

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

**P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840**

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Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

State Board of Elections' Meeting  
151 West Street, Suite 200, Annapolis, MD 21401  
September 24, 2020 – 2:00 pm  
By Video Conference Call  
Agenda-revised 9/22/20

1. Declaration of Quorum Present
2. Additions to the Agenda
3. Administrator's Report
4. Assistant Attorney General's Report
5. Approval of Regulations
6. November 3 Election Discussion
  - a. Member's Remarks
  - b. Approval of Early or Election Day Voting Center Additions or Changes
  - c. Requests to Deploy Additional Ballot Marking Devices
7. Approval of Late Fee Waivers
8. Review of Title 14 Late Fee Waivers
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Disclosure of Campaign Contributions
12. Schedule Next Meeting
13. Closed Session – Legal Advice
14. Adjournment

Closed Meeting: Part of the meeting may be closed in accordance with Open Meetings Act procedures.

Public Participation: Members of the public may address the Board. Pursuant to §3.2B of the Board's bylaws, public participation at a meeting must be pre-scheduled and pre-approved by the Chairman. To request approval to speak at a board meeting, contact Donna Duncan at 410-269-2851 or by email [donna.duncan@maryland.gov](mailto:donna.duncan@maryland.gov) no later than 5 pm the day before the meeting.

Live Streaming: A link to watch the meeting will be available on SBE's website shortly before the meeting starts.

## **Announcements & Important Meetings**

### Election Directors' Meetings

We are meeting weekly with the Election Directors to plan for the upcoming election. Meeting summaries are included in the board meeting folder, and we will continue to provide them as they are finalized.

### US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)-led Table Top Exercise

On September 3, DHS led a virtual table top for SBE employees. Fred Brechbiel and Vincent Omenka coordinated with DHS on the scenarios, and SBE staff responded to a phishing attack, missing candidates on the ballot, fraudulent requests for ballots, a distributed denial of service attack on several election offices' websites, and other scenarios. Representatives from DHS led us through a variety of questions for each scenario and will provide us with an after action report identifying our strengths and areas of improvements. Special thanks for Fred, Vince and DHS for organizing and leading us through the exercise.

### Maryland House of Delegates' Briefings

The Baltimore County Delegation of the Maryland House of Delegates hosted on September 9 a virtual briefing on the upcoming election. Katie Brown, Election Director for the Baltimore County Board of Elections, provided the requested information, and Nikki Charlson and I attended and supported Katie during the questions and answers part of the briefing.

On September 11, the House of Delegates' Democratic Caucus requested a similar briefing, and Nikki Charlson, Jared DeMarinis and I provided information about the upcoming election. The presentation included deadlines and the process to register to vote, update an existing registration, and request a ballot and in-person voting options.

### Pre-Election Meeting with Representatives of Maryland's Recognized Political Parties

On September 10, we hosted a virtual meeting for representatives of the recognized political parties, and all of the parties participated. We host this meeting before every general election to share relevant information about the election, exchange contact information, and encourage the parties to communicate about any litigation. A summary of the meeting will be provided when it is finalized.

### Virtual Town Halls and Events

During September, Nikki Charlson participated in additional town halls and events and shared important election information. These events were:

- "Election 2020 Make Your Plan event" on September 8 hosted by Mt. Olive Baptist Church (serving Prince George's, DC, and VA)
- "And Still I Vote" virtual forum on September 22 hosted by Moving Us Forward, Inc.
- AARP Tele-Town Hall on September 24

## **2020 General Election Preparation**

### Call Center

The call center is operational 6 days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. As of September 21, the call center has assisted with over 15,000 calls. Currently, 18 local boards and SBE are participating. When the volume is high, voters can leave a message and the call representatives return the call as quickly as possible. In addition to taking and returning calls, the call center is mailing applications for mail-in ballots to requesting voters and will soon be assisting with responding to emails.

### Data Processing Center

On September 21, we opened a data processing center at the Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) headquarters in Glen Burnie with 25 individuals. This center will help with processing the large volume of requests for mail-in ballots received by the local boards and will continue through October 20, the deadline to request a mail-in ballot.

Many thanks to MVA's Administrator, Christine Nizer, and her team for providing the space and IT support and Fred Brechbiel and Nikia Wilbon-Turner for working through technical issues with MVA.

A big thank you to David Garries, President of the Maryland Association of Election Officials and Deputy Director for the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections, and Alysoun McLaughlin, Deputy Director for the Montgomery County Board of Elections, for their support and collaboration and all the local boards who will provide subject matter expert support in the coming weeks.

Lastly, but certainly not least, thank you to Shelly Holland, Shemaine Malcome, Christina Barton and Lisa Dennis for working with the Department of Budget and Management. Thank you to Janet Smith and Shekia Harding-Bey for assigning privileges, Gillian Thomas and Nikia Wilbon-Turner for assigning tokens. This truly has been a collaborative effort. And of course to Mary Wagner for leading her regular team members during this already hectic time and with Janet Smith to provide training.

### Use of Online Voter Services

Usage of our suite of online services continues to be high. Voters are using these systems to confirm their registration, register to vote, update their registration, and request a mail-in ballot. We saw a spike in usage on September 22, National Voter Registration, when Google, Facebook and other organizations and entities heavily promoted registering to vote.

### Ballot Drop Boxes

With the popularity of the ballot drop boxes in the primary election, Whitney LeRoux and Mary Wagner worked with the vendor, Recyclingbin.com, to obtain the maximum number of boxes that could be manufactured in a timely manner. 150 boxes were ordered, bringing the total number of SBE-provided drop boxes statewide to 277. Since these ballot drop boxes are customized to Maryland's specific standards, the delivery dates are on a rolling basis.

There will be 282 boxes available at 281 elections. (Oriole Park at Camden Yards will have two boxes.) The locations of the ballot drop boxes are finalized, and the list is available [here](#). Several local boards already had boxes, and these boxes supplement the State's 277 boxes.

Because of the rolling manufacturing and delivery schedule, the installation of the ballot drop boxes is also a rolling schedule. Boxes for the local boards' offices, early voting locations, and additional locations in the most populous counties will be delivered from September 28 - 30. The next delivery phase will be October 15 - 17 and the final phase will be October 22 - 24. The list of locations includes the delivery date range for each box.

### Public Awareness Campaign

Included in the meeting folder is our response to President Ferguson and Senator Pinsky's request for a public education plan. The letter includes an overview of the campaign, and Appendix A has the images being used in the campaign, links to TV and radio ads, and graphics showing the print and digital ads. Also included in Appendix A is information about media buys and the statewide allocation and specific TV, radio, and print buys.

SBE's [Election 2020 webpage](#) now includes the list of the [early voting centers](#) and [election day vote centers](#). This page also includes a video of how to request a mail-in ballot, and a companion video on how to vote a mail-in ballot will be posted soon.

The assistance of the team members has been invaluable with coordinating numerous media inquiries and preparing responses for our review and approval. We expect the next 6 to 8 weeks to continue to be extremely busy with constant efforts of keeping the public informed.

### Ballot Production

Ballot production began on August 7 and concluded on August 28. On September 2, ballot PDFs and data files were generated for configuring the online ballot delivery system. All ballot materials for the local boards of elections were distributed on September 8, and files necessary for the post-election automated ballot tabulation audit were created and uploaded on September 11.

Printing of ballots for in-person voting is in progress. Delivery started last week with partial deliveries for Anne Arundel and Montgomery Counties. All ballot deliveries are expected to be completed by October 9. A supplemental order of 100,000 ballots was requested by Wicomico County as a result of their pending request for two additional election day vote centers. In total, the printer will print approximately 19.5 million ballots for the upcoming election, which is ten million more than is typical in a presidential general election.

### Mailing Ballots

Federal law requires that election officials transmit to requesting military and overseas voters ballots at least 45 days before the election. For this election, the 45th day was September 19. On September 18 and 19, ballots were mailed to military and overseas voters who requested ballots by mail, and on September 18, we sent emails to military and overseas voters who requested their ballots via web delivery. We confirmed to the U.S. Department of Justice our compliance with this federal requirement.

Sending ballots to domestic voters starts today. Taylor Corporation, the vendor producing and mailing ballot packets, ships its first shipment of ballot packets, and over the next five days, almost 800,000 ballot packets will be shipped. We start providing daily files on September 28, and Taylor Corporation will ship ballot packets almost daily through October. The first set of emails to domestic voters requesting a ballot via web delivery will also be sent today.

### Mailings to Voters and Individuals Eligible to Vote

In the weeks leading up to this election, we have coordinated several mailings to notify voters about voter registration and requesting a mail-in ballot. These mailings are:

1. *Mail-in Ballot Application Mailers:* We sent to almost 4 million eligible voters the form to request a mail-in ballot and instructions. The first and largest mailing was sent at the end of August, and the first supplemental mailing was sent on September 11. A second supplemental mailing will be sent at the beginning of October. The supplemental mailings are for individuals who registered to vote or changed their address after the file for the initial mailing was generated.

We are also sending application mailers to some inactive voters, voters whose ballots were undeliverable in the June 2 election, and voters who are awaiting a confirmation mailing. The voters receiving this mailing are voters for whom the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) a different address from the address in the voter's voter registration record. This mailing will provide election officials with the opportunity to update the voter's address.

2. *Postcards required by the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC):* These postcards are mailed to individuals who appear eligible to vote but are not yet registered and who have not previously received this postcard in prior elections. These postcards were printed by the Maryland Correctional

Enterprises (MCE) and mailed earlier this month and inform individuals about the October 13 deadline to register to vote.

3. *Postcards about Same Day Registration:* This postcard will be sent to approximately 550,000 individuals who appear eligible to vote but not yet registered and informs individuals about the ability to register to vote during early voting and on election day. This postcard is printed by MCE and is set to arrive in mailboxes the week early voting starts.
4. *Mailings to Eligible Individuals in Detention Centers:* We mailed voter registration applications and forms to request mail-in ballots to detention centers in 21 counties. (In three counties - Charles, Garrett, and Montgomery Counties, the local boards and the detention centers have an existing agreement to provide election materials.) Individuals in these facilities are eligible to vote if they are awaiting trial or if they are serving time for a misdemeanor conviction. All of the detention centers should have received the materials, and we are working with the appropriate local board if they need more materials.

## **Voter Registration**

### MDVOTERS

Additional 2-factor authentication tokens and Citrix licenses have been procured to accommodate the increase in new employees at the local boards and the data processing center.

The precinct register will be generated during the evening of October 16. This creates the voter list with ballot status that will populate the pollbook.

### MVA Transactions

During August, MVA collected the following voter registration transactions:

New Registration - 11,622	Residential Address Changes - 20,335
Last name changes - 1,654	Political Party Changes - 5,031

### Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)

Two ERIC reports will be sent to the local boards for processing. The reports will be deceased records and in-state duplicate records reports.

### Training

Janet Smith provided the local boards with two Go-To training sessions on general voter registration topics. This training has been taped and is available for those unable to attend.

### Non-Citizens

As a result of all resources focusing on election operations, no information is available at this time.

## **Candidacy and Campaign Finance (CCF) Division**

### Candidacy

On October 5, the political parties are required to submit to SBE the names of their presidential electors. All the recognized political parties have received the approved form, and most of the political parties have finalized or are in the process of finalizing the names. Maryland has 10 electors.

Jared DeMarinis has reached out to the Governor's office to reserve the Governor's Reception Room at the Statehouse for the Electoral College meeting on December 14.

### Campaign Finance

There are two upcoming campaign finance reports due in October. On October 5, active ballot issue committees must file a report. This deadline is only for ballot issue committees designated for the Presidential election. On October 23, the Pre-General 2 report is due for all Presidential/Baltimore City

designated political committees. Pre-report notices will be mailed and emailed to the chairs, treasurers and candidates. This is the last report before the 2020 General Election.

### Enforcement

The CCF Division received payment for the following civil penalties:

1. Citizens to Elect John Ashburn committee paid \$100.00 on September 16, 2020, for disbursement by unauthorized method -Cash greater than \$25.00.
2. Friends of Larry R. Greenhill committee paid \$600.00 on September 10, 2020, for failure to record all contributions and expenditures.
3. Committee to elect Khalilah M. Harris committee paid \$100.00 on September 8, 2020, for disbursement by unauthorized method -Cash greater than \$25.00.
4. Friends of Ashwani Jain committee paid \$500.00 on September 9, 2020, for failure to record all contributions and expenditures.
5. Friends of Lisa F. Kim committee paid \$100.00 on September 11, 2020, for disbursement by unauthorized method -Cash greater than \$25.00.
6. Friends of Kevin Urick committee paid \$100.00 on September 09, 2020, for disbursement by unauthorized method -Cash greater than \$25.00.

### **Project Management Office (PMO)**

#### Inventory Management

SBE submitted to the Department of General Services (DGS) the annual equipment and supplies inventory reports on September 14. The PMO continues to reconcile the inventory items that were not audited in FY20.

Planning work for the 2020 General election operations support continued. We are now working on the detailed requirements for how the support will be provided.

#### FY2022 Pollbook Project

The PMO continued working on tasks related to the project that included:

- Having internal and external (e.g., with the Department of Information Technology (DoIT)) information gathering and status meetings. Also, continued to work on the several Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) documentation requirements;
- Continued development work on the Request for Proposal (RFP) and making revisions from various reviews; and
- Continued development work on the Contingency Plan document which details the backup plan if the current pollbook system must be deployed for the 2022 election cycle.

#### Other

The Central Warehouse team continued to work on a number of activities and events taking place at the facility. Activities and events included:

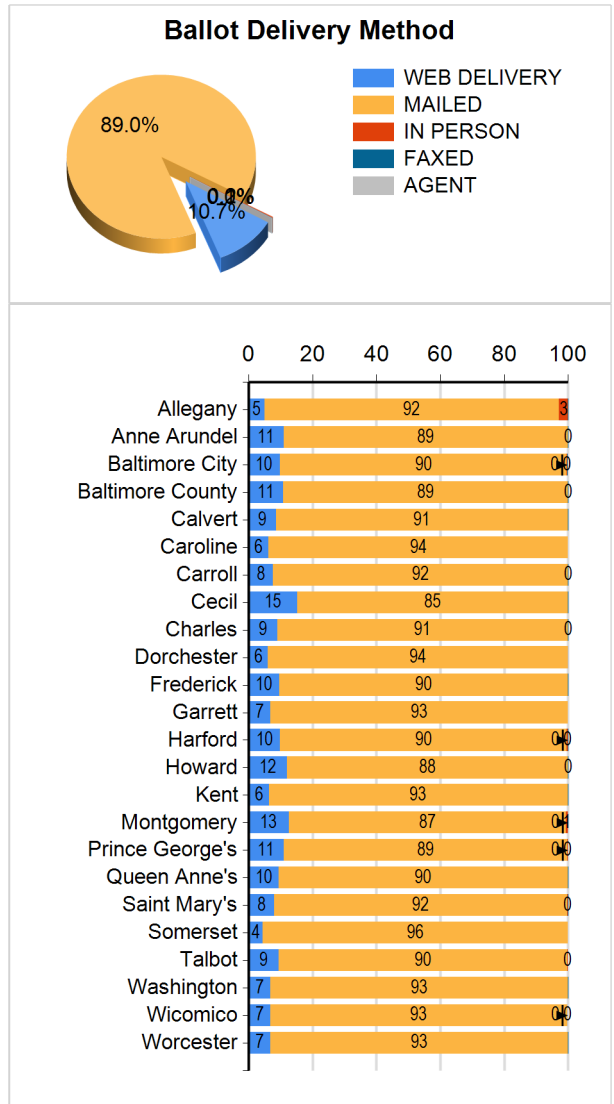
- Managing the use of the facility for the train-the-trainer sessions that included making sure that everyone entering the facility was following the CDC and State of Maryland COVID-19 requirements for face coverings and social distancing;
- Receiving and shipping out of personal protective supplies (PPE);
- Upgrading the ballot drop boxes to provide more protection from the weather;
- Receiving and preparing for the shipping out of ballot dropboxes, and
- Receiving equipment from some local boards for storage.

