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you be the judge

Kids Learn About Voting

Kids Voting, a special voter education program, encourages voter participation at an early age. This program will not interfere with election day procedures, nor will it create additional work for election judges.

On election day, all questions pertaining to Kids Voting should be directed to 312/332-3107.

What is Kids Voting?

Kids Voting is a voter education program which seeks to help children learn about democracy and to encourage voter participation from an early age.

How has Kids Voting been implemented in the City of Chicago?

Kids Voting is working with both the Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners to encourage student participation in the 1996 Presidential Election. Students will be given a special Kids Voting ballot at school and will

be permitted into polling places with their parent or guardian. The students will deposit their voted ballot in the special Kids Voting ballot box located in the polling place.

Do judges of election have to do anything for Kids Voting on election day?

The Kids Voting ballot box will be delivered to the polling place. Election judges must only place the Kids Voting ballot box away from the official ballot box.

What if there is no Kids Voting ballot box in the polling place?

If there is no Kids Voting ballot box in the polling place, Kids Voting ballots should be placed in a corner of the polling place away from the official ballot box and official election materials.

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Chicago Election Board Chairman Michael J. Hamblet (right) shows off the Board's new voter registration identification card to Chicago Bears defensive tackle Chris Zorich. Zorich, who has been sidelined with a knee injury, served as the Board's spokesman for the November 5th General Election. With the theme "Don't be Sidelined November 5 - Register and Vote," Zorich appeared in public service announcements for the Board.

Board of Election
Commissioners
for the
City of Chicago

Michael J. Hamblet,
Chairman
Arnette R. Hubbard,
Commissioner/
Secretary
Richard A. Cowen,
Commissioner

Executive Director,
Lance Gough

Arrive at
the polling
place by
5:15 a.m.

Don't be
late!

We're
counting
on
you!

inside ...

Zorich Promotes Registration and Voting
Anti-Fraud Measures for Absentees
Voter Registration Figures
Training Schedule for Judges

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Anti-Fraud Measures for Absentees

New state legislation to prevent fraud in the absentee voting process will be in effect for the November 5th General Election, including increased penalties for those who violate absentee voting laws.

The legislation, which went into effect August 14, increases penalties for absentee voting fraud to up to five years in prison. It also expands the scope of unlawful activities relating to absentee voting to include persons who knowingly solicit an unauthorized voter to cast an absentee ballot.

The new law also provides a provision that allows a voter who has cast an absentee ballot to appear in the polling place on election day and cancel the absentee ballot and vote in person. Formerly, once an absentee ballot has been voted and returned, it could not be revoked by the voter.

The absentee voting statute has been amended to make it unlawful for an absentee ballot to be placed in the mail by any person other than the voter, with the exception of an immediate relative or persons living in a licensed nursing home or hospital.

The new legislation should discourage overzealous political campaign workers from soliciting unqualified voters to cast absentee ballots or attempting to give illegal assistance.

Persons who are eligible to vote by absentee ballot include those who believe they will be out of town on election day; the physically disabled; students away at college; persons whose religious holidays fall on election day; judges of election serving in precincts other than their own; and employees of the election board and law enforcement agencies on election day duty.

Call
**ELECTION
CENTRAL**
269-7870
for election
day
assistance

Make Your Vote Count

As hundreds of thousands of Chicagoans prepare to cast ballots in the November 5th General Election, the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners reminds voters that it is important to vote for all offices and propositions.

The upcoming election encompasses a wide range of offices and issues, from President of the United States to banning the sale of alcoholic beverages in selected precincts.

The November 5th ballot is comprised of three parts:

- Part one encompasses all of the political elective offices, from President to Judicial Sub-Circuit candidates who are running for the first time.
- Part two is the green non-partisan Judicial Retention ballot. Voters can vote "yes" or "no" to retain Circuit Court judges who are running on their record. The judges must receive a minimum of 60 percent "yes" votes of those cast in order to stay in office.
- Part three contains the various referendum, including Local Options to ban the sale of alcoholic beverages in select precincts and locations.

