MICHIGAN BALLOT PRODUCTION STANDARDS

Michigan Department of State
Bureau of Elections

September 2024

REVISION NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	NOVEMBER 2017	NEW VOTING SYSTEMS
2	MAY 2018	FINALIZING NEW VOTING SYSTEM CHANGES
3	SEPTEMBER 2018	UPDATES TO CHAPTERS 7 & 8: REMOVAL OF STRAIGHT PARTY RACE
4	SEPTEMBER 2018	UPDATE TO CHAPTER 11: ADD BULLET ON SECTIONAL HEADERS CONTINUED
5	MARCH 2019	UPDATE TO CHAPTER 12: UPDATED POLITICAL PARTY ORDER
6	MAY 2020	UPDATE TO CHAPTERS 7 & 8: ADDED STRAIGHT PARTY RACE BACK IN
7	AUGUST 2020	UPDATE TO CHAPTER 21: ADDED GENERAL ELECTION SAMPLE
8	SEPTEMBER 2020	UPDATE TO CHAPTER 12: UPDATED POLITICAL PARTY ORDER, REPLACED SAMPLE BALLOTS REFLECTING INCORRECT ORDER
9	JULY 2024	UPDATE TO CHAPTER 12: UPDATED POLITICAL PARTY ORDER
10	SEPTEMBER 2024	UPDATE TO CHAPTER 15: UPDATED INCUMBENCY STATUS DISPLAY FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RACES
11	SEPTEMBER 2024	UPDATE TO SAMPLE BALLOTS: UPDATED POLITICAL PARTY ORDER

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

The integrity of Michigan's elections system is wholly dependent on the performance of the voting equipment used to support the system. Given the fact that optical scan technology relies on a physical ballot, the functionality of the voting equipment is greatly compromised if the ballots are not prepared in conformance with all applicable laws, rules and technical standards. Consequently, the standards detailed in this document are compulsory and must be observed by vendors and election officials when preparing ballots for the administration of all Michigan elections.

Our goals are to ensure (1) uniform conformance with all applicable provisions of Michigan election law and the Rules Promulgated for the Administration of Electronic Voting Systems and (2) that all ballots prepared for an election will properly interface with the optical scan tabulation equipment and (3) ballot consistency across the state in effort to avoid voter confusion. While the majority of the standards included in this document are based on law and promulgated rules, a portion of the information is voting system specific.

To assist with the understanding of the ballot production standards, ballot samples are provided in Chapter 21, Sample Ballots.

2. Paper and Ink Specifications

All questions regarding the technical standards should be directed to the manufacturer of the voting system involved.

All paper and ink specifications provided by the voting equipment manufacturers must be closely observed. Special attention must be paid to perforation, score, and fold specifications. Please refer to the manufacturer's technical standards for additional information.

Vendors who produce ballots for use with the optical scan voting systems should exercise special care to ensure that the ballot stock or paper is same weight as used for printed ballots and is fully compatible with the Voter Assist Terminal (VAT).

3. Technical Reminders

- Do not place folds or score lines near vote positions. Print vendors should utilize a fold style type that will assist in reducing the incidence of absentee ballots sticking together during processing (C or Z fold).

- Font size should not be smaller than 8 point. Consistent application of font is required, e.g. All proposal text shall be all the same point size, candidates shall all be the same point size, all headers shall be the same point size, etc. See Chapter 20, Shading Gradient and Font Sizes.

- <u>The use of sans serif fonts is required</u>. (Disabilities communities request the use of fonts that do not contain tails.) Examples of sans serif fonts are Helvetica, Helvetica Narrow, Arial, and Arial Narrow.

- Where shading is required, use the gradient percentages outlined in Chapter 20, Shading Gradient and Font Sizes.

- Avoid print washout (skips in ink or faded ink).

- When cutting ballots, take appropriate measures to ensure that the cut is not skewed.

- Removable, consecutively numbered stubs are strongly recommended on all blank stock utilized in the VAT.

- When perforating ballot stubs take appropriate measures to ensure that the perforation is not skewed and will allow clean removal (no rough or hanging edges).

- All tabulators must be tested prior to each election to ensure that the equipment will accept ballot stock with a perforated ballot stub; this ensures proper operation in the event of 'furry' edges after stub removal.

4. Consolidated Election Dates

The conduct of all federal, state, county, city, township, village, and school elections are restricted to these dates each year: the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, August, and November. Exceptions are provided for:

- Special elections called under the State Constitution by the Governor and the State Legislature.

- School districts, intermediate school districts and community college districts that wish to present a millage proposal, bond proposal or a proposal to borrow funds on a date other than one of the "fixed" election dates. (Certain limitations apply.)

- Presidential Primary (see Chapter 9, Closed Presidential Primary for more information).
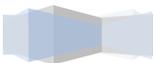
5. Primary Elections

The following rules must be observed when determining if a primary must be held within a jurisdiction. (See MCL 168.795b and MCL 168.564.) (Unless the jurisdiction's charter specifies differently.)

Partisan Offices - A primary must be held if there is a "contest" <u>within a political party</u> or two or more candidates of the <u>same political party</u> file for the same office. In this case, all the offices are shown on the ballot. Note the following:

- If a primary must be held because of a "contest" under one of the parties qualified to appear on the primary ballot – and at least <u>one filing</u> for an office is received from a candidate affiliated with another party qualified to participate in the primary – all qualified parties that had at least <u>one filing</u> are placed on the primary ballot and general election ballot. All offices are shown for all parties qualified to participate in the primary.

- If a primary must be held because of a "contest" under one of the parties qualified to appear on the primary ballot – but <u>no filings</u> are received from candidates affiliated with another party qualified to participate in the primary – the party (or parties) for which no filings are received does not appear on the primary ballot or the general election ballot.

Please see Chapters 7, Ballot Instructional Language and 8, Instructional Modification Notes for instruction language and necessary instruction modifications under certain circumstances such as a special primary election involving a single party.

Primary ballots shall be built so that the same races appear in the same columns on both the front and back of ballot regardless of the number of candidates in each race; special attention to aligning or 'locking' races to a ballot side is required. This eliminates 'race hunting' and reduces both voter confusion and vote fall off. Example: Primary election where a township race has more candidates in one column than another column – this race should be 'locked' to a side, aligning the race side by side as much as possible and eliminating the need to search flip side of ballot.

Non-Partisan Offices – Unless the jurisdiction's charter specifies differently, a primary must be held if there is a "contest" for any office or <u>more than twice the number</u> of candidates to be elected to an office file for an office. Examples: Three candidates file for a "vote for 1" office; five candidates file for a "vote for 2" office; seven candidates file for a "vote for 3" office. In this case, <u>only</u> those offices in which a contest exists are shown on the ballot.

 Closed Presidential Primary - see Chapter 9, Closed Presidential Primary, for more information.

6. Election Types and Ballot Headings

The standard election types are:

- **Primary Election** - refers to an even numbered year state primary election.

- **General Election** - refers to an even numbered year state general election.

- **Special Primary Election** – refers to an election to <u>nominate</u> candidates for partial terms at a May, August, or November election.

- **Special General Election** – refers to an election to <u>elect</u> candidates for partial terms at a May, August, or November election.

- **City Primary Election** - refers to an odd numbered year, August city primary election.

- **City General Election** - refers to an odd numbered year, May or November city general election.

