivering them "in person, to the municipal clerk."

WILL has filed a motion for summary judgment as well as one for a temporary injunction to bar the use of guidance from the state Elections Commission on the use of drop boxes.

DOJ opposes both motions. Yesterday's filings also argued the plaintiffs failed to follow proper procedures in filing the claim and a Waukesha County Circuit Court lacks the jurisdiction to hear it.

DOJ argued the plaintiffs should've served a copy to the Legislature's Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules. That's because the suit deals with the Elections Commission's decision to issue the guidance, but not through the administrative rules process. Cases that challenge policies that are alleged to be unpromulgated rules must

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involve serving JCRAR, the filing alleges. Because the committee wasn't served, the court lacks jurisdiction to hear the suit.

In its review of the 2020 election, the Legislative Audit Bureau said state law neither allows nor bars the use of drop boxes. Meanwhile, GOP guv candidate Rebecca Kleefisch yesterday filed a lawsuit against the Elections Commission over guidance it has provided, including on drop boxes.

Read the motion for summary judgment:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211115Judgment.pdf

Read the motion for a temporary injunction:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211115Injunction.pdf

-- Five of the Dem candidates for U.S. Senate are scheduled to participate in a forum this evening hosted by Citizen Action.

Those participating are: Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes; Dr. Gillian Battino; state Treasurer Sarah Godlewski; Alex Lasry, who's on leave from his job with the Milwaukee Bucks; and Outagamie County Exec Tom Nelson.

See tomorrow's AM Update for coverage.

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Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

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TOP HEADLINES

This is our moment to be bold': WI Dems unveil 22 bills to combat climate change
... [Evers Climate Change Task Force chair Lt. Gov. Barnes, Rep. Neubauer, others] call for funding programs and policy changes to support energy efficiency, sustainable farming practices, training for clean energy jobs and a just transition to renewable energy. ... support climate change research, planning, and education [based on 55 task force recommendations, some of which were tugged from Evers' budget]. ... $10M/yr ... to support weatherization and energy efficiency in Wisconsin schools. ... $1.8M [for county climate resilience staff]. ... new programs like the Wisconsin Climate Corps and Green Jobs Training Program ... require [PSC] consider the social cost of carbon when authorizing new energy projects and [DNR] to conduct racial disparity impact studies [in permitting] ... as more than 200 nations [agree] to phase down the use of coal. ... to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius to stave off the worst effects of climate change [though that limit is likely to be crossed in the next decade.] ... as [Biden signed $1T infrastructure bill with] $47B for climate resilience. Speaker Vos, Leader LeMahieu did not respond. Barnes, Neubauer, WFU's Levendofsky, WI Student Climate Action Coalition's Salgado comment.
https://www.wpr.org/our-moment-be-bold-wisconsin-democrats-unveil-22-bills-combat-climate-change

Organizers have pushed for years to protect Wisconsin's Black moms and babies in childbirth. So why does it keep stopping at the Statehouse?
... "I'm still struggling (with) why a call to action hasn't happened in our state," said [LBC chair] Stubbs ... Even as Wisconsin cities land on lists of best places to live ... 2014 report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation found Wisconsin had the worst gap in the nation between outcomes for Black and white children. Milwaukee and Racine consistently ranked among the worst cities for Black Americans to live in a yearly report from financial news company 24/7 Wall St. Reviews provisions removed from budgets by GOP. Details of Stubbs-Johnson 6-bill Birth Equity Act, drawing on hundreds of suggestions from BIPOC birth workers in Wisconsin, only one GOP co-sponsor [Ballweg] on one bill removing sales tax from breastfeeding equipment [Ballweg did not respond]. Stubbs hopes her Racial Disparity task force will add cred to her bills, "You need to work on it from a bipartisan perspective or bills don't get passed." Bills assigned to 4 committees. Aide to chair Stroebel said Stroebel "opposes making taxpayers cover

the debts of absentee fathers." Other chairs did not respond. WIWH's Morrison comments.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/2021/11/16/wisconsin-legislators-push-health-improvements-black-moms-babies/6122912001/

Kleefisch sues WEC ahead of 2022 election
... Kleefisch's lawsuit focuses on three issues highlighted in the LAB report ... argues that WEC's current guidance [on ballot drop boxes] runs contrary to state law. ... argues that WEC's guidance on special voting deputies violates state law. ... argues [allowing clerks to consolidate polling places] guidance is contrary to state law. ... asking the state Supreme Court to take the case directly, based on the assumption that any lower rulings would be challenged and not resolved in a timely manner before the 2020 election. ... "Wisconsinites are sick and tired of unelected bureaucrats intentionally ignoring the law," Kleefisch said in a statement. "The lawsuit forces WEC to clean up their act prior to administering the 2022 election." ... Kleefisch's lawyer, Steven Biskupic, also notes that the court ruled in 2020, in [Trump suit] to overturn his election loss, "The time to challenge election policies such as these is not after all ballots have been counted and the votes tallied."
https://captimes.com/096fddc5-4004-5a33-8446-85a80d2212ae.html

Kleefisch sues WEC commissioners as Vos says they 'probably' should face felonies
... [WEC under fire after Racine Sheriff Schmaling investigation at nursing home.] ... Vos in an appearance on WKOW's "Capital City Sunday" said "there really was nothing more for us to do [re: SVDs in 2020] because the law was crystal clear. ... I think probably, but I'm not a district attorney. I'm certainly not a lawyer," Vos said. "But I certainly think anybody who breaks the law should pay the ultimate price to say I won't do it again. And you either plead guilty and you say I understand that was a mistake or you go to court and defend yourself. So I assume that that will be the process that plays out there." Leader LeMahieu on WISN: "I'll leave that up to the prosecutors around the state of Wisconsin." WEC Dem chair Jacobs did not respond. WEC Vos-appointee Knudson no comment. Dem Leader Hintz calls Vos statements "appalling. ... If these clowns get away w/a witch hunt that criminally charges or implies criminal behavior by bipartisan people serving on the WI Election Commission, then we are witnessing an abuse of power not seen before." WI Supremes 4-3 in March tossed Fabick suit to stop drop boxes. Trump made similar claims as Kleefisch but were tossed because they came after election.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/15/rebecca-kleefisch-sues-wisconsin-elections-commissioners-robin-vos-argues-for-felony-charges/8622317002/

Bowen Will Run For Lieutenant Governor
Rep. David Bowen joins Lena Taylor, Sara Rodriguez in Democratic primary. ... "I've thought about this long and hard, I've wrestled with this decision and the risk that comes with it," Bowen said at his campaign announcement. "It's very clear the future of our communities depends greatly on what happens in Wisconsin's state capital. ... Over the

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last two years, seeing an immense amount of folks advocating for change in the streets, advocating for change in Madison, and not seeing nearly the amount of change that we deserve" helped push him to run, Bowen said ... has spoken with Gov. Evers about his decision to run. "I am confident with my campaign we can build a winning coalition, to help Democrats and Gov. Evers win the governor's office again." The state representative said he wanted his campaign to give people "something to vote for, not just vote against."
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/rep-david-bowen-is

Bice: Barnes Fundraiser hosted by group caught talking political dirty tricks in 2016
... On Wednesday, Democracy Partners ... is scheduled to host a large fundraiser at its Washington, D.C., headquarters ... co-founded a decade ago by Robert Creamer ... a leading liberal in Illinois. ... a felon who pleaded guilty to bank fraud in 2005 and was sentenced to five months of prison. ... one of five individual hosts of the Barnes event. ... caught in 2016 on [Project Veritas] video in Wisconsin talking about hiring agitators to create havoc at campaign rallies for then-GOP candidate Donald Trump and other political dirty tricks. ... One of the other hosts ... will be ["gotcha" videographer] Lauren Windsor ... [who] caught GOP Sen. Ron Johnson on tape saying Trump lost Wisconsin last year because he underperformed in the state, not because of fraud. ... Over the weekend, Barnes removed all mention of Democracy Partners in the online invitation to the event. NRSC's Litzow: "If Barnes thinks this is how he can win over Wisconsinites, he is surely mistaken." RPW's Kelly: "So Mandela Barnes ... turns to a guy convicted of bank fraud, who brags about illegal activity, to fund his campaign ... Welcome to today's Wisconsin Democratic Party." Kozloski for Barnes denounced GOP "nonsense," noted that Democracy Partners is a "respected group of political organizers and consultants" [lists some clients.] More on Creamer, Project Veritas video.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/daniel-bice/2021/11/15/mandela-barnes-fundraiser-hosted-group-caught-undercover-video/8622207002/

Attorneys make closing arguments made in Rittenhouse trial
... jury is expected to begin deliberations Tuesday morning. Review of shooting, arguments. * Asst. DA Binger argued that Rittenhouse cannot claim self-defense in a situation he provoked. ... "There is no evidence that Mr. Rosenbaum was reaching for the defendant's gun, and after that first shot, Mr. Rosenbaum could not have taken that gun even if he wanted to. He is already falling to the ground, he is helpless, he is vulnerable, and that kill shot hit him in the back. ... He does nothing to demonstrate to the crowd that he's not going to kill again, and it turns out that he does. Within a few seconds, he did kill again. ... Did Anthony Huber forfeit his life by trying to be a hero and disarm an active shooter? ... No reasonable person would have done what the defendant did, and that makes your decision easy. He is guilty of all counts." ... [called other armed militia] "wannabe soldiers acting tough ... just a small part of the deluge of chaos tourists we saw here in Kenosha." * Defender Richards argued from the same video, "Mr. Rosenbaum was shot because he was chasing my client, because he was going to kill him, take his gun, and carry out the threats he made. ... Kyle was zero threat to anyone [and running toward police before he shot Huber]. ... Ladies and

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gentlemen this is a political case. The District Attorney's Office is marching forward with this case because they need someone to be responsible. ... Mr. Binger, the person who has made it his personal goal of putting my client's head on his wall." ... Rittenhouse was privileged to use self-defense under Wisconsin law because he reasonably believed at the time of the shootings that he was in danger of death or great bodily harm.
https://www.kenoshanews.com/dbebf72e-82de-5167-b53c-8a1db0afd68e.html

Legal for a teen to walk about with an AR-15? Rittenhouse trial judge says yes
... [LRB's Slaight] came to a similar conclusion as [Judge] Schroeder [who tossed a weapons charge] when asked by a reporter. ... wrote in an email: "A person under the age of 18 may possess a rifle or a shotgun as long as 1. The weapon is not a short-barreled rifle or short-barreled shotgun, and 2. The person is not violating hunting statutes under Wisconsin statutes 29.304 and 29.593. These statutes generally prohibit anyone younger than 16 from hunting or carrying a firearm, unless certain conditions are met. ... Additionally, a person born on or after January 1, 1973, generally may not obtain approval authorizing hunting unless the person is issued a certificate of accomplishment indicating successful completion of a hunter education program." ... Schroeder's ruling appears to conflict with ... 2018 [Legis Council] memo ... which said: "Under federal law, with certain exceptions, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing a handgun. Under Wisconsin law, with certain exceptions for hunting, military service, and target practice, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing or going armed with a firearm." Reviews defense Cicchini, prosecutor Kraus arguments. Ex-DA Bucher: "This is a homicide case. ... If the government thought this was the only count they could succeed on, yikes." Sen. Wanggaard "surprised that this charge was even brought ... law on this has been clear for 30 years." Review of charges, other gun laws. Attys. Cafferty and Turner comment.
https://journaltimes.com/0819e151-f01f-55f3-a3fd-c065cc9fabcf.html

AG Kaul clergy abuse investigation: Six months in, here is what we know.
... about 180 reports to the AG's office ... two cases have been referred to the Brown County District Attorney's Office for investigation, but Kaul declined to say if any other cases have been forwarded ... Kaul said the investigation focuses on clergy and faith leaders because more than 170 priests in Wisconsin have been credibly accused of sexual misconduct. He also wants to ensure processes are in place to prevent further abuse and give victims a trusted setting to reach out and connect with resources. [also seeking reports of abuse at residential schools, after finding accusations at tribal boarding schools] ... prosecutors will "follow the facts" and pursue any criminal activity they discover at an individual or institutional level. If a case can be prosecuted, the DOJ would refer it to the local district attorney or provide a special prosecutor if requested. ... statute of limitations could affect the investigation [age 35 for civil plaintiffs, 45 for criminal prosecution. Advocates have urged statute change but lawmakers have not acted.] ... 177 members of the clergy ... have been confirmed to have abused minors during their time in the Catholic Church. ... Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, St. Norbert Abbey and the Society of Jesus have released lists of confirmed abusers, Diocese of Superior has not. ... Milwaukee Archdiocese has taken

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the firmest stance against the investigation, calling it "anti-Catholic bigotry" and refusing to allow investigators to see its records. ... no planned end for the investigation or to take down the clergy abuse hotline ... [notable cases: victim Lindstrom in GB, ex-priest Erickson still custody at JCI] ... at least 22 other states ... have launched investigations https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/11/wisconsin-clergy-abuse-investigation-what-we-know-after-6-months/6183499001/

'It's been an amazing, great run': Kaufert won't seek a third term as Neenah mayor ... said he wants to devote more time to his family and family business, The Dome Sports Bar & Grill. "I've given you all I've got," he said to supporters. "It's been an amazing, great run. There are no regrets." ... "I've spoken to (U.S. Rep.) Glenn Grothman about his future plans. Who knows? I might not be done yet." ... Before his eight years as mayor, Kaufert served 24 years as a Republican in the 55th Assembly District and five years as a Neenah alderperson. 17-0 lifetime election record. More on Mayoral achievements.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/15/kaufert-wont-seek-third-term-neenah-mayor-has-no-regrets/6391873001/

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: UW-Madison Community Economic Development: Wisconsin Broadband Summit.
https://wisconsintechnologycouncil.com/event/wisconsin-broadband-summit/

- 10 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Jobs and the Economy public hearing on AB 678, relating to trade relations with Taiwan.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645587

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care public hearing on AB 175, relating to grants to independent living centers.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645265

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 10:05 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Jobs and the Economy informational hearing.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645588

- 12 p.m.: WisBusiness.com virtual event on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy. Panelists include: Jeanne Hossenlopp, Marquette University's vice president for research and innovation; Sandra McLellan, professor in

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the School of Freshwater Sciences at UW-Milwaukee; Katarina Marie Braun, a UW-Madison medical student who has a PhD in cellular and molecular biology; and Dr. Shekar N. Kurpad, of the Medical College of Wisconsin.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/nov-16-wisbusiness-com-virtual-event-on-how-federally-funded-university-research-fuels-the-wisconsin-economy-2/

- 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.: Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization: Connect 2050 Regional Transportation Plan update.
https://cityofmadison.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-25J_KuCSPSN83_DBhYXtQ

- 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: LeaderEthics Wisconsin candidate development forum.
https://leaderethicswi.org/event-4544972

- 12 p.m.: Citizens State Bank, St. Croix EDC host conversation with WEDC economist Scott Hodek.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/citizens-state-bank-st-croix-edc-conversation-with-scott-hodek/

- 12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.: Milwaukee Rotary Club. Guest speakers are Milwaukee PBS producer Maryann Lazarski and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel business reporter Rick Barrett, who will discuss their documentary, "America's Dairyland at the Crossroads." Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/milwaukee-rotary-club-148/

- 1 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 6 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 8:12 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: TUE AM Update: Evers asks GOP leaders to send him redistricting bills for likely veto

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-- The Dem group Opportunity Wisconsin is out with a new TV ad that accuses U.S. Sen. Ron Johnnson, R-Oshkosh, of using "his office to serve himself."

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The group said it's a seven-figure buy that will run on broadcast, cable, streaming services and digital platforms in the Green Bay, Madison, Milwaukee and Wausau markets. The group said it has now spent more than $3 million in this calendar year targeting Johnson.

The ad features a man identified as Daniel, who says he was a Navy submariner for more than 20 years. He said Johnson passed a special tax break that benefited his family's business and "then cashed out of the company for $5 million."

"Ron Johnson has doubled his wealth since he's been elected. That's not what service is about," Daniel says to close the spot. "Tell Ron Johnson to stop voting for tax laws that benefit himself."

See the ad:
https://youtu.be/hWHNMuZN-o0

-- The state DOJ is arguing that using a drop box meets the requirement under state law that absentee ballots are delivered in person to the municipal clerk.

The Department of Justice made the argument yesterday in response to motions from the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty in a lawsuit seeking to ban the use of drop boxes. The suit argues drop boxes aren't allowed under state law and voters may only return absentee ballots by mail or in person to their local clerks.

The suit focuses on the phrase in state law "[t]he envelope shall be mailed by the elector, or delivered in person, to the municipal clerk issuing the ballot or ballots."

DOJ argues that the guidance the Elections Commission issued last year included that drop boxes in public locations authorized by the local clerk can be used for returning absentee ballots with various security measures. When an absentee ballot is placed in a secure drop box authorized by the clerk, it meets the requirement under state law for delivering them "in person, to the municipal clerk."

WILL has filed a motion for summary judgment as well as one for a temporary injunction to bar the use of guidance from the state Elections Commission on the use of drop boxes.

DOJ opposes both motions. Yesterday's filings also argued the plaintiffs failed to follow proper procedures in filing the claim and a Waukesha County Circuit Court lacks the jurisdiction to hear it.

DOJ argued the plaintiffs should've served a copy to the Legislature's Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules. That's because the suit deals with the Elections Commission's decision to issue the guidance, but not through the administrative rules process. Cases that challenge policies that are alleged to be unpromulgated rules must

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involve serving JCRAR, the filing alleges. Because the committee wasn't served, the court lacks jurisdiction to hear the suit.

In its review of the 2020 election, the Legislative Audit Bureau said state law neither allows nor bars the use of drop boxes. Meanwhile, GOP guv candidate Rebecca Kleefisch yesterday filed a lawsuit against the Elections Commission over guidance it has provided, including on drop boxes.

Read the motion for summary judgment:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211115Judgment.pdf

Read the motion for a temporary injunction:
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211115Injunction.pdf

-- Five of the Dem candidates for U.S. Senate are scheduled to participate in a forum this evening hosted by Citizen Action.

Those participating are: Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes; Dr. Gillian Battino; state Treasurer Sarah Godlewski; Alex Lasry, who's on leave from his job with the Milwaukee Bucks; and Outagamie County Exec Tom Nelson.

See tomorrow's AM Update for coverage.

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Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

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Advertisement



Wisconsin REALTORS Association

TOP HEADLINES

This is our moment to be bold': WI Dems unveil 22 bills to combat climate change
... [Evers Climate Change Task Force chair Lt. Gov. Barnes, Rep. Neubauer, others] call for funding programs and policy changes to support energy efficiency, sustainable farming practices, training for clean energy jobs and a just transition to renewable energy. ... support climate change research, planning, and education [based on 55 task force recommendations, some of which were tugged from Evers' budget]. ... $10M/yr ... to support weatherization and energy efficiency in Wisconsin schools. ... $1.8M [for county climate resilience staff]. ... new programs like the Wisconsin Climate Corps and Green Jobs Training Program ... require [PSC] consider the social cost of carbon when authorizing new energy projects and [DNR] to conduct racial disparity impact studies [in permitting] ... as more than 200 nations [agree] to phase down the use of coal. ... to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius to stave off the worst effects of climate change [though that limit is likely to be crossed in the next decade.] ... as [Biden signed $1T infrastructure bill with] $47B for climate resilience. Speaker Vos, Leader LeMahieu did not respond. Barnes, Neubauer, WFU's Levendofsky, WI Student Climate Action Coalition's Salgado comment.
https://www.wpr.org/our-moment-be-bold-wisconsin-democrats-unveil-22-bills-combat-climate-change

Organizers have pushed for years to protect Wisconsin's Black moms and babies in childbirth. So why does it keep stopping at the Statehouse?
... "I'm still struggling (with) why a call to action hasn't happened in our state," said [LBC chair] Stubbs ... Even as Wisconsin cities land on lists of best places to live ... 2014 report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation found Wisconsin had the worst gap in the nation between outcomes for Black and white children. Milwaukee and Racine consistently ranked among the worst cities for Black Americans to live in a yearly report from financial news company 24/7 Wall St. Reviews provisions removed from budgets by GOP. Details of Stubbs-Johnson 6-bill Birth Equity Act, drawing on hundreds of suggestions from BIPOC birth workers in Wisconsin, only one GOP co-sponsor [Ballweg] on one bill removing sales tax from breastfeeding equipment [Ballweg did not respond]. Stubbs hopes her Racial Disparity task force will add cred to her bills, "You need to work on it from a bipartisan perspective or bills don't get passed." Bills assigned to 4 committees. Aide to chair Stroebel said Stroebel "opposes making taxpayers cover

the debts of absentee fathers." Other chairs did not respond. WIWH's Morrison comments.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/2021/11/16/wisconsin-legislators-push-health-improvements-black-moms-babies/6122912001/

Kleefisch sues WEC ahead of 2022 election
... Kleefisch's lawsuit focuses on three issues highlighted in the LAB report ... argues that WEC's current guidance [on ballot drop boxes] runs contrary to state law. ... argues that WEC's guidance on special voting deputies violates state law. ... argues [allowing clerks to consolidate polling places] guidance is contrary to state law. ... asking the state Supreme Court to take the case directly, based on the assumption that any lower rulings would be challenged and not resolved in a timely manner before the 2020 election. ... "Wisconsinites are sick and tired of unelected bureaucrats intentionally ignoring the law," Kleefisch said in a statement. "The lawsuit forces WEC to clean up their act prior to administering the 2022 election." ... Kleefisch's lawyer, Steven Biskupic, also notes that the court ruled in 2020, in [Trump suit] to overturn his election loss, "The time to challenge election policies such as these is not after all ballots have been counted and the votes tallied."
https://captimes.com/096fddc5-4004-5a33-8446-85a80d2212ae.html

Kleefisch sues WEC commissioners as Vos says they 'probably' should face felonies
... [WEC under fire after Racine Sheriff Schmaling investigation at nursing home.] ... Vos in an appearance on WKOW's "Capital City Sunday" said "there really was nothing more for us to do [re: SVDs in 2020] because the law was crystal clear. ... I think probably, but I'm not a district attorney. I'm certainly not a lawyer," Vos said. "But I certainly think anybody who breaks the law should pay the ultimate price to say I won't do it again. And you either plead guilty and you say I understand that was a mistake or you go to court and defend yourself. So I assume that that will be the process that plays out there." Leader LeMahieu on WISN: "I'll leave that up to the prosecutors around the state of Wisconsin." WEC Dem chair Jacobs did not respond. WEC Vos-appointee Knudson no comment. Dem Leader Hintz calls Vos statements "appalling. ... If these clowns get away w/a witch hunt that criminally charges or implies criminal behavior by bipartisan people serving on the WI Election Commission, then we are witnessing an abuse of power not seen before." WI Supremes 4-3 in March tossed Fabick suit to stop drop boxes. Trump made similar claims as Kleefisch but were tossed because they came after election.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/15/rebecca-kleefisch-sues-wisconsin-elections-commissioners-robin-vos-argues-for-felony-charges/8622317002/

Bowen Will Run For Lieutenant Governor
Rep. David Bowen joins Lena Taylor, Sara Rodriguez in Democratic primary. ... "I've thought about this long and hard, I've wrestled with this decision and the risk that comes with it," Bowen said at his campaign announcement. "It's very clear the future of our communities depends greatly on what happens in Wisconsin's state capital. ... Over the

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last two years, seeing an immense amount of folks advocating for change in the streets, advocating for change in Madison, and not seeing nearly the amount of change that we deserve" helped push him to run, Bowen said ... has spoken with Gov. Evers about his decision to run. "I am confident with my campaign we can build a winning coalition, to help Democrats and Gov. Evers win the governor's office again." The state representative said he wanted his campaign to give people "something to vote for, not just vote against."
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/rep-david-bowen-is

Bice: Barnes Fundraiser hosted by group caught talking political dirty tricks in 2016
... On Wednesday, Democracy Partners ... is scheduled to host a large fundraiser at its Washington, D.C., headquarters ... co-founded a decade ago by Robert Creamer ... a leading liberal in Illinois. ... a felon who pleaded guilty to bank fraud in 2005 and was sentenced to five months of prison. ... one of five individual hosts of the Barnes event. ... caught in 2016 on [Project Veritas] video in Wisconsin talking about hiring agitators to create havoc at campaign rallies for then-GOP candidate Donald Trump and other political dirty tricks. ... One of the other hosts ... will be ["gotcha" videographer] Lauren Windsor ... [who] caught GOP Sen. Ron Johnson on tape saying Trump lost Wisconsin last year because he underperformed in the state, not because of fraud. ... Over the weekend, Barnes removed all mention of Democracy Partners in the online invitation to the event. NRSC's Litzow: "If Barnes thinks this is how he can win over Wisconsinites, he is surely mistaken." RPW's Kelly: "So Mandela Barnes ... turns to a guy convicted of bank fraud, who brags about illegal activity, to fund his campaign ... Welcome to today's Wisconsin Democratic Party." Kozloski for Barnes denounced GOP "nonsense," noted that Democracy Partners is a "respected group of political organizers and consultants" [lists some clients.] More on Creamer, Project Veritas video.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/daniel-bice/2021/11/15/mandela-barnes-fundraiser-hosted-group-caught-undercover-video/8622207002/

