



# Safeguarding Our Votes

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New Jersey Voting in the Age of  
COVID-19



# HELLO

My name is

Introduce Yourself in the Chat Box:  
What is your name, town, and what was the first election in which you cast a vote?

# Zoom Basics

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting window titled "Zoom Meeting ID: 752-206-175". The main area displays two video feeds: "Person 2" on the left and "Person 1" on the right. A context menu is open over "Person 1", showing options: "Mute My Audio", "Start Video", "Request", "Hide Non-Video Participants", and "Hide Self View". The bottom toolbar contains icons for "Mute", "Start Video", "Invite", "Participants", "Share", "Chat", and "Record".

Callouts provide the following instructions:

- Speaker View:** Switch to Gallery view if you only see the speaker, or vice versa.
- More Options:** Click the ... for more options, including renaming yourself so that your name appears correctly.
- Start Video:** Make sure that your video is turned on so we can see you!
- Chat:** Use the chat box to ask or respond to questions, or to let us know if you need anything.

**Polling  
Place**



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# Goals


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- **Provide trusted, detailed, and up-to-date information on both HOW to vote in New Jersey in the 2020 General Election and WHY our system works this way**
- **New Jersey voters know how to avoid even inadvertently spreading misinformation**
- **New Jersey voters are ready to vote early and make a voting plan**
- **New Jersey congregants learn about Every Voice, Every Vote: The Reform Movement's 2020 Civic Engagement Campaign and RAC-NJ**

A stage light fixture is positioned in the upper right corner, emitting a bright, circular beam of light. The light passes through a cloud of white smoke or fog that fills the right side of the frame. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a stage or theater environment.

# Setting the Stage





Always Ask  
When You See  
Voting  
Guidance,  
Especially  
Online

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Is this reliable, up-to-date, local information from a trusted source?



# Would You Trust These Sources?



Your Cousin on Facebook



NJ Division of Elections  
Webpage



# Partisan Sources Can Be Problematic

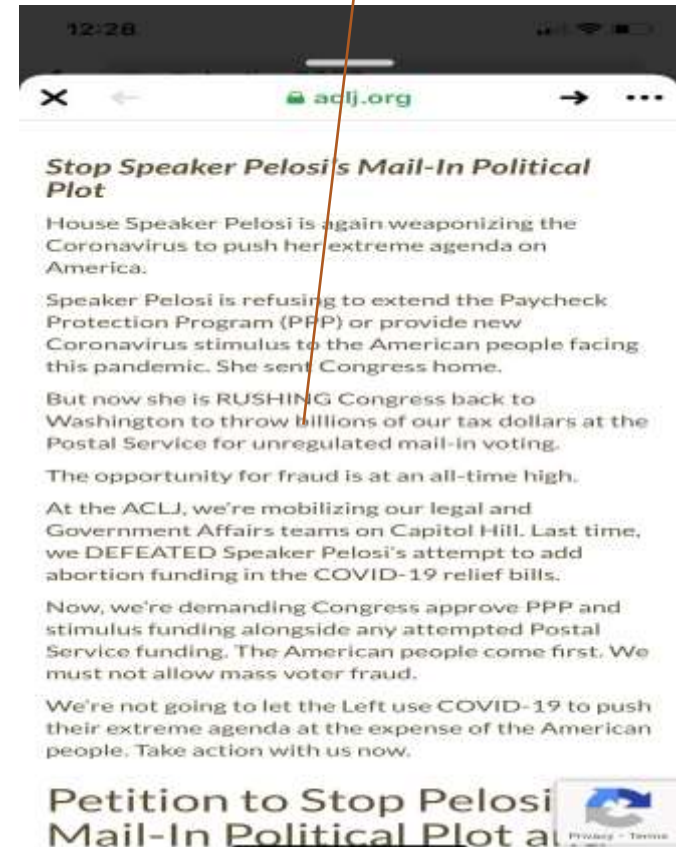
This is misinformation. Our 2020 NJ Election is tightly regulated.



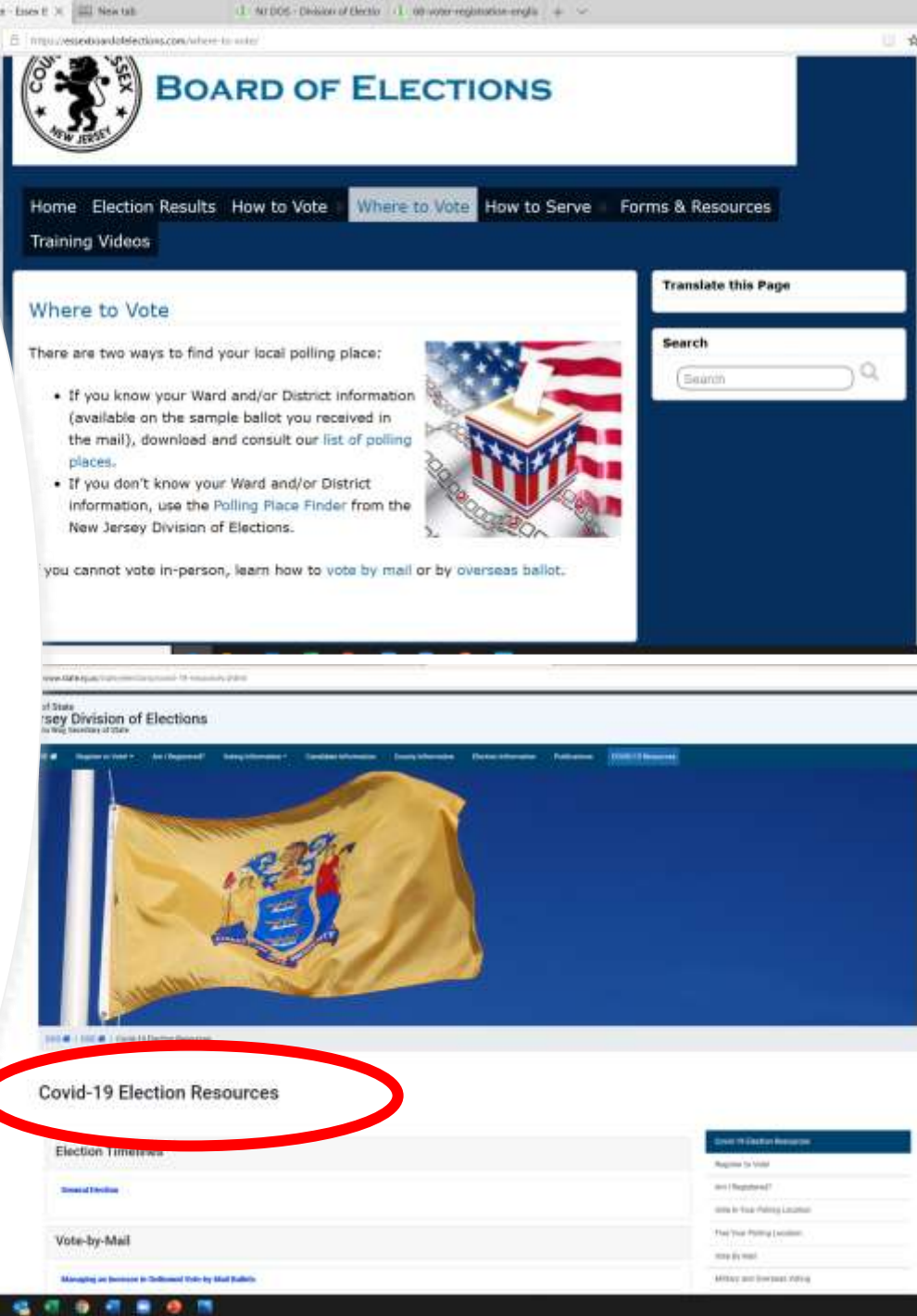
This is misinformation. In NJ in 2020, we do not request mail-in ballots.

This week, we kickoff our 50 day countdown until Election Day.

**The stakes have never been higher to kick out this lying, sexist, white nationalist from the White House.** Trump knows we've been preparing for this moment for years — it's why he's been ruthless in his attempts to sabotage the election, shut down the post



Is It Recent? (Look  
for COVID-19  
Election Resources  
or Similar)

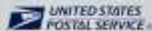


# Is It Local?



# USPS Notice

If you plan to vote by mail,  
plan ahead.



Please read this important information for U.S. citizens.

## Dear Postal Customer,

If you vote by mail, we're committed to providing you a secure, effective way to deliver your ballot. Use this checklist to prepare:

- ☐ Start today. Give yourself and your election officials ample time to complete the process.
- ☐ Rules and dates vary by state, so contact your election board to confirm. Find links at [usps.com/votinginfo](https://usps.com/votinginfo).
- ☐ Request your mail-in ballot (often called "absentee" ballot) at least 15 days before Election Day.
- ☐ Once received, follow the instructions. Add postage to the return envelope if needed.
- ☐ We recommend you mail your ballot at least 7 days before Election Day.

We're ready to deliver for you. Make sure you're ready, too.

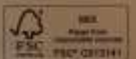
**Your United States Postal Service**

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475 L'Enfant Plaza SW  
Washington, DC 20000

PRESORTED  
STANDARD MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USPS  
PERMIT NO. 5-10



Please Recycle



Visit [usps.com/votinginfo](https://usps.com/votinginfo)  
or contact your election board.

# Share in the Chat

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- Have you encountered election-related misinformation online?
- If so, how have you addressed it?



# Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC)

- Affiliate of the Union of Reform Judaism
- 60 years of history driving justice at the federal level
- Historically:
  - 1964 Civil Rights Act
  - 1965 Voting Rights Act
- More Recently:
  - Marriage Equality
  - Defense of Affordable Care Act
  - Americans with Disabilities Act
  - Reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act
  - Repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell



כל קולות

*Every Voice*

*Every Vote*

The Reform Movement's 2020 Civic  
Engagement Campaign



# A Nonpartisan Campaign

Within 501c3 guidelines, **we can:**

- Discuss issues
- Advocate for equal access to the ballot

Within 501c3 guidelines, **we cannot:**

- Endorse candidates or parties

**Election** – Voters elect officials and vote on ballot initiatives

**Decisions** – Elected officials determine policy around issues we care about from racial justice to healthcare to reproductive justice.

# Voting Our Jewish Values

"Jewish tradition views government as a human partnership with God. Where Torah predicts that Israelites would want civil rulers instead of priests and prophets, Moses told the people: "[B]e sure to place over yourselves the king that God elects for you" (Deut. 17:14-15). The canon records that God chose the first king, Saul (1 Sam. 9:16-17). The second king, David, was chosen by God but **confirmed** by "all of Israel's elders" (2 Sam. 5:3). The third king, his son Solomon, ruled in David's bloodline but "all the people" together **ratified** his accession (1 Kings 1:39). Given this democratic shift, Talmud opined that not even God could select rulers without consulting the people (B.T. Berachot 55a)." -David Evan Markus

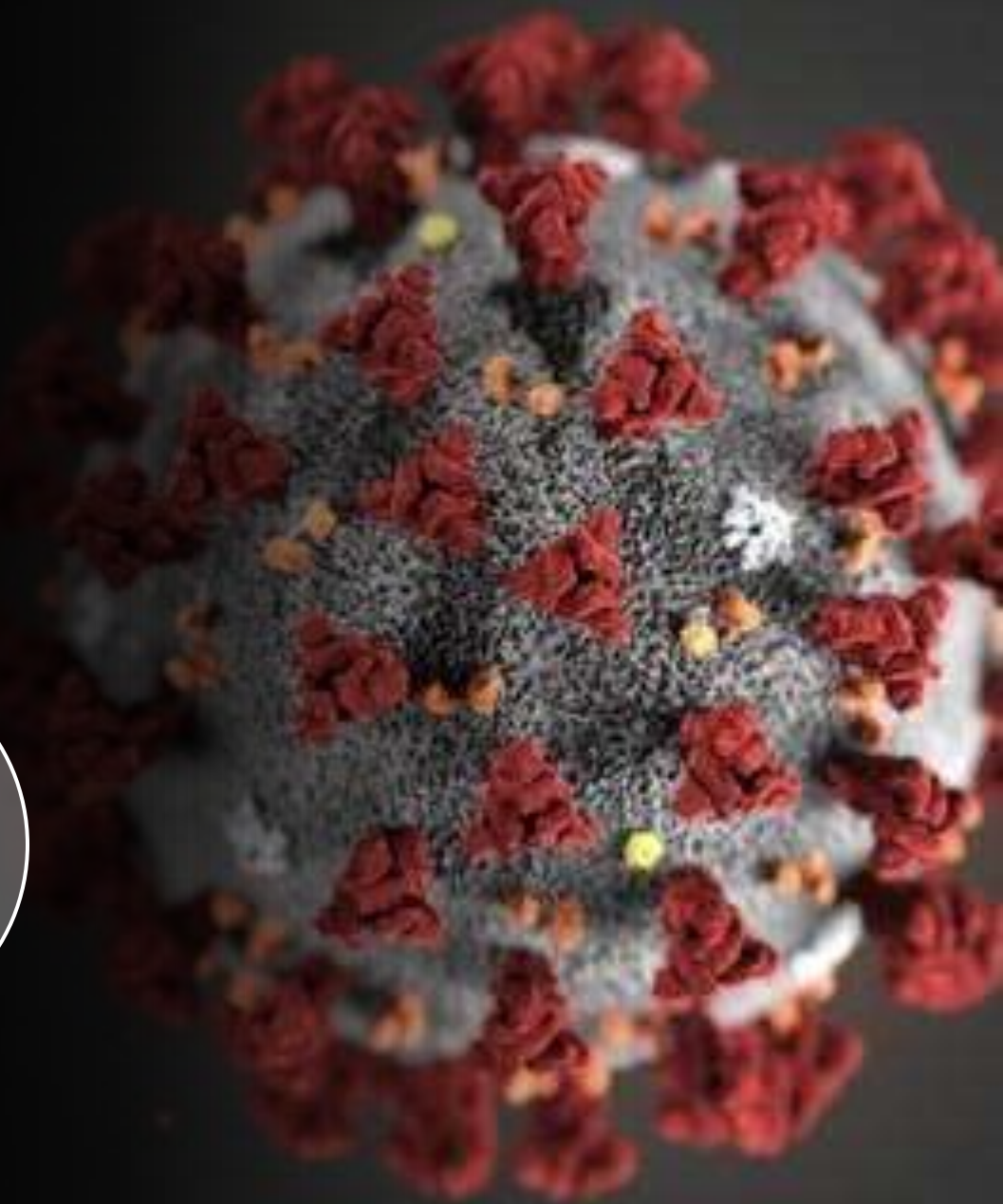


# The RAC and the RAC State Projects



What Do Our Jewish Values  
Require of Us Around  
Voting During COVID?

