



# Election Judge News

“He serves his party best who serves his country best.” - Rutherford B Hayes

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## Civic Holidays

Civic Holidays are days that call us to take action to participate in our country’s voting process. These holidays encompass each phase of voting including registering to vote, making a plan to vote, actually casting your ballot, and of course, thanking all of you who help make our elections possible. We just recently celebrated National Voter Registration Day with a voter registration drive at HCC during Campus Takeover.

Next up, National Voter Education Week! National Voter Education Week is October 7-11, 2024. Be sure to like and share our social media during National Voter Education Week to help your community members find the information needed to make a plan to vote!

Just a few weeks later is National Vote Early Day! Early Voting takes place October 24-31, 2024 and National Vote Early Day falls on Tuesday, October 29. If you are working at one of our Early Voting Center locations you can help us celebrate the day by visiting one of the Food Truck Vendors in the parking lot! The Election Center on Virginia Avenue and the Smithsburg Library will each have multiple food truck options for you and the voters to purchase your meals during the day! The Boonsboro American Legion will also be celebrating with a selection of food available for purchase on October 29!

If you are not working on Tuesday, October 29, that might be the perfect day to come out and vote early at one of our three Early Voting Centers and purchase a quick meal from one

of the vendors!

## Election Security

We want all election judges to have a secure and safe work environment while at their polling place during the work day. If you are working at one of the Early Voting Center locations, don’t be surprised to see a local police officer outside of the facility. There will be a police officer stationed outside of each Early Voting Center for every hour of the day and night for all eight (8) days of early voting.

In addition, all chief judges will have emergency contact information available if there should be any incident throughout the day.

## Refreshers & Training

By now just about everyone should have been able to make it through a refresher training class or a new election judge training. If you have not been able to schedule and attend your training yet, please call the office to make arrangements. There are only a few times slots or accommodations left. Please remember that the Call Center service has started back up at this point. If you need to call the office and want to avoid the Call Center, use

240-313-2057.

## Election Ready

Now is the time to be sure that you are ready for the upcoming election. If you have not made a plan to vote yet, please do so. If you know that you are working outside of your precinct on Election Day, it would be in your best

interest to plan to vote during Early Voting or request a Mail-in Ballot, so you don’t have to complete a provisional ballot on Election Day.

Besides making a plan to vote for Election Day, you can also be better prepared for the upcoming election by reviewing your job specific chapters of the manual, and content found on the Election Judge page of the website. Keep an eye out for an email next month containing Election Judge News “Reminders Edition” with lots of helpful tips and reminders to help make Election Day run smoothly for you.

## Training Center

### 2.3 Chain of Custody

Chain of custody refers to the time-based record, or paper trail, of all the voting equipment and materials. The paper trail will show the custody, control, and transfer of voting equipment, memory sticks, voted and unvoted ballots, reports, forms, and other equipment and supplies.

It is important to make sure the voting materials are secure. If you are transporting memory sticks, keys, compact flash cards, ballot activation cards, and ballots, you must record the chain of custody, which means who had the material and when they had it. It is also important to maintain physical security control over the voting equipment. All reports and documentation must be completed and signed appropriately.

Chief judges from each precinct are responsible for the compact flash cards from each pollbook. The compact flash cards are sealed in the pollbooks at the time of delivery to the polling place.



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## 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.

When the polls close, the chief judges are responsible for removing the compact flash cards and adapters from all the pollbooks and placing them inside the forms folder for each precinct. Chief judges from each precinct are responsible for the memory sticks from the scanning units. Memory sticks are in the scanning unit at the time of delivery to the polling place. When the polls close, the chief judges are responsible for removing the memory sticks from all scanning units and placing them inside the forms folder for the precinct. All memory sticks, compact flash cards, and voted ballots, along with all election supplies, including the pollbooks, are to be returned to the Washington County Board of Elections by the two chief judges immediately after the polls close. Two local board members will check in the compact flash cards and adapters, memory sticks and issue a receipt to the chief judges.

### Save the Date

Some important dates to remember and mark your calendar for are coming up fast:

- Our election ad will be playing in the Leitersburg Warehouse Cinema starting on Friday, October 4. We're so pleased with how it turned out and want to extend a big thank you to everyone that was involved in the process!
- October 15 is the voter registration deadline before the General Election and also our first Canvass day!
- Early Voting begins Thursday, October 24. Early Voting will be available for eight (8) days in a row, ending on Thursday, October 31.
- Chief Judge supply pick up will be Saturday, November 2.

- Don't forget to change your clocks an hour back overnight between Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3. Take advantage of that extra hour of sleep and be ready for that long Election Day!
- Election Day is Tuesday, November 5!!

**Trivia Question:** Samuel Wilson, a meat packer from New York in 1813, is credited with what significant contribution to the United States? His contribution still remains relevant today!

**Answer below:**

