



## MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: October 29, 2018

### **Absentee and Provisional Ballots Counted Following Election**

The Montgomery County Board of Elections wishes to remind voters that the unofficial results released on the Board's website on election night contain only those votes cast during Early Voting and in the polling place on Election Day. Ballots cast by mail in Maryland shall be postmarked no later than Election Day or delivered to the Board of Elections by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Election officials must review the returned envelopes containing voted ballots and verify the voter registration for voters who cast a provisional ballot prior to the ballot being counted.

The absentee and provisional ballots are counted in a public process by bipartisan teams of voters during the weeks following the election. Results for each of these ballot-counting sessions, referred to as the "canvasses", are then added to the Election Day totals before the official results of the election are certified. All canvasses, which are open to the public, all begin at 10 a.m. and are held at the Montgomery County Board of Elections at 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, in Gaithersburg. The first canvass of absentee ballots for the 2018 Gubernatorial General Election will begin on Thursday, November 8. Provisional ballots are canvassed beginning the following Wednesday, November 14, and remaining absentee ballots returned by the statutory deadline will begin being canvassed on Friday, November 16. The Board of Canvassers will convene daily, beginning November 8, to continue canvassing remaining ballots. You may check [www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org) nightly to see updates to the canvass schedule. Statewide certification will follow upon completion of all tabulation and those results may be found on the Maryland State Board of Elections' website.

For more information on the canvass process, contact Gilberto Zelaya at 240-777-8625 or [Gilberto.zelaya@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Gilberto.zelaya@montgomerycountymd.gov). For other election information, call 240-777-VOTE, visit [www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org), the Maryland State Board of Elections' website at <http://elections.maryland.gov>, or follow the Montgomery County Board of Elections on Facebook or Twitter.

Your Time, Your Voice, Your Vote!

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