



— STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA —
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LARRY RHODEN | GOVERNOR

August 4, 2025

The Honorable Tonnis H. Venhuizen
President of the Senate
State Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear President and Members of the Senate:

Pursuant to the provisions of House Bill 1076, 2017 Legislative Session and subject to your consent, I have the honor to inform you that I have appointed John Bastian, Butte County, Belle Fourche, South Dakota, to the Government Accountability Board.

This appointment is effective July 25, 2025, and shall continue until June 30, 2030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Rhoden". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "L" and a cursive "Rhoden".

Larry Rhoden
Governor

lr:lh



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LARRY RHODEN | GOVERNOR

August 4, 2025

John W. Bastian
10910 County Club Road
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Dear Judge Bastian,

I have the honor to inform you that Governor Larry Rhoden has appointed you to the Government Accountability Board pursuant to House Bill 1076, 2017 Legislative Session. Your appointment is effective July 25, 2025 and shall continue until June 30, 2030.

Please complete the enclosed oath of office, have your signature notarized, and return the documents in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope at your earliest convenience.

Your service to the citizens of this state is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leslie Hicks".

Leslie Hicks
Boards and Commissions
Office of the Governor

Enclosure



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LARRY RHODEN | GOVERNOR

August 4, 2025

The Honorable Monae L. Johnson
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Secretary Johnson,

Pursuant to the provisions of House Bill 1076, 2017 Legislative Session, I am honored to inform you that Governor Larry Rhoden has appointed John W. Bastian, Butte County, Belle Fourche, South Dakota, to the Government Accountability Board. This appointment will serve as a replacement for Gene Kean.

This appointment is effective July 25, 2025 and shall continue until June 30, 2030.

You are hereby authorized to issue a commission accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leslie Hicks".

Leslie Hicks
Boards and Commissions
Office of the Governor

State of South Dakota

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I, John W. Bastian, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of South Dakota and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of a member of the Government Accountability Board.

Dated this 12th day of August 2025.


John W. Bastian

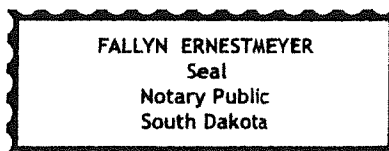
Subscribed and sworn to before me this
12th day of August, 2025.
 (Seal)

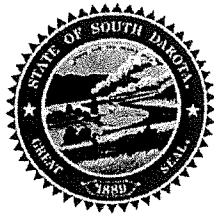
(Seal)

Sallyn Ernestmeyer
Notary

My Commission Expires:

01/27/2031





Conflict of Interest

ELECTED OFFICIAL

Statement of Financial Interest

Deadline to file: Within 15 days after the person assumes office.

File with: The **SECRETARY OF STATE** except **local candidates** file with the office where they file their oath of office.

Elected Officials who file: **State Office** elected officials (governor, lieutenant governor, state treasurer, attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, public utilities commissioner, commissioner of school and public lands, state legislator, circuit court judge and supreme court justice SDCL 3-1A-2);

Gubernatorial Appointee for whom senate confirmation is required shall file with the secretary of state a statement of financial interest before confirmation SDCL 3-1A-3.

Local Office officials (county commissioner, school board member in a school district with a total enrollment of more than 2,000 students, or commissioner, council member, or mayor in any 1st class municipality SDCL 3-1A-4)

Please print:

Full Name John W. Bastian

Complete Address 10910 Country Club Rd., Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Office (list District number if applicable) SD Government Accountability Board

What is your occupation/profession? Retired Circuit Judge

****If there are no changes from your previously filed CANDIDATE Financial Interest Statement check the box and sign and date below.** ☒ **NO Changes**

List any source of funds (business or economic relationship) which contributes **more than 10%** of or **more than \$2,000** to your family's (includes spouse, minor children living at home) **gross income** in the preceding calendar year. This also includes any enterprise in which you or an immediate family member(s) **controls more than 10% of the capital or stock**. Identify who receives the income from each enterprise but do not include the value. (SDCL 3-1A-1)

**The intent of this form is to collect specific information, not generalities. Do not put N/A or leave the grid blank.*

Name of Candidate or Family Member	Name the Source of Funds (Ex: current employer, SD Legislature, 401K, benefits, etc.)	Relationship to funds (Ex: employee, officer, director, associate, partner, shareholder, owner, member, proprietor, etc.)
John Bastian Spouse (Jana)	Social Security Social Security	Retiree Retiree
John Bastian Spouse (Jana)	SD Retirement System SD Retirement System	Retiree Retiree
John Bastian	UJS / SDSCT	Consultant
John Bastian	American Arbitration Assn	Arbitrator

I declare and affirm under the penalties of perjury that the information above has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct and complete representation of myself and my immediate family's financial interests for the preceding calendar year.


(Signature)

December 16, 2025

(Date)

**Executive Appointment
State Government Accountability Board**

Senate Confirmation Information

Name: John Bastian

Address: 10910 Country Club Road, Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717

Home Phone: 605-892-5083 (cell) Office Phone: Same

1. Do you serve on any other state board or commission? No

2. Reason for vacancy: Term limited

3. This appointee replaces: Gene Kean

4. Statutory requirement for the composition of this board or commission:

SDCL § 3-24-1

5. Statutory requirement for this appointment:

SDCL § 3-24-1

6. Educational background. (Specify any degrees or special training you have received including the dates and institutions from which degrees have been awarded.)

South Dakota State University	B.S. degree	December 1977
Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota	J.D. degree	May 1982
Admitted to the State Bar of South Dakota		September 1982

7. Occupation(s) for the past ten years. Please include the name of your employer(s) and the description of your duties.

Retired circuit court judge serving part-time by appointment of the South Dakota Supreme Court and contracted with the Unified Judicial System.

8. Background and experience in the area of appointment.

Served twenty years as a state circuit court judge (1993 – 2013) and continue to serve part-time as discussed above. Served as an acting justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court by appointment of the Chief Justice in seventeen cases.

9. Please state your interest in this appointment. For example, what would you like to see accomplished?

In reviewing and investigating public misconduct as described in SDCL § 3-24-3, the board must continue to be independent, transparent and accountable to the citizens of South Dakota.

10. Are you a registered lobbyist? No

11. Other members of the board or commission:
A member list will be provided to the Senate.