- **Special Election** - refers to an election at which <u>only</u> proposals are presented.

- **May XX, XXXX Election** - refers to the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May.

- **Presidential Primary Election** - refers to the closed primary election held in even years that the office of President is on the ballot.

The following ballot heading formats are provided as examples of the above listed election types. Note: As displayed in the following examples: either the 4 or 5-line format can be used, as desired. Ballot samples contained within this guide may not reflect this alternative format.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Primary Election, Tuesday, August X, XXXX
**County Name, Michigan**
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

OFFICIAL BALLOT
General Election, Tuesday, November X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Special Primary Election, Tuesday, May (or August, November) X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

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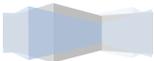
OFFICIAL BALLOT
Special General Election
Tuesday, May (or August, November) X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

OFFICIAL BALLOT
City Primary Election
Tuesday, August X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
**Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number**

OFFICIAL BALLOT
City General Election
Tuesday, May (or November) X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

OFFICIAL BALLOT
REPUBLICAN (or DEMOCRATIC or LIBERTARIAN) PARTY BALLOT
Presidential Primary Election
Tuesday, March XX, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

Whenever an election is scheduled for the sole purpose of voting on one or more proposals, the heading of the ballot must reflect the fact that this is a "Special Election." The following ballot heading formats are provided as examples, 4 or 5-line format can be utilized, as desired:

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Special Election, Tuesday, May X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Special Election
Tuesday, May X, XXXX
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number
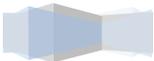
Consolidated Elections has resulted in the sharing of certain ballots and election dates. For this reason, ballots prepared for elections held in May and November sometimes do not reflect a specific election type. The following ballot heading format is provided as an example:

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Tuesday, May X, XXXX Election
County Name, Michigan
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number

Ballot sets that contain mixed ballot types (e.g. special election ballot & City General Election ballot in same set) can utilize the following labeling in place of changing the ballot titles. The election type is called out in a shaded header placed first. This shaded election type header is placed <u>before</u> any other headers including section headers as follows (see Chapter 11, Presentation of Ballot Labels, Office and Proposal Divisions for when section headers are necessary):

City General Election
Nonpartisan Section
City
Mayor Vote for not more than 1
Candidate Name ⬭
Candidate Name ⬭
⬭

<u>**Additional Notes**</u>

Consolidated Elections – As noted above, with the implementation of Michigan's consolidated elections legislation, instances where multiple governmental units must share the same ballot are common. To accommodate such instances and to avoid confusion, the names of the governmental units sharing the ballot <u>are not reflected in the heading of the ballot</u>. Instead, the name of each participating jurisdiction or school district is reflected in the <u>body of the ballot</u> directly above the number of votes allowed for the office or above the text of the proposal, as applicable. Examples:

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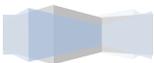
Nonpartisan Section	Proposal Section
Local School District	**Local School District**
Board Member **Legal Name of School District*** Vote for not more than 1	**Legal Name of School District*** **Proposal Title (as certified)**
Candidate Name ⬭	Exact wording will be supplied by the school board.
Candidate Name ⬭	☐ Yes
Candidate Name ⬭	☐ No
⬭	

* School coordinator is responsible for obtaining the legal name of school district, e.g. My Public Schools or My Public School District.

County Name - The name of the county printed in the heading of the ballot reflects the county in which the polling location is located.

Jurisdiction Name – The name of the jurisdiction printed in the heading of the ballot reflects the name of the jurisdiction in which the polling place is located. The name of the school district, village or governmental entity (unless listed in the heading of the ballot) is reflected in the body as noted above. If the name of the school district, village or other entity is included in the title of a proposal, it is not required that this information be repeated on the line just above the title. The use of a comma following the name of the jurisdiction in which the polling place is located is optional. If school district based precincts are used to administer a May election for a school proposal, the name of the city or township in which the polling place is located is required, however, other information such as the 'school precinct name' or school district name may be listed above the jurisdiction and precinct number, e.g.:

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Tuesday, May X, XXXX Election
County Name, Michigan
Legal Name of School District
Jurisdiction Name, Precinct Number
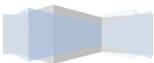
Precinct Number – The precinct numbers printed in the heading of the ballot reflect the precincts established by the city or township for the conduct of state and federal elections. The following exceptions may apply:

- **May Election** The precinct numbers established by the county or local election commission are printed in the heading of the ballot. As an exception, if unique school-based precincts are established by the county or local election commission for the conduct of elections at which school proposals are voted on, school precinct numbers are printed in the heading of the ballot with the name of the jurisdiction (city or township).

- **Single Precinct Jurisdictions** - If the number of <u>active</u> registered voters within a city, township or village is less than 2,999, and the jurisdiction is not divided into two or more precincts, the entire jurisdiction is contained within one precinct which is printed on the ballot as "Precinct 1." MCL 168.654 states, in part, "…When not divided according to law into 2 or more election precincts, each organized city, ward, township and village shall be an election precinct."

- **Precincts Established by Ward –** In the event that a city charter calls for the establishment of one or more wards, each ward shall be divided into one or more precincts. If the precinct numbers within each ward begin with 1, both the ward and precinct number must appear in the heading of the ballot as follows:

  City of X, Ward 1, Precinct 1

  If a unique precinct number is assigned to all precincts within the city, so that no two precincts share the same number, a reference to ward is not required.

- **"Temporary" Precinct Consolidation** – In the case of a "temporary" precinct consolidation involving whole precincts located within a <u>single jurisdiction</u>, the numbers of all precincts involved are printed in the heading of the ballot. Example: Temporary consolidation involves City of Lansing, Precinct 1, 2 & 3 = "City of Lansing, Precinct 1, 2 & 3." If the temporary consolidation involves whole precincts that are contained within <u>multiple jurisdictions</u>, the number of the precinct that is normally assigned to the polling location is used. Example: Temporary consolidation involves City of Lansing, Precinct 1 & 3 and City of East Lansing Precinct 3. If the voters assigned to the consolidated precinct will be voting at Lansing City Hall which is normally used to house Precinct 1 = "City of Lansing, Precinct 1."

- **Split Precincts** – The following naming conventions may be used to distinguish the different ballot styles that will be issued to voters assigned to a single precinct that is comprised of more than one political subdivision (i.e., legislative district, county commission district, city ward, school district, or village). Example: Precinct 1A, Precinct 1B. Up to 5 alpha/numeric characters may be used to identify each of the unique ballot styles issued within a precinct.

  In addition to the above required naming conventions, the QVF offers the ability to assign up to 5 alpha/numeric characters that <u>will appear next to each voter's name</u> on the ePollbook or QVF precinct list. Example: 1 OAK, Blue or LPS (Lansing Public Schools). This same feature is available when using the QVF to generate mailing labels via mass application. Many ballot printers also offer ballot stub color striping and alpha/numeric coding of ballot serial numbers. Example: 00001 LPS.
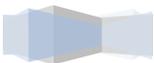
- **Shared Ballot Styles –** If a single ballot style will be shared by more than one city, township or school district, each precinct in which the ballot style will be issued must be listed in the body of the ballot below the offices or proposals as follows:

  City X, Precinct 1 – 12
  Township X, Precinct 1 – 5
  Township XX, Precinct 1

  In this case, the precinct number to which the ballot is assigned must be manually written, highlighted, or stamped on each ballot prior to the ballot being issued.
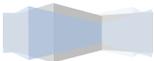
7. Ballot Instructional Language

Michigan Election law requires ballot marking instructions to be printed on the front of ballot secrecy sleeves or inserted into a clear plastic pocket adhered the front of the ballot secrecy sleeves distributed to voters. The following ballot instructional language must be used as appropriate for the type of election involved. As depicted below, in instances where the ballot does not contain a partisan section, a nonpartisan section, and/or a proposal section, the instructions must be modified as appropriate (MCL 168.736b-e.)