Attorneys make closing arguments made in Rittenhouse trial
... jury is expected to begin deliberations Tuesday morning. Review of shooting, arguments. * Asst. DA Binger argued that Rittenhouse cannot claim self-defense in a situation he provoked. ... "There is no evidence that Mr. Rosenbaum was reaching for the defendant's gun, and after that first shot, Mr. Rosenbaum could not have taken that gun even if he wanted to. He is already falling to the ground, he is helpless, he is vulnerable, and that kill shot hit him in the back. ... He does nothing to demonstrate to the crowd that he's not going to kill again, and it turns out that he does. Within a few seconds, he did kill again. ... Did Anthony Huber forfeit his life by trying to be a hero and disarm an active shooter? ... No reasonable person would have done what the defendant did, and that makes your decision easy. He is guilty of all counts." ... [called other armed militia] "wannabe soldiers acting tough ... just a small part of the deluge of chaos tourists we saw here in Kenosha." * Defender Richards argued from the same video, "Mr. Rosenbaum was shot because he was chasing my client, because he was going to kill him, take his gun, and carry out the threats he made. ... Kyle was zero threat to anyone [and running toward police before he shot Huber]. ... Ladies and

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gentlemen this is a political case. The District Attorney's Office is marching forward with this case because they need someone to be responsible. ... Mr. Binger, the person who has made it his personal goal of putting my client's head on his wall." ... Rittenhouse was privileged to use self-defense under Wisconsin law because he reasonably believed at the time of the shootings that he was in danger of death or great bodily harm.
https://www.kenoshanews.com/dbebf72e-82de-5167-b53c-8a1db0afd68e.html

Legal for a teen to walk about with an AR-15? Rittenhouse trial judge says yes
... [LRB's Slaight] came to a similar conclusion as [Judge] Schroeder [who tossed a weapons charge] when asked by a reporter. ... wrote in an email: "A person under the age of 18 may possess a rifle or a shotgun as long as 1. The weapon is not a short-barreled rifle or short-barreled shotgun, and 2. The person is not violating hunting statutes under Wisconsin statutes 29.304 and 29.593. These statutes generally prohibit anyone younger than 16 from hunting or carrying a firearm, unless certain conditions are met. ... Additionally, a person born on or after January 1, 1973, generally may not obtain approval authorizing hunting unless the person is issued a certificate of accomplishment indicating successful completion of a hunter education program." ... Schroeder's ruling appears to conflict with ... 2018 [Legis Council] memo ... which said: "Under federal law, with certain exceptions, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing a handgun. Under Wisconsin law, with certain exceptions for hunting, military service, and target practice, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing or going armed with a firearm." Reviews defense Cicchini, prosecutor Kraus arguments. Ex-DA Bucher: "This is a homicide case. ... If the government thought this was the only count they could succeed on, yikes." Sen. Wanggaard "surprised that this charge was even brought ... law on this has been clear for 30 years." Review of charges, other gun laws. Attys. Cafferty and Turner comment.
https://journaltimes.com/0819e151-f01f-55f3-a3fd-c065cc9fabcf.html

AG Kaul clergy abuse investigation: Six months in, here is what we know.
... about 180 reports to the AG's office ... two cases have been referred to the Brown County District Attorney's Office for investigation, but Kaul declined to say if any other cases have been forwarded ... Kaul said the investigation focuses on clergy and faith leaders because more than 170 priests in Wisconsin have been credibly accused of sexual misconduct. He also wants to ensure processes are in place to prevent further abuse and give victims a trusted setting to reach out and connect with resources. [also seeking reports of abuse at residential schools, after finding accusations at tribal boarding schools] ... prosecutors will "follow the facts" and pursue any criminal activity they discover at an individual or institutional level. If a case can be prosecuted, the DOJ would refer it to the local district attorney or provide a special prosecutor if requested. ... statute of limitations could affect the investigation [age 35 for civil plaintiffs, 45 for criminal prosecution. Advocates have urged statute change but lawmakers have not acted.] ... 177 members of the clergy ... have been confirmed to have abused minors during their time in the Catholic Church. ... Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, St. Norbert Abbey and the Society of Jesus have released lists of confirmed abusers, Diocese of Superior has not. ... Milwaukee Archdiocese has taken

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the firmest stance against the investigation, calling it "anti-Catholic bigotry" and refusing to allow investigators to see its records. ... no planned end for the investigation or to take down the clergy abuse hotline ... [notable cases: victim Lindstrom in GB, ex-priest Erickson still custody at JCI] ... at least 22 other states ... have launched investigations https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/11/wisconsin-clergy-abuse-investigation-what-we-know-after-6-months/6183499001/

'It's been an amazing, great run': Kaufert won't seek a third term as Neenah mayor ... said he wants to devote more time to his family and family business, The Dome Sports Bar & Grill. "I've given you all I've got," he said to supporters. "It's been an amazing, great run. There are no regrets." ... "I've spoken to (U.S. Rep.) Glenn Grothman about his future plans. Who knows? I might not be done yet." ... Before his eight years as mayor, Kaufert served 24 years as a Republican in the 55th Assembly District and five years as a Neenah alderperson. 17-0 lifetime election record. More on Mayoral achievements.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/15/kaufert-wont-seek-third-term-neenah-mayor-has-no-regrets/6391873001/

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

- 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: UW-Madison Community Economic Development: Wisconsin Broadband Summit.
https://wisconsintechnologycouncil.com/event/wisconsin-broadband-summit/

- 10 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Jobs and the Economy public hearing on AB 678, relating to trade relations with Taiwan.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645587

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care public hearing on AB 175, relating to grants to independent living centers.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645265

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 10:05 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Jobs and the Economy informational hearing.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645588

- 12 p.m.: WisBusiness.com virtual event on how federally funded university research fuels the Wisconsin economy. Panelists include: Jeanne Hossenlopp, Marquette University's vice president for research and innovation; Sandra McLellan, professor in

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the School of Freshwater Sciences at UW-Milwaukee; Katarina Marie Braun, a UW-Madison medical student who has a PhD in cellular and molecular biology; and Dr. Shekar N. Kurpad, of the Medical College of Wisconsin.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/nov-16-wisbusiness-com-virtual-event-on-how-federally-funded-university-research-fuels-the-wisconsin-economy-2/

- 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.: Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization: Connect 2050 Regional Transportation Plan update.
https://cityofmadison.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-25J_KuCSPSN83_DBhYXtQ

- 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: LeaderEthics Wisconsin candidate development forum.
https://leaderethicswi.org/event-4544972

- 12 p.m.: Citizens State Bank, St. Croix EDC host conversation with WEDC economist Scott Hodek.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/citizens-state-bank-st-croix-edc-conversation-with-scott-hodek/

- 12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.: Milwaukee Rotary Club. Guest speakers are Milwaukee PBS producer Maryann Lazarski and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel business reporter Rick Barrett, who will discuss their documentary, "America's Dairyland at the Crossroads." Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/milwaukee-rotary-club-148/

- 1 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 6 p.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 10:15 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: TUE News Summary: Kleefisch sues WEC ahead of 2022 election; Dems unveil 22 bills to combat climate change

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WISPOLITICS.COM
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TUE News Summary -- 16 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/tue-news-summary-kleefisch-sues-wec-ahead-of-2022-election-dems-unveil-22-bills-to-combat-climate-change/

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STORY TOPICS	TOP STORIES
- White house - Rittenhouse trial - Coronavirus - Federal government - Local government - Census - Courts - Culture - Education - Elections - Environment - Health care - Labor - Law and order - Manufacturing - Media - Public health and safety - Real estate - Telecommunications - Tourism	**Kleefisch sues WEC ahead of 2022 election** ... Kleefisch's lawsuit focuses on three issues highlighted in the LAB report ... argues that WEC's current guidance [on ballot drop boxes] runs contrary to state law. ... argues that WEC's guidance on special voting deputies violates state law. ... argues [allowing clerks to consolidate polling places] guidance is contrary to state law. ... asking the state Supreme Court to take the case directly, based on the assumption that any lower rulings would be challenged and not resolved in a timely manner before the 2022 election. ... "Wisconsinites are sick and tired of unelected bureaucrats intentionally ignoring the law," Kleefisch said in a statement. "The lawsuit forces WEC to clean up their act prior to administering the 2022 election." ... Kleefisch's lawyer, Steven Biskupic, also notes that the court ruled in 2020, in [Trump suit] to overturn his election loss, "The time to challenge election policies such as these is not after all ballots have been counted and the votes tallied." By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES [see Cieslewicz column] https://captimes.com/096fddc5-4004-5a33-8446-85a80d2212ae.html **This is our moment to be bold': WI Dems unveil 22 bills to combat climate change** ... [Evers Climate Change Task Force chair Lt. Gov. Barnes, Rep. Neubauer, others] call for funding programs and policy changes to support energy efficiency, sustainable farming practices, training for clean energy jobs and a just transition to renewable energy. ... support climate change research, planning, and education [based on 55 task force recommendations, some of which were tugged from Evers' budget]. ... $10M/yr ... to support weatherization and energy efficiency in Wisconsin schools. ... $1.8M [for county climate resilience staff]. ... new programs like the Wisconsin Climate Corps and Green Jobs Training Program ... require [PSC] consider the social cost of carbon when authorizing new energy projects and [DNR] to conduct racial disparity impact studies [in permitting] ... as more than 200 nations [agree] to phase down the use of coal. ... to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius to stave off the worst effects of climate change [though that limit is likely to be crossed in the next decade.] ... as [Biden signed $1T infrastructure bill with] $47B for climate resilience. Speaker Vos, Leader LeMahieu did not respond. Barnes, Neubauer, WFU's Levendofsky, WI Student

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- Transportation
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- Editorials
- Columns

Climate Action Coalition's Salgado comment. By Kaeding, WPR https://www.wpr.org/our-moment-be-bold-wisconsin-democrats-unveil-22-bills-combat-climate-change

Attorneys make closing arguments made in Rittenhouse trial
... jury is expected to begin deliberations Tuesday morning. Review of shooting, arguments. * Asst. DA Binger argued that Rittenhouse cannot claim self-defense in a situation he provoked. ... "There is no evidence that Mr. Rosenbaum was reaching for the defendant's gun, and after that first shot, Mr. Rosenbaum could not have taken that gun even if he wanted to. He is already falling to the ground, he is helpless, he is vulnerable, and that kill shot hit him in the back. ... He does nothing to demonstrate to the crowd that he's not going to kill again, and it turns out that he does. Within a few seconds, he did kill again. ... Did Anthony Huber forfeit his life by trying to be a hero and disarm an active shooter? ... No reasonable person would have done what the defendant did, and that makes your decision easy. He is guilty of all counts." ... [called other armed militia] "wannabe soldiers acting tough ... just a small part of the deluge of chaos tourists we saw here in Kenosha." * Defender Richards argued from the same video, "Mr. Rosenbaum was shot because he was chasing my client, because he was going to kill him, take his gun, and carry out the threats he made. ... Kyle was zero threat to anyone [and running toward police before he shot Huber]. ... Ladies and gentlemen this is a political case. The District Attorney's Office is marching forward with this case because they need someone to be responsible. ... Mr. Binger, the person who has made it his personal goal of putting my client's head on his wall." ... Rittenhouse was privileged to use self-defense under Wisconsin law because he reasonably believed at the time of the shootings that he was in danger of death or great bodily harm. By Smith, KENOSHA NEWS
https://www.kenoshanews.com/dbebf72e-82de-5167-b53c-8a1db0afd68e.html

Gov. Tony Evers kicks off one year to win weekend of action
... [DPW] launched its new campaign, WisDems One Year to Win, stylized as 1Y2W, during its Weekend of Action canvass kickoff. ... Evers made an appearance at [Nov. 6] MKE Democratic Action, Peace Action ... "I know most or many or all of you have worked knocking on doors," Evers said. "Doing that helped me get here. I'm here because you put me here. ... My goal also is to keep our vote as accessible as possible instead of trying to surpass the vote, we want to encourage people to vote," he said. "I think democracy is being threatened across our country

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including right here in Wisconsin and I'll do whatever I can to veto bills that are going to make it more difficult for people to participate in democracy. ... I ran on fixing the damn roads," Evers said. "And I know that there will be people in the room saying, 'not mine,' but we have fixed over a thousand miles of roads here in the State of Wisconsin." Martinez-Ortiz, MILWAUKEE COURIER https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/gov-tony-evers-kicks-off-one-year-to-win-weekend-of-action/

############
STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE ^top^

- Wisconsin Leaders Comment on the Passing of the Infrastructure Bill ... [WisDems VC] Clark, Sen. Chris Larson, State Rep. Kalan Haywood II, Stephanie Bloomingdale and Milwaukee County Supervisor Felesia Martin were in attendance [Nov. 10 at Intermodal station.] https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/wisconsin-leaders-comment-on-the-passing-of-the-infrastructure-bill/

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^

- Prosecutor: Rittenhouse provoked the bloodshed in Kenosha [Bauer, Tarm, Forliti] https://apnews.com/a5ee515a50f77ea4993bf7176859ef57

- 9 highlights from Kyle Rittenhouse trial closings [Richmond] https://apnews.com/fc43e68b77c27ece4c7af460b175705b

- Closing arguments completed in Kyle Rittenhouse homicide trial, jury to deliberate Tuesday, Judge dismissed weapons charge Rittenhouse trial ahead of closing arguments https://www.wpr.org/closing-arguments-completed-kyle-rittenhouse-homicide-trial-jury-deliberate-tuesday

- Closing arguments focus on whether Kyle Rittenhouse provoked violence the night of shooting https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/lawyers-present-closing-arguments-in-kyle-rittenhouses-homicide-trial/8622739002/

- With the case headed to the jury, Kenosha awaits verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/case-heads-jury-kenosha-awaits-verdict-rittenhouse-trial/8628467002/

- Legal for a teen to walk about with an AR-15? Rittenhouse trial judge says yes ...

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[LRB's Slaight] came to a similar conclusion as [Judge] Schroeder [who tossed a weapons charge] when asked by a reporter. ... wrote in an email: "A person under the age of 18 may possess a rifle or a shotgun as long as 1. The weapon is not a short-barreled rifle or short-barreled shotgun, and 2. The person is not violating hunting statutes under Wisconsin statutes 29.304 and 29.593. These statutes generally prohibit anyone younger than 16 from hunting or carrying a firearm, unless certain conditions are met. ... Additionally, a person born on or after January 1, 1973, generally may not obtain approval authorizing hunting unless the person is issued a certificate of accomplishment indicating successful completion of a hunter education program." ... Schroeder's ruling appears to conflict with ... 2018 [Legis Council] memo ... which said: "Under federal law, with certain exceptions, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing a handgun. Under Wisconsin law, with certain exceptions for hunting, military service, and target practice, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing or going armed with a firearm." Reviews defense Cicchini, prosecutor Krause arguments. Ex-DA Bucher: "This is a homicide case. ... If the government thought this was the only count they could succeed on, yikes." Sen. Wanggaard "surprised that this charge was even brought ... law on this has been clear for 30 years." Review of charges, other gun laws. Attys. Cafferty and Turner comment.
https://journaltimes.com/0819e151-f01f-55f3-a3fd-c065cc9fabcf.html

- With the case headed to the jury, Kenosha awaits verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/case-heads-jury-kenosha-awaits-verdict-rittenhouse-trial/8628467002/

- The Kyle Rittenhouse Trial Story Explained [see Columns]
https://www.newsweek.com/1649267

CORONAVIRUS ^*top*^
- Average number of daily COVID-19 cases increased for 13th straight day and state still doesn't have updated vaccination numbers ... DHS is still not able to provide vaccine numbers for the state, as they are dealing with an ongoing data reporting issue with Walgreens. ... New deaths reported: 2. Number hospitalized: 1,062 (intensive care: 285); down 117 patients from a month ago
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/average-daily-covid-19-cases-wisconsin-increased-over-weekend/8629670002/

- DHS recommends hunters wear a mask when field dressing deer ... list includes three new measures: wearing a mask while field dressing deer; limit cutting into and handling the deer's lungs, throat, and mouth/nasal cavity to only what is necessary (for example, submitting a head for CWD testing); and if you are immunocompromised, consider asking for assistance with carcass processing and handling. ... "Hunters are always encouraged to use good hygiene practices when processing animals to reduce their risk of exposure to many possible disease agents," the agency says on its website. "Incorporating a few additional measures can also help to reduce their risk of possible exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus."

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/outdoors/2021/11/15/wisconsin-hunters-advised-wear-mask-when-dressing-deer-due-covid/6354897001/

- COVID Vaccine may prevent children from developing serious health condition following the infection
https://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/341aa121-c56a-58f0-8e97-bfda820f5401.html

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Byron York: GOP's division on border wall ... Rep. Jim Jordan, is out with a new memoir, "Do What You Said You Would Do," on Nov. 23 that describes those months when GOP lawmakers fought over competing visions of immigration reform. ... points the finger of blame straight at then-Speaker Ryan. "Paul Ryan is not where the American people are," Jordan writes. "Paul Ryan's position on immigration is the same as the positions of the National Chamber of Commerce." In the world of conservative immigration policy activists, accusing someone of siding with the Chamber of Commerce is about as harsh as it gets.
https://www.bryantimes.com/69200cb5-b2f4-5661-beb5-42135d5ca4b4.html

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Job fairs to showcase available positions within Kenosha County government
https://www.kenoshanews.com/c4915ec8-ab06-52de-9ec6-36f69667e238.html

- Parisi calls on board to close $22M budget gap for jail project
https://madison.com/wsj/626c96a6-a4a2-58db-9db5-b4532fc1e861.html

- 'It's been an amazing, great run': Kaufert won't seek a third term as Neenah mayor ... said he wants to devote more time to his family and family business, The Dome Sports Bar & Grill. "I've given you all I've got," he said to supporters. "It's been an amazing, great run. There are no regrets." ... "I've spoken to (U.S. Rep.) Glenn Grothman about his future plans. Who knows? I might not be done yet." ... Before his eight years as mayor, Kaufert served 24 years as a Republican in the 55th Assembly District and five years as a Neenah alderperson. 17-0 lifetime election record. More on Mayoral achievements.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/15/kaufert-wont-seek-third-term-neenah-mayor-has-no-regrets/6391873001/

- La Crosse city council adopts $67.5M 2022 budget: Slight tax increase, opt-out of state spending
https://lacrossetribune.com/7f48bc70-692d-52cd-ba13-642f91f2fddf.html

- Oneida County property taxes set to increase by 4.8 percent
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92384

- Vilas County board enters opioid settlement agreement, County could receive nearly $1 million: also signed MOU with AG Kaul
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92387

- Minocqua electors, town board approve 2022 town budget. $314K levy hike
https://lakelandtimes.com/Content/Default/News/Article/Minocqua-electors-town-board-approve-2022-town-budget/-3/9/48870

- Oneida County property taxes set to increase by 4.8 percent
https://lakelandtimes.com/Content/Default/News/Article/Oneida-County-property-taxes-set-to-increase-by-4-8-percent/-3/9/48867

CENSUS ^top^
- Here's how Sheboygan County districts and city wards will change after the 2020 Census
https://www.sheboyganpress.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/15/2020-census-redraws-maps-sheboygan-county-districts-city-wards/6198035001/

COURTS ^top^
- How Trump reshaped the fifth circuit court of appeals to become the 'most extreme' US court
https://www.theguardian.com/law/2021/nov/15/fifth-circuit-court-appeals-most-extreme-us

CULTURE ^top^
- Superior, Northwestern students challenge peers to 'ditch the vape'
https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/education/7283392-Superior-Northwestern-students-challenge-peers-to-ditch-the-vape

EDUCATION ^top^
- 'I no longer want to hear we're the best-kept secret' UWGB chancellor Alexander ready to lead campuses out of pandemic as a changed institution: background, Q&A
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2021/11/15/uw-green-bays-chancellor-prepares-lead-campuses-out-pandemic/6036711001/

ELECTIONS ^top^
- Kleefisch files lawsuit against Wisconsin Elections Commission ... asks Wisconsin Supreme Court to immediately suspend 2020 elections commission guidance
https://www.wpr.org/gop-candidate-rebecca-kleefisch-files-lawsuit-against-wisconsin-elections-commission

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- Kleefisch sues WEC commissioners as Vos says they 'probably' should face felonies: WEC under fire after Racine Sheriff Schmaling investigation at nursing home. [reviews Schmaling probe.] ... Vos in an appearance on WKOW's "Capital City Sunday" said "there really was nothing more for us to do [re: SVDs in 2020] because the law was crystal clear. ... I think probably, but I'm not a district attorney. I'm certainly not a lawyer," Vos said. "But I certainly think anybody who breaks the law should pay the ultimate price to say I won't do it again. And you either plead guilty and you say I understand that was a mistake or you go to court and defend yourself. So I assume that that will be the process that plays out there." Leader LeMahieu on WISN: "I'll leave that up to the prosecutors around the state of Wisconsin." WEC Dem chair Jacobs did not respond. WEC Vos-appointee Knudson no comment. Dem Leader HINtz clal Vos statements "appalling. ... If these clowns get away w/a witch hunt that criminally charges or implies criminal behavior by bipartisan people serving on the WI Election Commission, then we are witnessing an abuse of power not seen before." WI Supremes 4-3 in March tossed Fabick suit to stop drop boxes. Trump made similar claims as Kleefisch but were tossed because they came AFTER election. https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/15/rebecca-kleefisch-sues-wisconsin-elections-commissioners-robin-vos-argues-for-felony-charges/8622317002/

- Bowen Will Run For Lieutenant Governor, Rep. David Bowen joins Lena Taylor, Sara Rodriguez in Democratic primary. ... I've thought about this long and hard, I've wrestled with this decision and the risk that comes with it," Bowen said at his campaign announcement. "It's very clear the future of our communities depends greatly on what happens in Wisconsin's state capital. ... Over the last two years, seeing an immense amount of folks advocating for change in the streets, advocating for change in Madison, and not seeing nearly the amount of change that we deserve" helped push him to run, Bowen said ... has spoken with Gov. Evers about his decision to run. "I am confident with my campaign we can build a winning coalition, to help Democrats and Gov. Evers win the governor's office again." The state representative said he wanted his campaign to give people "something to vote for, not just vote against." https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/rep-david-bowen-is

- Bice: Barnes Fundraiser hosted by group caught talking political dirty tricks in 2016 undercover video ... On Wednesday, Democracy Partners ... is scheduled to host a large fundraiser at its Washington, D.C., headquarters ... co-founded a decade ago by Robert Creamer ... a leading liberal in Illinois. ... a felon who pleaded guilty to bank fraud in 2005 and was sentenced to five months of prison. ... one of five individual hosts of the Barnes event. ... caught in 2016 on [Project Veritas] video in Wisconsin talking about hiring agitators to create havoc at campaign rallies for then-GOP candidate Donald Trump and other political dirty tricks. ... One of the other hosts ... will be ["gotcha" videographer] Lauren Windsor ... [who] caught GOP Sen. Ron Johnson on tape saying Trump lost Wisconsin last year because he underperformed in the state, not because of fraud. ... Over the weekend, Barnes removed all mention of Democracy Partners in the online invitation to the event. NRSC's Litzow: "If Barnes thinks this is

how he can win over Wisconsinites, he is surely mistaken." RPW's Kelly: "So Mandela Barnes ... turns to a guy convicted of bank fraud, who brags about illegal activity, to fund his campaign ... Welcome to today's Wisconsin Democratic Party." Kozloski for Barnes denounced GOP "nonsense," noted that Democracy Partners is a "respected group of political organizers and consultants" [lists some clients. More on Creamer, Project Veritas video.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/daniel-bice/2021/11/15/mandela-barnes-fundraiser-hosted-group-caught-undercover-video/8622207002/

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- Wisconsin Democrats introduce package of bills to address climate change, encourage environmental justice ... The "Forward on Climate" package, introduced Monday by Rep. Greta Neubauer, D-Racine and Sen. Jeff Smith, D-Brunswick, builds off of recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change. Neubauer and Smith both served as members of the task force.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/wisconsin-democrats-introduce-package-address-climate-change/8631778002/