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# COVID Upended Our NJ Election Process for 2020

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- 2020 New Jersey Elections
  - May Municipal Non-Partisan Elections (in some New Jersey municipalities)
  - July Primary
  - November General Election
- All three elections became entirely or primarily Vote-by-Mail Elections

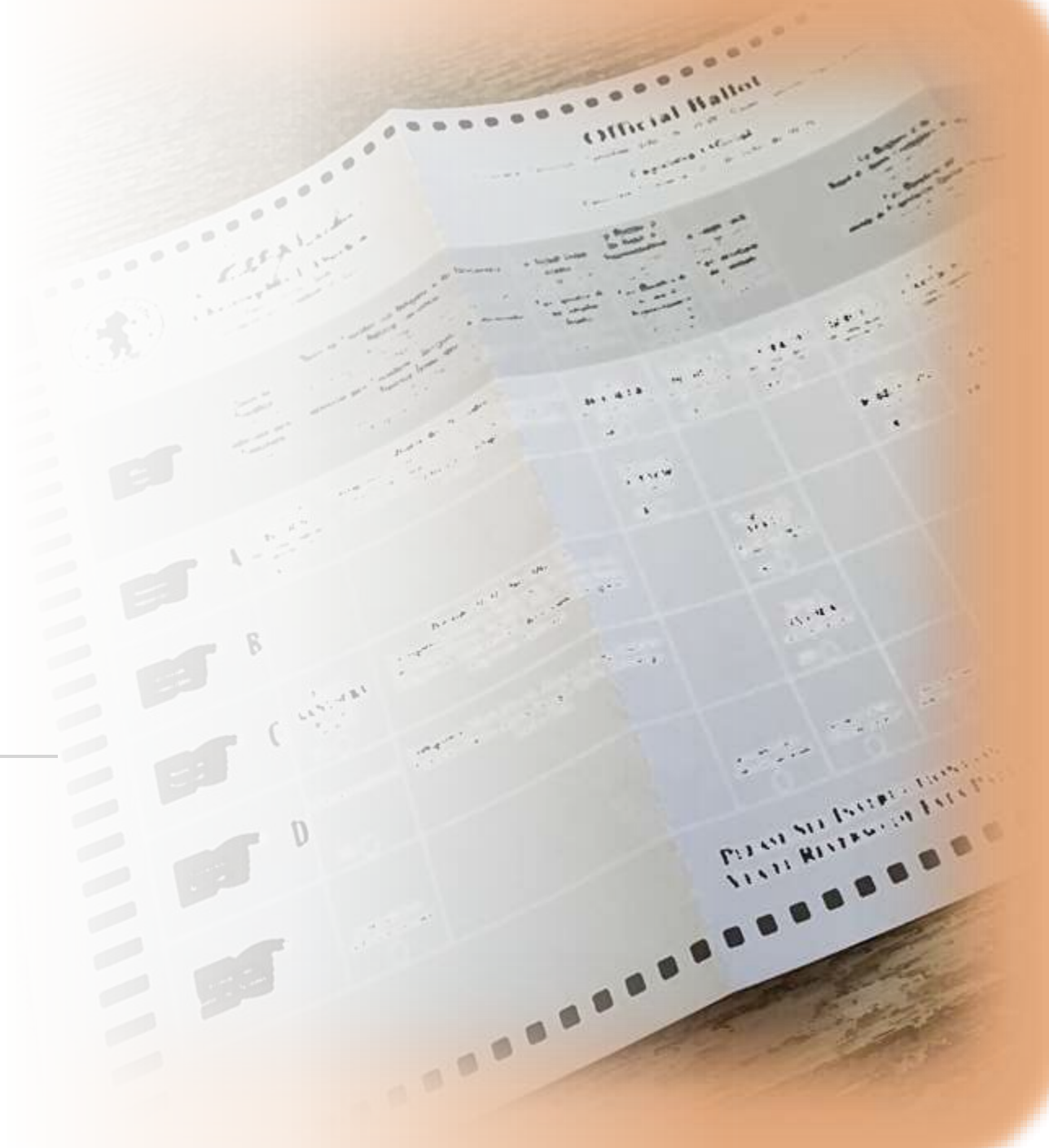




# VBM

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**Vote By Mail**



# All New Jersey ACTIVE Voters will be automatically mailed a VBM ballot

<https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/registration-check>

OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Department of State  
New Jersey Division of Elections  
The Hon. Tahesha Way, Secretary of State

DOS DOE Register to Vote! Am I Registered? Voting Information Candidate Information County Information

< Voter Search | My Voter Information

### Search Results

If you're having trouble finding your voter record, your current status is Inactive, or you have any questions, please contact your County Commissioner of Registration here.

[Redacted]	City Bernardsville Borough
Date of Birth [Redacted]	County Somerset
Registration Effective Date 11/15/2018	
<b>Current Registration Status</b> Inactive	

OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Department of State  
New Jersey Division of Elections  
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DOS DOE Register to Vote! Am I Registered? Voting Information Candidate Information County Information

< Voter Search | My Voter Information

### Search Results

If you're having trouble finding your voter record, your current status is Inactive, or you have any questions, please contact your County Commissioner of Registration here.

SARAH L BLAINE	City Montclair Township
Date of Birth [Redacted]	County Essex
Registration Effective Date 01/28/2019	
<b>Current Registration Status</b> Active	

**Polling  
Place**

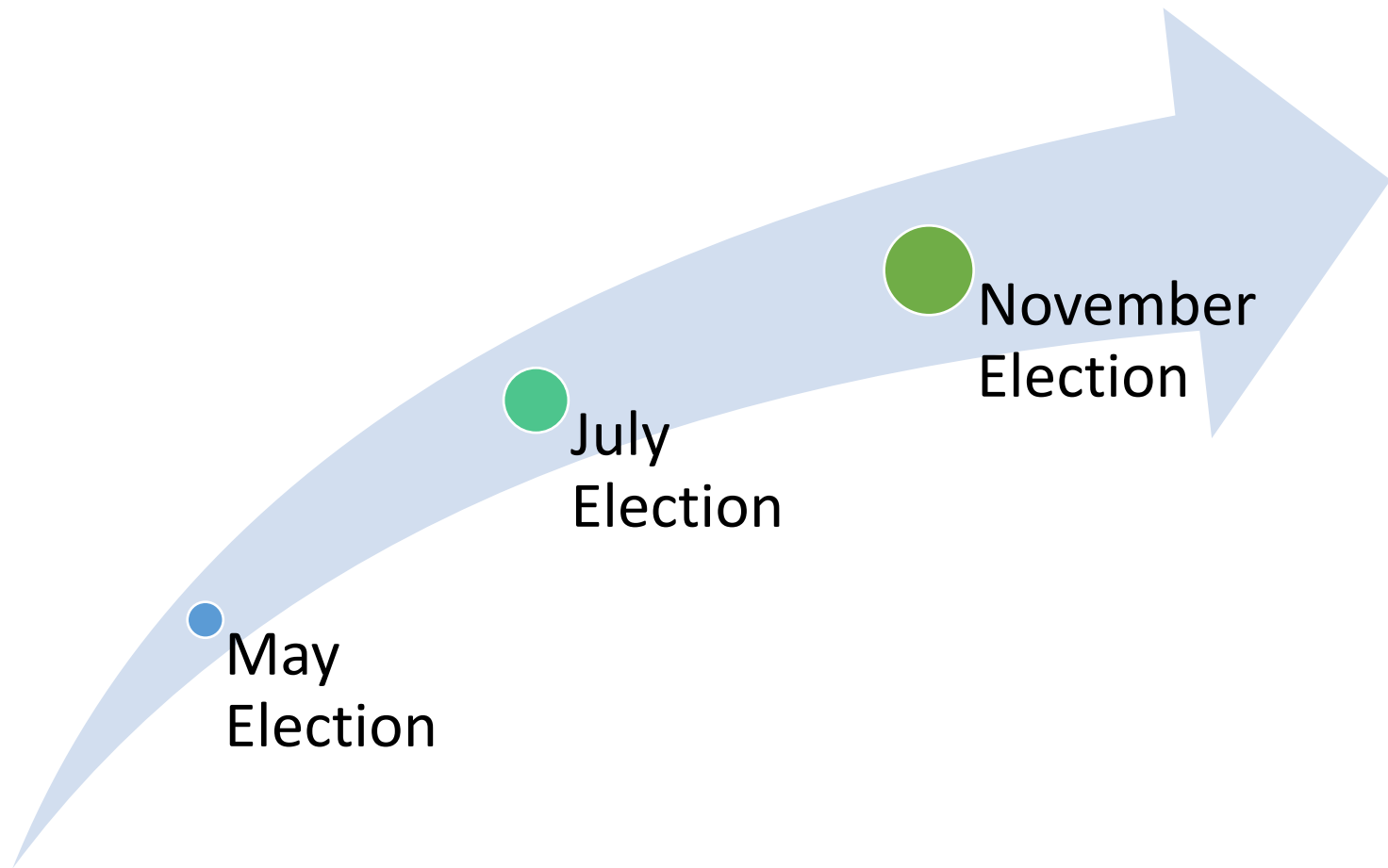


We are doing in 6 months what other states have done in 6 years or more -- but we've learned from May and July

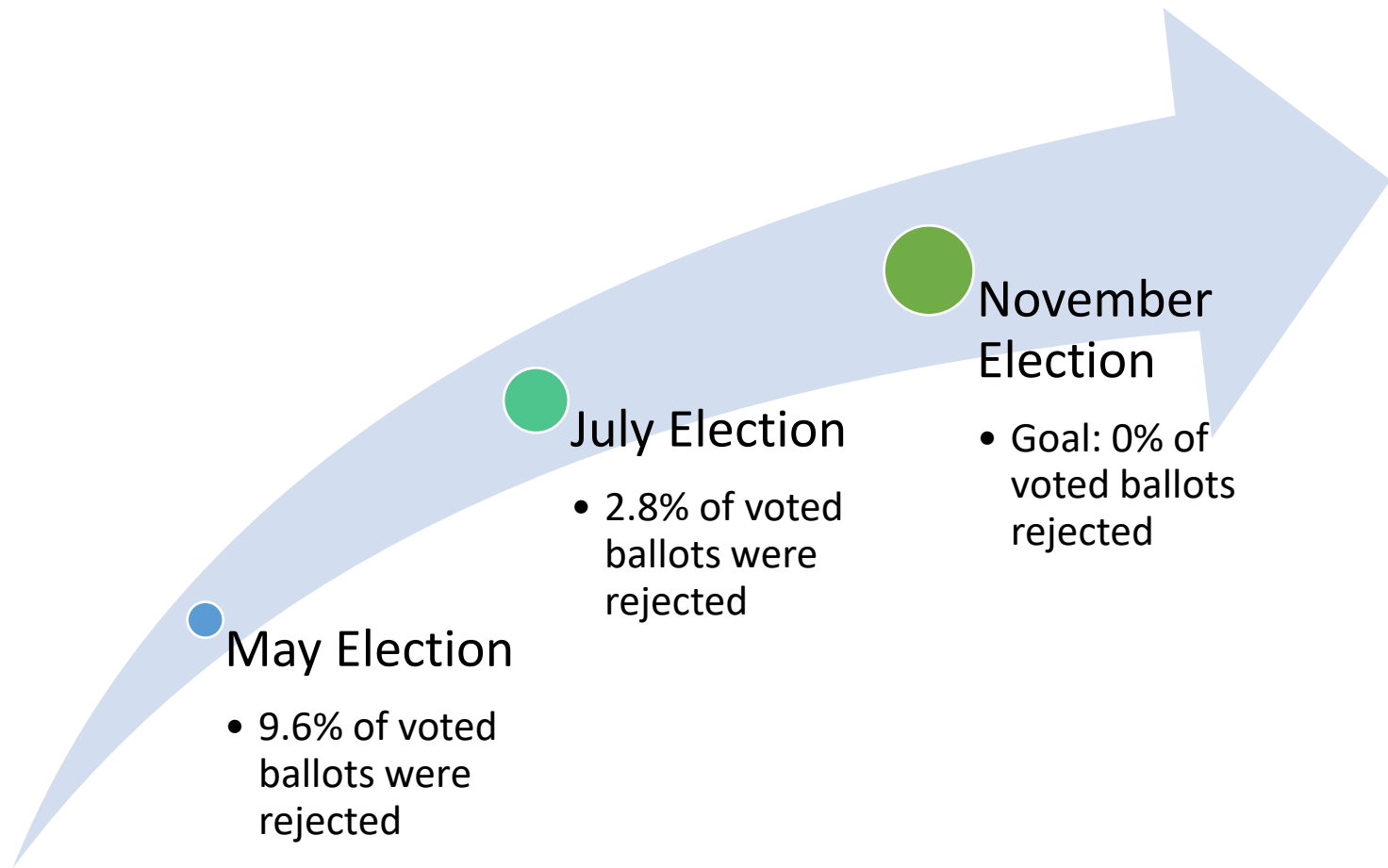
States that have become all VBM states have taken, on average, approximately 5-6 years to get there



# New Jersey Keeps Improving



# New Jersey Keeps Improving





# Executive Orders 177 & 179

All “active” registered voters to be sent VBM ballots

All VBM ballots are postage paid in both directions

You can vote by putting your ballot in a secure ballot drop box

At least 50% of polling places (with at least one per town) will be open

To vote on Election Day at your polling place you must vote a paper provisional ballot or be a voter whose disability requires you to vote on an ADA-compliant voting machine

VBM ballot can be returned to the voter’s designated polling place on Election Day

There is a process to make sure your vote is counted even if your signature doesn’t appear to match the one in the poll book

