Supreme Court of Ohio Clerk of Court - Filed November 18, 2026 - Case No. 2026-1574

In the Supreme Court of Ohio

State of Ohio ex rel. Schimmel,	)	
	)	
Relator	)	
	)	Case No. 2026-1574
	)	
v.	)	Original Action in Mandamus
	)	
Lucas County Board of Elections, *et al.*,	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	
	)	

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BRIEF OF AMICI CURIAE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OHIO AND COMMON CAUSE IN SUPPORT OF RESPONDENTS

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

W. Stuart Dornette (0002955)
Counsel of Record
Philip D. Williamson (0097174)
Dominic Bayer (0104319)
TAFT, STETTINIUS AND HOLLISTER, LLP
301 E. Fourth Street, Suite 2800
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 381-2838
Fax: (513) 381-0205
dornette@taftlaw.com
pwilliamson@taftlaw.com
dbayer@taftlaw.com

Counsel for Relator

Julia R. Bates (0013426)
Counsel of Record
LUCAS COUNTY PROSECUTOR
700 Adams St., Ste. 250
Toledo, OH 43604
(419) 213-4700
jbates@co.lucas.oh.us

Counsel for Respondents

David J. Carey (0088787)
Counsel of Record
Carlen Zhang-D'Souza (0093079)*
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
1108 City Park Avenue, Suite 203
Columbus, Ohio 43206
(380) 215-1972
dcarey@acluohio.org
czhangdsouza@acluohio.org

Freda J. Levenson (0045916)
Amy Gilbert (0100887)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
(216) 541-1376 (Levenson)
(216) 770-6704 (Gilbert)
flevenson@acluohio.org
agilbert@acluohio.org

Dayton Campbell-Harris*+
Juan Ruiz Toro*
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION
125 Broad St.
New York, NY 10004

(212) 549-2500
dcampbell-harris@aclu.org
jruiztoro@aclu.org

Counsel for Amici Curiae

* *pro hac vice* forthcoming
\+ practice limited to federal court

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Amici Curiae League of Women Voters of Ohio ("LWVO") and Common Cause respectfully request leave of this Court to file an amicus brief in support of Respondents.

LWVO is the Ohio chapter of the League of Women Voters of the United States—a nonpartisan, statewide non-profit committed to protecting the voting rights of all Ohioans. As part of its mission, LWVO aims to shape public policy, to educate the public about policy issues and the functioning of our democracy, and to protect and expand Ohioans' access to elections and their government. LWVO has filed state and federal cases and appeared as amicus curiae in seeking to hold Ohio's elected officials accountable to the Ohio Constitution in planning and conducting elections.

Common Cause is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to fair elections and to making our federal and state governments more democratic and responsive. Common Cause helps eligible Americans register, vote, and helps their eligible neighbors do the same. As part of the Ohio Voter Rights Coalition, Common Cause trained 1,100 nonpartisan Poll Monitors who assisted voters in 33 counties across Ohio on Election Day. During the 2026 Election Protection program, Common Cause staff relied on the Ohio Secretary of State's directives and urged voters who were registered to vote but moved to vote early at the Board of Election or at their new polling location on Election Day.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Amicus briefs are particularly helpful in mandamus cases where the memorandum can assist the Court in its S.Ct.Prac.R. 12.5 determination, and in such cases leave is generally granted. *State ex rel. Engler v. Larose*, 2026-0466, 8/19/2026 Case Announcements, 2026-Ohio-3181 at 3 (granting leave to file amicus brief in support of motion to dismiss); *Cf. State ex. rel. Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. v. Hamilton Cty. Court of Common Pleas,* 2010-Ohio-2450 (granting leave to file amicus brief before alternative writ was granted). Amici's brief provides the Court with useful

information about the rights of Ohio voters and longstanding practice of elections officials across the State of Ohio, which relates directly to the assumptions underlying the Relator's petition.

The brief that LWVO and Common Cause propose to file is attached as Exhibit A.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *David J. Carey*
David J. Carey (0088787)
Counsel of Record
Carlen Zhang-D'Souza (0093079)*
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
1108 City Park Avenue, Suite 203
Columbus, Ohio 43206
(380) 215-1972
dcarey@acluohio.org
czhangdsouza@acluohio.org

Dayton Campbell-Harris*+
Juan Ruiz Toro*
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION
125 Broad St.
New York, NY 10004
(212) 549-2500
dcampbell-harris@aclu.org
jruiztoro@aclu.org

Freda J. Levenson (0045916)
Amy Gilbert (0100887)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
(216) 541-1376 (Levenson)
(216) 770-6704 (Gilbert)
flevenson@acluohio.org
agilbert@acluohio.org

Counsel for Amici Curiae

* *pro hac vice* forthcoming
\+ practice limited to federal court

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on November 18, 2026, I filed the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system, and also served copies of this motion by e-mail as follows:

W. Stuart Dornette
Philip D. Williamson
Dominic Bayer
TAFT STETTINIUS & HOLLISTER LLP
dornette@taftlaw.com
pwilliamson@taftlaw.com
dbayer@taftlaw.com

Counsel for Relator

Julia R. Bates
LUCAS COUNTY PROSECUTOR
jbates@co.lucas.oh.us

Counsel for Respondents

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

/s David J. Carey
David J. Carey (088787)

Exhibit A

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

In the Supreme Court of Ohio

State of Ohio ex rel. Schimmel,	)	
	)	
Relator	)	
	)	Case No. 2026-1574
	)	
v.	)	Original Action in Mandamus
	)	
Lucas County Board of Elections, *et al.*,	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	
	)	

BRIEF OF AMICI CURIAE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OHIO AND COMMON CAUSE IN SUPPORT OF RESPONDENTS

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

W. Stuart Dornette (0002955)
Counsel of Record
Philip D. Williamson (0097174)
Dominic Bayer (0104319)
TAFT, STETTINIUS AND HOLLISTER, LLP
301 E. Fourth Street, Suite 2800
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 381-2838
Fax: (513) 381-0205
dornette@taftlaw.com
pwilliamson@taftlaw.com
dbayer@taftlaw.com

Counsel for Relator

Julia R. Bates (0013426)
Counsel of Record
LUCAS COUNTY PROSECUTOR
700 Adams St., Ste. 250
Toledo, OH 43604
(419) 213-4700
jbates@co.lucas.oh.us

Counsel for Respondents

David J. Carey (0088787)
Counsel of Record
Carlen Zhang-D'Souza (0093079)*
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
1108 City Park Avenue, Suite 203
Columbus, Ohio 43206
(380) 215-1972
dcarey@acluohio.org
czhangdsouza@acluohio.org

Freda J. Levenson (0045916)
Amy Gilbert (0100887)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
(216) 541-1376 (Levenson)
(216) 770-6704 (Gilbert)
flevenson@acluohio.org
agilbert@acluohio.org

Dayton Campbell-Harris*+
Juan Ruiz Toro*
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION
125 Broad St.
New York, NY 10004
(212) 549-2500

dcampbell-harris@aclu.org
jruiztoro@aclu.org

Counsel for Amici Curiae

* *pro hac vice* forthcoming
\+ practice limited to federal court

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS iii
TABLE OF AUTHORITIES iv
STATEMENT OF INTEREST OF AMICUS CURIAE v
INTRODUCTION 1
BACKGROUND 2
ARGUMENT 3
I. The Requested Relief Would Impose an Unconstitutional Burden on the Fundamental Right to Vote 3
II. The Requested Relief Violates Voters Right to Due Process under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution 5
III. Relator Has Shown No Clear Legal Right to the Extreme Relief of Disrupting an Election After the Fact 8
CONCLUSION 8

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases

Burdick v. Takushi,
504 U.S. 428 (1992) 3
Democratic Exec. Comm. Of Fla. v. Lee,
915 F.3d 1312 (11th Cir. 2019). 4
Fish v. Schwab,
957 F.3d 1105 (10th Cir. 2020) 4
George v. Hargett,
879 F.3d 711 (6th Cir. 2018) 6
Griffin v. Burns,
570 F.2d 1065 (1st Cir. 1978) 5, 6, 7
Hunter v. Hamilton Cnty. Bd. of Elec.,
635 F.3d 219 (6th Cir. 2011) 1, 5, 7
League of Women Voters v. Brunner,
548 F.3d 463 (6th Cir. 2008) 1
Ne. Ohio Coal. For Homeless v. Husted,
696 F.3d 580 (6th Cir. 2012) 3, 4, 7
Ohio Democratic Party v. LaRose,
2020-Ohio-4664 8
Purcell v. Gonzalez,
549 U.S. 1 (2006) 1
Reynolds v. Sims,
377 U.S. 533 (1964) 1, 3
Roe v. Alabama,
43 F.3d 574 (11th Cir.1995) 6
State ex rel. Heffelfinger v. Brunner,
2007-Ohio-5838 8
United States v. Classic,
313 U.S. 299 (1941) 1
Warf v. Board of Elections of Green Cnty., Ky.,
619 F.3d 553 (6th Cir. 2010) 1, 5, 6
Yick Wo v. Hopkins,
118 U.S. 356 (1886) 3

Statutes

R.C. 3501.11(P) 3, 8

Other Authorities

Sec'y of State, *Ohio Election Official Manual (Permanent Directives)*, Directive 2026-31:Voter Registration 2
Sec'y of State, *Ohio Election Official Manual (Permanent Directives)*, Directive 2026-35: Provisional Voting 2, 6
Secy' of State, Directive 2026-27: Updated Election Official Manual (Aug. 4, 2026) 3

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

STATEMENT OF INTEREST OF AMICUS CURIAE

Amicus Curiae League of Women Voters of Ohio ("LWVO") is the Ohio chapter of the League of Women Voters of the United States—a nonpartisan, statewide non-profit founded in May 1920, shortly before the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in August 1920 granting women's suffrage. LWVO currently has 3,930 members across the state, the vast majority of whom are registered Ohio voters, who live and vote in all of Ohio's congressional districts and nearly all Ohio legislative districts. LWVO's members make up 37 local Leagues and at-large units that are dedicated to empowering citizens and ensuring an effective democracy.

LWVO's mission is to help Ohioans exercise the right to vote, improve American democracy, and engage Ohioans in the decisions that most impact their lives. As part of its mission, LWVO aims to shape public policy, to educate the public about policy issues and the functioning of our democracy, and to protect and expand Ohioans' access to elections and their government. As such, LWVO and its members invest substantial volunteer time in voter education, civic engagement, and voter registration efforts.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

LWVO is committed to protecting the voting rights of all Ohioans. LWVO has filed state and federal cases and appeared as amicus curiae in seeking to hold Ohio's elected officials accountable to the Ohio Constitution in planning and conducting elections. *See, e.g.*, *Ohio A. Philip Randolph Institute v. Householder*, 373 F. Supp. 3d 978 (S.D. Ohio 2019), *LWVO v. Ohio Redistricting Comm.*, 2022-Ohio-789, *LWVO v. Ohio Redistricting Comm.*, 2022-Ohio-1235, *LWVO et al. v. Ohio Redistricting Comm.*, 2022-Ohio-1727, *State ex rel. Ohio Democratic Party v. LaRose*, 2020-Ohio-1253 (as amicus).

Common Cause is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization founded in 1970 and is dedicated to fair elections and to making our federal and state governments more democratic and responsive. It has approximately one million members nationwide, including members in every congressional

district. Across 22 state offices and the national headquarters in the District of Columbia, Common Cause helps eligible Americans register, vote, and helps their eligible neighbors do the same. Common Cause has litigated cases to protect the rights of voters in Ohio in previous disputes over voter registration efforts and the counting of provisional ballots. *See, e.g.*, *Project Vote v. Blackwell*, 455 F.Supp.2d 694 (N.D. Ohio 2006) (litigating as plaintiff); Brief for League of Women Voters of Ohio and Common Cause Ohio as Amici Curiae Supporting Plaintiff-Appellees, *SEIU, Local 1 v. Husted*, 696 F.3d 580 (6th Cir. 2012) (Nos. 12-4069, 12-4070, 12-4079), 2012 WL 4471938. Common Cause is currently challenging the United States Department of Justice's collection and consolidation of Ohio voters' confidential voter data. *See Common Cause v. U.S. Dep't of Just.*, --- F.Supp.3d. ---, No. 26-cv-1352, 2026 WL 3033772 (D.D.C. Oct 9, 2026), *appeal docketed*, No. 26-5362 (D.C. Cir. Oct. 19, 2026).

Common Cause has a direct interest in the outcome of this litigation. Common Cause has over 34,000 members in Ohio, with multiple members residing in each of the state's 88 counties. As part of the Ohio Voter Rights Coalition, Common Cause trained 1,100 nonpartisan Poll Monitors who assisted voters in 33 counties across Ohio on Election Day. During the 2026 Election Protection program, Common Cause staff relied on the Ohio Secretary of State's directives and urged voters who were registered to vote but moved to vote early at the Board of Election or at their new polling location on Election Day. The Taft Letter's directive threatens to disenfranchise these and thousands of other Ohio voters, including Common Cause members.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

INTRODUCTION

On November 16, 2026, counsel for Relator Edward L. Schimmel submitted a letter to Lucas County Board of Elections urging the Board to invalidate an entire category of provisional ballots cast by registered Ohio voters. Later that day, he filed this action seeking a writ of mandamus requiring election officials not to count those same provisional ballots. This Court should reject Relator's request.

First, his demand violates the fundamental right to vote under the United States Constitution. "The right to vote is a fundamental right, preservative of all rights." *League of Women Voters v. Brunner,* 548 F.3d 463, 476 (6th Cir. 2008) (quote omitted). For that reason, "any alleged infringement of the right of citizens to vote must be carefully and meticulously scrutinized." *Warf v. Board of Elections of Green Cnty., Ky.*, 619 F.3d 553, 559 (6th Cir. 2010) (quoting *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 562 (1964)). Notably, Relator does not dispute that the votes he seeks to invalidate come from qualified Ohio voters. Invalidating hundreds of lawful voters' ballots *after* they have been cast is an exceptional burden on the fundamental right to vote. "Obviously" included within the fundamental right to vote "is the right of qualified voters within a state to cast their ballots and have them counted." *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299, 315 (1941).

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Relator's request also runs afoul of the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. In Ohio, "state actors (poll workers), are given the ultimate responsibility of directing voters to the right location to vote." *Hunter v. Hamilton Cnty. Bd. of Elec.*, 635 F.3d 219, 243 (6th Cir. 2011). Regardless of how this Court views the statutory question Schimmel raises, "[t]o disenfranchise citizens whose only error was relying on poll-worker instructions" is "fundamentally unfair." *Id.* (citing *Purcell v. Gonzalez*, 549 U.S. 1, 4 (2006)). That applies with even greater force here, where

Relator seeks judicial intervention to invalidate the rules poll workers followed on election day two weeks *after* the election.

These constitutional issues, in addition to the severe burden Relator must bear to obtain mandamus relief, all direct this Court to deny the request for relief.

BACKGROUND

By November 3, 2026, millions of registered Ohio voters had cast ballots in the general election. Among them were voters in Ohio's Forty-Fourth House District in Ohio's Northwest corridor around Toledo and Perrysburg. The district stretches across three counties: Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa. A majority of the District's population resides in Lucas County.

The Lucas County Board of Elections—like board of elections offices across the state—takes direction from Ohio's Secretary of State on how to administer elections. The Secretary shares guidance with Ohio's local election boards through Directive 2026-31. Included in that guidance are instructions for poll workers about when voters can cast provisional ballots. Specifically, Directive 2026-31 provides: "Certain voters can cast a provisional ballot […] at their polling place on Election Day, including […] Voters who have moved outside of their county (but still in Ohio) and didn't update their address by the deadline."[1] That is consistent with longstanding practice and the clear language voters attest to on a Provisional Ballot Affirmation.[2] By explicit statutory mandate, Boards of Elections cannot simply disregard this directive. *See* R.C. 3501.11(P).

Relator contends that Directive 2026-35 is invalid under his own interpretation of the governing statutory scheme, and that Directive 2026-31 might contradict it. But critically, he does

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

[1] Ohio Secretary of State, Directive 2026-35, at 8-301–8-302, *available at* https://www.ohiosos.gov/assets/dir2026-35-eom-chapter-8.pdf.

[2] *See* Exhibit 3 at p. 19 (Wood County POE training) (including a copy of Form 12-B, a Provisional Ballot Affirmation, signed by individuals casting a provisional ballot who required a change of address to vote at their polling location).

not dispute that Directive 2026-35 was in place and binding on precinct election officials throughout the 2026 election.[3]

ARGUMENT

Relator's requested relief would violate the United States Constitution twofold. First, it would impose a severe burden on the fundamental right to vote. Second, the relief would violate voters' rights to due process guaranteed under the Fourteenth Amendment. Both issues counsel for denying Relator's request for an extraordinary writ.

I. The Requested Relief Would Impose an Unconstitutional Burden on the Fundamental Right to Vote

Relator's request imposes a severe burden on the fundamental right to vote, in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. "[A]ny alleged infringement of the right of citizens to vote must be carefully and meticulously scrutinized," *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 562 (1964), as is appropriate for this "fundamental political right … preservative of all rights." *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356, 370 (1886). Burdens on the fundamental right to vote are evaluated under the *Anderson-Burdick* framework, which requires courts to weigh "the character and magnitude of the asserted injury to the rights protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments that the plaintiff seeks to vindicate" against "the precise interests put forward by the State as justifications for the burden imposed by its rule," taking into consideration "the extent to which those interests make it necessary to burden the plaintiffs' rights." *Ne. Ohio Coal. For Homeless [NEOCH] v. Husted*, 696 F.3d 580, 592–93 (6th Cir. 2012) (quoting *Burdick v. Takushi*, 504 U.S. 428, 434 (1992)). The scrutiny applied to a state's asserted justifications will "wax and wane with the severity of the burden imposed." *Fish v. Schwab*, 957 F.3d 1105, 1124 (10th Cir.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

[3] Directives 2026-28 through 2026-43 were issued on August 4, 2026. *See* Directive 2026-27, available at https://www.ohiosos.gov/assets/dir2026-27-updated-election-official-manual.pdf

2020). *Burdick*, 504 U.S. at 434; *Fish*, 957 F.3d at 1124; *see also NEOCH*, 696 F.3d at 592 ("[S]trict scrutiny applies when a state's restriction imposes 'severe' burdens." (citation omitted)). "And even when a law imposes only a slight burden on the right to vote, relevant and legitimate interest of sufficient weight still must justify the burden." *Democratic Exec. Comm. Of Fla. v. Lee*, 915 F.3d 1312, 1318–19 (11th Cir. 2019).

