



# ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS NEWSLETTER

ALBERT S. PORTER, CHAIRMAN  
BRYAN A. SCHNEIDER, VICE CHAIRMAN  
DAN WHITE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OCTOBER 2008



*FROM THE DESK OF  
DAN WHITE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

A record 2,986,982 voters turned out for the presidential primary and early voting was a tremendous success. As we gear up for the November general election we expect a very high turnout based on voter registration applications being submitted. Good luck to all!

## 2008 IMPORTANT DATES

- **Monday, October 6** - First day for election authority to publish the locations of each permanent and temporary sites for early voting and dates and hours early voting will be conducted
- **Tuesday, October 7** - Last day for registration or transfer or registration within the office of the election authority; last day for registration of voters by deputy registrars
- **Wednesday, October 8** - First day for Grace Period Registration and Voting in the office of the election authority or at a location designated by the election authority
- **Thursday, October 9** - First day for election authority to post schedule for early voting at each location early voting will be conducted.
- **Monday, October 13** - First day for Early Voting at permanent early voting sites designated by the election authority
- **Tuesday, October 14** - First day for Early Voting at temporary voting sites designated by the election authority
- **Monday, October 20** - Board meeting -10:30 a.m. Chicago (via video conference in Springfield)
- **Tuesday, October 21** - Last day for Grace Period Registration and Voting
- **Thursday, October 30** - Last day for Early Voting
- **Thursday, October 30** - Last day automatic tabulating equipment and automatic Optical Scan tabulating equipment may be tested.
- **Tuesday, November 4** - GENERAL ELECTION
- **Tuesday, November 18** - Deadline for election authority to complete validation and counting of provisional ballots.
- **Monday, November 17** - Board meeting - 10:30 a.m. Springfield (via video conference in Chicago)
- **Tuesday, November 25** - Last day for canvassing results as well last day for election authority to transmit such canvass to the State Board of Elections.
- **Sunday, November 30** - The State Board of Elections will meet to canvass the results of the election...prior to Judicial candidates taking office on Monday, December 1. Video conference both Springfield and Chicago offices

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## **NO ELECTIONEERING**

We've had a surprising amount of interest in the regulations regarding political materials within the polling place. This is a good time to remind election judges of the no electioneering statute - meaning no buttons, stickers, t-shirts, coats, or anything containing a candidate's name can be worn or taken into the polling place.  
10 ILCS 5/9-1.14 and 5/17-29

## **ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION COMMISSION**

The Election Day Registration Commission will meet in on November 12 to make a final recommendation on whether Illinois should implement election day registration at the polling places. This recommendation will be presented to the legislature in January as dictated by state statute. Visit the website at <http://electiondayregistration.ning.com/?xqi=gGV8CLH> to add your comments and concerns.

## **ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

Visit the Election Assistance Commission's website at [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov) to find useful election related publications. *A Voter's Guide to Federal Elections* is now included which contains information about voter registration and voting in the November presidential election. The EAC Web site also 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.

## **ELECTIONS**

The State Board of Elections' Division of Election Training and Resource Development processed 105,639 voter registration application transmittals to the election authorities in 2008 -- 40,978 of those were in August and 39,134 in September. Interest in the Presidential election appears to be high!

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The Division of Election Training and Resource Development has scheduled 137 election judges schools for the November 2008 General Election.

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The Mock Election programs are available on the SBE website under the Voting and Elections front page link. Both the K-3 Let's Vote and the 4-12 Mock Election programs include the names of the actual candidates running for certain offices as indicated in the books.

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The LEO Handbook, the 2009 Candidates Guide, 2009 Township Caucus Guide and the 2009 Election & Campaign Finance Calendar are available on the website under the Voting and Elections front page link.

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The Election Authorities Guidelines for 2008 publication will be finalized and included on the website soon.

## **CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE**

The Division of Campaign Disclosure would like to remind you of some reporting dates:

### **November 4, 2008 General Election Pre-Election Report**

- Reporting of period July 1, 2008 through October 5, 2008 -- Filing dates October 6, 2008 through October 20, 2008

### **A-1 - Reporting of Aggregate Contributions of More than \$500**

- Contributions including, in-kind and loans, received within the 30 day period preceding an election in an aggregate of more than \$500 must be filed within **two** business days on a Schedule A--1. This period covers **October 6, 2008 through and including November 3, 2008**

### **December 2008 Semi Annual Report**

- Reporting period July 1, 2008 though December 31, 2008 -- Filing dates are January 2, 2009 through January 20, 2009.

## **HAVA FUNDING UPDATE**

Current grants available to all jurisdictions

Phase II -- available until **November 2008** - all paperwork must be submitted by December 31, 2008 - Can be used to meet the requirements of Title III

VAID II -- available until **November 2008** - all paperwork must be submitted by December 31, 2008 - Can be used for polling place accessibility only, including accessible voting equipment  
The State Board of Elections will be updating the State Plan in order to request FY 08 federal funding of HAVA requirements funds. The SBE did receive state matching funds as required by HAVA.