# Three New Voting Laws (Aug. 28, 2020)

A4276/S2598

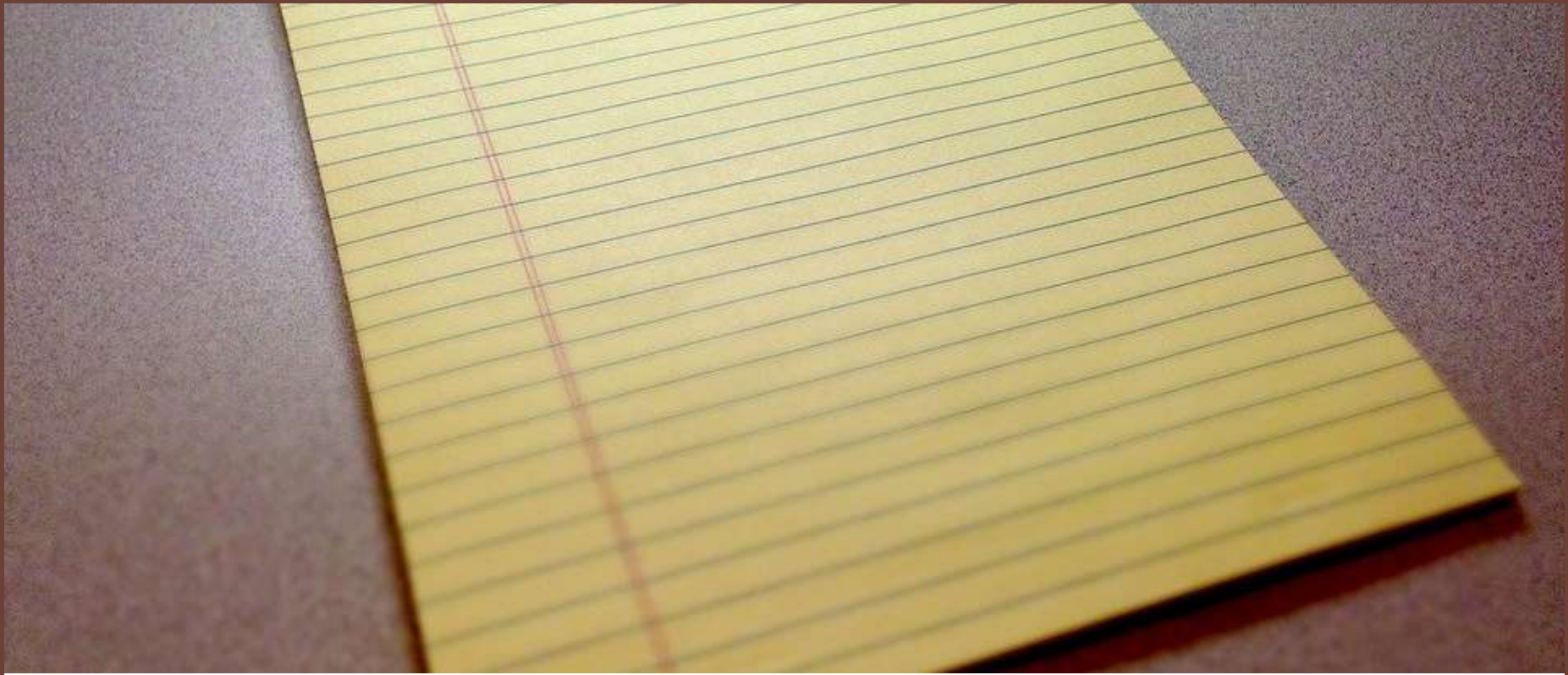
- Codifies signature cure process

A4320/S2633

- Requires a public education campaign re: November voting

A4475/S2580

- Codifies the Executive Orders from the last slide into law for the November 2020 General Election, adds more secure drop boxes, adds early ballot verification and vote counting



Okay, enough with the legalese!  
What does this mean for me?

# New Stuff

- This is a **paper ballot election** (primarily vote by mail)
- New Jersey has **online voter registration** for the first time – please share this far and wide!!!
- Unless I have a disability that requires me to vote on a machine, **I cannot vote on a machine** in the 2020 General Election
- I can vote a **provisional ballot** on Election Day +
- I have 4 ways to return my Vote By Mail Ballot – only one depends on USPS
- **VOTE EARLY!!!!**



# MAKE A PLAN VOTE EARLY

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Give yourself some time. It's not hard, but it's NEW. And the weightiness and consequence of this election means you want to take the time to get it right.



# 2020 General Election Timeline

September 15, 2020

- Certification of Polling Places for General Election

October 5, 2020

- Mailing of Mail-in Ballots for General Election Completed

October 13, 2020

- Voter Registration Deadline for General Election

October 23, 2020

- Deadline to apply by mail for a General Election Mail-in Ballot

November 3, 2020

- General Election

November 10, 2020

- VBM ballots postmarked on/before November 3 WILL BE COUNTED

November 23, 2020

- Deadline for County Clerk to Transmit Official Election Results to the Secretary of State

December 8, 2020

- Deadline for Board of State Canvassers to Certify General Election Results

December 14, 2020

- Meeting of the Electoral College



# VBM Benefits

- Increase in voter participation (26% participation in the July 7, 2020 primary – 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in NJ History)
- Convenience of vote-from-home
- More time to study the ballot
- No partisan advantage
- Paper record of all votes cast

NJ's VBM voter fraud  
detection process  
works

# NJ VBM Problems

- Voter Fraud (e.g., Paterson case)
- Ballot Rejection
- VBM Ballots to be sent only to "Active Voters" can cause confusion

Ballot cure provisions, extended receipt deadlines, voter education decreases these numbers substantially

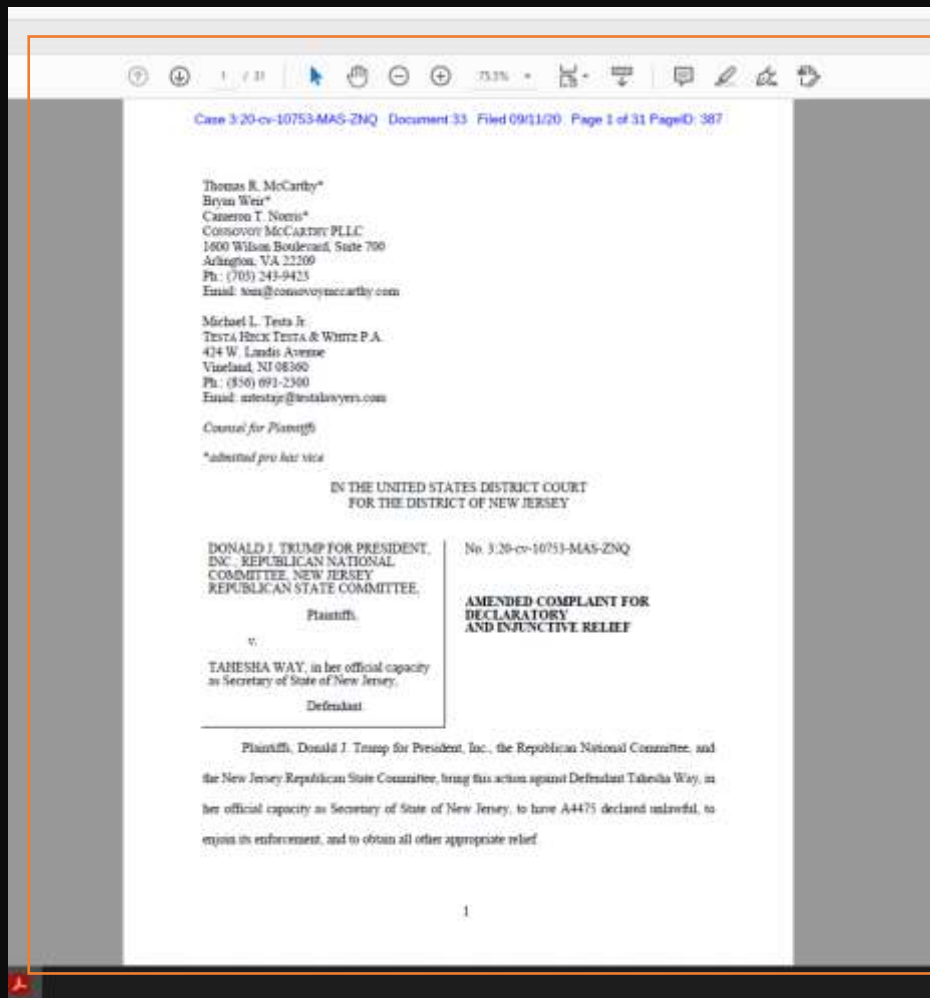
428,556 eligible voters are "inactive" for Nov. 3 and must request VBM ballots. 5,784,060 are active voters. 452,972 voters were classified as "inactive" prior to the July 2020 primary.

## Share in the Chat

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- Have you voted by mail in prior elections?
- If so, how was your experience?





# Trump Campaign v. Way

# NEW! NJ Online Voter Registration

## <https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/register>

OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Governor Phil Murphy • Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver  
NJ.gov | Services | Agencies | FAQs | Translate | Search

Department of State  
**New Jersey Division of Elections**  
The Hon. Tahesha Way, Secretary of State

DOS DOE Register to Vote Am I Registered? Voting Information Candidate Information County Information Election Information Publications

### Eligibility - Voter Registration Application

1 2 3 4  
Eligibility Identification Political Party Submit

☒ I certify and attest that the following statements are true:

- I am a U.S. Citizen
- I am New Jersey resident
- I will have resided in the State and County for at least 30 days before the next election
- I am at least 17 years of age
- I am not serving a sentence of incarceration as the result of a conviction of an indictable offense under the laws of this or another state or the United States.

Back Next

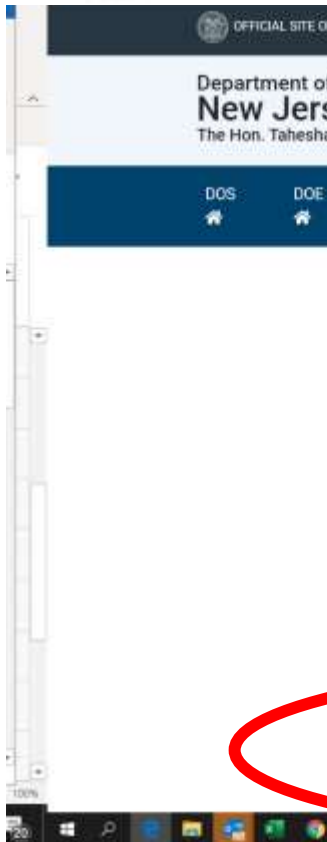
Print Paper Form | Am I Already Registered?

10:30 AM  
8/11/2020





# NJ Online Voter Registration



## New Jersey Voter Registration Application

Please print clearly in ink. All information is required unless marked optional.

68

<b>1</b> Check all boxes that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> New Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Name Change <input type="checkbox"/> Political Party Affiliation <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change <input type="checkbox"/> Signature Update <input type="checkbox"/> Vote By Mail						<b>FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY</b>
<b>2</b> Are you a U.S. Citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If No, DO NOT complete this form)						
<b>3</b> Are you at least 17 years of age? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If No, DO NOT complete this form)						Clerk
<b>4</b> Last Name		First Name		Middle Name or Initial	Suffix (jr, sr, III)	Registration #
<b>5</b> Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)		<b>6</b> Gender (Optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male				Office Time Stamp
<b>7</b> NJ Driver's License Number or MVC Non-driver ID Number						<input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> in person
If you DO NOT have a NJ Driver's License or MVC Non-Driver ID, provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number						
<input type="checkbox"/> I swear or affirm that I DO NOT have a NJ Driver's License, MVC Non-driver ID or a Social Security Number.						Mail Code #
<b>8</b> Home Address (DO NOT use PO Box)		Apt.	Municipality (City/Town)	County	State	Zip Code
<b>9</b> Mailing Address (if different from Home Address)		Apt.	Municipality (City/Town)	County	State	Zip Code
<b>10</b> Last Address Registered to Vote (DO NOT use PO Box)		Apt.	Municipality (City/Town)	County	State	Zip Code
<b>11</b> Former Name if Making Name Change:		<b>12</b> Day Phone Number (Optional)				Party
		E-Mail Address (Optional)				Ward
<b>13</b> Do you wish to declare a political party affiliation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the party name is (Optional) <input type="checkbox"/> No, I do not wish to be affiliated with any political party.						District
<b>14</b> Request for Mail-In Ballot for all future elections (Optional) <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to receive a Mail-In Ballot for all future elections until I request otherwise in writing to the County Clerk's office. <input type="checkbox"/> Mail my ballot to the following address if different from Mailing Address above: Mailing Address if different from above: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____						
<b>Declaration - I swear or affirm that:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I am a U.S. Citizen</li><li>I live at the above home address</li><li>I am at least 17 years old, and understand that I may not vote until reaching the age of 18</li><li>I will have resided in the State and county at least 30 days before the next election</li><li>I am not serving a sentence of incarceration as the result of a conviction of any indictable offense under the laws of this or another state or of the United States.</li><li>I understand that any false or fraudulent registration may subject me to a fine of up to \$15,000, imprisonment up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19-34-1</li></ul>						
Signature of Registrant: Sign or mark and date on lines below						
If applicant is unable to complete this form, print the name and address of individual who completed this form:						
Name _____						
Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____						
Address _____						





