

## Montgomery County Board of Elections Election Director's Report – December 2024

### **Notice and Distribution of Materials**

The Agenda for the December 16, 2024, Board meeting was posted on the Board of Elections website and shared with the Board members on December 9, 2024.

The Director's Report, the Expenditure Tracking Report, and meeting materials were shared with the Board members and posted on the website on December 12, 2024.

### **Voter Registration Statistics:**

The Voter Registration Monthly Statistical Report for September 2024 was distributed to the Board members on December 3, 2024, and published on the BOE's website. As of the end of November 2024, there were 705,533 active registered voters in Montgomery County and 71,341 inactive voters, for a total voter count of 776,874.

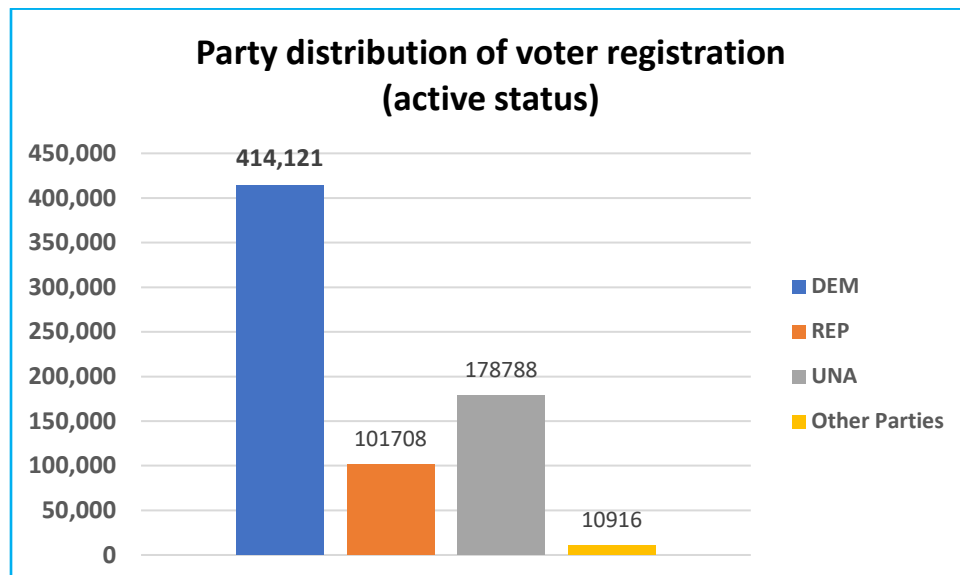
### **Voter Registration – Active Voters Status:**

DEM: 414,121

REP: 101,708

UNA: 178,788

Other Parties: 10,916



**State Board of Elections (SBE):**

The Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) certified the statewide results of the 2024 Presidential General Election on December 5, 2024.

**Personnel**

**Permanent positions:**

The ad for Vote By Mail Program Manager I position has been closed and the interviews of perspective candidates are scheduled. We anticipate onboarding of the successful candidate in January 2025.

Staff is preparing to readvertise the Deputy Election Director position.

Staff is working with the OMB and OHR to prepare the Manager of Recruitment position to be advertised.

The Budget and Finance Position remains vacant while the tasks are currently performed by HR Liaison/Administrative Specialist II.

**Temporary positions:**

Following successful completion of the 2024 Presidential General election, the number of temporary employees has been decreased. However, a limited number of temporary employees remained to assist the team with processing of the backlog voter records, data entry and post-election equipment maintenance.

**Budget**

The shared Expenditure Tracking Report reflects the approved Fiscal Year 2025 Budget, the Department's last month's spending, and the up-to-date spending for fiscal year 2025. Both historically and per the calendar of election tasks, most expenditures are expected in the first two quarters of the fiscal year.

**Outreach**

We have continued where we stopped before the 2024 Presidential General Election as the Team has already attended the first Outreach event at the County Executive's and County Council's Community Resource Fair. Additionally, we are coordinating next visits to Montgomery County high schools, Montgomery College, and the Universities at Shady Grove. Going forward, we will continue to engage community groups, non-profit and faith-based organizations, as well as central committees.

## **Sections' Activities**

### **Voter Services**

The Voter Registration Team is scanning and processing more than 27,000 Provisional applications received during the 2024 Presidential General Election. Once completed, the team will begin processing of the voter update forms received during early voting and on election day, as well as voter registration applications submitted on paper forms. Currently, the Team has a backlog of over 21,000 electronic voter registration requests (both new registrations and updates to existing voter records), generated since October 15, 2024, i.e. since the Advanced Deadline to Register to Vote and Update Vote Registration for the 2024 Presidential General election. Additionally, the Voter Registration Team has received ERIC files with over 8,000 records and needs to process an estimated 25,000 returned Sample Ballots, and other election mail to initiate the inactivation process for all qualifying voters. All the temporary team members who were onboarded to support data entry and data processing in the run-up to and during the election will remain on the payroll until the backlog and audit processing is completed.

Vote By Mail Team is processing voter registration updates such as party changes and cancellation of permanent vote by mail requests, new applications and returned mail (applications, vote-by-mail ballots, and permanent notices) and assisting the Voter registration team with the electronic backlog. Additionally, they will be preparing Vote By mail batches for manual audit and storage. The majority of the temporary staff has been released and the staffing level will be maintained based on workload needs.

### **IT / Training Section**

The IT staff is preparing the warehouse to begin Post Election Maintenance (PEM) on all voting equipment (scanners and BMDs) and the pollbooks.

IT Manager will continue to work with the Technology and Enterprise Business Solutions (TEBS) Department on the replacement Election Resource Management System that will be used by the election workers and the Board of Elections staff. The new system is scheduled to be implemented for the 2026 election cycle.

The Training Staff is compiling data from the Check-in and Provisional Wait Time Cards and the from the Comment Cards. In addition, the trainers are collecting the necessary information to perform Precinct Performance Reports for the Election Day precincts.

### **Operations Section**

The Operations Team has commenced the post-election cleanup, organizing and inventory of supplies. The Team has over 635,000 unvoted ballots to prepare for and shred in the upcoming period.

### **Recruitment and Election Support**

The Recruitment Team has finalized processing the election service stipends for the Election Workers/Judges for the 2024 Presidential General Election. The payroll encompasses all election workers, including Early Voting and Election Day Election Judges, Drop Box Attendants, Canvass and Nursing Home workers, Early Voting Center Managers, Election Day Roamers, Early Voting and Election Day Runners, and Regional Site Technicians.

The Recruitment Team selected the winners of the Pick-a-Pal Promotion for the 2024 General election. The winners will be notified, and an appointment will be made for the Election Judges to collect their prizes.

The Recruitment Team is sending emails to voters who expressed interest in serving in the elections by signing up before they left their polling place. The number of voters who have been contacted by the Recruitment Team so far is over 1,700.