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Organizers have pushed for years to protect Wisconsin's Black moms and babies in childbirth. So why does it keep stopping at the Statehouse? ... "I'm still struggling (with) why a call to action hasn't happened in our state," said [LBC chair] Stubbs ... Even as Wisconsin cities land on lists of best places to live ... 2014 report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation found Wisconsin had the worst gap in the nation between outcomes for Black and white children. Milwaukee and Racine consistently ranked among the worst cities for Black Americans to live in a yearly report from financial news company 24/7 Wall St. Reviews provisions removed from budgets by GOP. Details of Stubbs-Johnson 6-bill Birth Equity Act, drawing on hundreds of suggestions from BIPOC birth workers in Wisconsin, only one GOP co-sponsor [Ballweg] on one bill removing sales tax from breastfeeding equipment [Ballweg did not respond]. STubbs hopes her Racial Disparity task force will add cred to her bills, "You need to work on it from a bipartisan perspective or bills don't get passed." Bills assigned to 4 committees. Aide to chair STroebel said boss "opposes making taxpayers cover the debts of absentee fathers." Other chairs did not respond. WIWH's Morrison comments.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/2021/11/16/wisconsin-legislators-push-health-improvements-black-moms-babies/6122912001/

- Rise in uncompensated medical care continues: Bad debt, charity care rose 3.8 percent for Wisconsin hospitals in 2020, WHA expects uncompensated care to also increase in 2021 due to price increases, higher deductibles and economic conditions
https://www.wpr.org/rise-uncompensated-medical-care-continues-bad-debt-charity-care-rose-3-8-percent-wisconsin-hospitals

-A Simple Tool Has Brought Health Insurance to Thousands ... Maryland's first-of-its-

kind ... law in 2019. ... Maryland income tax forms have included a box that taxpayers can check to indicate they do not have health insurance. With the taxpayer's permission, the state comptroller submits the household's income and family size data to the state's health insurance exchange for possible enrollment in Medicaid or subsidized private insurance. ... Massachusetts legislature adopted a similar measure this year, which will be implemented next year. ... [US Sen. Van Hollen bill] last month ... would put a similar check-off box on federal tax returns.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/16/a-simple-tool-has-brought-health-insurance-to-thousands

LABOR ^*top*^
- Deere, UAW reach tentative six-year agreement
https://chippewa.com/5f4aa976-45d7-5580-b95b-74f5547081d9.html

LAW AND ORDER ^*top*^
- Norman takes the oath as Milwaukee's 22nd police chief: 'I am without a doubt ready'
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/jeffrey-b-norman-sworn-milwaukees-22nd-police-chief/6376086001/

- AG Kaul clergy abuse investigation: Six months in, here is what we know. ... about 180 reports to the AG's office ... two cases have been referred to the Brown County District Attorney's Office for investigation, but Kaul declined to say if any other cases have been forwarded ... Kaul said the investigation focuses on clergy and faith leaders because more than 170 priests in Wisconsin have been credibly accused of sexual misconduct. He also wants to ensure processes are in place to prevent further abuse and give victims a trusted setting to reach out and connect with resources. [also seeking reports of abuse at residential schools, after finding accusations at tribal boarding schools] ... prosecutors will "follow the facts" and pursue any criminal activity they discover at an individual or institutional level. If a case can be prosecuted, the DOJ would refer it to the local district attorney or provide a special prosecutor if requested. ... statute of limitations could affect the investigation [age 35 for civil plaintiffs, 45 for criminal prosecution. Advocates have urged statute change but lawmakers have not acted.] ... 177 members of the clergy ... have been confirmed to have abused minors during their time in the Catholic Church. ... Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, St. Norbert Abbey and the Society of Jesus have released lists of confirmed abusers, Diocese of Superior has not. ... Milwaukee Archdiocese has taken the firmest stance against the investigation, calling it "anti-Catholic bigotry" and refusing to allow investigators to see its records. ... no planned end for the investigation or to take down the clergy abuse hotline ... [notable cases: victim Lindstrom in GB, ex-priest Erickson still custody at JCI] ... at least 22 other states ... have launched investigations
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/11/wisconsin-clergy-abuse-investigation-what-we-know-after-6-months/6183499001/

- Welfare check leads to heroin, meth charges for Mauston woman ... after police

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stopped at her vehicle to check on the wellbeing of a dog that appeared to be left in the car.
https://www.wiscnews.com/46f4f5f0-f593-5ff3-849e-6378a3e538a8.html

MANUFACTURING ^top^
- Haribo's Kenosha County plant being constructed with future expansion in mind
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/14/haribo-kenosha-county-plant-expansion-in-mind.html

MEDIA ^top^
- 'Here & Now' Highlights: Dr. Susan Turney, U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore, Will Kenneally: Here's what guests on the Nov. 12, 2021 episode had to say about a pandemic backlash health care providers are seeing in rural areas, funding for lead pipe replacement in the federal infrastructure package, and what's happening in Kenosha as the Kyle Rittenhouse trial ends.
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/here-now-highlights-dr

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- Town of Peshtigo chair Boyle participates in Northeastern University PFAS study
https://www.ehextra.com/5b180a3d-8a98-5330-82ce-60c23e3cdb70.html

REAL ESTATE ^top^
- Use of financially troubled hotel to house homeless derails plan for low-income housing
https://madison.com/wsj/cda29e29-3dc3-55b4-be79-eefec87b2e84.html

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ^top^
- Students are still struggling to get internet. The infrastructure law could help
https://www.wpr.org/students-are-still-struggling-get-internet-infrastructure-law-could-help

TOURISM ^top^
- Sky Carp flock to Beloit: Snappers name change
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/sports/sky-carp-flock-to-beloit/article_bdc6eda2-c3aa-5b52-90b1-4640a3ddb832.html

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Bird, Lime and Spin scooters removed from Milwaukee streets as pilot program ends
... had until midnight Monday to deactivate their scooters and now have 24 hours to

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remove them. ... "The purpose of the pilot was to observe, solicit feedback on, and evaluate the effectiveness of dockless scooters in Milwaukee for the purpose of determining how to best incorporate scooters into the transportation landscape moving forward," the DPW said in a statement. Now seeking comment.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/15/bird-lime-and-spin-scooters-removed-streets-milwaukee/8633455002/

TRIBES ^top^
- Menominee Forest researcher Neosh to start podcast: with $25K fellowship from Forge Project
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/native-american-issues/2021/11/16/menominee-forest-researcher-starts-podcast-forge-project-funding/8470255002/

EDITORIALS ^top^
- WSJ EDITORIAL: Bring back SROs to help stem violence in Madison schools ... Madison police have responded 63 times since the start of school to East and its surrounding area between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. That's about once a day, on average.
https://madison.com/wsj/6e384bdb-5955-532e-9fbb-2ca3384571b5.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- John Nichols: Rittenhouse trial judge shamed himself and the Wisconsin's judiciary
https://captimes.com/d9a2a703-7503-51b5-a130-38a9c87ae275.html

- Timothy Carney: What percentage of Democrats believe Kyle Rittenhouse shot black men? ... We ought to poll the public ... ask them a few factual questions: *How many miles from his home do you think Kyle Rittenhouse traveled to get to Kenosha? *Did Rittenhouse carry a gun across state lines before arriving in Kenosha? *How many black men did Rittenhouse shoot? *Were any of the men Rittenhouse shot armed? I suspect that more than one-third of Democrats would get all four of those questions wrong. A clear majority would get question 2 wrong (Rittenhouse obtained his gun from a friend in Wisconsin). ... media bias has an effect. It misleads readers and viewers about simple factual matters. It would be good to poll this effect regularly.
https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/what-percentage-of-democrats-believe-kyle-rittenhouse-shot-black-men

- M.D. Kittle: Business owner: Evers could do more to protect Kenosha
https://empowerwisconsin.org/business-owner-evers-could-do-more-to-protect-kenosha/

- Bill Berry: Disease expert Michael Osterholm tells it like it is on COVID ... a couple of weeks ago, [Osterholm's podcast] shared a recent study on COVID-19 immunity. At about the same time, [a GB Packer] was claiming that by getting infected with the virus, his immunity was stronger than if had he been vaccinated. Osterholm, meanwhile, was

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noting the opposite. Who do we believe, an epidemiologist with more than 40 years of experience trying to keep people safe from infectious diseases, or the football player? ... CDC evaluated more than 90 peer-reviewed studies or preprints and concluded that both vaccination and infection provide some immunity for up to six months, but it is more consistent among vaccinated people, and vaccines offer a huge boost in antibodies for people previously infected. ... It wouldn't be a surprise to learn that [UW Systems pres.] Thompson has conferred with Osterholm ... has been aggressive in efforts ... set a goal of reaching 70% vaccination of students on each of the state's four-year campuses, and all but one have achieved that mark. I'd call that good news, Mike.
https://captimes.com/460745af-5984-5cb6-b2b5-f74f805e8239.html

- Dave Cieslewicz: Why Evers Is In Trouble, A Glenn Youngkin-type Republican could beat him. But is there any GOP candidate like that in Wisconsin? ... If Glenn Youngkin's soccer dad persona is the new GOP formula for success, in the early going Kleefisch isn't following it. ... if I were Bill McCoshen I might rethink my decision to pass on this race. ... whoever ... that candidate will have three built-in advantages. First, they won't be the incumbent. ... Second, Evers won't be able to hide from one of the most powerful issues for Republicans right now: education and the related culture wars. ... If there is a status quo in education, Evers owns it. ... And third, Evers is vulnerable on another big issue: crime. ... In light of Virginia and New Jersey and 53% of voters [in MU Law poll] who say they'll vote for anybody else, you might think Democrats might reconsider, but I don't see that happening. ... if I were Bill McCoshen I'd rethink my decision not to run
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/op-ed-why-evers-is-in-trouble/

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers: When Lip Service Is Not Enough: The White Moderate & "Midwestern Nice"
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/when-lip-service-is-not-enough-the-white-moderate-midwestern-nice/

- Joe Handrick: Gov. Tony Evers' maps commission suffers series of blunders
https://madison.com/wsj/76b9dfa7-fe07-531d-aee5-4cbd5b4a2d84.html

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Veteran's Day Is A Perfect Time To Make Black Soldiers Whole
https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/veterans-day-is-a-perfect-time-to-make-black-soldiers-whole/

- Abbi Debelack: Milwaukee Public Schools Approves Spending Plan For $500 Million In Federal COVID Aid: Despite new data which reveals that less than 7% of Milwaukee Public School students are proficient in Math or English Language Arts, the district is proposing to spend millions of the federal COVID aid on new sports complexes and a teacher retreat.
https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2021/11/milwaukee-public-schools-approves-spending-plan-for-500-million-in-federal-covid-aid/

- Steven Walters: Juvenile Prison Costs Are Skyrocketing: Up 250% to $812,252 per juvenile last year at Copper Lake, up 41% at Lincoln Hills.

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https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/the-state-of-politics-juvenile-prison-costs-are-skyrocketing/

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Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 10:15 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: TUE News Summary: Kleefisch sues WEC ahead of 2022 election; Dems unveil 22 bills to combat climate change

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TUE News Summary -- 16 Nov. 2021

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Thursday: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

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STORY TOPICS	TOP STORIES
- White house - Rittenhouse trial - Coronavirus - Federal government - Local government - Census - Courts - Culture - Education - Elections - Environment - Health care - Labor - Law and order - Manufacturing - Media - Public health and safety - Real estate - Telecommunications - Tourism	**Kleefisch sues WEC ahead of 2022 election** ... Kleefisch's lawsuit focuses on three issues highlighted in the LAB report ... argues that WEC's current guidance [on ballot drop boxes] runs contrary to state law. ... argues that WEC's guidance on special voting deputies violates state law. ... argues [allowing clerks to consolidate polling places] guidance is contrary to state law. ... asking the state Supreme Court to take the case directly, based on the assumption that any lower rulings would be challenged and not resolved in a timely manner before the 2022 election. ... "Wisconsinites are sick and tired of unelected bureaucrats intentionally ignoring the law," Kleefisch said in a statement. "The lawsuit forces WEC to clean up their act prior to administering the 2022 election." ... Kleefisch's lawyer, Steven Biskupic, also notes that the court ruled in 2020, in [Trump suit] to overturn his election loss, "The time to challenge election policies such as these is not after all ballots have been counted and the votes tallied." By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES [see Cieslewicz column] https://captimes.com/096fddc5-4004-5a33-8446-85a80d2212ae.html **This is our moment to be bold': WI Dems unveil 22 bills to combat climate change** ... [Evers Climate Change Task Force chair Lt. Gov. Barnes, Rep. Neubauer, others] call for funding programs and policy changes to support energy efficiency, sustainable farming practices, training for clean energy jobs and a just transition to renewable energy. ... support climate change research, planning, and education [based on 55 task force recommendations, some of which were tugged from Evers' budget]. ... $10M/yr ... to support weatherization and energy efficiency in Wisconsin schools. ... $1.8M [for county climate resilience staff]. ... new programs like the Wisconsin Climate Corps and Green Jobs Training Program ... require [PSC] consider the social cost of carbon when authorizing new energy projects and [DNR] to conduct racial disparity impact studies [in permitting] ... as more than 200 nations [agree] to phase down the use of coal. ... to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius to stave off the worst effects of climate change [though that limit is likely to be crossed in the next decade.] ... as [Biden signed $1T infrastructure bill with] $47B for climate resilience. Speaker Vos, Leader LeMahieu did not respond. Barnes, Neubauer, WFU's Levendofsky, WI Student

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- Transportation
- Tribes
- Editorials
- Columns

Climate Action Coalition's Salgado comment. By Kaeding, WPR https://www.wpr.org/our-moment-be-bold-wisconsin-democrats-unveil-22-bills-combat-climate-change

Attorneys make closing arguments made in Rittenhouse trial
... jury is expected to begin deliberations Tuesday morning. Review of shooting, arguments. * Asst. DA Binger argued that Rittenhouse cannot claim self-defense in a situation he provoked. ... "There is no evidence that Mr. Rosenbaum was reaching for the defendant's gun, and after that first shot, Mr. Rosenbaum could not have taken that gun even if he wanted to. He is already falling to the ground, he is helpless, he is vulnerable, and that kill shot hit him in the back. ... He does nothing to demonstrate to the crowd that he's not going to kill again, and it turns out that he does. Within a few seconds, he did kill again. ... Did Anthony Huber forfeit his life by trying to be a hero and disarm an active shooter? ... No reasonable person would have done what the defendant did, and that makes your decision easy. He is guilty of all counts." ... [called other armed militia] "wannabe soldiers acting tough ... just a small part of the deluge of chaos tourists we saw here in Kenosha." * Defender Richards argued from the same video, "Mr. Rosenbaum was shot because he was chasing my client, because he was going to kill him, take his gun, and carry out the threats he made. ... Kyle was zero threat to anyone [and running toward police before he shot Huber]. ... Ladies and gentlemen this is a political case. The District Attorney's Office is marching forward with this case because they need someone to be responsible. ... Mr. Binger, the person who has made it his personal goal of putting my client's head on his wall." ... Rittenhouse was privileged to use self-defense under Wisconsin law because he reasonably believed at the time of the shootings that he was in danger of death or great bodily harm. By Smith, KENOSHA NEWS
https://www.kenoshanews.com/dbebf72e-82de-5167-b53c-8a1db0afd68e.html

Gov. Tony Evers kicks off one year to win weekend of action
... [DPW] launched its new campaign, WisDems One Year to Win, stylized as 1Y2W, during its Weekend of Action canvass kickoff. ... Evers made an appearance at [Nov. 6] MKE Democratic Action, Peace Action ... "I know most or many or all of you have worked knocking on doors," Evers said. "Doing that helped me get here. I'm here because you put me here. ... My goal also is to keep our vote as accessible as possible instead of trying to surpass the vote, we want to encourage people to vote," he said. "I think democracy is being threatened across our country

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including right here in Wisconsin and I'll do whatever I can to veto bills that are going to make it more difficult for people to participate in democracy. ... I ran on fixing the damn roads," Evers said. "And I know that there will be people in the room saying, 'not mine,' but we have fixed over a thousand miles of roads here in the State of Wisconsin." Martinez-Ortiz, MILWAUKEE COURIER https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/gov-tony-evers-kicks-off-one-year-to-win-weekend-of-action/

############
STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE ^top^

- Wisconsin Leaders Comment on the Passing of the Infrastructure Bill ... [WisDems VC] Clark, Sen. Chris Larson, State Rep. Kalan Haywood II, Stephanie Bloomingdale and Milwaukee County Supervisor Felesia Martin were in attendance [Nov. 10 at Intermodal station.] https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/wisconsin-leaders-comment-on-the-passing-of-the-infrastructure-bill/

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^

- Prosecutor: Rittenhouse provoked the bloodshed in Kenosha [Bauer, Tarm, Forliti] https://apnews.com/a5ee515a50f77ea4993bf7176859ef57

- 9 highlights from Kyle Rittenhouse trial closings [Richmond] https://apnews.com/fc43e68b77c27ece4c7af460b175705b

- Closing arguments completed in Kyle Rittenhouse homicide trial, jury to deliberate Tuesday, Judge dismissed weapons charge Rittenhouse trial ahead of closing arguments https://www.wpr.org/closing-arguments-completed-kyle-rittenhouse-homicide-trial-jury-deliberate-tuesday

- Closing arguments focus on whether Kyle Rittenhouse provoked violence the night of shooting https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/lawyers-present-closing-arguments-in-kyle-rittenhouses-homicide-trial/8622739002/

- With the case headed to the jury, Kenosha awaits verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/case-heads-jury-kenosha-awaits-verdict-rittenhouse-trial/8628467002/

- Legal for a teen to walk about with an AR-15? Rittenhouse trial judge says yes ...

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[LRB's Slaight] came to a similar conclusion as [Judge] Schroeder [who tossed a weapons charge] when asked by a reporter. ... wrote in an email: "A person under the age of 18 may possess a rifle or a shotgun as long as 1. The weapon is not a short-barreled rifle or short-barreled shotgun, and 2. The person is not violating hunting statutes under Wisconsin statutes 29.304 and 29.593. These statutes generally prohibit anyone younger than 16 from hunting or carrying a firearm, unless certain conditions are met. ... Additionally, a person born on or after January 1, 1973, generally may not obtain approval authorizing hunting unless the person is issued a certificate of accomplishment indicating successful completion of a hunter education program." ... Schroeder's ruling appears to conflict with ... 2018 [Legis Council] memo ... which said: "Under federal law, with certain exceptions, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing a handgun. Under Wisconsin law, with certain exceptions for hunting, military service, and target practice, a person under age 18 is generally prohibited from possessing or going armed with a firearm." Reviews defense Cicchini, prosecutor Krause arguments. Ex-DA Bucher: "This is a homicide case. ... If the government thought this was the only count they could succeed on, yikes." Sen. Wanggaard "surprised that this charge was even brought ... law on this has been clear for 30 years." Review of charges, other gun laws. Attys. Cafferty and Turner comment.
https://journaltimes.com/0819e151-f01f-55f3-a3fd-c065cc9fabcf.html

- With the case headed to the jury, Kenosha awaits verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/case-heads-jury-kenosha-awaits-verdict-rittenhouse-trial/8628467002/

- The Kyle Rittenhouse Trial Story Explained [see Columns]
https://www.newsweek.com/1649267

CORONAVIRUS ^*top*^
- Average number of daily COVID-19 cases increased for 13th straight day and state still doesn't have updated vaccination numbers ... DHS is still not able to provide vaccine numbers for the state, as they are dealing with an ongoing data reporting issue with Walgreens. ... New deaths reported: 2. Number hospitalized: 1,062 (intensive care: 285); down 117 patients from a month ago
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/average-daily-covid-19-cases-wisconsin-increased-over-weekend/8629670002/

- DHS recommends hunters wear a mask when field dressing deer ... list includes three new measures: wearing a mask while field dressing deer; limit cutting into and handling the deer's lungs, throat, and mouth/nasal cavity to only what is necessary (for example, submitting a head for CWD testing); and if you are immunocompromised, consider asking for assistance with carcass processing and handling. ... "Hunters are always encouraged to use good hygiene practices when processing animals to reduce their risk of exposure to many possible disease agents," the agency says on its website. "Incorporating a few additional measures can also help to reduce their risk of possible exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus."

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/outdoors/2021/11/15/wisconsin-hunters-advised-wear-mask-when-dressing-deer-due-covid/6354897001/

- COVID Vaccine may prevent children from developing serious health condition following the infection
https://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/341aa121-c56a-58f0-8e97-bfda820f5401.html

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Byron York: GOP's division on border wall ... Rep. Jim Jordan, is out with a new memoir, "Do What You Said You Would Do," on Nov. 23 that describes those months when GOP lawmakers fought over competing visions of immigration reform. ... points the finger of blame straight at then-Speaker Ryan. "Paul Ryan is not where the American people are," Jordan writes. "Paul Ryan's position on immigration is the same as the positions of the National Chamber of Commerce." In the world of conservative immigration policy activists, accusing someone of siding with the Chamber of Commerce is about as harsh as it gets.
https://www.bryantimes.com/69200cb5-b2f4-5661-beb5-42135d5ca4b4.html

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Job fairs to showcase available positions within Kenosha County government
https://www.kenoshanews.com/c4915ec8-ab06-52de-9ec6-36f69667e238.html

- Parisi calls on board to close $22M budget gap for jail project
https://madison.com/wsj/626c96a6-a4a2-58db-9db5-b4532fc1e861.html

- 'It's been an amazing, great run': Kaufert won't seek a third term as Neenah mayor ... said he wants to devote more time to his family and family business, The Dome Sports Bar & Grill. "I've given you all I've got," he said to supporters. "It's been an amazing, great run. There are no regrets." ... "I've spoken to (U.S. Rep.) Glenn Grothman about his future plans. Who knows? I might not be done yet." ... Before his eight years as mayor, Kaufert served 24 years as a Republican in the 55th Assembly District and five years as a Neenah alderperson. 17-0 lifetime election record. More on Mayoral achievements.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/15/kaufert-wont-seek-third-term-neenah-mayor-has-no-regrets/6391873001/

- La Crosse city council adopts $67.5M 2022 budget: Slight tax increase, opt-out of state spending
https://lacrossetribune.com/7f48bc70-692d-52cd-ba13-642f91f2fddf.html

- Oneida County property taxes set to increase by 4.8 percent
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92384

- Vilas County board enters opioid settlement agreement, County could receive nearly $1 million: also signed MOU with AG Kaul
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92387

- Minocqua electors, town board approve 2022 town budget. $314K levy hike
https://lakelandtimes.com/Content/Default/News/Article/Minocqua-electors-town-board-approve-2022-town-budget/-3/9/48870

- Oneida County property taxes set to increase by 4.8 percent
https://lakelandtimes.com/Content/Default/News/Article/Oneida-County-property-taxes-set-to-increase-by-4-8-percent/-3/9/48867

CENSUS *^top^*
- Here's how Sheboygan County districts and city wards will change after the 2020 Census
https://www.sheboyganpress.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/15/2020-census-redraws-maps-sheboygan-county-districts-city-wards/6198035001/

COURTS *^top^*
- How Trump reshaped the fifth circuit court of appeals to become the 'most extreme' US court
https://www.theguardian.com/law/2021/nov/15/fifth-circuit-court-appeals-most-extreme-us

CULTURE *^top^*
- Superior, Northwestern students challenge peers to 'ditch the vape'
https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/education/7283392-Superior-Northwestern-students-challenge-peers-to-ditch-the-vape

EDUCATION *^top^*
- 'I no longer want to hear we're the best-kept secret' UWGB chancellor Alexander ready to lead campuses out of pandemic as a changed institution: background, Q&A
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2021/11/15/uw-green-bays-chancellor-prepares-lead-campuses-out-pandemic/6036711001/

ELECTIONS *^top^*
- Kleefisch files lawsuit against Wisconsin Elections Commission ... asks Wisconsin Supreme Court to immediately suspend 2020 elections commission guidance
https://www.wpr.org/gop-candidate-rebecca-kleefisch-files-lawsuit-against-wisconsin-elections-commission

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- Kleefisch sues WEC commissioners as Vos says they 'probably' should face felonies: WEC under fire after Racine Sheriff Schmaling investigation at nursing home. [reviews Schmaling probe.] ... Vos in an appearance on WKOW's "Capital City Sunday" said "there really was nothing more for us to do [re: SVDs in 2020] because the law was crystal clear. ... I think probably, but I'm not a district attorney. I'm certainly not a lawyer," Vos said. "But I certainly think anybody who breaks the law should pay the ultimate price to say I won't do it again. And you either plead guilty and you say I understand that was a mistake or you go to court and defend yourself. So I assume that that will be the process that plays out there." Leader LeMahieu on WISN: "I'll leave that up to the prosecutors around the state of Wisconsin." WEC Dem chair Jacobs did not respond. WEC Vos-appointee Knudson no comment. Dem Leader HINtz clal Vos statements "appalling. ... If these clowns get away w/a witch hunt that criminally charges or implies criminal behavior by bipartisan people serving on the WI Election Commission, then we are witnessing an abuse of power not seen before." WI Supremes 4-3 in March tossed Fabick suit to stop drop boxes. Trump made similar claims as Kleefisch but were tossed because they came AFTER election. https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/15/rebecca-kleefisch-sues-wisconsin-elections-commissioners-robin-vos-argues-for-felony-charges/8622317002/