PRIMARY

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here]**.

--OR—

TO VOTE: Completely darken the box opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here].**

IMPORTANT: To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen. **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!**

PARTISAN SECTION: There may be multiple party sections on the ballot. Select the party section of your choice. **YOU MAY VOTE IN ONE PARTY SECTION ONLY; YOU CANNOT "SPLIT YOUR TICKET." IF YOU VOTE IN MORE THAN ONE PARTY SECTION, YOUR PARTISAN BALLOT WILL BE REJECTED.**

DO NOT vote for more candidates than indicated under each office title.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES: To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or place the name of that candidate in the blank space provided and completely darken the voting target area. Do not cast a write-in vote for a candidate whose name is already printed on the ballot for that office.

CHECK BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT: This ballot has two sides. Be certain to check the reverse side of the ballot.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

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GENERAL ELECTION

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here]**.

--OR—

TO VOTE: Completely darken the box opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here].**

IMPORTANT: To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen. **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!**

PARTISAN SECTION: To vote the partisan section of the ballot, you may cast a "straight ticket," a "split ticket" or a "mixed ticket."

> **Straight Ticket:** Vote the party of your choice. Nothing further need be done in the partisan section.

> **Split Ticket:** You may vote a straight ticket AND vote for individual candidates of your choice.

> **Mixed Ticket:** Vote for the individual candidates of your choice in each office.

NONPARTISAN and **PROPOSAL SECTIONS** of the ballot (if any) must be voted separately.

DO NOT vote for more candidates than indicated under each office title.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES: To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or place the name of that candidate in the blank space provided and completely darken the voting target area. **This must be done even if you cast a straight party vote**. Do not cast a write-in vote for a candidate whose name is already printed on the ballot for that office.

CHECK BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT: This ballot has two sides. Be certain to check the reverse side of the ballot.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

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NON-PARTISAN ELECTION

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here]**.

--OR—

TO VOTE: Completely darken the box opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here].**

**IMPORTANT:** To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen. **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!**

DO NOT vote for more candidates than indicated under each office title.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES: To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or place the name of that candidate in the blank space provided and completely darken the voting target area. Do not cast a write-in vote for a candidate whose name is already printed on the ballot for that office.

CHECK BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT: This ballot has two sides. Be certain to check the reverse side of the ballot.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

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SPECIAL ELECTION

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here]**.

--OR—

TO VOTE: Completely darken the box opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here].**

IMPORTANT: To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen. **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!**

CHECK BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT: This ballot has two sides. Be certain to check the reverse side of the ballot.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

8. Instructional Modification Notes

Certain modifications to the instructional language must be made to accommodate the following situations:

- The words, **"VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT"** or **"READ BOTH SIDES"** must appear at the bottom of both sides of all two-sided ballots. The use of this language on one-sided ballots is optional but recommended.

- The following instructional language is only <u>required</u> for ballots prepared for special primary election involving a single party:

  > **PARTISAN SECTION:**   There is one party participating in the special primary.

- The following instructional language is only required for ballots prepared for general elections at which the straight party option is required.

PARTISAN SECTION: To vote the partisan section of the ballot, you may cast a "straight ticket," a "split ticket" or a "mixed ticket."

> **Straight Ticket:** Vote the party of your choice. Nothing further need be done in the partisan section.

> **Split Ticket:** You may vote a straight ticket AND vote for individual candidates of your choice.

> **Mixed Ticket:** Vote for the individual candidates of your choice in each office.

NONPARTISAN and **PROPOSAL SECTIONS** of the ballot (if any) must be voted separately.

- If a special general election to fill a vacancy in an office will be held in conjunction with a partisan primary, the following instructions must be printed immediately above the instructions for casting a write-in vote:

  > **SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTIONS** held to fill partial terms must be voted separately.

  In addition, the words, **"SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION"** must appear directly above the office division in boldface upper case type and centered in a shaded box. (See Chapters 20, Shading Gradient and Font Sizes and 21, Sample Ballots for gradient/font requirements and sample ballots.)

- Additional instructional modifications are permitted for use with Closed Presidential Primary ballots, see Chapter 9, Closed Presidential Primary.

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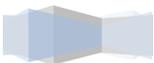
9. Closed Presidential Primary

Michigan Election Law has designated the Presidential Primary as a closed primary; this is the only closed primary election. The differences between an open primary and a closed primary are:

- Voters in an **open primary** receive a ballot with a column listing each qualified party's candidates. Voters then decide which party primary they wish to participate in by voting only in the column of their party choice while in the privacy of the voting station. Voting for candidates in more than a single party's column will void the entire partisan ballot.

- Voters in **closed primaries** must state the party primary they wish to participate in before receiving a ballot. The ballot given to voters only shows the party that corresponds to their choice.

Special Considerations required for the Closed Presidential Primary:

- **Party choice collection, retention, disclosure, and destruction**
- **No Party Declaration ballot selection (nonpartisan candidates and proposals)**
- **Ballot numbering restrictions**
- **Candidate rotation and Uncommitted vote position**
- **Modified instructional language**

Party choice collection, retention, disclosure, and destruction:

- The law requires voters to indicate in writing which political party ballot he or she wishes to vote. This requirement only applies to presidential primary elections, and voters will not be required to select a political party ballot type in writing at other types of elections.

- County, city, and township clerks must retain the forms indicating each voter's presidential primary ballot selection for 22 months. This ballot selection information is subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

No Party Declaration ballot selection (nonpartisan candidates and proposals):

- Voters must be granted the ability to vote on local candidate or proposal items (if any) without being forced to participate in the Presidential Primary. To satisfy this ability a separate No Party Declaration ballot is created to allow an additional choice ballot. This additional ballot choice is subject to the same retention and disclosure standard as the primary.
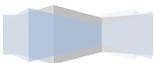
Ballot numbering restrictions:

- Ballots created for the Presidential Primary must be numbered using different number sequences for each ballot type: Republican, Democratic, Libertarian and No Party Declaration (if any) e.g.:

| Ballot Type:	Ballot numbers:**
Republican Ballots	10001-13000
Democratic Ballots	20001-23000
Libertarian Ballots	30001-33000
Nonpartisan/proposal Ballots	40001-44000
Voter Assist Terminal Ballots*	90001-95000

Notes:

* Removable, consecutively numbered stubs are strongly recommended on all blank stock utilized in the Voter Assist Terminals (VAT). This ballot stock must adhere to the numbering convention restriction for the Presidential Primary. It is recommended that a different numbering sequence be applied to this stock for use in all elections. Care should be taken with the un-used ballot stock following an election as it can be re-deployed election to election.

** If an alpha character is used to distinguish ballot type, that alpha character cannot be entered into ePollbook or on QVF precinct list. (e.g. R, D, L or N, etc.)