The burden on voters here is severe. Relator asks the Court to prohibit the Board of Elections from counting ballots cast on Election Day with no opportunity for voters to cure their ballots. The inevitable result—indeed, the *intended* result—is disenfranchisement. But under these circumstances (where voters followed poll-worker guidance), that disenfranchisement is especially intolerable. As the Sixth Circuit has noted, it may be presumed that voters who cast a provisional ballot in the wrong place were led to do so by a poll worker's error:

> As a matter of law, if a person casts a provisional ballot in the wrong precinct, it is *always* going to be due to poll-worker error unless the poll worker has instructed the individual where the correct polling location is and that individual "refuses to travel to the polling place for the correct [precinct] or to the office of the board of elections to cast a ballot." Such an act would be an irrational and futile exercise by the voter, because, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 3505.181(C)(1), the poll worker must first inform him that if he insists on voting in the wrong precinct, his ballot will not be counted.

NEOCH, 696 F.3d at 594 (citing district court opinion and finding "no clear error" in its conclusions). That presumption is only bolstered where poll workers had express instructions from the state's chief elections official to direct voters to the "wrong" voting location. Put another way: even assuming *arguendo* that the Secretary's Directive rested on a technical misreading of Ohio law, voters who cast provisional ballots in reliance on that Directive could have only done so because of poll worker "error." *Id. NEOCH* is squarely on point. As in *NEOCH*, the measures Relator seeks here—invalidation of numerous otherwise-valid provisional ballots cast by

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

registered Ohio voters, with no opportunity to cure—impose a severe burden. *See Hunter v. Hamilton Cnty. Bd. of Elec.*, 635 F.3d 219, 238 (6th Cir. 2011).

Against that severe burden, Relator has identified no state interest that would justify this Court's intervention to impose such a burden. He does not assert, much less demonstrate by evidence, that Ohio elections will somehow be rendered more secure or reliable if the Court orders the Boards of Elections to disenfranchise hundreds or thousands of lawfully registered Ohio voters. "This discriminatory disenfranchisement w[ould] app[ly] to voters who may bear no responsibility for the rejection of their ballots." *Id.* Relator instead advances an entirely formalistic position: that the impacted provisional ballots should be invalidated based on a contested issue of state law. He identifies no authority adopting that position under circumstances like those presented here—weeks after an election, when the Secretary of State had already adopted a more voter-friendly instruction for poll workers, and when resolving the still-contested issue of state law at this time in Relator's favor would cancel hundreds or thousands of ballots already cast. The burden that Relator's position imposes, put simply, cannot suffice under the *Anderson-Burdick* framework.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

II. The Requested Relief Violates Voters Right to Due Process under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution

Even beyond *Anderson-Burdick* and the fundamental right to vote, "[t]o disenfranchise citizens whose only error was relying on poll-worker instructions [is] fundamentally unfair[,]" and thus would run afoul of the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. *Hunter,* 635 F.3d at 243–44.

Due process is implicated when a process "fails on its face to afford fundamental fairness." *Warf v. Board of Elections of Green Cnty., Ky.*, 619 F.3d 553, 559 (6th Cir. 2010) (quoting *Griffin v. Burns,* 570 F.2d 1065, 1078 (1st Cir. 1978)). Relevant here, courts recognize that fundamental fairness is particularly implicated where the means of disenfranchisement "significantly departs

from previous state election practice[.]" *Warf*, 619 F.3d at 559. In *Warf,* the Sixth Circuit noted examples of such a significant departure, including failing to exclude contested absentee ballots post-election as the state had previously done, and "where [a] state court disrupted [a] seven-year practice of voting by absentee and shut-in ballot." *Id.* (citing *Roe v. Alabama*, 43 F.3d 574, 580–81 (11th Cir.1995); *Griffin v. Burns*, 570 F.2d at 1079); s*ee also George v. Hargett*, 879 F.3d 711, 726–27 (6th Cir. 2018) (finding a state's election process not to be "fundamentally unfair" when there was no evidence of any irregularities and, such that the state's established practice was "consistent with the interpretation that had been published to the citizenry through the media *prior* to the election").

The request here from Relator would result in just such a post-election departure of previously established, consistent state practice. It has been the longstanding practice of election officials throughout Ohio to count provisional ballots cast by eligible registered voters at their polling place after moving from one Ohio county to another, having not yet updated their voter registration address. For example, the Chairman of the Summit County Board of Elections, who has served in that role since 2016, attests that this has been the practice in Summit County for as long as he has served on the Board. *See* Affidavit of William D. Rich, ¶¶ 1, 6. To the best of his considerable knowledge and experience, this has also been the practice statewide. *Id.* at ¶ 6.[4]

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

The language in Directive 2026-35, published by the Secretary of State three months prior to the election, serves as an official interpretation of Ohio's election process and reflects this longstanding practice. County election officials were bound by it, and poll workers were trained to follow it. *See* Rich Aff. ¶ 7; R.C. 3501.11(P). The competing interpretation of the Revised Code

[4] *See also, e.g.,* Exhibits 1, 2 (not segregating provisional ballots cast on behalf of registered Ohio voters who moved to a new Ohio county but had not yet updated their voter registration address).

that Relator now seeks to advance appears to have been publicized to no one, and used by no one. Indeed, election officials followed the Secretary's guidance to accept provisional ballots from this category of registered voters at polling places.[5] The relief Relator seeks would amount to a clear departure from the State's official guidance as communicated to the public and election officials and longstanding state process weeks after the election, when voters no longer have any recourse to avoid disenfranchisement. This would clearly be an exceptional case of fundamental unfairness and violate constitutional due process.

To retroactively apply Relator's novel interpretation of the governing statutory scheme thus "effectively requires voters to have a greater knowledge of their precinct, precinct ballot, and polling place than poll workers[.]" *NEOCH v. Husted*, 696 F.3d 580, 595 (6th Cir. 2012). Voters are not expected to have such "omniscience." *Id.* On the contrary, "Ohio has created a system in which state actors (poll workers) are given the ultimate responsibility of directing voters to the right location to vote." *Hunter*, 635 F.3d at 243.

Due process is also implicated where "state actions … induce voters to miscast their votes." *NEOCH*, 696 F.3d at 597 (citing *Griffin*, 570 F.2d at 1076). In *Griffin*, the court found a due process violation because the state's post-election invalidation of absentee ballots rejected ballots voters cast in reliance on the state's directives. *Id.* at 1078–79. Relator's proposed course of action would do just that: disenfranchise citizens who followed the instructions of the state's chief elections official, as relayed through poll workers. That is exactly the fundamental unfairness that amounts to a due process violation.[6]

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

[5] *See, e.g.,* Exhibit 3 (Wood County POE training) at 11, 19 (directing such individuals to cast a provisional ballot unless they were at their incorrect polling location).

[6] It is also worth noting that even Relator does not dispute that registered Ohio voters who have moved to a new county and not updated their registration have the ability to cast a provisional ballot that will be counted. He disputes only the *location* at which such ballots may be cast. To

III. Relator Has Shown No Clear Legal Right to the Extreme Relief of Disrupting an Election After the Fact

Lastly, this Court at a minimum should not interfere with the status quo. The ballot-counting stage "is hardly the time to fuel distrust in the integrity of the election process." *Ohio Democratic Party v. LaRose*, 2020-Ohio-4664, ¶ 82. But that is exactly what would happen here. Relator has not shown a "clear legal right" to judicial relief that would justify mandamus relief at all—much less changing how ballots are counted, weeks after the election, and upending the Secretary of State's guidance that was in place when the election took place. *See State ex rel. Heffelfinger v. Brunner*, 2007-Ohio-5838, ¶ 13.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Relator Edward Schimmel's petition for a writ of mandamus should be denied.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

preserve the longstanding practice of counting provisional ballots cast by these voters at precincts thus would not result in the counting of any ballots cast by ineligible voters. Put another way, Relator's requested relief in no way advances any state interest in election integrity—rather, he is seeking to invalidate lawful voters' ballots on the grounds of a logistical demand.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *David J. Carey*

David J. Carey (0088787)
Counsel of Record
Carlen Zhang-D'Souza (0093079)*
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
1108 City Park Avenue, Suite 203
Columbus, Ohio 43206
(380) 215-1972
dcarey@acluohio.org
czhangdsouza@acluohio.org

Dayton Campbell-Harris*+
Juan Ruiz Toro*
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION
125 Broad St.
New York, NY 10004
(212) 549-2500
dcampbell-harris@aclu.org
jruiztoro@aclu.org

Freda J. Levenson (0045916)
Amy Gilbert (0100887)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
(216) 541-1376 (Levenson)
(216) 770-6704 (Gilbert)
flevenson@acluohio.org
agilbert@acluohio.org

Counsel for Amici Curiae

* *pro hac vice* forthcoming
\+ practice limited to federal court

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on November 18, 2026, I filed the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system, and also served copies of this brief by e-mail as follows:

W. Stuart Dornette
Philip D. Williamson
Dominic Bayer
TAFT STETTINIUS & HOLLISTER LLP
dornette@taftlaw.com
pwilliamson@taftlaw.com
dbayer@taftlaw.com

Counsel for Relator

Julia R. Bates
LUCAS COUNTY PROSECUTOR
jbates@co.lucas.oh.us

Counsel for Respondents

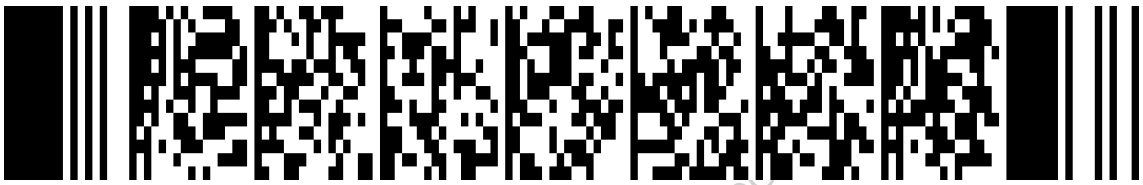
RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

/s David J. Carey
David J. Carey (088787)

snapdocs

Digitally Certified Document

Full name	Theresa Michelle Sabo
Commission ID	2016-RE-619622
Country	US
State	OH
County	Franklin











RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCS

As part of Snapdocs' Digital Certification program, the identity of the notary listed above was verified and validated. The various validations included knowledge-based authentication, identity verification, and more. This certification was done based on the Snapdocs digital certification PKI standard (v1). To confirm the validity of this document contact the Snapdocs Compliance team via support@snapdocs.com.

Snapdocs eNotary (RON) Package ID: rqCt1kVcKXuSx37nVxU8-

In the Supreme Court of Ohio

State of Ohio ex rel. Schimmel,	)	
	)	
Relator	)	
	)	Case No. 2026-1574
	)	
v.	)	Original Action in Mandamus
	)	
Lucas County Board of Elections, et al.,	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	
	)	

AFFIDAVIT OF WILLIAM D. RICH

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

I, William D. Rich, having been duly sworn and cautioned according to law, hereby state that I am over the age of 18 years and am competent to testify as to the facts set forth below based on my personal knowledge:

1. I currently serve as the Chairman of the Summit County Board of Elections in Summit County, Ohio. I have held that position continuously since March of 2016.
2. I also serve as a Trustee of the Ohio Association of Election Officials, which is a bipartisan organization representing Ohio's county Boards of Elections and their staff, with the mission to promote fair, accurate, and reliable elections through the education of its members, to advocate for sound election policies, and to communicate accurate information regarding election administration.
3. I am also a Professor Emeritus at the University of Akron School of Law, where I previously served as an Associate Professor of Law. In that position, I teach a course in election law, which includes substantial content on the law and practices of Ohio election administration.

Snapdocs eNotary (RON) Package ID: rqCt1kVcKXuSx37nVxU8-

4. As a member of the Summit County Board of Elections, I share the responsibility to prepare for and run local, state, and federal elections within Summit County. Among many other responsibilities, the Board supervises the processing of voter registrations and canvasses, certifies, reports, and audits election results. The Board is also responsible for issuing, securing, verifying, and either counting or rejecting every provisional ballot cast in an election.
5. I am very well familiar with Ohio election procedures and practices, in Summit County and statewide.
6. For at least as long as I have served as a member of the Summit County Board of Elections, it has been the practice—in Summit County and, to the best of my knowledge and experience, statewide—that when a registered Ohio voter moves from one Ohio county to another and does not update their voter registration address, they may cast a provisional ballot at their polling place on Election Day. If otherwise valid, that provisional ballot would then be counted.
7. It has never been the practice, in Summit County or elsewhere, to require voters to travel to the Board of Elections headquarters in order to vote under these circumstances.
8. Poll workers are trained accordingly.

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Further affiant sayeth naught.

William D. Rich

William D. Rich

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of November, 2026 in Franklin County, Ohio.

Notary Public

NOTARY SEAL STATE OF OHIO

Theresa Michelle Sabo
Online Notary Public
Ohio
Franklin
Commission #: 2016-RE-619622
Commission Expires: 2026-11-28

Notarized online using audio-video communication

Exhibit 1

Licking County Provisional Ballot Report, November 2026 General

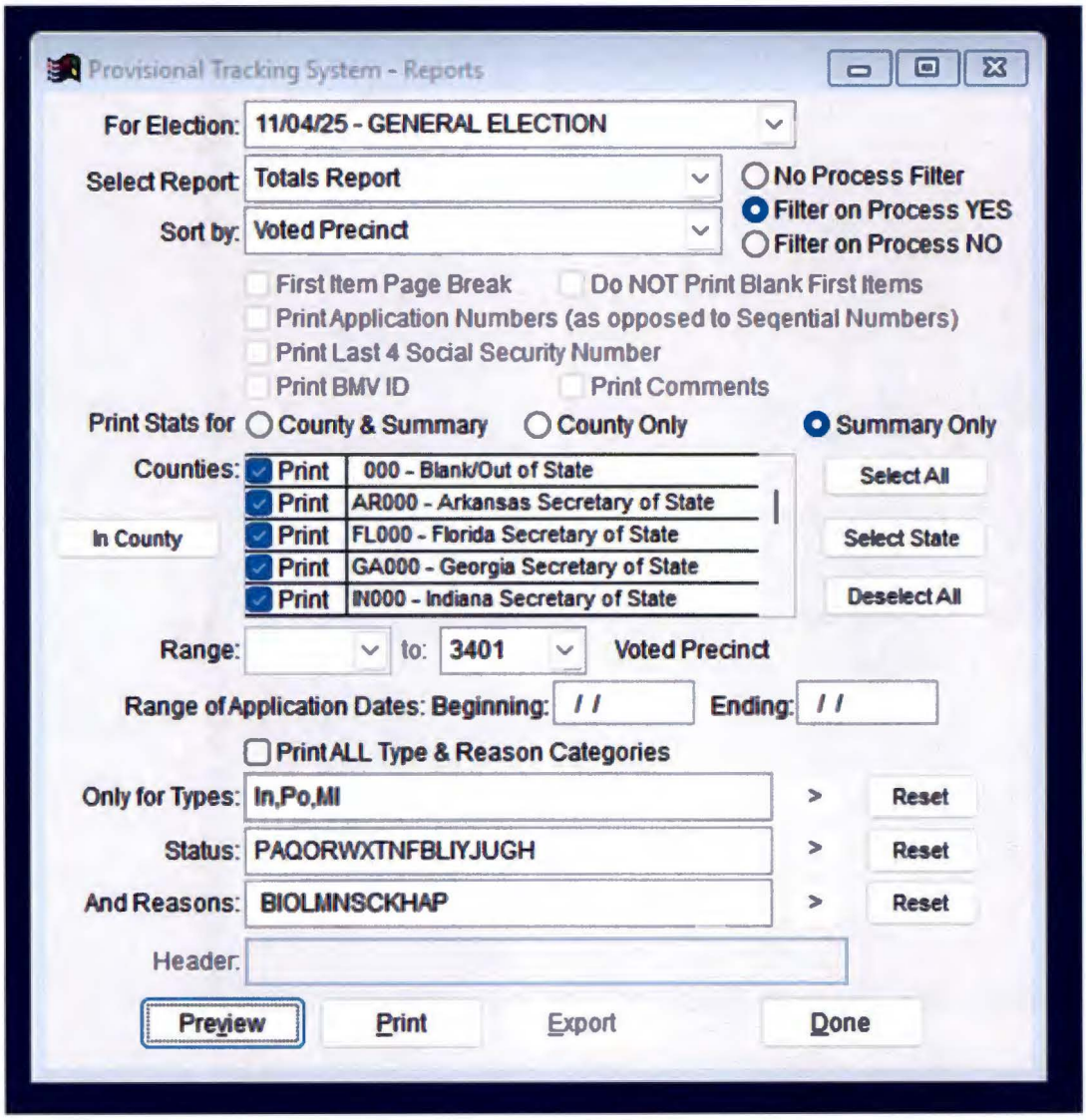
RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Codes:
P: Pending Review
O: Rejected – No Form 12-o For Religious Objection
X: Rejected - Correct Poll/wrong Prec (complete 12-d)
F: Rejected - Failed To Print Full Name On Envelope
I: Rejected - Non-matching Signature On Envelope
U: Rejected - Challenge To Voter Upheld

Reported Status: PAQORWXTNFBLIYJUGH
A: Accept Full Ballot
R: Rejected - Not Registered In State
T: Rejected - Religious Obj Invalid (has Photo Id)
B: Rejected - Failed To Provide The Current Address
Y: Rejected - Ballot Missing From Envelope
G: Rejected - Missing Or Incorrect Date Of Birth

Q: Accept Partial Ballot – Correct Poll/wrong Precint
W: Rejected - Wrong Precinct And Wrong Poll
N: Rejected - Failed To Sign Envelope
L: Rejected - Failed To Provide Id
J: Rejected - Voter Already Voted
H: Rejected - Failed to cure BMV/SSA mismatch
+: Line Totals

Type	Reason	P	A	Q	O	R	W	X	T	N	F	B	L	I	Y	J	U	G	H	+
In Office																				
	B: Name Not In Pollbook Or Voter List	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
	I: No Id/unable To Provide Proper Or Valid Id	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	M: Voter Moved	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
In Office	Total	0	40	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	45
Polling Place																				
	A: Absentee Ballot Issued	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	B: Name Not In Pollbook Or Voter List	0	15	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
	I: No Id/unable To Provide Proper Or Valid Id	0	7	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
	M: Voter Moved	0	87	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91
	N: Name Changed, No Form 10-l Completed	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Polling Place	Total	0	123	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	171
	Summary	0	163	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	216


Provisional Tracking System - Reports
For Election: 11/04/25 - GENERAL ELECTION
Select Report: Totals Report
Sort by: Voted Precinct
No Process Filter
Filter on Process YES
Filter on Process NO
First Item Page Break
Do NOT Print Blank First Items
Print Application Numbers (as opposed to Seqential Numbers)
Print Last 4 Social Security Number
Print BMV ID
Print Comments
Print Stats for County & Summary
County Only
Summary Only
Counties:
Print 000 - Blank/Out of State
Print AR000 - Arkansas Secretary of State
Print FL000 - Florida Secretary of State
Print GA000 - Georgia Secretary of State
Print IN000 - Indiana Secretary of State
Select All
In County
Select State
Deselect All
Range:
to: 3401
Voted Precinct
Range of Application Dates: Beginning: / /
Ending: / /
Print ALL Type & Reason Categories
Only for Types: In,Po,MI
Reset
Status: PAQORWXTNFBLIYJUGH
Reset
And Reasons: BIOLMNSCKHAP
Reset
Header:
Preview
Print
Export
Done

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

Absentee and Provisional Workbook Instructions

There are tabs at the bottom of this Excel workbook called sheets. There are five sheets in tota including these instructions. Once you have reviewed these instructions and are ready to continue, select a sheet below.



- In this workbook, you will see cells colored light gray, blue, and green.
- Light gray – calculated cell; no data may be entered.
- Blue – manual entry cell; place your data here.
- Green – calculated data check. Green indicates good, red indicates bad.

Data
37
7
34
Yes

It is possible that there will be an explainable discrepancy between the data reported in this workbook. Each sheet has a designated space provided to explain any discrepancy.

Once you finish this entire workbook, save it and email it to the Secretary of State at Results@OhioSoS.gov.

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

UOCAVA Ballot Report

Applications Received	
Report Category	**Data**
UOCAVA and FPCA Valid	27
UOCAVA and FPCA Invalid	12
Invalid Subtotal - Received After The Application Deadline	0

Ballots Sent	
Report Category	**Data**
UOCAVA Sent by Mail	4
UOCAVA Sent by Email	23
UOCAVA Sent by Fax	0
UOCAVA Voted In Office	0
Total UOCAVA Ballots Sent	27
Data Check - Do Valid Applications = Ballots Sent?	Yes

Ballots Returned	
Report Category	**Data**
UOCAVA Returned by Dropbox	0
UOCAVA Returned by Personal Delivery	0
UOCAVA Returned by Mail	15
UOCAVA Returned as Undeliverable	0
UOCAVA Returned Deceased - Unmarked	0
Total UOCAVA Ballots Returned	15

Cumulative UOCAVA Data	
Report Category	**Data**
UOCAVA Not Returned	12
UOCAVA Returned During 4-Day Post-Election Period	1
Total UOCAVA Ballots Counted	15
Data Check - Are Ballots Counted Less Than or Equal to Ballots Returned?	Yes

Rejected Ballots	
Report Category	**Data**
UOCAVA Rejected - Received Too Late	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Returned Without ID Envelope	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Stub A Detached	0
UOCAVA Rejected - No Voter Signature	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Non-Matching Signature	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Non-Matching Name	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Voter ID Information Missing	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Multiple Ballots Returned In One Envelope	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Voter Registration Cancelled or Merged Prior to Date Ballot Cast	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Voter Deceased Prior to Date Marked Ballot was Cast	0
UOCAVA Rejected - First Time Voter Without Proper ID	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Non First Time Voter Without Proper ID	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Any Other Reason	0
UOCAVA Rejected - Total	0

Discrepancy Explanation

Enter discrepancy explanation text here...

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

Absentee Ballot Report

Ballots Sent	
Report Category	**Data**
ABS Ballots - Cast In-Person	5200
ABS Ballots - Cast In-Person Abandoned Ballot	3
ABS Ballots - All Other Sent Methods	2885
ABS Ballots - Nursing Home Refused	24
Total ABS Ballots Sent	8085

Ballots Returned	
Report Category	**Data**
ABS Returned - by Dropbox	275
ABS Returned - by Personal Delivery	460
ABS Returned - by Mail	1979
ABS Returned - Undeliverable	0
ABS Returned - Deceased - Unmarked	0
ABS Returned - Cast In Person	5200
Total ABS Ballots Returned or Cast	7914

Cumulative ABS Data	
Report Category	**Data**
ABS Not Returned	171
ABS Returned During 4-Day Post-Election Period	82
ABS Counted Except for In-Person	2676
Total ABS Counted	7876
Data Check - Are Ballots Counted Less Than or Equal to Ballots Returned?	Yes

Rejected Ballots	
Report Category	**Data**
ABS Rejected - Late - No Postmark	1
ABS Rejected - Late - Postmark on or after Election Day	28
ABS Rejected - Late - Postmark on time, received after 4-Day Post-Election Period	1
ABS Rejected - Missing ID Envelope	1
ABS Rejected - Stub A Detached	0
ABS Rejected - No Voter Signature	3
ABS Rejected - Non-Matching Signature	0
ABS Rejected - Non-Matching Name	0
ABS Rejected - ID Envelope Missing Required Information	1
ABS Rejected - Multiple Ballots Returned In One Envelope	0
ABS Rejected - Voter Reg Cancelled or Merged Prior to Ballot Cast Date	0
ABS Rejected - Voter Deceased Prior to Ballot Cast Date	0
ABS Rejected - First Time Voter Without Proper ID	0
ABS Rejected - Non First Time Voter Without Proper ID	0
ABS Rejected - Any Other Reason	0
ABS Rejected - Total	35

Discrepancy Explanation

Enter discrepancy explanation text here...

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

Provisional Ballot Report

Ballots Cast and Counted	
Report Category	**Data**
Provisional Cast - Total	216
Provisional Counted - Full Ballot	163
Provisional Counted - Partial Ballot	0
Provisional Counted - Valid Form 12-O Affidavit of Religious Objection	0
Provisional Ballots Counted - Total	163

Rejected Ballots	
Report Category	**Data**
Provisional Rejected - Not Registered in State	26
Provisional Rejected - Wrong Precinct Wrong Polling Location	0
Provisional Rejected - Wrong Precinct Right Polling Location	0
Provisional Rejected - Invalid Form 12-O Affidavit of Religious Objection	0
Provisional Rejected - No Signature	0
Provisional Rejected - Full Name Missing	0
Provisional Rejected - No Current Address Provided	0
Provisional Rejected - No ID Provided	27
Provisional Rejected - Non-Matching Signature	0
Provisional Rejected - Ballot Missing From Envelope	0
Provisional Rejected - Voter Cast Another Ballot	0
Provisional Rejected - Challenge to Voter's Eligibility or Registration Upheld	0
Provisional Rejected - Missing or Incorrect Date of Birth	0
Provisional Rejected - Any Other Reason	0
Provisional Rejected - Total	53
Data Check - Do [Ballots Counted] Plus [Ballots Rejected] Equal [Provisional Cast]?	Yes

Discrepancy Explanation

Enter discrepancy explanation text here...

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

Cumulative Totals Report

Cumulative Totals By Category	
Report Category	**Data**
Absentee Cast per Workbook	7929
Absentee Counted per Workbook	7891
Absentee Counted Per EMS	7891
Absentee In-Office Abandoned Ballot	3
Provisional Cast	216
Provisional Counted per Workbook	163
Provisional Counted per EMS	163
Election Day Counted per Workbook	28626
Election Day Counted per EMS	28626
Total Ballots Counted per Workbook	36680
Total Ballots Counted Per EMS	36680
Difference Between EMS and This Workbook	0
Absentee Voters Receiving Voter History	7891
Provisional Voters Receiving Voter History	163
Election Day Voters Receiving Voter History	28626

Discrepancy Explanation

Exhibit 2

Franklin County Provisional Ballot Report, May 2026 Primary

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Franklin County
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
VOTE
Service. Accuracy. Security.

1700 Morse Rd
Columbus, Ohio 43229

http://Vote.FranklinCountyOhio.gov
(614) 525-3100
(614) 782-1773 FAX

BOARD MEMBERS: Douglas J. Preisse, Chairman ★ Meredith Freedhoff ★ Michael E. Sexton ★ Jamie Shumaker

Antone White, **DIRECTOR** David R. Payne, **DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

EXHIBIT A (Amended)	
May 5, 2026 Primary Election Provisional Totals Recommended for Board Approval and Rejection	
GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED TO ACCEPT	**1489**
REASONS FOR REJECTION	
Not Registered in the State	126
Wrong Precinct and Location	13
No Signature	12
Failed to Provide Valid Current Address	8
Missing or Mismatched ID	89
Voter Already Voted	5
DOB Missing	4
GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED TO REJECT	**257**
GRAND TOTAL ALL PROVISIONALS CAST	**1746**

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

Provisional Ballot Report

Ballots Cast and Counted	
Report Category	**Data**
Provisional Cast - Total	1746
Provisional Counted - Full Ballot	1473
Provisional Counted - Partial Ballot	16
Provisional Counted - Valid Form 12-O Affidavit of Religious Objection	0
Provisional Ballots Counted - Total	1489

Rejected Ballots	
Report Category	**Data**
Provisional Rejected - Not Registered in State	126
Provisional Rejected - Wrong Precinct Wrong Polling Location	13
Provisional Rejected - Wrong Precinct Right Polling Location	0
Provisional Rejected - Invalid Form 12-O Affidavit of Religious Objection	0
Provisional Rejected - No Signature	12
Provisional Rejected - Full Name Missing	0
Provisional Rejected - No Current Address Provided	8
Provisional Rejected - No ID Provided	89
Provisional Rejected - Non-Matching Signature	0
Provisional Rejected - Ballot Missing from Envelope	0
Provisional Rejected - Voter Cast Another Ballot	5
Provisional Rejected - Challenge to Voter's Eligibility or Registration Upheld	0
Provisional Rejected - Missing or Incorrect Date of Birth	4
Provisional Rejected - Voter did not provide information needed to cure BMV/SSA mismatch under SB293	0
Provisional Rejected - Any Other Reason	0
Provisional Rejected - Total	257
Data Check - Do [Ballots Counted] Plus [Ballots Rejected] Equal [Provisional Cast]?	Yes

FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

Discrepancy Explanation

Enter discrepancy explanation text here...

Exhibit 3

Wood County PEO Training Slide Deck, May 2026 Primary

RETRIEVED FROM DEMOCRACYDOCKET.COM

HOUSEKEEPING

Please let us know if you have moved – you will need to fill out another W-9

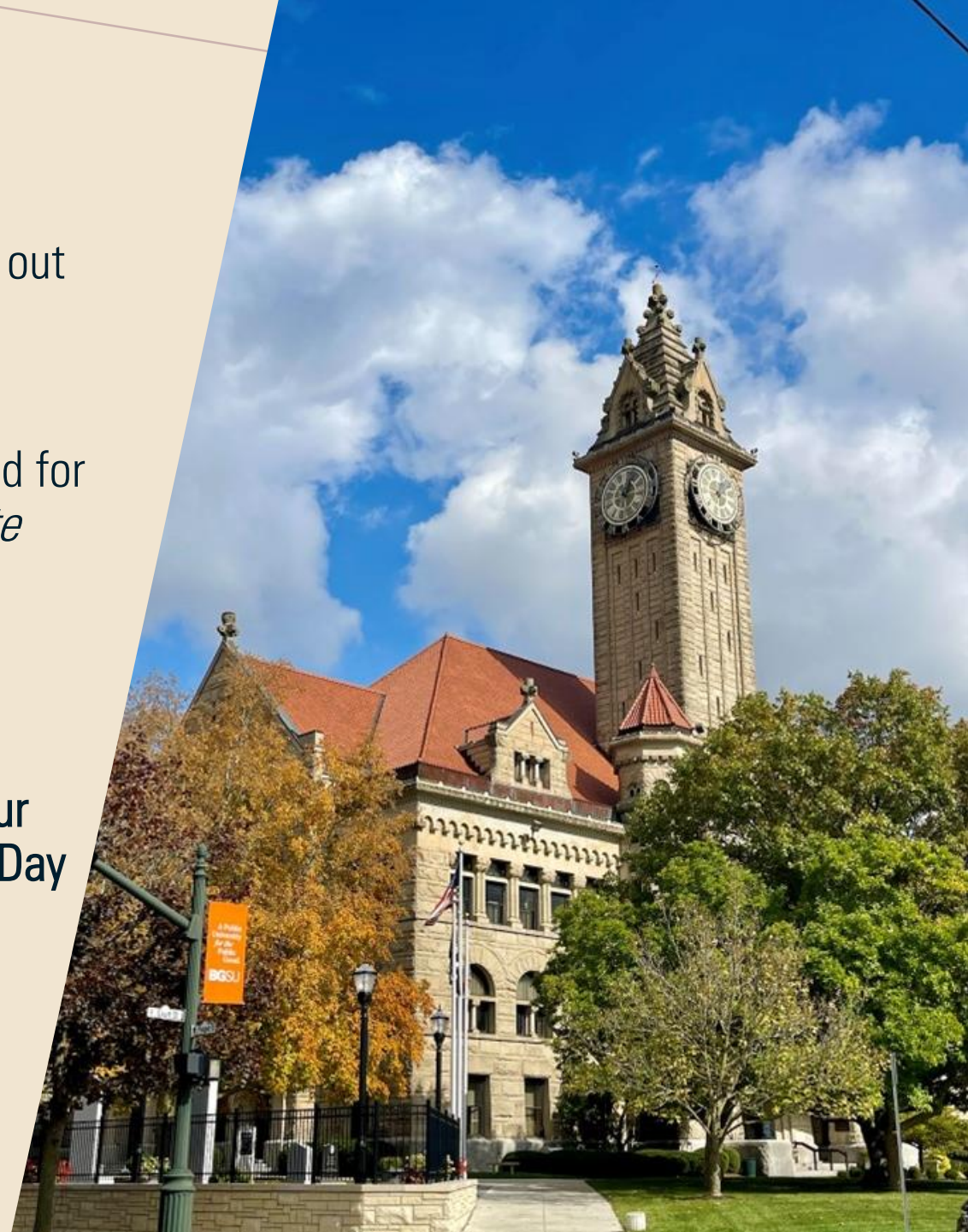
All *new* workers need to fill out a W-9

If you vote by mail, an Absentee Ballot Application is needed for each election – that means you must complete *two separate applications* for the

1. Primary Election
2. General Election

**** Postmark doesn't matter anymore – ballots must be in our office or drop box by the polls close at 7:30 PM on Election Day**

New poll worker system coming soon!





PEO TRAINING

Tracey Pritts	tpritts@woodcountyohio.gov	354-9368
Colby Buzzell	cbuzzell@woodcountyohio.gov	354-9124

PREPARING FOR ELECTION DAY

- Let us know if your manager has not reached out by the weekend before the election
  - Monday night setup is not required but encouraged!
- Please fill out a W-9 if you are new **or have moved since you last worked**
- Don’t forget to vote!



BASICS

TAKEN STRAIGHT FROM YOUR CONDENSED MANUAL

Election Day Quick Reference

Polling Hours

The polls are open for voting between the hours of **6:30 am and 7:30 pm** unless directed otherwise. PEOs are expected to be at the location at **5:30 am**. All PEOs will stay until the polls are closed, reports are run, and supplies are packed – approx. 8:30pm.



Parking

The parking spaces nearest to the entrance should be kept free for voters. PEOs should park farther out in the parking lot, if possible.



Breaks

Each worker will be given a lunch break during non-peak times on Election Day. In addition to the lunch break, each worker will be given a minimum of 2 shorter breaks when the location is not busy. VLMs and DVLMs are responsible for scheduling lunches and other breaks.



Not Allowed

PEOs are not allowed to bring children or pets with them to the location. No smoking is allowed in the location. No food or drink is allowed on any table where a PEO is stationed. **Cell phones, tablets and any other devices that may distract the PEO or the voters are not permitted at the check in tables.** Please make personal calls when you are on a break and away from the voting area.



Politics

No voters or PEOs will have political conversations while at or near the polling location.



Appropriate downtime activities

Books and magazines are fine if they are not controversial or political in nature. When a voter is present, all focus should be on the voter.



Dress Code

PEOs should dress in a clean and professional manner. Attention to personal hygiene and grooming is expected. Dressing in layers is advised.



Emergency Situations

In an emergency, dial 911 immediately, and then call the BOE at **419-354-9120**.



Returning Supplies

All supplies (except voting machines) must be returned to the BOE by a designated team of one Democrat and one Republican who ride together in the same vehicle to the BOE office.



MONDAY NIGHT SETUP

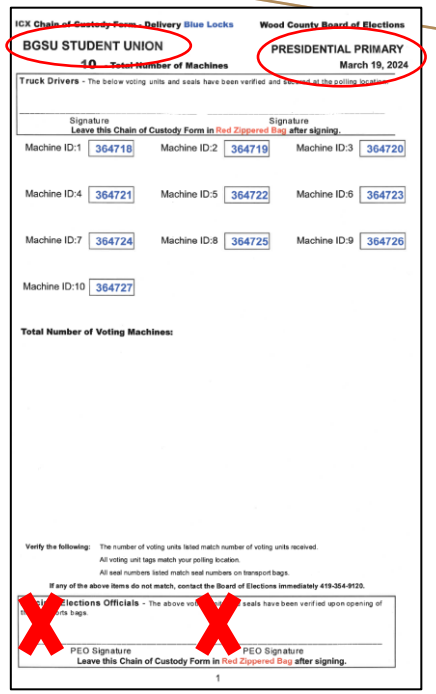
On ICX Machine #1

- ❑ Sign Chain of Custody
  - ❑ Verify location and election at the top
- ❑ Set ICX machines on their legs (leave off)
  - ❑ Plug in ATI controller



ICX MACHINE #1





ICX Chain of ~~Custody Form~~ - Delivery Blue Locks

Wood County Board of Elections

BGSU STUDENT UNION

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

March 19, 2024

10 Total Number of Machines

Truck Drivers - The below voting units and seals have been verified and received at the polling location.

Signature

Signature

Leave this Chain of Custody Form in Red Zippered Bag after signing.

Machine ID:1	364718	Machine ID:2	364719	Machine ID:3	364720
Machine ID:4	364721	Machine ID:5	364722	Machine ID:6	364723
Machine ID:7	364724	Machine ID:8	364725	Machine ID:9	364726
Machine ID:10	364727				

Total Number of Voting Machines:

Verify the following: The number of voting units listed match number of voting units received.

All voting unit tags match your polling location.

All seal numbers listed match seal numbers on transport bags.

If any of the above items do not match, contact the Board of Elections immediately 419-354-9120.

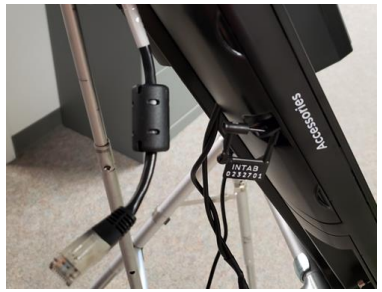
~~Election~~ Officials - The above voting units and seals have been verified upon opening of ~~transport~~ bags.

PEO Signature

PEO Signature

Leave this Chain of Custody Form in Red Zippered Bag after signing.

1







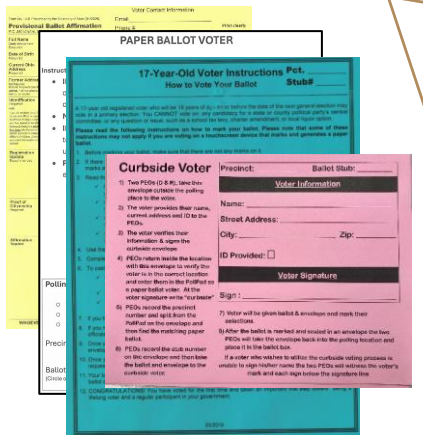
SETTING UP THE LOCATION

MONDAY NIGHT SETUP

- ❑ Check-In Table
  - ❑ Leave Poll Pad cases locked
- ❑ Paper/Provisional Ballot Table
  - ❑ Leave Ballot Box locked
- ❑ Unpack black bag and sort contents
  - ❑ Postings placed on walls
  - ❑ Flag and signs by the door
- ❑ Review morning tasks and find a bipartisan, opposite experience buddy

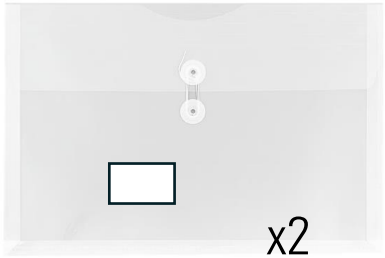


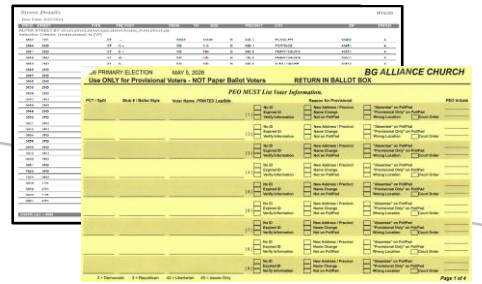


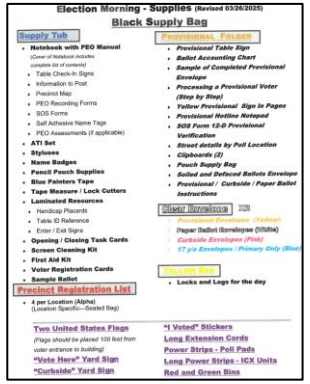


★ **Bipartisan representation at Check-In Table, NOT each Poll Pad**









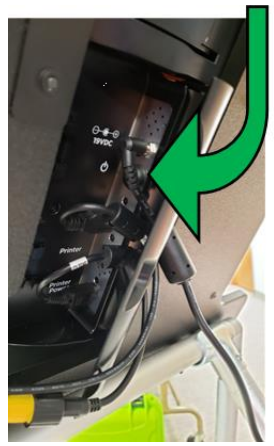


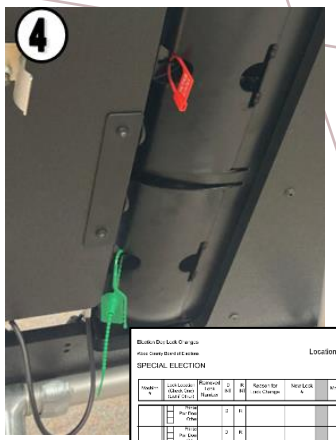
TUES MORNING

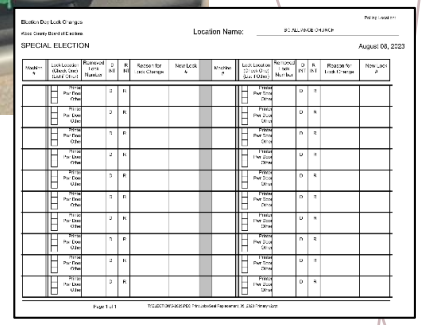
DIVIDE INTO TEAMS











CHECK-IN TABLE TEAM



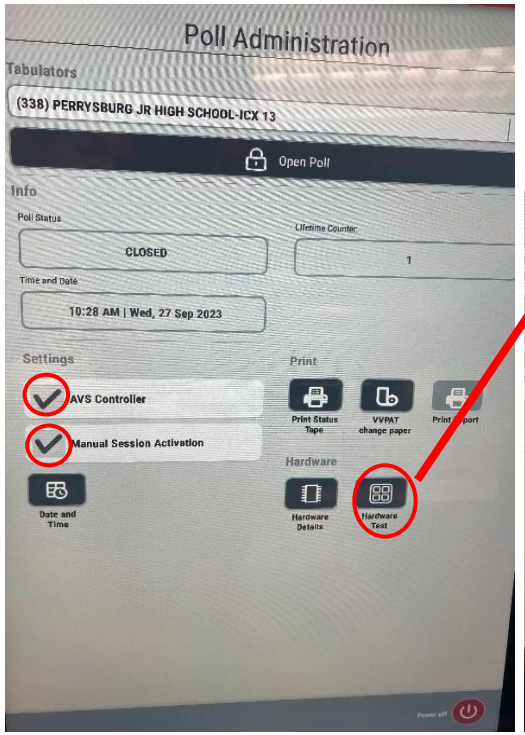
- ❑ Plug in Cradlepoint
- ❑ Set up Poll Pads

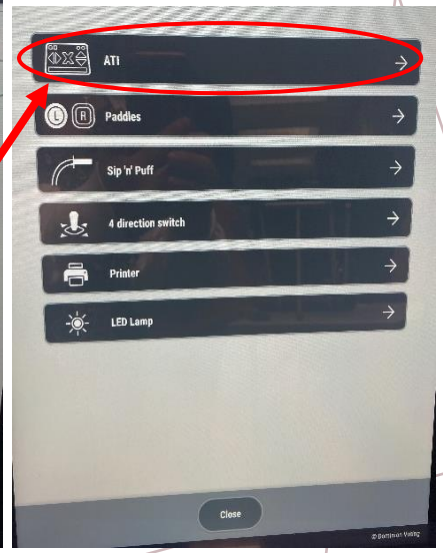




ICX TEAM

- ❑ Turn on ICX Machines
- ❑ Verify info on screens
- ❑ Test ATI controller/headset (on Machine #1)
- ❑ Open the Polls
  - ❑ Sign Zero Report (D&R)
- ❑ Lock the ICX Machines
  - ❑ Record on Lock Log





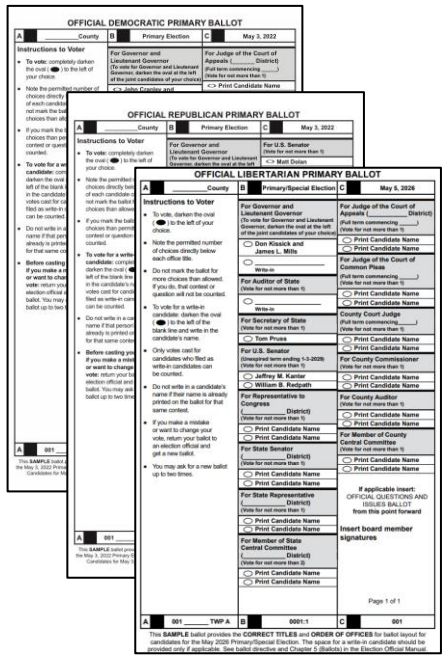
TUES MORNING

DIVIDE INTO TEAMS

PAPER/PROVISIONAL BALLOT TABLE TEAM

- ❑ Sort ballots by
  - ❑ Precinct
  - ❑ Party/Issues Only
- ❑ Lock Ballot Box





OVERALL SETUP TEAM

- ❑ Flags and “vote here” sign outside
- ❑ Ensure everything has a place and is easily accessible



PROCESSING VOTERS



Driver License



State ID



U.S. Passport

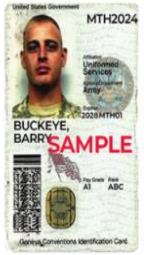


Interim ID

This is the piece of paper the BMV gives folks when they are waiting on their ID in the mail – we do not accept any electronic versions of it.



U.S. Passport Card



U.S. Military ID or Ohio National Guard ID



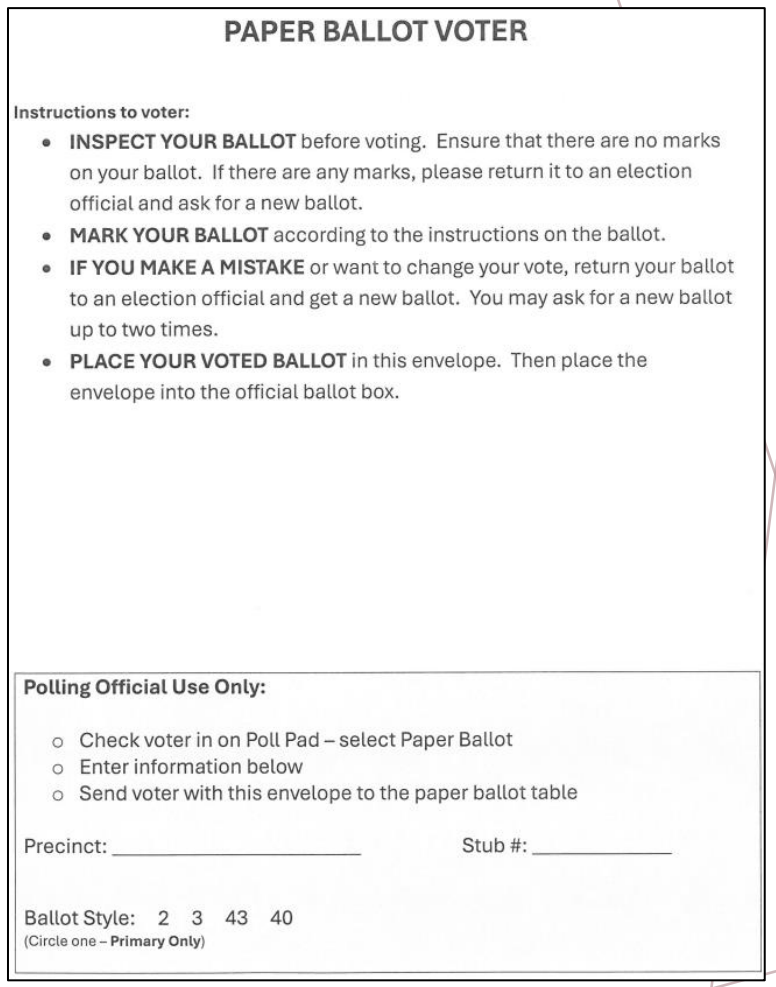
U.S. Military Dependent ID



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID

PROCESSING VOTERS

1. Greet voter kindly
2. Ask for ID and ensure is it unexpired and valid
3. Scan ID OR lookup voter manually
4. Ask the voter's name and address
5. If **what the voter says matches the Poll Pad**, click ACCEPT
6. Either ask or allow voter to select a ballot style (Dem, Rep, Lib, or Issues only *if applicable to their precinct)*
7. Verify voter's information, then click SUBMIT
8. Select TOUCHSCREEN or PAPER
    - If TOUCHSCREEN, encode a card and send voter to ICX machines
    - If PAPER, write voter's precinct and ballot style on paper envelope (pictured to the right)
        - Give envelope to voter and send the voter over to the paper/provisional table



PAPER BALLOT VOTER

Instructions to voter:

- **INSPECT YOUR BALLOT** before voting. Ensure that there are no marks on your ballot. If there are any marks, please return it to an election official and ask for a new ballot.
- **MARK YOUR BALLOT** according to the instructions on the ballot.
- **IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE** or want to change your vote, return your ballot to an election official and get a new ballot. You may ask for a new ballot up to two times.
- **PLACE YOUR VOTED BALLOT** in this envelope. Then place the envelope into the official ballot box.

Polling Official Use Only:

- Check voter in on Poll Pad – select Paper Ballot
- Enter information below
- Send voter with this envelope to the paper ballot table

Precinct: _____ Stub #: _____

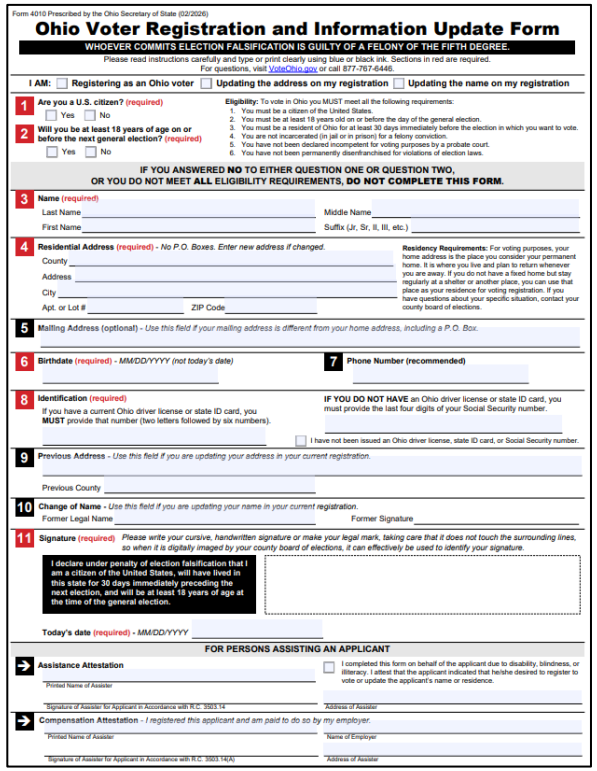
Ballot Style: 2 3 43 40
(Circle one – **Primary Only**)

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Voter Moved – Scenario 1

Voter moves within same precinct and split
(i.e. 390.1 → 390.1)

1. Voter fills out Voter Registration Form
2. Places reg card in Ballot Box
3. Voter votes normally



Form 4010 Prescribed by the Ohio Secretary of State (02/2026)

Ohio Voter Registration and Information Update Form

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

Please read instructions carefully and type or print clearly using blue or black ink. Sections in red are required.
For questions, visit VoteOhio.gov or call 877-767-6446.

I AM: ☐ Registering as an Ohio voter ☐ Updating the address on my registration ☐ Updating the name on my registration

1 Are you a U.S. citizen? (required) ☐ Yes ☐ No

2 Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before the next general election? (required) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Eligibility: To vote in Ohio you MUST meet all the following requirements:
1. You must be a citizen of the United States.
2. You must be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election.
3. You must be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote.
4. You are not incarcerated (in jail or in prison) for a felony conviction.
5. You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court.
6. You have not been permanently disenfranchised for violations of election laws.

IF YOU ANSWERED **NO** TO EITHER QUESTION ONE OR QUESTION TWO,
OR YOU DO NOT MEET **ALL** ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, **DO NOT COMPLETE THIS FORM.**

3 Name (required)
Last Name _____ Middle Name _____
First Name _____ Suffix (Jr, Sr, II, III, etc.) _____

4 Residential Address (required) - *No P.O. Boxes. Enter new address if changed.*
County _____
Address _____
City _____
Apt. or Lot # _____ ZIP Code _____

Residency Requirements: For voting purposes, your home address is the place you consider your permanent home. It is where you live and plan to return whenever you are away. If you do not have a fixed home but stay regularly at a shelter or another place, you can use that place as your residence for voting registration. If you have questions about your specific situation, contact your county board of elections.

5 Mailing Address (optional) - *Use this field if your mailing address is different from your home address, including a P.O. Box.*

6 Birthdate (required) - *MM/DD/YYYY (not today's date)*

7 Phone Number (recommended)

8 Identification (required)
If you have a current Ohio driver license or state ID card, you **MUST** provide that number (two letters followed by six numbers).

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE an Ohio driver license or state ID card, you must provide the last four digits of your Social Security number.

☐ I have not been issued an Ohio driver license, state ID card, or Social Security number.

9 Previous Address - *Use this field if you are updating your address in your current registration.*
Previous County _____

10 Change of Name - *Use this field if you are updating your name in your current registration.*
Former Legal Name _____ Former Signature _____

11 Signature (required) *Please write your cursive, handwritten signature or make your legal mark, taking care that it does not touch the surrounding lines, so when it is digitally imaged by your county board of elections, it can effectively be used to identify your signature.*

I declare under penalty of election falsification that I am a citizen of the United States, will have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding the next election, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election.

Today's date (required) - *MM/DD/YYYY* _____

FOR PERSONS ASSISTING AN APPLICANT

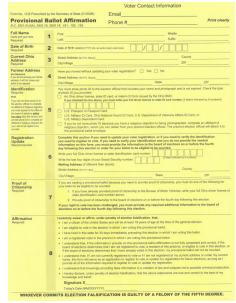
Assistance Attestation ☐ I completed this form on behalf of the applicant due to disability, blindness, or illiteracy. I attest that the applicant indicated that he/she desired to register to vote or update the applicant's name or residence.
Printed Name of Assister _____ Address of Assister _____
Signature of Assister for Applicant in Accordance with R.C. 3503.14 _____

Compensation Attestation - *I registered this applicant and am paid to do so by my employer.*
Printed Name of Assister _____ Name of Employer _____ Address of Assister _____
Signature of Assister for Applicant in Accordance with R.C. 3503.14(A) _____

Voter Moved – Scenario 2

Voter moves outside of precinct and split
(i.e. 390.1 → 390.2 *OR* 390.1 → 893.0)

1. Voter votes Provisionally



Voter Contact Information

Provisional Ballot Affirmation

Email _____ Phone # _____ Print clearly

Full Name (required) 1 First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Suffix _____

Date of Birth (required) 2 Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) (not today's date)

Current Ohio Address (required) 3 Street Address (no P.O. Boxes) _____ County _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Former Address (required) 4 Street Address (no P.O. Boxes) _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Identification (required) 5 ☐ Ohio driver license or state ID card, or last four digits of Social Security number ☐ U.S. Passport or Passport card ☐ U.S. Military ID Card, Dept. of Defense ID Card, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID Card, or ☐ Tribal ID Card

☐ If you do not have any of the above ID, because you have a religious objection to being photographed, complete an affidavit at your polling place. Upon completion of the affidavit, you will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. The affidavit should be completed at the polling place, but you may also obtain one in advance from your county board of elections.

Registration Update (required) 6 Write your full Ohio driver license or state ID card number, or last four digits of your Social Security number _____ Mailing Address (if different than above) _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Proof of Citizenship (required) 7 If you are asked to provide proof of citizenship, you must provide one of the following:
- A copy of your Ohio driver license or state ID card, or last four digits of your Social Security number
- A copy of a birth certificate, passport, or other document that shows your citizenship
- Your naturalization number

Affirmation (required) 8 I solemnly swear or affirm, under penalty of election falsification, that:
- I am a citizen of the United States and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election.
- I am eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this provisional ballot.
- I have lived in the state for the past consecutive 30 days and will be voting this ballot.
- I am registered to vote in the county in which I am voting this provisional ballot.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, my provisional ballot will not be counted unless I am otherwise eligible to vote based on my registration at a previous address or under a previous name.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote in the county in which I am voting this provisional ballot, my provisional ballot will not be counted unless I am otherwise eligible to vote based on my registration in another county.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, I am not eligible to vote at the polling place on election day or at the early voting center for this election, and my provisional ballot will not be counted.
- I understand that knowingly providing false information is a violation of law and subjects me to possible criminal prosecution.
- I understand that, if I provide a false date of election falsification, that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

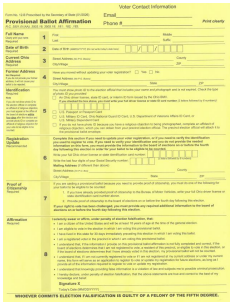
Signature X _____
Today's Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

Voter Moved – Scenario 3

Voter moves to a precinct not in your polling location

1. Click the MENU and then ADDRESS LOOKUP on the Poll Pad
2. Find correct polling location
3. Send voter there to vote Provisionally



Voter Contact Information

Provisional Ballot Affirmation

Email _____ Phone # _____ Print clearly

Full Name (required) 1 First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Suffix _____

Date of Birth (required) 2 Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) (not today's date)

Current Ohio Address (required) 3 Street Address (no P.O. Boxes) _____ County _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Former Address (required) 4 Street Address (no P.O. Boxes) _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Identification (required) 5 ☐ Ohio driver license or state ID card, or last four digits of Social Security number ☐ U.S. Passport or Passport card ☐ U.S. Military ID Card, Dept. of Defense ID Card, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID Card, or ☐ Tribal ID Card

☐ If you do not have any of the above ID, because you have a religious objection to being photographed, complete an affidavit at your polling place. Upon completion of the affidavit, you will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. The affidavit should be completed at the polling place, but you may also obtain one in advance from your county board of elections.

Registration Update (required) 6 Write your full Ohio driver license or state ID card number, or last four digits of your Social Security number _____ Mailing Address (if different than above) _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Proof of Citizenship (required) 7 If you are asked to provide proof of citizenship, you must provide one of the following:
- A copy of your Ohio driver license or state ID card, or last four digits of your Social Security number
- A copy of a birth certificate, passport, or other document that shows your citizenship
- Your naturalization number

Affirmation (required) 8 I solemnly swear or affirm, under penalty of election falsification, that:
- I am a citizen of the United States and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election.
- I am eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this provisional ballot.
- I have lived in the state for the past consecutive 30 days and will be voting this ballot.
- I am registered to vote in the county in which I am voting this provisional ballot.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, my provisional ballot will not be counted unless I am otherwise eligible to vote based on my registration at a previous address or under a previous name.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote in the county in which I am voting this provisional ballot, my provisional ballot will not be counted unless I am otherwise eligible to vote based on my registration in another county.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, I am not eligible to vote at the polling place on election day or at the early voting center for this election, and my provisional ballot will not be counted.
- I understand that knowingly providing false information is a violation of law and subjects me to possible criminal prosecution.
- I understand that, if I provide a false date of election falsification, that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature X _____
Today's Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

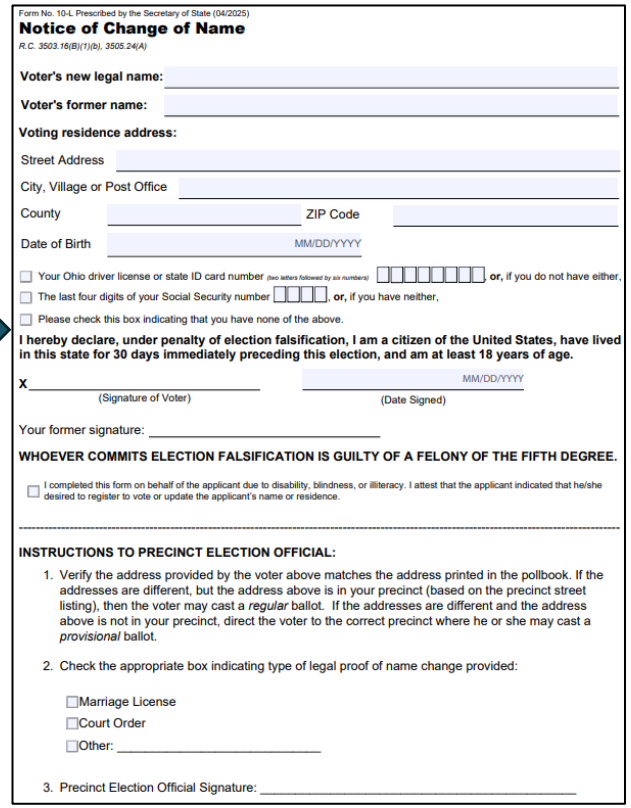
SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Voter's Name Changed – Scenario 1

Voter changed name and didn't update their voter registration

Voter brought original court document

1. Fill out Form 10-L Notice of Change of Name
2. Place form in Ballot Box
3. Voter votes normally



Form No. 10-L Prescribed by the Secretary of State (04/2025)

Notice of Change of Name

R.C. 3503.16(B)(1)(b), 3505.24(A)

Voter's new legal name:

Voter's former name:

Voting residence address:

Street Address

City, Village or Post Office

County ZIP Code

Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY

☐ Your Ohio driver license or state ID card number *(two letters followed by six numbers)* ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ **or,** if you do not have either,

☐ The last four digits of your Social Security number ☐☐☐☐, **or,** if you have neither,

☐ Please check this box indicating that you have none of the above.

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, I am a citizen of the United States, have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding this election, and am at least 18 years of age.

X_____ MM/DD/YYYY

(Signature of Voter) (Date Signed)

Your former signature: _____

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

☐ I completed this form on behalf of the applicant due to disability, blindness, or illiteracy. I attest that the applicant indicated that he/she desired to register to vote or update the applicant's name or residence.

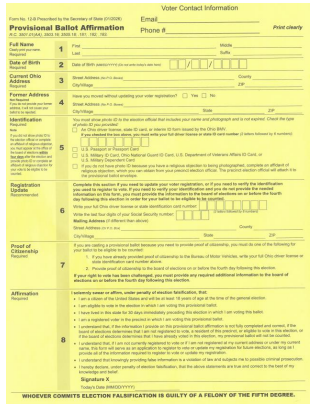
INSTRUCTIONS TO PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIAL:

1. Verify the address provided by the voter above matches the address printed in the pollbook. If the addresses are different, but the address above is in your precinct (based on the precinct street listing), then the voter may cast a *regular* ballot. If the addresses are different and the address above is not in your precinct, direct the voter to the correct precinct where he or she may cast a *provisional* ballot.
2. Check the appropriate box indicating type of legal proof of name change provided:
   - ☐ Marriage License
   - ☐ Court Order
   - ☐ Other: _____
3. Precinct Election Official Signature: _____

Voter's Name Changed – Scenario 2

Voter didn't bring original court document

1. Voter votes Provisionally



Voter Contact Information

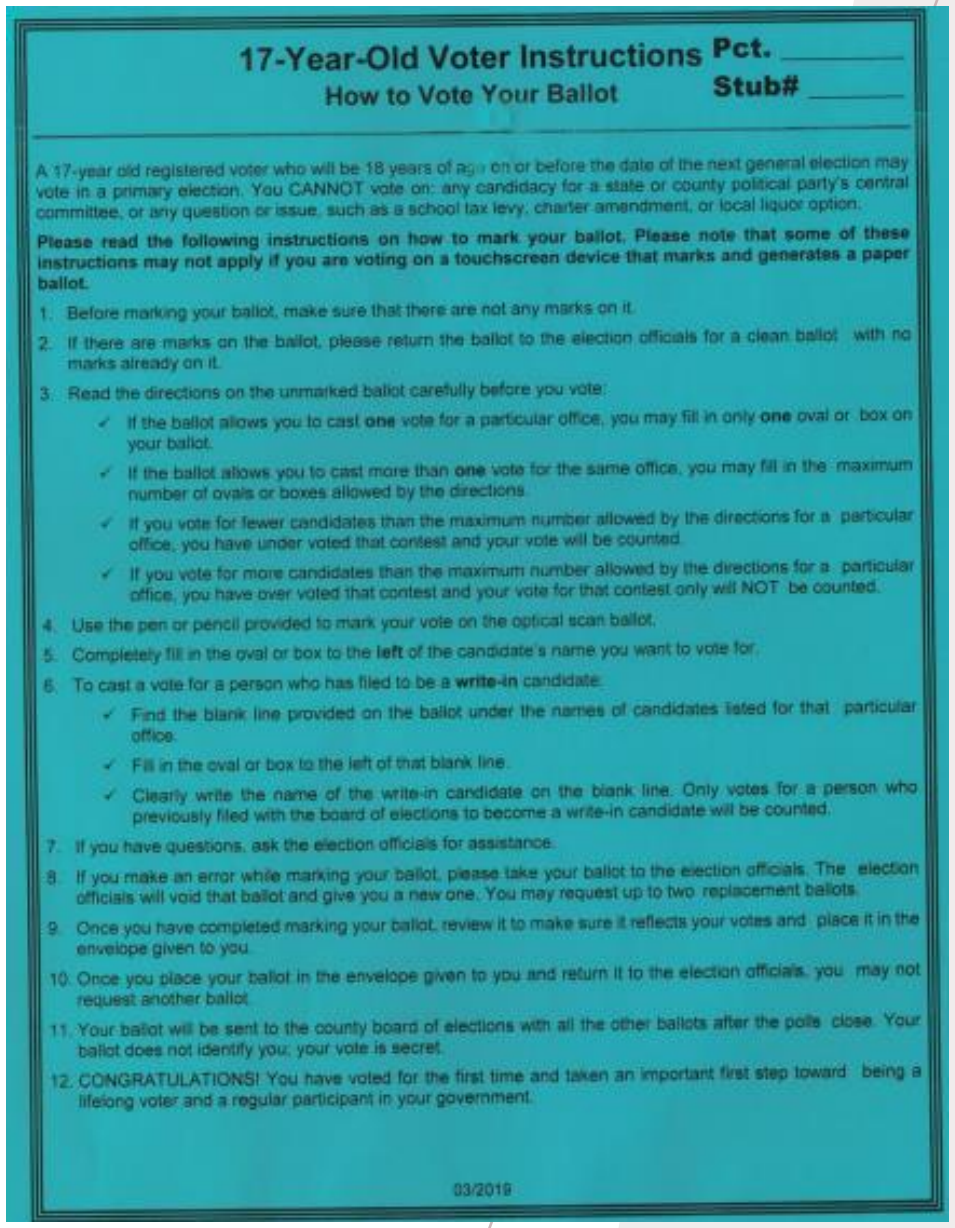
Email

Phone #

Provisional Ballot Affirmation

Print clearly

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.



17-Year-Old Voter Instructions Pct. _____
How to Vote Your Ballot Stub# _____

A 17-year old registered voter who will be 18 years of age on or before the date of the next general election may vote in a primary election. You CANNOT vote on: any candidacy for a state or county political party's central committee, or any question or issue, such as a school tax levy, charter amendment, or local liquor option.

Please read the following instructions on how to mark your ballot. Please note that some of these instructions may not apply if you are voting on a touchscreen device that marks and generates a paper ballot.

1. Before marking your ballot, make sure that there are not any marks on it.
2. If there are marks on the ballot, please return the ballot to the election officials for a clean ballot with no marks already on it.
3. Read the directions on the unmarked ballot carefully before you vote:
   - ✓ If the ballot allows you to cast **one** vote for a particular office, you may fill in only **one** oval or box on your ballot.
   - ✓ If the ballot allows you to cast more than **one** vote for the same office, you may fill in the maximum number of ovals or boxes allowed by the directions.
   - ✓ If you vote for fewer candidates than the maximum number allowed by the directions for a particular office, you have under voted that contest and your vote will be counted.
   - ✓ If you vote for more candidates than the maximum number allowed by the directions for a particular office, you have over voted that contest and your vote for that contest only will NOT be counted.
4. Use the pen or pencil provided to mark your vote on the optical scan ballot.
5. Completely fill in the oval or box to the **left** of the candidate's name you want to vote for.
6. To cast a vote for a person who has filed to be a **write-in** candidate:
   - ✓ Find the blank line provided on the ballot under the names of candidates listed for that particular office.
   - ✓ Fill in the oval or box to the left of that blank line.
   - ✓ Clearly write the name of the write-in candidate on the blank line. Only votes for a person who previously filed with the board of elections to become a write-in candidate will be counted.
7. If you have questions, ask the election officials for assistance.
8. If you make an error while marking your ballot, please take your ballot to the election officials. The election officials will void that ballot and give you a new one. You may request up to two replacement ballots.
9. Once you have completed marking your ballot, review it to make sure it reflects your votes and place it in the envelope given to you.
10. Once you place your ballot in the envelope given to you and return it to the election officials, you may not request another ballot.
11. Your ballot will be sent to the county board of elections with all the other ballots after the polls close. Your ballot does not identify you; your vote is secret.
12. CONGRATULATIONS! You have voted for the first time and taken an important first step toward being a lifelong voter and a regular participant in your government.

03/2019

17 Y/O VOTERS

17-year-olds can nominate candidates (no issues or central committee candidates) in a Primary Election if they

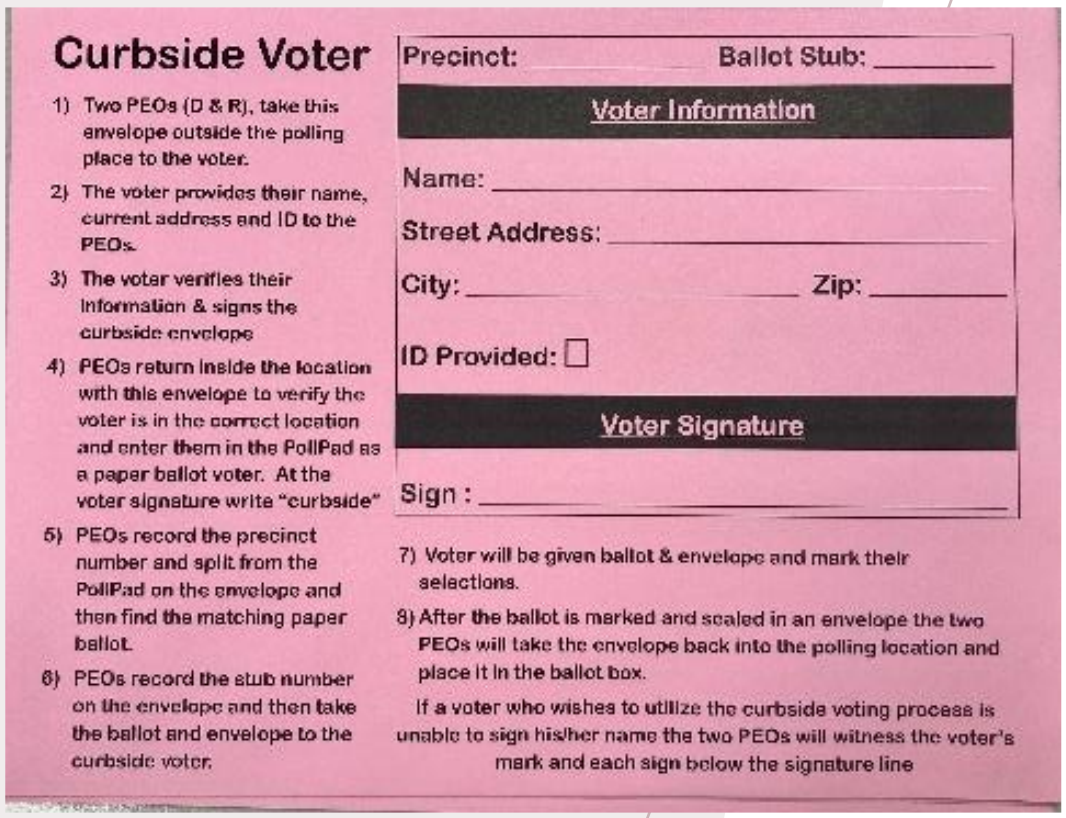
- Register by the voter registration deadline
- Will be 18 on or before the November General Election

Processing a 17 y/o Voter

- Check them into the Poll Pad like a normal voter
- Select PAPER
- Give them a blue envelope with their precinct and ballot style completed (pictured to the left)
- Send them over to the paper/provisional ballot table

CURBSIDE VOTERS

Voters who need to vote from their car



Curbside Voter

1) Two PEOs (D & R), take this envelope outside the polling place to the voter.
2) The voter provides their name, current address and ID to the PEOs.
3) The voter verifies their information & signs the curbside envelope
4) PEOs return inside the location with this envelope to verify the voter is in the correct location and enter them in the PollPad as a paper ballot voter. At the voter signature write "curbside"
5) PEOs record the precinct number and split from the PollPad on the envelope and then find the matching paper ballot.
6) PEOs record the stub number on the envelope and then take the ballot and envelope to the curbside voter.

Precinct: _____ Ballot Stub: _____

Voter Information

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

ID Provided: ☐

Voter Signature

Sign : _____

7) Voter will be given ballot & envelope and mark their selections.
8) After the ballot is marked and sealed in an envelope the two PEOs will take the envelope back into the polling location and place it in the ballot box.