- Bowen Will Run For Lieutenant Governor, Rep. David Bowen joins Lena Taylor, Sara Rodriguez in Democratic primary. ... I've thought about this long and hard, I've wrestled with this decision and the risk that comes with it," Bowen said at his campaign announcement. "It's very clear the future of our communities depends greatly on what happens in Wisconsin's state capital. ... Over the last two years, seeing an immense amount of folks advocating for change in the streets, advocating for change in Madison, and not seeing nearly the amount of change that we deserve" helped push him to run, Bowen said ... has spoken with Gov. Evers about his decision to run. "I am confident with my campaign we can build a winning coalition, to help Democrats and Gov. Evers win the governor's office again." The state representative said he wanted his campaign to give people "something to vote for, not just vote against." https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/rep-david-bowen-is

- Bice: Barnes Fundraiser hosted by group caught talking political dirty tricks in 2016 undercover video ... On Wednesday, Democracy Partners ... is scheduled to host a large fundraiser at its Washington, D.C., headquarters ... co-founded a decade ago by Robert Creamer ... a leading liberal in Illinois. ... a felon who pleaded guilty to bank fraud in 2005 and was sentenced to five months of prison. ... one of five individual hosts of the Barnes event. ... caught in 2016 on [Project Veritas] video in Wisconsin talking about hiring agitators to create havoc at campaign rallies for then-GOP candidate Donald Trump and other political dirty tricks. ... One of the other hosts ... will be ["gotcha" videographer] Lauren Windsor ... [who] caught GOP Sen. Ron Johnson on tape saying Trump lost Wisconsin last year because he underperformed in the state, not because of fraud. ... Over the weekend, Barnes removed all mention of Democracy Partners in the online invitation to the event. NRSC's Litzow: "If Barnes thinks this is

how he can win over Wisconsinites, he is surely mistaken." RPW's Kelly: "So Mandela Barnes ... turns to a guy convicted of bank fraud, who brags about illegal activity, to fund his campaign ... Welcome to today's Wisconsin Democratic Party." Kozloski for Barnes denounced GOP "nonsense," noted that Democracy Partners is a "respected group of political organizers and consultants" [lists some clients. More on Creamer, Project Veritas video.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/daniel-bice/2021/11/15/mandela-barnes-fundraiser-hosted-group-caught-undercover-video/8622207002/

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- Wisconsin Democrats introduce package of bills to address climate change, encourage environmental justice ... The "Forward on Climate" package, introduced Monday by Rep. Greta Neubauer, D-Racine and Sen. Jeff Smith, D-Brunswick, builds off of recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change. Neubauer and Smith both served as members of the task force.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/wisconsin-democrats-introduce-package-address-climate-change/8631778002/

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Organizers have pushed for years to protect Wisconsin's Black moms and babies in childbirth. So why does it keep stopping at the Statehouse? ... "I'm still struggling (with) why a call to action hasn't happened in our state," said [LBC chair] Stubbs ... Even as Wisconsin cities land on lists of best places to live ... 2014 report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation found Wisconsin had the worst gap in the nation between outcomes for Black and white children. Milwaukee and Racine consistently ranked among the worst cities for Black Americans to live in a yearly report from financial news company 24/7 Wall St. Reviews provisions removed from budgets by GOP. Details of Stubbs-Johnson 6-bill Birth Equity Act, drawing on hundreds of suggestions from BIPOC birth workers in Wisconsin, only one GOP co-sponsor [Ballweg] on one bill removing sales tax from breastfeeding equipment [Ballweg did not respond]. STubbs hopes her Racial Disparity task force will add cred to her bills, "You need to work on it from a bipartisan perspective or bills don't get passed." Bills assigned to 4 committees. Aide to chair STroebel said boss "opposes making taxpayers cover the debts of absentee fathers." Other chairs did not respond. WIWH's Morrison comments.
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/2021/11/16/wisconsin-legislators-push-health-improvements-black-moms-babies/6122912001/

- Rise in uncompensated medical care continues: Bad debt, charity care rose 3.8 percent for Wisconsin hospitals in 2020, WHA expects uncompensated care to also increase in 2021 due to price increases, higher deductibles and economic conditions
https://www.wpr.org/rise-uncompensated-medical-care-continues-bad-debt-charity-care-rose-3-8-percent-wisconsin-hospitals

-A Simple Tool Has Brought Health Insurance to Thousands ... Maryland's first-of-its-

kind ... law in 2019. ... Maryland income tax forms have included a box that taxpayers can check to indicate they do not have health insurance. With the taxpayer's permission, the state comptroller submits the household's income and family size data to the state's health insurance exchange for possible enrollment in Medicaid or subsidized private insurance. ... Massachusetts legislature adopted a similar measure this year, which will be implemented next year. ... [US Sen. Van Hollen bill] last month ... would put a similar check-off box on federal tax returns.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/16/a-simple-tool-has-brought-health-insurance-to-thousands

LABOR ^*top*^
- Deere, UAW reach tentative six-year agreement
https://chippewa.com/5f4aa976-45d7-5580-b95b-74f5547081d9.html

LAW AND ORDER ^*top*^
- Norman takes the oath as Milwaukee's 22nd police chief: 'I am without a doubt ready'
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/15/jeffrey-b-norman-sworn-milwaukees-22nd-police-chief/6376086001/

- AG Kaul clergy abuse investigation: Six months in, here is what we know. ... about 180 reports to the AG's office ... two cases have been referred to the Brown County District Attorney's Office for investigation, but Kaul declined to say if any other cases have been forwarded ... Kaul said the investigation focuses on clergy and faith leaders because more than 170 priests in Wisconsin have been credibly accused of sexual misconduct. He also wants to ensure processes are in place to prevent further abuse and give victims a trusted setting to reach out and connect with resources. [also seeking reports of abuse at residential schools, after finding accusations at tribal boarding schools] ... prosecutors will "follow the facts" and pursue any criminal activity they discover at an individual or institutional level. If a case can be prosecuted, the DOJ would refer it to the local district attorney or provide a special prosecutor if requested. ... statute of limitations could affect the investigation [age 35 for civil plaintiffs, 45 for criminal prosecution. Advocates have urged statute change but lawmakers have not acted.] ... 177 members of the clergy ... have been confirmed to have abused minors during their time in the Catholic Church. ... Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, St. Norbert Abbey and the Society of Jesus have released lists of confirmed abusers, Diocese of Superior has not. ... Milwaukee Archdiocese has taken the firmest stance against the investigation, calling it "anti-Catholic bigotry" and refusing to allow investigators to see its records. ... no planned end for the investigation or to take down the clergy abuse hotline ... [notable cases: victim Lindstrom in GB, ex-priest Erickson still custody at JCI] ... at least 22 other states ... have launched investigations
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/11/11/wisconsin-clergy-abuse-investigation-what-we-know-after-6-months/6183499001/

- Welfare check leads to heroin, meth charges for Mauston woman ... after police

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stopped at her vehicle to check on the wellbeing of a dog that appeared to be left in the car.
https://www.wiscnews.com/46f4f5f0-f593-5ff3-849e-6378a3e538a8.html

MANUFACTURING ^top^
- Haribo's Kenosha County plant being constructed with future expansion in mind
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/14/haribo-kenosha-county-plant-expansion-in-mind.html

MEDIA ^top^
- 'Here & Now' Highlights: Dr. Susan Turney, U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore, Will Kenneally: Here's what guests on the Nov. 12, 2021 episode had to say about a pandemic backlash health care providers are seeing in rural areas, funding for lead pipe replacement in the federal infrastructure package, and what's happening in Kenosha as the Kyle Rittenhouse trial ends.
https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/here-now-highlights-dr

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- Town of Peshtigo chair Boyle participates in Northeastern University PFAS study
https://www.ehextra.com/5b180a3d-8a98-5330-82ce-60c23e3cdb70.html

REAL ESTATE ^top^
- Use of financially troubled hotel to house homeless derails plan for low-income housing
https://madison.com/wsj/cda29e29-3dc3-55b4-be79-eefec87b2e84.html

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ^top^
- Students are still struggling to get internet. The infrastructure law could help
https://www.wpr.org/students-are-still-struggling-get-internet-infrastructure-law-could-help

TOURISM ^top^
- Sky Carp flock to Beloit: Snappers name change
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/sports/sky-carp-flock-to-beloit/article_bdc6eda2-c3aa-5b52-90b1-4640a3ddb832.html

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Bird, Lime and Spin scooters removed from Milwaukee streets as pilot program ends
... had until midnight Monday to deactivate their scooters and now have 24 hours to

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remove them. ... "The purpose of the pilot was to observe, solicit feedback on, and evaluate the effectiveness of dockless scooters in Milwaukee for the purpose of determining how to best incorporate scooters into the transportation landscape moving forward," the DPW said in a statement. Now seeking comment.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/15/bird-lime-and-spin-scooters-removed-streets-milwaukee/8633455002/

TRIBES ^top^
- Menominee Forest researcher Neosh to start podcast: with $25K fellowship from Forge Project
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/native-american-issues/2021/11/16/menominee-forest-researcher-starts-podcast-forge-project-funding/8470255002/

EDITORIALS ^top^
- WSJ EDITORIAL: Bring back SROs to help stem violence in Madison schools ... Madison police have responded 63 times since the start of school to East and its surrounding area between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. That's about once a day, on average.
https://madison.com/wsj/6e384bdb-5955-532e-9fbb-2ca3384571b5.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- John Nichols: Rittenhouse trial judge shamed himself and the Wisconsin's judiciary
https://captimes.com/d9a2a703-7503-51b5-a130-38a9c87ae275.html

- Timothy Carney: What percentage of Democrats believe Kyle Rittenhouse shot black men? ... We ought to poll the public ... ask them a few factual questions: *How many miles from his home do you think Kyle Rittenhouse traveled to get to Kenosha? *Did Rittenhouse carry a gun across state lines before arriving in Kenosha? *How many black men did Rittenhouse shoot? *Were any of the men Rittenhouse shot armed? I suspect that more than one-third of Democrats would get all four of those questions wrong. A clear majority would get question 2 wrong (Rittenhouse obtained his gun from a friend in Wisconsin). ... media bias has an effect. It misleads readers and viewers about simple factual matters. It would be good to poll this effect regularly.
https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/what-percentage-of-democrats-believe-kyle-rittenhouse-shot-black-men

- M.D. Kittle: Business owner: Evers could do more to protect Kenosha
https://empowerwisconsin.org/business-owner-evers-could-do-more-to-protect-kenosha/

- Bill Berry: Disease expert Michael Osterholm tells it like it is on COVID ... a couple of weeks ago, [Osterholm's podcast] shared a recent study on COVID-19 immunity. At about the same time, [a GB Packer] was claiming that by getting infected with the virus, his immunity was stronger than if had he been vaccinated. Osterholm, meanwhile, was

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noting the opposite. Who do we believe, an epidemiologist with more than 40 years of experience trying to keep people safe from infectious diseases, or the football player? ... CDC evaluated more than 90 peer-reviewed studies or preprints and concluded that both vaccination and infection provide some immunity for up to six months, but it is more consistent among vaccinated people, and vaccines offer a huge boost in antibodies for people previously infected. ... It wouldn't be a surprise to learn that [UW Systems pres.] Thompson has conferred with Osterholm ... has been aggressive in efforts ... set a goal of reaching 70% vaccination of students on each of the state's four-year campuses, and all but one have achieved that mark. I'd call that good news, Mike. https://captimes.com/460745af-5984-5cb6-b2b5-f74f805e8239.html

- Dave Cieslewicz: Why Evers Is In Trouble, A Glenn Youngkin-type Republican could beat him. But is there any GOP candidate like that in Wisconsin? ... If Glenn Youngkin's soccer dad persona is the new GOP formula for success, in the early going Kleefisch isn't following it. ... if I were Bill McCoshen I might rethink my decision to pass on this race. ... whoever ... that candidate will have three built-in advantages. First, they won't be the incumbent. ... Second, Evers won't be able to hide from one of the most powerful issues for Republicans right now: education and the related culture wars. ... If there is a status quo in education, Evers owns it. ... And third, Evers is vulnerable on another big issue: crime. ... In light of Virginia and New Jersey and 53% of voters [in MU Law poll] who say they'll vote for anybody else, you might think Democrats might reconsider, but I don't see that happening. ... if I were Bill McCoshen I'd rethink my decision not to run https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/op-ed-why-evers-is-in-trouble/

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers: When Lip Service Is Not Enough: The White Moderate & "Midwestern Nice" https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/when-lip-service-is-not-enough-the-white-moderate-midwestern-nice/

- Joe Handrick: Gov. Tony Evers' maps commission suffers series of blunders https://madison.com/wsj/76b9dfa7-fe07-531d-aee5-4cbd5b4a2d84.html

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Veteran's Day Is A Perfect Time To Make Black Soldiers Whole https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2021/11/13/veterans-day-is-a-perfect-time-to-make-black-soldiers-whole/

- Abbi Debelack: Milwaukee Public Schools Approves Spending Plan For $500 Million In Federal COVID Aid: Despite new data which reveals that less than 7% of Milwaukee Public School students are proficient in Math or English Language Arts, the district is proposing to spend millions of the federal COVID aid on new sports complexes and a teacher retreat. https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2021/11/milwaukee-public-schools-approves-spending-plan-for-500-million-in-federal-covid-aid/

- Steven Walters: Juvenile Prison Costs Are Skyrocketing: Up 250% to $812,252 per juvenile last year at Copper Lake, up 41% at Lincoln Hills.

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https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/15/the-state-of-politics-juvenile-prison-costs-are-skyrocketing/

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Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 10:26 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: TUE News Summary: Supreme Court to rule on key redistricting issues; WI communities to see $200M+ in ARPA money

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TUE News Summary -- 30 Nov. 2021

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https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/tue-news-summary-supreme-court-to-rule-on-key-redistricting-issues-wi-communities-to-see-200m-in-arp/

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RSVP for the Dec. 7 virtual luncheon: 'The USMCA Post-COVID - How Trade Helps the North American Recovery'

Join WisPolitics.com, WisBusiness.com and the Wisconsin Technology Council for the fourth 2021 trade policy virtual event on Tuesday, Dec. 7, from noon to 1 p.m. CT. Attendance is free.

The topic is: 'The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Post-COVID - How Trade Helps the North American Recovery'

Hear from Canadian and Mexican officials and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation about how USMCA will impact Wisconsin businesses and economic recovery.

Panel:
--Aaron Annable, representing the Canadian consulate in Chicago
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2020-Aaron-Annable-Bio.docx

--Julian Adem, representing the Mexican consulate in Milwaukee:
https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/milwaukee/index.php/inicio/consul-titular

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--Stanley Pfrang, senior market development director at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. www.linkedin.com/in/stanley-pfrang-36402413/

This event is made possible with the support of the government of Canada, Michael Best Strategies and the Wisconsin District Export Council. This event is part of the WisPolitics.com-WisBusiness.com-Wisconsin Technology Council trade policy initiative: www.wisbusiness.com/trade-policy/

Event partners: Wisconsin Technology Council, Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS), World Trade Association (WTA) Madison International Trade Association (MITA) and International Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc21GwxauzVq2RONLJi6Tv2IXwQfglgNBxmp3cyOTCV3RQLRw/viewform

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STORY TOPICS

- White house
- Coronavirus
- Local government
- Banking and investment
- Courts
- Education
- Environment
- Foxconn
- Law and order
- Non-profits
- Race relations
- Technology
-

TOP STORIES

WI Supreme Court to rule on key issues in redistricting case

... expected to issue an order this week ... [vowed to issue an order covering] what factors justices should consider in redistricting, whether a "least changes" map was desirable, and whether they should consider the partisan makeup of districts ... "The 'least change' approach is the most fair and neutral way for this Court to modify any existing maps," WILL wrote in a brief filed last month ... "It's bad enough that the legislature insulated itself from voters for the past ten years," argued a coalition of Democratic voters including William Whitford, whose 2015 redistricting lawsuit made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. "It would be even worse if the Court were to perpetuate the gerrymander for the next decade." ... [Dems] filed a federal lawsuit on the day after the U.S. Census released its redistricting data [hoping to get federal court-drawn maps]. State courts have had a more limited role ... [WI] Supreme Court last handled redistricting in 1964. BLOC et.al. brief argued, "The unsubtle elephant in the courtroom is the fact that Wisconsin's existing legislative maps comprise extreme partisan gerrymanders in favor of Republican politicians." WILL countered, "There is nothing in the text of the Wisconsin Constitution that suggests that the framers intended to allow a claim of so-called partisan gerrymandering under Wisconsin law." Justices also ordered interested parties to file any proposed maps by Dec. 15 and set aside up to four days for a hearing or oral arguments on Jan. 15. Federal court agreed to be go-to if state court fails. By Johnson, WPR https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-supreme-court-rule-key-issues-redistricting-case

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Telecommunications

- Tourism
- Transportation
- Tribes
- Utilities
- Editorials
- Columns

WI communities to receive $200M+ in ARP funds

... directed to cities, towns and villages with populations of fewer than 50,000 residents. ... 1,825 communities received funds [based on population] ... More than 50 communities in Dane County received ... almost $15M ... including [$1.8M+ to Sun Prairie, $1.6M to Fitchburg, $1M to Middleton, nearly $700K to Verona] ... Communities have until 2024 to obligate funds and until 2026 to spend those dollars. A second round of identical funding will be released next year. ... "From addressing the public health impacts of the pandemic to investing in needed critical infrastructure, to helping ensure families and businesses financially recover, these funds will allow local governments to invest in their community's unique needs and will make a major difference for Wisconsinites across our state," Evers said in a statement. DOR Sec. Barca, DOA Sec. Brennan comment. Reviews US Treasury rules to recipients. WI has received $4.5B+ in ARP/CARES. Reviews uses of funds for infrastructure, tourism, small biz, workforce development. By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL
https://madison.com/wsj/237af34d-bbd9-54b3-8a38-c6090dc0f551.html

Wisconsin health officials waiting for more data on omicron coronavirus variant

... WHO alert said it's not clear whether omicron is more transmissible ... or whether infection from omicron causes more severe disease ... did say preliminary evidence suggests there may be an increased risk of reinfection if a person has already contracted another coronavirus variant. ... "This variant is a cause for concern, not a cause for panic," said Biden. ... Meanwhile ... [WHA] reported 1,432 COVID-19 hospitalizations, [up 60%] since Oct. 30.... most hospitalizations reported since Dec. 21, 2020. ... 391 ... in ICU units [Monday. 415 on Dec. 1, 2020] ...] On Dec. 1, 2020, there were 415 COVID-19 patients in the ICU. WHA Pres. Borgerding said COVID and regular hospital visits are up compared to last fall, "It has not let go of Wisconsin, and that shows up in various sorts of statistics." DHS on Wed. reported 7-day avg. daily cases of 3,170 -- highest since Dec. 15, 2020. UW Hospitals Dr. Safdar said vaccinating is important, even if it proves less effective against omicron, "we don't know how this is going to unfold fully yet. But it is a reminder that let's do everything that we can on our end to mitigate things." [including vax and boosters,] wearing masks when attending crowded, indoor events. By Kremer, WPR
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-health-officials-waiting-more-data-omicron-coronavirus-variant

Taxpayers paid Berrada Properties nearly $7M as DOJ prepared to sue landlord giant

... [lists some charges in DOJ suit] Berrada has denied the charges, several of which had previously been reported ... Meanwhile, during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Berrada Properties received nearly $1.5

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million in rent assistance through programs administered by the Social Development Commission. An additional $5.4 million was paid to Berrada Properties through programs administered by Community Advocates. "Our tax dollars should be used to provide a good place live," [Rep.] Goyke said, [not enriching] a landlord "who won't repair a dishwasher."... [rental aid is FED filtered through state govt to local non-profits] ... Berrada attorney [thru Madison PR firm] called the DOJ investigation a "fishing expedition" that makes it more difficult for "Mr. Berrada to provide high-quality, affordable housing." ... [non-profits denied preference] "SDC's rent assistance process is the same for every landlord and tenant," the nonprofit said in an email. [Community Advocates embedded staffer in Berrada office to facilitate applications for assistance, helped reduce evictions] ... "I don't think we've had tenants calling complaining about (Berrada Properties) rental practices," [Community Advocates' Elliott] said, but after JS story, several tenants contacted the newspaper with complaints. Some examples. By Spivak, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/landlord-berrada-subject-wisconsin-lawsuit-got-7-million-aid/8750134002/

Taxpayers bankrolled Gableman's AZ trip after Vos said they wouldn't
... newly released records show ... more than $2,700 to send officials to Arizona and South Dakota ... Vos [in August] that Gableman would have to pay for the trips "out of his salary" ... would not be allowed to bill the state for his hotel or other costs [and was finalizing a scope statement] ... attorneys for Vos recently disclosed ... Gableman has no scope statement to guide its work. ... Spokespeople for Vos and Gableman did not respond ... In all, Gableman has spent about $128,000 of his $676,000 taxpayer-funded budget, records show. ... records published by American Oversight also show Gableman's team is sharing office space in Brookfield with the conservative Thomas More Society and the Minneapolis law firm Mohrman, Kaardal & Erickson. [Review Kaardal's suit against CTCL grants.] ... also show Gableman traveled in October to the Pleasant Prairie headquarters of packaging firm Uline. [owned by GOP megadonor Uihlein. Reviews Uihlein donations to GOP.] don't say why Gableman made the trip. ... In recent days, Gableman brought on Indiana attorney James Bopp Jr. to assist him. [Bopp represented Gableman over his infamous Louis Butler ad in 2008] ... Also arguing in favor of the subpoenas will be attorney Joseph Voiland [controversial ex-judge] ... hearing over the subpoenas is scheduled for Dec. 23. More records about Gableman's work may be forthcoming. American Oversight has brought two open records lawsuits against Vos. By Marley, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/30/wisconsin-election-review-taxpayers-bankrolled-gableman-arizona-trip/8797452002/

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STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE ^top^
- Actor charged in riot almost talked way into staying in jail ... Beeks was arrested in Milwaukee last Tuesday. He hasn't yet entered a plea ... initially rejected being represented by an attorney and made comments that the judge called "gobbledygook. ... A defendant who rejects the jurisdiction of the court, rejects being subject to the laws of the United States, rejects the rule of law is not typically released pretrial because that person cannot be trusted to comply with the conditions of pretrial release," Chief U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell warned Beeks ... The production company that employs Beeks said he recently informed the company that he is a "sovereign citizen," according to prosecutors. During Monday's hearing, Beeks denied being part of the "sovereign citizen" extremist movement, which believes the U.S. government is illegitimate. ... chances of being released from jail seemed to wane as he offered answers that the judge said she couldn't understand. Then another lawyer, Michelle Peterson, intervened for Beeks. Beeks then let Petersen represent him and was ordered released from jail after agreeing to follow the court-imposed conditions of release
https://apnews.com/14dde4d4b90f9c64b022d0b4ec77ce9b

CORONAVIRUS ^top^
- Health officials: Rock County seeing heavy draw on hospital beds
https://www.gazettextra.com/news/local/health-officials-rock-county-seeing-heavy-draw-on-hospital-beds/article_a6923af1-c3e9-506a-b25f-92f908a238b6.html

- Long COVID symptoms different for women and men, a new study shows, Women and men have different symptoms of long haul COVID-19. Mayo Dr. Hurt discusses a new study that offers clues into long hauler COVID syndrome and how results will lead to improved diagnoses and better treatments.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/newsmd/wellness/7300841-Health-Fusion-Long-COVID-symptoms-different-for-women-and-men-a-new-study-shows

- WHO warns that new virus variant poses 'very high' risk ... based on the early evidence, saying the mutated coronavirus could lead to surges with "severe consequences." ... said there are "considerable uncertainties" ... But ... preliminary evidence raises the possibility that the variant has mutations that could help it both evade an immune-system response and boost its ability to spread ... While no deaths linked to omicron have been reported so far, little is known for certain ... "The emergence of the omicron variant has fulfilled, in a precise way, the predictions of the scientists who warned that the elevated transmission of the virus in areas with limited access to vaccine would speed its evolution," said Dr. Richard Hatchett, head of CEPI ... Despite the global worry, doctors in South Africa are reporting patients are suffering

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mostly mild symptoms so far. But ... most of the new cases are in people in their 20s and 30s
https://apnews.com/82e53a7a17d1a4c30031065d389bda37

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Voces de la Frontera urges Mayor Barrett to veto Milwaukee aldermanic district maps, pushing for more Latino representation ... city's Latino communities now represent 20.1% of the total city population ... [Voces'] new map ... would include a new near-majority, or "influence" Latino district [46%] on the south side ... District 13 include 12 contiguous majority Latino wards ... As it stands, the city currently has two strong majority Latino Districts 8 and 12. ... "The rushed process of passing a new map, while not intentional, contributed to a lack of meaningful engagement from the community," [Voces' Neumann-Ortiz] said. ... District 8 Ald. JoCasta Zamarripa was the only person to vote against the new aldermanic district lines ... spokesman for Barrett said Monday that the mayor was reviewing the map and discussing it with [unspecified] "a wide variety of people." ... expected to make a decision this week
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/voces-de-la-frontera-urges-barrett-veto-milwaukee-election-maps/8798117002/