Voters should take care to vote for all offices and propositions. Each of the 30 Judicial Retention questions must be voted individually.

Voters also should check their ballot card after they finish voting to ensure that all of their selections are completely punched through the card.

Completed ballots are read by a precinct ballot counter that measures the light coming through the ballot. Therefore, it is essential that there are no incomplete punches.

Absentee voters who are sent a ballot card with a styrofoam backing should carefully check to ensure that all of the ballot selections are completely punched through.

"There are many important offices and issues being determined in this election, and we urge everyone to take the time to go to the polls, and cast a complete ballot," the Board stated. "We want your vote to count."

Complete Pay Voucher Accurately!

Election judges are urged to complete the Pay Voucher Form 194 accurately, in order to expedite the payment process. Pre-printed pay vouchers are not being utilized at this election, therefore judges **must print all information legibly, including their social security number.**

If you
know of
accessible
locations
for polling
places, call
269-7900.

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Voter Registration Rises!

Final voter registration for the November 5th General Election totals 1,428,795 in the City of Chicago. This represents an increase of 97,256 voters over the March 19th Primary, when registration totaled 1,331,539.

The increase of Chicago voters follows a comprehensive canvass or verification of voters in which 93,758 registered voters were deleted from the registration rolls as unqualified because they moved, died, or changed their names. The 1996 canvass came after a similar effort in 1995, when more than 248,000 persons were removed, thus, reducing the number of active voters by more than 340,000 since

last year.

In addition, in a comprehensive computer search, the Board removed more than 150,000 registrations that were duplicates of voters already on the rolls. Approximately 90,000 of the more than 150,000 voters had three or more registrations.

This year's registration compares to 1,524,979 registered voters for the 1992 Presidential Election. Two years ago, for the November 8, 1994 General Election, there were a total of 1,358,513 registered voters.

A ward by ward breakdown of registered voters is displayed to the right.

Board "Cleans" Registration Rolls

In an effort to make the November 5th General Election registration rolls as correct and current as possible, the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners has challenged 93,758 registered voters as being unqualified.

The canvass or verification of voters was conducted this summer, utilizing a hybrid combination of a door-to-door canvass, a mail canvass, and a special project aimed at verifying voters who live in high-rises, condominiums, nursing homes, lodging houses, and other "clustered" housing.

Chicago Election Commissioner Richard A. Cowen, who coordinated the canvass effort, said that a total of 99,808 Chicago voters were originally challenged in the verification process, and that 6,050 restored their voting rights, leaving a total 93,758 challenges.

The 1996 canvass follows a similar effort made in late 1995, when more than 248,000 persons were removed from the Board's registration rolls. Approximately 340,000 unqualified voters have been removed during the past year. The 1995 canvass was the first time that the Board utilized the door-to-door/mail verification process.

Voters whose registrations may have been challenged in error can still easily restore their voting rights in the precinct polling place on election day. The voter simply has to sign an affidavit stating that the challenge was in error, show two pieces of identification, and then he or she will be immediately allowed to vote.

"The canvass is an essential ingredient in our efforts to eliminate vote fraud since it removes unqualified persons from the registration records, eliminating the possibility that someone will vote in

the name of a person who has died or left the area," Commissioner Cowen said.

"Because of the transient nature of large urban areas, it is important that the canvassing process be done on a regular basis. We have had thorough and accurate canvasses for two years in a row."

Kids Voting

(Continued from page 1)

May children enter the polling place alone?

No, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Will there be Kids Voting ballots or Kids Voting booths in the polling place?

No, the Kids Voting ballot will be distributed to students during school. The ballot must be voted before the student enters the polling place. There are no Kids Voting booths. No official voting unit may be used for Kids Voting.

What happens to the Kids Voting ballots and ballot box?

