



October 25, 2022

State Representative Janel Brandtjen
PO Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8952

Dear State Representative Brandtjen,

Thank you for this opportunity to help clear up this important topic.

WiscNet is a non-profit membership cooperative that provides network and network-related support services throughout Wisconsin and the region. These are the WiscNet membership institutions <https://www.wiscnet.net/wiscnet-member-organizations>. As you will note, the cooperative is owned by schools, libraries, universities, non-profits, service groups, and many city and county governments throughout Wisconsin. WiscNet was formed so members can conduct their network business needs more easily and cheaply. WiscNet has an office in Madison for a small support staff. Additionally, it is standard industry practice for an entity such as WiscNet to acquire a large block of Internet addresses and then distribute them among the members so they can take care of their individual network business.

To address your question, the WiscNet offices in Madison did not receive voting transmissions, nor did the staff authorize such transmission or configure voting equipment. Individual member organizations' specialized information technology needs, such as voting machines, computers for teaching children, or business administrative systems, are configured (e.g., network addresses), and their associated transmissions are sourced and received by that member organization.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to clear up this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Lange - Chairperson, WiscNet Board of Directors
David Lois - Chief Executive Officer, WiscNet

Savidusky, Melodie

From: ELECTIONS HelpDesk <elections@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Rep.Brandtjen
Subject: RE: Tabulators & WiscNet IP Address

Categories: Janel

Dear Representative Brandtjen,

This email is in response to your letter dated October 25, 2022, asking why an organization called WiscNet would be “receiving” data transmissions from election equipment on election night.

The conclusion that WiscNet received data appears to be based on IP address attribution. Every network endpoint is assigned an IP address by which it can be identified, and the “owner” of these IP addresses is typically public record. However, the “owner” of most IP addresses is the service provider that connects that IP address to the network. WiscNet has provided network services to hundreds of Wisconsin counties, municipalities, school districts, and public libraries for more than 30 years. It therefore makes perfect sense that a county IP address would appear to belong to WiscNet, in the same way a residential IP address might appear to belong to Charter Communications.

The IP address you provided belongs to a Wisconsin county, who confirmed that they use WiscNet as their main network services provider. The county also uses Spectrum and AT&T for connectivity and, like WiscNet, these companies are not governmental organizations. Indeed, nearly every county, city, village, and town in Wisconsin relies on private providers to support their information technology and conduct daily business. That does not mean that these private organizations have any access to the encrypted communications of these jurisdictions. WiscNet has no ability to read the encrypted transmission of unofficial results on election night.

As you know, official results are not transmitted on election night.

For further information about the transmission of unofficial results on election night, please visit our FAQ page on the topic: <https://elections.wi.gov/elections/voting-equipment-wisconsin/election-results-transmission>.

Savidusky, Melodie

From: Chad Trice <chad.trice@ccelections.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:16 PM
To: Rep.Brandtjen
Subject: RE: Letter for Chad Trice

Categories: Janel

Representative Brandtjen,

Thank you for reaching out. On behalf of Command Central, we would like to provide you with some important fact-checking information in response to your inquiry.

Command Central is an American company that provides election-related services to customers throughout Wisconsin. Invoice #29274 describes the "Data Services Agreement" (DSA) and the "Hardware Maintenance Agreement" (HMA) for customer use of external modems, as permissible under Wisconsin law (see [Wisconsin Election Commission Election Security Report](#) dated September 2019 noting, "Unofficial [election] results may be transmitted by modem, fax, email, hand delivery or by telephone.")

The DSA relates to the data transmission plan that is required for the jurisdiction to use the modems to transmit encrypted unofficial results data from the tabulators in each voting location after the polls have been closed to the secure county environment for election night tallying and reporting. No results are transmitted to Command Central, or to any other entity other than the county in which the tabulators are used. The county receives and utilizes the unofficial election results data.

As further noted in the 2019 WEC report, "After certification by county boards of canvassers, counties use the Canvass Reporting System to transmit official canvass results for federal and state contests to the WEC." Additionally, tabulator results are printed on paper and hard copy results are verifiable by paper ballots for every vote.

For additional information, please visit the WEC's [Results Transmission FAQ page](#). Equipment standards and testing information are also publicly available on the WEC's website.

Thank you,

Chad Trice
President
Command Central LLC

From: Rep.Brandtjen <Rep.Brandtjen@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 12:14 PM
To: Customer Relations <customer.relations@ccelections.com>
Subject: Letter for Chad Trice

Mr. Trice,

Please see the attached letter and provide a response at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janel Brandtjen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Janel Brandtjen
Wisconsin State Representative
22nd Assembly District



October 31, 2022

Representative Janel Brandtjen
PO Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8952

Dear Representative Brandtjen,

We felt that our initial response did address your core concerns regarding election information as it relates to the WiscNet office in Madison. i.e. "...it is standard industry practice for an entity such as WiscNet to acquire a large block of Internet addresses and then distribute them among the members so they can take care of their individual network business." Thus, the address on slide 3 is not an address used in the Madison office; therefore, we cannot receive any voting transmission to or from that address. Candidly we cannot be clearer than that.

For another perspective on network addressing and transmissions, please see the section labeled "FAQs on Election Night Results Transmission", the subsection labeled "Is it true that an organization called WiscNet receives election results?" on the Wisconsin Election Commission website <https://elections.wi.gov/elections/voting-equipment-wisconsin/election-results-transmission>. It does a great job of explaining the relationship between the IP addresses, transmission of traffic, IP address "ownership" and the statewide voting system from the election experts.

Thank you for allowing us to clear up this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Lange - Chairperson, WiscNet Board of Directors
David Lois - Chief Executive Officer, WiscNet