

## Combined Provisional and Vote By Mail Canvass Minutes

### 2024 Presidential General Election

The canvass of the 2024 Presidential General Election's mail-in ballots began on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. and the 2024 Presidential General Election results were certified at the meeting of the Montgomery County Board of Canvassers on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. The Certification meeting took place at the Montgomery County Board of Elections, 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Suite 210-Board Room, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879.

#### BOARD OF CANVASSERS ATTENDEES AT THE CERTIFICATION OF THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS MEETING ON NOVEMBER 27, 2024:

DAVID A. NAIMON (in-person)	CHAIR	DEMOCRAT
DANIEL A. KOROMA (virtual)	VICE CHAIR	DEMOCRAT
AMORETTA (AMIE) HOEBER (in-person)	SECRETARY	REPUBLICAN
KEYNA ANYIAM (virtual)	BOARD MEMBER	DEMOCRAT
DIANE NASH DILLON (virtual)	BOARD MEMBER	REPUBLICAN
MARGIE C. DELAO (virtual)	BOARD MEMBER	DEMOCRAT

Kevin Karpinski, Legal Counsel to the Board of Canvassers, virtually attended the Certification meeting on November 27, 2024.

Montgomery County Board of Elections' staff that attended the Certification meeting:

Name	Position
Boris Brajkovic	Election Director
Janet Ross	Acting Deputy Election Director
Mindy Williams	Operations Manager
Sandra Prudenti	Voter Services Manager
Aishah Mills-Pherigo	Acting Manager of Recruitment
Laletta Dorsey	Voter Services Specialist
Michelle Gonda	Vote By Mail Specialist
Gilberto Zelaya	Public Outreach Officer
Anna Johnson	Election Aide

The names, party affiliation, and workdays of all canvassers are presented in the attached document, titled *Canvass Participants - Names, Party Affiliation, and Participation*. Permanent and temporary staff members of the Montgomery County Board of Elections took part in all aspects of the 2024 Presidential General Election canvass.

The ballot scanner operating team is presented in the attached table.

### **CONFIRMATION OF OATH**

Karen A. Bushell, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers and the Board's Legal Counsel before Tuesday, October 15, 2024. The Board of Canvassers included all regular and substitute members of the Montgomery County Board of Elections.

### **CANVASS MEETINGS**

The canvass of the mail-in and provisional ballots for the 2024 Presidential General Election took place during the period of October 15, 2024, through November 25, 2024, and included a total of thirteen (13) canvass days (for a more detailed overview of the Canvass days please see below).

The canvass was conducted at the Montgomery College Germantown Campus at 20200 Observation Drive, BE 151/152, Germantown, Maryland 20876.

### **DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at the Montgomery College Germantown Campus at 20200 Observation Drive, BE 151/152, Germantown, Maryland 20876. A quorum was declared, with all the Board members present.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS**

The election of officers occurred on October 15, 2024, and the following were elected:

- David A. Naimon was elected Chair of the Board of Canvassers.
- Daniel A. Koroma was elected Vice Chair of the Board of Canvassers.
- Amoretta (Amie) Hoeber was elected Secretary for the Board of Canvassers.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS**

Public notice of the canvass was posted on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, on the Montgomery County Board of Elections' (BOE) website [777vote.org](http://777vote.org), and a corresponding Media Advisory was issued.

### **CANVASS DAYS**

On the first day of canvass on October 15, 2024, and all subsequent canvass days, a quorum of the Board of Canvassers was present, with a majority of the Board and at least one member of the Board of Canvassers who is a registered voter of the principal minority party present. Mr. Kevin Karpinski, Legal Counsel to the Board, was present for all Board referral sessions.

On the first day of canvass, Mr. David A. Naimon, Chair of the Board of Canvassers, welcomed the canvassers and introduced the members of the Board of Canvassers, who separately addressed

canvassers, observers, and the general public.

Mr. Boris Brajkovic, Election Director, gave an overview of the canvass process and announced the Board plans to have Board referral sessions at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. each day of the canvass. If there were changes to the time for Board referrals due to scheduling issues, the change in time was to be posted on the BOE website and announced when the canvass commences on that date.

Mr. Brajkovic also explained in-person public observation rules of the canvass process and further presented public observation through live streaming (with the links to the canvass schedule provided on the BOE website). Mr. Brajkovic explained the rules of conduct (for canvassers, observers, and visitors) and introduced the Board of Elections' canvass team.

Mr. Kevin Karpinski, Legal Counsel to the Board of Canvassers, administered the oath to all canvassers.

Ms. Michelle Gonda, Canvass Lead, explained detailed instructions for canvassing mail-in ballots and answered questions from the canvassers.

## **CANVASSING OF BALLOTS**

The canvass process for the 2024 Presidential General Election took place during the period from October 15, 2024, to November 25, 2024, and included a total of thirteen (13) canvass days.

Canvass was conducted at Montgomery College Germantown Campus at 20200 Observation Drive, BE 151/152, Germantown, Maryland 20876.