Additional Health & Human Services (accessibility) funds (FY 08) will be made available to states as well.

## **EARLY VOTING JUDGES**

Funds were made available in the State Board of Elections FY 09 Budget to assist in funding additional costs associated with early voting judges of election.

The formula for distributing the Early Voting assistance funds is based on two election judges per 10,000 registered voters (rounded) on Election Day for each local election jurisdiction multiplied by the number of days Early Voting is in operation (17 days). Each calculated Early Voting 'judge' in this formula will be reimbursed at the recently increased \$45 per judge per day reimbursement rate, up to the total amount available in the Early Voting assistance appropriation. Reimbursements for Election Day judges will continue to be processed in the usual manner.

### ***DID YOU KNOW?***

*Benjamin Harrison was the first president to use electric lights in the White House. After getting a shock, however, he was afraid to touch the switches and would go to bed with the lights on.*

*The oldest president was Ronald Reagan. He was 69 at inauguration and 77 when he left office*

*The youngest president was Teddy Roosevelt. He was 42.*

## **INTRODUCING**



State Board of Elections  
Assistant Executive  
Director

Rupert Borgsmiller

Mr. Borgsmiller was appointed Assistant Executive Director in July 2008 and is based in Springfield. In addition to the new duties he continues to manage the operations of the Campaign Disclosure division.

## **ILLINOIS VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM**

The federal Help America Vote Act, also known as HAVA, requires that each state have a centralized voter registration database to store information about all registered voters in the state and that assigns a unique ID to each voter. The Illinois Voter Registration System (IVRS) is Illinois' answer to this mandate. IVRS deployment is well underway; we fully anticipate having all election jurisdictions in the State connected and transmitting their data to the new system prior to this November's election.

The jurisdictions which are currently connected are enjoying many new features offered by IVRS. These include such things as duplicate checking at the time a registrant's data is entered into the system, notifications of possible duplicate records currently contained in the database, notifications of registrants who have passed away, and timely assignment of the required unique ID which we call the State Unique ID (SUID).

Assignment of the SUID is indication that the record a jurisdiction has entered in their local voter registration database has successfully entered the statewide database or IVRS system. This SUID is used to link an individual's record to their voting history if they transfer/move from one jurisdiction to another, as well as create a road map of where that individual has been registered.

This new system will prove to be a very valuable tool to all users. The results will be a much cleaner registration database, which translates into fewer chances for fraud and higher voter participation percentages.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Following is a brief recap of four election bills which passed the Illinois General Assembly during the 2008 Spring Session. If there are any questions, please contact Cris Cray (ccray@elections.il.gov).

**House Bill 2671 - Public Act 95-0818**

Effective Date January 1, 2009

Adds to the list of qualifications for an election judge that the person not be subject to the registration requirement of the Sex Offender Registration Act.

**House Bill 4174 - Public Act 95-0862**

Effective Date August 19, 2008

Requires that the words "No Candidate" be printed on a ballot below the title of each office for which there is no candidate or person who filed a declaration to be a write-in candidate. Makes other changes. Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. When more than one person may be elected to a municipal office, changes the ballot instructions to "vote for not more than" the maximum number to be elected (now, "vote for" the maximum number to be elected). Effective immediately.

**Senate Bill 439 - Public Act 95-0889**

Effective Date January 1, 2009

Permits a municipality to require its election authority to prepare and provide special consolidated primary election absentee ballots that permit ranked run-off voting for municipal office candidates for use by absentee voters in the United States military or outside the United States on the consolidated primary and consolidated election days. Requires the State Board of Elections to adopt implementing rules. Refers to the special ballot as "ranked ballot" and includes township offices and candidates on the ballot. Conditions a municipality's adoption of the ordinance on the election authority's written statement attesting to its administrative ability to use the ranked ballot. Specifies that the voter using a ranked ballot may not cast write-in votes and shall be mailed a consolidated election ballot for those offices not appearing on the consolidated primary ballot.

**Senate Bill 2314 - Public Act 95-0878**

Effective Date January 1, 2009

With respect to personal delivery of a ballot to a voter admitted to a hospital, nursing home, or rehabilitation center before an election, requires that the admission occur not more than 14 (now, 5) days before the election.

## MEET THE STAFF



**CRISTINA CRAY**  
SPRINGFIELD

SAY HELLO  
TO OUR LEGISLATIVE  
LIAISON CRIS CRAY  
AND  
OUR GENERAL COUNSEL  
STEVE SANDVOSS



**STEVE SANDVOSS**  
SPRINGFIELD/CHICAGO

We're doing our part to help the environment To receive a copy of this via e-mail, or for notification of future newsletters, contact Becky Glazier at [bglazier@elections.il.gov](mailto:bglazier@elections.il.gov). All newsletters are available at <http://www.elections.il.gov/AboutTheBoard/Welcome.aspx>