Candidate rotation and Uncommitted vote position:

- Each party primary shall have a vote position for "Uncommitted." When a voter selects "Uncommitted" this implies that they are exercising a "party vote" but are not committed to any of the candidates listed on the ballot. With enough votes cast to "Uncommitted" the party can send delegates to the national nominating convention who are not committed to a specific candidate.

- Candidate rotation: candidates are placed in alpha order by last name (home position) with rotation of names rotated precinct by precinct across the jurisdiction (See Chapter 19, Candidate Name Rotations.) **The Uncommitted vote position does not rotate and remains in the position above the write-in line**.
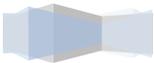
Modified instructional language to be used for the Closed Presidential Primary:

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

INSTRUCTIONS: For the office of President, you may vote for a candidate or you may vote "uncommitted."

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here]**.

--OR—

TO VOTE: Completely darken the box opposite each choice as shown: **[insert graphic here].**

IMPORTANT: To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen. **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!**

PARTISAN SECTION: There are multiple separate party ballots. Select the party ballot of your choice. **YOU MAY VOTE ONE PARTY BALLOT ONLY.**

DO NOT vote for more candidates than indicated under each office title.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES: To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or place the name of that candidate in the blank space provided and completely darken the voting target area. Do not cast a write-in vote for a candidate whose name is already printed on the ballot for that office.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

10. Two Page Ballots

In 2012, Public Act 128 moved several entities' regular election to even-year November General (e.g. school candidates). This change in regular election date has forced many communities into a two-page ballot scenario. The following standards must be observed whenever the situation of a two-page ballot arises:

- Races cannot be broken or spread from one column or page to another, e.g.: race with multiple candidates running cannot start in center column and complete in next column nor is it acceptable to start a race on front of ballot and complete on back.

- Proposals cannot be 'orphaned', e.g. two township proposals appear on front side of ballot, or first page and a third township proposal appear solo on back or second page.

- Special second page identifiers are required, e.g. **Page 1 of 2.** See sample ballots in Chapter 21, Sample Ballots for example.

- The words, **"NOTE: Ballot has 2 pages. Please remember to vote all pages."** must appear at top of all two-page ballots.

- The words, "**CHECK BOTH SIDES AND BOTH PAGES OF BALLOT**" or **"READ BOTH SIDES"** must appear on the bottom of all two-page ballots.

- Contact the Bureau of Elections for assistance. Bureau staff will analyze ballot content for space saving opportunities, if any.

IMPORTANT: Two-page ballots are always considered a <u>single</u> ballot; both pages must be identified with same stub number and tabulated as <u>one</u> ballot. Two-page ballots are two pages of same document, identified as a single document and tabulated as such.

NOTE: Any variance from the standards printed within this document need prior authorization and granted on a case-by-case basis.
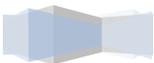
11. Presentation of Ballot Labels, Office and Proposal Divisions

The following standards must be observed: (See MCL 168.795c.)

- Sectional ballot labels are needed whenever there is more than one section to the ballot. Sectional ballot labels must be printed in boldface upper- and lower-case type and centered in a header box, shaded 60% fill (dark grey) with white font (e.g., **"Partisan Section", "Nonpartisan Section", "Proposal Section"**).

- Reverse side and subsequent ballot pages need to have the sectional ballot labels repeated to ensure that voters are aware of what section they are continuing. Sectional ballot labels must be printed in boldface upper and lower-case type and centered in a header box, shaded 60% fill (dark grey) with white font (e.g., **"Partisan Section - Continued", "Nonpartisan Section - Continued", "Proposal Section - Continued"**).

- Office and proposal divisional labels must be printed in boldface upper and lower-case type and centered in a header box, shaded 40% fill (medium grey) with black font in the following order: (See Chapter 17, Presentation of Ballot Proposals for proposal order.)

Presidential
State
Congressional
Legislative
State Boards
County
Authority*
City (partisan offices)
Township
Authority*
Delegate
Judicial
Community College
Intermediate School District
City (non-partisan offices)
Authority*
Township Library (only non-partisan township office)
Village
Authority*
Local School District
Metropolitan District
District Library
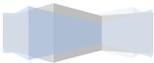
* The governmental unit that controls the authority defines the placement on the ballot, e.g.: A township dog park places a millage question on the ballot, this proposal would be placed after other (if any) township proposals with unique header.

Proposal Section
Township
Proposal Title (as certified)
Exact wording will be supplied by the township.
Yes ⬭
No ⬭
Authority
XXX Authority Dog Park* Proposal Title (as certified)
Shall XXX Township levy money to improve waste removal at the dog park? (Exact wording will be supplied by the XXX Authority.)
Yes ⬭
No ⬭

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12. Order of Political Parties

The order in which political parties are presented on the ballot is determined every 4 years. Michigan election law, MCL 168.703, stipulates that the party whose candidate receives the greatest number of votes for the office of Secretary of State shall be placed first on the ballot. The position of other political parties on the ballot is determined based on the same rule; the political party of the candidate that receives the second highest number of votes appears second and the political party of the candidate that receives the third highest number of votes appears third, etc.

Subsequently, political party candidates are not rotated on the ballot. Information on the order in which political parties appear on the ballot is distributed by the Department of State's Bureau of Elections. The following is the order in which the parties will appear on ballots produced through the 2026 cycle:

Democratic Party

Republican Party

Libertarian Party

U.S. Taxpayers Party

Green Party

Working Class Party

Natural Law Party
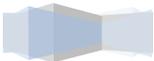
13. Presentation of Office Titles

The following standards must be observed: (See MCL 168.795b, MCL 168.795c and MCL 168.568.)

- Office titles must be printed in boldface upper and lower-case type.

- The order in which candidate offices appear on the ballot is specified under Michigan election law as detailed below. (See MCL 168.570a, MCL 168.697 and MCL 168.699.)

PARTISAN BALLOT

State and Federal Offices

President of the United States (Presidential Primary ballot only, if any)

Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States (general election ballot only)

Governor and Lieutenant Governor (Lieutenant Governor - general election ballot only)

Secretary of State

Attorney General

United States Senator

Representative in Congress

State Senator

Representative in State Legislature

Member of the State Board of Education

Regent of the University of Michigan

Trustee of Michigan State University

Governor of Wayne State University

County Offices

County Executive (if elected in county)

Prosecuting Attorney

Sheriff

Clerk (if the office has not been combined with the office of Register of Deeds)
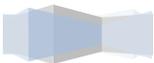
Clerk and Register of Deeds (if the office of County Clerk and Register of Deeds has been combined)

Treasurer

Register of Deeds (if office has not been combined with office of County Clerk)

Auditor (if elected in county)

Mine Inspector (if elected in county)

County Road Commissioner (if elected in county)

Drain Commissioner

Coroner (if elected in county)

Surveyor (if elected in county)

County Commissioner

City Offices (if elected on a partisan basis; order of offices is governed by the city charter)

Township Offices

Supervisor

Clerk

Treasurer

Trustee

Constable (if elected in township)

Park Commissioner (if elected in township)

Precinct Delegate Positions

Delegate to County Convention
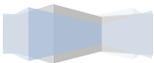
<p style="text-align:center">**NONPARTISAN BALLOT**</p>

