

10/18/11



Government Accountability Board

STATE OF WISCONSIN

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Upcoming Events

GAB November 2011 Meeting
 November 9, 2011 - 9:00am
GAB December 2011 Meeting
 December 12, 2011 - 9:30am
2012 Spring Primary
 February 21, 2012 - 7:00am

More ...

Welcome to our new website

We hope you find our new site easy to use and navigate.

Click here for more information about the new site.

E-mail us with your questions or comments.

Home

Introduction to the G.A.B.

Providing for an informed populace and the integrity of government decision-making

The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) is charged with oversight of Wisconsin's campaign finance, elections, ethics, and lobbying laws.

The G.A.B. officially began work in January 2008. It was created a year earlier in **2007 Wisconsin Act 1**, replacing the State Elections Board and the State Ethics Board.

The G.A.B. is made up of six former judges, nominated by a panel of four Wisconsin Appeals Court judges, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The six board members serve staggered six-year terms; one member's term expires each year. Both the Board and its staff must be non-partisan.

In a commentary titled "**The Persistence of Partisan Election Administration**," Ohio State University law professor **Daniel P. Tokaji** states: "The best American model is Wisconsin's Government Accountability Board, which consists of retired judges selected in a way that is designed to promote impartiality."

Our Mission

The mission of the Board is to ensure accountability in government by enforcing ethics and lobbying laws, and to enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of the electoral process. To carry out this mission, the G.A.B. and its staff direct their energies toward providing for an informed electorate. The G.A.B. is a source of information about the election process, and the activities and finances of candidates for public office.

The G.A.B. and its staff are committed to ensuring that Wisconsin elections are administered through open, fair and impartial procedures that guarantee that the vote of each individual counts, and that the will of the electorate prevails. The Board uses information technology and the Internet to make information readily available to the public about the financing of political campaigns, elections, lobbying, and financial interests of public officials. The Board and its staff are dedicated to enforcing the election, ethics, lobbying and campaign finance laws vigorously to reduce the opportunity for corruption and maintain public confidence in representative government.

I encourage you to search the information available. Please share your comments and suggestions on the usefulness of this source of information with us. If we can be of any assistance, please **contact us**.

Kevin J. Kennedy, Director and General Counsel

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Toll-Free Voter Help Line: 1-866-VOTE-WIS