



# MacIver Institute

The Free Market Voice for Wisconsin

October 20, 2014

Neil V. Albrecht  
Executive Director  
City of Milwaukee Election Commission  
200 East Wells Street, Room 501  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Mr. Albrecht,

This letter is to request the following records, under the state's Open Records Law (19.31-39, Wisconsin Statutes):

- Any records, including but not limited to emails, phone calls and/or other correspondence between you and/or your staff and Jennifer Epps-Addison and/or any staff member/volunteer of Wisconsin Jobs Now between August 14, 2014 and October 20, 2014.
- Any records, including but not limited to emails, phone calls and/or other correspondence between you and/or your staff and Peter Rickman and/or any staff member/volunteer of Raise Wisconsin between August 14, 2014 and October 20, 2014.

Please be aware that the Open Records law defines "record" to include information that is maintained on paper as well as electronically, such as data files and unprinted emails. Wis. Stat. § 19.32(2).

Please also be aware that the Open Records law "shall be construed in every instance with the presumption of complete public access consistent with the conduct of governmental business. The denial of access generally is contrary to the public interest and only in exceptional cases can access be denied." If you deny my request, the law requires you to do so in writing and state what part of the law you believe entitles you to deny my request. Wis. Stat. § 19.35(4)(a).

The Open Records law states that you may charge for "the actual, necessary and direct cost" of locating records, if this exceeds \$50, and for photocopies. Please advise me before processing this request if the total cost will exceed \$ 50.00.

As you know, the law requires you to respond to this request "as soon as practicable and without delay."

If you are not the record custodian for this information, please forward this request to the appropriate person.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nick Novak  
Director of Communications  
The John K. MacIver Institute for Public Policy

## Albrecht, Neil

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**From:** Peter Rickman <rickman.peter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 17, 2014 6:48 PM  
**To:** Albrecht, Neil  
**Subject:** Ward Schedule for Wisconsin Jobs Now Early Vote

Neil:

As promised last Friday, here is a schedule of the wards we're planning to run early vote vans in, by day.

Monday, October 20

1  
2  
3  
5  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24

Tuesday, October 21

143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
155  
174

Wednesday, October 22

104  
105  
106  
107  
110  
111  
112  
113  
116  
117

Thursday, October 23

49  
50  
53  
54  
56  
57  
58  
61  
62  
63  
64  
66

Friday, October 24

19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
42  
43  
44  
45

70  
71

Monday, October 27

49  
50  
53  
54  
56  
57  
58  
61  
62  
63  
64  
66

Tuesday, October 28

104  
105  
106  
107  
110  
111  
112  
113  
116  
117

Wednesday, October 29

143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150

151  
152  
155  
174

Thursday, October 30

1  
2  
3  
5  
42  
43  
44  
45  
70  
71

Friday, October 31

112  
113  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148

## Albrecht, Neil

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**From:** Peter Rickman <rickman.peter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 06, 2014 11:38 AM  
**To:** Albrecht, Neil  
**Cc:** Walton, Denise  
**Subject:** Re: Early Voting

Great! Looking forward to meeting with you both on Friday.

On Oct 6, 2014, at 11:28 AM, "Albrecht, Neil" <[nalbrec@milwaukee.gov](mailto:nalbrec@milwaukee.gov)> wrote:

Hi Peter,  
I've also invited Denise Walton, our staff person that runs the in-person absentee voting process and is on-site throughout the two weeks. Denise does an excellent job of keeping the operations moving and I am sure will bring an important perspective to the discussion.  
Thanks,  
Neil

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## Albrecht, Neil

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**From:** Peter Rickman <rickman.peter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 05, 2014 10:56 PM  
**To:** Albrecht, Neil  
**Subject:** Re: Early Voting

Got it. See you then/there.

On Sun, Oct 5, 2014 at 10:19 PM, Albrecht, Neil <[nalbrec@milwaukee.gov](mailto:nalbrec@milwaukee.gov)> wrote:

City Hall, 200 E. Wells, Room 501. See you Friday.

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**From:** Peter Rickman <[rickman.peter@gmail.com](mailto:rickman.peter@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 5, 2014 8:40 PM

**To:** Albrecht, Neil  
**Cc:** Curley, Patrick  
**Subject:** Re: Early Voting

That sounds good. I actually don't where the office is for the Election Commission. Where should I go?

On Sun, Oct 5, 2014 at 8:07 PM, Albrecht, Neil <[nalbrec@milwaukee.gov](mailto:nalbrec@milwaukee.gov)> wrote:

Friday at 1:30 is fine. Do you want to meet in our offices?

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**From:** Peter Rickman <[rickman.peter@gmail.com](mailto:rickman.peter@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 4, 2014 2:03 PM  
**To:** Albrecht, Neil  
**Cc:** Curley, Patrick  
**Subject:** Re: Early Voting

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly Neil.

How about Friday at 1:30 pm? Where would we meet at?

On Sat, Oct 4, 2014 at 1:00 PM, Albrecht, Neil <[nalbrec@milwaukee.gov](mailto:nalbrec@milwaukee.gov)> wrote:

Hi Peter,

This is Neil Albrecht, Executive Director of the Election Commission. Pat shared your email regarding early voting. Thanks for reaching out to us as we approach October 20. I'm glad to hear your organization will be conducting the same outreach efforts as in 2012.

I've got some time this week either Thursday morning or Friday if you're available to meet.

One item we will need to discuss is curbside voting. As you may recall, WJN provided transportation to several groups of seniors and adults with disabilities that required the delivery of their ballots to the vehicle. This evolved into an item of significant contention with some of the political observers, as Wisconsin law actually does not have a provision allowing curbside voting during early voting. At that time, we had received a ruling from the GAB that it was allowable, but that ruling was challenged by the legislature earlier this year. During that process, Senator Lassa (D-Stevens Point) circulated a bill to amend the statutes related to early voting to allow for curbside voting, but it went nowhere.

There are legislators currently pressing the GAB to allow observers to be present *inside* vans where more than one person is receiving a ballot through curbside voting. I've asked the GAB to make a determination on curbside voting during early voting as quickly as possible, given that we are now two weeks out from the start of early voting.

We can talk more about this when we meet.

Neil

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**From:** Peter Rickman <[rickman.peter@gmail.com](mailto:rickman.peter@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Saturday, October 4, 2014 12:05:00 PM

**To:** Curley, Patrick

**Subject:** Early Voting

Pat:



Peter Rickman from Wisconsin Jobs Now here. Looking to get in touch with you to talk about in-person absentee voting. As you may know, Wisconsin Jobs Now ran a fairly intensive and large-scale early vote program in the 2012 recall election in June and the 2012 Presidential election in November. For the November 2014 election, we plan on doing the same.

I think it would be helpful if we could meet with you and the Mayor to discuss generally what is and can be happening with in-person absentee voting in the City. Could we set up a meeting sometime in the latter part of this week? When would you be available?

Thanks ahead of time for making the time.

Peter

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