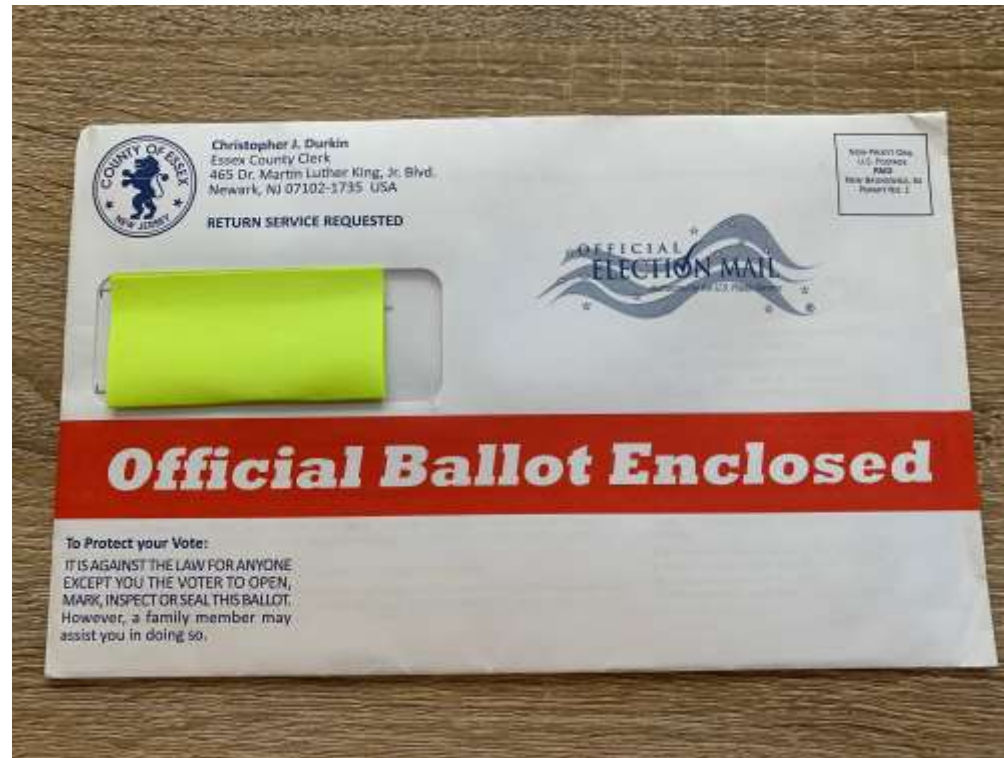
# Watch for your County Clerk's mailer

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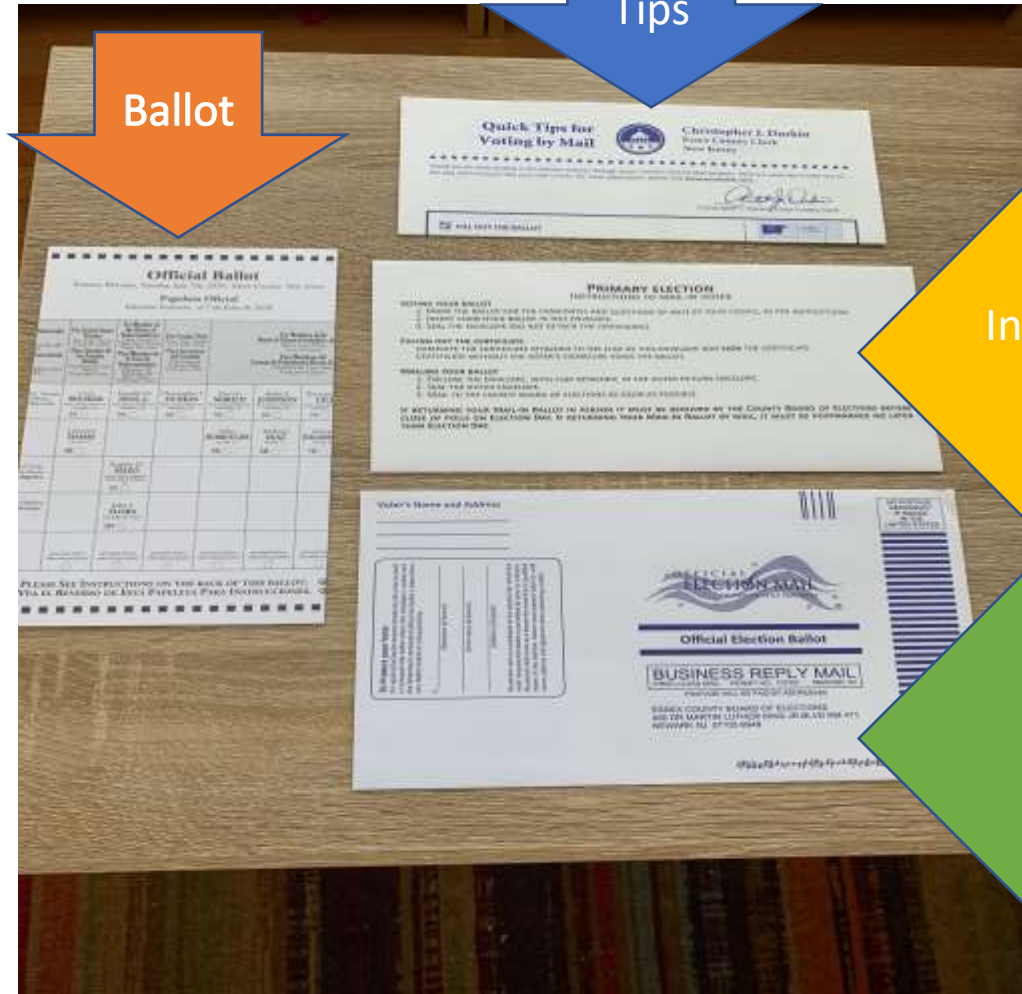
- Instead of a sample ballot, your County Clerk is required to mail to you, no later than October 23<sup>rd</sup>, a notice that informs you of:
    - Your 2020 General Election polling place
    - The locations of your county's secure drop boxes
    - Where to obtain a sample ballot
- 



# Your Ballot Arrived! Now What?



# What's in the Envelope?



Quick  
Tips

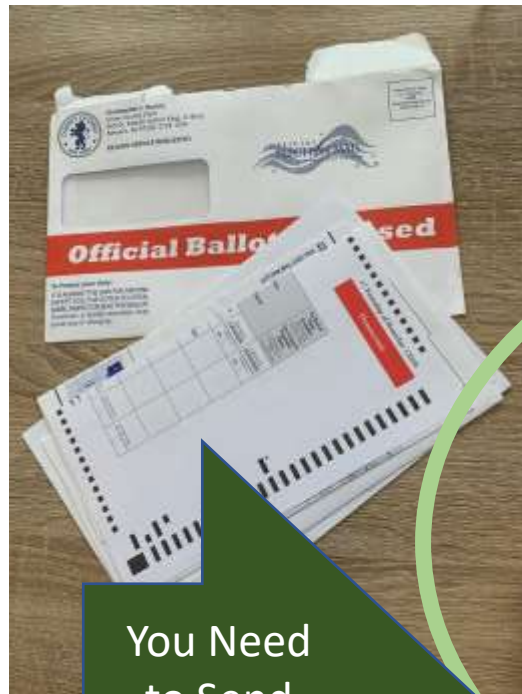
Ballot

Inside Return  
Envelope

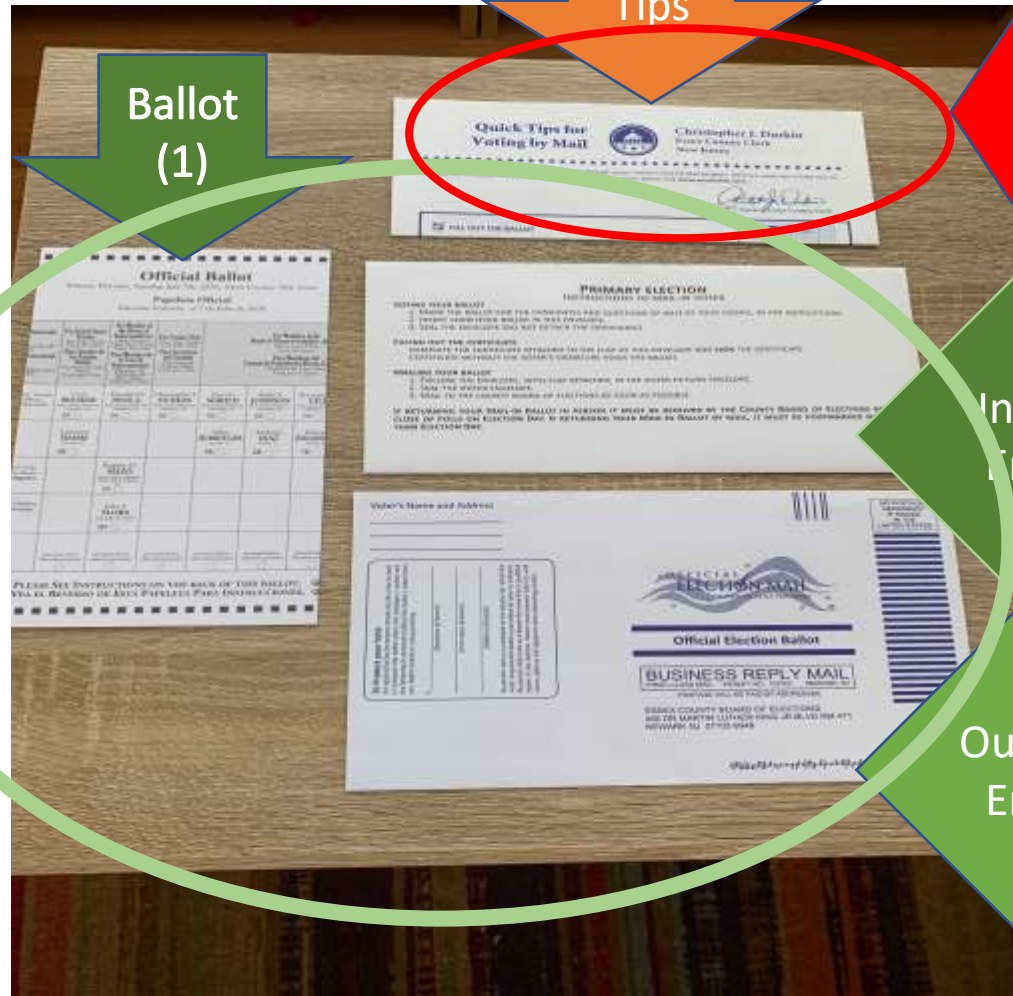
Outside  
Return  
Envelope



# What's in the Envelope?



You Need  
to Send  
Back All 3  
Of These



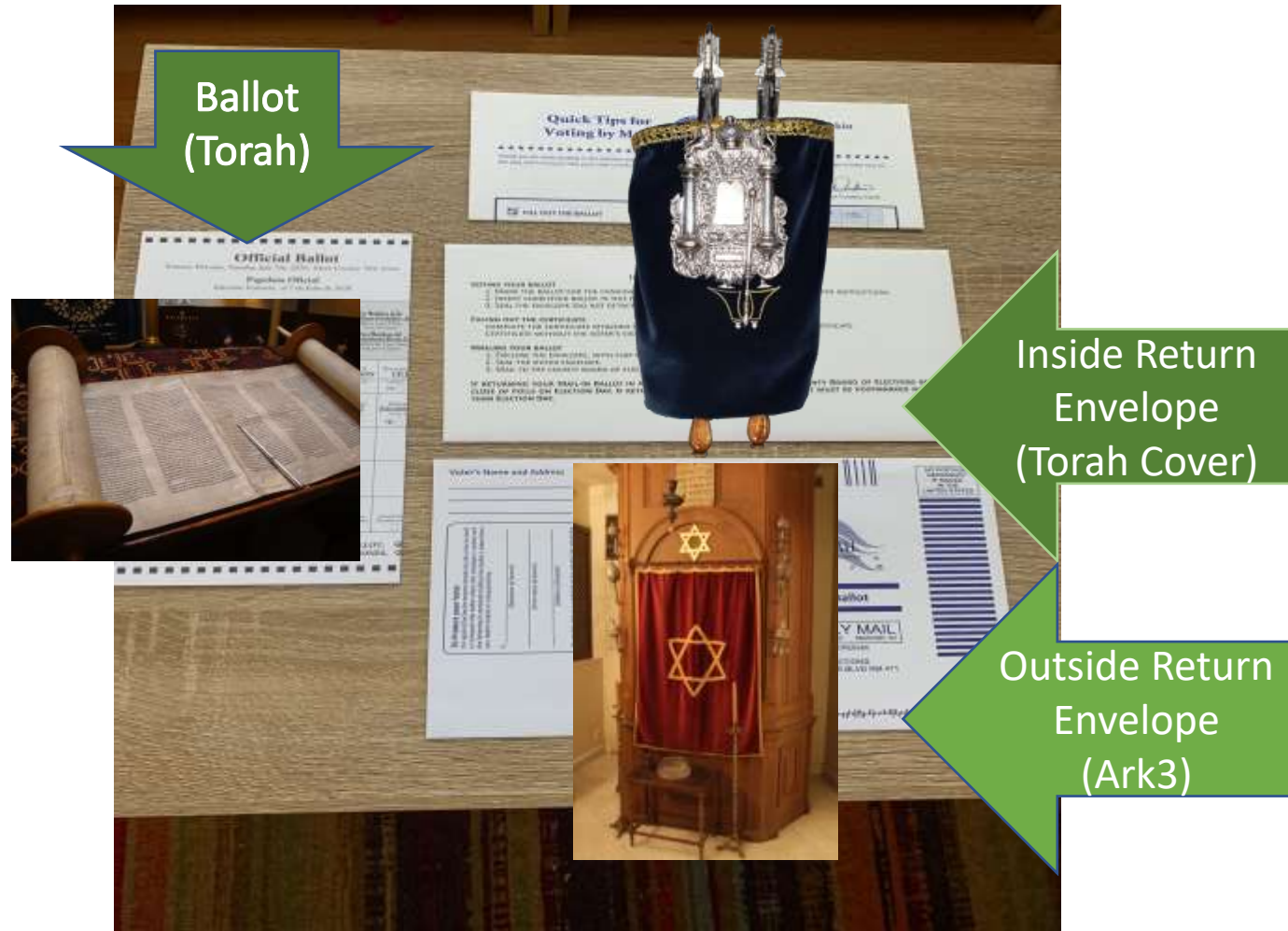
Quick  
Tips

You Do  
NOT  
Send this  
Back

Inside Return  
Envelope (2)

Outside Return  
Envelope (3)