Judicial Offices

    Justice of Supreme Court

    Judge of Court of Appeals

    Judge of Circuit Court

    Judge of Probate Court

    Judge of Probate District Court

    Judge of District Court

    Judge of Municipal Court

Community College and Intermediate School District Offices

    Community College Board of Trustees Member – acceptable abbreviation: **"Board of Trustees Member"**

    Intermediate School District Board Member – acceptable abbreviation: **"Board Member"**

City Offices (if elected on a non-partisan basis; order of offices is governed by the city charter)

Township Offices

   **Library Board Member** (if elected in township)

Village Offices

    President

    Clerk

    Treasurer

    Trustee (or Council) (per village charter)

    Library Board Member (if elected in village)

School District, Metropolitan District and District Library Board Offices

    Local School District Board Member – acceptable abbreviation: **"Board Member"**

    Metropolitan District Officer

    District Library Board Member – acceptable abbreviation: **"Board Member"**

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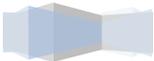
14. Presentation of Candidate Names, Political Party Designations, Voting Targets, Write-in Positions and the Maximum Number of Votes Allowed

The following standards must be observed: (See MCL 168.795b.)

- Candidate names must be printed in boldface upper and lower-case type. The use of maiden names, combinations of the maiden name and married name, as well as common diminutives of legal names and common law names are allowed. Example: "Bob" for "Robert" or "Kathy" for "Katherine." Nicknames and titles are prohibited.

- The use of commas and periods as part of a candidate's name is optional and mandated to be applied consistently within a ballot set (if using, use in every incidence.) Example: Robert Smith Jr or Robert Smith, Jr.

- The names of candidates without political party affiliation who seek election to a partisan office are listed last under each office. In such cases, "No Party Affiliation" must be printed on the ballot. The names of such candidates do not appear on partisan primary ballots.

- If one or more candidates for the same office have the same or similar surnames, and a clarifying designation is authorized by the election commission, the designation must be printed in regular upper and lower-case type directly below the name of the candidate. (See MCL 168.561 and 168.696(3).)

- Clarifying designations, required as the result of a name change, must be printed in regular upper- and lower-case type directly below the name of the candidate as "Formerly: XXXXXXXX." (See MCL 168.560b.)

- The candidates' names and clarifying designations must be justified to the oval (or box) to avoid any confusion over the vote position assigned to each candidate.

- On a general election ballot, political party designations are printed in regular upper and lower-case type directly below the name of the candidate.

- As the ballot instructions include information on casting a write-in vote, the spaces provided for write-in votes should not be labeled (e.g., "write-in" or "write-in candidate"). Such labeling has led to voter confusion in the past.

- The maximum number of votes allowed for each office must be printed in regular upper and lower-case type directly below the office title as follows: Vote for not more than 2. The vote for statement can be printed using red ink.

- Voting targets (oval or box) can be printed using red ink.

28
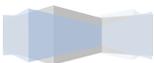
15. Judicial Office Designations, Districts, Divisions, and Terms

Office Designations   (See MCL 168.409b.)

An "office designation" must be placed underneath the name of any <u>incumbent judge</u> who is seeking reelection. (Art. VI, Sec. 24, of the State Constitution.)

The incumbent judges who are seeking reelection are coded "INCUM" on the official candidate listing. Two points merit note: (1) it is improper to use the word "Incumbent" to designate incumbent judges on the ballot and (2) incumbent judicial officers are the only elected public officials who are eligible to receive an office designation on the ballot.

The wording of the office designations which must be printed underneath the names of the incumbent judges are provided below:

> Justice of Supreme Court
> Judge of Court of Appeals
> Judge of Circuit Court
> Judge of Probate Court
> Judge of Probate District Court
> Judge of District Court
> Judge of Municipal Court

Example: **Bob Smith**
   Judge of District Court

If in this case a clarifying designation is required as the result of a name change, the office designation must be placed underneath the clarifying designation as "Formerly: XXXXXXXX."

Example: **Bob Smith**
                    Formerly: Bob Smyth
                    Judge of District Court

Judicial Districts, Divisions and Alpha Designations

As the titles of certain judicial seats can become quite lengthy, the following examples are offered to demonstrate the placement judicial office titles on the ballot.

<div align="center">

Judge of Circuit Court
1ST Circuit
Incumbent Position (Non-Incumbent Position or New Judgeship)

</div>

Judge of Court of Appeals

1ST District

Incumbent Position (Non-Incumbent Position or New Judgeship)

Judge of Probate District Court

1ST District

Incumbent Position (Non-Incumbent Position or New Judgeship)

Court divisions are represented on the ballot as follows:

Judge of District Court
1ST District, 1ST Division

Incumbent Position (Non-Incumbent Position or New Judgeship)

District courts that require an alpha designation are represented on the ballot as follows:

Judge of District Court
45A DISTRICT
Incumbent Position (Non-Incumbent Position or New Judgeship)

Judicial Terms and Incumbency

Judicial offices are listed in the following order, regardless of term length: (1) Incumbent, (2) Non-Incumbent, and (3) New Judgeship. There are many times where the incumbent seat may be a partial term, and this would place the incumbent below a non-incumbent seat if listed by term length as other offices.

Judge of Circuit Court
1ST Circuit
Incumbent Position
**Partial Term Ending XX/XX/XXXX**
Vote for not more than 1

Judge of Circuit Court
1ST Circuit
Non-Incumbent Position
6 Year Term
Vote for not more than 1

Exception* <u>Supreme Court</u>: races appearing on the ballot for full regular terms for this judicial seat are not 'coded' with race status (Incumbent, Non-Incumbent or New Judgeship), only the term length is displayed in the race header. This is the only judicial race that does not receive this 'coding'.

Supreme Court Partial term races are displayed with the race status (Incumbent, Non-Incumbent or New Judgeship), and term length in the race header.

<div align="center">

Justice of Supreme Court
8 Year Term
Vote for not more than 2

Justice of Supreme Court
Incumbent Position
Partial Term Ending XX/XX/XXXX
Vote for not more than 1

</div>
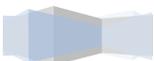
16. Full Terms and Partial Terms (Vacancies)

Term of office information is not printed on the ballot <u>unless</u>:

(1) the same office heading will appear on the ballot multiple times for the purpose of filling multiple full-term positions which have different term lengths or

(2) one or more partial term positions will appear on the ballot for the purpose of filling one or more vacancies in office.

When multiple terms are listed for same office title they are listed on the ballot from longest term to shortest, e.g.: If there is a 2 year term, a 4 year term and a partial term all for same office, the 4 year race is listed first followed by the 2 year and then the partial.

The term of office must appear on the ballot in bold upper- and lower-case type as follows:

4 Year Term

The partial term position follows any full-term positions listed under the same office heading. The partial term ending date must appear on the ballot in bold upper- and lower-case type as follows:

Partial Term Ending XX/XX/XXXX

Exception* Judicial races are listed by incumbency followed by term. See Chapter 15, Judicial Office Designations, Districts, Divisions and Terms.

17. Presentation of Ballot Proposals

After the question, the words "**Yes**" and "**No**" must be printed in boldface upper and lower-case type on separate lines. A vote position (oval or box) must be justified next to the word "**Yes**" and next to the word "**No**" to avoid any confusion regarding the vote position assigned to each choice. See Chapter 20, Shading Gradient and Font Sizes, for more information.

