



ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS NEWSLETTER

WILLIAM M. MCGUFFAGE, CHAIRMAN
JESSE R. SMART VICE CHAIRMAN
RUPERT BORGS MILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NOVEMBER 2011



FROM THE DESK OF RUPERT BORGS MILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With the filing of nominating petitions starting on November 28th in our Springfield office, the 2012 election year officially kicks off. It is anticipated that over 500 candidates will enter into the electoral process by filing for various offices from around the state. This includes candidates for the newly redrawn 18 Congressional districts, 59 Senate and 118 Representative districts. Also, candidates for judicial offices as well as various other offices will also file their nominating petitions. The Presidential candidates for both parties will be filing their nominating petitions from January 3 through January 6, 2012. It promises to be a very busy time for all election officials throughout the state and I know that we will all survive this busy season.

FILING PERIODS FOR THE MARCH 20, 2012 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION



November 28 - December 6, 2011 -- Candidates of established political parties for legislative and judicial offices or for any multi-county office - file at State Board of Elections Springfield office

November 28 - December 6, 2011 - Candidates of established political parties for county offices, ward committeemen (City of Chicago) and precinct committeemen - file at office of County Clerk

December 19 - 27, 2011 - Candidates of established political parties for judicial vacancies occurring during the period November 14-December 5, 2011 file at State Board of Elections Springfield office

January 3 - 6, 2012 - Candidates for Democratic or Republican Presidential preference, delegate and alternate delegate -- file at State Board of Elections Springfield office

* * * IMPORTANT NOTICE * * *

In response to the Committee for A Fair and Balanced Map lawsuit, the court has instructed the parties involved to come up with an agreed upon filing period. Thus, the original filing dates (November 28 - December 6) for **congressional candidates** have been changed.

Congressional candidates will file **December 23 - 27** at the State Board of Elections Springfield office. Objections to congressional candidate petitions can be filed up to January 4, 2012 at 1 p.m. The congressional candidates names will be certified to the ballot on January 17, 2012.

WELCOME BACK



Jim Tenuto, former Deputy General Counsel, returned to the State Board of Elections as Assistant Executive Director located in our Chicago office. Mr. Tenuto began on July 1, 2011 after a career in private practice.

IMPORTANT DATES

2012 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION REGISTRATION DEADLINES

General Primary Election - March 20, 2012

Last day to register to vote Tuesday, February 21

Grace Period Registration and Voting

First Day Wednesday, February 22
Last Day Tuesday, March 13

Early Voting

First Day Monday, February 27
Last Day Thursday, March 15

2012 GENERAL ELECTION REGISTRATION DEADLINES

General Election - November 6, 2012

Last day to register to vote Tuesday, October 9

Grace Period Registration and Voting

First Day Wednesday, October 10
Last Day Tuesday, October 30

Early Voting

First Day Monday, October 15
Last Day Thursday, November 1

BOARD MEETING DATES

- **Tuesday, December 20** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago
- **Thursday, January 12** - Advisory Committee meeting 9:00 a.m. - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Springfield -- Certification of March primary election ballot
- **Wednesday, February 22** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago
- **Monday, March 19** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Springfield
- **Friday, April 20** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago -- Proclamation of March primary election results
- **Monday, May 21** Advisory Committee meeting 9:00 a.m. - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Springfield
- **Tuesday, June 12** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago

Board meetings between the Springfield and Chicago offices will be connected via video conference if the necessary equipment is available. Dates, times and locations of Board meeting dates are subject to change.

For additional dates pertaining to the 2012 Primary or General Election please refer to the 2012 Election and Campaign Finance Calendar.

IVRS

With the candidate petition filing period beginning November 28 and the period for filing an objection to a candidate's petitions beginning December 6, the Illinois State Board of Elections will again be providing 10 viewing stations for members of the public to access the Statewide voter registration database. The purpose of this access is for the comparison of registration information against the names, addresses, and signatures provided by the candidates on their petitions. These stations will be available in our Springfield office only starting at 3:00 pm on Monday, November 28 and will continue to be available from 8:00 am through 5:00 pm Monday-Friday through the end of the objection period.



MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTERS

We are gearing up early in preparation for sending out Military/Overseas ballots for the Primary Elections. As you know, the State Board of Elections will be certifying the *March 20 Primary* ballot on Thursday, January 12. However, the last day to file an objection to a delegate petition is Friday, January 13.