# What's in the Envelope?

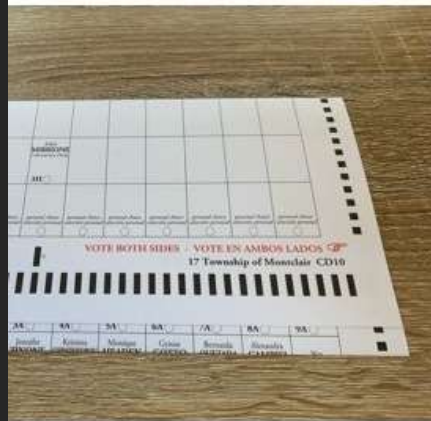


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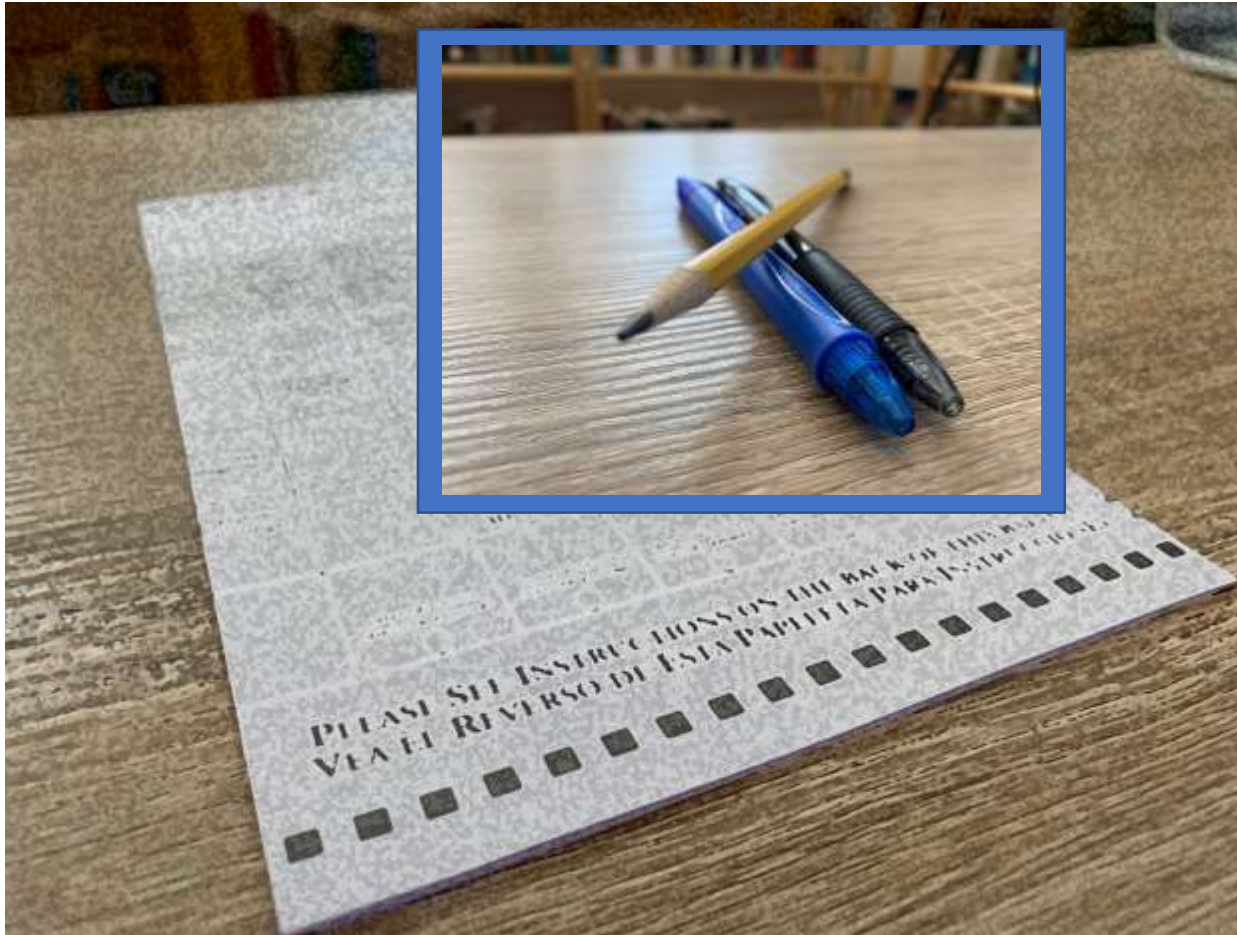
# Ballot as Torah Metaphor





# How to Fill Out Your Ballot

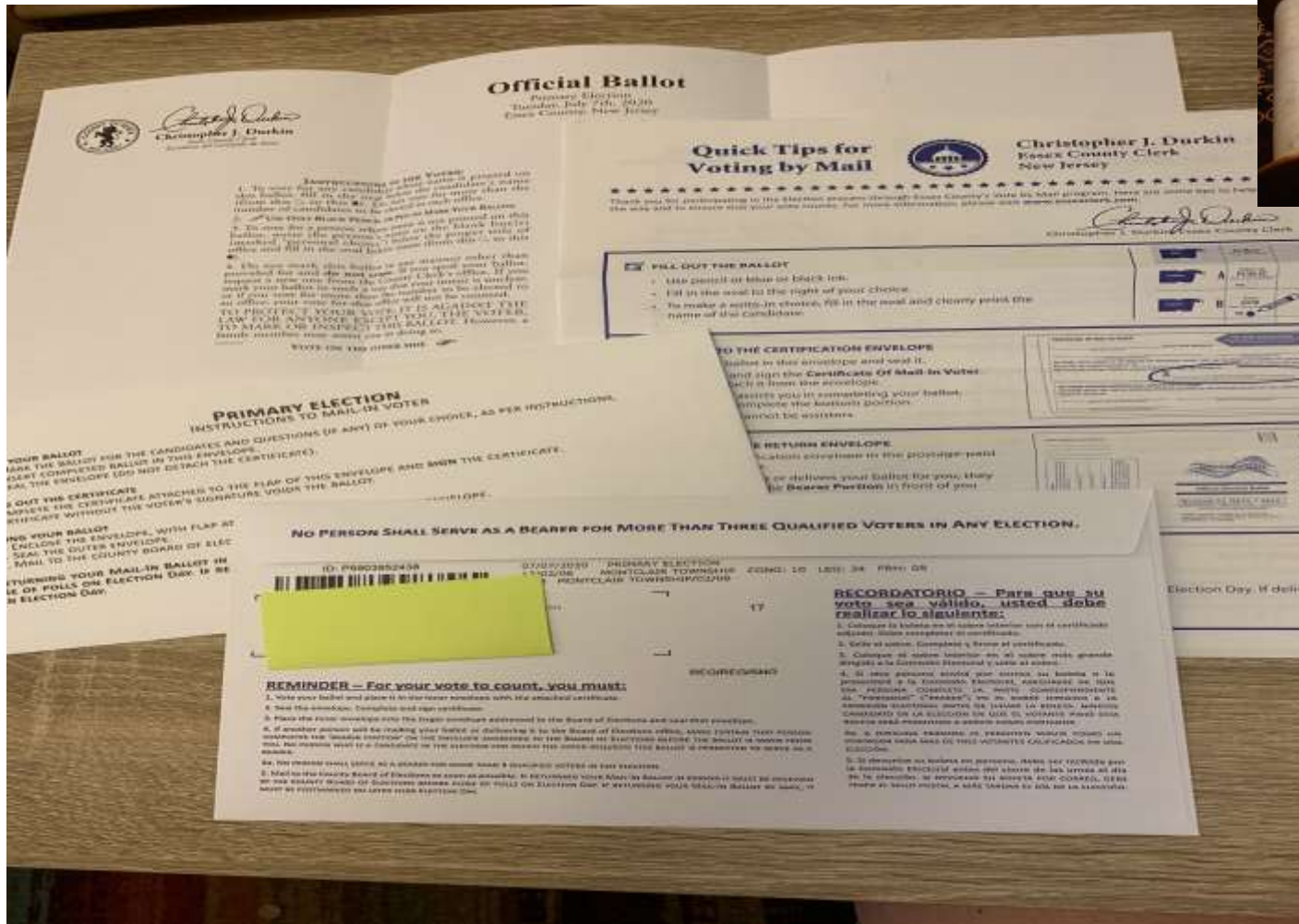
How hard can this be? It's not like a Talmudic dispute!



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# Don't Worry, There Are Four Sets of Instructions

We have Mishnah, Gemara, and at least two medieval commentators!



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Religious  
Action  
Center  
of Reform Judaism



# YAY! DUELING INSTRUCTIONS!

"Use Only Black Pencil or Pen to Mark Your Ballot" vs. "Use pencil or blue or black ink."



**Official Ballot**  
Primary Election  
Tuesday, July 7th, 2020  
Essex County, New Jersey

**Quick Tips for Voting by Mail**

Christopher J. Durkin  
Essex County Clerk  
New Jersey

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for participating in the Election process through Essex County's Vote by Mail program. Here are some tips to help you on the way and to ensure that your vote counts. For more information, please visit [www.essexclerk.com](http://www.essexclerk.com).

*Christopher J. Durkin*  
Christopher J. Durkin, Essex County Clerk

**FILL OUT THE BALLOT**

- Use pencil or blue or black ink.
- Fill in the oval to the right of your choice.
- To mark your choice, fill in the oval and clearly print the name of the candidate.

**INSERT INTO THE CERTIFICATION ENVELOPE**

- Place the ballot in this envelope and seal it.
- Complete and sign the **Certificate Of Mail-In Voter**. Do not detach it from the envelope.
- If someone assists you in completing your ballot, they must complete the bottom portion.
- Candidates cannot be assistants.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER:**

1. To vote for an office, the candidate's name is printed on the ballot. Fill in the oval to the right of the name. Do not vote for more than the number of candidates to be elected in each office.
2. **USE ONLY BLACK PENCIL OR PEN TO MARK YOUR BALLOT.** Do not vote for a person whose name is not printed on this ballot. (marked "personal choice") know the proper title of office and fill in the oval below mine (from this O, to this O).
4. Do not mark this ballot in any manner other than provided for and do not erase. If you spoil your ballot, request a new one from the County Clerk's office. If you mark your ballot in such a way that your intent is unclear, or if you vote for more than the number to be elected to an office, your vote for that office will not be counted.

TO PROTECT YOUR VOTE IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR ANYONE EXCEPT YOU, THE VOTER, TO MARK OR INSPECT THIS BALLOT. However, a family member may assist you in doing so.

VOTE ON THE OTHER SIDE

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# So What Kind of Pen or Pencil Should I Use?

Blue Pen? Black Pen? Pencil? Who Knew We Would Need Hillel and Shammai to Fill Out a Ballot?



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**Religious  
Action  
Center**  
of Reform Judaism



# Err on the Side of Caution

For those of us who want to be doubly-sure our votes will be counted, take Kit the Cat's advice and use black ink. Fill in the oval completely! Do not circle it or check it – the machines cannot read those marks.



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Action  
Center**  
of Reform Judaism





# You've Picked Your Pen...

Now Fully Fill In the Oval for the Candidate(s) of Your Choice (or indicate your write-in candidate)



Fill In Your Candidate(s)' Ovals Completely

(REMINDER:  
We are a  
501c3 and  
this is a  
nonpartisan  
event. Vote  
your  
conscience.  
This is not  
intended to  
be nor is it  
actually an  
endorsement  
of any  
particular  
candidate or  
party.)

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# Once You've Made Your Choices, Re-Fold Your Ballot



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# Phew, My Ballot is Filled In... Now What?

You have 3 total envelopes (the one you opened plus two more).



You can throw out the outside envelope you tore open. You don't need it unless you want to put it in your 2020 scrapbook for the historians.



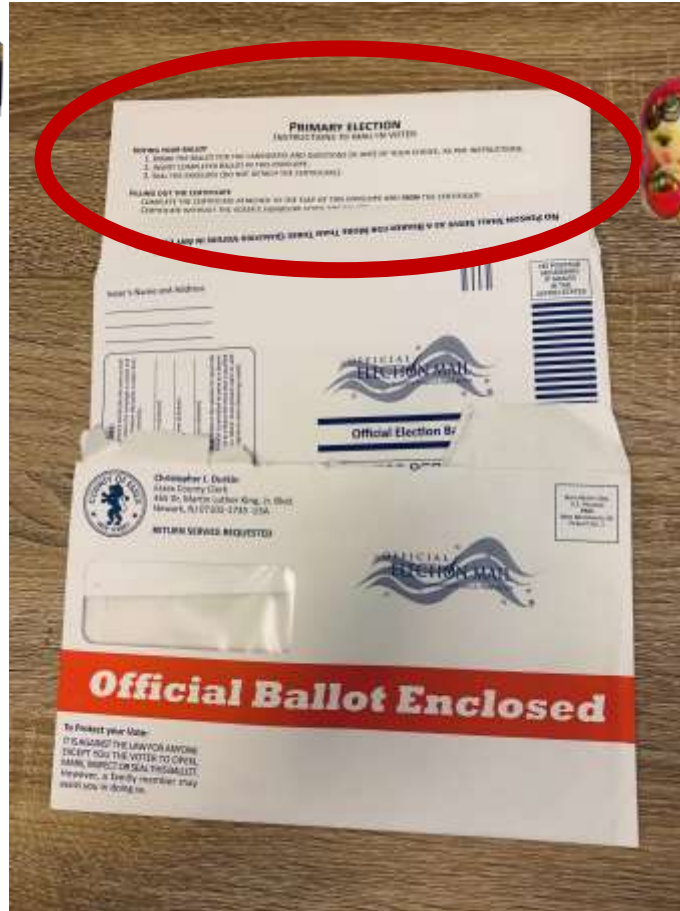
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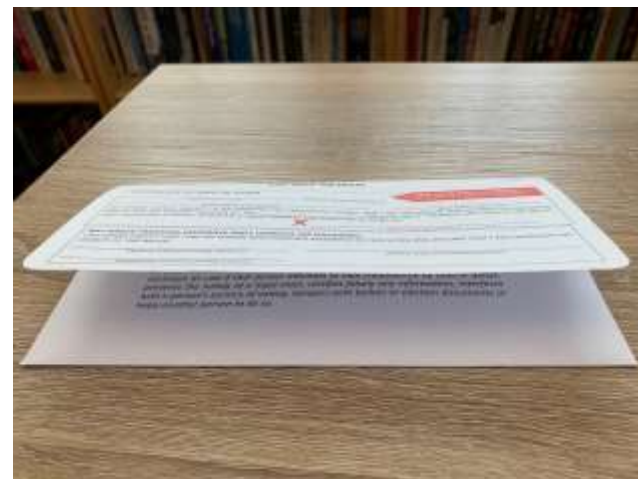
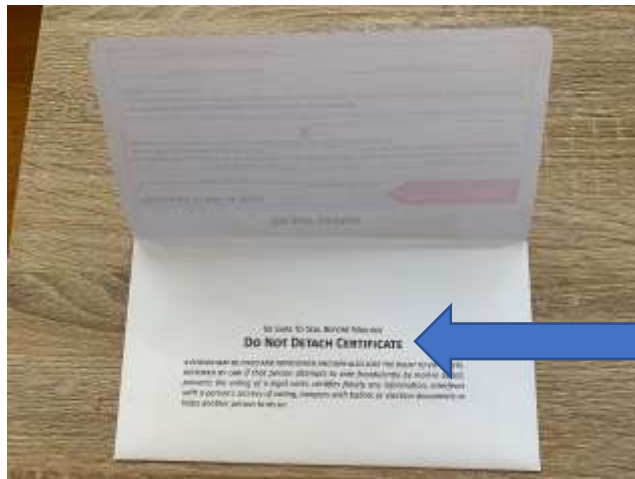
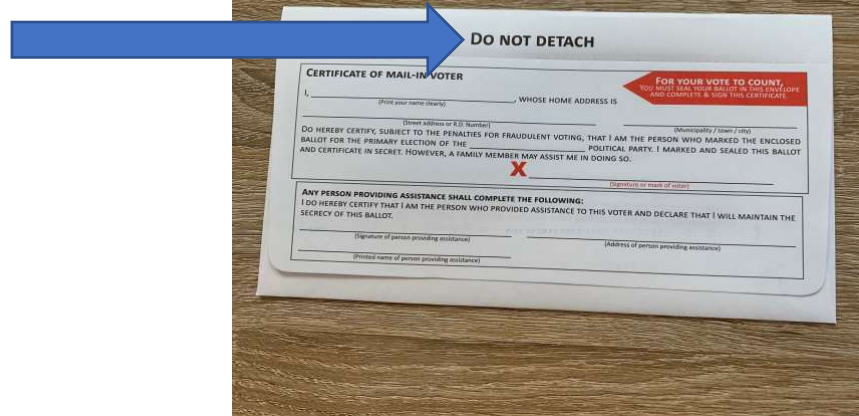
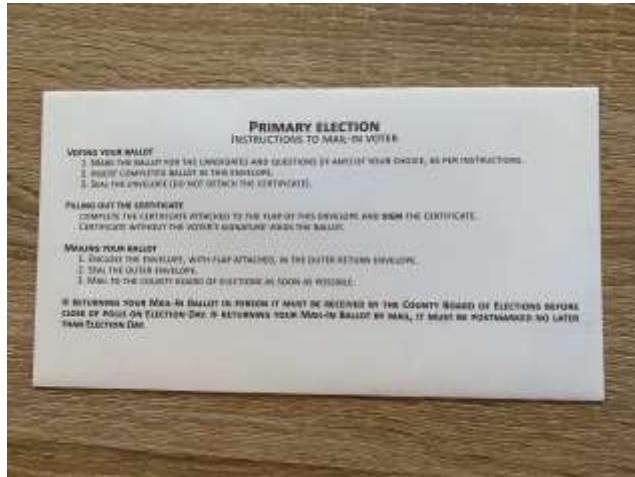
# Then Fill Out Your Inner Return Envelope

The inner return envelope is the baby envelope.





# The Inner Return Envelope looks like this with a big flappy thing. **DO NOT DETACH THE FLAPPY THING!**



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Unknown  
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[BY-NC](#)

Religious  
Action  
Center  
of Reform Judaism



# DO NOT CIRCUMCISE THE ENVELOPE

Why not? Your signature by the **red X** is the signature that will be matched against the voter registration book.

**DO NOT DETACH**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAIL-IN VOTER**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, WHOSE HOME ADDRESS IS \_\_\_\_\_

(Print your name clearly) (Street address or R.D. Number) (Municipality / town / city)

DO HEREBY CERTIFY, SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES FOR FRAUDULENT VOTING, THAT I AM THE PERSON WHO MARKED THE ENCLOSED BALLOT FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ POLITICAL PARTY. I MARKED AND SEALED THIS BALLOT AND CERTIFICATE IN SECRET. HOWEVER, A FAMILY MEMBER MAY ASSIST ME IN DOING SO.

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature or mark of voter)

**ANY PERSON PROVIDING ASSISTANCE SHALL COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM THE PERSON WHO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO THIS VOTER AND DECLARE THAT I WILL MAINTAIN THE SECRECY OF THIS BALLOT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of person providing assistance)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of person providing assistance)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed name of person providing assistance)

**FOR YOUR VOTE TO COUNT, YOU MUST SEAL YOUR BALLOT IN THIS ENVELOPE AND COMPLETE & SIGN THIS CERTIFICATE**



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# Help! What If My Signature Has Changed?

- Relax: The new legislation says that your ballot cannot be rejected because of things like whether or not you used a middle initial.
- You can re-register before October 13<sup>th</sup> if you want to make sure your signature is current. Stay on at the end of this Zoom and we will talk about how to do that.
- Vote early! Track your ballot online. Call your county board of elections to inquire about ballot status. Once it is accepted, you know you have nothing more to worry about it. Check your messages and your US mail for a cure letter.



# PLACE YOUR COMPLETED BALLOT IN THE INNER ENVELOPE.

Seriously, don't forget to put your ballot in its envelope. Then seal it.



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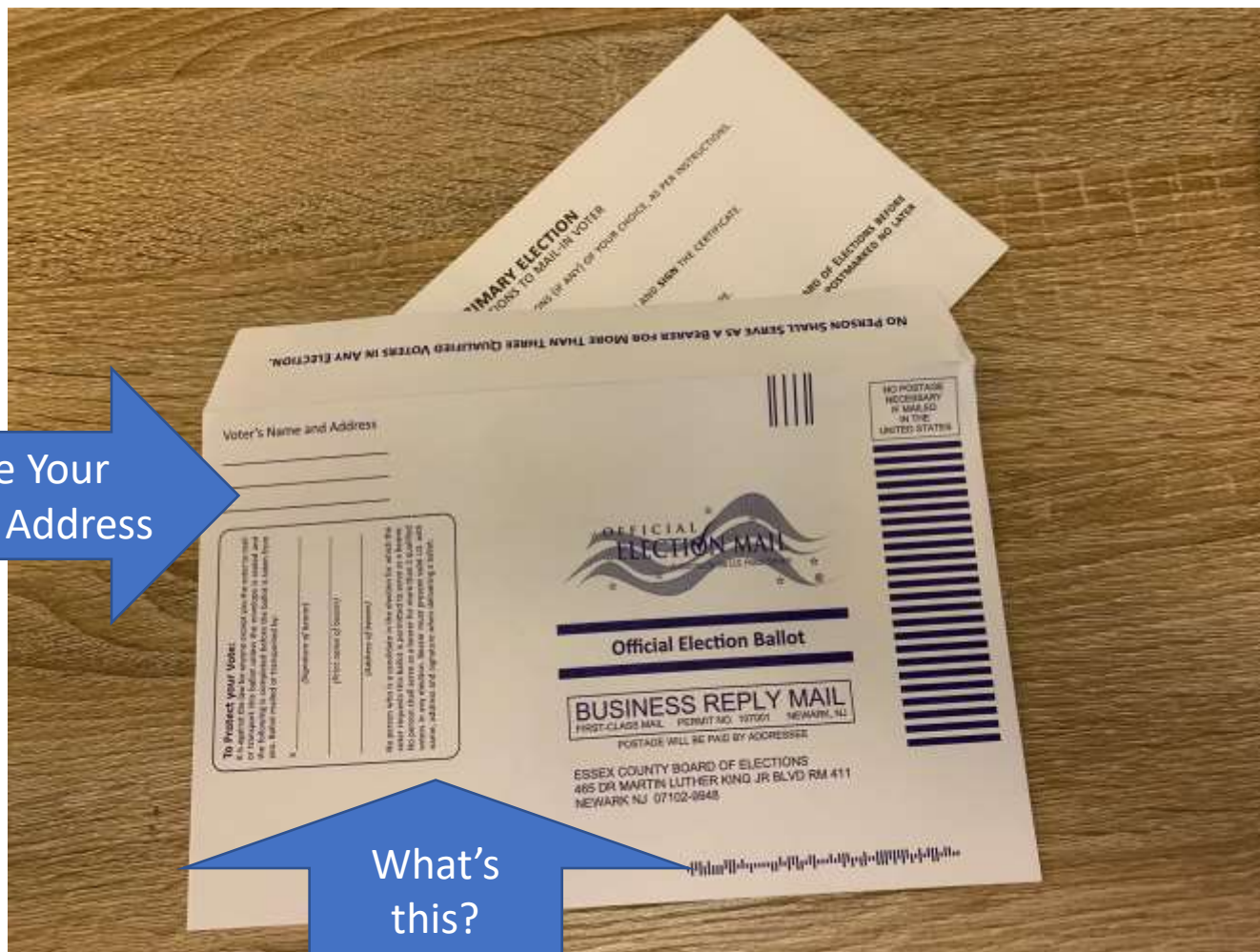
**Religious  
Action  
Center**  
of Reform Judaism



# Putting the Torah into the Ark



# Explain This Bearer Thing!





# WHY DO I NEED TO SIGN IF I AM SOMEONE'S BALLOT BEARER?

## To Protect your Vote:

It is against the law for anyone except you the voter to mail or transport this ballot unless the envelope is sealed and the following is completed before the ballot is taken from you. Ballot mailed or transported by:

X \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of bearer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print name of bearer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of bearer)

No person who is a candidate in the election for which the voter requests this ballot is permitted to serve as a bearer. No person shall serve as a bearer for more than 3 qualified voters in any election. Bearer must present valid I.D. with name, address and signature when delivering a ballot.

Voter's Name and Address



ESSEX COL  
465 DR MAP  
NEWARK N

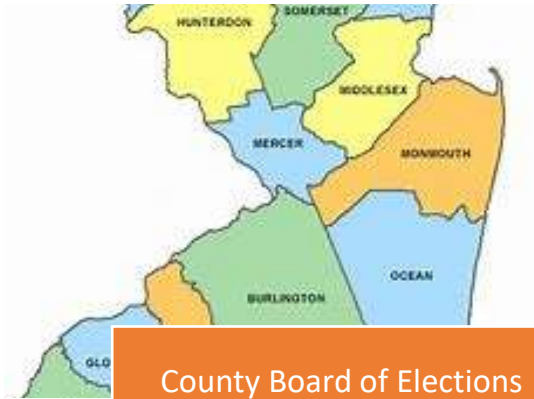
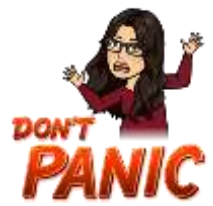
POST

BUSIN  
FIRST-CLASS

OF



# Five Ways to Vote in New Jersey in 2020



County Board of Elections



Secure Drop Box



At Your Polling Place on Election Day



USPS

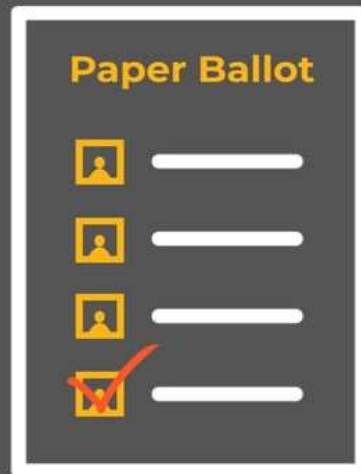


Vote Provisionally in Person at Your Designated Polling Place



# NJ's General Election on Nov. 3 is by Paper Ballot!\*

All active voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot in the mail.  
But you can vote in **five different ways!**



Mail VBM ballot via **U.S. Postal Service** ASAP – must be postmarked by **11/3/20** and will be counted if received by **11/10/20**.



Drop your VBM ballot in a **secure dropbox** by 8PM on 11/3/2020. Find locations here: [bit.ly/NJBallotBoxes](https://bit.ly/NJBallotBoxes).



Bring your VBM ballot to your county **Board of Elections** up until 11/3/2020. Check in advance for their hours.



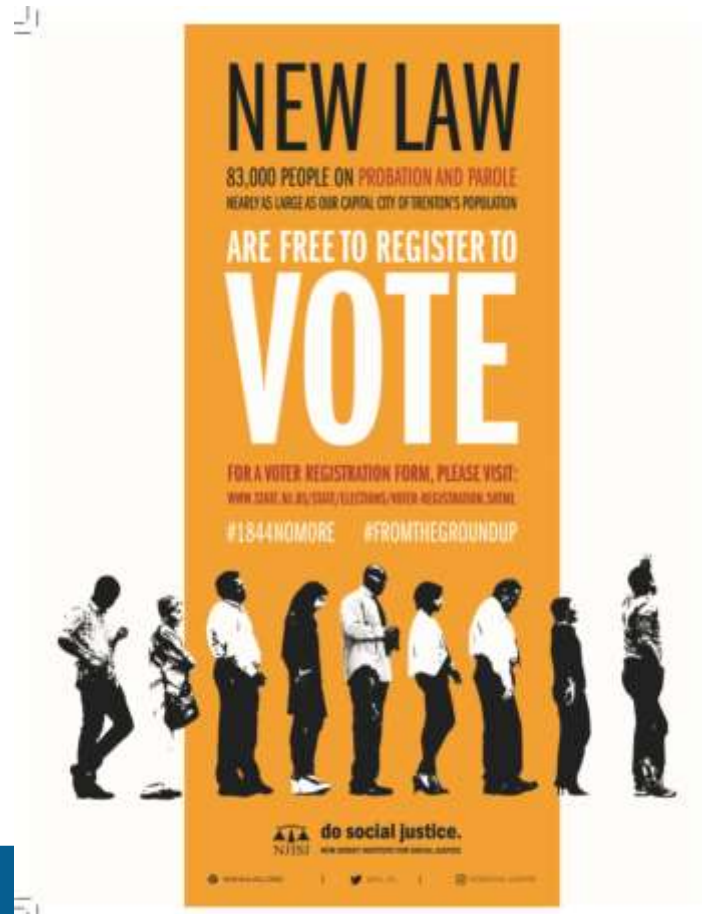
Bring your VBM ballot to your **polling place** on Election Day. Find your polling place here: [voter.svrs.nj.gov/polling-place-search](https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/polling-place-search).

