March 24, 2021

The Honorable Janel Brandtjen
Room 12 West, State Capitol
Madison, WI

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Representative Brandtjen:

On March 12, 2021, the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) received your public records request for communications between the WEC and several individuals associated with the City of Green Bay, Brown County and other groups. Specifically, you requested:

...any communications including, but not limited to, emails and attachments, both sent and received; text messages; messages and materials exchanged or viewed through online applications; any other correspondence, internal and external; and all other records, including both physical and electronic between the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) and the organizations/people listed below. I am requesting these documents for the timespan of August 1, 2020 through November 20, 2020. Specifically, I am requesting any and all communications between the WEC, including Meagan Wolfe, the WEC’s Attorney’s Office or any other person within the WEC and the following:

- Any persons in the City of Green Bay’s Clerk’s Office
- Any persons in the City of Green Bay’s Mayor’s Office
- Any persons in the City of Green Bay’s Attorney’s Office
- Any persons in the National Vote At Home Institute
- Any persons in the Center for Tech and Civic Life
- Any persons in The Elections Group
- Sandy Juno, Brown County Clerk
- Michael Spitzer-Rubenstein
- Denise Gaumer-Hutchinson
- Sam Munger

Several key staff members who could possibly have had relevant communications with any of those persons or groups have searched their emails and other correspondence for responsive records. In addition to myself, they are Deputy Administrator Richard Rydecki, Technology and Training Director Robert Kehoe, Staff Counsels Nathan Judnic and James Witecha, and Public Information Officer Reid Magney. In order to expedite fulfillment of your request, frontline staff members who could have had routine communications with City of Green Bay or Brown County officials were not tasked with conducting searches. Nor were the six appointed WEC commissioners. If you would like a wider
search, we will be happy to do so, though it may take some time as many frontline staff are extremely busy assisting clerks and voters ahead of the April 6 Spring Election.

My staff will be providing you with these records as email attachments. There will be a few transmission emails for technological reasons and we will provide you with compressed file folders containing the .msg files of responsive records. In a few instances, we converted email messages to PDF files in order to redact sensitive username and password information that was sent to City of Green Bay staff members. Additionally, you will notice that multiple key staff members are copied on the same email chains. In some cases, duplicate copies of emails have been omitted.

Some of the correspondence we are providing you with today concerns suspected criminal violations of election laws, which were referred by the City of Green Bay Clerk’s Office staff to the Brown County District Attorney’s Office. The WEC has no information at this time indicating the current disposition of these referrals, and cautions that persons accused of crimes are presumed innocent until found guilty.

After the experience of the April 2020 Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary, the Wisconsin Elections Commission made it a priority, within its statutory authority, to ensure that Green Bay was planning adequately for successful elections in August and November. This correspondence will illustrate for your Committee the significant time and effort expended by our staff to ensure that our agency was providing Green Bay and other communities with the information and resources they needed to serve all their voters in the November 2020 General Election.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this correspondence or the logistics of transmitting the responsive records to your office.

Sincerely,

Meagan Wolfe

Meagan Wolfe
Administrator
Wisconsin Elections Commission