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## Meeting of the Presidential Electors

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Annapolis, Maryland (December 12, 2016): As established by federal law, on the first Monday after the second Wednesday of December after a Presidential General Election, each state's Electors will meet in their respective state capitals and cast their electoral votes - one for President and one for Vice President. Maryland's Electors will meet at **1:00 pm on Monday, December 19, 2016** in the State House to cast their votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

Maryland is pleased to offer public viewing of the 2016 meeting of Maryland's Electors over a live stream for the first time. The public, schools, and academic institutions are invited to watch the meeting live at <a href="http://original.livestream.com/statemaryland">http://original.livestream.com/statemaryland</a>. A recording will be available from the same link following the meeting.

Each state is allocated a number of Electors equal to the number of Senators (always 2) plus the number of its U. S. Representatives. Maryland has 10 electoral votes; 1 for each of Maryland's 8 congressional seats in Congress and 2 for Maryland's 2 U.S. Senate seats in Congress.

In Maryland, political parties choose a list of individuals pledged to their candidate for President and equal in number to the State's electoral vote. Once elected, the presidential electors must take an oath before the Clerk of the Court of Appeals before casting their votes for the candidates for President and Vice President who received the plurality of the votes cast in the State. (Election Law Article, Section 8-505)

The electoral votes are then sealed and transmitted from each state to the President of the Senate who, on a designated date, opens and reads them before both houses of Congress. There are a total of 538 electoral votes; 270 are required to elect the President.

The names of the electors are not printed on the Maryland ballot - a vote for the President and Vice President is deemed a vote for the electors of that candidate. (Election Law Article, Section 8-504(b))

Due to space limitations of the Governor's Reception Room in the State House, event attendance is by invitation only, and the public is encouraged to watch the meeting via the live stream broadcast at <a href="http://original.livestream.com/statemaryland">http://original.livestream.com/statemaryland</a>.

More information about the electoral college is available on the Election Assistance Commission website at <u>eac.gov</u>. For historical information on the presidential Electors of Maryland see the Maryland State Archives's list of the presidential Electors in Maryland from 1789 to 2016. Voters may contact the State Board of Elections at 1-800-222-VOTE (8683) or visit <u>www.elections.maryland.gov</u>.

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