



# Wisconsin Elections Commission

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## **Rules for Election Day Conduct**

The purpose of Wisconsin's law regulating the conduct of persons on Election Day is to restrict behavior that interferes with or distracts election officials from carrying out their duties, interferes with or distracts voters from exercising their right to vote at the polls on Election Day or otherwise interferes with the orderly conduct of the election. Wis. Stat. § 5.35(5).

Electioneering is prohibited within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place on public property on Election Day. Wis. Stat. § 12.03(2). Persons conducting surveys, circulating petitions or engaging in similar activity may do not do so inside the polling place and may not interfere with the orderly conduct of the election. It is the opinion of the Wisconsin Elections Commission that soliciting signatures for a petition within 100 feet of a polling place on Election Day is NOT considered "electioneering," provided that the petition is not related to the election at hand and does not attempt to influence the voter regarding that day's vote.

Exit polls are surveys conducted by news organizations and others to determine how electors have voted. Exit polls are permitted by Wisconsin law but must not interfere with the orderly conduct of the election and should be conducted outside of the polling place. Persons conducting exit polls must not interfere with the access of voters entering and leaving the polling place. Electors should not be given the impression that their participation is required, and the exit poll should not resemble a sample ballot or otherwise imply that it is part of the election process. Exit pollsters do not have to be positioned outside of the 100 feet electioneering area.

Wisconsin election officials are authorized to remove anyone from the polling place who interferes with or distracts voting at the election. Wis. Stat. § 7.37(2). If any person refuses to obey the lawful commands of an election inspector, is disorderly in the presence or hearing of the inspectors or interrupts or disturbs the proceedings, a law enforcement officer may remove them from the voting area.

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*Wisconsin Elections Commissioners*

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