# Mail-in Ballot Requests by County

Election: 2020 Presidential General Election

As of: September 24, 2020

COUNTY	HOW THE BALLOTS WILL BE DELIVERED					TOTAL
	AGENT	FAXED	IN PERSON	MAILED	WEB DELIVERY	
Allegany	0	1	214	6,795	362	7,372
Anne Arundel	0	16	4	104,871	12,965	117,856
Baltimore City	0	298	16	77,364	8,483	86,161
Baltimore County	0	41	9	117,214	14,090	131,354
Calvert	0	2	2	13,432	1,253	14,689
Caroline	0	0	0	2,916	196	3,112
Carroll	0	12	3	27,567	2,270	29,852
Cecil	0	1	0	4,820	870	5,691
Charles	0	37	3	28,337	2,778	31,155
Dorchester	2	0	2	3,349	213	3,566
Frederick	0	2	0	38,080	4,048	42,130
Garrett	0	0	0	2,947	216	3,163
Harford	0	11	120	30,070	3,313	33,514
Howard	0	19	1	64,424	8,737	73,181
Kent	0	3	2	3,211	219	3,435
Montgomery	2	70	1,329	218,097	31,433	250,931
Prince George's	3	13	407	115,301	14,407	130,131
Queen Anne's	0	6	0	6,557	689	7,252
Saint Mary's	0	4	47	15,004	1,298	16,353
Somerset	0	0	0	1,992	92	2,084
Talbot	0	0	21	6,541	680	7,242
Washington	0	1	0	17,114	1,259	18,374
Wicomico	20	2	13	11,430	827	12,292
Worcester	0	4	1	7,105	523	7,633
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>924,538</b>	<b>111,221</b>	<b>1,038,523</b>



## ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

September 24, 2020

1. *Fusaro v. Davitt et al.*, No. 20-1879 (U.S.C.A. for the 4th Cir.). Plaintiff Dennis Fusaro brought a complaint in federal court alleging that Maryland violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments by limiting access to the voter list to Maryland voters and only for purposes related to the electoral process. On September 4, 2018, the State defendants' motion to dismiss the complaint was granted, and the plaintiff appealed. On July 12, 2019, the Fourth Circuit vacated the dismissal order, and remanded the case for further proceedings. The parties then conducted discovery and briefed dispositive summary judgment motions. On July 14, 2020, the Court awarded Summary Judgment to the defendants on the issue of whether the "electoral process" requirement was unconstitutionally vague, and declined to reach the issue of whether Maryland's registered voter requirement violates the First Amendment. Plaintiff has appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and filed his opening brief on September 22, 2020. The defendants' response brief is due October 23, 2020.

2. *Johnson v. Prince George's County Board of Elections*, No. CAL16-42799 (Cir. Ct. Prince Georges Cnty.). No change from the last update. This case involves a challenge under the U.S. Constitution and Maryland Constitution and Declaration of Rights to the SBE's alleged failure to provide information and access to voter registration and voting resources to eligible voters detained by the Prince Georges County Department of Correction during the 2016 election. The case had been originally filed in the Circuit Court for Prince Georges County but was removed on the basis of the federal claims asserted by the Plaintiffs. On February 27, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland granted SBE's motion to dismiss the Plaintiffs' federal claims, declined to exercise jurisdiction over the state claims, and remanded the case to the Circuit Court for further proceedings. The parties are awaiting further direction from the court.

3. *National Federation of the Blind, Inc., et al. v. Lamone et al.*, No. 1:19-CV-02228-ELH (U.S. District Court, D. Md.). No change from the last update. On August 1, 2019, the National Federation of the Blind ("NFB"), NFB's Maryland chapter, and three individual plaintiffs filed a lawsuit against the State Administrator and the individual members of the State Board of Elections alleging that SBE's BMD policy has, in practice, violated the rights of voters with disabilities "to an equal opportunity vote in person by a secret ballot," in violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Plaintiffs seek an order requiring the State



Board “in all future elections to offer BMDs to every in-person voter as the default method of voting, with paper ballots offered only to those voters who affirmatively opt out of using the BMD or in cases where there are long lines of people waiting to vote.” On September 3, 2019, defendants filed a motion to dismiss the complaint, and on September 20, 2019, plaintiffs filed a motion for a preliminary injunction, seeking relief in time for the November 2020 election. On February 10, 2020, the court denied the defendants’ motion to dismiss, and denied the plaintiffs’ motion for preliminary injunction. On February 24, 2020, the Court entered a scheduling order governing the discovery period for the case, and on June 11, 2020, the Court modified that scheduling order following a joint motion by the parties. Discovery is now scheduled to close on November 9, 2020, and dispositive motions are due November 30, 2020.

4. *Public Interest Legal Foundation, Inc. v. Lamone*, No. 1:19-cv-03564-ELH (D. Md.). No change from the last update. Plaintiff Public Interest Legal Foundation, Inc., filed a lawsuit against the State Administrator, the members of the State Board, and Erin Dennis, seeking access to Maryland’s list of registered voters pursuant to the public inspection provisions of the National Voter Registration Act. Plaintiff alleges that the District Court’s published decision in *Judicial Watch, supra*, entitles them to access, and that the issue left outstanding by the court in that case does not implicate their request since they are not seeking individuals’ dates of birth as part of the information provided for each voter on the list. Plaintiffs filed a motion for summary judgment simultaneously with their complaint. On January 17, 2020, defendants answered the Complaint. On January 24, 2020, defendants moved for a stay of the proceedings pending the resolution of the *Judicial Watch* matter and any appeals therefrom, due to the similarity of the issues between the cases. The parties have since agreed to resolve the case, and on September 2, 2020, the Court dismissed the case pursuant to a jointly filed stipulation of dismissal.

5. *Chong Su Yi v. Hogan*, Nos. 480720, 480721, 480722, 480723 (Cir. Ct. Montgomery Cty.). On March 6, 2020, plaintiff Chong Su Yi filed four apparently identical complaints in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County challenging the results of Maryland’s 2018 elections, and naming Governor Larry Hogan as defendant. Specifically, Mr. Chong appears to be arguing that the results are invalid because of the use of religious facilities as polling places, that the State’s use of “scanners” to tabulate ballots is unconstitutional and/or not permitted by federal law, and that the State’s identification of candidates’ party affiliations on the general election ballot is not permitted by State law. The complaints are substantially identical to complaints Mr. Chong filed in 2019, which the court dismissed with prejudice earlier this year. Defendant moved to dismiss the complaints on May 3, 2020. Beginning on May 15,

2020, Mr. Chong filed substantially identical amended complaints in these actions, this time adding the State of Maryland as a Defendant in addition to Governor Hogan. The Defendants have moved to dismiss these complaints, or in the alternative have sought summary judgment on plaintiff's claims. The Court held a hearing on Defendants' motions in all four matters on August 25, 2020, and at the conclusion of the hearing granted the Defendants' motions. On August 26, 2020, the plaintiff filed motions for reconsideration of the Court's dismissal order. On September 17, 2020, those motions were denied.

6. *McCarthy v. Hornberger*, No. C-07-CV-20-000261 (Cir. Ct. Cecil Cty.). No change from the last update. On July 25, 2020, plaintiff Alan McCarthy, the incumbent Cecil County Executive, filed a complaint against Danielle Hornberger, the certified winner of the Republican Primary for Cecil County Executive; the Cecil County Board of Elections; and Lora Walters, the former Deputy Director for the Cecil County Board of Elections, alleging that Ms. Hornberger's candidacy was null and void due to the candidate's alleged failure to file a county ethics disclosure form, and that Mr. McCarthy, because he received the second-highest number of votes in the election, should be declared the nominee. Among other forms of relief, plaintiff sought preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and filed a motion for temporary restraining order along with his complaint. On August 12, 2020, plaintiff filed an amended complaint naming the State Board of Elections as defendant, and alleging additional grounds for the voidance of Ms. Hornberger's candidacy. On August 13, 2020, the Court held a show cause hearing on why the injunctive relief requested in the complaint should not be granted. On August 18, 2020, the Circuit Court issued a Memorandum Opinion and Order denying the requested injunctive relief.

Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Absentee Ballot Application  
2012-2018- Summary

2012-2018 General Election	Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application												
	UOCAVA Voters				Non-UOCAVA Voters				Totals- All Voters				
Local Board	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	FWAB*	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total
Allegany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Anne Arundel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	117	0	0	0	117
Baltimore City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	126	0	0	0	126
Baltimore County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97	0	0	0	97
Calvert	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	11
Caroline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cecil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	17
Charles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Dorchester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Frederick	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	48
Garrett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harford	0	0	0	0	0	11	1	12	31	0	11	1	43
Howard	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	35	0	2	1	38
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	324	0	0	0	324
Prince George's	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	210	4	0	0	214
Queen Anne's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
St. Mary's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	15
Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Wicomico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	9
Worcester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1091</b>

\* The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) is for Military and Overseas voters (UOCAVA Voters) who requested an absentee ballot but have not received their ballot in enough time to mail it and have it be received on time. FWABs can be downloaded from the Federal Voter Assistance Program (FVAP) website, and print copies are also available on military bases and other overseas locations. Because a voter does not have to request a FWAB, it is impossible to know if the ballot was printed from the internet, or if a hard copy was used.

Absentee Ballot Rejected for No Absentee Ballot Application  
2018

2018		Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application											
General Election		UOCAVA Voters				Non-UOCAVA Voters				Totals- All Voters			
Local Board	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	FWAB	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total
Allegany				0				0		0	0	0	0
Anne Arundel				0				0	17	0	0	0	17
Baltimore City				0				0		0	0	0	0
Baltimore County				0				0	5	0	0	0	5
Calvert				0				0		0	0	0	0
Caroline				0				0		0	0	0	0
Carroll				0				0		0	0	0	0
Cecil				0				0		0	0	0	0
Charles				0				0		0	0	0	0
Dorchester				0				0	1	0	0	0	1
Frederick				0				0		0	0	0	0
Garrett				0				0		0	0	0	0
Harford				0		11	1	12	2	0	11	1	14
Howard				0				0	6	0	0	0	6
Kent				0				0		0	0	0	0
Montgomery				0				0	21	0	0	0	21
Prince George's				0				0	10	0	0	0	10
Queen Anne's				0				0		0	0	0	0
St. Mary's				0				0		0	0	0	0
Somerset				0				0		0	0	0	0
Talbot				0				0	1	0	0	0	1
Washington				0				0		0	0	0	0
Wicomico				0				0		0	0	0	0
Worcester				0				0		0	0	0	0
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>75</b>

lbe	absentee_type	ballot_issue_method	total_rejected
Anne Arundel	FWAB	FWAB	17
Baltimore County	FWAB	FWAB	5
Dorchester	FWAB	FWAB	1
Harford	FWAB	FWAB	2
Harford	Non-UOCAVA	Mailed	11
Harford	Non-UOCAVA	Others	1
Howard	FWAB	FWAB	6
Montgomery	FWAB	FWAB	21
Prince George's	FWAB	FWAB	10
Talbot	FWAB	FWAB	1
			75

Absentee Ballot Rejected for No Application  
2016

2016		Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application												
General Election		UOCAVA Voters				Non-UOCAVA Voters				Totals- All Voters				
Local Board	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	FWAB	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	
Allegany				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Anne Arundel				0				0	19	0	0	0	19	
Baltimore City				0				0	49	0	0	0	49	
Baltimore County				0				0	16	0	0	0	16	
Calvert				0				0	3	0	0	0	3	
Caroline				0				0	4	0	0	0	4	
Carroll				0				0	1	0	0	0	1	
Cecil				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Charles				0				0	2	0	0	0	2	
Dorchester				0				0	2	0	0	0	2	
Frederick				0				0	5	0	0	0	5	
Garrett				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Harford				0				0	27	0	0	0	27	
Howard				0				0	7	0	0	0	7	
Kent				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Montgomery				0				0	20	0	0	0	20	
Prince George's	4			4				0	63	4	0	0	67	
Queen Anne's				0				0	1	0	0	0	1	
St. Mary's				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Somerset				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Talbot				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Washington				0				0	3	0	0	0	3	
Wicomico				0				0		0	0	0	0	
Worcester				0				0	4	0	0	0	4	
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>230</b>	

lbe	absentee_type	ballot_issue_method	total_rejected
Anne Arundel	FWAB	FWAB	19
Baltimore City	FWAB	FWAB	49
Baltimore County	FWAB	FWAB	16
Calvert	FWAB	FWAB	3
Caroline	FWAB	FWAB	4
Carroll	FWAB	FWAB	1
Charles	FWAB	FWAB	2
Dorchester	FWAB	FWAB	2
Frederick	FWAB	FWAB	5
Harford	FWAB	FWAB	27
Howard	FWAB	FWAB	7
Montgomery	FWAB	FWAB	20
Prince George's	FWAB	FWAB	63
Prince George's	UOCAVA	Web Delivery	4
Queen Anne's	FWAB	FWAB	1
Washington	FWAB	FWAB	3
Worcester	FWAB	FWAB	4
			230

Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application  
2014

2014													
Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application													
General Election	UOCAVA Voters				Non-UOCAVA Voters				Totals- All Voters				
Local Board	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	FWAB	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total
Allegany				0				0		0	0	0	0
Anne Arundel				0				0	1	0	0	0	1
Baltimore City				0				0		0	0	0	0
Baltimore County				0				0	2	0	0	0	2
Calvert				0				0		0	0	0	0
Caroline				0				0		0	0	0	0
Carroll				0				0		0	0	0	0
Cecil				0				0	2	0	0	0	2
Charles				0				0		0	0	0	0
Dorchester				0				0		0	0	0	0
Frederick				0				0	1	0	0	0	1
Garrett				0				0		0	0	0	0
Harford				0				0	2	0	0	0	2
Howard				0				0		0	0	0	0
Kent				0				0		0	0	0	0
Montgomery				0				0	1	0	0	0	1
Prince George's				0				0		0	0	0	0
Queen Anne's				0				0		0	0	0	0
St. Mary's				0				0		0	0	0	0
Somerset				0				0		0	0	0	0
Talbot				0				0		0	0	0	0
Washington				0				0		0	0	0	0
Wicomico				0				0		0	0	0	0
Worcester				0				0		0	0	0	0
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>



lbe	absentee_type	ballot_issue_method	total_rejected
Anne Arundel	FWAB	FWAB	1
Baltimore County	FWAB	FWAB	2
Cecil	FWAB	FWAB	2
Frederick	FWAB	FWAB	1
Harford	FWAB	FWAB	2
Montgomery	FWAB	FWAB	1

Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application  
2012

2014 General Election	Absentee Ballots Rejected for No Application												
	UOCAVA Voters				Non-UOCAVA Voters				Totals- All Voters				
Local Board	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total	FWAB	Web Delivery	Mailed Ballot	Other Delivery	Total
Allegany				0				0	4	0	0	0	4
Anne Arundel				0				0	80	0	0	0	80
Baltimore City				0				0	77	0	0	0	77
Baltimore County				0				0	74	0	0	0	74
Calvert				0				0	8	0	0	0	8
Caroline				0				0		0	0	0	0
Carroll				0				0		0	0	0	0
Cecil				0				0	15	0	0	0	15
Charles				0				0		0	0	0	0
Dorchester				0				0		0	0	0	0
Frederick				0				0	42	0	0	0	42
Garrett				0				0		0	0	0	0
Harford				0				0		0	0	0	0
Howard				0		2	1	3	22	0	2	1	25
Kent				0				0		0	0	0	0
Montgomery				0				0	282	0	0	0	282
Prince George's				0				0	137	0	0	0	137
Queen Anne's				0				0	3	0	0	0	3
St. Mary's				0				0	15	0	0	0	15
Somerset				0				0		0	0	0	0
Talbot				0				0		0	0	0	0
Washington				0				0	2	0	0	0	2
Wicomico				0				0	9	0	0	0	9
Worcester				0				0	4	0	0	0	4
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>777</b>

lbe	absentee_type	ballot_issue_method	total_rejected
Allegany	FWAB	FWAB	4
Montgomery	FWAB	FWAB	282
Wicomico	FWAB	FWAB	9
Anne Arundel	FWAB	FWAB	80
Carroll	FWAB	FWAB	15
Frederick	FWAB	FWAB	42
Howard	Non-UOCAVA	Others	1
Queen Anne's	FWAB	FWAB	3
Saint Mary's	FWAB	FWAB	15
Baltimore City	FWAB	FWAB	77
Baltimore County	FWAB	FWAB	74
Howard	FWAB	FWAB	22
Prince George's	FWAB	FWAB	137
Washington	FWAB	FWAB	2
Calvert	FWAB	FWAB	8
Howard	Non-UOCAVA	Mailed	2
Worcester	FWAB	FWAB	4
			777



Erin Perrone -SBE- <erin.perrone@maryland.gov>

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## Wicomico request for BMD exemption

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**Anthony Gutierrez -SBE-** <anthony.gutierrez@maryland.gov>

Wed, Sep 16, 2020 at 5:30 PM

To: Nikki Charlson -SBE- <nikki.charlson@maryland.gov>, Erin Perrone -SBE- <erin.perrone@maryland.gov>, Shafiq Satterfield -SBE- <shafiq.satterfield@maryland.gov>, Dionne Church -SBE- <dionne.church@maryland.gov>

Hi Nikki,

Our local board would like the State Board to approve having 5 BMDs at our Early Voting Center and 4 BMDs at each of our election day Vote Centers.

Thank you,

\*Anthony Gutierrez, CERA\*

\*Wicomico County Election Director\*

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Kelley Howells  
William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

September 24, 2020

**Via Electronic Mail Only**

The Honorable Daniel L. Cox  
The Honorable Neil Parrott  
The Honorable Warren Miller  
The Honorable Joseph C. Boteler, III  
The Honorable Wendell R. Beitzel  
The Maryland General Assembly  
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Delegates:

Thank you for your letter dated September 11, 2020, requesting information on various canvassing laws for the upcoming election.

