

Business Leader Election Protection Toolkit

Preparing for and responding to election risks in 2026

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Purpose of this toolkit

The 2026 midterm elections will test election administration, certification, institutional resilience, and public confidence. Business leaders can help stabilize their workplaces and communities by preparing early, sharing accurate information, supporting lawful election processes, and using their voices when they are most needed.

This toolkit is designed for business owners, executives, chambers, trade associations, communications teams, government-relations professionals, and civic partners. It offers public and private engagement options so each organization can act in a way that reflects its role, risk tolerance, and local context.

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1. Core Messages

Election stability is economic infrastructure.

Businesses need predictable rules, public safety, workforce stability, consumer confidence, and trusted institutions. Election disruption can create operational, financial, and reputational risk.

The process – not any individual – determines the outcome.

Elections are administered by state and local officials under law. Ballots are counted and certified through established procedures, with recounts and courts available to address legitimate disputes.

Accuracy and patience protect confidence.

Complete results may take time. Responsible leaders should rely on verified information, avoid amplifying rumors, and give authorized officials space to complete the process.

Local business leaders are trusted validators.

Small business owners, employers, and chambers are rooted in their communities. Their voices can reinforce participation, reduce uncertainty, support election workers, and explain why lawful process matters to the local economy.

Effective engagement can be public or private.

A private call, an employee message, a briefing with election officials, a collective letter, or a public statement can all be valuable. The strongest action is the one that is credible, timely, coordinated, and connected to a clear objective.

Topline talking points

- A stable economy depends on elections that are safe, accessible, transparent, and resolved through established law.
- The outcome belongs to the voters. No candidate, party, business, or federal official gets to substitute political pressure for lawful election administration.

- Counting every eligible ballot accurately can take time. Patience is a sign of confidence in the process, not a sign that something is wrong.
- Business leaders should direct employees and customers to official state and local sources, avoid spreading unverified claims, and support the public servants who administer elections.
- When concerns arise, the answer is evidence and lawful review – audits, recounts, courts, and certification procedures – not threats, intimidation, or disruption.

2. Why Election Stability is a Business Issue

Operating certainty. Unexpected changes to election rules, disputed authority, or prolonged certification fights can introduce uncertainty.

Workforce and community safety. Election workers, voters, volunteers, customers, and employees need to participate without threats or intimidation.

Consumer and investor confidence. Perceptions of instability can affect spending, investment, market sentiment, and long-term planning.

Business continuity. Civil unrest, government shutdowns, misinformation, and disrupted public services can affect staffing, foot traffic, supply chains, and physical operations.

Rule of law and fair competition. Businesses rely on rules and reliable institutions to enforce contracts, settle disputes, and prevent political favoritism.

Storefronts, offices and insurance providers shoulder the cost of political and civil unrest.

Political violence ultimately targets mainstreet stores and office buildings. The reality is that this instability leads to millions of dollars in repairs, lost revenue, and business disruption for America's small businesses. The [World Economic Forum](#) estimates the 2020 protests across the U.S., resulted in over \$1 billion to \$2 billion in total insured losses.

MESSAGING PRINCIPLE. Lead with the practical conditions businesses need – stability, safety, predictable rules, and confidence – rather than abstract or partisan language.

3. Choose Your Engagement Path

Not every organization should take the same action. Start with the business objective, audience, urgency, and level of risk. Move up the ladder when a higher-visibility response is necessary and useful.

Level	Examples	Best used when
1. Prepare internally	Name a lead and align on appropriate leadership engagement in advance including but not limited to Board buy in; establish counsel and contacts; draft holding language; encourage employee participation; practice scenarios.	It is never too soon to start. Every organization can do this now.
2. Educate and connect	Share official voting information; host election-official briefings; join state tables; brief leadership and employees.	The goal is readiness and confidence, not public visibility.
3. Engage privately	Contact elected officials or election administrators; raise operational concerns; support partners; join private letters or briefings.	A private channel is more effective or if public exposure creates unnecessary risk.
4. Act collectively	Join a chamber statement, cross-industry letter, coordinated media effort, or peer delegation.	Shared action reduces individual exposure and demonstrates broad concern.
5. Lead publicly	Speak to media; publish an op-ed; post verified information; publicly support election workers and lawful certification.	A credible local voice can fill an information gap or deter interference.