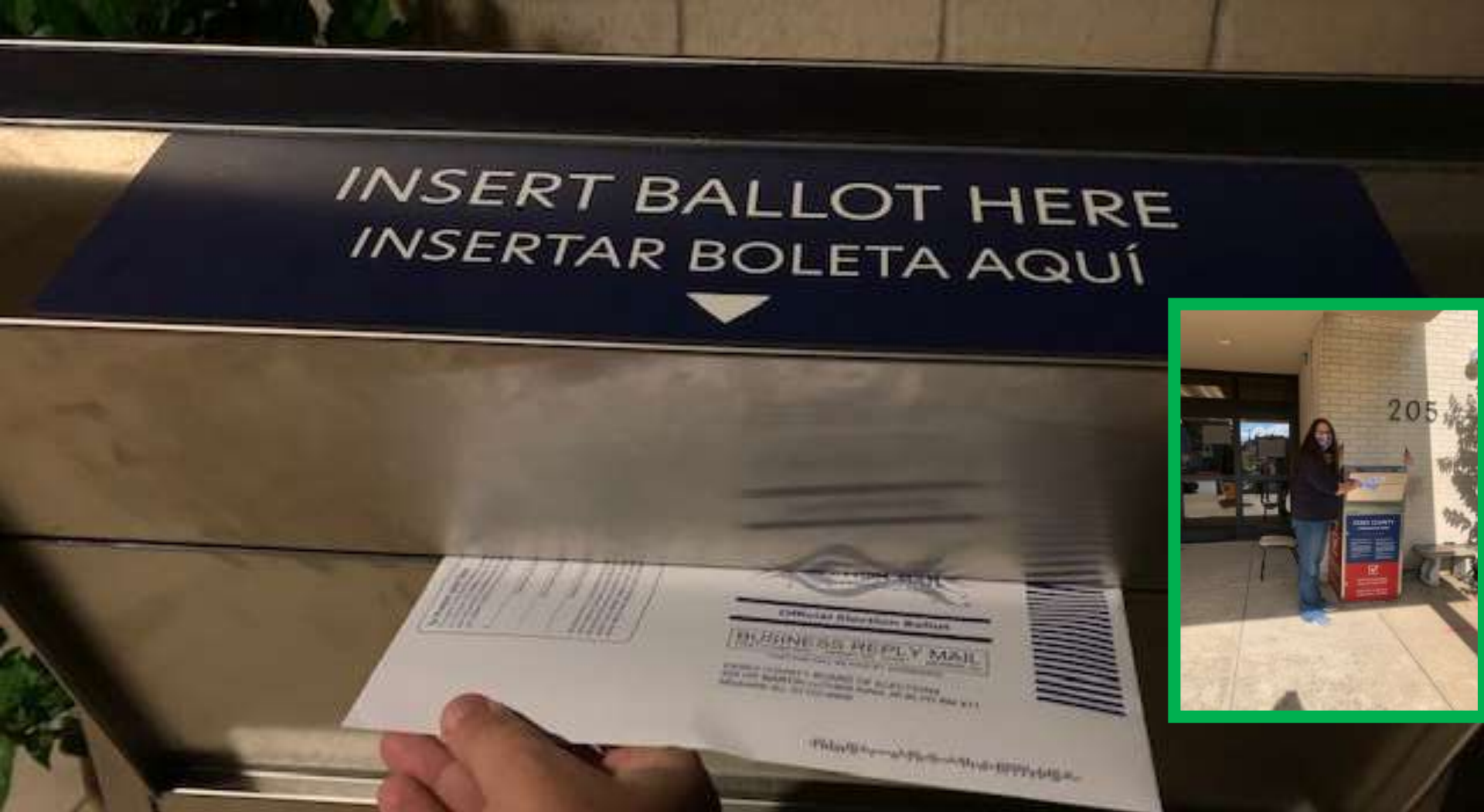


**Vote in-person** by provisional paper ballot that will be provided at your polling place on Election Day. Polls open from 6AM to 8PM. These ballots count!

\*Voting machine available as an ADA accommodation for people with disabilities.

# Restoration of Voting Rights for 83,000 New Jerseyans This Year





**Secure Drop Box**

**Polling  
Place**



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Add Slides from  
Appendix of New  
Jersey County  
Voting Websites

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# Monmouth County (10/6/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated – Good FAQ!	<a href="https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/elections/general-election/">https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/elections/general-election/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Updated	<a href="https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/vote-by-mail-drop-box-locations/">https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/vote-by-mail-drop-box-locations/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Updated	<a href="https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/voter-information/polling-places/">https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/voter-information/polling-places/</a>



# New Jersey Track My Ballot

<https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/auth/sign-in>

(Public Access Sign-In)

# Voter Protection Hotlines



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

- NJ State-run Voting Information & Assistance Hotline: 1-877-NJ-VOTER (1-877-658-6837)
- Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Election Protection Hotline: 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)

# When Will We Know Who Won???



**OUR COUNTIES MUST CERTIFY ELECTION RESULTS BY NOV. 23 for Electoral College Purposes.**

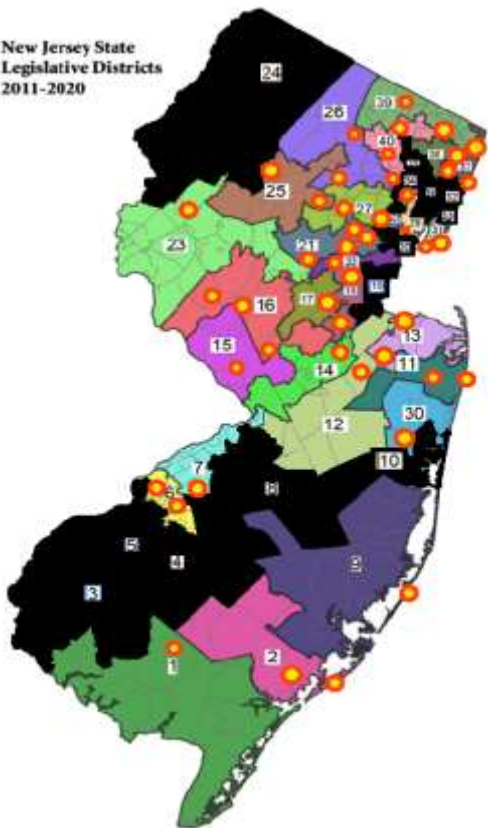


A scenic sunset over a lake. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of pink, orange, and blue. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow. The lake is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. In the background, dark silhouettes of mountains are visible. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of trees and bushes are on the right side.

**VOTE EARLY!!!!**



New Jersey State  
Legislative Districts  
2011-2020



## New Jersey Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism



- Our core Jewish values include *chesed* (compassion), *tzedek* (justice), *kehillah kedosha* (sacred community), and *pikuach nefesh* (saving lives)
- We work in partnership across lines of difference to more fully reflect our Jewish values in ways that truly make a difference in New Jerseyans' lives
- Our 44 New Jersey URJ Congregations are located in 27 of 40 NJ Legislative Districts
- Congregants who have taken action with RAC-NJ live in 34 of 40 legislative districts
- 15,000 families in legislative districts across the state have potential to make us heard as Jews in Trenton

The background of the image is a photograph of a classical building, likely a government or institutional structure, featuring large, fluted columns and a wide set of stone steps. The image is dimmed to serve as a backdrop for the text.

# **RAC-NJ Can Build OUR Power to Act**

By voting this November and taking time to  
document our turnout operations

**Polling  
Place**





**QUESTIONS/  
COMMENTS?**



@theRAC



@theRACgram

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# **Appendix – County Voting Information**

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# Atlantic County (9/17/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Up to date	<a href="https://www.atlanticcountyclerk.org/elections/">https://www.atlanticcountyclerk.org/elections/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Up to date	<a href="https://www.atlantic-county.org/documents/board-of-elections/BallotDropBoxLocations-General2020.pdf">https://www.atlantic-county.org/documents/board-of-elections/BallotDropBoxLocations-General2020.pdf</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Up to date	<a href="https://www.atlantic-county.org/documents/board-of-elections/polling_places.pdf">https://www.atlantic-county.org/documents/board-of-elections/polling_places.pdf</a>

# Bergen County (10/1/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	County Clerk's guide and website is up to date; Superintendent of Elections website is not fully up to date (e.g., no online voter registration information shared even though it is a notice for the Nov. 3 General Election)	<a href="http://www.bergencountyclerk.org/Content/pdf/General-Election-Info-Guide-2020.pdf">http://www.bergencountyclerk.org/Content/pdf/General-Election-Info-Guide-2020.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/county-officials/superintendant-of-elections">https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/county-officials/superintendant-of-elections</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Up to Date	<a href="http://www.bergencountyclerk.org/Content/pdf/VBM-Drop-Box-Locations-2020.pdf">http://www.bergencountyclerk.org/Content/pdf/VBM-Drop-Box-Locations-2020.pdf</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Reference to state database – not necessarily up to date	<a href="https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/polling-place-search">https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/polling-place-search</a>

# Burlington County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	PDF on website is semi-up-to-date but flags how quickly things are changing	<a href="https://co.burlington.nj.us/DocumentCenter/View/12005/November-election-info-2020">https://co.burlington.nj.us/DocumentCenter/View/12005/November-election-info-2020</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	PDF says they will be available by 9/15, but they do not appear to be on the website as of 9/16	<a href="https://co.burlington.nj.us/192/County-Clerk">https://co.burlington.nj.us/192/County-Clerk</a>
General Election Polling Locations	These do not appear to be listed on the county website	<a href="https://co.burlington.nj.us/593/Election-Voter-Services">https://co.burlington.nj.us/593/Election-Voter-Services</a>

# Camden County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	There is good, updated information available	<a href="https://www.camdencounty.com/service/voting-and-elections/2020-general-election/">https://www.camdencounty.com/service/voting-and-elections/2020-general-election/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	These have been updated	<a href="https://www.camdencounty.com/service/voting-and-elections/vote-by-mail-drop-boxes/">https://www.camdencounty.com/service/voting-and-elections/vote-by-mail-drop-boxes/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	These are listed but it is not clear whether they've been updated for 2020	<a href="https://www.camdencounty.com/service/voting-and-elections/polling-places/">https://www.camdencounty.com/service/voting-and-elections/polling-places/</a>



# Cape May County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	There is an updated webpage, but the front page is still telling voters to request a mail-in ballot. This isn't wrong (if you need the ballot mailed to a different address than the county has on file), but it is confusing.	<a href="https://www.capemaycountystate.com/november-3-2020-general-election-will-be-mostly-vote-by-mail-ballot/">https://www.capemaycountystate.com/november-3-2020-general-election-will-be-mostly-vote-by-mail-ballot/</a>  <a href="https://www.capemaycountystate.com/">https://www.capemaycountystate.com/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	These have been updated and are available	<a href="https://www.capemaycountystate.com/voter-information/drop-box-locations/">https://www.capemaycountystate.com/voter-information/drop-box-locations/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Normal link redirects to state website	Nov. 3 update webpage (above) notifies voters that new polling locations will be sent out on postcards to be mailed 2 weeks before election

# Cumberland County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	This looks up to date and really good!	<a href="https://cumberlandcountylvotes.com/">https://cumberlandcountylvotes.com/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	These are up to date!	<a href="http://www.co.cumberland.nj.us/filestorage/22596/33524/General%202020%20Ballot%20Box%20Locations.pdf">http://www.co.cumberland.nj.us/filestorage/22596/33524/General 2020 Ballot Box Locations.pdf</a>
General Election Polling Locations	These are up to date!	<a href="http://www.co.cumberland.nj.us/filestorage/22596/33524/November%203rd%20General%20Election%20Polling%20Locations.pdf">http://www.co.cumberland.nj.us/filestorage/22596/33524/November 3rd General Election Polling Locations.pdf</a>

# Essex County (10/6/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Essex Board of Elections website is updated  Essex County Clerk's site has 2020 General Election Sample Ballots and Secure Drop Box Locations	<a href="https://essexboardofelections.com/how-to-vote/">https://essexboardofelections.com/how-to-vote/</a>  <a href="http://www.essexclerk.com/Services/5">http://www.essexclerk.com/Services/5</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations		<a href="http://www.essexclerk.com/Content/pdf/BALLOT-BOX-LOCATIONS-ESSEX-CO-2020.pdf">http://www.essexclerk.com/Content/pdf/BALLOT-BOX-LOCATIONS-ESSEX-CO-2020.pdf</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Does not appear to be available	

# Gloucester County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Out of date	<a href="http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/c/cclerk/electserv/">http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/c/cclerk/electserv/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Not yet available	<a href="http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/e/eoff/default.asp">http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/e/eoff/default.asp</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Not yet available	<a href="http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/e/eoff/default.asp">http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/e/eoff/default.asp</a>

# Hudson County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Bits and pieces are updated (e.g., that online voter registration is available) but there did not appear to be clear and comprehensive 2020 voting information	<a href="https://www.hudsoncountyclerk.org/elections/">https://www.hudsoncountyclerk.org/elections/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Could not find	<a href="https://www.hudsoncountyclerk.org/2019-election-timeline/">https://www.hudsoncountyclerk.org/2019-election-timeline/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Could not find	<a href="https://www.hudsoncountyclerk.org/2019-election-timeline/">https://www.hudsoncountyclerk.org/2019-election-timeline/</a>



# Hunterdon County (9/21/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated	<a href="https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/election/2020/General/FAQ%20G2020.pdf">https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/election/2020/General/FAQ%20G2020.pdf</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Updated	<a href="https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/Election2020.htm">https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/Election2020.htm</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Updated	<a href="https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/election/2020/General/provisional-ballot-polling-site-list2020general.pdf">https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/election/2020/General/provisional-ballot-polling-site-list2020general.pdf</a>
VBM Ballot Mailing Dates by Town	Updated – All Hunterdon County ballots have been mailed as of 9/21.	<a href="https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/election/2020/General/ballotmailingdates.htm">https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/election/2020/General/ballotmailingdates.htm</a>

# Mercer County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Has been updated on County Clerk site, not yet on Board of Elections site	<a href="http://www.mercercounty.org/government/county-clerk/election">http://www.mercercounty.org/government/county-clerk/election</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Have been updated on County Clerk site, not yet on Board of Elections site	<a href="http://www.mercercounty.org/government/county-clerk/election">http://www.mercercounty.org/government/county-clerk/election</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Not yet available	<a href="http://www.mercercounty.org/boards-commissions/board-of-elections/2020-primary-election-covid-19-polling-locations">www.mercercounty.org/boards-commissions/board-of-elections/2020-primary-election-covid-19-polling-locations</a>