- Kelly Behrmann announces candidacy for Neenah mayor in April election
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/30/neenah-mayor-election-kelly-behrmann-announces-candidacy/8804904002/

- Samantha Kerkman announces bid for county executive post: Kreuser not seeking re-election. Supervisor Jerry Gulley, Clerk of Courts Rebecca Matoska-Mentink previously announced their intention to run.
https://www.kenoshanews.com/7fbc0eb3-1adb-5c90-9de6-c7b35362666a.html

BANKING AND INVESTMENT ^top^
- Journalists Investigating Financial Crimes Threatened by Global Elites
https://shepherdexpress.com/news/project-censored/journalists-investigating-financial-crimes-threatened-by-glo/#

COURTS ^top^
- Brooks charged with a sixth count of first-degree homicide: Victim F, Jackson Sparks, 8 years old, died last week
https://www.jsonline.com/story/communities/2021/11/29/waukesha-parade-tragedy-darrell-brooks-jr-charged-sixth-count-first-degree-intentional-homicide/8764409002/

EDUCATION ^top^
- Students return to Waukesha schools after Christmas parade tragedy, Children were among the 6 killed, more than 60 injured at the annual parade

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https://www.wpr.org/students-return-waukesha-schools-after-christmas-parade-tragedy

- Moore analysis: Democrats push climate change package of 22 bills, Legislation would create model curricula for students
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92476

- Wisconsin pandemic aid plan hasn't gotten federal approval, leaving some school districts in limbo
https://www.wuwm.com/2021-11-30/wisconsin-pandemic-aid-plan-hasnt-gotten-federal-approval-leaving-some-school-districts-in-limbo

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- DNR concurs that Enbridge cleanup progressing near Lake Koshkonong
https://www.gazettextra.com/fb325536-da0e-52e7-a320-29ec46beaa1a.html

- Deer season opener feast or famine in the Northwoods, Hunters report good deer movement
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=5&SubSectionID=42&ArticleID=92462

- Beaver Dam awarded DNR grant ... to support contamination assessment at a downtown property eyed for future development.
https://www.wiscnews.com/e7c6ade2-1d70-51b3-abae-688acbda2877.html

FOXCONN ^top^
- Header ad at RJT, KN announces "Foxconn Career Fair: Dec. 3rd 9-6, Dec. 4th 10-4"
https://journaltimes.com/
https://www.kenoshanews.com/

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Mental health calls to UW-Madison Police now bring cops, counselors to some scenes ... too early to assess the effectiveness of the pilot program, which was initially available twice a week, expanded this month to three days per week, and is expected to run through the end of the school year. ... From Oct. 4, when the pilot launched, through mid-November, 34 mental health-related calls ... 13 were for students who qualified for the co-responder program, ... Four of the 13 calls occurred ... when mental health counselors are available ... counselors' roles may also sometimes include driving students to the hospital in a van as opposed to police transport by squad car. UW-Madison Police Chief Kristen Roman said she has wanted to start a co-responder program for several years, but it wasn't something the department could initiate on its own. Similar to MPD's CARES pilot.
https://madison.com/wsj/2498d3cd-ee31-56c2-9538-9d3518bdadd4.html

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NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Fotsch Family Foundation to match up to $1 million in donations for Waukesha parade victims
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/29/fotsch-family-foundation-waukesha-parade-victims.html

RACE RELATIONS ^top^
- Banning Hair Discrimination Emerges as Racial Justice Issue ... [CA's 2019 nation-first] CROWN Act, or Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair. ... changed the state's definition of race in its anti-discrimination laws to include "traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles." Protective hairstyles, the law says, include "such hairstyles as braids, locks and twists." ... Nevada is one of 13 states that have passed versions ... others are Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Illinois, Oregon, Virginia and Washington. About three dozen cities and counties have passed similar laws.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/29/banning-hair-discrimination-emerges-as-racial-justice-issue

TECHNOLOGY ^top^
- Telehealth startup Nurse Disrupted raises $700,000 led by Exact Sciences CEO
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/inno/stories/fundings/2021/11/24/nurse-disrupted-seed-700-000-conroy.html

- World's first living robots can now reproduce, [Harvard/Tufts] scientists say
... [made from frog stem cells, without GM] ... "Frogs have a way of reproducing that they normally use but when you ... liberate (the cells) from the rest of the embryo and you give them a chance to figure out how to be in a new environment, not only do they figure out a new way to move, but they also figure out apparently a new way to reproduce." Kinetic replication.
https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/29/americas/xenobots-self-replicating-robots-scn/index.html

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ^top^
- Robocallers Try New Tactics to Evade Crackdowns ... One new trick is for callers to send messages straight to voicemail. The scammers argue that because they don't cause phones to ring, they aren't really calling at all.... also may buy or hijack lists of real phone numbers to trick spam-blocking software into letting the calls through. ... Earlier this month, [bipartisan AG's Stein and Moody] led all 51 attorneys general, including the District of Columbia's, in a letter calling on [FCC] to reduce unwanted robocallers'

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access to real phone numbers. ... YouMail, a private company that sells call-blocking software and tracks the estimated number of calls, reported 4.1 billion unwanted robocalls in October, up from 3.9 billion in September. ... FCC acting Chair Jessica Rosenworcel said in June that the largest voice service phone providers are using the STIR/SHAKEN caller ID standards. ... U.S. Senate campaign of former U.S. Sen. David Perdue, a Republican of Georgia who lost to Democrat Jon Ossoff in January, filed a petition with the FCC in July asking for political "direct to voicemail" calls to be ruled legal under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. ... "We don't provide the numbers, we provide the platform," said Toufic Mobarak, president of MobileSphere, which runs Slybroadcast, a direct-to-voicemail provider.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/30/robocallers-try-new-tactics-to-evade-crackdowns

TOURISM ^top^
- Summerfest projects $13.3M profit before depreciation
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/summerfest-projects-13-3-million-profit-before-depreciation/8795755002/

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Major fixes to state-owned railroad bridges in downtown Janesville will aid transport of goods
https://www.gazettextra.com/a441d1ad-2c4d-5b9f-8a71-009a95fbd48a.html

TRIBES ^top^
- Gamblers at Oneida Casino near Green Bay can now legally bet on sports, a WI first ... A ribbon-cutting ceremony is set for Tuesday at the tribe's main casino ... near Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport, with Oneida "Bingo Queens" Sandra Brehmer and Alma Webster scheduled to place the first bets. [after Sep. 2020 opening was delayed] ... "Sports betting is nothing new here in Wisconsin, but legal betting is new," said Louise Cornelius, Oneida Nation gaming general manager. "We hope to provide an environment for our clientele that is clean and up-to-date with the best technology possible." ... "The Potawatomi look forward to bringing sports betting to Milwaukee in the future," the statement read. New American Gaming Association survey found illegal gambling receded as legal ways grew. MI, IA, IN made sports gambling legal in 2018. Oneida CFA Fuss comments.
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/native-american-issues/2021/11/29/wisconsin-legalizes-sports-betting-packers-bucks-brewers-oneida-casino/8799957002/

UTILITIES ^top^
- Saving energy when it counts: Pilot uses smart controls to save costs, carbon ... [DOE] has awarded [Madison's Slipstream Group] more than $5M to equip 15 local buildings

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with "smart" technology ["grid-interactive efficient buildings"] could both save energy and help smooth the transition to a cleaner electric grid. ... [DOE] estimates by the end of this decade such smart buildings could save up to $18 billion a year in system costs and eliminate more greenhouse gas emissions than closing 18 coal-fired power plants. DOE's Hoffmeyer, Slipstream's Schuetter, city's Reece comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/794b65b8-cd5b-5c04-89e8-cc40f3553d46.html

EDITORIALS ^top^
- CT Editorial: Rep. Jon Plumer is everything that's wrong with WI politics ... If Plumer had proven to be an honest elected official who supported fair maps and honest elections, we would have been the first to celebrate his willingness to stand up to his party and special interests. But he didn't keep his promises, and he made those who supported him look like fools. We hope Plumer's abandonment of principle will be remembered if he seeks re-election in 2022.
https://captimes.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-state-rep-jon-plumer-is-everything-that-s-wrong-with-wisconsin-politics/article_22ba61cc-9a11-5dbc-aea4-107f1fb0b2b8.html

- RJT editorial: Penalties should be stiffer for impaired driving of ATVs
https://journaltimes.com/6c571bd2-5d81-5c43-aac1-9bfc6a7c39cd.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- John Nichols: Ron Johnson wants to save his hide by corrupting elections
https://captimes.com/e6f36c1f-1407-5365-acab-e1ca3ea6855b.html

- Bill Berry: Our pandemic response: Where are we headed?
https://captimes.com/92c44a6a-f95b-5e86-900f-7faf5657ec74.html

- Sen. Jeff Smith: Getting Health Insurance Has Never Been Easier, Evers has made it easier to get ACA coverage. Enrollment period through January 15.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/29/op-ed-getting-health

- Christopher Stolarski: I got COVID and spent 19 days in the ICU last year. You do not want to get COVID. ... Here are 26 things you probably didn't know about being hospitalized with severe COVID-19 -- one for each day I spent in the hospital (19 of them in the ICU).
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/solutions/2021/11/24/got-covid-and-spent-19-days-icu-you-dont-want-covid/8687365002/

- Ruben Navarrette: Conservatives who support Kyle Rittenhouse no longer know what they believe ... How strange that conservatives fail to apply the same logic to the Rittenhouse case that they are quick to apply to the human tragedy at the U.S.-Mexico border. They defend Rittenhouse despite his risky decision to jump into chaos, yet they blame asylum-seekers for taking the risk of fleeing their country. ... conservative Republicans used to believe in accountability, that actions have consequences, that

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people had to own up to bad decisions, and that lawlessness should not be excused. I always liked those folks. Where did they disappear to?
https://madison.com/wsj/aa4e131b-490d-5007-b5ab-2ac6803cb485.html

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 10:26 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: TUE News Summary: Supreme Court to rule on key redistricting issues; WI communities to see $200M+ in ARPA money

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https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2020-Aaron-Annable-Bio.docx

--Julian Adem, representing the Mexican consulate in Milwaukee:
https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/milwaukee/index.php/inicio/consul-titular

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--Stanley Pfrang, senior market development director at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. www.linkedin.com/in/stanley-pfrang-36402413/

This event is made possible with the support of the government of Canada, Michael Best Strategies and the Wisconsin District Export Council. This event is part of the WisPolitics.com-WisBusiness.com-Wisconsin Technology Council trade policy initiative: www.wisbusiness.com/trade-policy/

Event partners: Wisconsin Technology Council, Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS), World Trade Association (WTA) Madison International Trade Association (MITA) and International Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc21GwxauzVq2RONLJi6Tv2IXwQfglgNBxmp3cyOTCV3RQLRw/viewform

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STORY TOPICS

- White house
- Coronavirus
- Local government
- Banking and investment
- Courts
- Education
- Environment
- Foxconn
- Law and order
- Non-profits
- Race relations
- Technology
-

TOP STORIES

WI Supreme Court to rule on key issues in redistricting case

... expected to issue an order this week ... [vowed to issue an order covering] what factors justices should consider in redistricting, whether a "least changes" map was desirable, and whether they should consider the partisan makeup of districts ... "The 'least change' approach is the most fair and neutral way for this Court to modify any existing maps," WILL wrote in a brief filed last month ... "It's bad enough that the legislature insulated itself from voters for the past ten years," argued a coalition of Democratic voters including William Whitford, whose 2015 redistricting lawsuit made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. "It would be even worse if the Court were to perpetuate the gerrymander for the next decade." ... [Dems] filed a federal lawsuit on the day after the U.S. Census released its redistricting data [hoping to get federal court-drawn maps]. State courts have had a more limited role ... [WI] Supreme Court last handled redistricting in 1964. BLOC et.al. brief argued, "The unsubtle elephant in the courtroom is the fact that Wisconsin's existing legislative maps comprise extreme partisan gerrymanders in favor of Republican politicians." WILL countered, "There is nothing in the text of the Wisconsin Constitution that suggests that the framers intended to allow a claim of so-called partisan gerrymandering under Wisconsin law." Justices also ordered interested parties to file any proposed maps by Dec. 15 and set aside up to four days for a hearing or oral arguments on Jan. 15. Federal court agreed to be go-to if state court fails. By Johnson, WPR https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-supreme-court-rule-key-issues-redistricting-case

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Telecommunications

- Tourism
- Transportation
- Tribes
- Utilities
- Editorials
- Columns

WI communities to receive $200M+ in ARP funds

... directed to cities, towns and villages with populations of fewer than 50,000 residents. ... 1,825 communities received funds [based on population] ... More than 50 communities in Dane County received ... almost $15M ... including [$1.8M+ to Sun Prairie, $1.6M to Fitchburg, $1M to Middleton, nearly $700K to Verona] ... Communities have until 2024 to obligate funds and until 2026 to spend those dollars. A second round of identical funding will be released next year. ... "From addressing the public health impacts of the pandemic to investing in needed critical infrastructure, to helping ensure families and businesses financially recover, these funds will allow local governments to invest in their community's unique needs and will make a major difference for Wisconsinites across our state," Evers said in a statement. DOR Sec. Barca, DOA Sec. Brennan comment. Reviews US Treasury rules to recipients. WI has received $4.5B+ in ARP/CARES. Reviews uses of funds for infrastructure, tourism, small biz, workforce development. By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL
https://madison.com/wsj/237af34d-bbd9-54b3-8a38-c6090dc0f551.html

Wisconsin health officials waiting for more data on omicron coronavirus variant

... WHO alert said it's not clear whether omicron is more transmissible ... or whether infection from omicron causes more severe disease ... did say preliminary evidence suggests there may be an increased risk of reinfection if a person has already contracted another coronavirus variant. ... "This variant is a cause for concern, not a cause for panic," said Biden. ... Meanwhile ... [WHA] reported 1,432 COVID-19 hospitalizations, [up 60%] since Oct. 30.... most hospitalizations reported since Dec. 21, 2020. ... 391 ... in ICU units [Monday. 415 on Dec. 1, 2020] ...] On Dec. 1, 2020, there were 415 COVID-19 patients in the ICU. WHA Pres. Borgerding said COVID and regular hospital visits are up compared to last fall, "It has not let go of Wisconsin, and that shows up in various sorts of statistics." DHS on Wed. reported 7-day avg. daily cases of 3,170 -- highest since Dec. 15, 2020. UW Hospitals Dr. Safdar said vaccinating is important, even if it proves less effective against omicron, "we don't know how this is going to unfold fully yet. But it is a reminder that let's do everything that we can on our end to mitigate things." [including vax and boosters,] wearing masks when attending crowded, indoor events. By Kremer, WPR
https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-health-officials-waiting-more-data-omicron-coronavirus-variant

Taxpayers paid Berrada Properties nearly $7M as DOJ prepared to sue landlord giant

... [lists some charges in DOJ suit] Berrada has denied the charges, several of which had previously been reported ... Meanwhile, during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Berrada Properties received nearly $1.5

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million in rent assistance through programs administered by the Social Development Commission. An additional $5.4 million was paid to Berrada Properties through programs administered by Community Advocates. "Our tax dollars should be used to provide a good place live," [Rep.] Goyke said, [not enriching] a landlord "who won't repair a dishwasher."... [rental aid is FED filtered through state govt to local non-profits] ... Berrada attorney [thru Madison PR firm] called the DOJ investigation a "fishing expedition" that makes it more difficult for "Mr. Berrada to provide high-quality, affordable housing." ... [non-profits denied preference] "SDC's rent assistance process is the same for every landlord and tenant," the nonprofit said in an email. [Community Advocates embedded staffer in Berrada office to facilitate applications for assistance, helped reduce evictions] ... "I don't think we've had tenants calling complaining about (Berrada Properties) rental practices," [Community Advocates' Elliott] said, but after JS story, several tenants contacted the newspaper with complaints. Some examples. By Spivak, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/landlord-berrada-subject-wisconsin-lawsuit-got-7-million-aid/8750134002/

Taxpayers bankrolled Gableman's AZ trip after Vos said they wouldn't
... newly released records show ... more than $2,700 to send officials to Arizona and South Dakota ... Vos [in August] that Gableman would have to pay for the trips "out of his salary" ... would not be allowed to bill the state for his hotel or other costs [and was finalizing a scope statement] ... attorneys for Vos recently disclosed ... Gableman has no scope statement to guide its work. ... Spokespeople for Vos and Gableman did not respond ... In all, Gableman has spent about $128,000 of his $676,000 taxpayer-funded budget, records show. ... records published by American Oversight also show Gableman's team is sharing office space in Brookfield with the conservative Thomas More Society and the Minneapolis law firm Mohrman, Kaardal & Erickson. [Review Kaardal's suit against CTCL grants.] ... also show Gableman traveled in October to the Pleasant Prairie headquarters of packaging firm Uline. [owned by GOP megadonor Uihlein. Reviews Uihlein donations to GOP.] don't say why Gableman made the trip. ... In recent days, Gableman brought on Indiana attorney James Bopp Jr. to assist him. [Bopp represented Gableman over his infamous Louis Butler ad in 2008] ... Also arguing in favor of the subpoenas will be attorney Joseph Voiland [controversial ex-judge] ... hearing over the subpoenas is scheduled for Dec. 23. More records about Gableman's work may be forthcoming. American Oversight has brought two open records lawsuits against Vos. By Marley, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/30/wisconsin-election-review-taxpayers-bankrolled-gableman-arizona-trip/8797452002/

############
STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE ^top^
- Actor charged in riot almost talked way into staying in jail ... Beeks was arrested in Milwaukee last Tuesday. He hasn't yet entered a plea ... initially rejected being represented by an attorney and made comments that the judge called "gobbledygook. ... A defendant who rejects the jurisdiction of the court, rejects being subject to the laws of the United States, rejects the rule of law is not typically released pretrial because that person cannot be trusted to comply with the conditions of pretrial release," Chief U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell warned Beeks ... The production company that employs Beeks said he recently informed the company that he is a "sovereign citizen," according to prosecutors. During Monday's hearing, Beeks denied being part of the "sovereign citizen" extremist movement, which believes the U.S. government is illegitimate. ... chances of being released from jail seemed to wane as he offered answers that the judge said she couldn't understand. Then another lawyer, Michelle Peterson, intervened for Beeks. Beeks then let Petersen represent him and was ordered released from jail after agreeing to follow the court-imposed conditions of release
https://apnews.com/14dde4d4b90f9c64b022d0b4ec77ce9b

CORONAVIRUS ^top^
- Health officials: Rock County seeing heavy draw on hospital beds
https://www.gazettextra.com/news/local/health-officials-rock-county-seeing-heavy-draw-on-hospital-beds/article_a6923af1-c3e9-506a-b25f-92f908a238b6.html

- Long COVID symptoms different for women and men, a new study shows, Women and men have different symptoms of long haul COVID-19. Mayo Dr. Hurt discusses a new study that offers clues into long hauler COVID syndrome and how results will lead to improved diagnoses and better treatments.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/newsmd/wellness/7300841-Health-Fusion-Long-COVID-symptoms-different-for-women-and-men-a-new-study-shows

- WHO warns that new virus variant poses 'very high' risk ... based on the early evidence, saying the mutated coronavirus could lead to surges with "severe consequences." ... said there are "considerable uncertainties" ... But ... preliminary evidence raises the possibility that the variant has mutations that could help it both evade an immune-system response and boost its ability to spread ... While no deaths linked to omicron have been reported so far, little is known for certain ... "The emergence of the omicron variant has fulfilled, in a precise way, the predictions of the scientists who warned that the elevated transmission of the virus in areas with limited access to vaccine would speed its evolution," said Dr. Richard Hatchett, head of CEPI ... Despite the global worry, doctors in South Africa are reporting patients are suffering

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mostly mild symptoms so far. But ... most of the new cases are in people in their 20s and 30s
https://apnews.com/82e53a7a17d1a4c30031065d389bda37

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ^top^
- Voces de la Frontera urges Mayor Barrett to veto Milwaukee aldermanic district maps, pushing for more Latino representation ... city's Latino communities now represent 20.1% of the total city population ... [Voces'] new map ... would include a new near-majority, or "influence" Latino district [46%] on the south side ... District 13 include 12 contiguous majority Latino wards ... As it stands, the city currently has two strong majority Latino Districts 8 and 12. ... "The rushed process of passing a new map, while not intentional, contributed to a lack of meaningful engagement from the community," [Voces' Neumann-Ortiz] said. ... District 8 Ald. JoCasta Zamarripa was the only person to vote against the new aldermanic district lines ... spokesman for Barrett said Monday that the mayor was reviewing the map and discussing it with [unspecified] "a wide variety of people." ... expected to make a decision this week
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/voces-de-la-frontera-urges-barrett-veto-milwaukee-election-maps/8798117002/

- Kelly Behrmann announces candidacy for Neenah mayor in April election
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/11/30/neenah-mayor-election-kelly-behrmann-announces-candidacy/8804904002/

- Samantha Kerkman announces bid for county executive post: Kreuser not seeking re-election. Supervisor Jerry Gulley, Clerk of Courts Rebecca Matoska-Mentink previously announced their intention to run.
https://www.kenoshanews.com/7fbc0eb3-1adb-5c90-9de6-c7b35362666a.html

BANKING AND INVESTMENT ^top^
- Journalists Investigating Financial Crimes Threatened by Global Elites
https://shepherdexpress.com/news/project-censored/journalists-investigating-financial-crimes-threatened-by-glo/#

COURTS ^top^
- Brooks charged with a sixth count of first-degree homicide: Victim F, Jackson Sparks, 8 years old, died last week
https://www.jsonline.com/story/communities/2021/11/29/waukesha-parade-tragedy-darrell-brooks-jr-charged-sixth-count-first-degree-intentional-homicide/8764409002/

EDUCATION ^top^
- Students return to Waukesha schools after Christmas parade tragedy, Children were among the 6 killed, more than 60 injured at the annual parade

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https://www.wpr.org/students-return-waukesha-schools-after-christmas-parade-tragedy

- Moore analysis: Democrats push climate change package of 22 bills, Legislation would create model curricula for students
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=6&SubSectionID=47&ArticleID=92476

- Wisconsin pandemic aid plan hasn't gotten federal approval, leaving some school districts in limbo
https://www.wuwm.com/2021-11-30/wisconsin-pandemic-aid-plan-hasnt-gotten-federal-approval-leaving-some-school-districts-in-limbo

ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- DNR concurs that Enbridge cleanup progressing near Lake Koshkonong
https://www.gazettextra.com/fb325536-da0e-52e7-a320-29ec46beaa1a.html

- Deer season opener feast or famine in the Northwoods, Hunters report good deer movement
http://www.rivernewsonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=5&SubSectionID=42&ArticleID=92462

- Beaver Dam awarded DNR grant ... to support contamination assessment at a downtown property eyed for future development.
https://www.wiscnews.com/e7c6ade2-1d70-51b3-abae-688acbda2877.html

FOXCONN ^top^
- Header ad at RJT, KN announces "Foxconn Career Fair: Dec. 3rd 9-6, Dec. 4th 10-4"
https://journaltimes.com/
https://www.kenoshanews.com/

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Mental health calls to UW-Madison Police now bring cops, counselors to some scenes ... too early to assess the effectiveness of the pilot program, which was initially available twice a week, expanded this month to three days per week, and is expected to run through the end of the school year. ... From Oct. 4, when the pilot launched, through mid-November, 34 mental health-related calls ... 13 were for students who qualified for the co-responder program, ... Four of the 13 calls occurred ... when mental health counselors are available ... counselors' roles may also sometimes include driving students to the hospital in a van as opposed to police transport by squad car. UW-Madison Police Chief Kristen Roman said she has wanted to start a co-responder program for several years, but it wasn't something the department could initiate on its own. Similar to MPD's CARES pilot.
https://madison.com/wsj/2498d3cd-ee31-56c2-9538-9d3518bdadd4.html

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NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Fotsch Family Foundation to match up to $1 million in donations for Waukesha parade victims
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/29/fotsch-family-foundation-waukesha-parade-victims.html

RACE RELATIONS ^top^
- Banning Hair Discrimination Emerges as Racial Justice Issue ... [CA's 2019 nation-first] CROWN Act, or Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair. ... changed the state's definition of race in its anti-discrimination laws to include "traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles." Protective hairstyles, the law says, include "such hairstyles as braids, locks and twists." ... Nevada is one of 13 states that have passed versions ... others are Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Illinois, Oregon, Virginia and Washington. About three dozen cities and counties have passed similar laws.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/29/banning-hair-discrimination-emerges-as-racial-justice-issue

