



Election Judge News

Board of Elections Staff Points of Contact

- Barry Jackson
Director
240-313-2054
barry.jackson@maryland.gov
- Teresa Morningstar
Deputy Director
240-313-2052
teresa.morningstar1@maryland.gov
- Cory Green
Election Program Supervisor I
240-313-2055
corya.green@maryland.gov
- Carl Dayley
Election Program IT Specialist
240-313-2067
carl.dayley@maryland.gov
- Sarah Hall
Election Program Specialist I
240-313-2056
sarah.hall@maryland.gov
- Sherie Nigh
Election Program Specialist I
240-313-2058
sherie.nigh1@maryland.gov
- Jessica Bobbitt
Election Program Assistant I
240-313-2053
jessica.bobbitt@maryland.gov

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“I’m a greater believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it.” - Thomas Jefferson

Volume V, Issue 6

June 28, 2024

Flying Boxcars Night!

Well, get excited, if you aren’t already, to help us recruit more election judges at a night out with the Hagerstown Flying Boxcars! We will have a table set up on the concourse, behind Homeplate with information and applications for election judges. Help us recruit more reliable, motivated, and committed election judges like you by directing them to our table!

Election Judge Pay

We were able to get paychecks out this election in record time and that’s thanks in part to all of you for completing all the necessary paperwork also in record time! We know getting everyone on payroll may have been a trying experience for many, but you stuck with us and we all got through it. Thank you! Now is the time to be thinking about where that paycheck may have landed for you. Did it end up in an account you weren’t expecting? Did you recently change banks or bank accounts? Did you move? Did any of your personal information change and now needs to be updated? We want to ensure everyone receives their paycheck for their October and November hours exactly where you are expecting it. If you do have any changes to report or need to switch accounts for your deposit, please notify the County Payroll Department as soon as possible.

Please remember, that updating to a new bank may result in another paper check for the fall and then direct deposit after

that. However, if you have an account change at the same bank or no changes at all you should expect your earnings for the General Election in the fall to be directly deposited into the account that you have specified.

Since we’re talking about paychecks, you may have noticed that some of the paperwork you have received from the county listed your earnings at an hourly rate of \$15. For those who may not be aware of our pay practices, election judges are generally not paid hourly for Early Voting and Election Day. Election judges are paid a flat rate for their day of work and a flat rate for their training.

“Training” includes all training whether it be in person or videos that are viewed online either at home or in the office. For the fall, most of you will receive training in the form of a mock election refresher course, instead of a classroom style training day. This refresher training will entitle you to the same training pay amount that you received in the spring.

“A day of work” is a flat rate that would include:

- Set-up the night before election day
- Election Day
- Any extended hours

Please keep in mind that the set-up the night before election day is NOT a separate day of work; it is included in the election day flat rate.

Lastly, an election judge is considered a “returning” judge only after completing an entire election cycle and then “returning” for the next cycle. This means

that if you were a new or first time election judge for the Primary, you will not be considered a “returning” judge for the General in November. You will be a returning judge and entitled to the returning judge bonus pay for the next consecutive election cycle, which will begin with the 2026 Primary.

Training Center

4.5 Polling Place Evaluators

The Maryland State Board of Elections or the Washington County Board of Elections may send people to visit polling places without advance notice. These evaluators will check to see how well the election judges are following the rules. They will check the election judges’ general performance.

Evaluators use a *Polling Place Evaluation Form* when visiting polling places. During the visit, evaluators may speak with election judges and inspect reports. Evaluators are not allowed to slow down or interrupt the voting process, but otherwise must be given access to the polling room.

Looking Ahead

Obviously, we have an election coming up in just a few months and we look forward to having all of you back! Look for announcements and sign up opportunities in your email in the next month or two.

It is always our hope that everyone is able to commit to serving as an election judge for election day, but we also understand that there are many obligations outside of the election schedule. If you find yourself unable to commit to the election day or early voting, please



Washington County, MD
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

17718 Virginia Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Phone: 240-313-2050
Fax: 240-313-2062
Email:

washco.elections@maryland.gov

www.washco-mdelections.org

Questions or comments about the Election Judge News? Contact the editor, Sarah Hall

Phone: 240-313-2056

Email:

sarah.hall@maryland.gov

2024 Presidential General Election

Early Voting:

October 24-31, 2024
7AM-8PM

Election Day:

November 5, 2024 7AM-8PM



Election Judge News

Looking Ahead Cont'd.

keep in mind that we are always in need of election judges who are able to help pick up election material from the drop boxes and help serve our nursing home community.

Independence Day

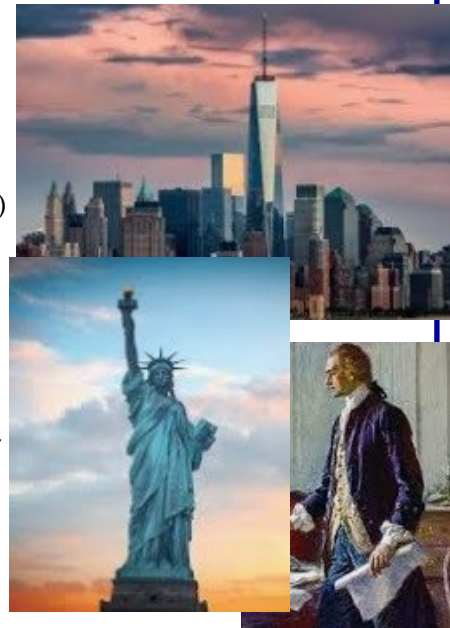
On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress which governed the 13 American colonies, voted to declare independence from Great Britain. Just two days later, on July 4, 1776, all 13 colonies had now officially adopted the Declaration of Independence. Every year, millions of Americans celebrate the birthday of American independence with fireworks, picnics, parades, concerts, and other celebratory festivities!

See how your celebration traditions stack up and learn some interesting fun facts about the Fourth of July in America:

- The United States spends approximately \$2.7 billion on fireworks each year!
- Americans eat an average 150 million hot dogs on Independence Day!
- Americans plan to spend approximately \$9.4 billion on food for July 4th.
- The Macy's fireworks display in New York City uses more than 75,000 fireworks shells and costs around \$6 million.
- Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest is held annually on July 4.
- As of 2016, July 4th was the number one holiday for beer sales in the U.S.
- Every July 4, descendants of the signers of the Declaration of Independence tap the Liberty Bell 13 times in honor of the original 13 colonies.



- One World Trade Center in New York is 1,776 feet tall to mark the year the U.S. declared its' independence.
- Inscribed on the tablet held by Lady Liberty is "July IV MDCCLXXVI" (July 4, 1776)
- When Alaska and Hawaii became states 49 and 50, President Eisenhower received thousands of ideas for an updated flag. Robert G. Heft, a 17-year-old student at Lancaster High in Ohio, created the design for a class project. He got a B- on his project.
- All 30 Major League Baseball teams will play on July 4th this year.



Courtesy of History Channel at history.com

- John Adams believed that American independence should be celebrated on July 2, because that was the day the Continental Congress voted for independence.
- The "Pennsylvania Evening Post" was the first newspaper to print the Declaration of Independence. A copy of the manuscript was printed in the July 6, 1776 edition of the newspaper.

Trivia Question: In 1776, a five-man committee was tasked with drafting "a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain." The five-man committee met to discuss the draft, but ultimately relied heavily on just one man to pen the Declaration of Independence. Incredibly, two of these original authors both died on the same day, July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Can you name these two famous founding fathers?

Answer below:

