



Commissioners Report

Preparing for Local Year Petitions

The Board of Elections, few people realize follows cycles of activity that is closely connected to the official state political calendar. Every two years the Board prepares for what is known as a “local Year” election cycle. This is the cycle that each town and city run most of their elective offices. In 2003 the Board received over 846 petitions in 10 days. That broke down to a petition every 1.76 minutes. This year the same number is expected with the reduction of two staff members.

The preparation for this volume takes weeks to print petitions, political calendars, review sheets, signature requirements books, cover sheets and absentee ballot applications. Over 10,000 copies had to be made and hours of staff time to prepare for the hundreds of candidates.

Cost Per Voter Released – Oswego in Top Two Most Cost Effective Boards in New York State

The recent New York State Board of Elections Statistical Report on County Boards Operations listed Oswego County’s Board as the second lowest cost per voter in New York (62 counties) at \$3.30 per voter. Oswego bucked the trend as also being the largest county in the grouping. This marks a constant level of increasing efficiency of the Boards operation over the last eight years.

Cost per voter is a statewide generally accepted comparison of boards because election law requires all boards to carry out the same tasks no matter their size or county make up.

COUNTY	Cost per Voter	Rank by Voters
Chemung	\$3.27	1
Oswego	\$3.30	2
Tioga	\$3.42	3
Jefferson	\$3.46	4
Ulster	\$3.66	5
Saratoga	\$4.04	6
Ontario	\$4.14	7
Columbia	\$4.17	8
Washington	\$4.26	9
Steuben	\$4.27	10

Information Requests

Districts	13
Green Cards	5
Party Change	8
Registration	27
Financial	39
Political Calendar	47
Absentee	10
Elections Results	5
Print-Outs/Labels	102
Election Law	7
Military Requests	2
School District	1
Other <i>(school board elections)</i>	250
HAVA	0
Total	516

Mail Activity

Acknowledgment	1,409
Abs Ballot App	1
Cancellation	2,991
Confirmation	11
Prev Juris Ltr	0
Rejection	11
Transfer	857
DMV Match	0
<i>* New HAVA Requirement</i>	
Total	5,280
Average per clerk	1320.0

Performance Statistics

New Registrations	143
Duplicate	74
Incomplete	5
Name Change	33
HAVA Mail	0
Other (file updates)	944
Party Changes	0
Address Changes	597
Total	1,796
Average per Clerk	449.0

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