Decision questions

- What specific risk or information gap are we trying to address?
- Who is the most credible messenger for this audience – an executive, local employer, chamber, counsel, election official, or coalition?

- Would private outreach be more effective than a public statement?
- Can we act with peers to reduce individual exposure and increase impact?
- What facts have been verified, and who will approve the language?
- What follow-up action should this communication make possible?

4. Before, During, and After the Election

Before the election: prepare and stabilize

- **Build the team.** Name leads for executive decisions, legal review, communications, employee engagement, operations, and partner coordination.
- **Map the ecosystem.** Identify local election officials, chambers, civic partners, election-protection coalitions, legal resources, and trusted media contacts.
- **Assess exposure.** Review facilities, workforce policies, public-facing operations, political contributions, security needs, and likely reputational risks.
- **Prepare messages.** Draft internal notes, public holding language, social posts, and private outreach templates before a crisis.
- **Train validators.** Give spokespeople a short briefing on election administration, verification standards, and nonpartisan message discipline.
- **Practice scenarios.** Run a tabletop exercise covering a misinformation spike, an intimidation incident, and a delayed or contested result.
- **Support participation.** Share official information, provide scheduling flexibility, and consider nonpartisan poll-worker service.

During voting and counting: respond and reinforce

- **Verify before speaking.** Use state and local election officials and trusted election-protection partners as primary sources.
- **Reinforce lawful process.** Explain that counting, canvassing, audits, recounts, and litigation are normal safeguards.
- **Support people and operations.** Activate employee safety, facility, continuity, and crisis-communications plans when needed.
- **Fill local information gaps.** Deploy credible local business voices when they can reduce uncertainty or counter a harmful falsehood.
- **Coordinate response.** Share intelligence through state and national partner channels and avoid conflicting statements.

- **Document impacts.** Record threats, operational disruption, lost revenue, employee impact, and response costs; preserve reliable evidence.

After Election Day: defend and legitimize

- **Wait for vote counting to end.** Allow authorized processes to finish before declaring that the system succeeded or failed.
- **Reinforce the process.** Support election workers and lawful certification; condemn threats or efforts to replace the process with pressure.
- **Be the voice of reason.** Use business voices to call for patience, evidence, and peaceful resolution of disputes.
- **Boost credibility.** If results are challenged, distinguish legal review from unsupported attempts to overturn a lawful outcome.
- **Share information.** Continue employee and community communications until uncertainty has resolved.
- **Prepare for the next election.** Conduct an after-action review and preserve relationships, protocols, and trained messengers for future cycles.

5. Scenario playbooks

The following playbooks are intentionally short. State addendums should identify local law, contacts, deadlines, and partner responsibilities.

Scenario A: A misinformation spike or unverified fraud claim

What may happen: A viral post, public official, candidate, or media report makes an unverified claim about voting systems, ballots, foreign interference, or the legitimacy of an election.

Business objective: Prevent amplification, direct audiences to verified facts, and reinforce that evidence is evaluated through established procedures.

Actions

- Pause scheduled content if it could create confusion.
- Verify the claim with election officials and trusted partners before responding.
- Use a short corrective message that leads with accurate information; do not repeat the false claim in detail.
- Brief employees and spokespeople on where to find official updates.
- Activate a local business validator only if that voice adds credibility or reaches an audience the official source cannot.

DRAFT MESSAGE. We are relying on verified information from state and local election officials. Established processes exist to examine evidence and resolve disputes, and those processes should be allowed to work.

Avoid: Speculation, screenshots without provenance, detailed repetition of the allegation, or treating engagement metrics as evidence.

Scenario B: Threats to voters, election workers, or local officials

What may happen: Threats, harassment, doxxing, intimidation, or disruptive activity targets voters, poll workers, election administrators, or facilities.

Business objective: Protect safety, support lawful participation, document credible information, and avoid escalating a dangerous situation.

Actions

- Follow emergency protocols and contact appropriate local authorities when there is an immediate safety risk.
- Do not send employees to investigate or intervene physically.
- Preserve reliable evidence and share it through established partner or legal channels.
- Offer practical support to affected employees or community partners.
- Use public language that supports safe participation and election workers without amplifying the threat.

DRAFT MESSAGE. No voter or public servant should face threats for participating in or administering an election. Safe participation and independent election administration are essential to a stable community and economy.

Avoid: Identifying targets of intimidation without their consent, publishing unverified personal details, or encouraging confrontation.