TECHNOLOGY ^top^
- Telehealth startup Nurse Disrupted raises $700,000 led by Exact Sciences CEO
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/inno/stories/fundings/2021/11/24/nurse-disrupted-seed-700-000-conroy.html

- World's first living robots can now reproduce, [Harvard/Tufts] scientists say
... [made from frog stem cells, without GM] ... "Frogs have a way of reproducing that they normally use but when you ... liberate (the cells) from the rest of the embryo and you give them a chance to figure out how to be in a new environment, not only do they figure out a new way to move, but they also figure out apparently a new way to reproduce." Kinetic replication.
https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/29/americas/xenobots-self-replicating-robots-scn/index.html

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ^top^
- Robocallers Try New Tactics to Evade Crackdowns ... One new trick is for callers to send messages straight to voicemail. The scammers argue that because they don't cause phones to ring, they aren't really calling at all.... also may buy or hijack lists of real phone numbers to trick spam-blocking software into letting the calls through. ... Earlier this month, [bipartisan AG's Stein and Moody] led all 51 attorneys general, including the District of Columbia's, in a letter calling on [FCC] to reduce unwanted robocallers'

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access to real phone numbers. ... YouMail, a private company that sells call-blocking software and tracks the estimated number of calls, reported 4.1 billion unwanted robocalls in October, up from 3.9 billion in September. ... FCC acting Chair Jessica Rosenworcel said in June that the largest voice service phone providers are using the STIR/SHAKEN caller ID standards. ... U.S. Senate campaign of former U.S. Sen. David Perdue, a Republican of Georgia who lost to Democrat Jon Ossoff in January, filed a petition with the FCC in July asking for political "direct to voicemail" calls to be ruled legal under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. ... "We don't provide the numbers, we provide the platform," said Toufic Mobarak, president of MobileSphere, which runs Slybroadcast, a direct-to-voicemail provider.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/30/robocallers-try-new-tactics-to-evade-crackdowns

TOURISM ^top^
- Summerfest projects $13.3M profit before depreciation
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/29/summerfest-projects-13-3-million-profit-before-depreciation/8795755002/

TRANSPORTATION ^top^
- Major fixes to state-owned railroad bridges in downtown Janesville will aid transport of goods
https://www.gazettextra.com/a441d1ad-2c4d-5b9f-8a71-009a95fbd48a.html

TRIBES ^top^
- Gamblers at Oneida Casino near Green Bay can now legally bet on sports, a WI first ... A ribbon-cutting ceremony is set for Tuesday at the tribe's main casino ... near Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport, with Oneida "Bingo Queens" Sandra Brehmer and Alma Webster scheduled to place the first bets. [after Sep. 2020 opening was delayed] ... "Sports betting is nothing new here in Wisconsin, but legal betting is new," said Louise Cornelius, Oneida Nation gaming general manager. "We hope to provide an environment for our clientele that is clean and up-to-date with the best technology possible." ... "The Potawatomi look forward to bringing sports betting to Milwaukee in the future," the statement read. New American Gaming Association survey found illegal gambling receded as legal ways grew. MI, IA, IN made sports gambling legal in 2018. Oneida CFA Fuss comments.
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/native-american-issues/2021/11/29/wisconsin-legalizes-sports-betting-packers-bucks-brewers-oneida-casino/8799957002/

UTILITIES ^top^
- Saving energy when it counts: Pilot uses smart controls to save costs, carbon ... [DOE] has awarded [Madison's Slipstream Group] more than $5M to equip 15 local buildings

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with "smart" technology ["grid-interactive efficient buildings"] could both save energy and help smooth the transition to a cleaner electric grid. ... [DOE] estimates by the end of this decade such smart buildings could save up to $18 billion a year in system costs and eliminate more greenhouse gas emissions than closing 18 coal-fired power plants. DOE's Hoffmeyer, Slipstream's Schuetter, city's Reece comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/794b65b8-cd5b-5c04-89e8-cc40f3553d46.html

EDITORIALS ^top^
- CT Editorial: Rep. Jon Plumer is everything that's wrong with WI politics ... If Plumer had proven to be an honest elected official who supported fair maps and honest elections, we would have been the first to celebrate his willingness to stand up to his party and special interests. But he didn't keep his promises, and he made those who supported him look like fools. We hope Plumer's abandonment of principle will be remembered if he seeks re-election in 2022.
https://captimes.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-state-rep-jon-plumer-is-everything-that-s-wrong-with-wisconsin-politics/article_22ba61cc-9a11-5dbc-aea4-107f1fb0b2b8.html

- RJT editorial: Penalties should be stiffer for impaired driving of ATVs
https://journaltimes.com/6c571bd2-5d81-5c43-aac1-9bfc6a7c39cd.html

COLUMNS ^top^
- John Nichols: Ron Johnson wants to save his hide by corrupting elections
https://captimes.com/e6f36c1f-1407-5365-acab-e1ca3ea6855b.html

- Bill Berry: Our pandemic response: Where are we headed?
https://captimes.com/92c44a6a-f95b-5e86-900f-7faf5657ec74.html

- Sen. Jeff Smith: Getting Health Insurance Has Never Been Easier, Evers has made it easier to get ACA coverage. Enrollment period through January 15.
https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2021/11/29/op-ed-getting-health

- Christopher Stolarski: I got COVID and spent 19 days in the ICU last year. You do not want to get COVID. ... Here are 26 things you probably didn't know about being hospitalized with severe COVID-19 -- one for each day I spent in the hospital (19 of them in the ICU).
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/solutions/2021/11/24/got-covid-and-spent-19-days-icu-you-dont-want-covid/8687365002/

- Ruben Navarrette: Conservatives who support Kyle Rittenhouse no longer know what they believe ... How strange that conservatives fail to apply the same logic to the Rittenhouse case that they are quick to apply to the human tragedy at the U.S.-Mexico border. They defend Rittenhouse despite his risky decision to jump into chaos, yet they blame asylum-seekers for taking the risk of fleeing their country. ... conservative Republicans used to believe in accountability, that actions have consequences, that

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people had to own up to bad decisions, and that lawlessness should not be excused. I always liked those folks. Where did they disappear to?
https://madison.com/wsj/aa4e131b-490d-5007-b5ab-2ac6803cb485.html

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 8:49 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: WED AM Update: Dem U.S. Senate candidates talk health care, union rights in virtual forum

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From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Five Dem U.S. Senate candidates last night backed expanding Medicare and various labor protections related to employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace.

Candidates participating in the Citizen Action of Wisconsin/People's Action virtual forum included: Wausau radiologist Dr. Gillian Battino, State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski, Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes, Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson and Alex Lasry, who's on leave from his job with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Each supported expanding Medicare to cover all Americans and passing the Protecting the Right to Organize Act. The legislation would ban employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct secondary strikes and increase protections for those who work to enforce unfair labor protections, such as whistleblowers, among other things.

They also largely agreed on the need to address immigration, criminal justice and

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climate change.

Candidates were given two minutes each to respond to questions on a host of issues during the two-hour forum.

Battino and Godlewski said they want to expand Medicare coverage and find a way to reduce prescription drug costs.

"We are all tired of using taxpayer dollars to develop pharmaceuticals and then be charged exorbitant increasing fees to utilize those pharmaceuticals," Battino said.

Godlewski also said she wants to tackle high health care costs and increase health care access in rural areas. She said increasing broadband access would at least somewhat improve health care availability in rural communities.

In order to protect unions, Nelson said that in addition to passing the PRO Act, the U.S. Senate needs to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act, which banned several kinds of union strikes, hiring practices and union donations to federal candidates, among other things.

"The reason why we've not made progress on this is because two-thirds of the U.S. Senate are comprised of millionaires and billionaires and you're not going to get these types of reforms by sending another millionaire or a billionaire to the U.S. Senate," Nelson said.

Barnes said passing the PRO Act will never happen unless voters get rid of wealthy people in the Senate like Ron Johnson, R-Oshkosh, and get "rid of the influence of the ultra-wealthy in our politics, because it is destroying us from the inside out."

Lasry said Congress needs to abolish the filibuster to pass the PRO Act.

"We've said that our top priority when we get to the Senate is going to be not only passing the PRO Act, but also ending the filibuster," Lasry said. "Because if we want to be able to pass the agenda that people have voted us into office for, we need to make sure that we can actually pass that agenda, and that starts with ending the filibuster."

Watch the forum:
https://www.crowdcast.io/e/citizen-action-of/1

-- The Wisconsin GOP has a fundraiser in Washington, D.C., today that includes a string of state and federal officeholders.

The invite to the event at the office of the BGR Group lobbying firm lists U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Oshkosh, and the five GOP members of the state's congressional delegation as invited special guests.

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Meanwhile, the hosts are: Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu, R-Oostburg; Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester; Senate President Chris Kapenga, R-Delafield; Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke, R-Kaukauna; and the co-chairs of the Finance Committee, Sen. Howard Marklein, R-Spring Green, and Rep. Mark Born, R-Beaver Dam.

Donation levels run from $1,000 per person to attend to $5,000 to be a host, which includes four attendees for the host and general reception.

The BGR Group chairman and CEO is Bob Wood, a former aide to Tommy Thompson. Former GOP U.S. Rep. Sean Duffy is a lobbyist at the firm.

-- State Sen. Lena Taylor, D-Milwaukee, is in Washington, D.C., today to participate in protests calling on President Biden to take whatever steps necessary to win passage of voting rights bills.

The No More Excuses: Voting Rights Now! protest is an effort by the League of Women Voters and People for the American Way to call for action on the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, the Freedom to Vote Act and statehood for Washington, D.C.

Taylor's office said the trip is being paid for by those putting on the protest.

-- The latest national Marquette University Law School Poll finds American adults opposed by a more than 2-to-1 margin striking down the U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

Meanwhile, respondents were split on whether they support a ban on abortion after 15 weeks.

The survey comes ahead of the U.S. Supreme Court hearing oral arguments Dec. 1 in a case involving a Mississippi law that would ban most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The case is being closely watched to see if the 6-3 conservative majority reverses the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling.

The survey found 37 percent support a ruling that upholds "a state law that (except in cases of medical emergencies or fetal abnormalities) bans abortions after the 15th week of pregnancy." Thirty-two percent would oppose such a ruling, while 30 percent said they hadn't heard enough or didn't have an opinion.

In September, 40 percent backed upholding such a law, while 34 percent were opposed and 27 percent said they hadn't heard enough.

Meanwhile, 21 percent favored overturning Roe, while 47 percent were opposed. Thirty-two percent said they hadn't heard enough to have an opinion.

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In September, 20 percent favored overturning Roe, while 50 percent were opposed and 29 percent said they didn't know enough to have an opinion.

The poll also found 25 percent support a Texas law that bans abortions after about six weeks and authorizes citizens to sue those who aid others in getting an abortion. Fifty-nine percent were opposed, while 16 percent didn't know.

The survey of 1,004 adults was conducted Nov. 1-10. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.

See the release:
https://law.marquette.edu/poll/

****

Tomorrow: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

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WIIN (Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now)

TOP HEADLINES

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/kamala-harris-touts-infrastructure-bill-impact-wisconsin-milwaukee/6402297001/

Proposal would give City of Milwaukee employees 12 weeks of paid parental leave
... would provide full pay to employees when a child is born or when employees adopt,

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begin fostering a child or have a stillbirth after 20 weeks of pregnancy, the legislation states. ... does not limit leave based on gender ... to limit the burden that often falls on women after childbirth. ... [not applicable to union-represented groups like MPD, MFD, estimated cost: $502,500/yr] ... City of Madison has a paid parental leave program that provides up to six weeks of paid leave, with about 4.5% using that option every year ... about four times higher than Milwaukee found in its analysis. ... [sponsor] Dimitrijevic, a mayoral candidate, said she has been frustrated with the lack of action at the federal level, where paid family leave is being debated as part of a large Democratic package.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/proposal-gives-milwaukee-city-workers-12-weeks-paid-parental-leave/8627001002/

WI farm families share stories, future hopes during dairy industry's troubled times

... on Friday, July 9, [ex-dairyman Shawn Schmitz] joined a film crew from Milwaukee PBS and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for a brief visit to the [FdL farm] where he and his father used to milk around 250 cows, where they'd poured all their energy and finances into a plan wiped out by forces largely beyond their control. ... Since 2000, Wisconsin has lost around 68% of its dairy farms, most of them small- and medium-sized operations like the Schmitz family had for more than a half century. Yet milk production has risen as the remaining farms have gotten larger or more efficient through improved cattle genetics and advances in technologies. ... [pitches 60-min. "America's Dairyland at a Crossroads"] follow[ing] four Wisconsin farm families as they share their stories and hopes for a future that, in some cases, might not include dairy. Profiles NIgon View Dairy, Jim Briggs' dairy, Roehl Acres dairy.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/2021/11/16/wisconsin-dairy-farm-families-share-challenges-during-difficult-time/6397570001/

Green Bay Packers sell 33K shares in first three hours to kick off stock sale

... at $300 a share plus a handling fee until Feb. 25, or until they run out ... During the 2011 sale, the team offered 250K shares at $250 each and added another 30K after about three weeks. It also extended the sales period. In the end, the Packers sold 269K shares and raised $67.M. ... if all shares are sold, will raise $90M ... toward $250M in Lambeau Field projects, including concourse renovation and new digital video scoreboards. ... Murphy defended the sale against criticism that the Packers are rich enough they don't need the money. The team reported $507M in revenue for the pre-pandemic year [3/19-3/20] ... had a corporate reserve fund of $491M. "We do have a healthy corporate reserve fund that has grown over the years. We really view that as truly for emergencies," Murphy said. "... for unprecedented times where we run into big issues."
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/11/16/green-bay-packers-sell-33-000-shares-three-hours-stock-sale/8637582002/

TODAY'S CALENDAR

https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

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- 5 a.m.: Marquette Law School U.S. Supreme Court Poll release.
https://law.marquette.edu/community/marquette-law-school-us-supreme-court-poll

- 9 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/

- 9:30 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation executive session.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645702

- 9:35 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation public hearing on AB 636, relating to publishing and reporting requirements for the transportation infrastructure loan program, and other bills.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645703

- 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: UW-Stout Leadership Institute and Center for Applied Ethics: "The Supply Chain, the Pandemic, and Ethics: How were industries affected and how did they respond?"
https://www.uwstout.edu/outreach-engagement/lifelong-learning/leadership-development/leadership-institute/2021-pandemic-and-ethics-leadership-speaker-series/supply-chain-pandemic-and-ethics-how-were-industries-affected-and

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Wisconsin's Green Fire Webinar: Meeting Wisconsin's Deer Conservation Challenges.
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21119-WGFW.pdf

- 11 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Wisconsin Policy Forum: 29th Annual Salute to Local Government.
https://wispolicyforum.org/events/2021-salute-to-local-government/

- 12 p.m.: Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now: "Understanding the Economic Impact of Solar Energy in Wisconsin."
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/wisconsin-infrastructure-investment-now-understanding-the-economic-impact-of-solar-energy-in-wisconsin/

- 12:10 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.: Madison Rotary Club. Guest speaker is Common Wealth Development Inc. Executive Director Justice Castaneda, who is to present, "The Housing Mixtape: A Case Study of Redlining, Including its Legacy and Contemporary Application in Madison." Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/madison-rotary-club-133/

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- 1 p.m.: Dept. of Public Instruction public hearing on open enrollment administrative rules.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/dept-of-public-instruction-plans-to-hold-public-hearing-on-proposed-rules-related-to-updates-in-open-enrollment-procedures-2/

- 1 p.m.: Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association: "Wisconsin Idea Spotlight - Understanding North Korea."
https://www.uwevents.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=645845&

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 8:49 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: WED AM Update: Dem U.S. Senate candidates talk health care, union rights in virtual forum

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WED AM Update -- 17 Nov. 2021

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Wisconsin REALTORS Association

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Five Dem U.S. Senate candidates last night backed expanding Medicare and various labor protections related to employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace.

Candidates participating in the Citizen Action of Wisconsin/People's Action virtual forum included: Wausau radiologist Dr. Gillian Battino, State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski, Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes, Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson and Alex Lasry, who's on leave from his job with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Each supported expanding Medicare to cover all Americans and passing the Protecting the Right to Organize Act. The legislation would ban employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct secondary strikes and increase protections for those who work to enforce unfair labor protections, such as whistleblowers, among other things.

They also largely agreed on the need to address immigration, criminal justice and

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climate change.

Candidates were given two minutes each to respond to questions on a host of issues during the two-hour forum.

Battino and Godlewski said they want to expand Medicare coverage and find a way to reduce prescription drug costs.

"We are all tired of using taxpayer dollars to develop pharmaceuticals and then be charged exorbitant increasing fees to utilize those pharmaceuticals," Battino said.

Godlewski also said she wants to tackle high health care costs and increase health care access in rural areas. She said increasing broadband access would at least somewhat improve health care availability in rural communities.

In order to protect unions, Nelson said that in addition to passing the PRO Act, the U.S. Senate needs to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act, which banned several kinds of union strikes, hiring practices and union donations to federal candidates, among other things.

"The reason why we've not made progress on this is because two-thirds of the U.S. Senate are comprised of millionaires and billionaires and you're not going to get these types of reforms by sending another millionaire or a billionaire to the U.S. Senate," Nelson said.

Barnes said passing the PRO Act will never happen unless voters get rid of wealthy people in the Senate like Ron Johnson, R-Oshkosh, and get "rid of the influence of the ultra-wealthy in our politics, because it is destroying us from the inside out."

Lasry said Congress needs to abolish the filibuster to pass the PRO Act.

"We've said that our top priority when we get to the Senate is going to be not only passing the PRO Act, but also ending the filibuster," Lasry said. "Because if we want to be able to pass the agenda that people have voted us into office for, we need to make sure that we can actually pass that agenda, and that starts with ending the filibuster."

Watch the forum:
https://www.crowdcast.io/e/citizen-action-of/1

-- The Wisconsin GOP has a fundraiser in Washington, D.C., today that includes a string of state and federal officeholders.

The invite to the event at the office of the BGR Group lobbying firm lists U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Oshkosh, and the five GOP members of the state's congressional delegation as invited special guests.

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Meanwhile, the hosts are: Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu, R-Oostburg; Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester; Senate President Chris Kapenga, R-Delafield; Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke, R-Kaukauna; and the co-chairs of the Finance Committee, Sen. Howard Marklein, R-Spring Green, and Rep. Mark Born, R-Beaver Dam.

Donation levels run from $1,000 per person to attend to $5,000 to be a host, which includes four attendees for the host and general reception.

The BGR Group chairman and CEO is Bob Wood, a former aide to Tommy Thompson. Former GOP U.S. Rep. Sean Duffy is a lobbyist at the firm.

-- State Sen. Lena Taylor, D-Milwaukee, is in Washington, D.C., today to participate in protests calling on President Biden to take whatever steps necessary to win passage of voting rights bills.

The No More Excuses: Voting Rights Now! protest is an effort by the League of Women Voters and People for the American Way to call for action on the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, the Freedom to Vote Act and statehood for Washington, D.C.

Taylor's office said the trip is being paid for by those putting on the protest.

-- The latest national Marquette University Law School Poll finds American adults opposed by a more than 2-to-1 margin striking down the U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

Meanwhile, respondents were split on whether they support a ban on abortion after 15 weeks.

The survey comes ahead of the U.S. Supreme Court hearing oral arguments Dec. 1 in a case involving a Mississippi law that would ban most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The case is being closely watched to see if the 6-3 conservative majority reverses the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling.

The survey found 37 percent support a ruling that upholds "a state law that (except in cases of medical emergencies or fetal abnormalities) bans abortions after the 15th week of pregnancy." Thirty-two percent would oppose such a ruling, while 30 percent said they hadn't heard enough or didn't have an opinion.

In September, 40 percent backed upholding such a law, while 34 percent were opposed and 27 percent said they hadn't heard enough.

Meanwhile, 21 percent favored overturning Roe, while 47 percent were opposed. Thirty-two percent said they hadn't heard enough to have an opinion.

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In September, 20 percent favored overturning Roe, while 50 percent were opposed and 29 percent said they didn't know enough to have an opinion.

The poll also found 25 percent support a Texas law that bans abortions after about six weeks and authorizes citizens to sue those who aid others in getting an abortion. Fifty-nine percent were opposed, while 16 percent didn't know.

The survey of 1,004 adults was conducted Nov. 1-10. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.

See the release:
https://law.marquette.edu/poll/

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Tomorrow: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

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begin fostering a child or have a stillbirth after 20 weeks of pregnancy, the legislation states. ... does not limit leave based on gender ... to limit the burden that often falls on women after childbirth. ... [not applicable to union-represented groups like MPD, MFD, estimated cost: $502,500/yr] ... City of Madison has a paid parental leave program that provides up to six weeks of paid leave, with about 4.5% using that option every year ... about four times higher than Milwaukee found in its analysis. ... [sponsor] Dimitrijevic, a mayoral candidate, said she has been frustrated with the lack of action at the federal level, where paid family leave is being debated as part of a large Democratic package.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/proposal-gives-milwaukee-city-workers-12-weeks-paid-parental-leave/8627001002/

WI farm families share stories, future hopes during dairy industry's troubled times
... on Friday, July 9, [ex-dairyman Shawn Schmitz] joined a film crew from Milwaukee PBS and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for a brief visit to the [FdL farm] where he and his father used to milk around 250 cows, where they'd poured all their energy and finances into a plan wiped out by forces largely beyond their control. ... Since 2000, Wisconsin has lost around 68% of its dairy farms, most of them small- and medium-sized operations like the Schmitz family had for more than a half century. Yet milk production has risen as the remaining farms have gotten larger or more efficient through improved cattle genetics and advances in technologies. ... [pitches 60-min. "America's Dairyland at a Crossroads"] follow[ing] four Wisconsin farm families as they share their stories and hopes for a future that, in some cases, might not include dairy. Profiles NIgon View Dairy, Jim Briggs' dairy, Roehl Acres dairy.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/2021/11/16/wisconsin-dairy-farm-families-share-challenges-during-difficult-time/6397570001/

Green Bay Packers sell 33K shares in first three hours to kick off stock sale
... at $300 a share plus a handling fee until Feb. 25, or until they run out ... During the 2011 sale, the team offered 250K shares at $250 each and added another 30K after about three weeks. It also extended the sales period. In the end, the Packers sold 269K shares and raised $67.M. ... if all shares are sold, will raise $90M ... toward $250M in Lambeau Field projects, including concourse renovation and new digital video scoreboards. ... Murphy defended the sale against criticism that the Packers are rich enough they don't need the money. The team reported $507M in revenue for the pre-pandemic year [3/19-3/20] ... had a corporate reserve fund of $491M. "We do have a healthy corporate reserve fund that has grown over the years. We really view that as truly for emergencies," Murphy said. "... for unprecedented times where we run into big issues."
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/11/16/green-bay-packers-sell-33-000-shares-three-hours-stock-sale/8637582002/

TODAY'S CALENDAR
https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/

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- 5 a.m.: Marquette Law School U.S. Supreme Court Poll release.
https://law.marquette.edu/community/marquette-law-school-us-supreme-court-poll

- 9 a.m.: Startup Week Wisconsin.
https://startupweekwisconsin2021.sched.com/

- 9:30 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation executive session.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645702

- 9:35 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation public hearing on AB 636, relating to publishing and reporting requirements for the transportation infrastructure loan program, and other bills.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1645703

- 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: UW-Stout Leadership Institute and Center for Applied Ethics: "The Supply Chain, the Pandemic, and Ethics: How were industries affected and how did they respond?"
https://www.uwstout.edu/outreach-engagement/lifelong-learning/leadership-development/leadership-institute/2021-pandemic-and-ethics-leadership-speaker-series/supply-chain-pandemic-and-ethics-how-were-industries-affected-and

- 10 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Wisconsin's Green Fire Webinar: Meeting Wisconsin's Deer Conservation Challenges.
https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21119-WGFW.pdf

- 11 a.m.: PSC hearing.
https://apps.psc.wi.gov/APPS/eventscalendar/Content/hearing.aspx?id=101470

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Wisconsin Policy Forum: 29th Annual Salute to Local Government.
https://wispolicyforum.org/events/2021-salute-to-local-government/

- 12 p.m.: Wisconsin Infrastructure Investment Now: "Understanding the Economic Impact of Solar Energy in Wisconsin."
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/wisconsin-infrastructure-investment-now-understanding-the-economic-impact-of-solar-energy-in-wisconsin/

- 12:10 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.: Madison Rotary Club. Guest speaker is Common Wealth Development Inc. Executive Director Justice Castaneda, who is to present, "The Housing Mixtape: A Case Study of Redlining, Including its Legacy and Contemporary Application in Madison." Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/madison-rotary-club-133/

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- 1 p.m.: Dept. of Public Instruction public hearing on open enrollment administrative rules.
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/dept-of-public-instruction-plans-to-hold-public-hearing-on-proposed-rules-related-to-updates-in-open-enrollment-procedures-2/

