



Election Judge News

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Inside this issue:

Early Voting	1
Reminders	1
Training Center	1-2
Crossword Puzzle	2
Trivia Question	2

“Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.” - Michael Jordan

Volume V, Issue 3

March 28, 2024

Early Voting

We are so pleased with all of the interest to help with Early Voting this year! We have nearly all of the Early Voting spaces filled up already with all of the overwhelming support and we're so pleased to have plenty of substitutes to call upon if needed. If you have not looked at the sign-up genius for Early Voting yet, please do so and see if your position is still available! Remember, there are just three (3) Early Voting Centers to staff for the eight (8) days of Early Voting, but there are 40 polling places for Election Day!! If you were not able to fill an Early Voting slot for the Primary, rest assured that we absolutely do need and appreciate your support as an election judge for Election Day! Keep in mind, we will need all of our election judges again this year for the Early Voting Centers in October and for Election Day on November 5.

We appreciate all of our election judges and want to extend a big Thank You to everyone for being so willing to help!



Reminders

- ◆ Many of you have already completed your training and others are scheduled and ready to go. Thank you! If you have not scheduled your training yet, please

do so. You may contact our Election Judge Coordinator, Sherie, if you are not able to locate your Eventbrite invitation to sign up for the in-person training. Sherie.nigh1@maryland.gov 240-313-2058 (That is the number one (1) in her email address.)

- ◆ If you were not already on payroll, there was some paperwork that was to be completed online. The paperwork should have already been emailed out to you. If you did not receive this email or need assistance with the forms please feel free to call the office.
- ◆ If you are helping out with the drop boxes this year, you may have noticed some changes. The State has asked that all election judges helping to pick up from the drop boxes have a completed background check that includes fingerprinting. You should have received information on this process and be able to schedule your fingerprinting. If you need assistance please reach out to Cory Green at: corya.green@maryland.gov 240-313-2055

- ◆ Due to the heavy volume of calls that we get at the office as we get closer to Election Day, a call center will be handling the calls starting April 1, 2024! Please be mindful that if you call the main office number, you will reach the call center and probably spend a lot more time trying to get ahold of the office. **Starting April 1, please call 240-313-2057** to reach the office and avoid

getting stuck in the call center.

- ◆ As you are all getting ready to help others get their votes cast and counted, please don't forget to make a plan to vote yourself! As an election judge you may be working outside of your precinct on Election Day and need to either vote early or by mail-in ballot! If you need a mail-in ballot this year, please fill in an application for one as soon as possible!

Training Center

Excerpts from Chapter 4 - People and Activities in the Polling Place

4.3 Challengers and Watchers

Maryland law allows selected individuals to serve as challengers and watchers. Challengers and watchers represent candidates and political parties or can support or oppose ballot issues. Official challengers and watchers are election observers who are allowed to observe all election day activities in the polling place.

To be an official challenger and watcher, a person must have a certificate filled out by any of the following:

- The State Board of Elections
- A local board of elections
- A candidate (including filed write-in candidates)
- A political party
- Any other group of voters supporting or opposing a candidate, principle, or proposition on the ballot.



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

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2024 Presidential Primary Election

Early Voting:

May 2-9, 2024 7AM-8PM

Election Day:

May 14, 2024 7AM-8PM

2024 Presidential General Election

Early Voting:

October 24-31, 2024
7AM-8PM

Election Day:

November 5, 2024 7AM-8PM



Election Judge News

Training Center Cont'd.

Challengers and watchers have the right to:

- Challenge a voter's identity
- Be in the polling room at least 1/2 hour before the polls open, but not less than 30 minutes before the polls open
- Be in the polling room during all the work of closing the polls, but must be inside the polling room before the polls close
- Make a list of registered voters who have voted or individuals who have case provisional ballots. They can take this list outside of the polling place.
- Stand where they can see and hear each voter as the voter checks in to vote.

*If the polling place is very busy, chief judges are allowed to ask challengers and watchers to wait. Chief judges should let challengers and watchers look at the scanning unit or pollbook when the polling place is less busy.

Stay tuned for more about Challengers and Watchers next month!

Crossword Puzzle

I know you have all figured out the crossword puzzle from last month by now, but in case you were stumped by any, here is the answer puzzle below!

Trivia Question: Taking the sports world by surprise, in a stunning and convincing win, what was the first No. 16 seed in the NCAA Men's Tournament to beat a No. 1 seed in the first round? Who did they beat?