Scenario C: Unexpected or disputed government intervention in election administration

What may happen: An executive order, agency demand, federal law-enforcement action, voter-data request, effort to seize election materials, or deployment of federal personnel affects election administration or voting.

Business objective: Support state and local authorities, accurate public understanding, lawful review, and coordinated legal and communications response.

Actions

- Immediately consult state election officials, counsel, and trusted election-protection partners.
- Clarify what action has actually occurred, what authority is asserted, and what courts or officials have said.

- Document operational and community impacts and preserve reliable records.
- Prepare private outreach to state and federal officials and a public holding statement if needed.
- Coordinate business voices with legal and election-protection partners; do not improvise legal conclusions.
- If appropriate, consider public statements from trusted business leaders in support of state and local officials continuing to operate the voting, counting, and certification process in accordance with state law, while avoiding stating any legal conclusions.

DRAFT MESSAGE. Election rules and administration must follow the U.S. Constitution and applicable law. Businesses depend on predictable institutions, and any dispute over authority should be resolved transparently through established legal processes.

Avoid: Treating a proposed or threatened action as completed, overstating unsettled law, or directing the public to confront federal personnel.

Scenario D: Delayed results, certification pressure, or a contested outcome

What may happen: Counting extends beyond Election Day; officials face pressure not to certify; lawsuits, recounts, or conflicting claims create uncertainty.

Business objective: Normalize lawful timelines, distinguish legitimate review from political pressure, and protect peaceful resolution.

Actions

- Share accurate information about the counting, canvass, recount, litigation, and certification timeline.
- Urge leaders and the public to allow authorized state and local officials and courts to complete their work.
- Support election officials facing improper threats or pressure.
- Coordinate collective statements focused on process, evidence, and nonviolence.

- Plan communications for multiple days or weeks rather than treating election night as the endpoint.

DRAFT MESSAGE. Accuracy matters more than speed. Counting, canvassing, recounts, litigation, and certification are safeguards built into the process. Vote counting can take time; this is a normal, safe, and essential part of the election process. The outcome should be determined by eligible votes and lawful review – not pressure or intimidation.

Avoid: Calling any delays evidence of fraud, equating every challenge with interference, or declaring a winner before the authorized processes conclude.

Scenario E: Political violence, unrest, or operational disruption

What may happen: Threats, protests, violence, transportation disruption, government closure, or civil unrest affects employees, customers, facilities, or supply chains.

Business objective: Protect people, maintain continuity, de-escalate, and support peaceful civic participation.

Actions

- Activate safety, remote-work, facility, and continuity protocols.
- Communicate clearly with employees about schedule changes and verified local information.
- Coordinate with neighboring businesses, property managers, chambers, and public-safety officials.
- Separate operational guidance from political commentary.
- Publicly reject violence and intimidation while supporting lawful, peaceful participation.

DRAFT MESSAGE. Violence and intimidation have no place in our elections or communities. We support peaceful participation, lawful resolution of disputes, and the safety of employees, customers, voters, and public servants.

Avoid: Partisan blame before facts are known, language that invites confrontation, or sharing sensitive security information.

6. Role-specific Actions

Role	Highest-value actions
Small business owner	Give employees time and accurate information; build a local peer network; document impacts; serve as a trusted community voice when useful.
Chamber or business association	Convene members and election officials; issue collective statements; coordinate media and direct outreach; serve as a rapid-response distribution channel.
Corporate executive	Speak up in favor of the election process rather than voice a partisan issue. It's more costly to remain silent. Get ready now by taking an active role including issuing private or public statements that counter unlawful efforts to interfere on election results. Set enterprise-wide expectations; protect employees and operations; reassess political contributions and public positions with rule-of-law commitments; join collective action.
Communications / public affairs	Pre-approve messages; train spokespeople; verify facts; coordinate with state partners; avoid amplifying false claims.
Government relations / legal	Map decision-makers; establish counsel and escalation protocols; pursue private outreach; track election rules, litigation, and certification deadlines.

7. Tough Questions and Answers

Isn't election protection the government's job?

State and local officials have the primary legal responsibility to administer elections and protect voters. Businesses have a distinct, non-governmental role: protecting employees and operations, sharing accurate information, supporting safe participation, and using trusted local voices to reinforce lawful process. That is risk management and civic leadership, not election administration.

How can a business engage without becoming partisan?