In addition to the above, adherence to the following is strongly encouraged:

- Ballot proposals are presented as follows:

  o Proposal entity name: bold face, upper and lower case font, center in text area.

  o Proposal Title: bold face, upper and lower case font, centered in text area.

  o Proposal wording: regular face, upper and lower case, left justified in text area.

  o "Additional information" should always be printed before the "Yes" and "No."

  o The use of italics, bold, underline, font changes and offset text should be avoided and may not be supported by all voting systems.

- Previous legislation passed affected only candidate race order and did not influence the order of proposals. Utilize the following order when proposals appear on ballot:

  State

  County

 **City**

  Township

  Village

  Local School District

  Intermediate School District

  Community College

  Metropolitan District

  District Library
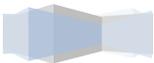
18. Ballots Containing a Recall

There are a number of different types of recall elections:

- "Special Recall Election" refers to an election involving the recall of the Governor. (This is the only circumstance that resembles the "old" recall system – it is a yes/no question where the reasons for recall and justification of conduct in office are printed on the ballot.) MCL 168.975c. No primary or general follows – if the recall is successful, the Lieutenant Governor assumes the duties of office. **Restricted to the regular election dates that fall in May or August and are at least 95 days after the date the petition is filed. MCL 168.963(4).**

- "Recall Primary Election" refers to an election involving state-level and all county elective offices (excluding County Commissioner) held for the purpose of determining each party's nominee for the recall general election. MCL 168.970c. **Must be held on the next regular election date that is at least 95 days after the date the petition is filed. MCL 168.963(3).**

- "Recall General Election" refers to an election involving state-level and all county elective offices (except County Commissioner) held after the recall primary election. MCL 168.970e. The winner of the recall general election serves the remainder of the unexpired term. MCL 168.970g. **Restricted to the regular election dates that fall in May or August and are at least 95 days after the date the petition is filed. MCL 168.970e.**

- "Recall Election" refers to either: (1) an election involving a nonpartisan local office, see MCL 168.971c, 972; or (2) an election involving a partisan local office, see MCL 168.973a. The local offices covered by this include County Commissioner, City-Township-Village offices, school offices, etc. **Restricted to the regular election dates that fall in May and November and are at least 95 days after the date the petition is filed. MCL 168.963(2).**

Refer to the samples in Chapter 21, Sample Ballots for ballot layout and titling for each type of recall specified above.
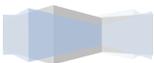
19. Candidate Name Rotations

Michigan election law, MCL 168.569a, stipulates that candidate names must be rotated on the ballot in specified instances to eliminate the chance that a candidate may be unfairly advantaged or disadvantaged in an election by his or her position on the ballot. (See Promulgated Rule, R168.774(9).)

When rotations are required, the candidate names are rotated from one precinct to the next. Ballot to ballot rotation, formerly employed when paper ballots were used, has been eliminated.

When rotation is required: The following outlines when candidate names must be rotated on the ballot:

- Candidate names are rotated on **non-partisan primary ballots and non-partisan general election ballots** in cases where the number of candidates running for an office exceeds the number of candidates to be elected to the office.

    o   If the number of candidates filing for a judicial office in a non-partisan primary is equal to or less than the number of candidates to be elected to the office, the office does not appear on the ballot.

    o   If the number of candidates filing for a city office in a non-partisan primary is equal to or less than the number of candidates to be elected to the office, the office does not appear on the ballot unless otherwise provided under the city charter.

    o   If the number of candidates appearing on the ballot in a non-partisan general election is equal to or less than the number of candidates to be elected to the office, the candidates' names are listed alphabetically.

- Candidate names are rotated on **partisan primary ballots** in cases where the number of candidates a party has running for an office exceeds the number of candidates to be elected to the office.

    o   The names are listed alphabetically in cases where the number of candidates a party has running for an office is equal to or less than the number of candidates to be elected to the office.

    o   Presidential Primary candidates are rotated in the same manner with the exception of "Uncommitted"; this selection is placed directly above the write-in line and *does not* rotate. (See Chapter 9, Closed Presidential Primary for more information.)

- Candidate names are *not* rotated on **partisan general election ballots.** (In cases where there is more than one candidate to be elected to an office in a partisan general election, the candidates are listed alphabetically under each party.)

Rotation procedure: Candidate rotations are arranged by the printer and the election official responsible for printing the ballot. As a starting point, the candidates' names are placed in alphabetical order and are rotated by precinct. With each subsequent rotation, the name in the first position (top of column) is shifted to the last position (bottom of column). The rotations must be carefully planned to ensure that the precinct rotations are – to the extent possible – evenly distributed throughout the village, city, township or county.

In elections involving federal, state and county offices, candidate names are rotated on a countywide basis. It is important that the rotation schedule that is observed within a county be consistently applied for all elections requiring countywide rotation. Consistency is important in ensuring the equal treatment for all candidates involved. The options are as follows:

(1)   Alpha order by jurisdiction: Example: **A**dams Township followed by the City of **B**aker followed by **C**linton Township. If both a city and township carry the same name, it is recommended that the township follow the city in the rotation schedule.

(2)   Alpha order beginning with townships followed by cities: Example: **D**ewitt Township followed by **E**aton Township followed by City of **C**lark.

(3)   Alpha order beginning with cities followed by townships: Example: City of **B**aker followed by the City of **D**ewitt followed by **A**dams Township.

20. Shading Gradient and Font Sizes

Section header (Partisan, Nonpartisan and Proposal): 60% fill, centered, bold face, upper and lower case, white sans serif font, 11 pt.

Divisional header (i.e. Congressional, Village): 40% fill, centered, bold face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 10.5 pt.

Race/Office header: 20% fill, centered, bold face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 9.5 pt.

Vote for statement: 20% fill, centered, regular face, upper and lower case, black or red sans serif font, 8 pt.

Candidate Name: 0% fill, justified, bold face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 9 pt.

Party Affiliation/Formerly known: 0% fill, justified, regular face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 8 pt.

Proposal entity name (i.e. Village – any entity not named in ballot title): 20% fill, centered, bold face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 9.5 pt.

Proposal title: 20% fill, centered, bold face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 9 pt.

Proposal wording: 0% fill, left justified, regular face, upper and lower case, black sans serif font, 8.5 pt.

Rectangle left-hand vote target:

Partisan Section
Congressional
United States Senator   Vote for not more than 1
☐ **Candidate Name**   Republican
☐ **Candidate Name**   Republican
☐ **Candidate Name**   Democrat
☐ **Candidate Name**   Democrat

Proposal Section
Village
Village of Sample   **Proposal Title**
Exact wording will be supplied by the village.
☐ Yes
☐ No

Oval right-hand vote target:

Partisan Section
Congressional
United States Senator   Vote for not more than 1
Candidate Name   Republican ⬭
Candidate Name   Republican ⬭
Candidate Name   Republican ⬭
Candidate Name   Republican ⬭

Proposal Section
Village
Village of Sample   **Proposal Title**
Exact wording will be supplied by the village.
Yes ⬭
No ⬭
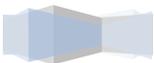
21. Sample Ballots

In this document, are sample ballots, which have been prepared to reflect a variety of Michigan election types including, but not limited to:

(1) Primary held in conjunction with a Special General Election

(2) Primary reflecting more than two political party columns

(3) General Election

(4) Closed Presidential Primary Election

(5) Special Election

(6) City Primary Election

(7) City General Election

(8) Various Recall ballots

(9) Single party Special Primary Election

- Each sample reflects the applicable legal standards presented in this document and is provided as a visual reference.