The 2024 Presidential General Canvass was divided into three segments - Canvass I (including the pre-Election Day canvass), Canvass II, and Provisional Ballots Canvass. The Montgomery County Board of Canvassers met thirteen (13) times to canvass all regular mail-in ballots, web-delivery mail-in ballots, and provisional ballots.

The Montgomery County Board of Canvassers met on four (4) dates before the Election Day of November 5, 2024. Pre-election Canvass Days were as follows:

- Tuesday, October 15, 2024,
- Saturday, October 19, 2024,
- Saturday, October 26, 2024, and
- Saturday, November 2, 2024.

In addition to these four (4) pre-elections day canvass dates, the Montgomery County Board of Canvassers met on Thursday, November 7, 2024, for the final canvass day of Mail-In Ballot Canvass I to canvass regular mail-in ballots and web-delivery mail-in ballots.

The Montgomery County Board of Canvassers met an additional eight times for Mail-in Ballot Canvass II to canvass regular mail-in ballots and web-delivery mail-in ballots.

- Saturday, November 9, 2024,

- Monday, November 11, 2024,
- Wednesday, November 13, 2024,
- Friday, November 15, 2024,
- Monday, November 18, 2024,
- Wednesday, November 20, 2024,
- Saturday, November 23, 2024, and
- Monday, November 25, 2024.

The Montgomery County Board of Canvassers also met six times to canvass Provisional ballots.

- Wednesday, November 13, 2024,
- Friday, November 15, 2024,
- Monday, November 18, 2024,
- Wednesday, November 20, 2024,
- Saturday, November 23, 2024, and
- Monday, November 25, 2024.

#### OVERVIEW OF CANVASSED MAIL-IN BALLOTS PER CANVASS DAYS

Date	Canvass	Day	Batches	Total # MIB ballots Canvassed
10-15	Early	1	362	18068
10-19		2	369	18412
10-26		3	396	19803
11-02		4	402	20102
11-07	MIB 1	5	256	12801
11-09	MIB 2	6	270	13498
11-11		7	259	12937
11-13	Provisional	8	323	16148
11-15		9	132	6598
11-18		10	236	11769
11-20		11	135	6715
11-23		12	293	8925

## FINAL CANVASSING STATISTICS

<b>Vote By Mail and Provisional Canvass Statistics</b>	<b>Number of Ballots</b>
<b>Total Ballots</b>	<b>194,355</b>
Total Provisional Ballots	27,433
Total Mail-in Ballots	166,922
<b>Total Accepted Ballots</b>	<b>192,271</b>
Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots	23,718
Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots	2,628
Accepted Mail-in Ballots	165,925(149 FWAB)
<b>Total Rejected Ballots</b>	<b>2,084</b>
Rejected Provisional Ballots	1,087
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	997

<b>2024 General Election – Provisional Ballots Statistics:</b>		<b>Number of Ballots</b>
Accepted In Full		23,718
Accepted In part		2,628
Rejected		1,087
<b>Total</b>		<b>27,433</b>
<b>Reject Provisional Ballots - Breakdown by Code</b>		
1	Applicant is not registered to vote	18
2	Applicant returned an absentee ballot or already voted	224
3	Applicant voted the wrong party primary ballot	0
4	No signature on application	49
5	Applicant not eligible to receive a provisional ballot	6
6	Identification or DL# or SS# was not timely received	58
7	Incomplete information was provided on the application	361
8	DL# or SS# was received but was not verified	56
9	Identification was received but did not satisfy the identification requirements	2
10	No provisional ballot or more than one provisional ballot in envelope	14
11	No evidence to support voting unit malfunction	0
12	Identity challenge was upheld	0
13	Order extending voting hours was invalidated	0
14	Identifying mark on ballot	4
15	Applicant is not 18 years old by the general election	0
16	Proof of residency was not timely received	295
17	Proof of residency was timely received but did not satisfy the requirements	0
		<b>1087</b>

## **RELEASE OF OFFICIAL RESULTS**

The Certification documents detailed the results from the combined vote by mail and provisional ballots canvass. The Certification documents for the 2024 Presidential General election were approved unanimously by the Board of Canvassers and signed on November 27, 2024, by David A. Naimon, Chair of the Board of Canvassers, and Amoretta (Amie) Hoeber, Secretary of the Board of Canvassers.

## **VERIFICATION OF VOTE COUNT**

The Montgomery County Board of Election Staff conducted the required post-election verifications and audits.

Logic & Accuracy testing was completed and documents were submitted timely to the Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE). Public demonstration of the Logic and Accuracy was conducted on October 17, 2024, and it was open to the public and live-streamed on the Board of Elections' website [777vote.org](https://www.777vote.org). 100% Verification of election results was completed timely, and all data was transmitted to SBE and Clear Ballot as required.

Voting Unit and Pollbook Allocation were in conformance with SBE allocation recommendations.

Mail-In Drop Box Integrity Transportation Reports (that contain drop box location, date and time of transport bin pick-up and return to BOE, security seal numbers from the transport bin and tamper tape security numbers from the Drop Boxes, names and signatures of Drop Box Attendants, and the name and signature of a BOE team member who receives collected transport bin) were submitted to SBE for three randomly selected Drop Box locations:

- James Hubert Blake High School,
- Montgomery County Conference Center, and
- White Oak Community Recreation Center.

