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Election Judge News

Volume III, Issue 3

March 14, 2022

Happy Spring everyone! As of the publication of this newsletter, there is snow on the ground!

But the Major League Players Association reached an agreement with the owners, ensuring a full season of baseball, and we are undeterred in our optimism that Spring is just around the corner!

In this issue, we update you on redistricting, election-related bills in Annapolis, and the new, on-line training.

Redistricting

Below are some maps our county GIS department created for us, highlighting the changes that have been made to the legislative and election districts and precincts after the 2020 Census.

The first one is like one of those "find the differences" pictures. The top map shows the legislative districts prior to the 2020 Census, and the bottom



2012 vs. 2022 Legislative Districts

map shows the new legislative districts after the Census.

It illustrates how District 1C has crept further east into what was previously District 2A territory.

The center map is the election districts prior to the Census, and the map on the right shows the new election districts.

The new legislative map has been challenged in court, as well as the new congressional map. We may or may not have a decision on the maps before the next newsletter.

Election-related Bills

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

HB35—started out as a simple bill codifying current practice of cost sharing between the counties and the State Board of Elections (SBE) on major purchases and leases.

But an amendment was added and passed that outlaws the use of vote centers and requires at

least the same number of polling places as we used in 2018.

On the surface, this seems like a good thing; however, 2022 is not the same as 2018.

Redistricting changed the makeup of districts and precincts that make it impossible to have the same number of polling places. Plus, mail-in voting has changed the look of in-person voting, such that the same number of polling places are no longer required.

The bill passed the House and is awaiting a vote in the Senate.

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. Unfortunately, the bill has not had any movement since the committee hearing.

SBI 63—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.



2012 Precincts Map



2022 Precincts 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

IT'S HAPPENING!

In-person election judge training will begin after Easter in mid-April.

We will start online training of chapters 1-4 of the election judge manual, beginning on or before March 21st.

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.

We had a chance to preview the online training, and we think you'll like it!

Be on the lookout for an email from us, detailing how you can get access to the online training.

After you complete your online training, you will be given an opportunity to schedule your in person training on the web site.

Below is an example of the online training web page:

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.

Below is a new policy for accommodating voters in line that we will cover during in person training:

1.18 General Policies About Voters

1.18.5 Accommodating Voters in Line

If a voter is unable to stand in line, ask another voter in line to hold his or her place. Allow the voter who needs accommodation to sit down until the placeholder reaches the check-in judge. Give a placeholder card to the voter and the other voter who is holding his or her place in line. The voter standing in line will alert the judges and show them the card when it is the voter's turn to vote. The cards are numbered in pairs to identify the voter who is waiting to vote.

Voters who encounter a ballot marking device that does not work should be allowed to leave the polling place and return at a later time without being required to wait in any line.

Trivia Question

When is Maryland Day?

Answer below:



The Whimsical Garden, located on the Hagerstown Cultural Trail.

The screenshot shows a web interface for an online training module. On the left is a navigation sidebar with a tree view:

- CHAPTER 1: GENERAL INFORMATION (40% COMPLETE)
- Chapter 1 Lesson #1: Introduction to the Role of the Mary...
- Chapter 1 Lesson #2: Qualifications and Responsibilities...
- Chapter 1 Lesson #3: Rules and Policies for an Election J... (selected)
- Chapter 1 Lesson #4: General Policies about Voters
- Chapter 1: Quiz

 The main content area displays:

- Lesson 3 of 5
- Chapter 1 Lesson #3: Rules and Policies for an Election Judge
- By Mary Ann Mogawero
- A video player showing a Maryland Blue Crab.
- Learning Objectives:
 - In this lesson you will review:
 - General Rules for all Election Judges
 - Election Judge Do's and Don't's
 - Types of Election Judges
 - Term and Removal from Service
 - Voting Options
- At the bottom, there is a 'Click to play audio' button and a short paragraph of text.