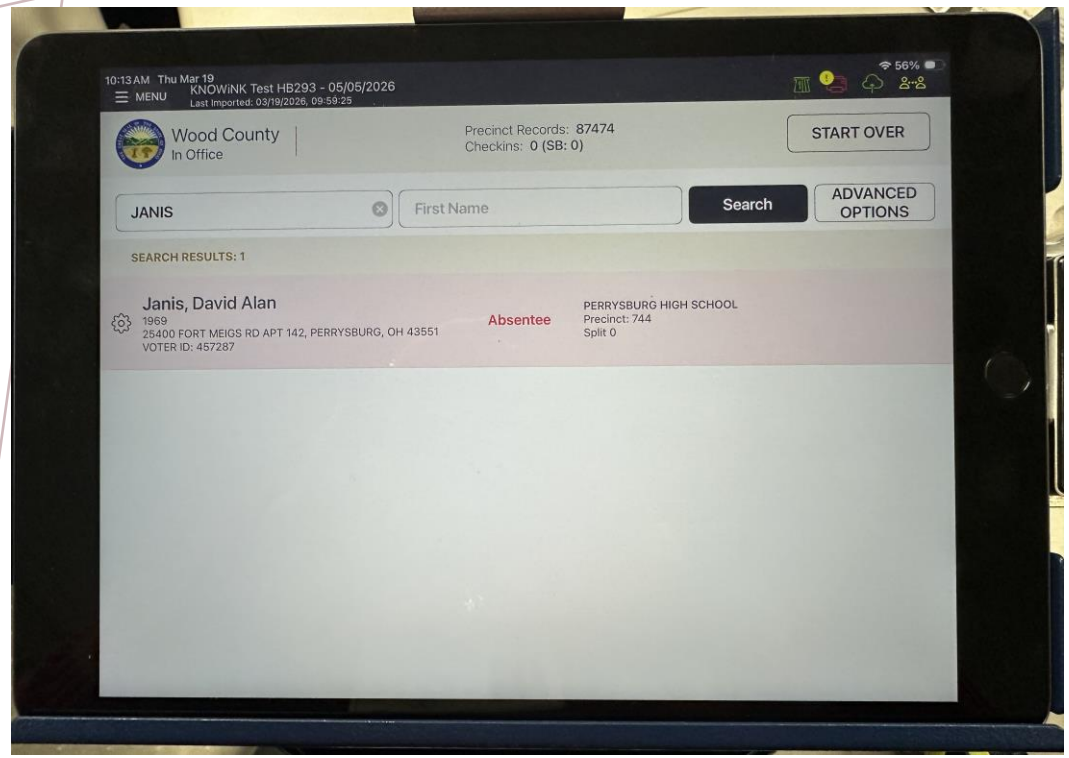
If a voter who wishes to utilize the curbside voting process is unable to sign his/her name the two PEOs will witness the voter's mark and each sign below the signature line

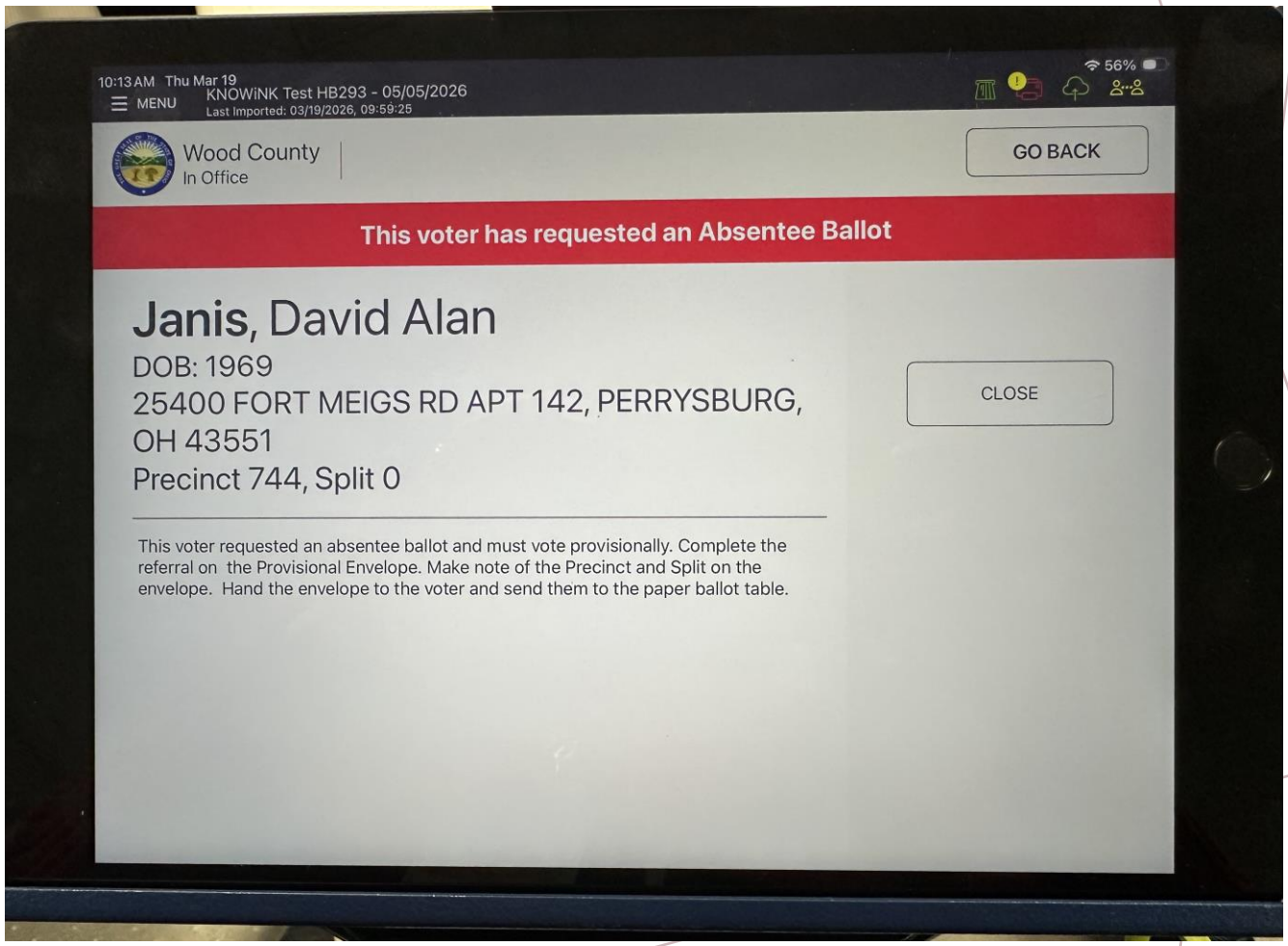
Processing a Curbside Voter

1. Verify valid ID
2. Check them into the Poll Pad like a normal voter
   - Sign "Curbside" in signature box
   - Verify info and checkmark the box for CURBSIDE
   - Select PAPER
3. Bring curbside supplies out with you and your bipartisan buddy
4. Ensure envelope is completed and ballot is sealed in envelope
5. Place ballot in the Ballot Box

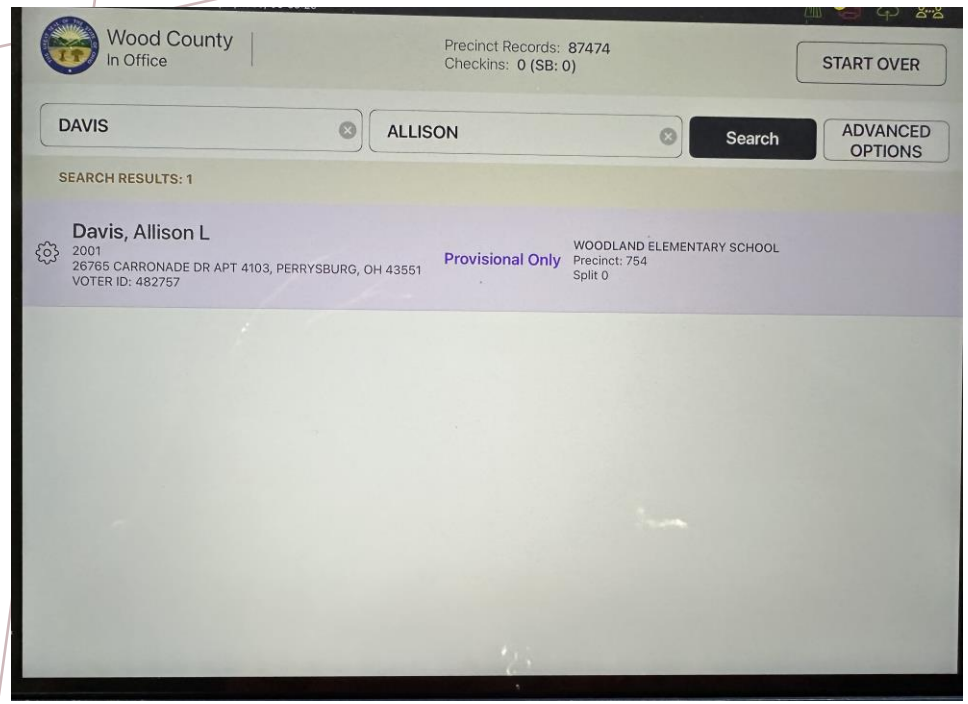
PROVISIONAL VOTING POLL PAD EXAMPLES

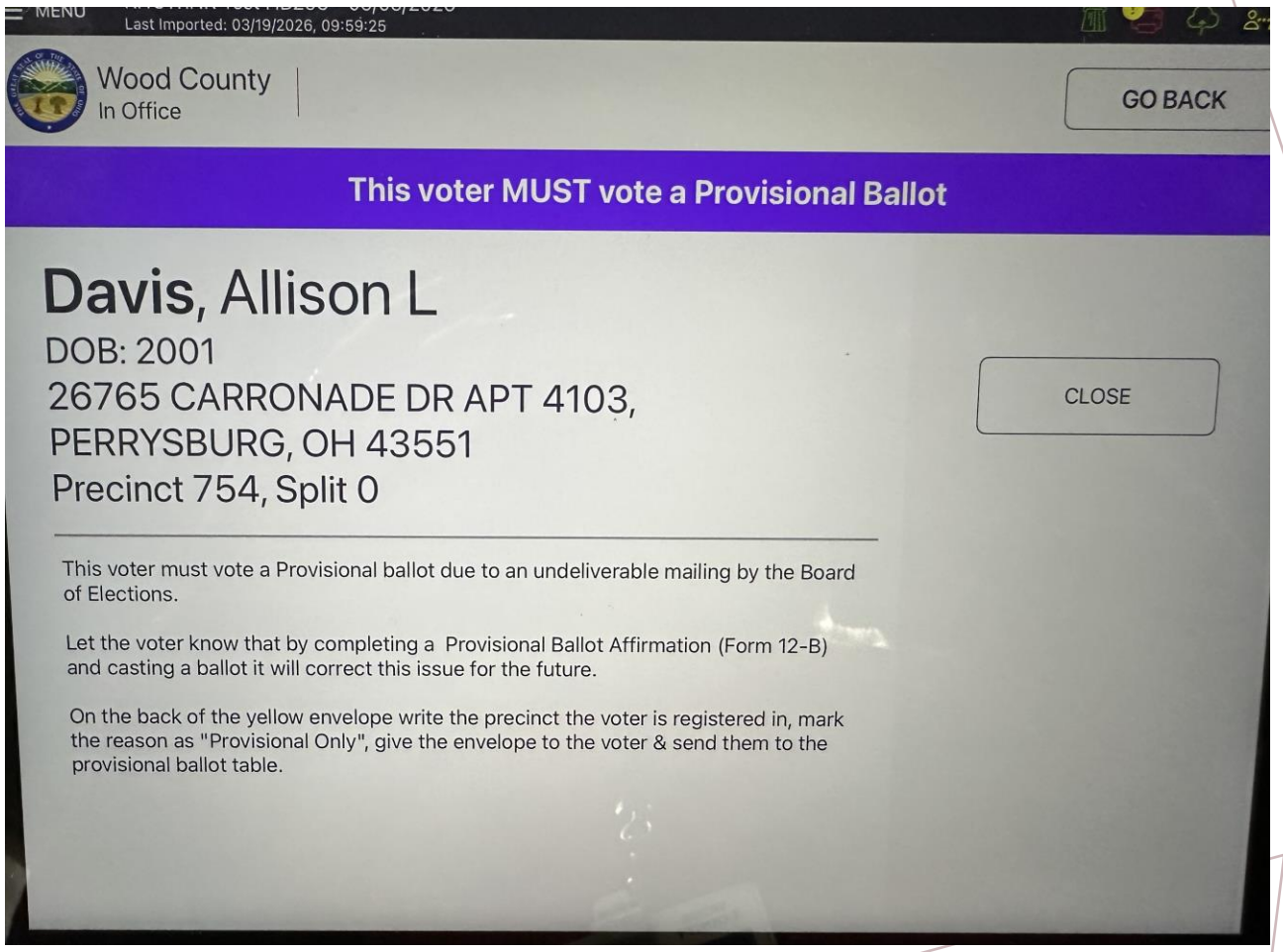
REQUESTED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT



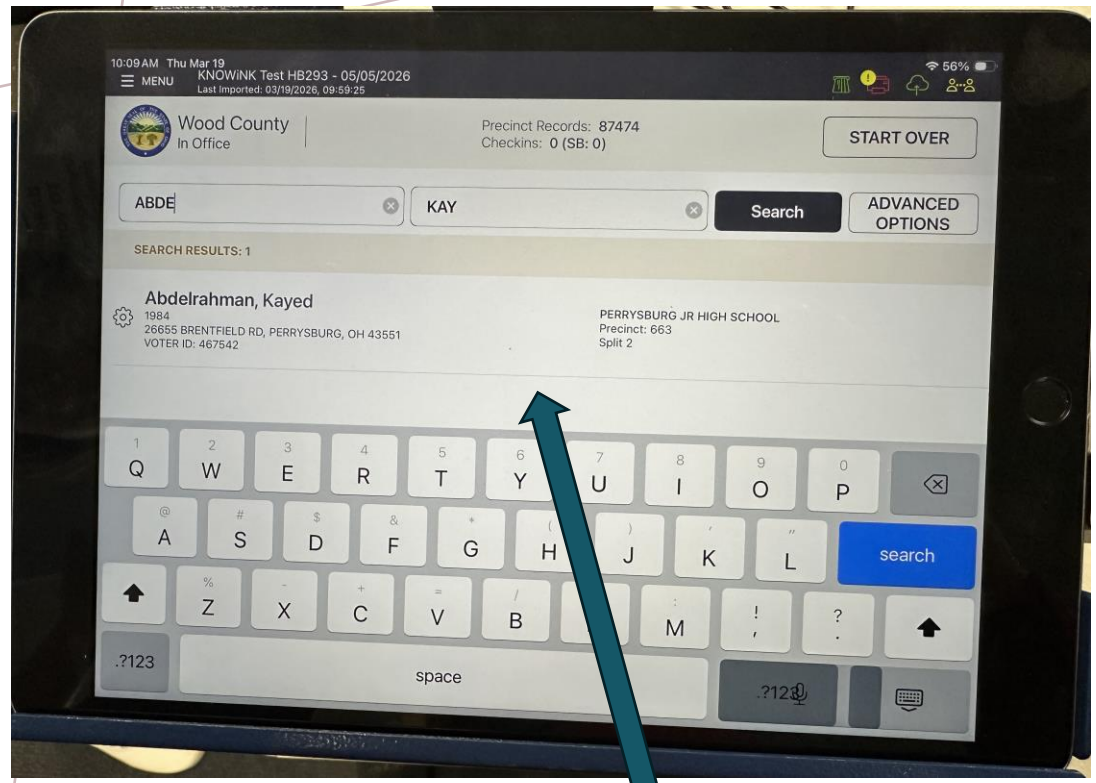


PROVISIONAL BALLOT DUE TO RETURNED MAIL



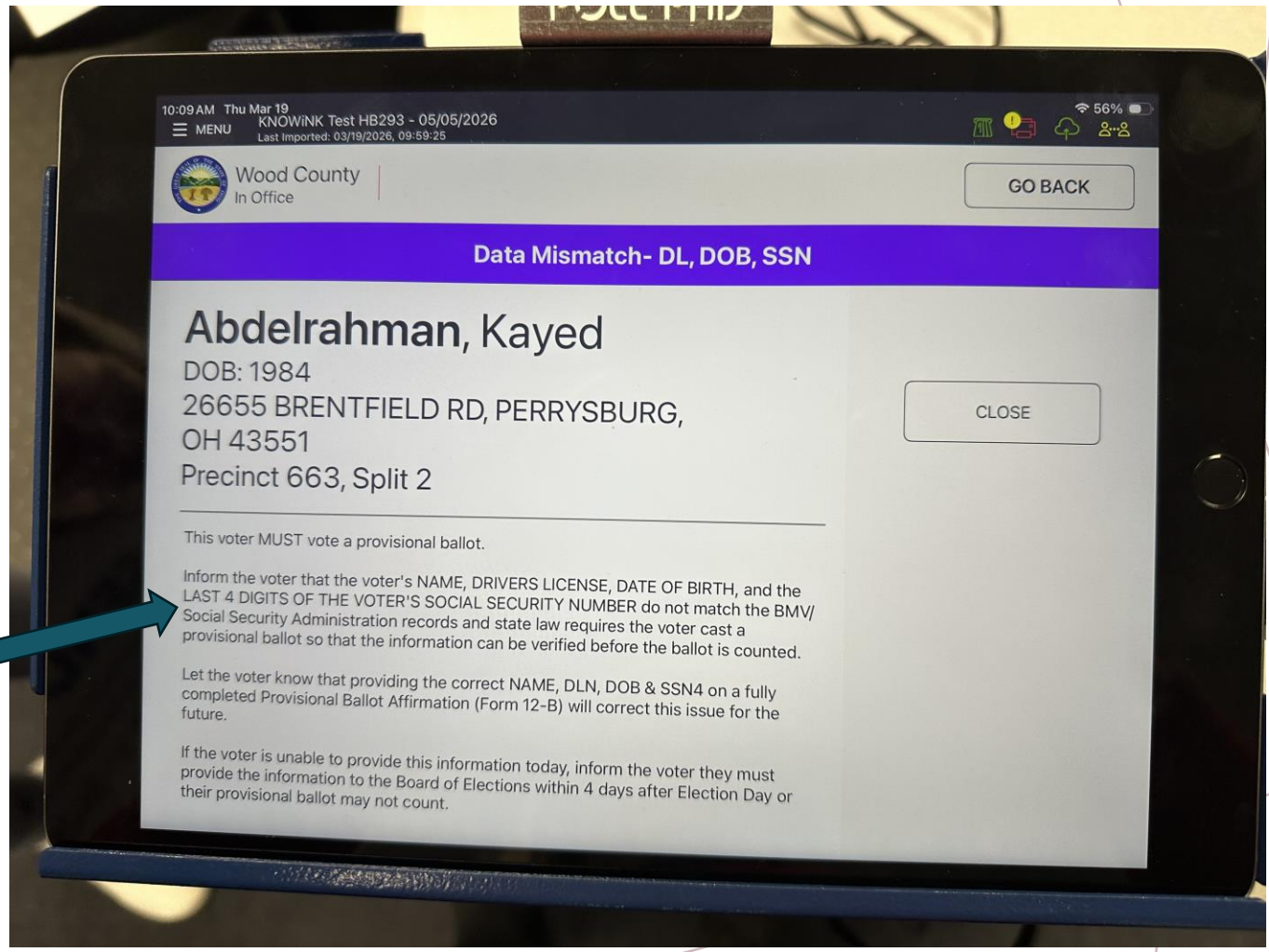


PROVISIONAL DUE TO MISMATCH OF INFO



Voter looks normal when first looked up

Once voter is selected, you cannot check them in and will see instructions just like the other provisional voters



PROVISIONAL CHANGES

Polling Official Use Only:

Check-in PEO:

Precinct: _____ Stub #: _____

Ballot Style: 2 3 43 40
(Circle one – **Primary Only**)

- Mark reason for voting provisionally **(check all that apply)**
  - No ID
  - Expired ID
  - Verify **(check all that apply)**
    - Social Security #
    - Driver's License #
    - DOB
  - New Address
  - Name Change
  - Not on Poll Pad
  - "Absentee" on Poll Pad
  - "Provisional Only" on Poll Pad
  - Refuses to go to correct polling location **(complete form 12-D)**
  - Court order – poll open after 7:30pm
- Send voter with this envelope to provisional ballot table

Provisional PEO:

- Review voter ID **(if available)**
  - Valid type **(driver's license, state id, passport, military id)**
  - Unexpired
- Confirm precinct above using street list
- Check voter completed affirmation **(front of this envelope)**
- Complete provisional voter information sheet
- Issue ballot
- Instruct voter to mark ballot, place in this envelope, & put in ballot box

Voter Contact Information

Email _____

Phone # _____ *Print clearly*

Form No. 12-B Prescribed by the Secretary of State (01/2026)

Provisional Ballot Affirmation

R.C. 3501.01(AA), 3503.16, 3505.18, .181, .182, .183.