As you note, the Governor's June 19 Executive Order authorizes the heads of State agencies to "suspend the effect of any legal or procedural deadline, due date, time of default, time expiration, period of time, or other time of an act or event described within any State or local statute, rule, or regulation that it administers." The only condition that the Governor has imposed upon the exercise of this delegated authority is that the agency head must find that the suspension will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety.

Election Law § 11-302(b)(1) clearly prescribes the "time of an act or event" – namely, the earliest date and time at which a local board may open any envelope of a mail-in ballot. At its meeting of August 19, 2020, the State Board specifically found that advancing the time for opening mail-in ballots under § 11-302(b)(1) would not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety, but rather would enhance it. As of today, over 1 million mail-in ballots have been requested by Maryland voters, and we anticipate many more such requests in the weeks to come. Delaying the canvass of these ballots until the post-election time period would seriously threaten Maryland's ability to certify results and designate Presidential electors in advance of the federal deadline for doing so. It would also require the assembly of many election workers together in the same (often small) locations to process the many thousands of ballots that arrive before election day, posing a health risk to these workers and complicating the public observation of the canvass. The State Board is confident that its suspension of Election Law § 11-302(b)(1) and action to advance the earliest date for opening mail-in ballots comports with both the letter and spirit of the Governor's Order.

I note further that the canvass of mail-in ballots for the June 2 election, which involved several competitive local races around the State, also commenced early, and we did not

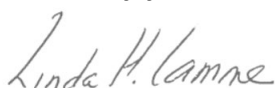
experience any unauthorized disclosure of election results prior to the closing of polls on election day. We are confident that the same result will obtain for the general election.

You also raise several concerns regarding the conformity of the State Board's suspension of this statute, as well as the State Board's plan for election day voting at vote centers, with existing statutory and constitutional law. Although the substance of any communications with the Office of the Attorney General about legal advice is protected by the attorney-client privilege, we are confident that the policies the State Board has adopted for this election will comply with Maryland law. I will note the particular statutory requirement you cite in your letter – the requirement that a local board “count only the ballot with the latest properly signed oath” if it receives “more than one legally sufficient ballot” from an individual, Election Law § 11-302(d)(4) – is one that, even in normal elections, cannot be followed in all circumstances, because this requirement must be balanced against other conflicting statutory provisions. In particular, a local board is not permitted to “delay the commencement of the canvass to await the receipt of late-arriving, timely absentee ballots,” Election Law § 11-302(b)(2), even late-arriving, timely second ballots from voters that bear later sworn oaths. In other words, even in normal times the canvass and tabulation of mail-in ballots commences before all timely mail-in ballots are received.

Finally, you point to the risk of “voter fraud” in Maryland and express concern that the State Board's announced policy of beginning the canvass of mail-in ballots early will create a system where “law-abiding citizens' votes are easily stolen and the confidence in our democratic election will be seriously damaged.” The State Board also takes these concerns very seriously, and is confident that the systems it has deployed minimize the risk of such voter fraud occurring. To take the example you provide in your letter, the local boards of election investigate and adjudicate every instance in which a voter is required to vote by provisional ballot because a mail-in ballot has already been requested in that voter's name. If the mail-in ballot has not been returned, *or* if the local board determines that the mail-in ballot was in fact returned by someone other than the voter, the provisional ballot will be counted.<sup>1</sup> Under these procedures, a voter should not have their vote “stolen,” even where a mail-in ballot is fraudulently obtained and returned in that voter's name by someone else.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Linda H. Lamone  
State Administrator

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<sup>1</sup> Also, please note that any instance of suspected voter fraud will be referred to the Office of the State Prosecutor for appropriate action.



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

September 11, 2020

Maryland State Board of Elections Supervisors  
151 West Street  
Suite 200, P.O. Box 6486  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Maryland Canvassing Plans and Precinct Polling Access

Dear Board of Elections Supervisors:

We are writing with a serious, but easily remedied, concern regarding the administration of the 2020 General Election here in Maryland. Specifically, the August 19<sup>th</sup> Public Notice from your office entitled, “DATES AND TIMES FOR THE CANVASSING AND OPENING OF MAIL-IN BALLOTS AND THE REPORTING OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE MAIL-IN BALLOT VOTE TABULATION.”

While we understand that you cite as the authority the Governor’s June 19<sup>th</sup> Order regarding extending certain time requirements, accelerating the date of the start of the 2020 Election canvass to October 1<sup>st</sup> does not appear to comport with the spirit of this order and is contrary to existing law as follows:

Elections Article §11–302 states:

- (a) “Following an election, each local board shall meet at its designated counting center to canvass the absentee ballots cast in that election in accordance with the regulations and guidelines established by the State Board.
- (b) (b)(1) A local board may not open any envelope of an absentee ballot prior to 8 a.m. on the Wednesday following election day.

Further, allowing the canvass to commence over one month before election day creates unwanted chaos. When the public understands that ballots are beginning to be counted before the election, the integrity of Maryland’s 2020 election will be questioned. Whether it occurs or not, there will be an opportunity for election results to be leaked to current office holders or those seeking office or others trying to invalidate our election. This is why the spirit of the law to wait to count ballots comports with the actual text, even during a time of pandemic concern.

Letter, re: Board of Elections Supervisors, Precinct Polling and Canvassing Plans  
September 11, 2020  
Page 2 of 3

Additionally, this administrative decision does not protect the individual voter. Under the current proposed scheme, the Board will be hard-pressed to comply with the following:

Elections Article §11–302.(d)(4): “If the local board receives more than one legally sufficient ballot, in separate envelopes, from the same individual, the local board shall: (i) count only the ballot with the latest properly signed oath; and (ii) reject any other ballot.

If the absentee ballots are separated from its envelopes on October 1, how can this law be followed? Provisional ballots are sealed in envelopes. If there is a case or many cases of voter fraud regarding this proposed mail in system, as has been seen across the country, then a system will have been created where law abiding citizens’ votes are easily stolen and the confidence in our democratic election will be seriously damaged.

The only remedy is to follow the laws as passed by Maryland’s General Assembly. We are fortunate that there is time between now and the General election to devote the post-election resources required to properly count the absentee ballots, ensure envelopes and certifications are kept and verified in accordance with the law, and any double-voting is invalidated.

Finally, the Maryland Constitution guarantees to the People of Maryland the access to polls for voting in their own precincts and wards. See, Article I, section 1, Elective Franchise. In that section it states:

**SECTION 1.** All elections shall be by ballot. Except as provided in Section 2A or Section 3 of this article, every citizen of the United States, of the age of 18 years or upwards, who is a resident of the State as of the time for the closing of registration next preceding the election, **shall be entitled to vote in the ward or election district in which the citizen resides at all elections to be held in this State.** A person once entitled to vote in any election district, **shall be entitled to vote there until** the person shall have acquired a residence in another election district or ward in this State (*amended by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified Nov. 6, 1956; Chapter 784, Acts of 1969, ratified Nov. 3, 1970; Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978; Chapter 513, Acts of 2007, ratified Nov. 4, 2008; Chapter 855, Acts of 2018, ratified Nov. 6, 2018*).

Will you kindly respond and inform my office whether you have received legal direction or authority from any source, such as a court or the Attorney General of Maryland, to plan to not comply with this section of the Constitution, or to proceed in a manner which you believe complies, and how it is that this mandate of the Constitution is being followed by elimination of precinct and ward voting locations for citizen Marylanders?



Letter, re: Board of Elections Supervisors, Precinct Polling and Canvassing Plans  
September 11, 2020  
Page 3 of 3

Thank you for your assistance and I look forward to your reply.

Very respectfully,



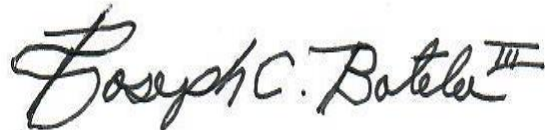
Daniel L. Cox  
Delegate, District 4



Neil Parrott  
Delegate, District 2A



Warren Miller  
Delegate, District 9A



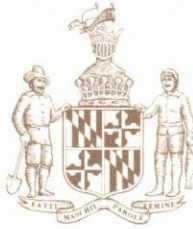
Joseph C. Boteler, III  
Delegate, District 8

/s/

Wendell R. Beitzel  
Delegate, District 1A

WAYNE HARTMAN  
Legislative District 38C  
Worcester and Wicomico Counties

Ways and Means Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 308  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3356 · 301-858-3356  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3356  
Fax 410-841-3098 · 301-858-3098  
Wayne.Hartman@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Maryland Board of Elections  
Ms. Linda Lamone  
151 West Street #200  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
[Linda.lamone@maryland.gov](mailto:Linda.lamone@maryland.gov)

September 18, 2020

**RE: Additional Polling Location for the East Side of Wicomico County.**

Dear Ms. Lamone,

I have been receiving emails and phone calls regarding the proposed polling locations for Wicomico County. The current polling places will provide polling locations for the west side and central Wicomico County leaving Pittsville, Powellville, and Willards communities extended travel times to get to one of the polling locations that are in the current plan. The average driving time is 20 minutes under the best driving conditions.

It is our understanding that the Wicomico County Board of Elections is requesting additional polling locations; adding Willards Elementary as a preferred location. The requests we are receiving from our voters include Willards Elementary and/or Pittsville Middle and High School as additional potential polling locations.

I fully support the Wicomico County Board of Elections request for the additional polling location to better serve the voters on the east side of Wicomico County.

I appreciate your attention to my request for the additional polling location on the east side of Wicomico County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne A. Hartman".

Delegate Wayne Hartman  
Proudly representing District 38C  
Wicomico and Worcester Counties



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

June 23, 2020

Michael R. Cogan, Esq., Chairman  
Linda H. Lamone, Esq., State Administrator  
P.O. Box 6486  
151 West St., Suite 200  
Annapolis, MD 21401-2019

Dear Chairman Cogan and Administrator Lamone:

On behalf of the Senate of Maryland, we want to thank you, as well as Board Vice-Chair Hogan, and Deputy Administrator Charlson for your testimony before the Education, Health, & Environmental Affairs Committee last week. We were encouraged by the record turnout in the June 2 Primary Election, and we appreciate the conditions that State and Local Boards struggled with in putting this historic election together in the midst of a global pandemic. At the same time, we were greatly disappointed by some of the issues that were discussed at the hearings, together with other issues raised by elected officials and advocacy groups.

While the decision for the November election rests with the State Board and Governor Hogan, we believe it is in the public's best interest for the State Board to conduct a "hybrid mail-in ballot preferred election" with four critical improvements from the June 2 Primary: (1) expansion of the number of ballot drop-off boxes; (2) expansion of the number of in-person voting sites per jurisdiction on Election Day; (3) use of Early Voting Centers statewide; and (4) an enhanced communication plan that better coordinates State and Local Board engagement with the voting public, particularly within historically disenfranchised communities. Specifically, a "hybrid mail-in preferred election" would require the Board to affirmatively mail General Election ballots to all registered voters in Maryland, and would provide expanded opportunities for in-person voting than those provided in on June 2 Primary for those voters who either do not receive ballots in the mail or who strongly prefer to vote in-person. Public health experts across the country agree that it is impossible to determine the effect of COVID-19 come November. Therefore, a "hybrid mail-in preferred" system is the best approach to maximize voter

participation while minimizing public health risks. Time is of the essence, and we urge the Board to make a final decision about the process of the election for the General Election as soon as possible.

Regardless of the process the Board and Governor ultimately decide, it was clear from the June 16th joint hearing that improvements to the elections process are necessary. In an effort to increase accountability and transparency, as well as provide constructive assistance, we are writing to you with requests and recommendations for preparations ahead of November's General Election. Whether the setup for the General Election is similar to the Primary's mail-in preferred method, or one of a more traditional in-person nature, it is certain that concerns about COVID-19 will make mail-in voting a safer method of voting for the majority of Maryland's voters. Further, we expect historic levels of voter turnout in November, and the Board cannot repeat the same mistakes from the Primary. It is essential that over the next five months, the State Board must increase and improve clear and transparent communications to elected officials, advocacy groups, and the public. Therefore, we request the Board adopt the following recommendations:

1. **Universal Mail-In Ballot Applications (if traditional in-person election):** In the case that the Governor elects to pursue a more traditional in-person voting process for the November election, the Board should still plan for a drastic increase in use of mail-in ballots. With the COVID-19 pandemic likely continuing to spread this fall and winter, and with voters having experienced the ease of vote by mail, we expect voters to continue to pursue this option. Therefore, absent an executive order to mail every voter a ballot ahead of November's General Election, we urge the Board to send an easy to use vote by mail ballot application to every voter, regardless of the status of active or inactive. Such an application could include basic information and allow for a voter to opt-in to receiving a ballot in the mail for the November election. Applications should be delivered no later than *August 15*, to ensure maximum participation before the November election. Furthermore, there were concerns from voters during the June 2 Primary that changes to registration conducted at the Maryland Vehicle Administration (MVA) did not accurately update the registration records at the State Board. By *July 15th*, we request the Board provide documentation to ensure that appropriate address changes and registration changes have been transferred ahead of any mailings for the General Election.
2. **Mail-In Ballot Drop-Box Location Plans:** Recognizing the popularity and success of the ballot drop-boxes during the June election, we ask the Board to expand the number of boxes and develop an easily explainable formula for the number and location of these boxes, and that the State Board require Local Boards to provide

implementation plans that explain a rationale for placement locations. These locations must affirmatively enhance voter access, and the State Board should require implementation plans that demonstrate location placement along transit lines or highly trafficked areas of each county. Importantly, these implementation plans should demonstrate how Local Boards are proactively accounting for access to historically disenfranchised voters. We ask that a comprehensive State plan incorporating all Local Board implementation plans be finalized no later than *September 8*, and that the formula for drop off boxes includes rationale on a population and density component.

3. **Reinstating In-Person Early Voting Centers:** If, considering the long-list of unknowns as to the state of health and COVID-19 in November, the Governor and Board of Elections chooses to move forward with a “hybrid mail-in preferred” General Election in November similar to the June 2 Primary, we would urge the State Board still to reinstate a modified Early Voting Center process for days ahead of Election Day. Doing so will both allow for increased observances of social distancing protocols, and will ensure that there can be increased participation at the polls throughout the election period, not just on election day. Thus, whether mail-in preferred or in-person preferred, the State Board should authorize early voting in all counties this November. In the case of a mail-in preferred election, we recognize that a modified Early Voting process may be adopted. To ensure this is done safely and effectively, we request that the State Board by *September 8th* develop an in-person early voting plan in coordination with Local Boards that outlines the operational needs for early voting locations and specifies social distancing protocols, personnel needs, PPE distribution plans, and any other expected challenges.
4. **Election Day In-Person Voting Locations:** We recognize that with this upcoming historic election, it is difficult to project turnout, and the myriad of issues which could cause lines at the polls; however, the location and distribution of in-person polling places during the Primary was arbitrary and flawed. Specifically, too few were available, particularly in Baltimore city. We would urge the Board to make decisions based on population – similar to how the General Assembly has allocated early vote centers – and consider usage of walk-up voting (percentage walk-up versus mail-in) during the June 2 election. The board should make certain that there are enough places to handle increased turnout on election day. Given the need to reduce lines and accommodate the expected large turnout, even with an all mailed ballot, walk-up locations should at least be doubled. In addition, we request that the Board exercises stronger oversight over Local Boards to ensure that there are polling places easily reachable by historically

disenfranchised voting populations to ensure all Marylanders can exercise the franchise. If the State Board does not believe it has sufficient legal authority to hold Local Boards accountable for appropriate polling place distribution, we request the Board explain such rationale in writing and submit these concerns to the appropriate Senate and House Committees no later than *July 30th*. We also encourage the Board to look at Federal statute, including the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the Help America Vote College Program, and other resources to increase participation for election judges and volunteers. We stand ready to join the Board to negotiate with Governor Hogan any potential executive order that may be necessary ahead of November's General Election to ensure clear lines of authority and accountability.

5. **Enhanced Public Voter Education Plan:** We acknowledge that the State Board of Elections used its limited funds reasonably to create a strong public relations campaign to ensure Marylanders generally knew how they could vote during the June 2 Primary. However, we do have concerns that the communications did not sufficiently reach Maryland's minority communities. We hope that the funding for such an operation in the General Election will be far larger than the \$1.3 million allocated in the Primary, and we urge the Board to enhance communications to all of Maryland's diverse communities. It will be necessary that the State and Local Boards work with local partners and elected officials to help uplift that message. To that end, we request that the Board determine a plan and share it with the public no later than *September 21*, so the public may proactively engage in making sure all Marylanders are aware of the voting process for the November election.
6. **Publicly Available Election Operations Timeline:** The State Board provides a timeline to the public concerning many facets of the election, but as was noted at the June 16<sup>th</sup> hearing, no such timeline existed for the decisions leading up to the June 2 Primary. As you offered in the hearing, we would request that by *July 30th* the Board and staff update the General Election calendar so all members of the public have clear information as to how the General Election will proceed.
7. **General Election Progress Update Webinars:** Clearly, collaboration and communication are essential, and were at times the cause of unnecessary pitfalls during the June 2 Primary. Therefore, we ask that you engage ahead of time with critical voting rights organizations and host *no less than five organizational webinars* with statewide community and advocacy organizations between Labor Day and Election Day to make sure these voter empowerment organizations are aware of ongoing changes to the elections process during this ongoing public

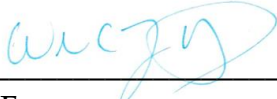
health crisis. Similarly, we urge you to consider inviting political parties on these calls so they can make their voters aware of the updates as well.

