

# Weekly Updates From the Secretary of State

September 18, 2024



# Review of Personal Identification Numbers

- Sections 84.002 and 86.002 of the Election Code provide that an applicant or voter may include:
  - the last four digits of their social security number if the voter has not been issued a number by Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- However, voter may include either or both numbers on an ABBM or returned carrier envelope.



## Review of Personal Identification Numbers

- **There is no hierarchy or preferred number that a voter must provide if voter registration record contains both a number issued by DPS and the last four digits of the voter's social security number.**
- Once the voter's identity has been verified, the ABBM or carrier envelope should continue through the review process.
- See Mass Email from September 16th
- Election Advisory No. 2023-13
- Early Voting Ballot Board Handbook



## FPCA Deadline

- Ballots to military and overseas voters using the Federal Postcard Application (“FPCA”) must be mailed no later than **Saturday, September 21, 2024.**
- Use emergency ballots if necessary
- Advisory No. 2024-03 Emergency Ballot Procedures
- Advisory 2024-02 Procedures for Federal Write-in Absentee from FPCA Voters
- Advisory No. 2024-01 Instructions and Deadline for Mailing
- Mass Email from September 17<sup>th</sup>



# Voting System Updates

- Voting system equipment is certified based on specific software and hardware versions
- Updates to voting system equipment (including Microsoft patches) require testing, review, and certification by the EAC at the federal level and by SOS at the state level
- Before a voting system may be updated to a new version or to incorporate an approved modification, you must seek written approval for the update from SOS
- Voting system equipment is used in a different manner from other traditional computer systems and are subject to greater protections that prevent unauthorized access to the system
  - Voting systems are never connected to the internet
  - State law requires counties to follow specific procedures that safeguard the equipment against physical access to the equipment by unauthorized users



# New Voter Eligibility Sign

Coming Soon!

- SOS will send a mass email with a new voter eligibility sign to post at early voting and election day polling places
- Posting this sign is optional

Prescribed by Secretary of State  
Sections 11.001, 11.002, 62.011(d)(3) Texas Election Code  
9/2024

## **Notice of Voter Eligibility**

**To be eligible to vote in the State of Texas, you must be a qualified voter of this state.**

**A qualified voter is a person who:**

- Is a United States Citizen;
- Is 18 years of age or older;
- Is a resident of the State of Texas;
- Is a registered voter of the State of Texas;
- Has not been finally convicted of a felony, or if so convicted has fully discharged the person's sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole or supervision, or completed a period of probation ordered by any court; or has been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability to vote; and
- Has not been determined by a final judgement of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be
  - Totally mentally incapacitated, or
  - Partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

If you are unsure of your eligibility to vote in Texas elections, please contact your county election or voter registration office at \_\_\_\_\_ or the Texas Secretary of State at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683)



# Election Security Contacts

Also Coming Soon!

- Be on the lookout for election security contact information we will provide from local sources, such as the FBI, Texas Department of Information Resources, and CISA
- Email for incident reporting:  
[ElectionSecurityLeadership@sos.texas.gov](mailto:ElectionSecurityLeadership@sos.texas.gov)



# Any Questions?

Call: 1-800-252-8683

Email: [elections@sos.texas.gov](mailto:elections@sos.texas.gov)

