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Baltimore City Mail-in Ballots for June 2 Presidential Primary Expected to Arrive Through Saturday, May 23

ANNAPOLIS (May 17, 2020) – The Maryland State Board of Elections today confirmed with the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) that mail-in ballots for the June 2 presidential primary are expected to be delivered to all eligible voters in the City of Baltimore this week through Saturday, May 23. The USPS received and began mailing ballots to addresses on file for eligible Baltimore voters on Thursday, May 15 and Friday, May 16 and those ballots began arriving in mailboxes this weekend.

"The Board is deeply committed to ensuring that ballots are delivered promptly and securely to all eligible voters in the City of Baltimore and across Maryland," said Maryland Administrator of Elections Linda Lamone. "We are grateful to the many Baltimore residents who have contacted us with questions about the vote by mail process and thank them for their patience. I also want to thank the U.S. Postal Service for working closely with us to ensure every eligible voter can vote by mail in this election."

Any eligible voter who does not receive a ballot in the mail may submit a ballot request to <u>absentee.SBE@maryland.gov</u> or call 1-800-222-8683.

The Baltimore City Board of Elections was not responsible for the mailing of these ballots.

The pandemic also resulted in the date of the Primary being postponed from April 28. While the mail-in ballots received by voters display the original Primary date of April 28, the ballots are in fact valid for the June 2 election. Voters should be aware these are official ballots that will record actual votes. They are not sample ballots.

There is no postage required to submit a ballot. The return ballot must be postmarked no later than June 2 but can be mailed at any time before election day. Voters should sign only the oath on the outside of the envelope but not the ballot itself.

Due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, voting for the June 2 Primary will be conducted primarily by mail, with limited options to vote in-person on election day. Those who have not registered to vote in the Presidential Primary may pre-register until Tuesday, May 27. Visit<u>elections.maryland.gov</u> and click "Register to Vote" to learn more.

Votes cast by mail remain secret. The same technology and equipment used for inperson voting is utilized to count mail-in ballots. The equipment is never connected to the Internet or any other database. The Maryland State Board of Elections is committed to educating voters on the changes made to the election procedures due to the novel coronavirus epidemic. These changes have been made to ensure voters can exercise their fundamental right to vote while also safeguarding the public's health during this pandemic.

For more information about this election, including a list of in-person voting locations, please visit <u>www.elections.maryland.gov</u> or contact the State Board at 1-800-222-8683.

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