# Middlesex County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated	<a href="http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Boardofelections/Pages/vote2020.aspx">http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Boardofelections/Pages/vote2020.aspx</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Updated	<a href="http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Boardofelections/Pages/vote2020.aspx">http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Boardofelections/Pages/vote2020.aspx</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Not yet available	

# Monmouth County (10/6/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated – Good FAQ!	<a href="https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/elections/general-election/">https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/elections/general-election/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Updated	<a href="https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/vote-by-mail-drop-box-locations/">https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/vote-by-mail-drop-box-locations/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Updated	<a href="https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/voter-information/polling-places/">https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/voter-information/polling-places/</a>

# Morris County (9/21/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated	<a href="https://elections.morriscountynj.gov/">https://elections.morriscountynj.gov/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Updated	<a href="https://elections.morriscountynj.gov/ways-to-vote/#mail">https://elections.morriscountynj.gov/ways-to-vote/#mail</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Updated	<a href="https://elections.morriscountynj.gov/ways-to-vote/polling-places/">https://elections.morriscountynj.gov/ways-to-vote/polling-places/</a>



# Ocean County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Clerk's Office website is updated; Election Board's website is not	<a href="http://www.oceancountyclerk.com/frmElectionServices?page=primary">http://www.oceancountyclerk.com/frmElectionServices?page=primary</a>  <a href="http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/oc/elections/frmHome.aspx">www.co.ocean.nj.us/oc/elections/frmHome.aspx</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Only primary election sites available so far – not yet updated for General Election	<a href="http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/WebContentFiles//344ec071-6d34-4d3c-a4bc-bb0d97eabc61.pdf">www.co.ocean.nj.us/WebContentFiles//344ec071-6d34-4d3c-a4bc-bb0d97eabc61.pdf</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Not yet available	<a href="http://www.oceancountyclerk.com/frmElectionServices?page=primary">www.oceancountyclerk.com/frmElectionServices?page=primary</a>



# Passaic County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated	<a href="https://www.passaiccountynj.org/government/elected_and_appointed_officials/passaic_county_clerk/general_election_frequently_asked_questions.php">https://www.passaiccountynj.org/government/elected_and_appointed_officials/passaic_county_clerk/general_election_frequently_asked_questions.php</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Primary box locations are available, General Election additional locations have not yet been added	<a href="https://www.passaiccountynj.org/government/boards_committees_and_commissions/board_of_elections/index.php">https://www.passaiccountynj.org/government/boards_committees_and_commissions/board_of_elections/index.php</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Not yet updated	<a href="https://www.passaiccountynj.org/government/elected_and_appointed_officials/passaic_county_clerk/general_election_frequently_asked_questions.php">https://www.passaiccountynj.org/government/elected_and_appointed_officials/passaic_county_clerk/general_election_frequently_asked_questions.php</a>

# Salem County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Not fully updated (copy of EO 177 is available) but website contains outdated information labeled as relevant for the 2020 General Election but 2020 General Election Sample Ballots are available	<a href="https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/general-election-november/">https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/general-election-november/</a> <a href="https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/where-do-i-vote/">https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/where-do-i-vote/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Only Primary Election information is available	<a href="https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/where-do-i-vote/">https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/where-do-i-vote/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Available	<a href="https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/where-do-i-vote/">https://elections.salemcountynj.gov/where-do-i-vote/</a>

# Somerset County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated	<a href="https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/elected-officials/county-clerk/election-division/2020-general">https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/elected-officials/county-clerk/election-division/2020-general</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Only Primary Election secure drop box locations available	<a href="https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/affiliate-d-agencies/election-board/drop-boxes">https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/affiliate-d-agencies/election-board/drop-boxes</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Only Primary Election polling locations available	<a href="https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/affiliate-d-agencies/election-board/polling-place-locator">https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/affiliate-d-agencies/election-board/polling-place-locator</a>

# Sussex County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated	<a href="https://sussexcountyclerk.org/elections/">https://sussexcountyclerk.org/elections/</a> <a href="https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/elections/2020/20200914-november-2020-general-election-faq.pdf">https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/elections/2020/20200914-november-2020-general-election-faq.pdf</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Updated	<a href="https://sussexcountyclerk.org/elections/">https://sussexcountyclerk.org/elections/</a> <a href="https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/elections/2020/20200914-november-2020-general-election-faq.pdf">https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/elections/2020/20200914-november-2020-general-election-faq.pdf</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Updated	<a href="https://sussexcountyclerk.org/elections/">https://sussexcountyclerk.org/elections/</a> <a href="https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/elections/2020/20200914-november-2020-general-election-faq.pdf">https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/elections/2020/20200914-november-2020-general-election-faq.pdf</a>



# Union County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Updated and includes status of ballot mailing by town!	<a href="http://www.unioncountynj.org/"><u>http://www.unioncountynj.org/</u></a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	9 available to date with more on the way	<a href="http://www.unioncountynj.org/"><u>http://www.unioncountynj.org/</u></a>
General Election Polling Locations	Do not appear to be updated yet for 2020	<a href="https://ucnj.org/boe/where-do-i-vote/"><u>https://ucnj.org/boe/where-do-i-vote/</u></a>

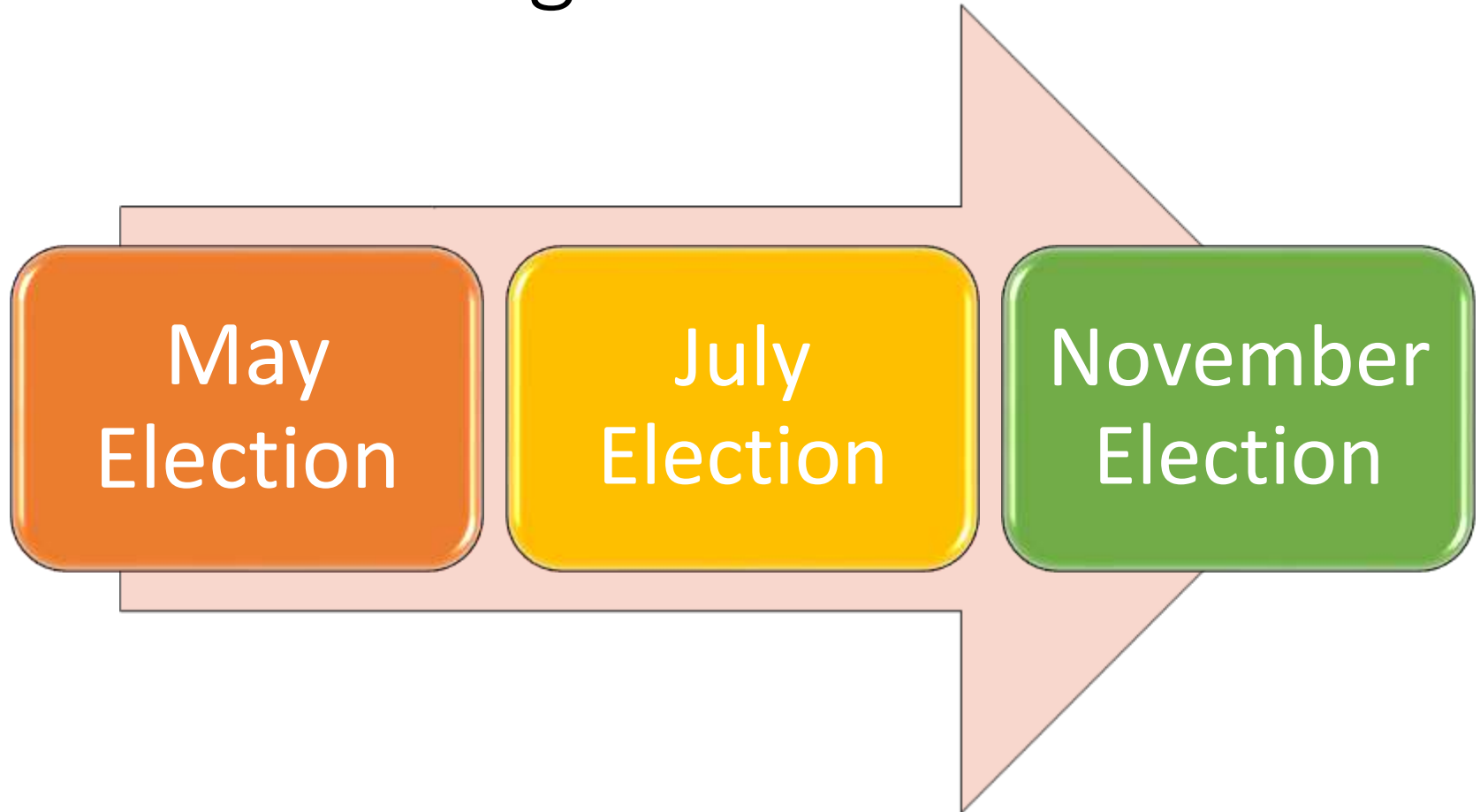
# Warren County (9/16/2020)

Data	Status	Website
2020 General Election How to Information	Up to date information and affirmatively working to combat misinformation	<a href="https://www.warrencountyyvotes.com/">https://www.warrencountyyvotes.com/</a>
Secure Drop Box Locations	Only the primary election box locations are currently available	<a href="https://www.warrencountyyvotes.com/">https://www.warrencountyyvotes.com/</a>
General Election Polling Locations	Updated information does not yet appear to be available	Link is to the state's database

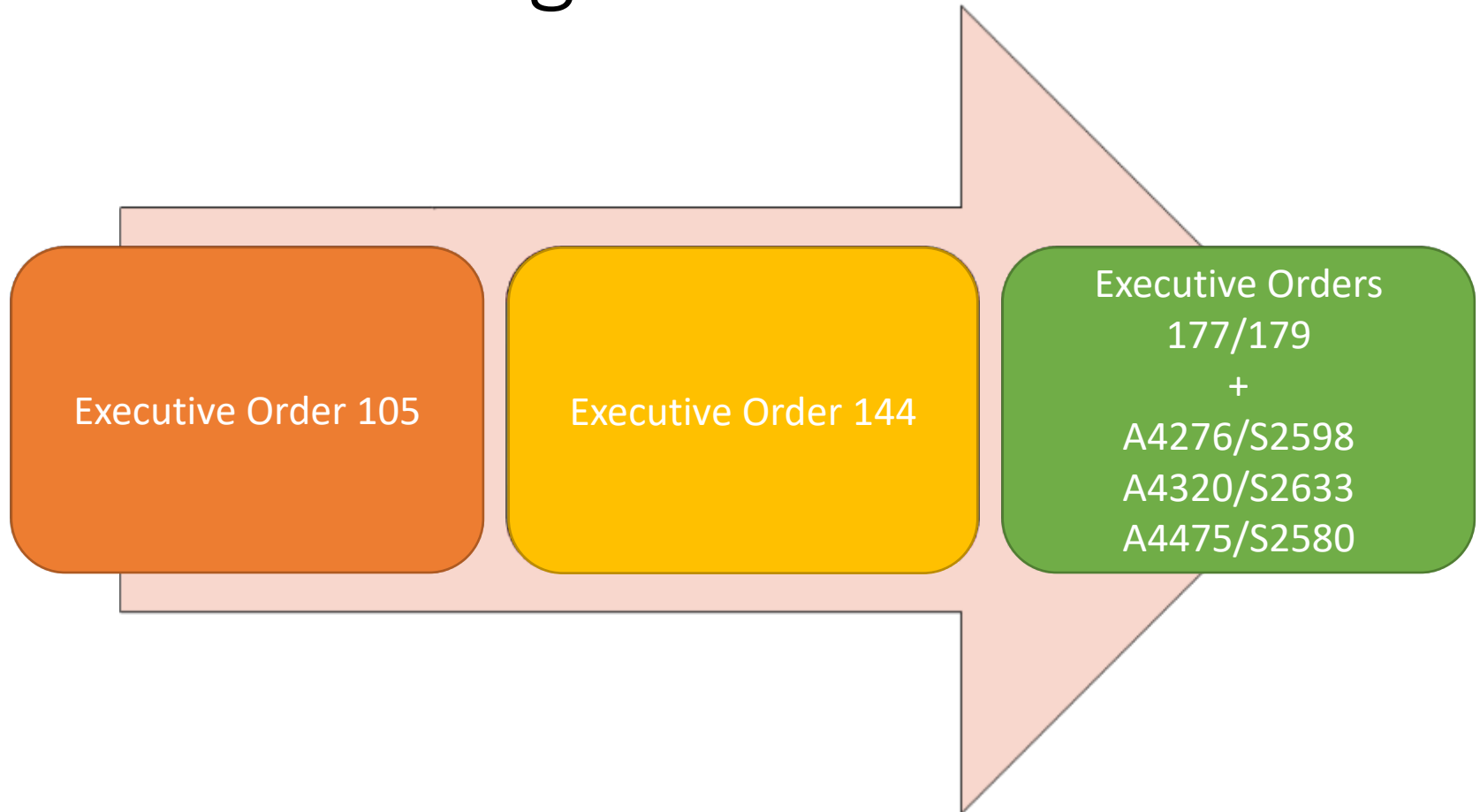


# Extra Slides With Details of the Changes

# Iterative Progress



# Iterative Progress





# Iterative Progress

- ALL VBM, No in-person polling places, all ballots due within 48 hours of election day, no signature cure provision
- 17.4% of eligible voters participated, 9.6% of ballots cast were rejected

- hybrid of vote-by-mail and in-person voting by provisional ballot, extension of deadlines for receipt of ballots, signature cure provision implemented, ballot drop boxes implemented
- 26.4% of eligible voters participated = 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest NJ Primary Election turnout, 2.8% of ballots cast were rejected

- Hybrid of vote-by-mail and in-person voting by provisional ballot, expansion of ways to return ballot (5)
- Goals: Highest ever voter participation, 0% ballot rejection

# November 2020 Election Changes

- NJ EO #177 signed August 14, 2020
- *Trump v. Murphy*, No. 3:20-cv-10753-MAS-ZNQ (DNJ 2020) filed on August 18, 2020
- NJ EO #179 signed August 25, 2020
- Three bills mostly codifying the Executive Orders became law on Friday, August 28, 2020
  - A4320/S2633 (voter education)
  - A4276/S2598 (signature cure process for ballots)
  - A4475/S2580 (adding drop boxes, codifying Executive Orders into law)