



# Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

March 20, 2020

**By Electronic Mail Only (Meagan.wolfe@wisconsin.gov)**

Meagan Wolfe  
Wisconsin Elections Commission  
212 East Washington Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7984

Dear Ms. Wolfe:

On behalf of Gov. Evers, I am responding to your March 20 correspondence regarding the April 7 Election. Over the past few days, we have had multiple conversations regarding the assistance the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) is actively providing to the Wisconsin Elections Commission and election clerks around the state. Most recently, you met with Major General Paul Knapp on March 19 to discuss these efforts. As previously stated, the State of Wisconsin is doing the following:

- **Absentee ballot materials:** As soon as WEC requested help, the Department of Administration worked with WEC to locate envelopes from two vendors, Western States and Johnson Anderson, that can be used for absentee ballots. In addition, DOA expedited the purchase and delivery of these envelopes and the additional quantities requested to address the high demand for absentee ballots. At WEC's request, DOA is not procuring and printing additional ballots for election clerks.
- **Hand sanitizer and supplies:** The SEOC, which has a WEC representative, is actively working to fulfill requests from clerks for hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies. This is a top priority of the SEOC. Because there is a national shortage of hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies, the Evers Administration is also working with Wisconsin businesses to increase the supply of these products.
- **Recruitment of poll workers:** As Major General Knapp discussed with you yesterday, the SEOC has a dedicated taskforce to ensure that there are enough poll workers. The taskforce is coordinating with volunteer organizations, such as AmeriCorps and United Way, reaching out to large businesses, and will be asking state employees to volunteer. As Gov. Evers has publicly stated, he will call upon the Wisconsin National Guard if these efforts are not enough.
- **Guidance from DHS:** On March 9, the Centers for Disease Control issued guidance on how polling places should mitigate the risk of COVID-19.<sup>1</sup> Please let me know if

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/election-polling-locations.html>

this guidance is insufficient, and I will have DHS work with you to develop more specific guidance.

Finally, the SEOC is coordinating the State's response to the COVID-19 health emergency. Please fully utilize WEC's SEOP representative to obtain necessary information and resources. Again, the SEOC is actively working on all your requests – and has been doing so for several days.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Nilsestuen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "R" and a long, sweeping tail.

Ryan Nilsestuen  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Office of Governor Evers