

Announcements & Important Meetings

Welcome & Farewell

We are pleased to welcome Morgan Rhoden (“Lexy”) as the new Deputy Director of Election Reform and Management. Morgan has a Law Degree and Bachelor’s in English. She is currently completing her work towards a Master’s in Business Administration. Most recently, she served as the Director of Development for the non-profit agency, City of Refuge Baltimore, where she managed a pro bono legal clinic. She has experience with branding, marketing, public relations, coordinating large events and grant management.

We also welcome Finn Dowdall, our summer intern. Finn completed his sophomore year at Princeton University and is interested in the electoral process.

We would also like to say thank you and best wishes to Shelly Holland, our former Director of Budget and Administration, and Tracey Hartman, Director of Special Projects. Shelly was an integral part of keeping the “behind the scenes” operations running smoothly, and Tracey coordinated the important post-election audits, expanding voting by eligible individuals in correctional facilities, and other projects. We wish them both well in their next endeavor.

Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) Annual Conference

MAEO’s annual conference was held in Ocean City, Maryland during the week of May 15, 2023. Several SBE staff members participated on substantive panels, and the agenda was packed with substantive and helpful information. We congratulate MAEO on another successful conference.

Election Directors’ Meeting

The Washington County Board of Elections held an in-person meeting on June 15, 2023 at their facility in Hagerstown. They hosted so we could recognize the retirement and many years of service of Washington County’s former Election Director, Kaye Robucci. This also allowed all other election officials to view the long-awaited facility that combines new office space, warehouse and an early voting center. We updated the local boards on various projects, including the new electronic pollbook project, and tasks. A summary of this meeting will be provided with an upcoming *County Bulletin*.

Election Reform & Management

Election Judge Recruitment and Training

We sent out a mass email to all applicants from last year’s elections to thank them and remind them to apply to serve again for 2024. In response, we received a surge of early applicants and interest emails. It was noted that a lot of the respondents indicated that they have previously served.

The Election Judge Workgroup meets weekly to review and revise training materials. Updated chapters, forms and documents are being uploaded to the library as they are finalized. All information on the Page Program has been updated and posted for 2024.

Online Training

Production is underway for the election judge online training program. Local boards will be able to use this training in conjunction with their hands-on training sessions to train their election judges for the 2024 elections.

Paper Supply for 2024 Elections

We learned from the National Association of State Election Directors and vendor printing and mailing ballot packets that we should expect paper shortages in 2024. We alerted the local boards and are working with our printing partners to prepare.

Voter Registration

MDVOTERS

Acceptance testing is ongoing for release 9.2. The release will be in July and focuses on candidacy items, search improvements, and additional reports. The release will also include new reports to further enhance voter registration list maintenance, specifically with data received from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and MD Department of Health. Incarceration and deceased data received from the respective agencies that do not match MDVOTERS records will be further reviewed against broader search criteria.

MDVOTERS Audits

Monthly audits of voter registration data continue to verify compliance with federal and State laws governing voter registration. The monthly audits include review of the local boards of elections' processing of Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) reports, Department of Health's death records, AOC felony records, and the processing of overall voter registration records. Follow up continues to be conducted with the local boards to ensure all corrections are completed and to address any training issues. General training sessions for LBE staff will commence this month, and will continue periodically throughout the rest of the calendar year.

Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Transactions

During May, MVA collected the following voter registration transactions:

New Registration - 10,454 Residential Address Changes - 17,184
Last Name Changes - 2,353 Political Party - 3,821

Current Total Registered Voters

As of June 6, 2023, there were 4,158,305 active voters in Maryland. _

Candidacy and Campaign Finance (CCF) Division

Campaign Finance

The candidacy filings are scheduled by appointment, and as of June 6, 16 candidates have filed at SBE.

Public Financing

Anne Arundel County recently passed a public financing election program for the 2026 Election. It becomes the sixth local jurisdiction (Baltimore City and Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties are the others) to have a public financing program. The program will be reviewed for compliance with State laws and regulations.

Website Activity

In April 2023, the MD Campaign Reporting Information System (MD CRIS) website was visited by 416,532 individuals for an average of 13,884 per day. Additionally, it had 3,019,462 hits. Each viewer looked at an average of approximately 5.81 page views per day. The Business Contribution Disclosure System (BCDS) website had 968,701 hits, with 167,481 visitors with an average of nearly 5.25 page views per day.

Enforcement

Listed below are the recent enforcement actions from April and May 2023. The information provided is the name of the committee, the amount of civil penalty paid, and the violation. The total amount collected was \$74,900. It includes the largest fine collected by SBE of \$48,000 for the failure to file a 48 hour report.

