

Director's Report- November 23, 2015

1. NVSR Project- Continuing to move forward. Several items of note.
 - a. We will be receiving our entire allotment of blue transfer bins, hard cases for the bmd for early voting and ADA tables for the bmd for election day polling places during the month of December. We do not have concrete dates on their arrival, but we have been promised these allotments.
 - i. We had a test on the Poll Books with an interim software release last week. The software did what it was supposed to do for the most part, but it did experience some latency throughout the test. Both the State and the vendor are working to improve this and we will be able to test the new version of the software upon its arrival. There were also some searches that were not able to be used, but once again, the State is aware and will be making changes to the software. The office was able to use this test as an information gathering tool and training on the Same Day Registration aspect of early voting on the poll book, and we did find this to be useful for the duration of the test.
 - ii. We have finished user acceptance testing of the Ballot Boxes and the DS200 after the foam was taken out of the ballot box, and all of our ballot box set-ups ran and accepted ballots fine during the test.
 - iii. We will be updating the judges' manual throughout this month to try to finalize it so we can put it out to press in January in anticipation for our February start date of Judges' training.
 - iv. Voter Outreach- The office continues to conduct voter outreach events throughout the county. Statistics have been provided to you for this meeting.
2. Voter statistics- these statistics encompass the month of November to date.
3. Judges- We currently have our full allotment of judges and have already started the alternate list. We will continue recruitment of judges, as enough is never quite enough.
4. New Hires- Interviews were held on November 9, 10, and 12 for the Data Application Specialist I positions that were available. The panel that consisted of Charlotte Davis, Tiffany Ferrell, and Doug Swift selected Justin Maddox, Marcus Maddox, and Zsaime Williams for these entry level position into elections out of a pool of 15 candidates.
5. Website Redesign- Redesign process is moving along. The office attended a meeting last week to talk about content on the new website, and we anticipate to see the new site up and running in the next 4-6 weeks barring setback.
6. Possible polling place changes- Vantage House was able to keep us as a polling place for the 2016 elections. They will work their renovations around the election schedule. Unfortunately, Harmony Hall contacted us and will not be able to be a polling place any longer at all. The Day Room where we hold our elections is being taken out and a cafeteria is replacing it. We have moved the residents of this precinct to Atholton High School, and this new polling place is inside the precinct lines. The polling place that was in existence there will be combined with Harmony Hall's polling

place to make a combined polling place. Both sites were very small, so the combined site will only be a shade over 2000 voters. This does need Board approval.

7. Potential Polling Place moves- The office took a look at moving the polling places in the area of concern brought to the attention of the staff and the board by a Howard County resident. We have a plan that will work, but it will move over 7000 voters to take care of an issue that has not resulted in any kind of public comment except that of this single voter and those that he took the issue to. The Board should make a decision this meeting if possible.
8. The office holiday party will be on December 16, 2015. We ask that the Board supply the money to get the meats as in the past.
9. Good luck to Mr. Rankin on his knee replacement from all of us at the office! Wishing him a speedy recovery!