BOARD OF ELECTIONS

## 2023 Budget Presentation

ADA Compliance:

The UCBOE works with municipal clerks and trains poll workers to ensure ADA compliance on Election Day. Compliance includes providing temporary measures such as ramps, mats, cones, portable call bells, and signage. Poll worker training includes ensuring temporary measures are in place and knowing how to activate the assistive hearing device on the voting machine.
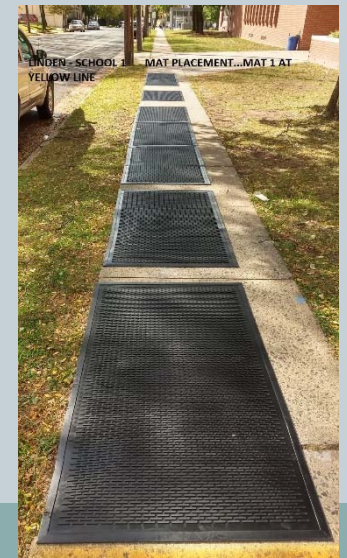
Public Outreach & Education

- Outreach to voters affected by redistricting as requiring following the Census and polling place changes as required.

- Presence at many local, public events including the UC Health Fair, Concerts in the Park, Puerto Rican Day Parade, National Voter Registration Day Events, Cultural Day and more.

- Outreach to Nursing Homes, Rehabilitation Centers & Assistive Living Facilities on how to properly complete and return a vote by mail ballot.

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

- ## Grant Awards

  The UCBOE was awarded over $1.4 million in grant dollars to administer Early Voting in the Primary and General Elections in 2022, fund the drop box program, enhance physical security at UCBOE facilities and improve ADA compliance at polling locations.

- ## Infrastructure Upgrades

  The UCBOE upgraded both the Electronic Poll Books and Voting Machines in 2022 to ensure the most current, up to date and secure versions of software and firmware are being used in the County.

- ## New Jersey Association of Election Officials

  Union County Represented Statewide: Nicole DiRado elected to the Executive Board as the Recording Secretary, and Phil Powers, the Elections Technology Supervisor, was elected the Region IV Vice President, representing Middlesex, Somerset and Union Counties.

  The NJAEO works with the New Jersey Secretary of State's Office, Division of Elections to set procedures and policies for operating and securing election equipment statewide, and lobbies the legislature to effectuate change through new or amended laws. As the first to roll out the new vote tabulation system countywide, Union County Board of Elections has been a resource for other counties now going through the process, compelled by early voting.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HAVA

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION
— OF —
ELECTION OFFICIALS

<u>Voter Registration & the State Voter Registration System</u>

- There were 17,866 new voters in Union County in 2022

- Over 200,000 updates to the Voter Registration System include party changes, voter transfers within the county and in and out of the county, processing deceased voters, inactive confirmations and the disenfranchised, and updating voter signatures.

- Online Voter Registration, introduced in 2020, is increasingly popular.

- Voter profiles are updated following every election with election history.

NEW JERSEY
SVRS

3 Elections in 2022

- **<u>Primary Election including 3 days of Early Voting</u>**
  - Turnout was 12.4%
  - Early Voting in the Primary for the first time in 2022

- **<u>Special School Election in Kenilworth</u>**
  - Turnout was 18.74%

- **<u>General Election including 9 days of Early Voting</u>**
  - Turnout countywide was 38.79%
  - Early Voting in the General Election increased with 12,705 voters voting early.
  - Vote by Mail Voting: Notwithstanding the 2020 all mail-in elections, the returns in the General Election were the highest to date, with over 29,000 being counted.

I VOTED

<u>Early Voting</u>

- 7 Locations Countywide

  Cranford, Elizabeth, New Providence, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle & Union Twp.

- Primary Election: 3 Days: June 3-5 – (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)

  1,093 voters voted early in the Primary Election

- General Election: 9 Days: October 29 – November 5 (Saturday through the following Sunday)

  12,705 voters voting early in the General Election, an increase over 2021

- Early Voting was a tremendous success! While turnout was low, policies and procedures designed to facilitate voting in a safe and secure environment were successful!

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Union County's Secure Ballot Drop Boxes

- 24 Secure Drop Boxes Countywide

- Boxes opened April 22 - June 7 for the Primary Election

  4,187 ballots were deposited in the Drop Box

- Boxes opened August 22 for the Kenilworth Special Election and remained open through November 8, 2022 for the General Election.

  11,293 ballots were deposited in the Drop Box for the General Election

- County Police Escorts of ballot containers

- Drop Boxes open and 24/7 surveillance starts the day ballots are mailed.

- **<u>Polling Locations & School Safety</u>**: In 2022, 18 elections districts were relocated from 6 schools in Rahway and Roselle and one election district was relocated from the High School in Berkeley Heights.