8. **Eliminating Vendor Errors:** We recognize that there are limited options available for a mail-in ballot vendor, but we were encouraged to hear you say at the hearing that the Board is exploring all options for November. We request that you update the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee no later than *July 30<sup>th</sup>* on the progress of these efforts, as well as what decisions have been made concerning the current ballot vendor if such decisions can be made public at that time. In addition, we ask that you tell the Committee at that time what new procedural safeguards have been put in place to ensure all vendor related issues identified during the June 16th hearing will not happen in the future.
9. **Precinct-Level Results for General Election:** As has been voiced in the past, the lack of precinct-level results reduces transparency in elections. While we understand the context of the unavailability of these results in the June 2 Primary, we expect precinct-level results to be available for November's General Election. No later than *July 30<sup>th</sup>*, we request that you update the Senate's Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee as to progress towards ensuring availability of precinct-level results for the General Election, and whether the Board has found a path for retroactively providing precinct-level results for the June 2 Primary.
10. **Policies & Procedures for Reporting General Election Results:** Timely elections results are important – though all would acknowledge they pale in comparison to an accurate and well-managed election. Unfortunately, the process for posting and reporting results during the June 2 Primary was confusing and detrimental to public trust. We appreciate that both staff and Board leadership took some blame for some of the issues at the June 16th hearing. What is most important is ensuring that such confusion does not occur again. Thus, by no later than *September 30<sup>th</sup>*, we request the Board provide the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee a comprehensive plan that outlines how votes will be counted, reported, and posted on Election Day and each subsequent day of counting outstanding mail-in votes. This plan should incorporate agreed upon policies and procedures from each Local Board as well.

As we have stated, transparency and communication are key to a successful November election. We are pleased that we are all united in the goals of a positive outcome in November, where Maryland will be an example for other states. We stand ready to assist where we can. Please know that we will continue to ask the tough questions where we

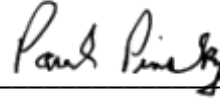
must in the months ahead to ensure that this is a successful election for all Marylanders. We look forward to your reply, and stand ready to assist any way we can.

Sincerely yours,



---

Bill Ferguson  
President of the Senate



---

Paul G. Pinsky  
Chairman, Education, Health &  
Environmental Affairs Committee



STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
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William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

September 21, 2020

**Via Electronic Mail Only**

The Honorable Bill Ferguson  
President of the Senate  
State House, H-107  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Paul Pinsky  
Chair, Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing  
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

President Ferguson and Chairman Pinsky,

As requested in your joint letter dated June 23, 2020, I am pleased to provide this update on the voter education and public outreach campaign for the November election. SBE has contracted with KO Public Affairs, LLC to manage the campaign, along with a number of subcontractors to oversee production, media, and outreach to Maryland's diverse communities. SBE appreciates your interest in the public outreach campaign and looks forward to working with you to educate Maryland voters about the upcoming election.

Under the approved scope of work, the campaign team is charged with developing a statewide campaign, including TV, radio, print, digital and earned media, to supplement SBE's social media campaign, along with broad stakeholder engagement to sufficiently reach Maryland's minority community. In addition to KO, the campaign team includes:

- **Mission Media** – a full-service advertising and marketing firm to assist with creative design, campaign production and media buying.
- **Sandy Hillman Communications** – a public relations firm and woman-owned minority business enterprise to assist with earned media and stakeholder engagement throughout the state.
- **GreiBO** – a public relations and marketing firm based in Baltimore to assist with stakeholder outreach to the African American community statewide, including webinars, key influencer messaging and social media.

- **Cool & Associates** – a full-service management consulting firm that brings Hispanic strategy, workforce development, education, marketing and outreach to the forefront of any organization. Veronica Cool and her team are assisting with broad stakeholder outreach to the Latino community, Spanish-speaking earned media, and translation of all campaign materials.
- **Campfire Communications** – a full-service communications firm led by Henry Fawell working with Hillman Communications on earned media, stakeholder outreach and rapid response during the campaign.

*Part I: Campaign Overview:*

A paid media campaign is currently underway to educate voters on participating in the upcoming 2020 Presidential General Election. The campaign’s \$1.3M budget is allocated across general population media statewide – digital, broadcast TV and cable, radio, and print – and includes paid media and stakeholder outreach targeting Maryland’s African American, Latino and Asian American Pacific Islander communities.

In coordination with stakeholder engagement, the paid campaign attempts to educate Marylanders on the full electoral process from registering to vote and updating voter information to requesting, completing and returning mail-in ballots; and options for in-person early voting and election day voting.

**Digital Campaign**

A combination of statewide digital paid advertising, including social media and search engine marketing, is being utilized to deliver specific messages throughout the duration of the campaign. Digital platforms allow us to reach our audience with more relevant and targeted messaging and provide better data and metrics to analyze the results of a campaign. Digital is especially beneficial as the interactive ads link viewers directly to the correct campaign landing page to educate and provide additional detailed information.

The digital media campaign launched on August 27<sup>th</sup> with six messages targeted toward appropriate audiences:

- ★ Register to Vote
- ★ Request a Ballot
- ★ Vote Early or on Election Day
- ★ Return Your Ballot
- ★ Make Your Vote Count (Inactive/Infrequent Voters)
- ★ Register to Vote / Request a Ballot (African American influencer campaign)

## *Key Messages and Dates*

- ★ Register to Vote (8/27 - 10/13/20); *Call to Action: Register Now*
  - This campaign will run until the voter registration deadline on October 13<sup>th</sup>, urging Maryland households to register to vote or verify and update their voter information. Registered voters and those who have requested a mail-in ballot will be excluded.
  - Maryland households are defined as users whose information does not appear on any of the lists provided by the State Board of Elections. This campaign will have an additional layer of geographic targeting explained below in an effort to reach all areas of the state equally.
  
- ★ Request a Ballot (8/27 - 10/20/20); *Call to Action: Request Your Ballot*
  - Running until the October 20<sup>th</sup> deadline for the return of the mail-in ballot application, this campaign will target Maryland households as well as registered voters with ads urging them to request a mail-in ballot. Those who have already requested a mail-in ballot, as well as inactive voters (defined as those who are unreachable by mail), will be excluded.
  
- ★ Return Your Ballot (10/5 - 11/3/20); *Call to Action: Find a Drop Box*
  - This campaign will target those who have already requested a mail-in ballot with unique messaging reminding them to return their ballot by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  
- ★ Make Your Vote Count (inactive or infrequent voters) (9/10 - 10/13/20); *Call to Action: Start Here*
  - This campaign will target inactive voters with a message reminding them to verify or update their voter information and to request a mail-in ballot. Those who have already requested a mail-in ballot will be excluded.
  - Inactive voters are defined as those who did not vote in the last presidential general election or this year's primary as well as the list provided by the State Board of Elections of voters who were not able to be reached by mail.
  - Although this campaign ends upon the voter registration deadline, this audience will be added into the final week of the Vote (including

by mail) campaign detailed below to ensure they receive the message detailing how to request a ballot before the deadline.

★ Vote (early voting and election day options) (10/21 - 11/3/20); *Call to Action: Find a Vote Center*

- Once the mail-in ballot return date has passed, the Vote campaign detailed above will shift messaging to support early voting and election day options, including voting at a voting center and using drop boxes. Those who had requested a mail-in ballot will be excluded.

### **Traditional Media – TV, Radio and Print**

In conjunction with the paid digital campaign, we are using traditional media statewide for increased visibility for the select key messages. Traditional media broadens the audience, raises awareness, and helps increase the reach and frequency of messaging to Maryland's 18+ population.

Traditional media, including a statewide purchase of TV, Radio and Print/Newspaper publications, began running on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

The initial flight of September 13<sup>th</sup> – October 13<sup>th</sup> includes all three mediums, with a primary message of Request a Ballot, and secondary messaging of Registering to Vote and In-Person Voting options.

From October 14<sup>th</sup> – November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Radio and Print will be used to encourage Early Voting while still presenting information about Election Day Voting as a secondary message. A second TV ad is currently under production with similar messaging.

The allocation of the overall media buy is based broadly on the population of Maryland residents across the state. Broad media is in place to reach a diverse audience, inclusive of all political perspectives. Please see Section II for a breakdown of the media buy by medium and region, as well as a sample of the campaign's creative assets.

### **African American Engagement**

The campaign is engaging the African American community using paid media throughout the state, including TV (broadcast and cable), radio, print and Digital, and African American radio, print and non-traditional publications such as the Root.

Within the traditional media strategy, specific publications, stations and networks that index well against the 18+ African American community were selected. Many of these vendors provided additional value within their owned digital media

channels, including posting on their social media, email blasts, interview opportunities and digital ads.

Focus radio stations include Radio One (92Q, WOLB, Magic - Baltimore, Majic - DC Metro), WEEA - Morgan State University and WHUR - Howard University. African American print media include the Washington Informer (including a special “Stay Safe and Vote” Issue on October 1<sup>st</sup>), and the Afro American Newspapers in Prince George’s County and Baltimore.

As a part of the overall digital media strategy, an overlay of an “influencer” public awareness campaign will specifically target select geographic areas and zip codes. The campaign will produce a community influencer video featuring trusted voices designed to inform voters about the upcoming election. The video message aimed at registration and voter engagement will be delivered via social channels, and effectiveness will be measured based on click-throughs and interactions with the SBE landing page.

In addition to the paid media and stakeholder outreach, the campaign is utilizing in-community events such as sound trucks and COVID-safe street teams to distribute informational flyers about the election and developing a series of events designed to bring together community leaders and key influencers to educate Marylanders about the election. These community leaders include civic, business and faith-based leaders as well as prominent Black restaurateurs and personalities and DJs.

While not a part of the campaign, SBE is excited that the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore City will be utilizing SBE’s MD Votes campaign materials to help educate Baltimore City residents about the election while also providing online resources with its mobile hot spots and curbside locations.

### **Hispanic Engagement**

Paid advertising for the Hispanic community is allocated across radio, print, and digital platforms El Zol radio and digital, Radio America and Radio Poder+, Mundo Latino print and digital, El Tiempo print and digital and El Poder de Se Mujur print and digital.

Earned media for the Hispanic community focuses on outlets that have a robust online presence, given how most people are consuming news in this environment, including:

- morning network and cable TV news shows;
- radio news programs and podcasts, including El Zol and Ke’Pachanga digital radio, which reach the Hispanic community;
- statewide print and online outlets, including community newspapers including Mundo Latino and El Tiempo Latino.

The campaign is taking advantage of value-add and earned media opportunities, leveraging available Spanish spokesperson, Dr. Gilberto Zelaya from the Montgomery County Board of Elections, by pitching the key messages and election updates to media partners across the State. As of September 10<sup>th</sup>, the campaign has been successful in facilitating over ten media interviews, as well as distributing all SBE press releases in Spanish.

The campaign is engaging local stakeholders and community organizations, in essence, the trusted voices of the community like CASA, Latino Providers Network and the Chambers of Commerce to educate Maryland voters about the election. Currently, there are over 200 partners on the outreach list, representing various industries, geographies and functions to ensure extensive reach into the Latino community.

In addition, the campaign is engaging with key influencers on social media to amplify key points and lend credibility to the outreach efforts and producing a Spanish-language testimonial video that will leverage trusted community leaders and influencers to educate the Latino voter and encourage voter participation. The video will be shared via social media, paid digital advertising and stakeholder outreach.

### **Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Engagement**

In addition to the broadly targeted media, specific efforts have been made to educate and engage the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities about the voting process and upcoming election. Print ads have been placed in the World Journal, Asian Fortune News, China Times, Saigon Broadcasting Network, Korea Daily, AsAmNews and Mochi Magazine. A Digital campaign targeting AAPI registered voters will extend the reach and provide key voting information with direct links to the State Board of Elections MD Votes website.

### **Stakeholder Outreach and Earned Media**

The broad stakeholder outreach and earned media campaign is intended to supplement the paid campaign to reach and engage stakeholder groups representing Maryland's Black, Latino, AAPI, Disability, LGBTQ communities, as well as Maryland's non-profit, business, religious and faith-based organizations, and veterans, seniors, homeless, justice-involved, and other hard to reach communities.

Since the campaign began on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, SBE has distributed over ten press releases informing the media and key stakeholders about updates in the election process. These press releases have been distributed in English and Spanish to media outlets and hundreds of stakeholder groups throughout the state. The press releases are available in English and Spanish on SBE's website.

[Maryland State Board of Elections Posts Early Voting and Election Day Voting Center Locations](#) - Released 9/16/2020

[La Junta Electoral de Maryland Publica Centros de Votación Anticipada y de Votación del Día de las Elecciones](#) - Released 9/16/2020

[Maryland State Board of Elections Issues Statement on USPS Postcard \(PDF\)](#) - Released 9/15/2020

[La Junta Electoral del Estado de Maryland Emite una Declaración sobre las Tarjetas Postales del USPS \(PDF\)](#) - Released 9/15/2020

[Maryland State Board of Elections Announces Printing Contract for Mail-In Ballots](#) - Released 9/11/2020

[Get Your Ballot Sent by Mail, Not Email, to Save Time and Money \(PDF\)](#) - Released 9/8/2020

[Board of Elections Approves Vote Center Plans for Four Counties \(PDF\)](#) - Released 9/4/2020

[Applications for General Election Mail-In Ballots On the Way to Eligible Maryland Voters \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/31/2020

[Las Solicitudes de Papeletas o Boletas de Votación para la Elección General Ya Están En Camino Hacia los Electores Elegibles de Maryland \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/31/2020

[Maryland State Board of Elections Encourages Eligible Residents to Register to Vote in November's General Election \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/27/2020

[La Junta Electoral del Estado de Maryland Motiva a los Residentes Elegibles a Registrarse para Votar en la Elección General de Noviembre \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/27/2020

[Maryland State Board of Elections Increases Ballot Drop Boxes For General Election \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/19/2020

[Board of Elections USPS Statement \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/14/2020

[Declaración de la Junta de Elecciones de USPS \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/14/2020

[Board of Elections Approves Early Voting Days for General Election \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/13/2020

[Board Seeks to Open 282 Voting Centers Statewide On Election Day \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/7/2020

[Board sets October 20 Deadline for Voters to Submit Application for General Election Mail-in Ballots \(PDF\)](#) - Released 8/5/2020

## **Online Communications Hub – MD Votes Webpage and Social Media Channels**

Working with SBE and using the existing state website and social media channels, the campaign created an MD Votes communications hub or webpage to provide a one-stop for all information related to the 2020 General Election. The MD Votes webpage - [www.elections.maryland.gov/2020](http://www.elections.maryland.gov/2020) - includes recognizable iconography from the paid campaign to provide information related to the voting process.

The MD Votes webpage also includes a detailed [voter guide](#), [social media toolkit](#) and [video tutorials](#), produced by the SBE team, to walk Maryland voters through the process to request and return their ballot. These tools have been shared broadly with all members of the General Assembly, the media and stakeholders.

## **Webinars and Forums**

SBE is committed to participating in a number of webinars and community forums in advance of the election. Representatives from SBE routinely participate in an Elections Workgroup meeting hosted by the advocacy community, including Common Cause, NAACP, Out for Justice and so many others. This regular forum has allowed SBE to share up-to-date information with key stakeholders and solicit feedback.

SBE has participated or is planning to participate in the following community forums with others likely to be added:

- Virtual Hispanic Stakeholder Listening on August 28<sup>th</sup> hosted by Cool & Associates
- Virtual Conversation with African American Stakeholders on August 28<sup>th</sup> hosted by GreiBO.
- “Election 2020 Make Your Plan event” on September 8<sup>th</sup> hosted by Mt. Olive Baptist Church (serving Prince George’s, DC, and VA)
- Virtual Meeting with Representatives of Recognized Political Parties on September 10<sup>th</sup>
- Baltimore Archdiocese Pastor Meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>
- “2020 Vision, Our Voice, Our Vote, Our Victory Virtual Registration & Education Event” on September 18<sup>th</sup> hosted by The People’s Community Baptist Church in Silver Spring
- “And Still I Vote” virtual forum on September 22<sup>nd</sup> hosted by Moving Us Forward, Inc.
- AARP Tele-Town Hall on September 24<sup>th</sup>
- #AskTheElectionOfficials Q&A sponsored by Twitter on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>
- AARP Tele-Town Hall on October 21<sup>st</sup>

*Appendix A: MD Votes Campaign – Creative Assets and Media Buy*

See the next page.