BOE staff timely submitted to SBE the Election Judge Training materials, Polling Place Evaluations, and Ballot Accounting forms.

As a part of the post-election audit process, BOE staff conducted a Precinct Audit - which includes a comparison of Pollbook check-ins to ballots cast - and a post-election Audit of Mail-in Ballots and Provisional Ballots.

## **POST ELECTION AUDITS**

The Election Director presented the Board of Canvassers with an overview of the ballots cast and audits conducted by the staff for the 2024 Presidential Primary Election during the Election Results Certification meeting on November 27, 2024.

The staff conducted a manual audit of a randomly selected 5% of all precincts and an Early Voting Center, which included a hand count of the number of voter authority cards from each precinct, as well as manually entering the votes for each candidate from the printout of election night results from each scanner into a spreadsheet and comparing that information with the reported results.

The following voting locations were included in the manual audit:

- 04-38 Twinbrook ES
- 04-09 Meadow Hall ES
- 04-13 Farmland ES
- 05-13 White Oak Community Recreation Center
- 07-10 St. Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church
- 07-23 Walt Whitman HS
- 09-02 Gaithersburg HS
- 09-04 Mill Creek Towne ES
- 10-02 Potomac ES
- 10-06 Wayside ES
- 13-15 Eastern MS
- 13-28 Wheaton HS
- EV-06 Activity Center Bohrer Park

The manual audit of the selected voting locations did not reveal any discrepancies in the election results.

Additionally, staff compared the number of voters who checked in with the number of ballots cast at every early voting location and polling place in Montgomery County and investigated all discrepancies. For any location with a variance of five or more, the State Board of Elections requires a manual audit and an explanation of the variance. The audit confirmed that there were two polling places with a discrepancy outside of the allowable threshold for audit (+/- 5). The discrepancy occurred at two consolidated polling locations (Twinbrook Elementary School and Sherwood High School) as election judges issued wrong ballot styles to 6 and 5 voters respectively. It is important to note that this error does not affect the election results as the contests were identical on both ballot styles. This has been identified as an election worker training issue for consolidated polling places and it will be emphasized in the training for the 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election and subsequent Chief Judges Briefing.

A sample of randomly selected accepted mail-in ballots was reviewed to determine whether the mail-in ballots were received timely and if the voters signed the oath. A sample of rejected mail-in ballots was reviewed to determine whether the voters' mail-in ballots were received timely, the required signature was provided, the required ID was provided, or if the voter had voted multiple ballots. The reviewed sample of both accepted and rejected mail-in ballots did not indicate any discrepancies.

A sample of accepted in full provisional ballots and a sample of partially accepted provisional ballots were reviewed to determine whether the provisional voter was registered to vote, voted the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, the provisional oath was signed, the voter had not already voted, and all other applicable criteria were met. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected provisional ballots to confirm that the voter was not registered to vote at the time of the election, the voter returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted, or the voter's ballot was rejected for another lawful reason. Reviewed samples of accepted in-full and accepted in-part provisional ballots, as well as rejected provisional ballots, did not indicate any discrepancies.

All ballot images from Early Voting, Election Day, and the Canvasses were sent to Clear Ballot, a third-party, for re-tabulation. The vendor produced reports comparing precinct-level results from the voting system against the precinct-level results from the re-tabulation, and these reports did not show any differences between the two sets of results. SBE confirmed on November 19, 2024, and on December 4, 2024, that for Early Voting, Election Day, Mail-In Ballot Canvass I, Mail-In Ballot Canvass II, and Provisional ballots Canvass, Clear Ballot also tabulated the same number of ballots as the voting system, and the Clear Ballot's tabulation verified the accuracy of the voting system's results.

### **CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS**

The Board of Canvassers met on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Montgomery County Board of Elections, 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879 to certify the 2024 Presidential General Election results. Present in-person were two members of the Montgomery County Board of Canvassers: David A. Naimon, Chair and Amoretta Hoeber (Amie), Secretary. Joining via video were Daniel A. Koroma, Vice Chair, Keyna Anyiam, Board Member, Diane Nash Dillon, Board Member, Margie C. Delao, Board Member. Kevin Karpinski, Legal Counsel to the Board of Canvassers, also attended the Certification meeting via video on November 27, 2024.

Boris Brajkovic, Election Director, Janet Ross, Acting Deputy Election Director, Sandra Prudenti, Voter Services Manager, Aishah Mills-Pherigo Acting Manager of Recruitment, Gilberto Zelaya, Public Outreach Officer, Laletta Dorsey, Voter Registration Specialist, Michelle Gonda, Vote By Mail Specialist and Anna Johnson Election Aide were present at the Certification meeting.

The Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Canvassers, Mr. Naimon, called for a vote to certify the results from the 2024 Presidential General Election presented by the Election Director. The motion passed unanimously.

The Certification documents for the 2024 Presidential General election were signed on November 27, 2024, by David A. Naimon, Chair of the Board of Canvassers, and Amoretta (Amie) Hoeber, Secretary of the Board of Canvassers.

### **NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING**

If untimely ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will reconvene to reject them.