1 Full Name (Clearly print your name. Required) — First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Suffix _____

2 Date of Birth (Required) — Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) (Do not write today's date here): __/__/____

3 Current Ohio Address (Required) — Street Address (No P.O. Boxes) _____ County _____ City/Village _____ ZIP _____

4 Former Address (Not Required. If you do not provide your former address, it will not cause your ballot to be rejected.) — Have you moved without updating your voter registration? ☐ Yes ☐ No — Street Address (No P.O. Boxes) _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

5 Identification (Required)

Note: If you did not show photo ID to the election official or complete an affidavit of religious objection, you must appear at the office of the board of elections within four days after the election and provide photo ID or complete an affidavit of religious objection for your vote to be eligible to be counted.

You must show photo ID to the election official that includes your name and photograph and is not expired. Check the type of photo ID you provided:

- ☐ An Ohio driver license, state ID card, or interim ID form issued by the Ohio BMV.
  If you checked the box above, you must write your full driver license or state ID card number *(2 letters followed by 6 numbers)*: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
- ☐ U.S. Passport or Passport Card
- ☐ U.S. Military ID Card, Ohio National Guard ID Card, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID Card, or U.S. Military Dependent Card
- ☐ If you do not have photo ID because you have a religious objection to being photographed, complete an affidavit of religious objection, which you can obtain from your precinct election official. The precinct election official will attach it to the provisional ballot envelope.

6 Registration Update (Recommended)

Complete this section if you need to update your voter registration, or if you need to verify the identification you used to register to vote. If you need to verify your identification and you do not provide the needed information on this form, you must provide the information to the board of elections on or before the fourth day following this election in order for your ballot to be eligible to be counted.

Write your full Ohio driver license or state identification card number: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ *(2 letters followed by 6 numbers)*

Write the last four digits of your Social Security number: ☐☐☐☐

Mailing Address (if different than above)

Street Address (Or P.O. Box) _____ County _____ City/Village _____ State _____ ZIP _____

7 Proof of Citizenship (Required)

If you are casting a provisional ballot because you need to provide proof of citizenship, you must do one of the following for your ballot to be eligible to be counted:

1. If you have already provided proof of citizenship to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, write your full Ohio driver license or state identification card number above.
2. Provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections on or before the fourth day following this election.

If your right to vote has been challenged, you must provide any required additional information to the board of elections on or before the fourth day following this election.

8 Affirmation (Required)

I solemnly swear or affirm, under penalty of election falsification, that:

- I am a citizen of the United States and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election.
- I am eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this provisional ballot.
- I have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am voting this ballot.
- I am a registered voter in the precinct in which I am voting this provisional ballot.
- I understand that, if the information I provide on this provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines that I have already voted in this election, my provisional ballot will not be counted.
- I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, this form will serve as an application to register to vote or update my registration for future elections, as long as I provide all of the information required to register to vote or update my registration.
- I understand that knowingly providing false information is a violation of law and subjects me to possible criminal prosecution.
- I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature X _____

Today's Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

26 PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 5, 2026 **BG ALLIANCE CHURCH**

Use ONLY for Provisional Voters - NOT Paper Ballot Voters **RETURN IN BALLOT BOX**

PEO MUST List Voter Information.

PCT / Split	Stub # / Ballot Style	Voter Name: *PRINTED Legible*		Reason for Provisional			PEO Initials
			[1]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[2]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[3]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[4]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[5]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[6]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[7]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[8]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	
			[9]	☐ No ID ☐ Expired ID ☐ Verify Information	☐ New Address / Precinct ☐ Name Change ☐ Not on PollPad	☐ "Absentee" on PollPad ☐ "Provisional Only" on PollPad ☐ Wrong Location ☐ Court Order	

2 = Democratic 3 = Republican 43 = Libertarian 40 = Issues Only

Form No. 12-H Prescribed by Secretary of State (02/2026)

PROVISIONAL BALLOT NOTICE

R.C. 3505.181(B)(5), R.C. 3505.183(B)(4)(a)(v), (vi), R.C. 3503.201(D)(2) and (D)(4).

Why are you receiving this notice?
You are receiving this notice because you were required to cast a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot is used to record a vote if a voter's eligibility is in question and the voter would otherwise not be permitted to vote at their polling place. The content of a provisional ballot is no different from a regular ballot, but it is cast "provisionally" until election officials can verify the voter's eligibility to vote in that election.

Provisional Voter Hotline
To find out if you need to provide a valid form of photo identification, proof of U.S. citizenship, or other necessary information for your vote to count, call the PROVISIONAL VOTER HOTLINE to confirm with your county board of elections. You can also call after the official certification to learn whether your ballot was counted. This hotline is available beginning the day after the election until the end of the month following the election:

866-OHIO-VOTE (866-644-6868)

OhioSoS.gov/Boards

Your board of elections is: Wood **County Board of Elections**

Office hours are: Wed - Sat 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (4 days after election)

Provisional Ballot Eligibility Flowchart[1]

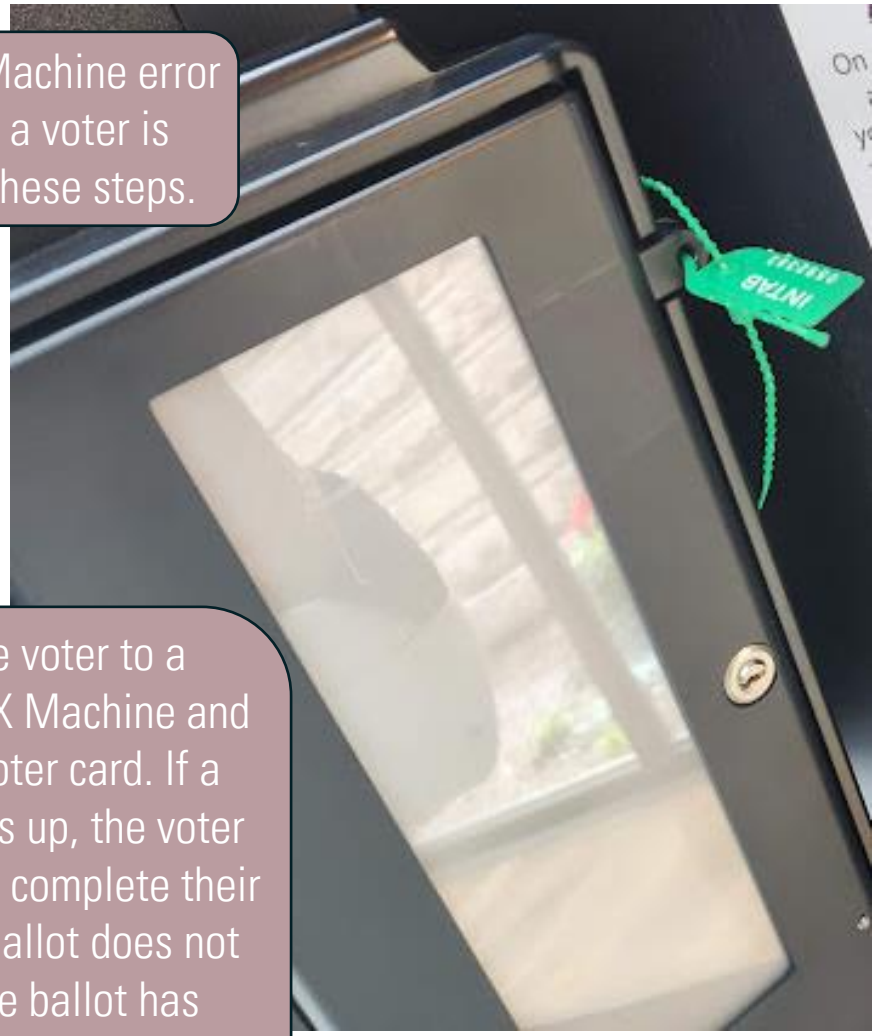
If you are required to provide a valid form of photo ID	You should appear at your county board of elections within four days after Election Day and provide a valid form of photo ID	Your provisional ballot is eligible to be counted
	If you DO NOT appear at your county board of elections within four days after Election Day and provide a valid form of photo ID	Your provisional ballot is NOT eligible to be counted
If you are required to provide proof of U.S. citizenship	You should appear at your county board of elections within four days after Election Day and provide an acceptable form of U.S. citizenship documentation	Your provisional ballot is eligible to be counted
	If you DO NOT appear at your county board of elections within four days after Election Day and provide an acceptable form of U.S. citizenship documentation	Your provisional ballot is NOT eligible to be counted
If additional information beyond what you provided at your polling location (DOB, DLN, or SSN4) is required to verify your voter registration record	You should appear at your county board of elections within four days after Election Day and provide necessary information to verify your voter registration information	Your provisional ballot is eligible to be counted
	If you DO NOT appear at your county board of elections within four days after Election Day and provide necessary information to verify your voter registration record	Your provisional ballot is NOT eligible to be counted AND your voter registration will be canceled*

*Cancellation for this reason does not prohibit you from registering to vote at any time in the future.

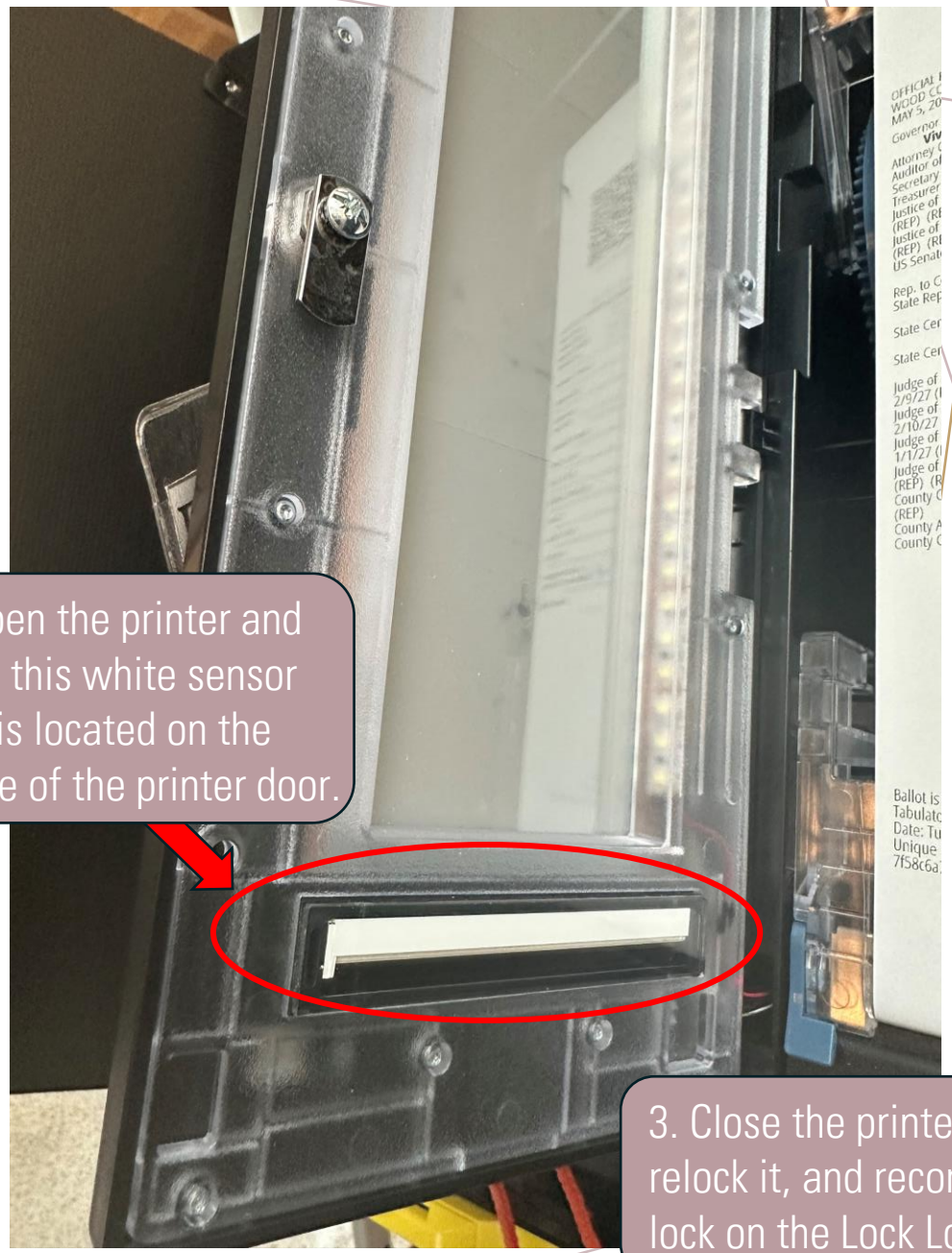
[1]See the back side of this notice for lists of acceptable IDs and documents for your vote to count.

ICX PRINTER ISSUE

See an ICX Machine error pop up while a voter is voting? Try these steps.



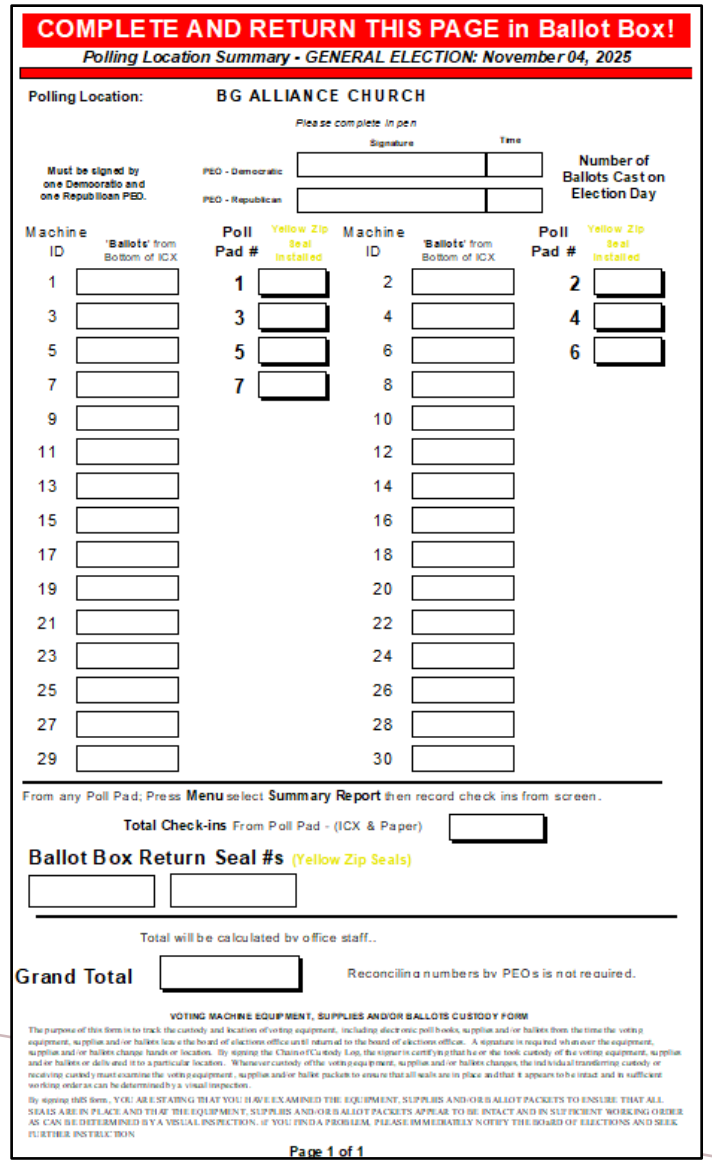
1. Escort the voter to a different ICX Machine and put in the voter card. If a ballot comes up, the voter will need to complete their ballot. If a ballot does not come up, the ballot has been casted *and* accepted – they are good to go.



2. Open the printer and wipe this white sensor that is located on the inside of the printer door.

3. Close the printer, relock it, and record the lock on the Lock Log.

CLOSING THE POLLS



COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS PAGE in Ballot Box!

Polling Location Summary - GENERAL ELECTION: November 04, 2025

Polling Location: BG ALLIANCE CHURCH

Please complete in pen

Must be signed by one Democratic and one Republican PEO.

PEO - Democratic — Signature — Time

PEO - Republican

Number of Ballots Cast on Election Day

Machine ID	'Ballots' from Bottom of ICX	Poll Pad #	Yellow Zip Seal Installed	Machine ID	'Ballots' from Bottom of ICX	Poll Pad #	Yellow Zip Seal Installed
1		1		2		2	
3		3		4		4	
5		5		6		6	
7		7		8			
9				10			
11				12			
13				14			
15				16			
17				18			
19				20			
21				22			
23				24			
25				26			
27				28			
29				30			

From any Poll Pad; Press **Menu** select **Summary Report** then record check ins from screen.

Total Check-ins From Poll Pad - (ICX & Paper)

Ballot Box Return Seal #s (Yellow Zip Seals)

Total will be calculated by office staff..