- Due to consolidated elections and legislative changes, it is possible to have a 'conglomerate' ballot for any of the standard election dates.

- If the samples included within this guide do not provide enough guidance for layout, structure, etc., please contact the Bureau of Elections for additional assistance.
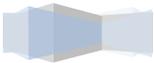
SAMPLE BALLOTS

** SAMPLE BALLOTS WILL BE ADDED AS AVAILABLE
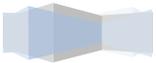
OFFICIAL BALLOT
General Election, Tuesday, November X, 20XX
Sample County, Michigan
Sample Township, Precinct 1

Partisan Section

Straight Party Ticket
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Party ◯
- Republican Party ◯
- Libertarian Party ◯
- U.S. Taxpayers Party ◯
- Green Party ◯
- Working Class Party ◯
- Natural Law Party ◯

Presidential

Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic President / Democratic Vice President — Democrat ◯
- Republican President / Republican Vice President — Republican ◯
- Libertarian President / Libertarian Vice President — Libertarian ◯
- U.S. Taxpayer President / U.S. Taxpayer Vice President — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- Green President / Green Vice President — Green ◯
- Natural Law President / Natural Law Vice President — Natural Law ◯
- ◯

Congressional

United States Senator
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Republican ◯
- Republican Candidate — Democrat ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- Green Candidate — Green ◯
- National Law Candidate — Natural Law ◯
- ◯

Representative in Congress Xth District
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- Libertarian Candidate — Libertarian ◯
- ◯

Legislative

Representative in State Legislature Xth District
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

State Boards

Member of the State Board of Education
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1 — Democrat ◯
- Democratic Candidate 2 — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate 1 — Republican ◯
- Republican Candidate 2 — Republican ◯
- Libertarian Candidate 1 — Libertarian ◯
- Libertarian Candidate 2 — Libertarian ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 2 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- Green Candidate 1 — Green ◯
- Working Class Candidate 1 — Working Class ◯
- Working Class Candidate 2 — Working Class ◯
- ◯
- ◯

Regent of the University of Michigan
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1 — Democrat ◯
- Democratic Candidate 2 — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate 1 — Republican ◯
- Republican Candidate 2 — Republican ◯
- Libertarian Candidate 1 — Libertarian ◯
- Libertarian Candidate 2 — Libertarian ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 2 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- Green Candidate 1 — Green ◯
- National Law Candidate 1 — Natural Law ◯
- ◯
- ◯

Trustee of Michigan State University
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1 — Democrat ◯
- Democratic Candidate 2 — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate 1 — Republican ◯
- Republican Candidate 2 — Republican ◯
- Libertarian Candidate 1 — Libertarian ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 2 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- Green Candidate 1 — Green ◯
- Green Candidate 2 — Green ◯
- Natural Law Candidate 1 — Natural Law ◯
- ◯
- ◯

Governor of Wayne State University
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1 — Democrat ◯
- Democratic Candidate 2 — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate 1 — Republican ◯
- Republican Candidate 2 — Republican ◯
- Libertarian Candidate 1 — Libertarian ◯
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1 — U.S. Taxpayers ◯
- Green Candidate 1 — Green ◯
- ◯
- ◯

County

Prosecuting Attorney
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Sheriff
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Clerk and Register of Deeds
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Treasurer
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Road Commissioner
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1 — Democrat ◯
- Democratic Candidate 2 — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate 1 — Republican ◯
- Republican Candidate 2 — Republican ◯
- Undeclared Candidate — No Party Affiliation ◯
- ◯
- ◯

County Commissioner Xth District
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Township

Supervisor
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Clerk
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

Treasurer
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate — Democrat ◯
- Republican Candidate — Republican ◯
- ◯

1102

VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT

Township

Trustee
Vote for not more than 2

Democratic Candidate 1 Democrat	◯
Democratic Candidate 2 Democrat	◯
Republican Candidate 1 Republican	◯
Republican Candidate 2 Republican	◯
	◯
	◯

Nonpartisan Section

Judicial

Justice of Supreme Court
Vote for not more than 2

Supreme Court Judge 2 Justice of Supreme Court	◯
Supreme Court Judge 3	◯
Supreme Court Judge 4	◯
Supreme Court Judge 1	◯
	◯
	◯

Judge of Court of Appeals
Xth District
Incumbent Position
Vote for not more than 2

Judicial Candidate 1 Judge of Court of Appeals	◯
Judicial Candidate 2 Judge of Court of Appeals	◯
	◯
	◯

Judge of Court of Appeals
Xth District
Non-Incumbent Position
Vote for not more than 1

Judicial Candidate 1	◯
	◯

Judge of Circuit Court
Xth Circuit
Incumbent Position
Vote for not more than 1

Judicial Candidate 1 Judge of Circuit Court	◯
Judicial Candidate 2	◯
	◯

Community College

Board of Trustee Member
Sample Community College
Vote for not more than 2

CC Candidate 1	◯
CC Candidate 2	◯
	◯
	◯

Board of Trustee Member
Sample Community College
Partial Term Ending 12/31/2024
Vote for not more than 1

CC Candidate 1	◯
CC Candidate 2	◯
	◯

Intermediate School District

Board Member
Sample ISD
Vote for not more than 2

ISD Candidate 1	◯
ISD Candidate 2	◯
ISD Candidate 3	◯
	◯
	◯

Local School District

Board Member
Sample Local School District
Vote for not more than 2

Local School Board Member 1	◯
	◯
	◯

Proposal Section

State

State Proposal XXXX - XX

This proposal will allow the State to mandate something that is important to the people of the state. This mandate will go into effect as soon as the voters decide it should go into effect, with the approval of the State.

The voters should keep in mind voting yes on this proposal will make the proposal happen. If the voter votes no on this proposal, the proposal will fail, and many people will be upset.

This is for informational purposes only.

The state requires everyone to register to vote and everyone should vote in every election at the appropriate time in each election cycle.

Yes	◯
No	◯

State Proposal XXXX - XX

This proposal will allow the State to mandate something that is not important to the people of the state. This mandate will go into effect as soon as the voters decide it should go into effect, with the approval of the State, if approved.

The voters should keep in mind voting yes on this proposal will make the proposal happen. If voted yes, this proposal will make many people upset. If the voter votes no on this proposal, the proposal will fail, and many people will be happy.

This is for informational purposes only.

The state requires everyone to register to vote and everyone should vote in every election at the appropriate time in each election cycle.

Yes	◯
No	◯

County

Sample County Proposal 1

Shall the limitation upon the total amount of general ad valorem taxes imposed on real and tangible personal property for all purposes in any one year under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased in the County of Sample by 0.0001 ($.0001 per $1,000.00 of taxable value of all such property) for a period of six (6 years, 2021 through 2026 inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining recreational facilities and activities in Sample County. Shall the County of Sample be authorized to levy such millage for said purpose?

The amount of revenue the County will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the County in the first year is estimated to be $20.00. The proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage, the revenue from which will be disbursed to the Sample Authority, and, to the extent required by law, a portion of such millage revenue will be captured by and disbursed to the Sample County Authority.

