July 27, 2021

The Honorable Robin Vos
Speaker, Wisconsin State Assembly
Room 217 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708
Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov

Dear Speaker Vos:

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington ("CREW") makes this request for records pursuant to the Wisconsin Open Records Law (19.31-39, Wisconsin Statutes).

Specifically, CREW seeks:

1. All communications dating from November 3, 2020 to the present between Speaker Robin Vos and any of his employees, agents, or affiliates relating to Vos' investigation into the 2020 election.

2. All communications dating from November 3, 2020 to the present between Speaker Vos’ office with investigators Mike Sandvick, Steve Page, or attorney Michael Gableman as well as the other unnamed investigator hired to assist Vos with the election investigation. These include records discussing employment contracts for Sandvick, Page, the third investigator, and Gableman.

3. All communications dating from May 1, 2021 to the present with Representative Janel Brandtjen, Representative Rachael Cabral-Guevara, Representative Dave Murphy, or Representative Chuck Wichgers discussing Vos’ 2020 election investigation or their trip to observe the Arizona Senate’s 2020 election audit.

4. All communications dating from November 3, 2020 to the present with Ken Bennet, Karen Fann, or any other member, representative, or employee of the Arizona Senate.

5. All records dating from November 3, 2020 to the present relating to Vos' 2020 election investigation that mention the following counties: Ashland, Brown, Dane, Kenosha Marathon, Menominee, Milwaukee, Racine, Rock, Sawyer, Vilas, Walworth, and Waukesha.
6. All communications dating from November 3, 2020 to the present relating to Vos’ 2020 election investigation mentioning Black voters, Latino voters, other racial or ethnic minority voters, elderly voters, or voters with disabilities.

The above request excludes news articles, press clippings, public court filings, and other publicly-available materials lacking any accompanying discussion by government officials. Please search for responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. We seek records of any kind, including paper records, electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, data, and graphical material. Our request includes without limitation all correspondence, letters, emails, text messages, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions. Our request also includes any attachments to emails and other records, and email recipients who were cc’ed or bcc’ed.

If the office of Speaker Robin Vos is not the custodian of the requested records, please forward the request to the appropriate department, office, or entity in possession or custody of the records.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform CREW if the cost will exceed $100. However, CREW also requests a waiver of all fees because the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest. On May 26, 2021, Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Robin Vos stated that the legislature would hire three former law enforcement officers and a supervising attorney to investigate the November 2020 election. They would have subpoena power and would possibly refer their findings to prosecutors. The public is entitled to information about how taxpayer money is being used to fund investigations into the November 2020 election, especially because findings could be used to undermine faith in future elections and create new laws that restrict citizens’ right to vote and participate in the democratic process. The public is also entitled to know if certain Wisconsin counties, particularly those with large minority populations, are being targeted in this investigation. Furthermore, CREW is seeking the requested records for non-commercial purposes.

The law requires that this request be responded to and fulfilled promptly, barring extenuating circumstances. (19.35-4, Wisconsin Statutes). If access to the records CREW is requesting will take an extended period of time, please contact CREW with a written explanation that states when the requested record will be produced and specifies with particularity why the records cannot be produced. If you have any questions about this request or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact me at nsus@citizensforethics.org. CREW also welcomes the opportunity to discuss with you whether and to what extent this request can be narrowed or modified to allow for better processing within Wisconsin state law deadlines. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify CREW of the appeal procedures available under the law.

Where possible, please produce records in electronic format. Please send the requested records to me either at nsus@citizensforethics.org or Nikhil Sus, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, 1331 F. St. NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20004. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
Sincerely,

Nikhel Sus
Senior Counsel