

THANK YOU TO ALL THE POLL WORKERS THAT SERVED IN THE NOVEMBER 2020 GENERAL ELECTION!

We saw the best voter turnout in 36 years, record-breaking numbers for early voting and vote-by-mail, and the highest amount of poll workers in recent history.



CHICAGO BOARD OF ELECTIONS NEWSLETTER ★ FALL 2021

Dear Poll Worker:

As the frontline workers for free and fair elections in Chicago, you help us defend democracy and safeguard the rights of all voters in our city. We appreciate your dedication to this critical mission, and your support is more essential than ever.

Now that the next Illinois primary election has been pushed back to June 28, 2022, we have been using this time to prepare for changes that were approved by the General Assembly and Governor this year. As part of these updates, Chicago voters will soon be able to make the choice to join a permanent roster for Vote By Mail so that they will automatically receive mail-in ballots ahead of each election.

As you may know, **new district maps are coming**. Elected officials are analyzing the recently released 2020 Census data to review area populations and determine new boundaries. Many voters will be finding themselves within new wards and precincts, even if their polling places stay the same. We will begin notifying voters of their new election information as soon as the finalized maps are certified.

Our main priorities through the next year include:

- Training qualified new and returning poll workers for the upcoming elections in 2022 and 2023
- Re-designing and preparing a voter canvass mailing that allows voters to join the permanent Vote By Mail roster, pre-select their political party for primaries, and update their registration signatures as needed
- Building on the record-breaking early voting turnout in Chicago and educating voters on the many early voting locations throughout the city

This year, we welcomed Charles Holiday, Jr. as our new Executive Director.

Charles has been with the Board of Elections for over 30 years, including supervising the registration division through a digital modernization, multiple redistricting processes, voter canvassing, and more. He is married to his wife Angela and is the proud father of four children and grandfather to three grandchildren. In his spare time, Charles volunteers with charities throughout the city, including the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Ronald McDonald House, and Wrightwood Little League Baseball.



CHARLES HOLIDAY, JR.

We also welcomed Sandra Aspera as our new Assistant Executive Director.

Sandra spent many years working in the registration and pre-election voting and logistics divisions, oversaw the Vote By Mail process in 2020, and will now help the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners carry out its mission across all of its divisions.

Thank you again for all that you do—it may feel like we have some downtime ahead of next year's primary election, but the hard work is just getting started. Keep an eye out for regular updates via email/mail and please reach out with any questions!



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