Focus on the rules and process, not the candidates. Apply the same standards regardless of who benefits: eligible voters should be able to participate safely; election officials should ensure that all votes are counted; all officials should follow the law; claims should be supported by evidence; disputes should be resolved through established procedures; and lawful outcomes should be respected.

Should we respond to every false claim?

No. Respond when the claim is materially affecting employees, customers, operations, public confidence, or the election process – and when your voice can add value. In many cases, the best action is to amplify an official source rather than issue a separate statement.

What if public engagement creates political or reputational risk?

Use the action ladder. Begin with internal preparation, private outreach, and collective engagement. Acting with peers, using a chamber, or supporting a partner behind the scenes can reduce individual exposure while still helping.

Why should business leaders urge patience when results are delayed?

Election night is not a legal deadline for complete results. Counting every vote takes time; that is a normal and appropriate part of the process. Verification, canvassing, recounts, and litigation are safeguards. A business message supporting accuracy and lawful timelines helps reduce uncertainty without favoring a candidate.

What should we say about proposed proof-of-citizenship or identification requirements?

Separate the policy debate from election administration. Explain the proposal accurately, acknowledge supporters' stated integrity goals and opponents' concerns about access and administrative burden, and focus business engagement on clear rules, sufficient implementation time, adequate resources, and avoiding operational disruption.

Operationally, several factors must work in tandem for proof of citizenship to be enforced by election officials, including but not limited to:

- **Voter registration:** Revise online, paper, mail-in, and in-person registration processes to collect or verify citizenship documentation.
- **Stronger DMV and agency coordination:** Update automatic and agency-based registration workflows so eligible citizens are not inadvertently excluded.
- **Acceptable documents:** Establish uniform rules for birth certificates, passports, naturalization papers, and alternative documentation.
- **Existing registered voters:** Determine whether previously registered voters must provide proof again and how existing records will be handled.
- **Name and record discrepancies:** Create procedures for marriage-related name changes, inconsistent records, and incomplete government databases.
- **Election deadlines:** Ensure verification and appeals can be completed before registration deadlines and elections.

Can business leaders really make a difference?

Yes, especially locally. Employers and small business owners can reach employees, customers, policymakers, and community institutions that national political messengers often cannot. Their impact is strongest when the ask is clear, the facts are verified, and the action is coordinated.

What should I do if there's an immediate threat to my employees, voters, or election workers?

Immediately call for emergency assistance and do not attempt to personally enforce the law or detain individuals. If you and your team are unable to leave the location, find a safe place to hide until help arrives.

What should I do if I experience or witness voter intimidation?

Pre-emptively coordinate with local advocacy organizations and elected officials to coordinate a response. Preserve evidence of voter intimidation and notify local election officials and emergency responders immediately.

How should I respond to a cyber incident or disinformation campaign?

Avoid partisan statements and reinforce trust in the election process. Coordinate with the local and state agencies, elected officials and advocacy organizations listed in this toolkit.

How should I respond to doxxing or credible threats against an individual?

Immediately call 911, preserve evidence of threats (ie video or written evidence) and do not try to confront or enforce the rule of law.

How should I respond to a rapidly developing legal dispute?

Reiterate your trust in the election process and reassure the public that delays, audits, recounts and certification procedures are a normal part of the election process. Encourage skeptical constituents to become more involved by serving as an election worker the next election cycle.

8. Communications Guidance

Do	Avoid
Lead with stability, predictability, participation, and established legal processes.	Alarmist language that suggests the entire system is broken or predetermined to fail.
Direct audiences to state and local election officials for current facts and voting rules.	Repeating detailed false allegations, even to debunk them, before facts are verified.
Acknowledge that counting, canvassing, recounts, litigation, and certification take time.	Calling an outcome before authorized officials and established processes have done so.
Use local messengers and describe concrete business, workforce, and community impacts.	Partisan endorsements, personal attacks, or messages that center a candidate instead of the process.
Coordinate public language with counsel, state partners, and trusted election experts.	Improvising legal claims or presenting a working assessment as settled fact.

Message formula

USE THIS STRUCTURE. Start with the business principle -> state the verified fact -> name the lawful process -> offer one practical action.

Example: A stable economy depends on trusted, predictable institutions. Local officials are still counting eligible ballots under state law. The canvass and certification process should be allowed to finish without threats or political pressure. We encourage employees and community members to rely on official updates and give the process time to work.

Spokesperson checklist

- Can I state the core fact in one sentence without repeating the false claim?
- Do I know which official or partner verified it?
- Am I speaking about the process rather than a preferred outcome?
- Can I explain the business or community impact concretely?
- Is there a clear action for the audience?
- Has counsel or the designated approver reviewed time-sensitive language?

9. Ready-to-use Templates

A. Pre-election employee message

DRAFT. As Election Day approaches, we encourage every eligible employee to make a plan to vote. [Company] provides [time-off/flexible-scheduling policy]. For registration, voting locations, identification requirements, and deadlines, please use [official state/local election website]. We will not use company channels to support any candidate or party. Our focus is helping employees participate safely and confidently.

B. Holding statement during voting or counting

DRAFT. A stable economy depends on safe elections, trusted institutions, and respect for the rule of law. We encourage patience while state and local officials count eligible ballots and complete the verification and certification processes required by law. Claims should be evaluated based on verified evidence and addressed through established legal procedures.

C. Statement supporting election workers

DRAFT. Election workers are members of our communities – our neighbors, customers, and employees. They should be able to do their jobs without threats, harassment, or political pressure. We support their safety and independence as they carry out the responsibilities assigned to them under law.

D. Private outreach to an elected official

DRAFT. I am [name], [role] at [business] in [community]. Our employees and customers depend on a safe, stable environment and predictable public institutions. We are concerned about [verified issue and concrete business / community impact]. We urge you to [specific action: support election-worker safety / allow lawful counting and certification / oppose intimidation / provide clear implementation guidance]. We would welcome a brief conversation and can share additional information about the local impact.

E. Short social post

DRAFT. Accuracy matters more than speed. State and local election officials should have the time and independence to count eligible ballots and complete the process required by law. Safe elections and trusted institutions support stable communities and a strong economy. Official updates: [link].

10. Priority-State Addenda

**Verified as of October 9, 2026*

2026 General Election: State Guide

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026. This guide covers Arizona, California, Georgia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin: key dates, who is responsible, partners, and recommended actions. Verify all dates against official state sources before client use.

At a glance: key dates

State	Registration deadline	County certification	State certification
Arizona	Oct 5	Nov 19 (canvass opens Nov 9)	Nov 23
California	Oct 19 (online/mail)	Dec 3	Dec 11
Georgia	Oct 5	Nov 9, 5 p.m.	Nov 20
North Carolina	Oct 9, 5 p.m.	Nov 13, 11 a.m.	Nov 24, 11 a.m.

Pennsylvania	Oct 19	Nov 23	No fixed date
Texas	Oct 5	Nov 17	Dec 7
Wisconsin	Oct 14 (online/mail)	Nov 17	Dec 1

Recommended actions (all states)

- While votes are being counted, distribute voter education materials.
- Encourage skeptical voters to volunteer in the election process.
- Remain bipartisan.
- Preemptively connect with civic engagement partners to coordinate voter education and crisis response efforts.

Arizona

On the ballot: 9 U.S. House seats, 30 State Senate seats, 60 State House seats.

- **Registration deadline:** October 5, 2026, 11:59 p.m.
- **Counting:** Early ballots may be counted upon receipt. County canvassing begins November 9, with county canvasses due by November 19.
- **State certification:** November 23, 2026 (official statewide canvass).
- **Responsible official:** Secretary of State Adrian Fontes, in coordination with county election officials.
- **Official sources:** Arizona Secretary of State (2026 Election Information; Post-Election Procedures); Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission (vote-counting timeline).
- **Potential partners:** One Arizona, All Voting is Local AZ, ProgressNow AZ.

California

On the ballot: 52 U.S. House seats, 20 State Senate seats (even-numbered districts), 80 State Assembly seats.

- **Registration deadline:** October 19, 2026 (online and mail). Conditional voter registration is available October 20 through Election Day, November 3.
- **Counting:** Votes are counted November 4 to 10.
- **County certification:** December 3, 2026.
- **State certification:** December 11, 2026 (Secretary of State certifies the statewide Statement of Vote).
- **Official sources:** California Secretary of State (Key Dates and Deadlines; Official 2026 General Election Information).
- **Potential partners:** League of Women Voters of California.

Georgia

On the ballot: 180 State House seats, 56 State Senate seats, 14 U.S. House seats, 1 U.S. Senate seat.