- **<u>Post Election Audit of the 2022 General Election:</u>** Pursuant to statute, the UCBOE conducted its post-election audit on the 2022 General Election and the results were consistent with the results tallied by the voting machines & paper vote tabulators.
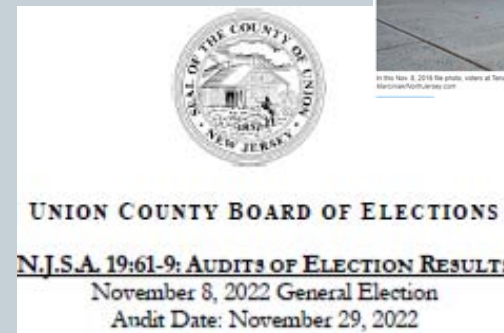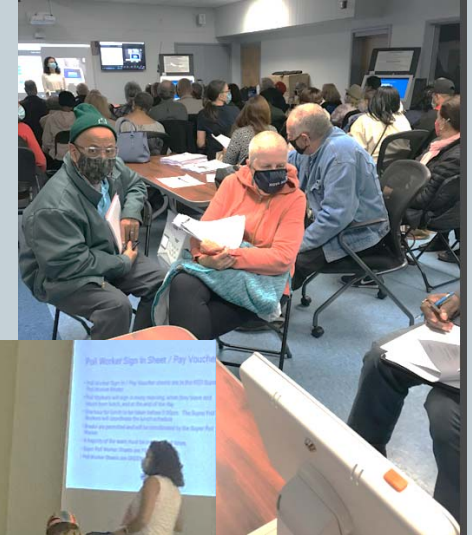
Poll Workers

- The state increased the poll worker pay in 2022, for the first time in 20 years, to $300 for the day.

- Public outreach efforts allowed the UCBOE to hire hundreds of new poll workers, who needed to be trained in-person.

- Hosted 31 in-person training classes.

- Hosted 21 equipment open houses

- Updated Online Poll Worker Training Portal

UNION COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
VIRTUAL POLL WORKER TRAINING

Re-warding following the 2020 United States Census

- Every 10 years following the United States Census, the Board of Elections is charged by federal statute with reviewing ward populations and determining if a change in ward boundary lines is required to ensure equal representation based on population.

- Re-warding is based on population, not registered voters.

- There are 10 towns in Union County which have wards; seven of which required ward boundary adjustments.

2023 Goals & Objectives
Board of Elections

- **<u>There are 4 Elections this year so far:</u>**
  - Springfield Special School Election (March)
  - Westfield Annual School Board Election (April)
  - Primary Election (including early voting)
  - General Election (including early voting)

- **<u>Grant Awards:</u>**

  The UCBOE will continue to seek grant awards to offset operating expenses and to fund initiatives, including costs for the local elections, early voting, drop box costs, ADA compliance and physical security grants.

Community Outreach: Public Outreach & Education: Attend festivals, street fairs and other community events to connect with communities for the purposes of equipment demonstrations, voter registration and poll worker recruitment.

Community Outreach: Outreach to Schools: Voter registration events at high schools and college campuses; Present mock elections for school districts as requested.

Union County Board of Elections
271 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208

OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL
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ATTENTION VOTER!

097-544

Voter Outreach

Communicate with voters regarding legislative district changes, election district changes, polling place changes, important election deadlines and new legislation which affects their right to vote.
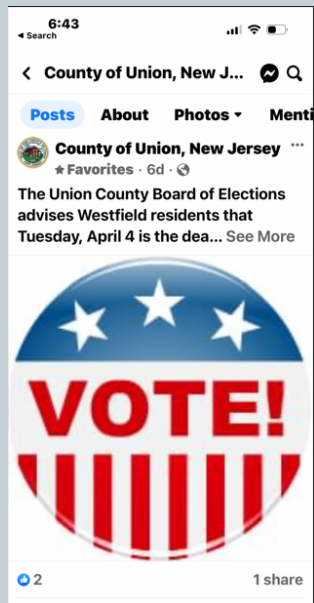
ADA Compliance

Call Bell Replacement Project for continued compliance at 42 locations, serving 113 election districts countywide.

2023 Goals & Objectives
Board of Elections

Elections Security:

- The UCBOE will continue to partner with election security partners on the state levels to ensure elections remain safe and secure.

- The UCBOE will ensure the county's vote tabulation system runs on the most recent software and firmware versions.

- The UCBOE will safeguard the county's elections by employing cyber security techniques and physical security enhancements within the county's elections office and warehouses.

- The UCBOE will continue to monitor NJCICC chat rooms on Election Day for mal/mis/dis-information and incident reports throughout the state in order to be aware of trends which may affect Union County's elections.

NJCCIC

CIS. Center for Internet Security®
Creating Confidence in the Connected World.

Poll Workers

- The UCBOE will continue efforts to recruit conscientious, responsible poll workers to work on Election Day.

- A significant push is already under way to increase the bilingual poll worker roster to ensure the County's Spanish-speaking voters have an equally rewarding experience.

- The UCBOE will continue to offer many in-person training opportunities and open house equipment demonstrations throughout the county.

- The poll worker training materials, in-person presentation and online training portal continue to be updated to reflect the most up to date information and procedures to ensure the county is in compliance with election laws at the polls on Election Day.