Thank you for the opportunity to share information about the on-going, statewide voter education and public outreach campaign. If you have any questions about this effort, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda H. Lamone". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Linda H. Lamone  
State Administrator

# MD VOTES

## APPENDIX A: CAMPAIGN CREATIVE

Unified under the MD Votes banner, copy and graphics have been developed to be simple and direct, supporting the importance of voting and providing details on how to vote. With the challenges brought on by COVID-19, Marylanders have to unravel a myriad of messages and information to fully understand the nuances of registering and voting in the 2020 Presidential General Election. The campaign strives to provide relevant, actionable information and resources to make the process clear and to encourage participation. Many of the assets were produced both in English and Spanish.

### Iconography

Our set of Icons tie to the local, state, and national patriotism that is inherent to the act of voting. Consistent application of the Icons throughout all paid and earned media, stakeholder engagement, and on the Board of Elections website landing page helps to unify the message and visually complement the information being provided.

An example of the Iconography being used throughout the campaign materials:



Register to vote



Request a ballot



Vote by mail



Find a Vote Center

[View all Icons](#)

## Television/Video :30

The first of two :30 video spots are focused on vote-by-mail, but also contains additional information for voters who prefer to vote in-person. The campaign graphics are animated to provide clear, direct messaging and to reinforce the campaign messages that Marylanders will likely have seen through other pieces of the campaign and Board of Elections communications.

[:30 Television:](#) Vote-By-Mail

Flight Dates: 9/13 – 10/13



## **Radio :30**

Similar to TV and print, two radio spots have been produced. The first began running on September 14<sup>th</sup> and will run through October 13<sup>th</sup> and has a primary message of vote-by-mail. The second will begin running October 14<sup>th</sup> and will run through Election Day, November 3<sup>rd</sup> to encourage early in-person voting. Each spot was recorded with both male and female voice talent, and appropriate versions of the spot were trafficked to each station based on their audience demographic. The recordings are linked below. The same spots were produced in Spanish for the Latino audience.

### Radio Spot 1: Vote-By-Mail

Flight Dates: 9/14 – 10/13

[Female](#)

[Male](#)

### Radio Spot 2: Early Voting

Flight Dates: 10/14 – 11/3

[Female](#)

[Male](#)

## Print Ads

Two print ads were produced for the MD Votes campaign and produced primarily in larger, 1/2-page sizes when possible due to the extent of information that needed to be communicated, as well as the impact made by larger size ads. The first ad, running through 10/13, focuses primarily on mail-in ballots, while the second that runs from 10/14 - 11/3 focuses on early voting. A sample of each is below. Both ads were also produced in Spanish.

Ad 1: Vote-By-Mail

Flight Dates 9/14 - 10/13

**MD VOTES**

# 2020 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

### ARE YOU REGISTERED?

To be eligible to vote, you must register or update your voter registration information by Tuesday, **October 13**.

### STAY SAFE. VOTE-BY-MAIL.

- STEP 1: REQUEST A BALLOT - MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 20**  
To vote-by-mail in the 2020 Presidential General Election you must request a ballot. Your ballot request must be received by **October 20**.
- STEP 2: LOOK OUT FOR YOUR BALLOT**  
You can track your ballot application status online. Ballots will begin arriving in early October.
- STEP 3: COMPLETE YOUR BALLOT & SIGN THE ENVELOPE**  
Follow the instructions.
- STEP 4: RETURN YOUR BALLOT BY NOVEMBER 3**  
Return your completed ballot to an official election drop box by **8pm on November 3** or postmark by **November 3**.

<b>OR VOTE IN-PERSON</b>	<b>EARLY VOTING</b> October 26– November 2 7am–8pm	<b>ELECTION DAY</b> November 3 7am–8pm
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Learn more about registering, requesting a ballot, or in-person voting options at [ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020](https://ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020)

Ad 2: Vote Early

Flight Dates 9/14 – 10/13



# STAY SAFE. VOTE EARLY.

**MD VOTES**

★ **Confirm your voting location ahead of time;** ★  
official locations have changed due to  
COVID-19 safety precautions.

★ **VOTE EARLY**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 26–**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2**  
7am–8pm

Stay safe and avoid the lines;  
vote in-person at an early vote  
center near you.



★ **VOTE ON ELECTION DAY**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3**  
7am–8pm

Vote in-person at a vote  
center near you.



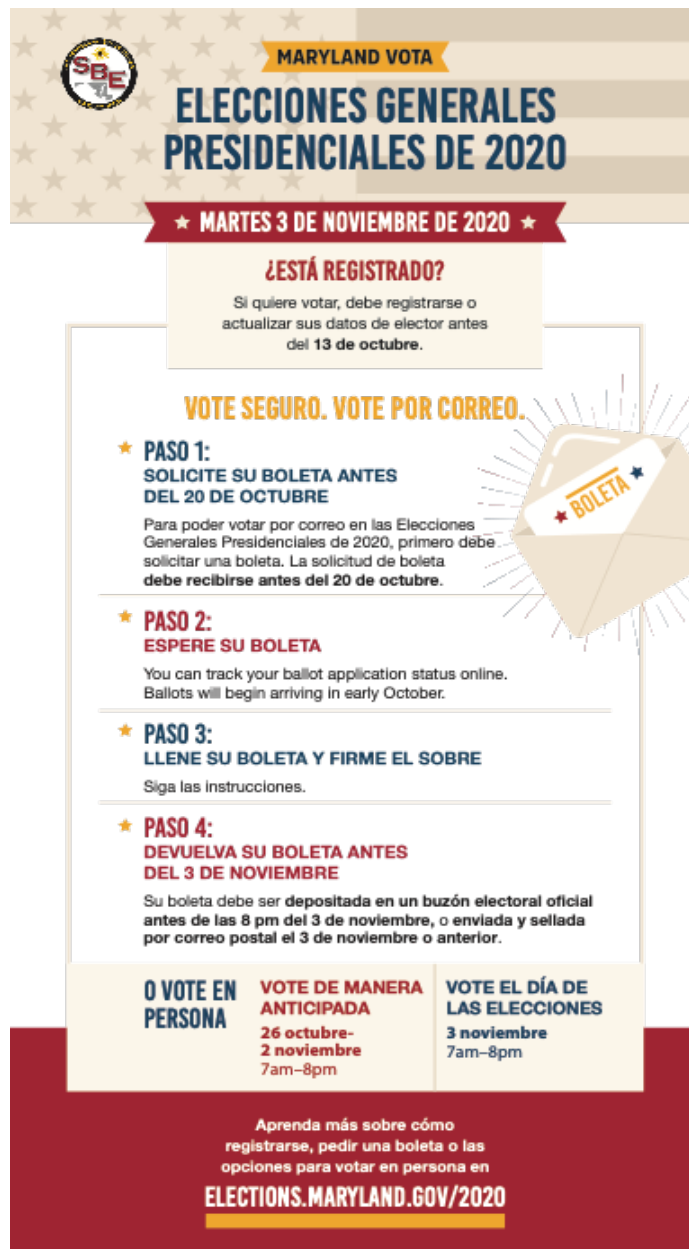
Find an early vote center,  
Election Day vote center, or official  
election drop box near you:

**[ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020](https://ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020)**

*If you are voting by mail, return your completed ballot to a  
drop box by 8pm on November 3 or postmark by November 3.*

Spanish Ad 1: Vote-By-Mail

Flight Dates: 9/14 – 10/13



**MARYLAND VOTA**

# ELECCIONES GENERALES PRESIDENCIALES DE 2020

**MARTES 3 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2020**

**¿ESTÁ REGISTRADO?**  
Si quiere votar, debe registrarse o actualizar sus datos de elector antes del **13 de octubre**.

**VOTE SEGURO. VOTE POR CORREO.**

- PASO 1: SOLICITE SU BOLETA ANTES DEL 20 DE OCTUBRE**  
Para poder votar por correo en las Elecciones Generales Presidenciales de 2020, primero debe solicitar una boleta. La solicitud de boleta debe recibirse antes del **20 de octubre**.
- PASO 2: ESPERE SU BOLETA**  
You can track your ballot application status online. Ballots will begin arriving in early October.
- PASO 3: LLENE SU BOLETA Y FIRME EL SOBRE**  
Siga las instrucciones.
- PASO 4: DEVUELVA SU BOLETA ANTES DEL 3 DE NOVIEMBRE**  
Su boleta debe ser depositada en un buzón electoral oficial antes de las 8 pm del 3 de noviembre, o enviada y sellada por correo postal el 3 de noviembre o anterior.

<b>O VOTE EN PERSONA</b>	<b>VOTE DE MANERA ANTICIPADA</b> 26 octubre- 2 noviembre 7am-8pm	<b>VOTE EL DÍA DE LAS ELECCIONES</b> 3 noviembre 7am-8pm
--------------------------	---	--

Aprenda más sobre cómo registrarse, pedir una boleta o las opciones para votar en persona en [ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020](https://ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020)

Spanish Ad 2: Vote Early  
Flight Dates 9/14 – 10/13



**VOTO SEGURO.  
VOTO ANTICIPADO.**

**MARYLAND VOTA**

★ **Verifique con anticipación dónde debe votar;** ★  
los centros de votación oficiales han cambiado debido  
a las precauciones de seguridad de COVID-19.

★ **APROVECHE EL  
VOTO ANTICIPADO**

**ENTRE EL LUNES, 26 DE OCTUBRE  
AL LUNES, 2 DE NOVIEMBRE**

**7am–8pm**

No ponga en riesgo su salud y no haga  
largas filas: vote en persona en el centro  
de voto anticipado más cercano.



★ **VOTE EL DÍA DE  
LAS ELECCIONES**

**MARTES 3 DE NOVIEMBRE**

**7am–8pm**

Vote en persona en un centro  
de votación cerca de usted.



Encuentre el centro de votación anticipada,  
centro de votación del Día de la Elección  
o buzón electoral más cercano en:

**[ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/2020](https://elections.maryland.gov/2020)**

*Si vota por correo, deposite su boleta completa en  
un buzón electoral antes de las 8 pm del 3 de noviembre,  
o envíela por correo con matasellos el 3 de noviembre o antes.*



## Digital Ads

Our digital campaign is utilizing Google Search, Google Display, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube to reach a broad and diverse audience of eligible voters. Using a mix of text-based creative, static ads, responsive ads, GIFs and videos, the campaign is designed to optimize based on performance to garner visits to the SBE website for additional information. A sample of a social static ad for each segment of the campaign is below, with the full ad set linked from the titles.

### [Register to Vote:](#)

Call to Action: Register Now

Flight: 8/27 – 10/13



[Request a Ballot:](#)

Call to Action: Request Your Ballot

Flight: 8/27 – 10/20



[Vote Early:](#)

Call to Action: Find a Vote Center

Flight: 10/21 - 11/3



[Return Your Ballot:](#)

Call to action: Find a Drop Box

Flight: 10/5 - 11/3



[Make Your Vote Count:](#) (inactive / lapsed voters)

Call to Action: Start Here

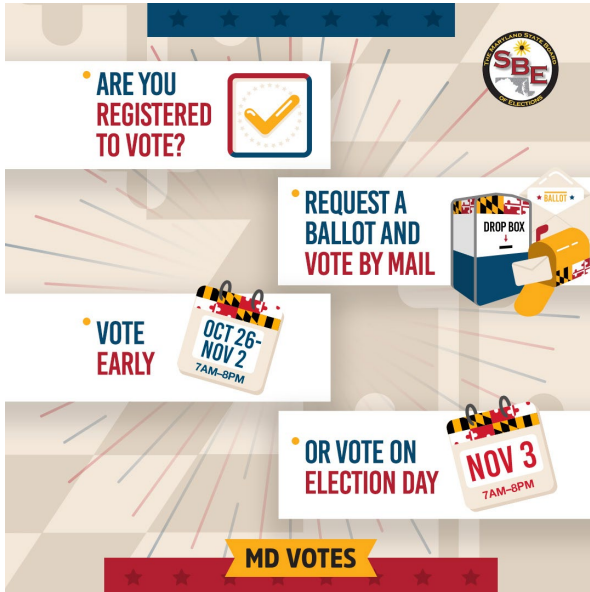
Flight 9/10 - 10/13



[General Ad Set:](#)

Call to Action: Learn More

Flight: 9/14 – 10/13



[Spanish Language Ads:](#)



## MEDIA BUDGET

### Paid Media Budget Allocation by Medium

MEDIUM	% OF BUDGET
Digital	35.46%
Print	14.23%
Radio	19.15%
TV/OTT	31.17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

### Traditional Media Budget Allocation by Market

MARKET	% OF TRADITIONAL BUDGET
Baltimore	45.52%
Washington DC	35.71%
Salisbury/Eastern Shore	4.82%
Hagerstown/Frederick	4.78%
Cumberland	1.30%
Southern MD	1.70%
MD General	6.16%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## Digital Media Budget Allocation by Market

County Area:	Central	Eastern	Northern	Western	Southern
	Baltimore Anne Arundel Howard Baltimore City	Dorchester Somerset Wicomico Caroline Kent Queen Anne's Talbot Worcester	Harford Cecil	Allegany Carroll Washington Frederick Garrett	Montgomery St. Mary's Calvert Prince George's Charles
<b>Total Population:</b>	2,351,417	353,679	358,296	678,157	2,278,619
<b>Budget Allocation:</b>	39%	6%	6%	11%	38%

\*\*

*Digital Media Allocations is documented for general campaigns (Register to Vote, Request a Ballot, Vote Early). Lapsed Voters and Return Your Ballot digital campaigns deliver to specific lists, and budget is not allocated by geography.*

## MEDIA BUY

### Digital

Google Search, Google Display, YouTube, Instagram, Facebook

### Television

Baltimore: WBAL, WBFF, WNUV, WJZ, WMAR, BounceTV, MPT

Washington DC: WUSA, WRC, WJLA, WTTG

Salisbury/Eastern Shore: WMDT, WEMT, GMDT, WBOC

Hagerstown: WDVM

Maryland: Comcast

### Radio

Baltimore: WBAL-AM, WIYY, WOLB, WWIN, WERQ, WZBA, WCBM-AM, WLIF, WMMX, WJZ, WEAA, WYPR, WCAO, WPOC, WQSR

Washington DC: WTOP, WAMU, WMMJ, WHUR, WASH

Salisbury/Eastern Shore: WWFG, WSBY, WQHQ

Hagerstown/Frederick: WAYZ, WBHB, WLIN, WWEG, WFRE, WFMD

Cumberland: WCBC-FM, WCBC-Am

### Print

Baltimore: Baltimore Sun, Towson Times, Laurel Leader, Columbia Flyer, Howard County Times, Aegis, Capital Gazette, Cecil Whig

Washington DC: Washington Post

Southern Maryland: Southern Maryland News

Hagerstown: Hagerstown Mail

Cumberland: Cumberland Times, Garrett County Weekender

Salisbury/Eastern Shore: Salisbury Daily Times, Star Democrat

African American Focused Print: Afro Newspaper, Washington Informer

Asian American Focused Print: World Journal, Asian Fortune News, China Times, Saigon Broadcast Network, Korea Daily, ASAmNews, Mochi Magazine, Programmatic Digital



## Government and Community Affairs

1101 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite B301  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

September 14, 2020

Sent via US mail and e-mail [linda.lamone@maryland.gov](mailto:linda.lamone@maryland.gov)

Linda H. Lamone, State Administrator  
Maryland State Board of Elections  
151 West Street, Suite 200  
P.O. Box 6486  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Administrator Lamone,

Johns Hopkins University writes to request that the Maryland State Board of Elections increase the number of ballot drop boxes to the total number of ballot boxes provided to Baltimore City. We further request that two ballot boxes be placed on the Johns Hopkins University Homewood Campus and Johns Hopkins East Baltimore Medical Campuses in Baltimore City. Universities have a critical role to play in the strength and resilience of liberal democracy. At Hopkins we value the principles of and engagement in the democratic process and have launched [Hopkins Votes](#), a non-partisan campaign that works to ensure that every Hopkins student is register to vote and prepared to cast their ballot.

The addition of drop boxes on our campuses will support our get out the vote efforts with students, but also will benefit faculty, staff, and the broader community by providing a convenient and safer option for voting. This is especially true in East Baltimore, where our campus is often frequented by large numbers of visitors and patients who come to our hospitals, health centers, and other buildings each day.

Before the pandemic, drop box voting across the nation was increasing, and now because of the pandemic and intensifying postal delivery fears, the option of using a drop box is as important as ever. It is for these reasons we respectfully request that the Maryland State Board of Elections increase the number of ballot boxes in Baltimore City and that two additional ballot boxes be placed on our campuses.

You may reach me at 240-463-9351. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth A. Hafey*

Elizabeth A. Hafey, Esq.  
Assistant Director, State Affairs

cc: Michael R. Cogan, Chairman, Maryland State Board of Elections  
Armstead B.C. Jones, Sr., Election Director, Baltimore City Board of Elections



STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Kelley Howells  
William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

September 22, 2020

**Via Electronic Mail Only**

Elizabeth A. Hafey, Esq.  
Assistant Director, State Affairs  
Johns Hopkins University & Medicine  
1101 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite B301  
Baltimore MD 21218

Dear Ms. Hafey:

Thank you for your letter dated September 14, 2020, requesting two additional ballot drop boxes in Baltimore City – one at the Homewood Campus and one on the East Baltimore Medical Campuses and for sharing information about Hopkins Votes.