- 1 p.m.: Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association: "Wisconsin Idea Spotlight - Understanding North Korea."
https://www.uwevents.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=645845&

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 10:18 AM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wi.gov
Subject: WED News Summary: Lawmakers on both sides introduce bill to reduce marijuana penalties; Rittenhouse jury continues deliberations

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WISPOLITICS.COM
Wisconsin's Premier Political News Service

WED News Summary -- 17 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/wed-news-summary-lawmakers-on-both-sides-introduce-bill-to-reduce-marijuana-penalties-rittenhouse-jury-continues-deliberations/

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Tomorrow: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

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STORY TOPICS

- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- Local government
- Agribusiness
- Banking and investment
- Census
- Civil liberties
- Courts
- Demographics
- Education
- Environment
- Health care
- Law and order
- Non-profits
- Public health and safety
- Race relations
- Real estate
- Tribes
- Columns

TOP STORIES

Wisconsin lawmakers make bipartisan effort to reduce marijuana penalties

... Bill would cut penalty for possession of up to 14 grams of marijuana ... from a $1,000 misdemeanor to a $100 civil forfeiture, similar to a traffic violation. ... possession of marijuana-related paraphernalia would go from a $500 misdemeanor to a $10 civil forfeiture. ... [and] a criminal offense of marijuana possession up to 28 grams would not count toward a repeat conviction, or as a prior conviction for someone charged with possession of another controlled substance. ... also limit the liability of employers that don't require testing for THC or synthetic cannabinoids as a condition of employment (with some exceptions for jobs that require the testing for safety and security). ... "Simple possession of small amounts of marijuana should not result in one being sent to prison and risking their chances of employment for the rest of their life," Sortwell said in a statement. Milwaukee DA report found WI has averaged 15,485 marijuana arrests per year over the last decade. ACLU found WI's marijuana arrest rate for Black people is 4.2 times higher than for white - nation's eighth-highest per capita rate for Blacks. 2019 MU Law poll found 59% supported legal marijuana and 83% supported medical marijuana. Evers has proposed various marijuana bills, all ignored by GOP Legislature. Sortwell's 2017 decriminalization of 10 grams or less, reintroduced in 2121, has bipartisan support, as did Bernier-Felzkowski's and Testin-Erpenbach-Taylor's 2019 medical marijuana bills. Senate Leader LeMahieu earlier this year cited a dearth of GOP votes for any marijuana bill. Sortwell said Assembly GOP leaders "took it under advisement. ... I really hope we can at least get a hearing." Ortiz-Velez said Dem leadership "supports ... this issue ... and any issues that reflect the will of the people." By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES
https://captimes.com/da9878dd-6ad2-5e9b-b23b-b626c61a9692.html

No verdict after daylong deliberations by Rittenhouse jury

... case went to the anonymous jury after the judge, in an unusual move, allowed Rittenhouse himself to ... reach into a raffle drum and draw [6] numbered slips that determined which of the 18 jurors ... would be dismissed as alternates. ... usually performed by a court clerk ... Schroeder said later in the day that he has been having defendants do it for "I'm going to say 20 years, at least." Jury will return Wednesday morning ... appeared to be overwhelmingly white [race ID was not part of jury selection] ... As the jury deliberated, dozens of protesters -- some for Rittenhouse, some against -- stood

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outside the courthouse. Some talked quietly with those on the other side, while others shouted insults. One woman could be heard repeatedly calling some Rittenhouse supporters "white supremacists." ... Large protests that some had anticipated did not materialize ... On most days, only a few demonstrators gathered. Gov. Evers, who put 500 National Guard troops on stand-by, tweeted, "Regardless of the outcome in this case, I urge peace in Kenosha and across our state. ... I ask all those who choose to assemble and exercise their First Amendment rights in every community to do so safely and peacefully." Reviews protests, shootings, trial, closers, jury instructions. By Tarm, Forliti and Webber, AP
https://apnews.com/beedb77c055b2d24c9047e92b7c28f83

AG Kaul sues rental empire owner Berrada citing repeated abuses of tenants
... [14-count suit alleges] a range of illegal actions, including wrongly forcing some out of their units and confiscating their property ... fraudulent representation, unfair billing practices and requiring tenants to pay the costs -- including legal fees -- of exterminating pests. ... "Tenants also report (Berrada and his company) have caused infestation problems to spread within apartment building by conducting renovation projects in a negligent manner. ... Joe Berrada himself signed many of the agreements that are at issue," the suit states. ... personally oversees renovation projects onsite, including handling complaints from tenants" [who are illegally given 30-day notice to vacate to ease renovations.] ... standard rental agreements ... "included a number of illegal provisions" ... suit includes several examples of the Berrada organization pushing around tenants. Companies operated by Berrada, of Mequon via Morocco, own about 8,000 rental units in Milwaukee and Racine ... used 92 of his LLC's to purchase about 3,500 apartment units from January 2015 through June 2020, the suit says.
* Kaul at Milwaukee Courthouse presser: "I hope that landlords who may be uncertain about what the law is will look it up. ... When consumer laws are violated ... we work to enforce those laws to make sure that folks are getting justice." ... declined to say whether his office was looking into other Milwaukee landlords. ... declined to speculate about how much the financial penalties could amount to except to say it could be a "substantial" amount.
* Berrada spokesman email "vehemently denies any assertion of wrongdoing and will vigorously defend its interests. We remain committed to providing high quality housing to serve our tenants in and around the Milwaukee area."
More suit highlights. By Spivak, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/16/josh-kaul-sues-

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landlord-berrada-violations-landlord-tenant-law/6401781001/

VP Kamala Harris stresses importance of access to broadband, clean water
... [touted $1.2T infrastructure package in an interview:] "We are really focused on what we need to do around issues like internet and accessible and affordable high speed internet. This is a big issue, I know, for the people in Milwaukee and again around the country. ... we want to meet the need in each of those geographical locations, rural and urban," Harris said. "Understanding that all of those children ... all those families, small businesses. This is an essential requirement to function in the 21st century." ... [White House said] WI is set to receive at least $100M to help provide broadband coverage ... to at least 318,000 Wisconsinites ... About 1.2M ... will be eligible for ... "affordability connectivity benefit," which Harris described as "$30 a month vouchers for people who qualify." ... also stressed the importance of lead poisoning prevention [paint, pipes.] ... "It's been pretty well established to cause brain damage and damage to the nervous system." WI is expected to receive about $841M/5-yrs to improve water quality. Mayor Barrett, awaiting confirmation as ambassador to Luxembourg, said WI fiscal effect unknown but bill is an "incredible achievement. ... a win obviously for President Biden, but I view this as more a win for communities around this nation that need to improve their infrastructure." By Spicuzza, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/kamala-harris-touts-infrastructure-bill-impact-wisconsin-milwaukee/6402297001/

############
STORY TOPICS
############

RITTENHOUSE TRIAL ^top^
- How the Rittenhouse jury was narrowed
https://apnews.com/6083818efa5b6888d8059d97b17f85b7

- Jury in Rittenhouse case ends first day of deliberations
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/16/rittenhouse-jury-stays-out-after-first-day-deliberations/6404520001/

- At courthouse, conflict and protests continue as Kenosha tries to get back to normal
https://journaltimes.com/87410f8d-e2d3-5aae-932d-48341bdbd097.html

- As the nation awaits a Kyle Rittenhouse verdict, some raise eyebrows at the judge

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https://www.wpr.org/nation-awaits-kyle-rittenhouse-verdict-some-raise-eyebrows-judge

- Rittenhouse Prosecution 'Scored Major Points' in Closing Arguments: with 5:20 audio
https://www.newsweek.com/1649621

CORONAVIRUS *^top^*
- The average number of daily COVID-19 cases is at a level not seen since January, as health officials urge precautions for the holidays ... [7-day] average is 2,953 -- 11 cases higher than the most recent peak in September. ... [7] Precautions to make the holidays safer ... "None of these layers provides 100% protection but when added together, you can make your gathering far safer than it otherwise would be," said Ben Weston, the county's chief health policy adviser.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/wisconsin-average-covid-19-cases-reach-level-not-seen-since-january/8640424002/

- Green Co. on track to hit highest monthly COVID-19 case total, prompting move to 'crisis standards' for contact tracing
https://www.channel3000.com/green-co-on-track-to-hit-highest-monthly-covid-19-case-total-prompting-move-to-crisis-standards-for-contact-tracing/

- Minnesota COVID-19 deaths top 9,000 as new cases soar
https://lacrossetribune.com/e1211f09-fd4a-599e-ad13-7f32ce968a6c.html

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Proposal would give City of Milwaukee employees 12 weeks of paid parental leave ... would provide full pay to employees when a child is born or when employees adopt, begin fostering a child or have a stillbirth after 20 weeks of pregnancy, the legislation states. ... does not limit leave based on gender ... to limit the burden that often falls on women after childbirth. ... [not applicable to union-represented groups like MPD, MFD, estimated cost: $502,500/yr] ... City of Madison has a paid parental leave program that provides up to six weeks of paid leave, with about 4.5% using that option every year ... about four times higher than Milwaukee found in its analysis. ... [sponsor] Dimitrijevic, a mayoral candidate, said she has been frustrated with the lack of action at the federal level, where paid family leave is being debated as part of a large Democratic package.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/proposal-gives-milwaukee-city-workers-12-weeks-paid-parental-leave/8627001002/

AGRIBUSINESS *^top^*
- Wisconsin farm families share stories, future hopes during dairy industry's troubled times ... on Friday, July 9, [ex-dairyman Shawn Schmitz] joined a film crew from Milwaukee PBS and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for a brief visit to the [FdL farm] where he and his father used to milk around 250 cows, where they'd poured all their energy and finances into a plan wiped out by forces largely beyond their control. ...

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https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/2021/11/16/wisconsin-dairy-farm-families-share-challenges-during-difficult-time/6397570001/

- 'America's Dairyland: At the Crossroads' Debuts on Milwaukee PBS
https://shepherdexpress.com/news/features/americas-dairyland-at-the-crossroads-debuts-on-milwaukee-/

BANKING AND INVESTMENT ^top^
- Cryptocurrency Fraud Soars, Spurring State Action ... FTC reported in May that consumers sent more than $2M to impersonators pretending to be Tesla boss Elon Musk over the previous six months. From October 2020 to May, nearly 7,000 people reported losses of more than $80M on that and other fake crypto schemes, with a median loss of $1,900 ... AG's in Massachusetts and New York have issued fines and cease and desist orders to stop bogus crypto companies from bilking customers. ... Just last week, the Texas State Securities Board issued a cease and desist order against a fake company ... Treasure Growth Investments ... offering "lucrative" returns over very short periods of time--10% returns over 30 days and 80% returns over 120 days ... since 2019, when there were 67 investigations of digital asset fraud in all 50 states, he said. A year later, the number of investigations had nearly doubled to 125. ... Nebraska state Sen. Michael Flood, a Republican who introduced the bill and guided it to passage, said "good" players in cryptocurrency "want to run toward regulation and be in the front of this industry for the right reasons." Cryptocurrency companies have lobbied against federal regulation ... spent $2.4 million on lobbying from January through August. ... In Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, signed a law this year establishing that the purchaser of virtual currency gets the rights to that currency from the previous owner. The law also brings cryptocurrency under the same state business code that applies to other ordinary transactions.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/17/cryptocurrency-fraud-soars-spurring-state-action

CENSUS ^top^
- County delays leave little time for public participation in Milwaukee redistricting, council members say
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/delays-constrain-redistricting-input-milwaukee-council-members-say/8630153002/

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CIVIL LIBERTIES ^top^
- Bipartisan proposal would change marijuana possession penalties in Wisconsin
https://www.wpr.org/bipartisan-proposal-would-change-marijuana-possession-penalties-wisconsin

- Bipartisan bill would reduce pot penalties in some cities, increase fines in Madison
https://madison.com/wsj/3ee9ef4d-a98b-5ff4-bc65-63648203b1a1.html

- Bill to standardize marijuana fines would raise penalties in Milwaukee, Madison
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/wisconsin-bill-seeks-standardize-marijuana-possession-fines/6401901001/

COURTS ^top^
- Federal judge tosses most of coffee shop's lawsuit against city and county over 2020 mask order ... Conley, in a 30-page ruling, wrote that Helbachs Cafe "has failed to put forth sufficient evidence from which a reasonable jury could find any violation of its rights were the result of a policy, custom or practice." ... federal constitutional claims also failed. ... ruled Helbachs hadn't proven that Public Health had inadequately trained its investigators, or that the city of Madison is liable because of the actions of Paulsen and Heinrich as policymakers. Plaintiff atty. Eisberner "confident there will be additional filings related to the matter."
https://madison.com/wsj/c125f59f-cfeb-58f5-bda3-bb1149e05f11.html

- Former Circuit Court Judge Celello dies
https://www.ehextra.com/9434bf30-8b11-529f-984d-c2975559dd3b.html

DEMOGRAPHICS ^top^
- Why are so many Americans quitting? 7 Wisconsinites give their reasons
https://captimes.com/dd8befb6-fec6-53b6-921a-0a388d3a0a18.html

- 'Like throwing gasoline on a fire': How COVID ignited a work revolution
https://captimes.com/news/business/like-throwing-gasoline-on-a-fire-how-covid-ignited-a-work-revolution/article_a319c513-590d-5bf1-8398-524b19e71e00.html

EDUCATION ^top^
- 95% of WI school districts met or exceeded expectations in latest DPI report cards .. despite major [pandemic] interruptions ... Across Wisconsin, 399 of the 421 public school districts were rated at three stars or higher. ... [14 Dane County districts met, Waunakee significantly exceeded, Madison exceeded, Marshall "meeting few expectations"] ... based on a 100-point scale and weighted for certain situations ... 2,101 public schools and 376 voucher schools received [SY20-21] report cards. ... 1,781 met, exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations.... 199 public schools and 240 private voucher schools did not have enough available data ... in four priority areas: student

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achievement, academic growth, target group outcomes, and students being on track and prepared for post-secondary education ... target group outcomes, replaced closing achievement gaps. ... sheds additional light on students in schools with low test scores. ... More than half of the state's school districts received a four- or five-star rating. ... Beloit and Lake Holcombe were the only two districts rated at one star. Madison-area score analysis. MMSD's LeMonds, Waunakee SD's Schell comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/8ffa5688-415f-5e72-a234-f686bf34b8a0.html

- 'Not satisfied' | RUSD faces unsatisfactory student achievement, pre- and post-pandemic
https://journaltimes.com/074fb48b-d2fe-5c33-975a-3a9104a401e3.html

- Here's how Brown County schools scored on the first state report cards in two years ... overall score of 59.5 "meets expectations," according to DPI, though it's down 7.4 points from the district's 2018-19 score. In 2018-19, it would have been considered to "meet few expectations."
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2021/11/16/brown-county-school-report-cards-released-first-time-pandemic/8632840002/

- Colleagues honor Rock County sheriff's deputy who died last week
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/9220a2b1-f85d-56dd-9c42-e0e75178e802.html

- What do you think about how your children are learning to read? We want to talk with you, Is there anything you'd share with other parents about your child's reading education?
https://www.wpr.org/what-do-you-think-about-how-your-children-are-learning-read-we-want-talk-you

- Graduate workers blast UW-Madison for 'paltry' pay raises
https://captimes.com/c88f4df4-0138-5e8d-bee9-a0a005851588.html

- UW Oshkosh to install naloxone kits in residence halls to prevent opioid overdoses
https://captimes.com/0c982401-0d3e-52b2-bf4e-fc9d0cb5b1cc.html

- Without $5.6M food upgrade, UWO-Fox Cities says it'll lose 5% of its students
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/17/uwo-fox-cities-hoping-5-6-million-upgrade-attract-students/8588789002/

- 8 UW-W students win $7K for getting vaccinated
https://www.dailyunion.com/88545e77-f2b3-5c6a-b7cf-e0dd32f4f70b.html

- River Falls recognized [by SafeWise] as one of top 50 safest college towns in the country
https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/b143165a-4666-11ec-b983-c30af5e9f500.html

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ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- Bills seek to provide funding for CWD testing, research ... [Smith-Shankland] "Healthy Herd, Healthy Hunt" ... aims to help reduce and prevent the spread of CWD.
https://www.leadertelegram.com/d918c466-95cb-51cc-8327-a939793032e0.html

- Milroy introduces legislation for veterans to fish free, Bill designates weekend in July for veterans to fish without fees to help Vets on the Lake.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/northland-outdoors/7283810-Milroy-introduces-legislation-for-veterans-to-fish-free

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Black moms, their babies face higher health risk in Wisconsin, but Legislature won't address it
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/16/wisconsin-legislators-push-health-improvements-black-moms-babies/6122912001/

- Advocate Aurora leans into hybrid office work, exiting some real estate: CEO Skogsbergh
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/16/advocate-aurora-leans-into-hybrid-office-work-exi.html

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Madison police escalated tensions during 2020 Floyd protests, report finds... U-Penn Law's Quattrone Center report ... identified 14 "disturbing and undesirable" incidents and gave 69 recommendations, techniques to minimize police's physical presence while still maintaining public safety ... a reduced [police] presence [when] officers ... are the focus of the protest, [to] minimize escalation. ... recommendations ... included: * Communicate more effectively before, during and after protests * Avoid tear gases and other methods of group dispersal whenever possible * Use body cams * Remove squad cars from active protest areas * Enlist community leaders pre-protest to prioritize public safety with minimal police engagement * Train all officers more on crowd control * Train senior officers more on incident command ... "The distinction between what's legal and what the community perceives as just is what's important for MPD to understand so it can modify its actions in ways that the community thinks is proportional," [U-Penn prof.] Hollway said. ... [MPD chief] Barnes said he intends to implement all 69 recommendations, some of which are already in effect. Some recommendations listed.
https://captimes.com/72c916b2-edb8-5d35-af4f-a27c25478f2d.html

- Outside review finds Madison police officers unprepared for the 'scope and emotion' of protests
https://www.wpr.org/outside-review-finds-madison-police-officers-unprepared-scope-and-emotion-protests

- Outside group recommends 'less is more' approach for Madison police protest

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response
https://madison.com/wsj/83048291-2e5e-575e-8bba-6b9efc515a17.html

- Colleagues honor Rock County sheriff's deputy [Kaderly] who died last week
https://www.gazettextra.com/news/local/colleagues-honor-rock-county-sheriffs-deputy-who-died-last-week/article_a7ce1c1c-aa1e-5410-8abc-61c1c9eda507.html

- Baraboo man found unconscious gets prison time for heroin possession
https://www.wiscnews.com/a7067f47-74f2-51e3-8ea9-0f4399ba916c.html

NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Green Bay Packers sell 33K shares in first three hours to kick off stock sale ... at $300 a share plus a handling fee until Feb. 25, or until they run out ... During the 2011 sale, the team offered 250K shares at $250 each and added another 30K after about three weeks. It also extended the sales period. In the end, the Packers sold 269K shares and raised $67.M. ... if all shares are sold, will raise $90M ... toward $250M in Lambeau Field projects, including concourse renovation and new digital video scoreboards. ... Murphy defended the sale against criticism that the Packers are rich enough they don't need the money. The team reported $507M in revenue for the pre-pandemic year [3/19-3/20] ... had a corporate reserve fund of $491M. "We do have a healthy corporate reserve fund that has grown over the years. We really view that as truly for emergencies," Murphy said. "That's really for unprecedented times where we run into big issues."
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/11/16/green-bay-packers-sell-33-000-shares-three-hours-stock-sale/8637582002/

- DA won't file charges against Joe Luginbill in investigation of nonprofit
https://www.leadertelegram.com/f49acc62-8af8-594a-9f6c-9ad7244e767a.html

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- Sunken sailboat pulled from Lake Superior
https://www.apg-wi.com/5d050947-3227-52ab-bcfc-ce6e0621ce57.html

RACE RELATIONS ^top^
- Five key takeaways from the Urban Institute's report on how money flows throughout Milwaukee ... highlighting how historical inequities, hypersegregation and lingering fallout from the 2008 financial crisis have severely limited the city's equitable access to capital.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/17/5-takeaways-urban-institute-report-capital-flow-milwaukee/8638422002/

REAL ESTATE ^top^

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

- Broker: Bidding for former GM site remains open an extra week
https://www.gazettextra.com/21cd88f1-2d90-5f95-9785-da7271189711.html

TRIBES ^top^
- Tribes hope infrastructure law means they'll finally get clean drinking water
https://www.wpr.org/tribes-hope-infrastructure-law-means-theyll-finally-get-clean-drinking-water

COLUMNS ^top^
- Ron Johnson: The big Russian collusion coverup must end with John Durham's report: The big question that remains is whether the ringleader and masterminds of the Russian collusion hoax will ever be revealed and held accountable.
https://thefederalist.com/2021/11/16/the-big-russian-collusion-coverup-must-end-with-john-durhams-report/

- John Nichols: The Coolest Member of the Senate Is Retiring, Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy has used comic books to fight for a ban on land mines and brought the Grateful Dead to the Senate Dining Room.
https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/leahy-retires/

- Dave Zweifel: Nursing home hoopla another means for GOP hacks to fix elections
https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-nursing-home-hoopla-another-means-for-gop-hacks-to-fix-elections/article_763b1086-71d1-57f2-9964-a097671de5a4.html

- Spencer Black: Still time for Dems to turn the tide before 2022 elections
https://captimes.com/1fbabb57-a0e2-590a-a53d-d5d660c50e1a.html

- Dave Cieslewicz: School fights and elections ... Three school board seats are up next spring. These are seats held by board President Ali Muldrow and members Ananda Mirilli and Cris Carusi. All three were supporters of removing the SROs and they are leaders in the direction of this current board. ... There's nothing more important to the long-term health of our city than its public schools. It's becoming clear to a growing number of Madisonians that a lot is not right there. Let's hope that serious people committed to taking our schools in a better direction run for office next spring.
https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/school-fights-and-elections/

- Steven M. Biskupic: Rethinking the evaluation of police shootings: A proposal to enhance public credibility.
https://www.badgerinstitute.org/BI-Files/Reports/2021Nov.POLICYANALYSIS_final3_web.pdf

- Clint Wolf: Better ways to choose candidates, Reforming primary election process might ease polarization.

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https://www.beloitdailynews.com/dbff8365-62cc-5ffc-b7d3-74cdfb2b571a.html

- WI comedian Kristin Brey: WI politics: Five red flags to watch for when you read public opinion polls ... Adding to the confusion, you also have a bunch of media outlets conducting their own web surveys that are about as scientific as donut earth theory. ... 1. People picked the poll instead of the poll picking the people [random or self-opt-in] ... 2. The poll's methodology is not transparent ... 3. The poll was conducted and paid for by disreputable or biased parties ... 4. Biased poll questions ... 5. The sample size is too small ... To sum up, there are still polls you can trust. But if you want to trust a poll, and especially if you want to cite a poll on a Reddit thread, you can't be lazy. ... So while you can judge the quality, remember no poll is perfect, but it's also rare that any poll is completely useless.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/solutions/2021/11/17/wisconsin-politics-five-red-flags-watch-opinion-polls/8632846002/

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From: "WisPolitics.com" <news@wispolitics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 10:18 AM
To: Rep.Horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: WED News Summary: Lawmakers on both sides introduce bill to reduce marijuana penalties; Rittenhouse jury continues deliberations

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WISPOLITICS.COM
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WED News Summary -- 17 Nov. 2021

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:
https://www.wispolitics.com/2021/wed-news-summary-lawmakers-on-both-sides-introduce-bill-to-reduce-marijuana-penalties-rittenhouse-jury-continues-deliberations/

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Tomorrow: WisPolitics Luncheon: Panel Discussion on Wisconsin Redistricting

Join us for an in-person luncheon at The Madison Club on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a discussion about the once-a-decade redrawing of congressional and legislative boundaries in Wisconsin.

The event features a panel discussion with three former legislators who have deep experience in legislative map-making -- Republicans Scott Jensen and Joe Handrick plus Democrat Chuck Chvala -- along with Elizabeth Treviño, Wisconsin state director of allontheline.org.

See additional details and register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-panel-discussion-on-wi-redistricting-tickets-186304851827

This luncheon is sponsored by Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

WisPolitics.com subscribers and members, as well as Madison Club members and their guests, receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons.

