



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## GENERAL REGISTRAR'S REPORT

**DATE:** April 16, 2024

**TO:** Hon. Katherine K. Hanley, Chairman of the Fairfax County Electoral Board  
Jeffrey K. Shapiro, Vice Chairman of the Fairfax County Electoral Board  
Amb. (ret.) Christopher Henzel, Secretary of the Fairfax County Electoral Board

**FROM:** Eric L. Spicer, General Registrar and Director of the Office of Elections

**CC:** Beth Dixon Methfessel, Clerk to the Electoral Board  
Office of Elections – All Staff

**SUBJECT:** General Registrar's Report for the April 18, 2024, Electoral Board Meeting

### Voter Registration

Registered Voters	As of April 15, 2024	Change from 2/26
Active registered voters	733,326	+5,997
Inactive registered voters	65,119	-1,124
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>798,445</b>	<b>+4,873</b>

Registration Transactions	February 1 - March 31, 2024	Year-to-Date 2024 (1/1 to 3/31)
DMV online voter registration transactions	30,302	45,762
Web voter registration transactions	4,829	6,809
Third-party voter transactions	2,185	2,753
Other voter registration transactions	2,709	3,960
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,025</b>	<b>59,284</b>

Voter Cancellations	February 1 - March 31, 2024	Year-to-Date 2024 (1/1 to 3/31)
Deceased	855	1,337
Out-of-state	521	781
Other	114	182
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>2,300</b>

<b>Breakdown of DMV Transactions</b>	<b>February 1 - March 31, 2024</b>
Change of Address	5,296
New Registrant	7,868
Transferred In	2,279
Administrative Duplicate Match	9,610
Name and/or Address Change	524
Other (Includes voters who moved out of Fairfax County, moved out of the state, were reactivated, or identified themselves as non-citizens)	4,725
<b>Total DMV Transactions</b>	<b>30,302</b>

### **Polling Place Changes**

On May 21, 2024, the Office will request a public hearing on June 25, 2024, for the following proposed changes:

- In the Mason District, the Hummer precinct (2,251 voters) will be consolidated into the Woodburn precinct (1,401 voters). Currently, the polling place for the Hummer precinct is the Fred Packard Center, 4022 Hummer Road, Annandale. Although located within the Hummer precinct, the facility is in Annandale Community Park, and is not easily accessible by foot traffic either from public transit or from the surrounding neighborhoods. The size and configuration of the building has become increasingly challenging due to the increased space requirements for the voting equipment. The polling place for the Woodburn precinct, Woodburn Elementary School, 3401 Hemlock Drive, Falls Church, is located less than ¼ mile from the northern precinct boundary of the Hummer precinct and provides accessible routes by foot and public transit (Gallows and Hemlock stop). Consolidating the Hummer precinct with the Woodburn precinct would bring the total number of voters in Woodburn Precinct to approximately 3,500, an increase that can be accommodated at Woodburn Elementary School. This consolidation will provide the current Hummer voters a location with greater overall accessibility. Additionally, as required by Virginia Code § 24.2-307, these two precincts share all the same political districts.
- In the Franconia District, on December 5, 2023, due to the ongoing renovation of the Greenspring Conference Center, the Board of Supervisors authorized the relocation of the polling place for the Greenspring precinct from the Conference Center to Village Square, another building located inside the Greenspring precinct’s boundary. Those renovations are now complete, and with the Greenspring Community’s approval, the polling place will move back to the Greenspring Conference Center.



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## **Polling Place Changes (Continued)**

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- Additionally, in the Franconia District, the Office of Elections was notified that St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the polling place for 424 Huntley precinct, has changed its name to St. Martin de Porres Episcopal Church.
- In Braddock District, the Fairfax County School Board voted on November 9, 2023, to change the name of the polling place for Woodson #1 and Woodson #2 precincts from W. T. Woodson High School to Carter G. Woodson High School, starting in the school year 2024-2025. All voters affected by this change will be notified no later than two weeks prior to the November 5, 2024, General Election.
- In Springfield District, on November 23, 2023, Fairfax County Park Authority changed the name of the polling place for Island Pond precinct from Oak Marr Recreation Center to Oakmont Recreation Center. All voters affected by this change have already been notified through the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS).
- In June 2021, the Board of Supervisors added the Gerry Hyland Governmental Center as a voter satellite location. Due to the COVID pandemic, the Office of Elections planned to offer an early voting drive-through option at this location, however, ballot security requirements prevented the use of the site for drive-through early voting. Early voting for the November 2021 General Election was relocated to the second-floor community room inside the building. The high volume of public use on the first floor of the building, the parking challenges, the accessibility of the voting room on the second floor, and the reopening of the Lorton Community Center in May 2022, contributed to the decision to discontinue the use of the building after the November 2021 General Election. There are no plans to use this location as a voter satellite location in the future, therefore, it will be removed as a voter satellite office.

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## **June 2024 Primary Election**

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There will be a Republican county-wide primary election for the United States Senate and a Republican contest in the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District for the House of Representatives. There will be Democratic primaries for House of Representatives contests in the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional Districts.

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## **Absentee by Mail Requests**

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As of April 12, we approved 8,339 absentee ballot applications for the June 2024 Republican primary election. This includes 8,028 permanent applications, 258 applications from overseas and military voters, and 53 one-time applications.

As of April 12, we approved 27,014 absentee ballot applications for the June 2024 Democratic primary election. This includes 26,423 permanent applications, 515 applications from overseas and military voters, and 76 one-time applications.



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## **Early Voting Satellite Locations**

Early voting for the June 2024 Republican and Democratic primary elections will take place at 16 locations, as for past primary elections. They will be open on two Saturdays: June 8 and June 15. There will be no Sunday voting. Early voting will begin on May 3 at the Fairfax County Government Center (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays), Mount Vernon Governmental Center (1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays), and North County Governmental Center (1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays).

The remaining 13 satellite voting locations will open on Saturday, June 8, and remain open for seven days including two Saturdays (June 8 and June 15) but not Sunday.

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## **Election Officer Assignments for Satellite Locations**

Election officers will be assigned to early voting satellite locations in accordance with Code of Virginia requirements regarding party parity among officers.

Since this will be a dual-party primary, election officers will be staffed as in general elections: each location will be assigned a Chief officer representing the Republican Party, an Assistant Chief officer representing the Democratic Party, and an equal number of regular officers of each major party affiliation. Each satellite will be staffed daily with between six and nine election officers, with the number of officers varying depending on the location and expected number of voters.

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## **Resource Allocation for Satellite Locations**

The attached resource allocation for early voting provides information on the allocation of Poll Pads, DS200s, ExpressVote accessible ballot marking machines, and ballot-on-demand printers for the satellite voting locations. This allocation includes ballot paper for the ballot-on-demand printers.

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## **Resource Allocation for Election Day**

For each election, we develop a resource allocation plan and order ballots based on comparable elections. In past primary elections, in-person turnout on election day ranged from 5% to 19%, with a range of 1% to 43% in individual precincts.

For this election, each precinct will receive ballots of each party's primary for a minimum of 30% of active registered voters. Precincts with high turnout in past primaries will receive ballots of each party's primary for a minimum of 35% of active registered voters. Precincts with the highest turnout in past primaries and precincts in the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District will receive ballots of each party's primary for a minimum of 40% of active registered voters.



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## Resource Allocation for Election Day (Continued)

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Each precinct will receive three to five Poll Pads, two ExpressVote ballot marking devices, and two DS200 scanners. As in the primary election one year ago, precincts will be assigned five to eight election officers. One precinct, 426 Greenspring, had nearly twice the turnout of any other precinct in the most recent primary election and will receive additional election officers.

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## Election Officers

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For the June 18, 2024 election, we are assigning a total of 1,890 election officers, including Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs, across all 265 precincts. We expect to complete the assignment and confirmation process by the end of May.

In accordance with the Code of Virginia and Electoral Board policy, we will assign party-affiliated Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs based on the type of election occurring in each Congressional District:

- In the 8<sup>th</sup> District (82 precincts), where there is a single-party Republican primary, we will assign Republican Chiefs and Republican Assistant Chiefs.
- In the 10<sup>th</sup> District (8 precincts) and 11<sup>th</sup> District (175 precincts), where there is a Republican primary and a Democratic primary, we will assign Republican Chiefs and Democratic Assistant Chiefs.

We are also continuing to recruit new election officers. We are accepting applications through May 28, 2024, the same day as the voter registration deadline. Our application can be found at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/officers/apply>.

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## Election Officer Training

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All election officers must complete mandatory training during the 2023-2024 appointment term to be eligible to serve in this election.

We are conducting numerous in-person classes leading up to the election, including:

- **Election Officer Basics** classes, which are mandatory for first-time election officers. Previously, election officers completed the first part of this class online; we are now transitioning to a fully in-person class for first-time officers.
- **Chief Workshops**, which give Chief officers hands-on practice with tasks and forms they can expect to complete on election day.
- **SDR Workshops**, which give SDR Specialists hands-on practice with the same day registration process.
- **Open Houses**, which are drop-in opportunities for officers to ask questions and get hands-on practice using voting equipment and completing forms.

We also offer digital versions of these classes for officers to review course content on-demand any time before election day.



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## **Election Officer Training (Continued)**

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We will conduct a Chiefs Briefing on Thursday, June 6, to brief Chief and Assistant Chief election officers on procedural and legal updates for the election. We will also conduct an SDR Briefing on Tuesday, May 14, to brief SDR Specialist election officers on procedures for same day registration.

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## **Logic and Accuracy Testing for Poll Pads, Voting Equipment, and Ballot on Demand**

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Logic and Accuracy Testing Schedule for the June primary election:

- Early Voting Satellites (DS200's & EV's): April 23 - 25, 2024, beginning at 9:00 am (Morrissette Operations Center, 8600-UA Morrissette Drive, Springfield, VA 22152)
- Precinct Locations (DS200's & EV's): May 7 - 24, 2024, beginning at 9:00 am (Morrissette Operations Center, 8600-UA Morrissette Drive, Springfield, VA 22152)
- DS850s: May 21 - 22, 2024, beginning at 9:00 am (Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22035)
- Poll Pads for Election Day: June 16, 2024, beginning at 9:00 am (Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA, 22035, Suite 251)

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## **Office Personnel**

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Todd Strelow, who joined the Department as an Election Officer beginning in 2012 and is currently the Assistant Manager of the Voting Equipment Division, successfully competed for the Info Tech II position in the IT Department, effective May 4.

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## **VFOIA and NVRA**

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We have received 13 VFOIA requests and three NVRA requests since the February 29, 2024 Electoral Board meeting. We received a total of 15 VFOIA and eight NVRA requests between January 1 and April 12, 2024.

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## **RFID Chain of Custody Program**

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As noted during previous Board Meetings, we are in the process of replacing our barcode inventory system with one that uses an RFID tracking system. We have received and deployed equipment and materials for this project. Working closely with the vendor, Modus, we have imported our data and carefully prepared to implement the RFID system for the June primary election. Staff will affix tags to assets during the Logic and Accuracy process. The new RFID system that we are deploying in June will improve the speed and efficiency of our asset tracking process. It will also provide improved reporting on individual assets and the overall chain of custody process.



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## Communications Division and Outreach Program

Our Communications Division has begun planning and preparing to revitalize our Outreach Program. At the same time, they have completed required responses to VFOIA requests, coordinated public relations functions including interviews and responses to media requests, and planned improvements to our website. We will implement and expand our Outreach Program slowly and methodically to ensure that we have sufficient resources to provide voter registration support at naturalization events, outreach efforts at senior centers and other public and private facilities, and improved distribution of election and voter registration materials.

For the first time since the pandemic, our voter registration and Communications staff attended naturalization ceremonies hosted by the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on March 27. During these ceremonies, 151 new citizens who are residents of Fairfax County and 197 new citizens who are residents of surrounding jurisdictions submitted voter registration applications. Our staff promptly mailed the voter registration forms for citizens residing outside of Fairfax County to their respective localities. This is just the first step in the process of revitalizing our Outreach Program, and we are scheduled to attend more naturalization ceremonies in the future.