- **Registration deadline:** October 5, 2026.
- **Counting:** Election-night tabulation begins November 3, with eligible outstanding ballots handled under applicable deadlines.
- **County certification:** November 9, 2026, by 5 p.m. (the Monday following Election Day).
- **State certification:** November 20, 2026, for federal and statewide contests.
- **Responsible official:** Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, in coordination with county election superintendents.
- **Official sources:** Georgia Secretary of State Elections Division; Georgia.gov Election Ready 2026; Georgia 2026 Election Calendar.
- **Potential partners:** All Voting is Local Georgia, Common Cause Georgia, League of Women Voters of Georgia.

North Carolina

On the ballot: 120 State House seats, 50 State Senate seats, 14 U.S. House seats, 1 U.S. Senate seat.

- **Registration deadline:** October 9, 2026, 5 p.m. Eligible voters who miss it can register and vote during in-person early voting, October 15 to 31.
- **Counting:** Absentee voting begins September 4. In-person early voting runs October 15 to 31. Absentee and provisional ballots are processed through the canvass period.
- **County certification:** November 13, 2026, 11 a.m. Canvassing begins November 11.
- **State certification:** November 24, 2026, 11 a.m.
- **Responsible official:** State Board of Elections, Executive Director Sam Hayes, with the 100 county boards of elections.
- **Official sources:** NC State Board of Elections (2026 General Election; Voter Dates and Deadlines; Post-Election Procedures and Audits); N.C.G.S. § 163-182.5.
- **Potential partners:** Blueprint NC, Forward Justice, Common Cause NC, former Charlotte Mayor Jen Roberts.

Pennsylvania

On the ballot: 203 State House seats, 25 State Senate seats (odd-numbered districts), 17 U.S. House seats, and the gubernatorial race. No U.S. Senate seat is up in 2026.

- **Registration deadline:** October 19, 2026. Online applications until 11:59 p.m.; paper and in-person applications must reach the county office by close of business.
- **Counting:** Mail ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. Unofficial results are reported after polls close at 8 p.m.
- **County certification:** November 23, 2026.
- **State certification:** No separate fixed date. The Secretary of the Commonwealth certifies after receiving certified county returns. A county that declines to certify could delay the Certificate of Election.
- **Responsible official:** Secretary of the Commonwealth Al Schmidt, with county boards of elections.

- **Official source:** *Vote.PA.gov (registration, mail ballots, results, county contacts).*
- **Civic partners:** *All Voting is Local PA, One PA, United League of Women Voters PA.*
- **Business partners:** *African-American Chamber of Commerce PA, NJ & DE; Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia; Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Lehigh Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Keystone Business Alliance; and more than 6,000 PA small business owners.*

Texas

On the ballot: 150 State House seats, 16 State Senate seats, 38 U.S. House seats, 1 U.S. Senate seat.

- **Registration deadline:** *October 5, 2026 (mailed applications must be postmarked by this date).*
- **Counting:** *Early voting runs October 19 to 30. Counting continues after Election Day for mail-in, provisional, and other outstanding ballots.*
- **County/local certification:** *November 17, 2026 (last day for local canvass).*
- **State certification:** *December 7, 2026 (Governor conducts the statewide canvass for state and county offices).*
- **Responsible official:** *Secretary of State Robert S. Howden; county officials and local canvassing authorities handle local returns.*
- **Official sources:** *Texas SOS (November 3, 2026 Election Law Calendar; 2026 November General Election; Important Election Dates); VoteTexas.gov.*
- **Potential partners:** *Common Cause Texas, League of Women Voters of Texas, MOVE Texas, Texas Civil Rights Project.*

Wisconsin

On the ballot: 99 State Assembly seats, 17 State Senate seats (odd-numbered districts), 8 U.S. House seats, and the gubernatorial race.

- **Registration deadline:** October 14, 2026 (online and mail). In-person at the municipal clerk through October 30, 5 p.m. Election Day polling-place registration is also allowed.
- **Counting:** In-person absentee voting may run October 20 to November 1, depending on municipality. The initial ballot count is due November 9 at 4 p.m.
- **County certification:** November 17, 2026.
- **State certification:** December 1, 2026 (Elections Commission chairperson).
- **Responsible official:** Wisconsin Elections Commission, with municipal and county officials.
- **Official sources:** WEC (MyVote Wisconsin deadlines; Election Results and Certification; 2026 Election Calendar PDF).
- **Business partners:** Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce, Latino Chamber of Commerce of SE Wisconsin, Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce.
- **Civic partners:** Law Forward, Voces de la Frontera.

11. Partner Resources

The below resources from BDI partners provide business leaders with insights on navigating political risks, supporting democratic stability, and engaging in civic initiatives. It includes tools for crisis communication during elections, best practices for corporate civic engagement, and strategies for enhancing voter participation. Additional guides address election integrity, offer actionable steps for companies to strengthen political responsibility, and outline approaches to promote stability in both U.S. and state-level policy environments.

Leadership Now: U.S. Political Risk Analysis

Report the stability of U.S. democratic institutions and its effects on the business environment. This also includes concrete steps business leaders can take to uphold the state of law, mitigate these risks and stabilize U.S. democracy.

Leadership Now: Corporate Guide to Navigating U.S. Political Risk

Content to help boards, management teams, and investors navigate U.S. political risks and activities.

Leadership Now: Corporate Civic Action Plan

The action plan includes data, success stories, and resources business leaders need to make an impact at your organization.

Bipartisan Policy Center: Corporate Civic Engagement Checklist

Checklist for business leaders to compare their engagement efforts with industry best practices.

The Pillars Project: The Business Community

Content for business leaders on what individual companies have to gain from leading in pro-democracy work and how their businesses can promote democracy.

The Conference Board: Business for Democracy – Corporate Strategies to Enhance Civic Participation

This report examines how US corporations can strengthen democracy and civic participation through clear strategies, nonpartisan initiatives, and diverse public-private partnerships.

Civic Business Initiative Talking Points and Resources

Content for business leaders to provide education and context on the election process and timeline and promote unity and non-violence.

Additional Resources

The below nonpartisan resources from multiple trusted organizations about what organizations, including businesses, can do to help the likelihood, and help to mitigate the impact, of negative outcomes around elections and beyond for business, free enterprise, and the United States as a well-functioning constitutional republic. Some of these are from [Civic Business Initiative](#), a non-partisan effort of the Harvard Negotiation Project.

Employee AI Deepfake Training

Deepfake training and resources created by Accenture for your employees to protect from the misuse of AI.

Voting Rights Lab 2026 Election Risk Heat Map

This interactive tool helps to understand the risks and monitor in real-time threats as they evolve starting in October.

Voting Rights Lab's Election Policy Tracker

This tracker is a comprehensive database of current election law, tracking changes as they emerge in state legislatures.

Messaging Toolkit for Inoculating Persuadable Voters Against Election Disinformation

A toolkit for businesses and other trusted voices with best practices for countering disinformation.

Secure Democracy Foundation's Checks and Balances in Your State

These guides outline the key election timelines, and post-election processes in several states.

"What's at Stake for Elections at the Supreme Court?"

This interactive heat map serves as a preview of the election cases being considered in the upcoming Supreme Court term beginning in October.

Democracy 2025 Election Hub

This resource hub is a good one-stop-shop for trusted, key election information for multiple audiences.

Democracy 2025 Voting Toolkit

This resource offers practical, nonpartisan information for voters.

People's Guide to Voting Rights

This guide offers practical, nonpartisan information for voters oriented around voting rights.

Power the Polls

This site allows individuals to volunteer as a nonpartisan poll worker.

CEO Center Letter

The CEO Center Calls on Business Leaders to Support Trusted Elections.

Leadership Now Election Resources

A resource hub for business leaders as they navigate the 2026 mid term election cycle.

U26.vote

A resource for young voters to visual the power of their vote.

Civic Alliance Civic Engagement

This playbook outlines how corporates can engage and empower their employees to participate in local and state civic affairs.

ESRN Biweekly Calls

Register to join ESRN Stakeholders Domain biweekly calls. These ongoing meetings are intended for any group with a membership, set of partners, or constituency eager to protect the midterm elections.

Preparing for Civil Unrest Risk Around the 2026 Midterm Elections

CBI preparedness guide

Articles

PSA: We may not know who won on election night, and that's okay

Written by R Street, October 2022

Election night coverage is a breeding ground for misinformation

Written by R Street, September 2022

How Congress Seats Winners

This article outlines the process and timeline for Congressional elections.

The Stakes of America's 2026 Midterm Elections

Heather Gerken, President of the Ford Foundation and the former dean of Yale Law School and Robert Rubin, former U.S. Treasury Secretary, outline the 2026 midterm election landscape.