Beginning at 3:00 p.m. election day, authorized representatives of Kids Voting will visit polling places to remove Kids Voting ballots only. These representatives must submit a credential to the judges before being permitted in the polling place. The Kids Voting ballot box will be left in the polling place. Kids Voting representatives will pick up the Kids Voting ballot box from the polling place following the election.

On election day, all questions pertaining to Kids Voting should be directed to 312/332-3107.

Wd.	Reg.
1	20,799
2	30,277
3	29,039
4	31,808
5	32,743
6	37,279
7	31,610
8	38,497
9	33,876
10	28,265
11	25,394
12	12,183
13	30,472
14	18,431
15	30,951
16	22,912
17	32,267
18	35,825
19	37,570
20	29,272
21	39,667
22	15,191
23	32,196
24	29,276
25	14,689
26	23,250
27	31,100
28	30,712
29	31,107
30	22,176
31	19,605
32	29,916
33	19,765
34	36,857
35	20,614
36	31,689
37	30,889
38	29,069
39	23,656
40	23,218
41	36,192
42	37,607
43	35,834
44	36,759
45	32,543
46	27,497
47	27,559
48	25,403
49	20,848
50	24,441
Total	1,428,795

Training Highlights New Procedures

Although many of the procedures election judges will face in the November 5th General Election are not new, judges who have not attended an instruction session are urged to attend one of the remaining classes indicated below.

The Board is again utilizing a new computerized voter registration system and has eliminated the precinct binder, which will not be issued to precincts at this election. The precinct signature book contains a computerized list of voters and facsimiles of the voters' signatures.

In the event a voter's signature is not recorded in the signature book, judges should ask the voter to sign the signature book in red ink. Judges should follow the Supplementary Instructions which replace the information in the Judge of Election Handbook on page 20.

Pre-printed applications for ballot will also be

issued to each precinct. Most applications will be white, however, a voter who has been challenged will have a pink pre-printed application and will be required to complete Form 1 prior to voting.

In case of duplicate applications for the same voter, judges should attach the applications together and have the voter complete only one of the forms.

"Fail-Safe" voting, a new term for most judges, refers to voters who qualify to vote the white/pink Federal Offices Only ballot under certain provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. "Fail-Safe" voters must complete Form 2, or orally affirm the information contained in the affidavit. Election judges must review the Supplementary Instructions covering "Fail-Safe" voting, which replace information on pages 25, 26 and 45 in the Judge of Election Handbook.

All required items must be returned to the receiving station on election night.

If you don't have transportation to the receiving station call ELECTION CENTRAL 269-7870, for assistance

Judge of Election Training Schedule

Wed. Oct. 30

10 a.m., 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Garden Manor - Sherwood Room
4720 West Armitage

Garfield Community Center - Community Room
10 South Kedzie

First Chicago Center - Lower Level
Dearborn & Monroe

Thurs. Oct. 31

10 a.m., 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Biagio Banquet - Caroline Room
4242 N. Central

Kenwood High School - Auditorium
5015 S. Blackstone

First Chicago Center - Lower Level
Dearborn & Monroe

Fri. Nov. 1

10 a.m., 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Ford City Shopping Center - North Room
7601 S. Cicero

Harrison Park - Gym
1824 S. Loomis

Fri. Nov. 1 (con't)

10 a.m., 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

First Chicago Center - Lower Level
Dearborn & Monroe

Sat. Nov. 2

10 a.m. only

Mr. D'S Villa - Banquet Hall
10468 S. Indianapolis Blvd.

Brickyard Mall - Community Room
6465 W. Diversey

First Chicago Center - Lower Level
Dearborn & Monroe

Mon. Nov. 4

10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Hamilton Park - Auditorium
7200 S. Normal

Sokol Hall - Hall
4855 N. Elston

First Chicago Center - Lower Level
Dearborn & Monroe

Thank you for your dedicated public service!