1. MSEA's Fund for Children and Public Education PAC; Authority line violation, \$250.
2. Naves, Anita (Dr.) The Smart People for Campaign; Cash Disbursement greater than \$25, \$200.
3. Smith, Noel Friends of; Cash Contribution and Cash Disbursement >\$25, \$300.
4. Johnson Sr., Darrin Citizens to Elect; Disbursement by Unauthorized Method and Failure to Report contributions and expenditures, \$350.
5. Frazier, (Robin) Vote 2010; Failure to Maintain Records & Failure to Record Contributions, \$550.
6. Dove, John C. Friends for Jr.; Failure to Record Contributions & Cash Disbursement greater than \$25, \$250.
7. The Old Line Project; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures, \$100.
8. Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486 PAC; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures, \$1,200.
9. Harford County Correctional Assoc. Inc. PAC Fund; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures and Failure to Maintain Campaign Records, \$800.
10. Volunteer Fire PAC, Maryland; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures and Failure to Maintain Campaign Records, \$1,000.
11. Pappas (Alexander) 2022 Friends of; No Bank Account, \$50,
12. Luong, Minh Thanh Friends of; No bank account, \$50.
13. Waiters, Patricia M. Friends of; No Bank Account, \$50.
14. Figliozzi, Robert Friends of; No bank account, \$50.
15. Whitlock, Matthew Friends of; Authority line violation, \$50.
16. Barnwell, Tyrone The People For; Cash expenditures >\$25.00, \$500.
17. Alfeo, Gian Committee to Elect; Disbursement by Unauthorized Method, \$500.
18. DePaulo, Michael A. Friends of; Disbursement by Unauthorized method and Failure to maintain account books and records; \$1,500
19. Motorola Solutions, Inc. Political Action Committee; Failure to File 48 Hour Report, \$7,500
20. United Association Political Issues Fund; Failure to File 48 Hour Report, \$5,500
21. Sports Betting Alliance; Failure to File 48 Hour Report, \$48,000
22. WFP National Pac - Non-Contribution Account; Failure to file 48 Hour Report, \$7,000
23. Miller, Karin Friends of; Failure to Record Campaign Contributions, \$150
24. Joftus, Scott for MCPS Board of Ed; Failure to Record Campaign Contributions, \$50
25. Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee; Failure to record contributions & expenditures, \$1,200
26. Puzon, Ike Friends of; Failure to record contributions & expenditures, \$150
27. Howard County Republican Central Committee; Failure to Record contributions & Expenditures, Failure to keep campaign records, \$1,000
28. Richardson, Taneeka Friends of; No Bank Account, \$50

Electronic Pollbook

The pollbook solution vendor has been working at the Central Warehouse since April 24 and will continue work through July. This includes updating the tablets with Windows 11 approved updates/patches as well as loading and testing the three main applications that are part of the full solution.

A training plan and scope has been established and training classes are now being scheduled with subject matter experts.

The team has also engaged both the Center of Civic Design and the Department of Disabilities for ADA and non-visual accessibility requirement reviews. The vendor will be working on user interface updates to meet the requested changes.

Project Management Office (PMO)

Central Warehouse

The warehouse team continued its work with the Pollbook team on the planning, testing and other requirements for the new pollbook equipment being performed by the vendor and members of the pollbook team at the Central Warehouse over the next few months.

Continued to work with the Department of General Services (DGS) on the requirements for entering into a new lease agreement with the landlord. The landlord did receive from DGS the list of updates and fixes that need to be made to the facility.

Equipment and Supply Inventory

SBE's FY2023 Inventory Audit is in progress with a statewide completion of 97.23%. June 30, 2023, is the last day for completing the inventory audit.

Mr. Ross will be attending the annual Property Officer training session this month conducted by DGS.

Records Inventory

The PMO continued work on several tasks related to the agency's Records Inventory Management to ensure that it meets the State's requirements for managing records/documents.

There was a presentation for the Local Boards concerning the Records Inventory Management expectations, the project, a summary of the recent survey they completed, and the upcoming procedures that will be implemented shortly that impacts the Local Boards.

Mr. Ross will be attending the three annual records management webinars this month conducted by State Archives and DGS.

Exercise of Delegated Duties

We will use this section of the Administrator's Report to report when we have exercised duties assigned to the State Board of Elections but delegated to the Administrator and staff.

Since the last Administrator's Report:

No delegated duties were exercised.

The following delegated duties were exercised.