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STORY TOPICS

- Rittenhouse trial
- Coronavirus
- Local government
- Agribusiness
- Banking and investment
- Census
- Civil liberties
- Courts
- Demographics
- Education
- Environment
- Health care
- Law and order
- Non-profits
- Public health and safety
- Race relations
- Real estate
- Tribes
- Columns

TOP STORIES

Wisconsin lawmakers make bipartisan effort to reduce marijuana penalties

... Bill would cut penalty for possession of up to 14 grams of marijuana ... from a $1,000 misdemeanor to a $100 civil forfeiture, similar to a traffic violation. ... possession of marijuana-related paraphernalia would go from a $500 misdemeanor to a $10 civil forfeiture. ... [and] a criminal offense of marijuana possession up to 28 grams would not count toward a repeat conviction, or as a prior conviction for someone charged with possession of another controlled substance. ... also limit the liability of employers that don't require testing for THC or synthetic cannabinoids as a condition of employment (with some exceptions for jobs that require the testing for safety and security). ... "Simple possession of small amounts of marijuana should not result in one being sent to prison and risking their chances of employment for the rest of their life," Sortwell said in a statement. Milwaukee DA report found WI has averaged 15,485 marijuana arrests per year over the last decade. ACLU found WI's marijuana arrest rate for Black people is 4.2 times higher than for white - nation's eighth-highest per capita rate for Blacks. 2019 MU Law poll found 59% supported legal marijuana and 83% supported medical marijuana. Evers has proposed various marijuana bills, all ignored by GOP Legislature. Sortwell's 2017 decriminalization of 10 grams or less, reintroduced in 2121, has bipartisan support, as did Bernier-Felzkowski's and Testin-Erpenbach-Taylor's 2019 medical marijuana bills. Senate Leader LeMahieu earlier this year cited a dearth of GOP votes for any marijuana bill. Sortwell said Assembly GOP leaders "took it under advisement. ... I really hope we can at least get a hearing." Ortiz-Velez said Dem leadership "supports ... this issue ... and any issues that reflect the will of the people." By Opoien, CAPITAL TIMES
https://captimes.com/da9878dd-6ad2-5e9b-b23b-b626c61a9692.html

No verdict after daylong deliberations by Rittenhouse jury

... case went to the anonymous jury after the judge, in an unusual move, allowed Rittenhouse himself to ... reach into a raffle drum and draw [6] numbered slips that determined which of the 18 jurors ... would be dismissed as alternates. ... usually performed by a court clerk ... Schroeder said later in the day that he has been having defendants do it for "I'm going to say 20 years, at least." Jury will return Wednesday morning ... appeared to be overwhelmingly white [race ID was not part of jury selection] ... As the jury deliberated, dozens of protesters -- some for Rittenhouse, some against -- stood

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outside the courthouse. Some talked quietly with those on the other side, while others shouted insults. One woman could be heard repeatedly calling some Rittenhouse supporters "white supremacists." ... Large protests that some had anticipated did not materialize ... On most days, only a few demonstrators gathered. Gov. Evers, who put 500 National Guard troops on stand-by, tweeted, "Regardless of the outcome in this case, I urge peace in Kenosha and across our state. ... I ask all those who choose to assemble and exercise their First Amendment rights in every community to do so safely and peacefully." Reviews protests, shootings, trial, closers, jury instructions. By Tarm, Forliti and Webber, AP
https://apnews.com/beedb77c055b2d24c9047e92b7c28f83

AG Kaul sues rental empire owner Berrada citing repeated abuses of tenants
... [14-count suit alleges] a range of illegal actions, including wrongly forcing some out of their units and confiscating their property ... fraudulent representation, unfair billing practices and requiring tenants to pay the costs -- including legal fees -- of exterminating pests. ... "Tenants also report (Berrada and his company) have caused infestation problems to spread within apartment building by conducting renovation projects in a negligent manner. ... Joe Berrada himself signed many of the agreements that are at issue," the suit states. ... personally oversees renovation projects onsite, including handling complaints from tenants" [who are illegally given 30-day notice to vacate to ease renovations.] ... standard rental agreements ... "included a number of illegal provisions" ... suit includes several examples of the Berrada organization pushing around tenants. Companies operated by Berrada, of Mequon via Morocco, own about 8,000 rental units in Milwaukee and Racine ... used 92 of his LLC's to purchase about 3,500 apartment units from January 2015 through June 2020, the suit says.
* Kaul at Milwaukee Courthouse presser: "I hope that landlords who may be uncertain about what the law is will look it up. ... When consumer laws are violated ... we work to enforce those laws to make sure that folks are getting justice." ... declined to say whether his office was looking into other Milwaukee landlords. ... declined to speculate about how much the financial penalties could amount to except to say it could be a "substantial" amount.
* Berrada spokesman email "vehemently denies any assertion of wrongdoing and will vigorously defend its interests. We remain committed to providing high quality housing to serve our tenants in and around the Milwaukee area."
More suit highlights. By Spivak, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/16/josh-kaul-sues-

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landlord-berrada-violations-landlord-tenant-law/6401781001/

VP Kamala Harris stresses importance of access to broadband, clean water
... [touted $1.2T infrastructure package in an interview:] "We are really focused on what we need to do around issues like internet and accessible and affordable high speed internet. This is a big issue, I know, for the people in Milwaukee and again around the country. ... we want to meet the need in each of those geographical locations, rural and urban," Harris said. "Understanding that all of those children ... all those families, small businesses. This is an essential requirement to function in the 21st century." ... [White House said] WI is set to receive at least $100M to help provide broadband coverage ... to at least 318,000 Wisconsinites ... About 1.2M ... will be eligible for ... "affordability connectivity benefit," which Harris described as "$30 a month vouchers for people who qualify." ... also stressed the importance of lead poisoning prevention [paint, pipes.] ... "It's been pretty well established to cause brain damage and damage to the nervous system." WI is expected to receive about $841M/5-yrs to improve water quality. Mayor Barrett, awaiting confirmation as ambassador to Luxembourg, said WI fiscal effect unknown but bill is an "incredible achievement. ... a win obviously for President Biden, but I view this as more a win for communities around this nation that need to improve their infrastructure." By Spicuzza, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/kamala-harris-touts-infrastructure-bill-impact-wisconsin-milwaukee/6402297001/

############
STORY TOPICS
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RITTENHOUSE TRIAL *^top^*
- How the Rittenhouse jury was narrowed
https://apnews.com/6083818efa5b6888d8059d97b17f85b7

- Jury in Rittenhouse case ends first day of deliberations
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/16/rittenhouse-jury-stays-out-after-first-day-deliberations/6404520001/

- At courthouse, conflict and protests continue as Kenosha tries to get back to normal
https://journaltimes.com/87410f8d-e2d3-5aae-932d-48341bdbd097.html

- As the nation awaits a Kyle Rittenhouse verdict, some raise eyebrows at the judge

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https://www.wpr.org/nation-awaits-kyle-rittenhouse-verdict-some-raise-eyebrows-judge

- Rittenhouse Prosecution 'Scored Major Points' in Closing Arguments: with 5:20 audio
https://www.newsweek.com/1649621

CORONAVIRUS *^top^*
- The average number of daily COVID-19 cases is at a level not seen since January, as health officials urge precautions for the holidays ... [7-day] average is 2,953 -- 11 cases higher than the most recent peak in September. ... [7] Precautions to make the holidays safer ... "None of these layers provides 100% protection but when added together, you can make your gathering far safer than it otherwise would be," said Ben Weston, the county's chief health policy adviser.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/wisconsin-average-covid-19-cases-reach-level-not-seen-since-january/8640424002/

- Green Co. on track to hit highest monthly COVID-19 case total, prompting move to 'crisis standards' for contact tracing
https://www.channel3000.com/green-co-on-track-to-hit-highest-monthly-covid-19-case-total-prompting-move-to-crisis-standards-for-contact-tracing/

- Minnesota COVID-19 deaths top 9,000 as new cases soar
https://lacrossetribune.com/e1211f09-fd4a-599e-ad13-7f32ce968a6c.html

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *^top^*
- Proposal would give City of Milwaukee employees 12 weeks of paid parental leave ... would provide full pay to employees when a child is born or when employees adopt, begin fostering a child or have a stillbirth after 20 weeks of pregnancy, the legislation states. ... does not limit leave based on gender ... to limit the burden that often falls on women after childbirth. ... [not applicable to union-represented groups like MPD, MFD, estimated cost: $502,500/yr] ... City of Madison has a paid parental leave program that provides up to six weeks of paid leave, with about 4.5% using that option every year ... about four times higher than Milwaukee found in its analysis. ... [sponsor] Dimitrijevic, a mayoral candidate, said she has been frustrated with the lack of action at the federal level, where paid family leave is being debated as part of a large Democratic package.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/proposal-gives-milwaukee-city-workers-12-weeks-paid-parental-leave/8627001002/

AGRIBUSINESS *^top^*
- Wisconsin farm families share stories, future hopes during dairy industry's troubled times ... on Friday, July 9, [ex-dairyman Shawn Schmitz] joined a film crew from Milwaukee PBS and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for a brief visit to the [FdL farm] where he and his father used to milk around 250 cows, where they'd poured all their energy and finances into a plan wiped out by forces largely beyond their control. ...

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Since 2000, Wisconsin has lost around 68% of its dairy farms, most of them small- and medium-sized operations like the Schmitz family had for more than a half century. Yet milk production has risen as the remaining farms have gotten larger or more efficient through improved cattle genetics and advances in technologies. ... [pitches 60-min. "America's Dairyland at a Crossroads"] follow[ing] four Wisconsin farm families as they share their stories and hopes for a future that, in some cases, might not include dairy. Profiles NIgon View Dairy, Jim Briggs' dairy, Roehl Acres dairy.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/2021/11/16/wisconsin-dairy-farm-families-share-challenges-during-difficult-time/6397570001/

- 'America's Dairyland: At the Crossroads' Debuts on Milwaukee PBS
https://shepherdexpress.com/news/features/americas-dairyland-at-the-crossroads-debuts-on-milwaukee-/

BANKING AND INVESTMENT ^top^
- Cryptocurrency Fraud Soars, Spurring State Action ... FTC reported in May that consumers sent more than $2M to impersonators pretending to be Tesla boss Elon Musk over the previous six months. From October 2020 to May, nearly 7,000 people reported losses of more than $80M on that and other fake crypto schemes, with a median loss of $1,900 ... AG's in Massachusetts and New York have issued fines and cease and desist orders to stop bogus crypto companies from bilking customers. ... Just last week, the Texas State Securities Board issued a cease and desist order against a fake company ... Treasure Growth Investments ... offering "lucrative" returns over very short periods of time--10% returns over 30 days and 80% returns over 120 days ... since 2019, when there were 67 investigations of digital asset fraud in all 50 states, he said. A year later, the number of investigations had nearly doubled to 125. ... Nebraska state Sen. Michael Flood, a Republican who introduced the bill and guided it to passage, said "good" players in cryptocurrency "want to run toward regulation and be in the front of this industry for the right reasons." Cryptocurrency companies have lobbied against federal regulation ... spent $2.4 million on lobbying from January through August. ... In Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, signed a law this year establishing that the purchaser of virtual currency gets the rights to that currency from the previous owner. The law also brings cryptocurrency under the same state business code that applies to other ordinary transactions.
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/11/17/cryptocurrency-fraud-soars-spurring-state-action

CENSUS ^top^
- County delays leave little time for public participation in Milwaukee redistricting, council members say
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/16/delays-constrain-redistricting-input-milwaukee-council-members-say/8630153002/

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CIVIL LIBERTIES ^top^
- Bipartisan proposal would change marijuana possession penalties in Wisconsin
https://www.wpr.org/bipartisan-proposal-would-change-marijuana-possession-penalties-wisconsin

- Bipartisan bill would reduce pot penalties in some cities, increase fines in Madison
https://madison.com/wsj/3ee9ef4d-a98b-5ff4-bc65-63648203b1a1.html

- Bill to standardize marijuana fines would raise penalties in Milwaukee, Madison
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/wisconsin-bill-seeks-standardize-marijuana-possession-fines/6401901001/

COURTS ^top^
- Federal judge tosses most of coffee shop's lawsuit against city and county over 2020 mask order ... Conley, in a 30-page ruling, wrote that Helbachs Cafe "has failed to put forth sufficient evidence from which a reasonable jury could find any violation of its rights were the result of a policy, custom or practice." ... federal constitutional claims also failed. ... ruled Helbachs hadn't proven that Public Health had inadequately trained its investigators, or that the city of Madison is liable because of the actions of Paulsen and Heinrich as policymakers. Plaintiff atty. Eisberner "confident there will be additional filings related to the matter."
https://madison.com/wsj/c125f59f-cfeb-58f5-bda3-bb1149e05f11.html

- Former Circuit Court Judge Celello dies
https://www.ehextra.com/9434bf30-8b11-529f-984d-c2975559dd3b.html

DEMOGRAPHICS ^top^
- Why are so many Americans quitting? 7 Wisconsinites give their reasons
https://captimes.com/dd8befb6-fec6-53b6-921a-0a388d3a0a18.html

- 'Like throwing gasoline on a fire': How COVID ignited a work revolution
https://captimes.com/news/business/like-throwing-gasoline-on-a-fire-how-covid-ignited-a-work-revolution/article_a319c513-590d-5bf1-8398-524b19e71e00.html

EDUCATION ^top^
- 95% of WI school districts met or exceeded expectations in latest DPI report cards .. despite major [pandemic] interruptions ... Across Wisconsin, 399 of the 421 public school districts were rated at three stars or higher. ... [14 Dane County districts met, Waunakee significantly exceeded, Madison exceeded, Marshall "meeting few expectations"] ... based on a 100-point scale and weighted for certain situations ... 2,101 public schools and 376 voucher schools received [SY20-21] report cards. ... 1,781 met, exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations.... 199 public schools and 240 private voucher schools did not have enough available data ... in four priority areas: student

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achievement, academic growth, target group outcomes, and students being on track and prepared for post-secondary education ... target group outcomes, replaced closing achievement gaps. ... sheds additional light on students in schools with low test scores. ... More than half of the state's school districts received a four- or five-star rating. ... Beloit and Lake Holcombe were the only two districts rated at one star. Madison-area score analysis. MMSD's LeMonds, Waunakee SD's Schell comment.
https://madison.com/wsj/8ffa5688-415f-5e72-a234-f686bf34b8a0.html

- 'Not satisfied' | RUSD faces unsatisfactory student achievement, pre- and post-pandemic
https://journaltimes.com/074fb48b-d2fe-5c33-975a-3a9104a401e3.html

- Here's how Brown County schools scored on the first state report cards in two years ... overall score of 59.5 "meets expectations," according to DPI, though it's down 7.4 points from the district's 2018-19 score. In 2018-19, it would have been considered to "meet few expectations."
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2021/11/16/brown-county-school-report-cards-released-first-time-pandemic/8632840002/

- Colleagues honor Rock County sheriff's deputy who died last week
https://www.beloitdailynews.com/9220a2b1-f85d-56dd-9c42-e0e75178e802.html

- What do you think about how your children are learning to read? We want to talk with you, Is there anything you'd share with other parents about your child's reading education?
https://www.wpr.org/what-do-you-think-about-how-your-children-are-learning-read-we-want-talk-you

- Graduate workers blast UW-Madison for 'paltry' pay raises
https://captimes.com/c88f4df4-0138-5e8d-bee9-a0a005851588.html

- UW Oshkosh to install naloxone kits in residence halls to prevent opioid overdoses
https://captimes.com/0c982401-0d3e-52b2-bf4e-fc9d0cb5b1cc.html

- Without $5.6M food upgrade, UWO-Fox Cities says it'll lose 5% of its students
https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/11/17/uwo-fox-cities-hoping-5-6-million-upgrade-attract-students/8588789002/

- 8 UW-W students win $7K for getting vaccinated
https://www.dailyunion.com/88545e77-f2b3-5c6a-b7cf-e0dd32f4f70b.html

- River Falls recognized [by SafeWise] as one of top 50 safest college towns in the country
https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/b143165a-4666-11ec-b983-c30af5e9f500.html

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ENVIRONMENT ^top^
- Bills seek to provide funding for CWD testing, research ... [Smith-Shankland] "Healthy Herd, Healthy Hunt" ... aims to help reduce and prevent the spread of CWD.
https://www.leadertelegram.com/d918c466-95cb-51cc-8327-a939793032e0.html

- Milroy introduces legislation for veterans to fish free, Bill designates weekend in July for veterans to fish without fees to help Vets on the Lake.
https://www.superiortelegram.com/northland-outdoors/7283810-Milroy-introduces-legislation-for-veterans-to-fish-free

HEALTH CARE ^top^
- Black moms, their babies face higher health risk in Wisconsin, but Legislature won't address it
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/11/16/wisconsin-legislators-push-health-improvements-black-moms-babies/6122912001/

- Advocate Aurora leans into hybrid office work, exiting some real estate: CEO Skogsbergh
https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2021/11/16/advocate-aurora-leans-into-hybrid-office-work-exi.html

LAW AND ORDER ^top^
- Madison police escalated tensions during 2020 Floyd protests, report finds... U-Penn Law's Quattrone Center report ... identified 14 "disturbing and undesirable" incidents and gave 69 recommendations, techniques to minimize police's physical presence while still maintaining public safety ... a reduced [police] presence [when] officers ... are the focus of the protest, [to] minimize escalation. ... recommendations ... included: * Communicate more effectively before, during and after protests * Avoid tear gases and other methods of group dispersal whenever possible * Use body cams * Remove squad cars from active protest areas * Enlist community leaders pre-protest to prioritize public safety with minimal police engagement * Train all officers more on crowd control * Train senior officers more on incident command ... "The distinction between what's legal and what the community perceives as just is what's important for MPD to understand so it can modify its actions in ways that the community thinks is proportional," [U-Penn prof.] Hollway said. ... [MPD chief] Barnes said he intends to implement all 69 recommendations, some of which are already in effect. Some recommendations listed.
https://captimes.com/72c916b2-edb8-5d35-af4f-a27c25478f2d.html

- Outside review finds Madison police officers unprepared for the 'scope and emotion' of protests
https://www.wpr.org/outside-review-finds-madison-police-officers-unprepared-scope-and-emotion-protests

- Outside group recommends 'less is more' approach for Madison police protest

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response
https://madison.com/wsj/83048291-2e5e-575e-8bba-6b9efc515a17.html

- Colleagues honor Rock County sheriff's deputy [Kaderly] who died last week
https://www.gazettextra.com/news/local/colleagues-honor-rock-county-sheriffs-deputy-who-died-last-week/article_a7ce1c1c-aa1e-5410-8abc-61c1c9eda507.html

- Baraboo man found unconscious gets prison time for heroin possession
https://www.wiscnews.com/a7067f47-74f2-51e3-8ea9-0f4399ba916c.html

NON-PROFITS ^top^
- Green Bay Packers sell 33K shares in first three hours to kick off stock sale ... at $300 a share plus a handling fee until Feb. 25, or until they run out ... During the 2011 sale, the team offered 250K shares at $250 each and added another 30K after about three weeks. It also extended the sales period. In the end, the Packers sold 269K shares and raised $67.M. ... if all shares are sold, will raise $90M ... toward $250M in Lambeau Field projects, including concourse renovation and new digital video scoreboards. ... Murphy defended the sale against criticism that the Packers are rich enough they don't need the money. The team reported $507M in revenue for the pre-pandemic year [3/19-3/20] ... had a corporate reserve fund of $491M. "We do have a healthy corporate reserve fund that has grown over the years. We really view that as truly for emergencies," Murphy said. "That's really for unprecedented times where we run into big issues."
https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/11/16/green-bay-packers-sell-33-000-shares-three-hours-stock-sale/8637582002/

- DA won't file charges against Joe Luginbill in investigation of nonprofit
https://www.leadertelegram.com/f49acc62-8af8-594a-9f6c-9ad7244e767a.html

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ^top^
- Sunken sailboat pulled from Lake Superior
https://www.apg-wi.com/5d050947-3227-52ab-bcfc-ce6e0621ce57.html

RACE RELATIONS ^top^
- Five key takeaways from the Urban Institute's report on how money flows throughout Milwaukee ... highlighting how historical inequities, hypersegregation and lingering fallout from the 2008 financial crisis have severely limited the city's equitable access to capital.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2021/11/17/5-takeaways-urban-institute-report-capital-flow-milwaukee/8638422002/

REAL ESTATE ^top^

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- Broker: Bidding for former GM site remains open an extra week
https://www.gazettextra.com/21cd88f1-2d90-5f95-9785-da7271189711.html

TRIBES ^top^
- Tribes hope infrastructure law means they'll finally get clean drinking water
https://www.wpr.org/tribes-hope-infrastructure-law-means-theyll-finally-get-clean-drinking-water

COLUMNS ^top^
- Ron Johnson: The big Russian collusion coverup must end with John Durham's report: The big question that remains is whether the ringleader and masterminds of the Russian collusion hoax will ever be revealed and held accountable.
https://thefederalist.com/2021/11/16/the-big-russian-collusion-coverup-must-end-with-john-durhams-report/

- John Nichols: The Coolest Member of the Senate Is Retiring, Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy has used comic books to fight for a ban on land mines and brought the Grateful Dead to the Senate Dining Room.
https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/leahy-retires/

- Dave Zweifel: Nursing home hoopla another means for GOP hacks to fix elections
https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-nursing-home-hoopla-another-means-for-gop-hacks-to-fix-elections/article_763b1086-71d1-57f2-9964-a097671de5a4.html

- Spencer Black: Still time for Dems to turn the tide before 2022 elections
https://captimes.com/1fbabb57-a0e2-590a-a53d-d5d660c50e1a.html

- Dave Cieslewicz: School fights and elections ... Three school board seats are up next spring. These are seats held by board President Ali Muldrow and members Ananda Mirilli and Cris Carusi. All three were supporters of removing the SROs and they are leaders in the direction of this current board. ... There's nothing more important to the long-term health of our city than its public schools. It's becoming clear to a growing number of Madisonians that a lot is not right there. Let's hope that serious people committed to taking our schools in a better direction run for office next spring.
https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/school-fights-and-elections/

- Steven M. Biskupic: Rethinking the evaluation of police shootings: A proposal to enhance public credibility.
https://www.badgerinstitute.org/BI-Files/Reports/2021Nov.POLICYANALYSIS_final3_web.pdf

- Clint Wolf: Better ways to choose candidates, Reforming primary election process might ease polarization.

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https://www.beloitdailynews.com/dbff8365-62cc-5ffc-b7d3-74cdfb2b571a.html

- WI comedian Kristin Brey: WI politics: Five red flags to watch for when you read public opinion polls ... Adding to the confusion, you also have a bunch of media outlets conducting their own web surveys that are about as scientific as donut earth theory. ... 1. People picked the poll instead of the poll picking the people [random or self-opt-in] ... 2. The poll's methodology is not transparent ... 3. The poll was conducted and paid for by disreputable or biased parties ... 4. Biased poll questions ... 5. The sample size is too small ... To sum up, there are still polls you can trust. But if you want to trust a poll, and especially if you want to cite a poll on a Reddit thread, you can't be lazy. ... So while you can judge the quality, remember no poll is perfect, but it's also rare that any poll is completely useless.
https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/solutions/2021/11/17/wisconsin-politics-five-red-flags-watch-opinion-polls/8632846002/

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From: Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty <info@will-law.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 4:57 PM
To: rep.horlacher@legis.wisconsin.gov
Subject: Wisconsin Supreme Court Adopts Criteria for Redistricting in WILL Lawsuit

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WISCONSIN INSTITUTE FOR LAW & LIBERTY

Wisconsin Supreme Court Adopts Criteria for Redistricting in WILL Lawsuit

Court will adopt maps without considering partisanship, will seek "least changes"

The News: The Wisconsin Supreme Court issued an **opinion** in ***Johnson v. WEC***, a Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty (WILL) redistricting case, that adopts criteria for the redistricting process. The decision from the Wisconsin Supreme Court adopts WILL's proposal that the Court not consider political partisanship when approving new legislative districts, and will seek to make the "least changes" from the current maps.

The Quote: WILL Deputy Counsel, Anthony LoCoco, said, "Today's decision recognizes the proper role of the judiciary in the redistricting process. As the United States Supreme Court has recognized, there is no legal standard by which a court could determine what projected political outcome is "fair." We are pleased that the Court agreed with our arguments that political partisanship is not an appropriate factor to consider when redrawing district maps and that it should follow a least-changes approach in accomplishing its task."

Background: WILL filed an **original action** to the Wisconsin Supreme Court on August 23, 2021 urging the court to accept jurisdiction and declare the current state legislative and congressional districts unconstitutional. A majority

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on the Wisconsin Supreme Court **agreed** to take WILL's original action and accept jurisdiction over Wisconsin's redistricting process on September 22, 2021.

In November, the legislature voted to approve maps and sent them to Governor Evers. But Evers, unsurprisingly, quickly vetoed the maps. This moved the process to the Wisconsin Supreme Court where the court had to establish criteria for adopting new maps.

WILL made arguments that the Court should not consider political partisanship and should make the "least changes" when adopting new maps. In the split **decision** issued Tuesday, a majority on the Court agreed with WILL.

What Happens Next? The parties will provide proposed maps for the Court to consider. The Court has stated it may schedule a hearing for January 2022.

Read More:

- **Supreme Court Decision**, November 30, 2021
- **Wisconsin Supreme Court Order Granting Original Action**, September 22, 2021
- **Petition for Original Action**, August 23, 2021

*Read and share this **press release** online.*

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