After the June 2 election, we ordered as many ballot drop boxes as the manufacturer could provide before the November 3 election. The local boards of elections have already allocated these additional boxes, and as a result, there are not any additional boxes to deploy.

A list of the ballot drop boxes is available on [our 2020 Election webpage](#). I am pleased to report that there are two ballot drop boxes very close to both of Hopkins' campuses. There is a box at the Baltimore Museum of Art, which is at the south end of the Homewood Campus, and at Dunbar High School, which is less than half of mile east of the hospital campus.

To help voters and other organizations learn about the upcoming election, we have redesigned [our 2020 Election webpage](#) and recently posted a comprehensive social media and communications toolkit link on [our homepage](#) under "Hot Topics." I encourage you to use this information as part of the Hopkins Vote effort and visit our 2020 Election webpage to obtain updated information.

If you have any questions about the allocation and placement of ballot drop boxes, please contact me or Armstead Jones, the Election Director for the Baltimore City Board of Elections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda H. Lamone".

Linda H. Lamone  
State Administrator

cc: Members, State Board of Elections  
Armstead B.C. Jones, Sr., Election Director, Baltimore City Board of Elections

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman  
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Malcolm L. Funn  
Kelley Howells  
William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

**Memorandum**

**TO:** State Board Members  
**FROM:** Jared DeMarinis, Director  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
**DATE:** September 24, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Waiver of late filing fees standards

Enclosed are the waiver requests, which were submitted by campaign committees that have been assessed late filing fees. The attached Waiver Request Information Page contains an overview of each committee as well as the Administrator's recommendation for Board approval on granting a waiver request.

In the past the Board has considered the following facts in determining whether just cause exists to grant a waiver.

- Administrative error of any kind on the part of the Division.
- The lateness is due to extenuating circumstances, i.e. physical illness or death in the family.
- The late report is the first late report and allows the committee to close, or contains minimal financial activity.
- The fee will cause undue financial hardship, if the liability of the fine is the personal responsibility of the officers.
- Computer problems occurred which made timely filing impossible. However, the filer still must have demonstrated a good faith effort to timely file.

Prior to the meeting please review each waiver request. Note the recommendations that you may disagree with or have questions on that you would like to discuss.

Pursuant to Election Law Article §13-337 (b) (3), the State Administrator has denied five waiver request, for the month of September. No Board action is required on the denials. Late fees collected year to date for Late Fee Waivers are \$47,667.00.

Please feel free to contact me at 410-269-2853 if you have any questions.

## Waiver request September

1. Aclé, Nicole Friends of
2. Andrews, Corey Michael Friends of
3. Branch, Chanel A. Friends of
4. Brown, Trina Friends of
5. Frank, Corine Friends of
6. Frederick County Republican Central Committee

## Denied

1. Burroughs, Leo W. Citizens for
2. Herd, (William) Citizens for Mayor Herd
3. Hughes, Mark E. Friends of
4. Mercer, Timothy Friends of
5. Staton, Rashad Friends of

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Acle, Nicole Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013277	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	11/14/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/9/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Shannan Brinkley	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/14/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Nicole Acle	11/14/19
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		9/09/20	\$435	\$435
			\$	\$
				Total: \$435.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

We spoke earlier today regarding late fees for my political campaign, Friends of Nicole Acle. Would it be possible to waive the late fees as my treasurer has been unavailable due to an illness?

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request.

### Administrator's Decision



Maryland

Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

**Fwd: Campaign Fines**

2 messages

**Ebony Parran -SBE-** <ebony.parran@maryland.gov>  
To: Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Fri, Sep 11, 2020 at 1:59 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Acle < >  
**Date:** September 11, 2020 at 1:57:46 PM EDT  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: Campaign Fines

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Acle < >  
**Subject:** Campaign Fines  
**Date:** September 9, 2020 at 1:52:34 PM EDT  
**To:**

Good Afternoon,

We spoke earlier today regarding late fees for my political campaign, Friends of Nicole Acle. Would it be possible to waive the late fees as my treasurer has been unavailable due to an illness.

Respectfully,  
Nicole Acle

**Victorica Smith -SBE-** <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>  
To: Ebony Parran -SBE- <ebony.parran@maryland.gov>

Fri, Sep 11, 2020 at 2:14 PM

Received.

*Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
410 269-2840 Phone  
410 974-5415 Fax*

***Tomorrow this day will be gone forever, let what you have left behind be something good.***

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Andrews, Corey Michael Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01011324	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	2/04/16	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/01/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Donald Andrews	<b>Start Date: 2/04/16</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Corey Andrews	2/04/16
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		8/31/20	\$120	\$120
			\$	\$
				<b>Total: \$120.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
8/25/20	\$0	\$0	\$6.48	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I was without reliable internet access for the pass week, this fee would be a hardship.

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request.

### Administrator's Decision



Maryland

Victorica Smith -SBE- &lt;victorica.smith@maryland.gov&gt;

**Fwd: Request for Waiver of Late Filing Fees**

1 message

**Jared DeMarinis -SBE-** <Jared.DeMarinis@maryland.gov>  
To: Victorica Smith <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Tue, Sep 1, 2020 at 9:08 AM

Another request from the same individual .

Jared DeMarinis  
Director - Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
Maryland State Board of Elections  
151 West Street, Suite 200  
Annapolis, MD 21401-0486  
Phone: 410-269-2853

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Corey Andrews** < >  
Date: Mon, Aug 31, 2020 at 9:20 PM  
Subject: Request for Waiver of Late Filing Fees  
To: < >, Jared DeMarinis -SBE- < >

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to request a waiver of the late filing fee in the amount of \$120 for the 2020 Pre-General1 Report for Friends of Corey Michael Andrews (CCF: 01011324).

Unfortunately, I was without reliable internet access for the past week, and the current fee would constitute a personal economic challenge for me amidst the COVID pandemic. As I am not an active candidate for public office, nor am I actively participating in political fundraising, I sincerely ask the State Board of Elections to waive this fee.

Kindest regards,  
Corey Andrews  
Chairman  
Friends of Corey Michael Andrews

-----

Corey Andrews

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Branch, Chanel A. Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013219	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	7/23/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/8/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Sonja Harris	<b>Start Date: 7/23/19</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Ernestine Purdy	7/23/19
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		9/9/20	\$435	\$435
			\$	\$
				<b>Total: \$435.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
8/25/20	\$700	\$700	\$17,219	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

This email is to ask that the Friends of Chanel Branch campaign receive a waiver for the late fees in the amount of \$435.00. I had done the report on time, 8/25/20, however it was done under the wrong reporting period. It was not until you were able to look at the email confirmation that I sent to you that you were able to see the error that I had made in my reporting. I thank you again for assisting me in making the corrections that were needed to submit the correct dated reporting period.

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request.

### Administrator's Decision

--





Maryland

Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

**Fwd: MD Camapign Reporting Information System - 8/25/20 Pre-General1 Presidential Campaign Statement Filed**

1 message

**Ebony Parran -SBE-** <ebony.parran@maryland.gov>  
To: Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 1:37 PM

Waiver Request for Branch, Chanel A. Friends of

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sonja Harris -DHS- SSC** < >  
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 1:24 PM  
Subject: Re: MD Camapign Reporting Information System - 8/25/20 Pre-General1 Presidential Campaign Statement Filed  
To: Ebony Parran -SBE- < >  
Cc: SONJA HARRIS < >

Good Afternoon Ebony,

This email is to ask that the Friends of Chanel Branch campaign receive a waiver for the late fees in the amount of \$435.00. I had done the report on time, 8/25/20, however it was done under the wrong reporting period. It wasn't until you were able to look at the email confirmation that I sent to you that you were able to see the error that I had made in my reporting. I thank you again for assisting me in making the corrections that were needed to submit the correct dated reporting period.

Should you have any questions and/or need to speak to me directly, I can be reached at 443-527-3593.

Thank you

Sonja Harris  
Budget Administrator, Division of Administrative Operations  
Maryland Department of Human Services

(410) 767-7032 (office)

**Maryland is Open for Business! eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA) is LIVE! Vendors can to access eMMA along with answers to and . Any questions please contact the eMMA Help Desk at**

~~~~~  
Click to complete a short customer satisfaction survey.  
~~~~~

**ATTENTION:** This e-mail (including any attachment) may contain proprietary, legally privileged and/or confidential information. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the person(s) to which it is addressed. If you are not an intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of this e-mail to the intended recipient(s), you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and permanently delete this e-mail and any copies.

—  
Ebony R. Sherbert-Parran

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Brown, Trina Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013367	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/22/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/12/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Rodney Britt	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/22/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Marian Rucker	1/22/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		9/9/20	\$435	\$435
			\$	\$
				Total: \$435.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I filed the wrong report on the filing date

### Division Comments

Grant, it has been verified that the wrong report was filed on the due date.

### Administrator's Decision

Rodney D. Britt  
6082 Sunny Spring  
Columbia, MD 21044  
(443) 545-5252

September 12, 2020

State of Maryland Board of Elections

Re: Request for Waiver of Fees for the Late Filing of a Campaign Report

As Treasurer, I am writing this letter to request a waiver of fees for the late filing of the campaign report for "Friends of Trina Brown." The circumstances for the late filing are as follows:

- I received a notice that the report was due on August 25, 2020.
- Based on the previous filing I did in May 2020, I filed the affidavit of less than \$1000 bet on the campaign.
- I file the affidavit and assumed that the following was complete.
- On September 9, 2020, I received a notice that the report had not been received.
- Upon receipt I contacted the Maryland election board representatives who informed me that I had filed the report but had used the wrong date.
- I immediately re-filed the report and was informed by the Board Representative told that the correct date has now been used.

The Board representative stated that I could request this waiver of fees and thus I have sent this letter. My use of the wrong date was inadvertent. It is my hope that the election board can understand these circumstances and my original intent to file on time and consider approving my request. Thanks in advance for any consideration.



Rodney D. Britt

Treasurer

rbtreas4@gmail.com

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Frank, Corine Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01012025	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	11/13/17	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/27/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Joshua Frank	<b>Start Date:</b> 11/13/17
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Corine Frank	11/13/17
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		8/26/20	\$20	\$20
			\$	\$
				Total: \$20

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I completed the report but fail to submit it until one day later, I am requesting a waiver for the first offense.

### Division Comments

Grant 1st request.

### Administrator's Decision



Maryland

Victorica Smith -SBE- &lt;victorica.smith@maryland.gov&gt;

**Fwd: Maryland Campaign Reporting Information System - 08/25/2020 Pre-General1 Report Presidential Campaign Statement Filed**

1 message

Info sbe -SBE- &lt;info.sbe@maryland.gov&gt;

Thu, Aug 27, 2020 at 9:47 AM

To: Victorica Smith -SBE- &lt;victorica.smith@maryland.gov&gt;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joshua Frank &lt; &gt;

Date: Wed, Aug 26, 2020 at 1:34 PM

Subject: Re: Maryland Campaign Reporting Information System - 08/25/2020 Pre-General1 Report Presidential Campaign Statement Filed

To: &lt; &gt;

Cc: &lt; &gt;

Good Afternoon,

I completed the Pre-General Report Presidential filing yesterday for the Friends of Corine Frank committee; however failed to submit it until today. Looking at the fees associated with a late filing it appears it would be \$20 to cover my lapse in filing on time. If possible I would like to request a waiver for this first offense, but I understand if this is not allowed. Should I need to pay the fee, could you provide me with guidance on the proper way to pay the fee.

Thanks,  
Josh

----- Original Message -----

On Wednesday, August 26, 2020 1:21 PM,

&lt;

&gt; wrote:

Dear JOSHUA FRANK,

Thank you for using the Maryland Campaign Finance Reporting and Management System.

This email serves as a confirmation to the committee "Frank, Corine Friends of" that we have received your campaign finance report for the 08/25/2020 Pre-General1 Report Presidential on 8/26/2020.

If you have any questions regarding your account status, please contact us.

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Frederick County Republican Central Committee	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	05007596	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/01/01	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/05/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Joeylynn Hough	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/29/19
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Steven Clark	6/05/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
5/22/20		5/24/20	\$40	\$40
			\$	\$
				Total: \$40

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I filed the Frederick County Republican Central Committee's (FCRCC) report on 5/22/2020. The email I received from your office stated, "Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) has received your filing of the Affidavit of Limited Contributions and Expenditures for the 05/22/2020 Pre-Primary2 Presidential Report," which I received on May 24, 2020. I do not know why the system took two days to post my report. The FCRCC had no activity during the Pre-Primary 2 Presidential Report. I take pride in being timely in my reports and hope that you can forgive this misunderstanding, and waive the fee, as I filed my report the day of the deadline.

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request.

### Administrator's Decision

From: JoeyLynn Hough <Joeylynnh@comcast.net>

Date: August 5, 2020 at 4:20:01 PM EDT

To: JoeyLynn Hough <Joeylynnh@comcast.net>

Subject: FCRC report

**Maryland State Board of Elections**

**Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance**

**Phone: 410.269.2840**

**Email: info.sbe@maryland.gov**

June 24, 2020

Dear Mr. DeMarinis,

I filed the Frederick County Republican Central Committee's (FCRCC) report on 5/22/2020. The email I received from your office stated "Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) has received your filing of the Affidavit of Limited Contributions and Expenditures for the 05/22/2020 Pre-Primary2 Presidential Report," which I received on May 24, 2020. I don't know why the system took two days to post my report. The FCRCC had no activity during the Pre-Primary 2 Presidential Report. I take pride in being timely in my reports and hope that you can forgive this misunderstanding, and waive the fee, as I filed my report the day of the deadline.

Respectfully,

JoeyLynn Hough

(FCRCC) Treasurer

Frederick County Republican Central Committee Treasurer

240-315-6229

Joeylynnh@comcast.net

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Burroughs, Leo W. Citizens for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013337	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/08/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/8/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Sylvia Harris	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/08/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Leo Burroughs	1/08/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		N/A	\$735	\$735
2/22/20		5/29/20	\$140	\$140
				<b>Total: \$875.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A			

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

Due to chronic arthritis condition of my treasurer we ask for an extension for 2 weeks to file the report.

### Division Comments

Deny report has not been filed.

### Administrator's Decision



LEO W. BURROUGHS, JR./301 MCMECHEN ST. APT. 504/BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21217

AUGUST 28, 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
DIVISION OF CANDIDACY AND FINANCE  
151 WEST STREET--SUITE 200  
POST OFFICE BOX 6486  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-0486

RECEIVED

SEP 08 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DEAR ELECTION OFFICIALS:

~~WE~~ DUE TO THE CHRONIC RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS CONDITON OF MY TREASURER,  
SYLVIA JEAN HARRIS; WE ASK YOUR FOREBEARANCE IN EXTENDING FOR AN ADDITIONAL  
TWO WEEKS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OUR CAMPAIGN ~~FINANCE~~ FINANCE REPORT.  
~~WE~~ ~~THE~~ ~~WE~~ WE ARE CONTINUING TO ~~THE~~ EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS IN LOGGING IN MD  
CRIS or GETTING YOUR RESPONSE TO OUR NUMEROUS PHONE CALLS FOR HELP.  
WE HAVE EXPENDITURE RECEIPTS AS WELL AS BANK STATEMENTS. IS THERE A  
STANDARDIZED CAMPAIGN REPORT ~~FORMAT~~ FORMAT WHICH WE'RE REQUIRED TO USE?  
PLEASE CALL ME IMMEDIATELY ON ~~MY~~ MY CELL PHONE: 443-651-2578.

NOTE: SEE ATTACHED MEDSTAR HEALTH DOCUMENTATION OF MS. SYLVIA JEAN  
HARRIS'S MEDICAL CONDITION. WE ALSO ASK YOUR ~~WE~~ WAIVER OF ANY  
CONTEMPLATED PENALTY FEES.

SINCERELY,

*Leo W. Burroughs, Jr.*

LEO W. BURROUGHS, JR. CANDIDATE  
HOME PHONE: 410-523-6118  
CITIZENS FOR LEO W. BURROUGHS

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Herd, (William) Citizens for Mayor Herd	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013225	<b>Status:</b> Inactive
<b>Date Established</b>	8/7/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/3/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>		<b>Start Date:</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>		
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
5/22/20			\$140	\$140
				Total: \$140.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
4/28/20	\$10000	N/A	Yes
<b>1/15/20</b>	\$835	Waived	

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

As I told Victoria M to get rid of it. The three-day contract has gone expired. This will be my last writing on the subject.

### Division Comments

Deny committee has a history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
P.O. BOX 6486  
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21401-0486

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2020  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

8-3-20  
W. G. HERD  
3459 CHESTNUT AVE.  
BALTO. MD. 21211  
410-467-8624

1-800-222-8683

ATTN: LINDA H. LAMONE, ADMINISTRATOR  
& VICTORIA MOLINA

RE: SHOW CAUSE - DELINQUENT FEE  
CCF ID: 01013225

DEAR MADAMS:

AS I TOLD VICTORIA MOLINA BEFORE TO GET RID OF IT, THE  
THREE DAY CONTRACT HAS BEEN EXPIRED. THIS WILL BE MY LAST  
WRITING ON THE SUBJECT, UNLESS I GO ON TV AS A WRITE-IN  
CANDIDATE AND DON'T THINK ~~I~~ WE WILL EVER PAY IT.