The day all military ballots must be sent (45 days prior to the primary election) is Saturday, February 4. That is exactly three weeks between the last day to file an objection and the date to get ballots out. We may expect a number of amended certifications during that time.

Therefore, we strongly suggest that Special Write-In ballots be prepared and ready to go if your regular ballots will not be printed in time. The State Board of Elections has prepared a CD which includes:

Illinois Special Write-In Absentee Voter's Blank Ballot Instructions
Federal Special Write-In Absentee Voter's Blank Ballot Instructions

We have provided room on the Illinois Instructions for individual election authorities to add their own individual comments. These are word documents that can be e-mailed as an attachment, printed out and faxed or printed out and mailed to all of the UOCAVA voters on your list as of February 3rd.

If you have not attended a zone meeting in October or did not receive one of these CD's in the mail, please contact Cris Cray and she will get one out to you ASAP.

As always, if you have any UOCAVA questions, please don't hesitate to contact Cris at 217.782.1577.

HAVA FUNDING UPDATE

Current grants available to all jurisdictions

VAID IV -- available until **November 2012** - all paperwork must be submitted by December 17, 2012 - Can be used for polling place accessibility only, including accessible voting equipment.

Phase III -- available until **November 2012**. Paperwork and guidelines have been distributed via e-mail to all election jurisdictions.

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Inventory -- Reminder.....inventory sheets will be due every August 1. Please update them as you dispose of equipment or purchase new equipment with HAVA funding.

Site Visits -- Staff will continue to conduct site visits each month (not including the month prior to an election or the month of an election). Voting equipment and other equipment purchased with HAVA funding will be located and serial numbers will be compared with the county's inventory listing.

IVRS STATE GRANT

Paperwork for the 2011-2012 Illinois Voter Registration State Grant will be forthcoming in early April 2012. Funding for this program was cut in the State Board of Elections budget and will be reflected in the total amount a jurisdiction will receive.



ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Visit the Election Assistance Commission's website to find useful election related publications.

The EAC Website features a variety of information for voters, including registration deadlines for each state, how to register using the National Mail Voter Registration Form, and how to become a poll worker.

The EAC's Glossaries of Election Terminology (PDFs and an online tool), Voters Guides to Federal Elections, and National Mail Voter Registration Form are available in numerous languages and free of charge at www.eac.gov.

Sign up for weekly newsletters from the EAC. These provide news and updates on many different topics involving elections.

For additional information on these EAC resources, contact Marcy Reedy at mreedy@eac.gov.

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

~ Winston Churchill ~

MISCELLANEOUS

The Division of Election Training and Resource Development will be scheduling election judges schools for the March 20, 2012 Primary Election. To date, 44 schools have already been scheduled. Contact Eric Donnewald at edonnewald@elections.il.gov for further information.

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Current election related publications available on the SBE website: 2012 Election and Campaign Finance Calendar; 2012 Candidates Guide; 2012 Judicial Vacancies; 2012 Presidential and Delegate Guide; 2012 Campaign Finance Calendar; and Military and Overseas Voters Guidelines. Other publications available are five Directory of Officials: County Officers, State and Federal Officers; Judicial Officers; and Democratic Precinct Committeemen, Green Party Precinct Committeemen and Republican Precinct Committeemen. The new Interactive GIS map is available at <http://www.elections.il.gov/gis.aspx>

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Public Acts 97-6, 97-14 and 97-15 required the State Board of Elections to prepare and make available to the public metes and bounds descriptions of the new Congressional, Legislative and Cook County Board of Review districts. The metes and bounds descriptions for Congressional and Legislative districts are currently (or will be) posted on the Board's website.

MEET OUR BOARD

FRONT, LEFT TO RIGHT

BRYAN SCHNEIDER, BILL
MCGUFFAGE (CHAIR),
JESSE SMART (VICE
CHAIR)



BACK, LEFT TO RIGHT

BETTY COFFRIN,
HAROLD BYERS, JUDITH
RICE, CHARLES
SCHOLZ, ERNEST
GOWEN

We're doing our part to help the environment. To receive notification of future newsletters, contact Becky Glazier at bglazier@elections.il.gov. All newsletters are available at <http://www.elections.il.gov/BoardInformation.aspx>