

# DuPage County Election

# FOCUS



Cathy Ficker Terrill  
*Chairperson*  
Arthur Ludwig  
*Secretary*  
Christopher Hage  
*Commissioner*  
Robert T. Saar  
*Executive Director*

## BILINGUAL JUDGES NEEDED

Based on the 2010 census data, the Department of Justice informed the DuPage County Election Commission that future elections must be conducted in Spanish as well as English. To fulfill this requirement, DuPage County is in need of qualified English/Spanish speaking individuals who are interested in serving as election judges. For more information, please visit our website at:

<http://www.dupageco.org/election/Workers/37071/>

### VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

#### In this issue:

Meet the Board	<b>1</b>
Bob's Desk	<b>2</b>
Biennial Certification	<b>3</b>
Training dates	<b>3</b>

### AUGUST 2012

#### Special points of interest:

- \* Judge's FAQ—Your questions answered
- \* *How may I help you?* - Voter service
- \* Biennial certification training dates
- \* *Save the Date!* - 2012-2013 Election Calendar

## MEET THE ELECTION BOARD



**Cathy Ficker Terrill, Chairperson** - Cathy brings to the Election Commission a well-deserved reputation for service to her community, leadership and making organizations better. The Elmhurst resident is CEO of the Institute on Public Policy for People with Disabilities, a past director of the Ray Graham Association and the Illinois Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities. She has a Masters Degree in Disability Policy and currently is Adjunct Professor at the University of Illinois and Elmhurst College.



**Arthur Ludwig, Secretary** - Art brings a long and deserved reputation as one of Illinois' top labor leaders to the Election Commission. He is best known statewide as a former Director of the Illinois Department of Labor from 2004 to 2006. Ludwig was a cornerstone in the Warrenville-based International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 701, from 1972 to 2004. He became Business Representative for the union in 1989 and became Assistant Business Manager and finally Business Manager from 1994-2004.



**Christopher Hage, Commissioner** - Chris practices criminal and family law with the firm of Kathryn L. Harry and Associates P.C. in Oak Brook. The Wheaton resident is a former DuPage Assistant State's Attorney and past legal counsel to the Illinois Senate Judiciary Committee in Springfield.



## BOB'S DESK

By Bob Saar, Executive Director

DuPage County saw record turnout in the 2008 General Election with 420,397 ballots cast. Out of those ballots, nearly 110,000 were voted prior to Election Day by Absentee or Early Voting. As we move toward this upcoming Presidential Election, we are anticipating the same level of participation.

In 2009, the Illinois General Assembly passed Public Act 96-0553 which went into effect on

August 17 of that year. The significance being a registered voter may request and vote an absentee ballot without specifying a reason for the absence from the polling place on Election Day. The passage of this Act lifted the absentee restriction from absentee voting opening up DuPage County to a new era of Vote by Mail.

Vote by Mail, along with Early and Grace Period Voting, offers voters more options to participate in the Election process than ever before. These alternatives have allowed the Election Commission to consolidate voting sites into the best, most efficient locations in DuPage County. In addition, it should allow for a much more manageable flow through the polling place on Election Day.

For myself and all the staff at the Election Commission, we would like to thank you for all your hard work in making the elections in DuPage County the best they can be. Have a great Election, and I'll see you at the polls!

## JUDGE'S FAQ

### Why are there two languages on my ballot?

The Election Commission was ordered by the Department of Justice to implement bilingual voting based on the 2010 census data.

### Why aren't the write-in votes sorted by the ballot box?

To avoid jamming and in order to ensure the 17 inch ballots have a clear path into the containment area of the ballot box, the write-in deflector has been removed.

### Can we have an additional TSX (Touchscreen) device in our polling place?

Since paper ballots are the primary method of voting in the polling place, additional TSX units will not be supplied. The TSX device is supplied to comply with Federal ADA regulations.

### Can we get a roll of duct tape in our polling place?

In order to eliminate possible damage to facilities, duct tape is not included in the precinct kit.

### Isn't the technical judge responsible for setting up and breaking down the equipment?

While the technical judge has had additional training in using the election equipment, all judges are responsible for setting up and breaking down the equipment.

## HOW MAY I HELP YOU?

As we move into a Presidential General Election it is important to remember that you as Judges of Election are the cornerstone of the election process. In each of the polling places within DuPage County, you play a vital role in upholding the laws of the Constitution of the United States and the State of Illinois.

It is also important to remember that we provide excellent customer service. Correctly done, a voter seeking help will not only feel that they have been treated well in the polling place, but it will reflect favorably on the electoral process itself. Properly valuing and acknowledging a voter issue can decrease the chance of voter confusion eliminating possible mistakes, which will make closing the polls easier.

Some key tips to providing help to voters:

- ⇒ *Always listen to the voter*
- ⇒ *Identify the problem*
- ⇒ *Be Patient!*
- ⇒ *Attitude, attitude, attitude! Service with a smile*
- ⇒ *Always look for ways to help*
- ⇒ *Give the voter the benefit of the doubt*
- ⇒ *askED will have the answer*

That's all there is to it. Remember, have a great election and we'll see you soon!

Judge's FAQ (cont.)

**Why am I voting for an Elected Official in a district that is different than my current representative?**

All major district lines (Congressional, State Senate, Representative, County Board, Forest Preserve) have been re-drawn based on the 2010 Census data. These new offices will be filled after the 2012 General Election.

**What is a Field Rep?**

A Field Rep is a representative of the Election Commission who is given advanced training on equipment and polling place procedures. You may have even seen them assisting in training! Field Reps are assigned between 10 and 15 polling places to assist you on Election Day.

**Why do some applications to vote have "CHECK ID" when we are not required to do so?**

First time voters who registered by mail and did not submit some form of identification with their registration will have to do so when they vote.

**If a voter is required to cast a provisional ballot for lack of required ID, how much time (if any) is the voter permitted to provide the necessary ID in order for the provisional ballot to count?**

Two calendar days

**Who cannot cast a regular ballot at the polls, but may cast a provisional ballot?**

A person may cast a provisional ballot if any of the following apply:

- The person's name does not appear on the official list of eligible voters
- The voter's registration is challenged and that challenge is sustained by a majority of election judges
- A court order extends the time for voting
- The voter registered by mail and failed to present ID either in person or when submitting application
- The voter received a ballot by mail but didn't return it

**What's new in the polling place this election?**

Per Illinois Statute:

- Judges are required to record the number of OS ballots processed through the machine.
- In place of the Tyvek seals, ballots will now be sealed in the ballot delivery cases using filament tape.

**TRAINING/TESTING DATES**

**Biennial Training / Testing**

September 12 - September 27

**Early Voting Training**

October 8 - October 10

**Technical Judge Training**

October 15 - October 30

All sessions will be held in the JTK Administration Building Auditorium, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton.

**BIENNIAL CERTIFICATION**

The process of appointing the Judges of Election who will serve for the next two years has been completed.

All elected Precinct Committeemen were to submit to their respective Township Chairman the appointment of Judges of Election to serve in their particular precincts.

The Township Chairmen presented the appointments to the County Central Committee Chairman who, in turn, certified to the Election Commission the names of the judges selected to serve their party for the two-year term.

The names of the judges will be forwarded to the 18th Judicial Circuit Court for certification and appointment as officials of the court.

Once certified, judges are secured in their positions and are obliged to work every election during the two-year term.

State statute requires the Election Commission to offer all judges, regardless of their years of experience, a school of instruction. In order to receive extra compensation of \$30 per election, Judges must pass a biennial qualification test.

All judges whose names have been submitted will be notified by mail of the location, dates and times of the schools.

DuPage County  
 ELECTION COMMISSION  
 421 N. County Farm Road  
 Wheaton, Illinois 60187

«AddressBlock»

## ELECTION CALENDAR

Date	Event	Date	Event
9/12/2012	Biennial certification training begins	11/5/2012	Last day to in-person absentee vote
9/27/2012	Absentee voting begins	11/6/2012	2012 General Election
10/9/2012	Registration closes	11/27/2012	Last day to canvass election results
10/10/2012	Grace Period begins	1/17/2013	Absentee voting begins *
10/22/2012	First day for Early Voting	1/29/2013	Registration closed *
11/3/2012	Last day for Grace Period	1/30/2013	Grace Period begins *
11/3/2012	Last day of Early Voting	2/11/2013	First day for Early Voting *
11/3/2012	Healthcare voting	2/23/2013	Last day for Grace Period *
11/4/2012	Sunday election supply pickup	2/23/2013	Last day of Early Voting *

\* In the event of a Consolidated Primary