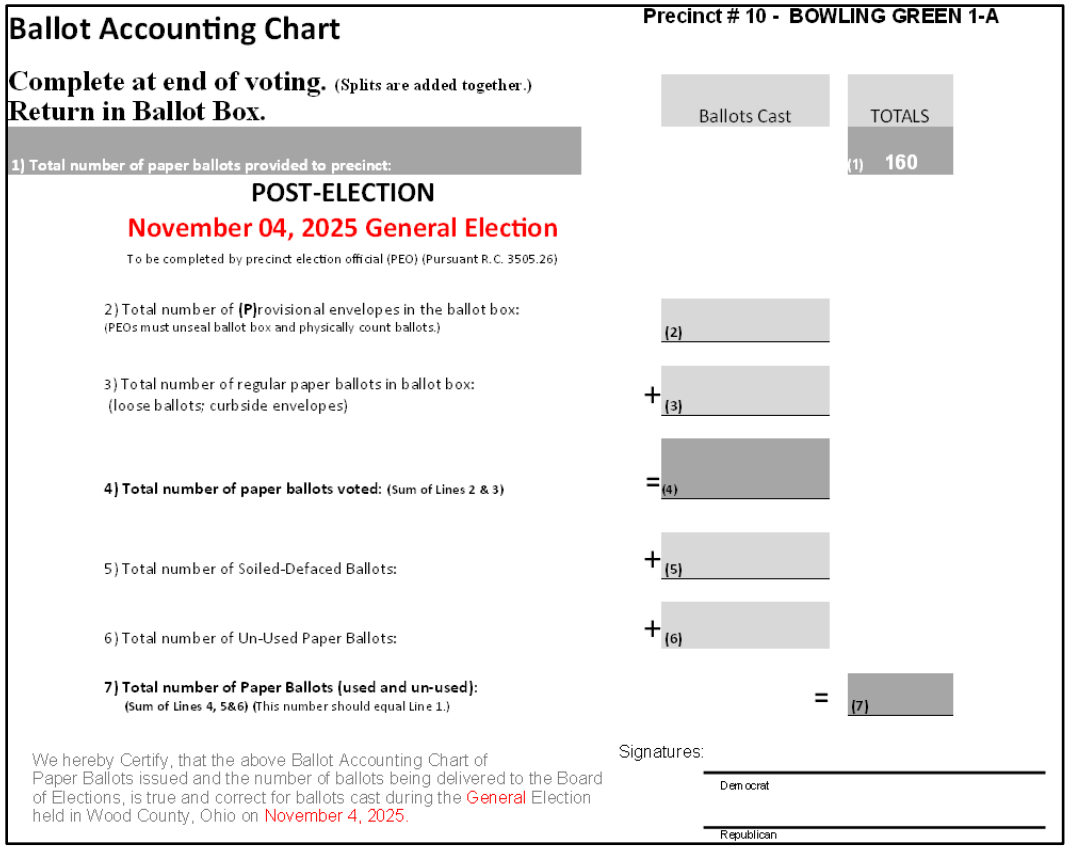
Grand Total Reconciling numbers by PEOs is not required.

VOTING MACHINE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND/OR BALLOTS CUSTODY FORM

The purpose of this form is to track the custody and location of voting equipment, including electronic poll books, supplies and/or ballots from the time the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballots leave the board of elections office until returned to the board of elections office. A signature is required whenever the equipment, supplies and/or ballots change hands or location. By signing the Chain of Custody Log, the signer is certifying that he or she took custody of the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballots or delivered it to a particular location. Whenever custody of the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballots changes, the individual transferring custody or receiving custody must examine the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballot packets to ensure that all seals are in place and that it appears to be intact and in sufficient working order as can be determined by a visual inspection.

By signing this form, YOU ARE STATING THAT YOU HAVE EXAMINED THE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND/OR BALLOT PACKETS TO ENSURE THAT ALL SEALS ARE IN PLACE AND THAT THE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND/OR BALLOT PACKETS APPEAR TO BE INTACT AND IN SUFFICIENT WORKING ORDER AS CAN BE DETERMINED BY A VISUAL INSPECTION. IF YOU FIND A PROBLEM, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND SEEK FURTHER INSTRUCTION

Page 1 of 1



Ballot Accounting Chart — **Precinct # 10 - BOWLING GREEN 1-A**

Complete at end of voting. (Splits are added together.)
Return in Ballot Box.

	Ballots Cast	TOTALS
1) Total number of paper ballots provided to precinct:		(1) 160

POST-ELECTION

November 04, 2025 General Election

To be completed by precinct election official (PEO) (Pursuant R.C. 3505.26)

2) Total number of **(P)**rovisional envelopes in the ballot box: (PEOs must unseal ballot box and physically count ballots.)		(2)
3) Total number of regular paper ballots in ballot box: (loose ballots; curbside envelopes)	+	(3)
4) Total number of paper ballots voted: (Sum of Lines 2 & 3)	=	(4)
5) Total number of Soiled-Defaced Ballots:	+	(5)
6) Total number of Un-Used Paper Ballots:	+	(6)
7) Total number of Paper Ballots (used and un-used): **(Sum of Lines 4, 5&6)** (This number should equal Line 1.)	=	(7)

We hereby Certify, that the above Ballot Accounting Chart of Paper Ballots issued and the number of ballots being delivered to the Board of Elections, is true and correct for ballots cast during the General Election held in Wood County, Ohio on November 4, 2025.

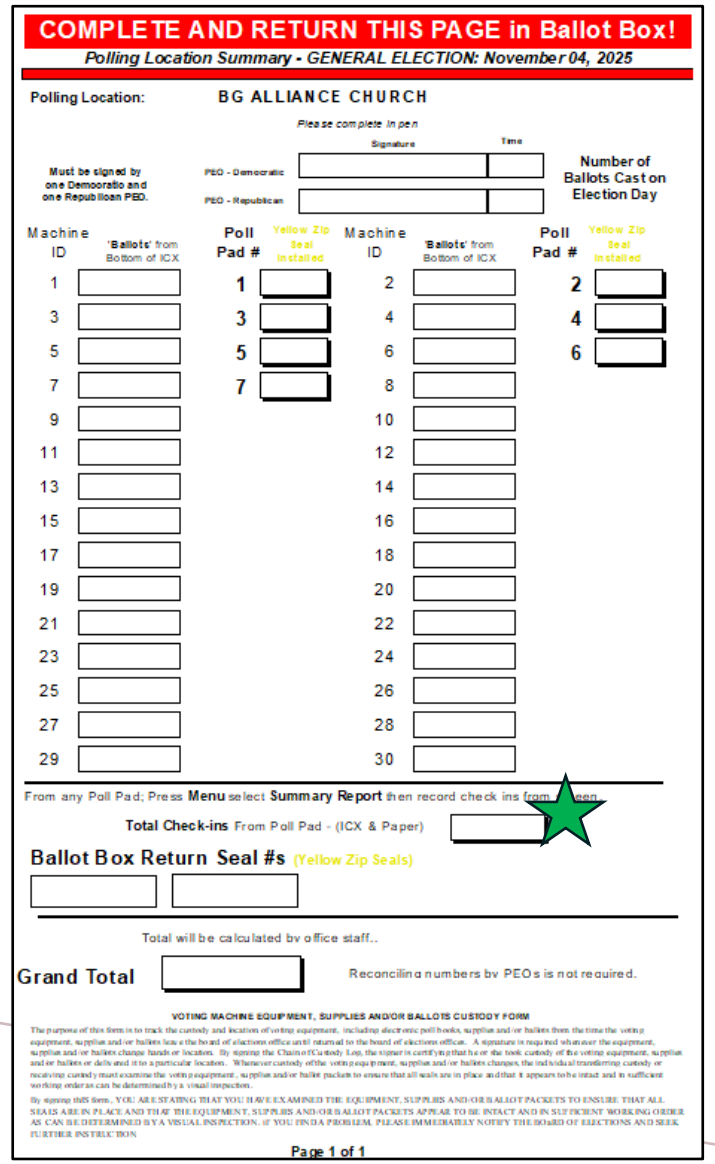
Signatures:

Democrat

Republican

DO NOT START THE CLOSING PROCESS UNTIL ALL VOTERS HAVE LEFT THE POLLING LOCATION

CLOSING THE POLLS



COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS PAGE in Ballot Box!

Polling Location Summary - GENERAL ELECTION: November 04, 2025

Polling Location: BG ALLIANCE CHURCH

Please complete in pen

Must be signed by one Democratic and one Republican PEO.

	Signature	Time
PEO - Democratic		
PEO - Republican		

Number of Ballots Cast on Election Day

Machine ID	'Ballots' from Bottom of ICX	Poll Pad #	Yellow Zip Seal Installed	Machine ID	'Ballots' from Bottom of ICX	Poll Pad #	Yellow Zip Seal Installed
1		1		2		2	
3		3		4		4	
5		5		6		6	
7		7		8			
9				10			
11				12			
13				14			
15				16			
17				18			
19				20			
21				22			
23				24			
25				26			
27				28			
29				30			

From any Poll Pad; Press **Menu** select **Summary Report** then record check ins from screen

Total Check-ins From Poll Pad - (ICX & Paper)

Ballot Box Return Seal #s (Yellow Zip Seals)

Total will be calculated by office staff..

Grand Total Reconciling numbers by PEOs is not required.

VOTING MACHINE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND/OR BALLOTS CUSTODY FORM

The purpose of this form is to track the custody and location of voting equipment, including electronic poll books, supplies and/or ballots from the time the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballots leave the board of elections office until returned to the board of elections office. A signature is required whenever the equipment, supplies and/or ballots change hands or location. By signing the Chain of Custody Log, the signer is certifying that he or she took custody of the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballots or delivered it to a particular location. Whenever custody of the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballots changes, the individual transferring custody or receiving custody must examine the voting equipment, supplies and/or ballot packets to ensure that all seals are in place and that it appears to be intact and in sufficient working order as can be determined by a visual inspection.

By signing this form, YOU ARE STATING THAT YOU HAVE EXAMINED THE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND/OR BALLOT PACKETS TO ENSURE THAT ALL SEALS ARE IN PLACE AND THAT THE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND/OR BALLOT PACKETS APPEAR TO BE INTACT AND IN SUFFICIENT WORKING ORDER AS CAN BE DETERMINED BY A VISUAL INSPECTION. IF YOU FIND A PROBLEM, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND SEEK FURTHER INSTRUCTION

Page 1 of 1



DO NOT WORRY ABOUT POWERING POLL PADS OFF – THEY WON'T POWER DOWN

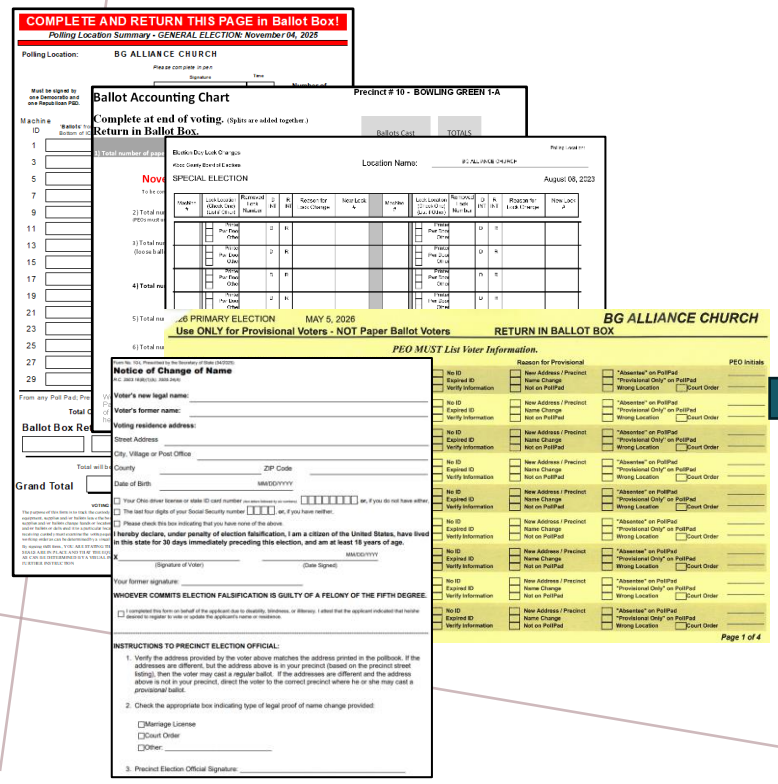
CLOSING THE POLLS

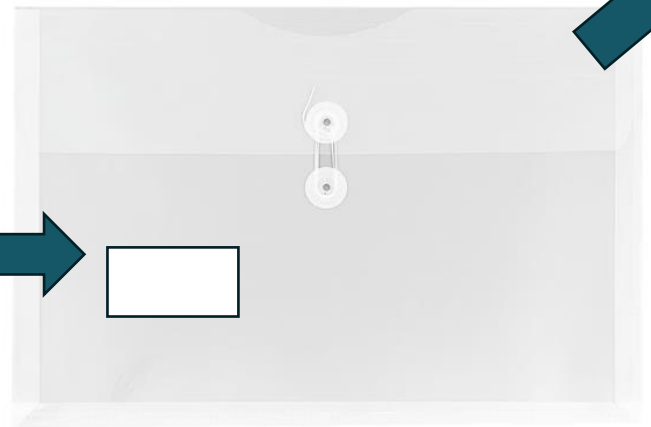
	Closing the Polls and ICX Checklist (Revised 03/03/2026)
	ONLY use individually assigned locks from the Closing ICX Bag
	DO NOT break locks on the Accessory or Battery Doors
1	Record # of check-ins from Poll Pads on the Polling Location Summary Sheet, then turn them off.
2	Record **# of Ballots Cast** (lower LH corner) from ICX on the **Polling Location Summary Sheet:** Use 2 PEOs (1-D, 1-R).
3	Insert **Poll Worker Card,** enter security code, & select **Admin Menu.**
4	Select **Close Poll.** Confirmation message select **Yes** - 1st report will print.
5	Break the printer door lock, open the door with key, & sign (1-D 1-R). Close the printer door.
6	Select **OK**. Select **Print another report** – 2nd report will print.
7	Open printer door with key and sign 2nd report (1-D, 1-R).
8	Rip printer paper below signatures & remove the top roll of paper from the blue reel. Put the empty reel back in the printer & close the printer door.
9	Select **Power Off** (lower right on screen). Are you sure message select **Yes**.
10	**Remove Poll Worker Card**.
11	Tear 2nd report off paper roll. Post on windows or outside of building. **1st report is left on the tape**.
12	Write the Machine Number on the bottom of the tape. Place the tape in the yellow bag.
13	**Break the red lock** from the USB Door and remove the USB Stick. Place in tackle box.
14	Break **green lock** from **power** door. Remove **ONLY** the power cord. **ALL** other cords stay attached. Place power cord in **black ICX bag**.
15	Using two PEOs, **place the ICX voting unit into the black ICX bag.** (Printer facing down)
16	Legs close by pushing in the pins and sliding the legs down. Fold the legs in by folding at the hinges.
17	Close ICX bag and connect the zippers with the blue zip lock from **Closing Bag ICX Locks**.
	Repeat steps 2 - 17 for each ICX machine
18	After tapes have been removed from **ALL** ICX machines and placed in the yellow bag. Lock yellow bag with red lock from End of Day Lock bag. Place yellow bag in black supply bag.
19	After all USBs have been removed & placed in the tackle box put the tackle box in the clear bag & lock with a yellow lock.
	***** Ensure ALL USB sticks are in the USB case before leaving the Poll Location*****



IMPORTANT PAPERS IN THE IMPORTANT PAPERS FOLDER

THEN, the Important Papers Folder in the Ballot Box

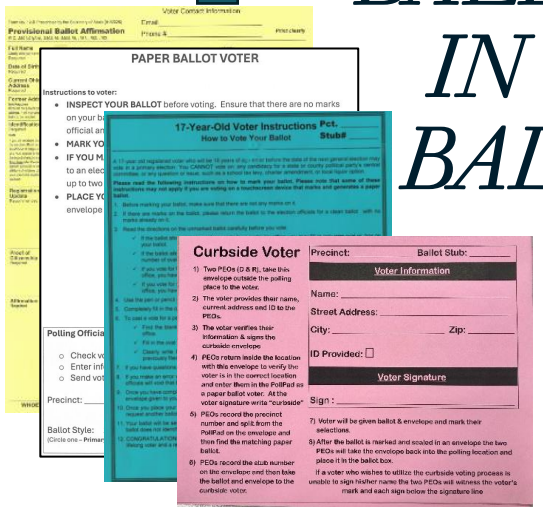




IMPORTANT PAPERS FOLDER



BALLOTS IN THE BALLOT BOX



CLOSING THE POLLS

Unvoted Ballots



POST-ELECTION SUPPLY PACKING REVISED: 03/20/2025

CLEAR MEMORY STICK BAG SHALL ONLY CONTAIN:

- **USB Return Case containing USB Sticks** (must be placed in the correct numerical slot)

Lock the bag using one of the numbered YELLOW locks by feeding the end of the lock through both the hole in the zipper and the grommets in the top corner of the bag and then lock.

KEEP CLEAR BAG SEPERATE TO HAND TO BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF UPON ARRIVAL.

YELLOW BAG SHALL CONTAIN: Voted Paper Rolls

Voted paper rolls should have the machine number and 2 PEO's signature on the bottom of the tape.
Place tape(s) in Yellow Bag.
Seal with Red lock. **Yellow Bag is placed in Black Supply Bag**

Poll Pad

Poll Pads and Base in individual cases.
Lock the cases using one of the numbered YELLOW locks through the hole on the outside of the case.
Place ALL Poll Pad supplies in the Cradle Point case and place a YELLOW lock on the case.

BALLOT BOX(S) (ANY written on paper and Voted Paper Ballots)

- **Voted Paper Ballots**
- **Payroll Sheet** (fully completed)
- **Polling Location Summary** (fully completed)
- **Ballot Accounting Chart** (fully completed)
- **Provisional Sign-in Pages** (any that were written on)
- **Forms** - any completed Secretary of State Forms or PEO Assessments
- **Voter Registration Card** completed by voters

Re-seal the Ballot Box using numbered YELLOW locks.
Ballots & Supplies must be returned to the BOE by a bi-partisan team!
DO NOT Return Blank Ballots in the Ballot Box

BLACK SUPPLY BAG

Supply Tote Tape, Styluses, Tape Measure, Cutters, Info. Notebook, 1st Aid Kit, Screen Cleaning Kit

Lock Bag and Unused Locks	**Unused Paper Ballots**
Unused ICX Paper Rolls	**Power Strips & Extension Cords**
Registration Lists (in Zip Lock Bag and sealed)	**Unused Provisional Envelopes**
United States Flags & Yard Sign(s)	**Provisional Expandable Supply Envelope**
Extra Orange Bag	

FINAL THINGS CHECK LIST

- ☐ All USB Sticks out of ICX Units and in USB Return Case in Clear Memory Stick Bag for return.
- ☐ ICX printer tapes posted on outside of building
- ☐ Packed ICX units, Power Cords and Privacy Shields in Transport cases for pickup by the delivery team. Chain of Custody signed and put back in zippered pouch of bag #1.
- ☐ Remove all signs from the walls, and make sure that everything is back the way you found it.
- ☐ Delivery PEOs have Clear Memory Stick Bag in hand ready to present at courthouse and Locked Ballot Box, Sealed Poll Pads and Black Supply Bag(s) for return to Board of Elections.





THANK YOU

Tracey Pritts	354-9368	tpritts@woodcountyohio.gov
Colby Buzzell	354-9124	cbuzzell@woodcountyohio.gov

https://www.co.wood.oh.us/boe/