



Election Commission

Commissioners
Stephanie Findley
Carmen Cabrera
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Executive Director
Claire Woodall-Vogg

November 9, 2020

Administrator Meagan Wolfe
Wisconsin Election Commission
212 E Washington Ave, Third Floor
PO Box 7984
Madison, WI 53707-7984

Dear Administrator Wolfe,

Please accept my congratulations on a well-run Presidential Election statewide. Your leadership led clerks to have clear guidance and open, transparent elections across the state on November 3rd. In Milwaukee, we were able to process just under 170,000 absentee ballots at Central Count with organized and transparent processes visible to both observers and media throughout the day.

I am writing to inform you of an incident that occurred on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 during the transfer of Central Count flash drives. The incident bears no impact on the validity of the results. It has been misreported by an undisclosed source to outside news agencies, so I felt it important to commit to writing the facts.

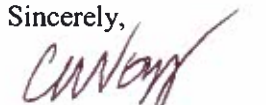
On November 4th, around 3:00am, the City of Milwaukee finished counting absentee ballots, and I began to export the results from Tabulator 7. Tabulator 7 was the last to finish processing ballots and was the only remaining flash drive to be burned. As I burned the flash drive, which can take up to 10 minutes, Milwaukee County Election Commission Director Henry asked that I bring a report for each tabulator regarding the number of ballots processed per precinct. While waiting for the flash drive to burn, I proceeded to reboot each of our other eleven machines and print the requested report. After printing the reports, I delivered the flash drives to the Milwaukee County Election Commission via police escort.

Upon arriving at the Milwaukee County Election Commission, I discovered that I had left the flash drive for Tabulator 7 in the machine. I immediately called Kimberly Zapata, a member of my senior leadership team, who was still present at Central Count and confirmed that it was still in the machine. She removed it and shut down the machine. I believe it is important to document that the flash drive was never left unattended and that staff had remained in the room throughout this process. Per our protocol of engaging law enforcement, Ms. Zapata gave the flash drive to a Milwaukee Police Department Officer who delivered the flash drive approximately 10 minutes later. Time stamps on both the flash drive and the tabulator correlate and confirm that the flash drive was not altered from the original time of export.

The Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office conducted a review of the incident so as to document the chain of custody and the number of agencies involved in the delivery of the flash drives.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Claire Woodall-Vogg
Executive Director