BH

SINCERELY,  
Bill Herd  
BILL HERD

P.S. I VIDIA V. HERD AGREE  
Vick V. Herd.

ORIGINAL: FILE  
COPY: STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

REG MAIL

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Hughes, Mark E. Friends Of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01007347	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	7/5/11	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/11/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Ivan Chesnut	<b>Start Date: 12/22/15</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Mark Hughes	7/05/11
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
5/22/20		5/28/20	\$120	\$120
			\$	\$
				<b>Total: \$120.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
4/15/16	\$20	Waived	N/A
1/16/13	\$110	Waived	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

As a result of the challenge that the pandemic presented, we did not note the adjusted reporting schedule until we received a postcard.

### Division Comments

Deny

### Administrator's Decision

June 22, 2020

Linda H. Lamone

MD State Bd. of Elections

151 West Street (Suite 200)

Annapolis, MD 21401

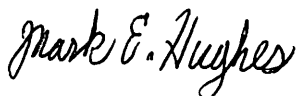
RECEIVED  
AUG 11 2020  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Dear Ms. Lamone,

The Friends of Mark E. Hughes is in receipt of the recent notice from the Board of Elections assessing a fine for the late submission of our final Pre-Primary 2 Report. We are asking for a waiver of the late fee, due to our earlier submission of the Affidavit of Limited Contributions in March and the challenge that the pandemic presented. As a result of the challenge that the pandemic presented, we did not note the adjusted reporting schedule until we received a postcard notifying us that another report was due. Unfortunately, the postcard arrived 5 days after the deadline passed.

Once the postcard was received, we filed another Affidavit of Limited Contributions on May 28th, which the Board has accepted. We have normally submitted all other documents in a timely manner. Now, we have the current reporting schedule and will be current with other reports during this election cycle. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to call Mark (443-756-8927) or Ivan (410-501-0414). Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Hughes,

Campaign Chairman

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Mercer, Timothy Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013450	<b>Status:</b> Inactive
<b>Date Established</b>	1/24/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/17/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Linwood Mercer	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/24/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Tim Mercer	1/24/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
5/22/20		8/17/20	\$1000	\$1000
			\$	\$
				Total:\$1000

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
4/22/20	1000	N/A	Yes
1/16/19	500	Waived	Yes
11/20/18	500	Waived	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

My campaign only spent \$878.00 in total for the 2020 election.

### Division Comments

Deny committee has a history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision

RECEIVED

AUG 17 2020

State of Maryland

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Late Fee Waiver Request Form

Instructions: Please print clearly or type. If you assert as the basis for the request that you were personally unable to file the report, please explain why the other responsible parties could not file the report. Please limit your request to this document only. \*Requests may only be made by the committee chairman, treasurer or candidate.

Campaign Account Name: Mercer, Timothy Friends of Account Number: 01013450

Date of Request: 7.3.20 Total Amount of late fees: \$ 2,000.00

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Timothy Mercer

The Requestor is the: [X] Chairman [ ] Treasurer [X] Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): Pre-Primary I - \$1,000.00 Pro-Primary II - \$1,000.00

The basis for the request: My Campaign only spent \$878.00 in total for the 2020 Election. I apologize for lateness of my financial report. I pray that the honorable board approves this waiver request. Thank you & GOD Bless!

Timothy Mercer (Signature)

7.3.20 (Date)

For Board Use Only
Date Rcvd: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Heard: \_\_\_\_\_
Verification: \_\_\_\_\_
Bd. Decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Maryland State Board of Elections
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
P.O. Box 6486 • 151 West Street, Suite 200 • Annapolis, MD 21401-0486
410-269-2880 • 800-222-8683 • MD Relay 800-735-2258 • www.elections.state.md.us

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Staton, Rashad Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01011370	<b>Status:</b> Inactive
<b>Date Established</b>	2/03/16	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/19/20	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Lamontre Randall	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/3/16
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	N/A	
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
5/22/20		8/19/20	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$1000.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
1/15/20	1000.00	N/A	Yes
4/28/20	1000.00	N/A	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
5/22/20	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I am writing this letter to officially close this account.

### Division Comments

Deny committee has a history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision





Victorica Smith -SBE- &lt;victorica.smith@maryland.gov&gt;

---

**Fwd: Letter to MD Board of Election**

1 message

---

**info sbe -SBE-** <info.sbe@maryland.gov>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 1:35 PM

To: Victorica Smith -SBE- &lt;victorica.smith@maryland.gov&gt;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: &lt;lamontre\_randall@yahoo.com&gt;

Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 1:28 PM

Subject: Letter to MD Board of Election

To: &lt;info.sbe@maryland.gov&gt;

Good Day,

I hope this message finds you well.

My name is Lamontre Randall, Treasurer for Friends of Rashad Staton, and I am writing this letter in effort to officially close the active committee account, as well as move towards having outstanding fees waived due to untimely reporting of past filing request reports due.

Per my conversation with a representative, I was informed to complete the following steps to update the past filing reports due, officially close out the committee account, and have fees waived:

- Apr 28, 2020 Pre-General Report Presidential 1 file as \$0 balance
- May 22, 2020 Pre-General Presidential 2 file as \$0 balance and mark as final report to officially close out the account *rejected*
- 2020 Annual Report must be filed with \$0 balance – close out report documentation *rejected*

As of today, August 19, 2020 such reports have been filed, and it is my hope that such completion of documentation, allows us to successfully close out the account.

If there is additional information, question, and next steps, please feel free to contact me directly via email: lamontre\_randall@yahoo.com, or by phone 4434970894.

Thanks

**St. Mary's County Branch #7025**

Post Office Box 189  
Lexington Park, Maryland 20653  
(240) 317-7047  
Email: [stmarysnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysnaacp@gmail.com)  
[www.stmarysnaacp.org](http://www.stmarysnaacp.org)

September 8, 2020

Michael R Cogan, Chairman  
Linda Lamone, State Administrator  
State Board of Elections Members:  
Patrick J Hogan  
Malcolm L Funn  
Kelley A Howells  
William G Voelp  
23250 Hollywood Road  
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Mr. Michael R Cogan and Board of Elections Members,

I am writing in response to the discussion and questions asked during the September 4, State Board of Elections meeting. The discussion with the St. Mary's County Board of Elections Director centered on the need for an Early Voting Center to service the southern end of St. Mary's County. The State Board of Elections approved Great Mills High School as a location to meet this need during its August 28, 2020, meeting.

The St Mary's County Branch of the NAACP strongly supports a county Early Voting Center in the Lexington Park and Great Mills area, an area which makes up St. Mary's County's largest population center. In previous letters sent to the St Mary's County Board of Elections, the first letter sent in April, we have highlighted the need for improved voting access to citizens from the southern end of the County due to the large population and the lack of strong public transportation.

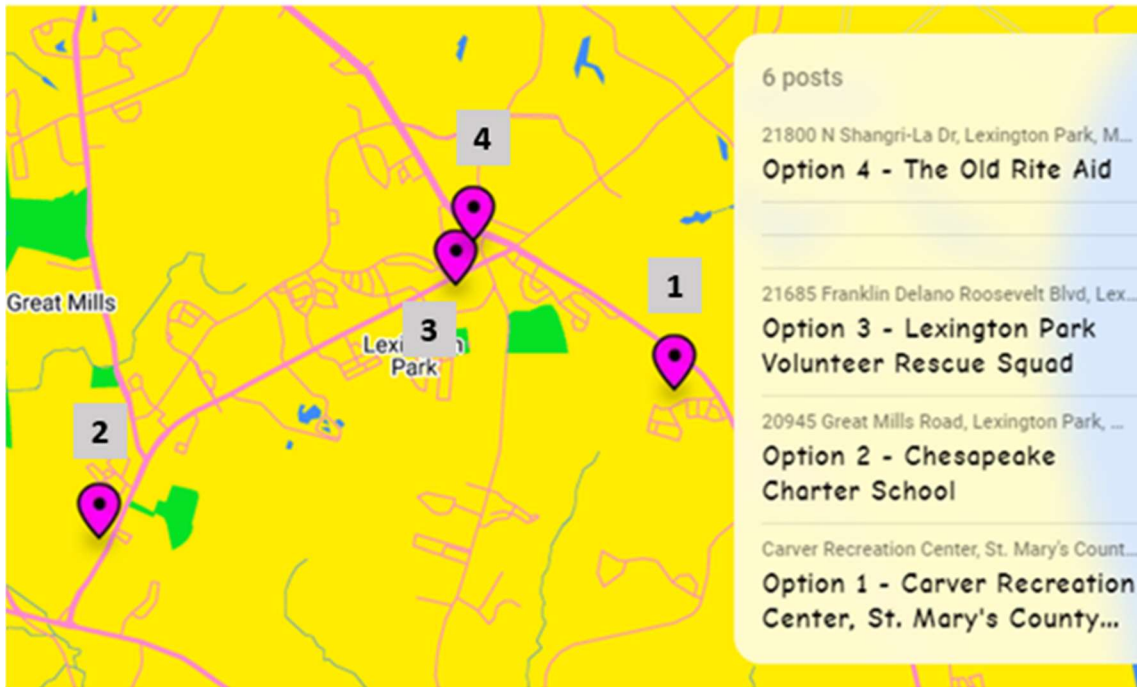
The State Board of Elections supports Early Voting to help alleviate Election Day problems, especially the problem that some Election Day Centers would likely be overwhelmed since citizens may choose any voting center. When the St. Mary's County Board of Elections selected Great Mills High School as an Early Voting Center, a security plan was developed to ensure citizens could vote without endangering the safety of the students. If the security plan remains viable given the changes proposed by St Mary's Public Schools, the Voting Center should remain at Great Mills High School. If security has now become an issue, we recommend the following locations for consideration:

1. Carver Recreation Center 47382 Lincoln Ave, Lexington Park, MD 20653
2. Chesapeake Charter School 20945 Great Mills Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653
3. Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad 21685 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Blvd, Lexington Park, MD 20653
4. Rite Aid located in the Plaza at 21800 N Shangri-La Dr, Lexington Park, MD 20653

Citizens are confused by the many changes adopted for the general election process: the application to receive a ballot, drop boxes and drop box locations for returning ballots, how to vote, when to vote, and where to vote. An Early Voting Center in the southern section of St. Mary's County, open for the 8 days before Election Day, would give those citizens an additional 104 hours of access to voting allowing opportunity to clarify misconceptions of the general election. Please assist the citizens of St Mary's County and provide easy access and ample voting opportunities in the Lexington Park and Great Mills areas. Support an Early Voting Center there to serve the population.

# Early Voting Options

Proposed options for early voting in St Mary's County



We appreciate all the work that you've done so far. We look forward to your response. Feel free to contact me at 205-566-0418.

Respectfully,

Willian R. Hall III  
President, St. Mary's County NAACP

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Jerry Clark  
Delegate Brian Crosby  
Delegate Matt Morgan  
Willie Flowers, Maryland State Conference President  
St Mary's Board of County Commissioners  
St Mary's County Board of Elections

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Kelley Howells  
William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

September 22, 2020

**Via Electronic Mail Only**

William R. Hall, President  
President, St. Mary's County NAACP  
P.O. Box 189  
Lexington Park MD 20653

Dear Mr. Hall,

Thank you for your letter dated September 8, 2020 requesting a second early voting center in St. Mary's County.

Election Law Article, §10-301.1(b) of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* establishes the number of early voting centers based on the number of registered voters in a county. It also, however, authorizes each county to establish one additional early voting center if the governing body of the county government and the State Board of Elections, in collaboration with the local board of elections, agree to establish an additional center.

For the upcoming election, the St. Mary's Commissioners deferred to the St. Mary's County Board of Elections, the members of which approved one early voting center. Because the county government did not approve a second early voting center, the State Board of Elections did not have the authority to approve a second center and at its September 11 meeting, approved one early voting center in St. Mary's County for the upcoming election.

If you have any questions concerning the State Board's decision, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda H. Lamone".

Linda H. Lamone  
State Administrator

cc: Members, State Board of Elections  
Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Jerry Clark  
Delegate Brian Crosby  
Delegate Matt Morgan  
Willie Flowers, Maryland State Conference President  
St. Mary's Board of County Commissioners (via County Administrator)  
St. Mary's County Board of Elections (via the Election Director)

Pre-General Election Meeting with the Political Parties  
Thursday, September 10, 2020 - 3pm  
Agenda/Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Roll call
  - Democratic Party
    - 1. Morgan Murphy- Operations Director
    - 2. Eva Lewis- Executive Director
    - 3. Yvette Lewis- Chair
  - Republican Party
    - 1. Corine Frank - Executive Director
    - 2. Dirk Haire- Chair
  - Libertarian Party
    - 1. Bob Johnston- Chair
    - 2. Eric Blitz- Legislative Affairs Director
  - Green Party
    - 1. Andy Ellis- Chair and Delegate to National Committee
  - Bread and Roses Party
    - 1. Jerome Segal- Chair
  - SBE
    - 1. Linda Lamone- Administrator
    - 2. Nikki Charlson- Deputy Administrator
    - 3. Donna Duncan- Assistant Deputy of Election Policy
    - 4. Mary Wagner- Director of Voter Registration and Petitions
    - 5. Erin Perrone - Director of Election Reform and Management
    - 6. Tracey Hartman- Director of Special Projects
    - 7. Jared DeMarinis- Director of Candidacy and Campaign Finance

2. Judicial Challenges

- Linda Lamone stated to the parties to bring any legal action in Anne Arundel County. Additionally, if the legal action involves a local board, make sure SBE is a party to the action. Ms. Lamone contacts the Anne Arundel courts to make judges available on Election Day.

3. Voter registration

- Mary Wagner reported the voter registration deadline is October 13. This deadline includes address and party affiliation changes. In-person registration and address changes can occur during early voting and in-person registration on election day. New reports regarding data on ballot returns by voters will be available on the SBE website under [Press Room](#). The deadline to buy voter registration and mail-in ballot lists is October 13.

- Ms. Wagner reported that Maryland is a member of Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). As a requirement of membership, postcards will be sent to eligible but not registered individuals.
- Tracey Hartman reported that the State Board will be sending a same day registration postcard to eligible but unregistered individuals. These individuals are pre-qualified voters from the MVA database. The postcard should be in the mailbox just before the early voting time period.

#### 4. Public outreach campaign

- Donna Duncan reported on the public outreach campaign. She stated that the State Board has hired a public relations company. The outreach messaging is to register to vote, update information and request the ballot. Later in September, once the early voting sites and voter centers are finalized, the messaging will change to the 3 options for voting- voting by mail, vote early and vote on Election Day.
- Ms. Duncan noted that SBE staff are willing to participate in webinars with advanced notice.
- Ms. Duncan stated that the [2020 Election webpage](#) has been revamped and includes important information about the election.

#### 5. Mail-in Voting

- Erin Perrone reported on the mailing schedule for mail-in ballots. She stated that SBE sent out 4 million applications in late August and that supplemental mailings for applications will occur. October 20 is the deadline to request a mail-in ballot. It is a receipt deadline (not a postmark deadline); the local board must receive the request for a mail-in ballot by October 20 for it to be timely.
- Ms. Perrone stated that ballots for overseas and military voters start the week of September 14<sup>r</sup>. The mailing is a rolling process for domestic voters. A change from the primary election on the ballot packet is that the return envelope will have a flap over the signature. She stated that all mail-in ballots will have pre-paid envelopes.
- Ms. Charlson reported on the ballot drop boxes delivery schedule, locations, hours of operations and the process of ballot retrieval. The delivery schedule will occur in three phases. The first phase of delivery will start on September 28, the second phase on October 17 and the last phase on October 22. The local board offices and early voting locations will receive drop boxes in the first phase. The local boards of elections determined the locations. Drop boxes will be open to receive ballots once they are installed. They close on Election Day at 8pm. The local boards retrieve the ballots twice a day. In total, there will be about 280 drop boxes throughout the State. It is a quick and convenient way to return a voted ballot.

#### 6. In Person Voting

- Ms. Charlson reported on the Early Voting and Election Day dates and locations. Early voting will occur from October 26-November 2. The hours of operation will be 7am-8pm. Once the locations are finalized, the early voting centers will be available on the website. (They are finalized and listed on the [2020 Election webpage](#).) On Election Day, over 315 vote centers will be open from 7am-8pm.
- Ms. Charlson reported that the challengers and watchers rules are available on the website. She stated that certificates are needed for challengers and watchers to enter the vote centers.

#### 7. Electioneering Zone

- Jared DeMarinis stated the vote centers and drop box locations have a “no electioneering” zone. Campaign material and signs may not be within the zone. Additionally, he stated tampering with the drop box is a crime.

#### 8. Online Reports and Data

- Ms. Wagner reported SBE will be able to provide Ballot Request Reports and Ballot Return Reports. She stated that under the Press Room link on the website, SBE provides great statistical information and other reports.

#### 9. Canvass

- Ms. Charlson reported on the curing process for unsigned oaths. It is a continuation of the policy developed from the Primary Election.
- Ms. Charlson stated the State Board authorized starting canvassing on October 1, 2020. Local boards will post the schedule of the canvass and the parties should check the local board’s website for times and dates.
- Ms. Charlson explained the number of individuals in a canvassing team is dependent on whether the canvass is live streamed or can be observed in person.
  - If a local board is live streaming its canvass (not allowing in-person observation), there must be two people per canvassing team to check for signed oaths, verify timeliness of the voted ballot, open the ballot, and verify the scannability of the ballot.
  - If a local board allows for in-person observation, there can be one person per canvassing “team.”
  - All duplications will be performed by a 2-person team.
- Ms. Charlson informed that if a voter requested a mail-in ballot but subsequently wanted to vote in person, a provisional ballot will be issued to the voter.
- Ms. Charlson stated that election results will be released after the polls close on Election Day. All results from the pre-election mail-in ballot canvasses will be embargoed and canvass participants will sign confidentiality agreements. The initial release will include in-person early voting and mail-in ballots canvassed from October 1 to the Monday prior to the Election Day. In-person voting results from Election Day will be reported later in the evening.

- Ms. Charlson stated that results will be by precinct. This has increased the number of ballot styles. However, the breakdown by precincts will not be immediately available.
- Ms. Charlson stated that the certification of results by the local boards will occur to extent practicable on the second Friday after Election Day, November 13, but is dependent on on how many ballots are returned and canvassed.

#### 10. Post-Election Audits

- Ms. Hartman explained the post-election audit process. The audit will be conducted by ClearBallot. All ballot images are transferred to the vendor, who independently tabulate the results. A comparison of the results is made. If a 0.5% variance occurs in the comparison of results, it will be investigated. After the audit concludes, the State Board will certify the results. More information on process is on the website at: [https://elections.maryland.gov/voting\\_system/ballot\\_audit\\_plan\\_automated.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting_system/ballot_audit_plan_automated.html)
- Ms. Hartman stated the ballot audit database may be available to view prior to doing a recount. She reported the portal from the primary election is on our website (<https://maryland.clearballot.com/>).

#### 11. Electoral College

- Mr. DeMarinis stated the deadline for the political parties to submit their Electors is October 5, 2020. He will be the point person for the meeting and all of the requirements for the submissions of documents.
- Forms for designating the Electors will be emailed to the participants on the call.

#### 12. Complaints

- Mr. DeMarinis stated the complaints he has received is the lack of authority line on campaign material. The parties need to remind campaigns to include authority lines on materials being distributed to the public. He stated enforcement will be coordinated with the Office of the State Prosecutor and the FBI.

#### 13. Questions

- Jerome Segal inquired about the mailing schedule for mail-in ballots. Ms. Charlson responded that ballots for military and overseas voters will be mailed the week of September 14. She stated that domestic mail-in ballots to voters starts later in September (around September 24). The mailing schedule will be daily thereafter. A follow up call was requested by Mr. Segal.
- Andy Ellis asked if the Green Party should wait closer to the deadline to make the data request. Ms. Wagner informed him to send in the request as soon as possible.
- Eva Lewis inquired about the “curbside voting” program in Montgomery County. Ms. Charlson stated that Maryland does not have or authorized curbside voting.



Mr. DeMarinis will contact Montgomery County and inform the parties of the process that occurred.

- After the meeting, Mr. DeMarinis spoke with a representative of the Montgomery County Board of Elections to learn about the process at their offices during the June 2 election. The process was to facilitate in-person requests for mail-in ballots and the issuance of the mail-in ballot. This was not curbside voting.

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Kelley Howells  
William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator

Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

Memorandum

**TO:** State Board Members

**FROM:** Jared DeMarinis, Director  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance

**DATE:** September 24, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Waiver of late filing fees – Persons Doing Public Business, Title 14 of the Election Law Article

Enclosed are the waiver requests, which were submitted by businesses that have been assessed late filing fees. The attached Waiver Request Information Page contains an overview of each entity as well as the Agency's recommendation to the Board.

The Board should consider the following factors in determining whether just cause exists to grant a waiver.

1. Administrative error of any kind on the part of the Division.
2. The lateness is due to extenuating circumstances, i.e. physical illness or death in the family; or
3. Computer problems occurred which made timely filing impossible. However, the filer still must have demonstrated a good faith effort to timely file.

Prior to the meeting please review each waiver request. Note the recommendations that you may disagree with or have questions on that you would like to discuss.

§ 14-107(c) Late Filing Fees

- (1) As provided in this subsection, the State Board may impose fees for late filing of:
  - (i) a statement required under § 14-104 of this title; or
  - (ii) an amended statement required under subsection (b) of this section.
- (2) The State Board may impose late filing fees in the same amounts and in the same manner as provided under § 13-331(a) and (b) of this article for late filing of campaign finance reports.
- (3) Late filing fees imposed under this subsection shall be distributed to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund.

**Business Contribution Disclosure System  
Waiver Request- Late Fees**

Grant/Reduced

- 1.

Denials

1. Zerodraft Maryland, LLC also trading as Zeronet US
2. Sagamore Development

**Business Contribution Disclosure System  
Waiver Request Information Page – Late Fees**

**General**

<b>Account Name</b>	Zerodraft Maryland, LLC also trading as Zeronet US
<b>BID ID:</b>	14001087
<b>Date Established</b>	11/04/2019
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/14/2020
<b>Account Type</b>	Title 14 – Persons Doing Public Business

**Officers**

<b>Current Filer</b>		<b>Start Date:</b>
<b>Principal Officer</b>	Christopher J Pfund	<b>Start Date:</b> 11/04/19

**Waiver Request Dates**

<b>Late Report</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Total Fees</b>
5/31/2020 Spring Report	8/10/2020	\$1000	\$1000
		\$	\$
		Total	\$1000

**Prior Waiver and Fees**

N/A

**Reason for Waiver**

The above-referenced project was not even approved by the State Board of Estimates until June 3rd 2020, so we didn't even know that this would be approved or not until after your deadline. We finally received an official Notice to Proceed on 7-27-2020

**Agency Comments**

They filed the Initial Report/Affidavit with no issues on 11/04/19. Due to the fact they registered, they owe the 2 reports that come up due every year until they close in the BCDS after contract is over.

Deny



Vicki Molina -SBE- &lt;vicki.molina@maryland.gov&gt;

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**FW: Notice to Show Cause Letter for the 5/31/20 Spring Report**

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**Thomas Maulding** <tmaulding@sagamoredevelopment.com>  
To: "vicki.molina@maryland.gov" <vicki.molina@maryland.gov>

Mon, Aug 10, 2020 at 3:06 PM

Dear Ms. Molina,

As the filer for the entity Sagamore Development, I erroneously filed an incorrectly dated report – I did not properly enter the reporting period of 05/31/2020 and instead filed a report for the next, upcoming period. That report was filed on 06/01/2020, but due to my error was not the actual report that was due. After receiving notice from info.sbe@maryland.gov of the error (attached), I called and was provided assistance to file an amended report. However, again due to my own errors, I inadvertently compounded the mistake by filing an amendment – but again for the wrong period.

I received the attached show cause letter, and immediately contacted Vickie Smith as directed below. She generously provided time to assist me in navigating the site so that the correct report is filed. I believe that now I have filed the proper report per the second attachment here. I also paid the full amount of the penalty to ensure that there is complete compliance (which is always the goal). The receipt is attached.

Upon enquiry if there was any way to get the fine reduced, Ms. Smith advised that sending you an email request was the process to follow. First, I acknowledge and understand that this error is entirely on my as the filer – I made a mistake, and then made a second mistake when I attempted to correct it. The intent to timely file was there, as the attempts illustrate that a report was filed, but for the wrong, upcoming reporting period. If the fine can be reduced in some manner it would be very much appreciated. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I can be reached by email or at 410-925-4674 if you have any reason to contact me, or if another process is best to follow.

Regards,

Thomas Maulding

**From:** info.sbe@maryland.gov <info.sbe@maryland.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2020 12:56 PM  
**To:** Thomas Maulding <tmaulding@sagamoredevelopment.com>  
**Subject:** Notice to Show Cause Letter for the 5/31/20 Spring Report

Principal Office/Filer,

This is to notify you that the 5/31/20 Spring Report was not received and that the business has a late fee assessed for this report.

Attached you will find a copy of the Notice to Show Cause Letter. You can pay over the phone with a credit card if MasterCard or Visa by calling Vicky Smith at 410.269.2871 or Ebony Parran at 410.269.2922.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maryland State Board of Elections

Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance

Phone: 410.269.2840

Email: [info.sbe@maryland.gov](mailto:info.sbe@maryland.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "info.sbe@maryland.gov" <info.sbe@maryland.gov>

To: Thomas Maulding <tmaulding@sagamoredevelopment.com>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Tue, 9 Jun 2020 12:42:48 +0000

Subject: Fee Running Notice for the 5/31/20 Spring Report

This is to notify you that the 5/31/20 Spring Report has not been received and late fees are being assessed for this report.

Attached you will find a copy of the fee running notice.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us. The State Board of Elections has a call center currently in place helping SBE with the amount of calls coming in, so please be patient and ask to speak with Vicki Molina.

Thank you.

Maryland State Board of Elections  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
410.269.2840  
[info.sbe@maryland.gov](mailto:info.sbe@maryland.gov)

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**4 attachments**

 **Show Cause Letter\_2.pdf**  
169K

 **Fee Report Notice.pdf**  
162K

 **Fee Running Notice for the 5/31/20 Spring Report.eml**  
234K

 **Sagamore Development1.pdf**  
114K

**Business Contribution Disclosure System  
Waiver Request Information Page – Late Fees**

**General**

<b>Account Name</b>	Sagamore Development
<b>BID ID:</b>	14000824
<b>Date Established</b>	11/01/2016
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/10/2020
<b>Account Type</b>	Title 14 – Employing a Lobbyist

**Officers**

<b>Current Filer</b>	Thomas Maulding	Start Date: 11/01/2016
<b>Principal Officer</b>		Start Date:

**Waiver Request Dates**

<b>Late Report</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Total Fees</b>
5/31/2020 Spring Report	8/10/2020	\$1000	\$1000
		\$	\$
		Total	\$1000

**Prior Waiver and Fees**

11/30/18 rcvd 12/03/18, late fee \$30 – paid  
5/31/20 rcvd 8/10/20, ;ate fee \$1000 - paid

**Reason for Waiver**

He selected the wrong report from dropdown box for File Period Name. In request he admits to it being his fault.

**Agency Comments**

Deny



Vicki Molina -SBE- <[vicki.molina@maryland.gov](mailto:vicki.molina@maryland.gov)>

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## Letter of Appeal

1 message

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**Chris Pfund** <[cpfund@zerodraftmd.com](mailto:cpfund@zerodraftmd.com)>  
To: [vicki.molina@maryland.gov](mailto:vicki.molina@maryland.gov)  
Cc: Kurt Pfund <[kpfund@zerodraftmd.com](mailto:kpfund@zerodraftmd.com)>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 1:33 PM

Dear Ms Molina,

Please forward this email to Mr DeMarinis. Thank you for your kind assistance in addressing this matter.

Jared DeMarinis

Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

151 West Street Suite 200

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr DeMarinis,

This letter is a formal request to appeal the \$1,000 fine issued to Zerodraft MD, Bid ID 14001087, for failure to file a statement of contributions before 5/31/20.

The above-referenced project was not even approved by the State Board of Estimates until June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020, so we didn't even know that this would be approved or not until after your deadline. We finally received an official Notice to Proceed on 7-27-2020. Until then, we had no experience with State projects requiring Campaign Finance notifications, so this is all very new to us.

In response to Governor Hogan's guidelines intended to reduce person-to-person interaction and limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Maryland, like so many businesses, Zerodraft had to close our doors on March 28th. We are only now just beginning to operate the business. As a result of being closed, we did not have any personnel in the office to respond to the notice the State Board of Elections sent in May. In fact, we were only made aware of the requirement when we received the August 10th email notifying us of our failure to file the report and of the assessed fine. We have since filed and understand now that this is a bi-annual requirement, so we will not repeat the oversight.

As you can imagine, in the current climate, for a small business trying to get back on our feet, a \$1000 fine for not reporting donations that were not made, is a heavy burden for the company to bear. For this reason, we would be very grateful if you would look favorably upon this request to have the heavy fine lifted.



8/14/2020

State of Maryland Mail - Letter of Appeal

Thank you for taking the time to consider our request to have the \$1000 fine retracted. I can be reached at the contact points below.

Respectfully,

Chris Pfund, Principal, AIA, BPI

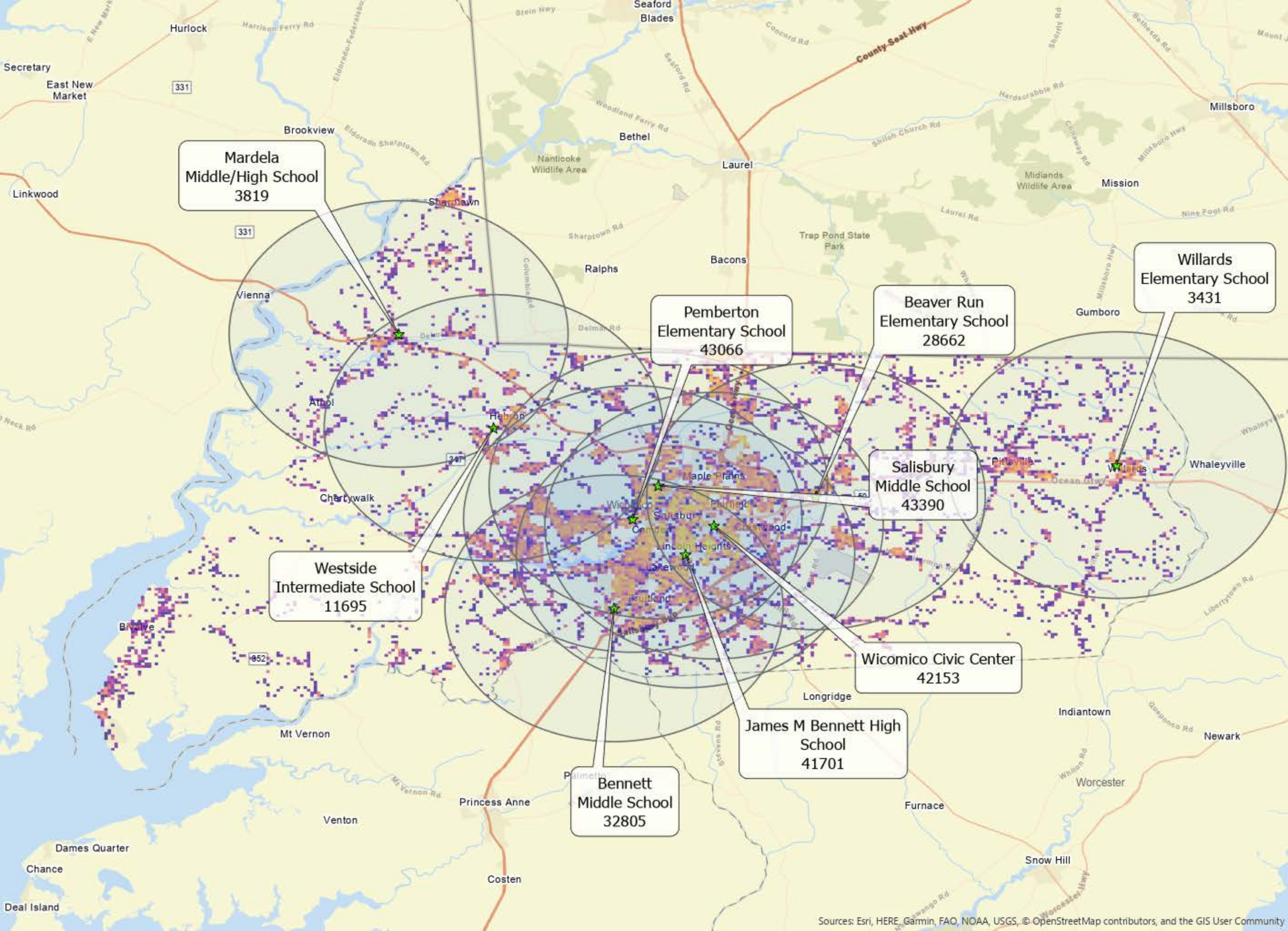
410.321.5936 (office) 410.456.7397 (mobile) zerodraftmd.com

**Zerodraft Maryland, LLC** also trading as **ZeroNet USA** for commercial projects.

1850 York Road, Suite N, Lutherville, MD 21093







**Mardela  
Middle/High School  
3819**

**Westside  
Intermediate School  
11695**

**Pemberton  
Elementary School  
43066**

**James M Bennett High  
School  
41701**

**Bennett  
Middle School  
32805**

**Salisbury  
Middle School  
43390**

**Wicomico Civic Center  
42153**

**Beaver Run  
Elementary School  
28662**

**Willards  
Elementary School  
3431**