Yes	◯
No	◯

County

Sample County Proposal 2

Shall the limitation upon the total amount of general ad valorem taxes imposed on real and tangible personal property for all purposes in any one year under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased in the County of Sample by 0.0001 ($.0002 per $1,000.00 of taxable value of all such property) for a period of six (6 years, 2021 through 2026 inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining recreational facilities and activities in Sample County. Shall the County of Sample be authorized to levy such millage for said purpose?

The amount of revenue the County will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the County in the first year is estimated to be $42.00. The proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage, the revenue from which will be disbursed to the Sample Authority, and, to the extent required by law, a portion of such millage revenue will be captured by and disbursed to the Sample County Authority.

Yes	◯
No	◯

1102

VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT
General Election, Tuesday, November X, 20XX
Sample County, Michigan
Sample City, Precinct 1

Partisan Section

Straight Party Ticket
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Party ○
- Republican Party ○
- Libertarian Party ○
- U.S. Taxpayers Party ○
- Green Party ○
- Working Class Party ○
- Natural Law Party ○

Presidential

**Electors of
President and Vice-President
of the United States**
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic President
Democratic Vice President
Democrat ○
- Republican President
Republican Vice President
Republican ○
- Libertarian President
Libertarian Vice President
Libertarian ○
- U.S. Taxpayer President
U.S. Taxpayer Vice President
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- Green President
Green Vice President
Green ○
- Natural Law President
Natural Law Vice President
Natural Law ○
- ○

Congressional

United States Senator
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Republican ○
- Republican Candidate
Democrat ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- Green Candidate
Green ○
- National Law Candidate
Natural Law ○
- ○

**Representative in Congress
Xth District**
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- Libertarian Candidate
Libertarian ○
- ○

Legislative

**Representative in
State Legislature
Xth District**
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- ○

State Boards

**Member of the
State Board of Education**
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1
Democrat ○
- Democratic Candidate 2
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate 1
Republican ○
- Republican Candidate 2
Republican ○
- Libertarian Candidate 1
Libertarian ○
- Libertarian Candidate 2
Libertarian ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 2
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- Green Candidate 1
Green ○
- Working Class Candidate 1
Working Class ○
- Working Class Candidate 2
Working Class ○
- ○
- ○

**Regent of the
University of Michigan**
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1
Democrat ○
- Democratic Candidate 2
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate 1
Republican ○
- Republican Candidate 2
Republican ○
- Libertarian Candidate 1
Libertarian ○
- Libertarian Candidate 2
Libertarian ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 2
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- Green Candidate 1
Green ○
- National Law Candidate 1
Natural Law ○
- ○
- ○

**Trustee of
Michigan State University**
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1
Democrat ○
- Democratic Candidate 2
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate 1
Republican ○
- Republican Candidate 2
Republican ○
- Libertarian Candidate 1
Libertarian ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 2
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- Green Candidate 1
Green ○
- Green Candidate 2
Green ○
- Natural Law Candidate 1
Natural Law ○
- ○

**Governor of
Wayne State University**
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1
Democrat ○
- Democratic Candidate 2
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate 1
Republican ○
- Republican Candidate 2
Republican ○
- Libertarian Candidate 1
Libertarian ○
- US Taxpayer Candidate 1
U.S. Taxpayers ○
- Green Candidate 1
Green ○
- ○
- ○

County

Prosecuting Attorney
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- ○

Sheriff
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- ○

Clerk and Register of Deeds
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- ○

Treasurer
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- ○

Road Commissioner
Vote for not more than 2

- Democratic Candidate 1
Democrat ○
- Democratic Candidate 2
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate 1
Republican ○
- Republican Candidate 2
Republican ○
- Undeclared Candidate
No Party Affiliation ○
- ○
- ○

**County Commissioner
Xth District**
Vote for not more than 1

- Democratic Candidate
Democrat ○
- Republican Candidate
Republican ○
- ○

Nonpartisan Section

Judicial

Justice of Supreme Court
Vote for not more than 2

- Supreme Court Judge 1
- Supreme Court Judge 2
Justice of Supreme Court ○
- Supreme Court Judge 3 ○
- Supreme Court Judge 4
- ○
- ○

**Judge of Court of Appeals
Xth District
Incumbent Position**
Vote for not more than 2

- Judicial Candidate 1
Judge of Court of Appeals ○
- Judicial Candidate 2
Judge of Court of Appeals ○
- ○
- ○

1101

VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT

Nonpartisan Section

Judicial

Judge of Court of Appeals
Xth District
Non-Incumbent Position
Vote for not more than 1

Judicial Candidate 1 ◯

◯

Judge of Circuit Court
Xth Circuit
Incumbent Position
Vote for not more than 1

Judicial Candidate 1 ◯
Judge of Circuit Court

Judicial Candidate 2 ◯

◯

Community College

Board of Trustee Member
Sample Community College
Vote for not more than 2

CC Candidate 1 ◯

CC Candidate 2 ◯

◯

◯

Board of Trustee Member
Sample Community College
Partial Term Ending 12/31/2024
Vote for not more than 1

CC Candidate 1 ◯

CC Candidate 2 ◯

◯

Intermediate School District

Board Member
Sample ISD
Vote for not more than 2

ISD Candidate 1 ◯

ISD Candidate 2 ◯

ISD Candidate 3 ◯

◯

◯

City

Council Member
Vote for not more than 3

City Candidate 1 ◯

City Candidate 2 ◯

City Candidate 3 ◯

◯

◯

◯

Local School District

Board Member
Sample Local School District
Vote for not more than 2

Local School Board Member 1 ◯

◯

◯

Proposal Section

State

State Proposal XXXX - XX

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Yes ◯
No ◯

State Proposal XXXX - XX

This proposal will allow the State to mandate something that is not important to the people of the state. This mandate will go into effect as soon as the voters decide it should go into effect, with the approval of the State, if approved.

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Yes ◯
No ◯

County

Sample County Proposal 1

Shall the limitation upon the total amount of general ad valorem taxes imposed on real and tangible personal property for all purposes in any one year under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased in the County of Sample by 0.0001 ($.0001 per $1,000.00 of taxable value of all such property) for a period of six (6 years, 2021 through 2026 inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining recreational facilities and activities in Sample County. Shall the County of Sample be authorized to levy such millage for said purpose?

The amount of revenue the County will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the County in the first year is estimated to be $20.00. The proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage, the revenue from which will be disbursed to the Sample Authority, and, to the extent required by law, a portion of such millage revenue will be captured by and disbursed to the Sample County Authority.

Yes ◯
No ◯

County

Sample County Proposal 2

Shall the limitation upon the total amount of general ad valorem taxes imposed on real and tangible personal property for all purposes under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased in the County of Sample by 0.0001 ($.0002 per $1,000.00 of taxable value of all such property) for a period of six (6 years, 2021 through 2026 inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining recreational facilities and activities in Sample County. Shall the County of Sample be authorized to levy such millage for said purpose?

The amount of revenue the County will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the County in the first year is estimated to be $42.00. The proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage, the revenue from which will be disbursed to the Sample Authority, and, to the extent required by law, a portion of such millage revenue will be captured by and disbursed to the Sample County Authority.

Yes ◯
No ◯

VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT