For immediate release: November 18, 2026
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Right to Vote Privately and Independently Affirmed in Court Decision

Today the Dane County Circuit Court once again confirmed that Wisconsin voters with print disabilities are entitled to privacy and independence when exercising their right to vote via an absentee ballot. In denying the defendant's motion to reconsider his August ruling in DRW et al. v. WEC et al., Judge Everett Mitchell reiterated that Wisconsin's current absentee voting program violates the Americans with Disabilities Act by denying voters with print disabilities the opportunity to cast an absentee ballot privately and independently, and that this denial occurs by reason of their disabilities.

"Disability Rights Wisconsin looks forward to the next steps in this lawsuit, and ensuring equal access to the ballot for voters with print disabilities," stated Jill Jacklitz, DRW Executive Director. "Implementation of electronic delivery, marking, and return of an accessible ballot for Wisconsin voters with print disabilities will ensure compliance with the ADA and ensure every voter has the right to cast their ballot without having to share who they voted for."

Organization Information

Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is a private non-profit organization that protects the rights of people with disabilities statewide. As Wisconsin's recognized Protection & Advocacy oganization, DRW is legislatively mandated to provide services to voters with disabilities and ensure individuals with disabilities can participate in every step of the voting process. More information is available at Disability Rights Wisconsin's website.