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# Election Judge News

Volume III, Issue 2

February 14, 2022

## Happy Valentine's Day!

We pause during this special day to declare our affection for all our election judges.

It's not the same, we know, but Happy Valentine's Day, anyway!

In this issue, we talk about congressional and legislative redistricting as a result of the 2020 Census and what it all means, we update you on election related bills in Annapolis, we tell you about exciting changes coming to election judge training, and we remind you of opportunities to help in this year's elections.

## Redistricting

Due to population decreases in Garrett and Allegany Counties over the last decade, Legislative District 1C had to be moved farther east into Washington County.

As a result, several precincts that used to be in District 2A are now in District 1C, such as 13 (Maugansville), 24 (area west of Hagerstown to Huyett), and 26 (Halfway to Williamsport).

Also, the new legislative lines draw through the middle of some precincts, meaning we'll have to create new precincts.

The old and new maps are located below.

## Election-related Bills

Here's an update on some bills in Annapolis that we are currently tracking:

HB113—would require voters to show picture ID when checking in to vote. The bill had a hearing in Ways and Means Committee, but no movement since.

HB327—would set a statewide minimum election judge pay of \$200. The Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) fully supports this bill and testified to that fact.

SB163—would allow election boards to canvass Mail-In Ballots before Election Day. The bill passed the Senate and is currently being debated on the House Floor.

We will continue to keep you

informed of any updates to these and other election-related bills.

## Election Judge Training

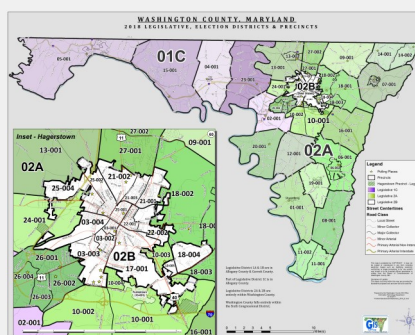
We will begin training our election judges after Easter in mid-April.

We are working on an exciting change to the training that we hope will be ready to go in time.

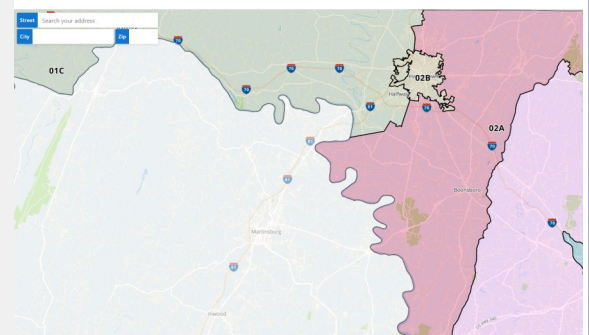
Those who have gone through our training in the past remember that we start with an overview of chapters 1-4 of the election judge manual.

This usually takes over an hour before we get into the specific details of the election judge's job.

In an effort to streamline the election judge training and reduce the time spent at in person classes, the State Board of Elections is developing **online classes** for chapters 1-4 that you can take at your leisure and pace ahead of your in person training!



Old Legislative Map



New Legislative Map



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## 2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election

### Early Voting:

June 16-23, 2022 7AM-8PM

### Election Day:

June 28, 2022 7AM-8PM

## 2022 Gubernatorial General Election

### Early Voting:

October 23-November 3  
7AM-8PM

### Election Day:

November 8, 2022 7AM-8PM

## Election Judge News

### Election Judge Training (Cont.)

The training will be broken down into 4 to 5 minute modules, expected to take a grand total of 45 to 60 minutes. You can take as many or as few modules at a time as you want, then come back and pick up where you left off.

The online training will be interactive, with videos and progress checks throughout the modules.

The online training is scheduled to go live by mid-March and is to be completed before attending in person training. More information to come!

### 2022 Election

The Primary Election is fast approaching, and we can use your help in the following areas:

- **Early Voting**—Our two Early Voting Centers are:
  - 1) Washington County Election Center, 17718 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, and
  - 2) Washington County Free Library, 100 S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown.

We need election judges to staff both of those Early Voting Centers. Many election judges use this opportunity to further familiarize themselves with the election process ahead of Election Day, sort of a supplement to their training.

Not to mention you get the same Election Day pay for each Early Voting day you work!

Your Election Judge Application included an area where you could volunteer to work Early Voting.

If you didn't check that box but are still interested in working Early Voting, please let us know.

**Drop Boxes**—There will be six Ballot Drop Boxes for 2022, spread throughout the county. Since there are more drop boxes, we will utilize multiple bipartisan teams to do our daily pickups.

So yet another opportunity for you to work some additional hours in support of the election, and remember: not only do you get paid for your time, but we pay your mileage expenses (office to drop boxes and back) as well!

### Applications

So far we have received 476 applications back from our election judges. We need 650+ election judges to adequately staff the polling places. As you can see, we're nowhere close to where we need to be, and we're beginning to get nervous.

So, If you have not yet sent in your Election Judge Application, please do so soon. We will soon be in the process of placing election judges in their assigned polling places and preparing for the upcoming training.

If you misplaced your application, you can find all the required documents on our website at

[washco-mdelections.org/become-an-election-judge](http://washco-mdelections.org/become-an-election-judge).

### Training Center

From the Election Judge Training Manual, Chapter 1, helpful hints about line management and how to help voters get the best experience out of voting:

## 1.18 General Policies About Voters

### 1.18.4 Line Management

To help voters have a better experience while waiting in line:

- Have single lines leading to the check-in table, voting booths, ballot marking devices, and scanning units.
- Check with voters waiting in line to make sure voters are at the correct polling place and in the correct line.
- Give voters the opportunity to look at a sample ballot while in line.
- Provide voters instructions about the voting system and voting procedures.
- Allow voters to read literature, including information about candidates and ballot questions, while waiting in line inside or outside the polling room. Voters may read newspapers, books, fliers, pamphlets, etc.
- Allow voters to use electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, etc.) while waiting in line outside of the polling room.
- Inform voters about expected wait times while they are waiting in line. If there are any delays, explain them to the voter.

### Trivia Question

For Valentine's Day, a floral related question. Hopefully, everyone gets this one right. What is the official State flower?

Answer below: