WINTER 2024

ELECOUNTY ELECTIONS

A MESSAGE FROM TOMMY...

The March 19, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary will be here soon. If you plan to vote by mail in this year's elections, you must submit a new request. I encourage you to act now! Voting by mail is the most convenient way to cast your vote. Visit <u>www.lee.vote</u> to request your ballot.

To continue providing superior election services, we implemented BallotTrax, a secure ballot tracking and notification service that provides you with a series of updates on the status of your Vote-by-Mail Ballot through email, text, and phone alerts during an election.

When you sign up for this free service, you will receive notifications every step of the way, from the time your ballot is mailed to when it is received and counted. If an issue arises with your ballot, you will receive an alert with instructions on how to resolve it.

To sign up for <u>BallotTrax</u> and customize your notification preferences, visit our website, <u>www.lee.vote</u>.

Instilling trust in the election process and increasing transparency in conducting elections in Lee County is paramount. Physical security and cybersecurity remain top priorities in keeping our elections safe and accurate.



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Beginning this year, we will use Clear Ballot, a post-election audit system certified by the state of Florida to verify election results. This system allows us to scan 100% of the ballots used in an election and compare election results from Vote-by-Mail, Early Voting, and Election Day to ensure the accuracy of our tabulation system. This will further strengthen our election process and provide greater assurance to voters.

Florida has the strictest election laws in the United States to prevent voter fraud. My team and I, together with the Supervisors of Elections across the state, work diligently to uphold the statutorily mandated voter registration and election procedures that work to preserve the integrity of the election process.

As your Supervisor of Elections, let me assure you that my team and I remain committed to safeguarding the integrity of elections in Lee County by continuing to conduct accurate, secure, and transparent elections.

As your trusted source for election information, please contact me or my staff with any questions or concerns.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year! May 2024 bring you good health, happiness, new achievements, and new inspirations!

- Tommy Doyle

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2023 offered us a variety of ways to continue our focus on providing our voters with a superior voting experience.



1. The opening of our fifth branch in Lehigh Acres offers our voters living in the eastern part of our county a full-service branch that provides them with all their voter registration and election services. The branch will also serve as an Early Voting site!



2. Due to new legislation, 2023 was the first time in history that our office began the year with zero Vote-by-Mail requests! We implemented a campaign that included direct mailings, social media, media interviews, and radio ads to help educate our voters about the need to renew their requests if they want to vote by mail in the 2024 elections. We ended the year with over 100,000 requests! We will continue to promote the information through the November 5, 2024 election.



3. Our Poll Worker Department provided approximately 300 Poll Worker Orientations for prospective candidates who would be part of history and work in the 2024 elections!



4. We held an in-service training day for staff. We now have five locations, so this was a great chance for our staff to come together to celebrate achievements and receive training to ensure we are all prepared for the 2024 elections.



5. The deadline to complete verifying petitions for Constitutional Amendments is February 1, 2024. Our Qualifying Department and additional staff were very busy verifying over 70,000 petitions in 2023.



6. Our Community Education Services Department (CESD) was extremely active in Lee County! They provided 412 voter registration drives to ensure we provided voter services and election education before the 2024 elections. They conducted their yearly training for the Patriots, who are part-time election workers acting as liaisons between constituents and the Supervisor of Elections Office at community events. Visit www.lee.vote, if you are interested in joining the CESD as a Patriot.

UPGRADED VOTING EQUIPMENT

In 2023, we upgraded our Elections Systems and Software's DS200 optical scan tabulators, which had been in use since 2008, to the newer DS300s.

The voting equipment's faster processing speeds and enhanced security measures provide a superior voting experience with seamless and efficient ballot scanning and tabulation.

The new DS300s will be used during Early Voting and Election Day for the March Presidential Preference Primary. Read more about our voting system at www.lee.vote.



MARCH 19 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY



The March 19 Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) is a closed primary election where voters choose the candidate they would like to see represent their party in the presidential election in November.

Only voters registered with a major political party can vote for their registered party's candidates in a primary election. Voters registered with No Party Affiliation (NPA) or with a minor party are not eligible to vote in the primary.

In December 2023, the Florida Secretary of State certified the list of candidates provided by the major political parties

for the March PPP. It's important to note that the Florida Democratic Party only provided one candidate nominee. As such, the name will not appear on the PPP ballot, making the election a Republican-only primary.

Tommy Doyle, Supervisor of Elections



TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

DEADLINES

Deadline to Register to Vote or Change Party Affiliation:

Tuesday, February 20

Deadline to Request Vote-by-Mail Ballot to be Mailed

• 5:00 p.m., Thursday, March 7

Deadline to Return Vote-by-Mail Ballot to the Lee County Supervisor of Elections

• 7:00 p.m., Election Day, March 19

Return Ballot by Mail

If you plan to return your Vote-by-Mail Ballot in the mail, we suggest you do so no later than Saturday, March 9, 2024.

Return Ballot in Person

You or someone you choose may return your Vote-by-Mail Ballot to any branch office location no later than 7:00 pm on Election Day.

A Vote-by-Mail Ballot received <u>after</u> 7:00 p.m. on Election Day is <u>ineligible</u> to be counted.

FLORIDA IS A CLOSED PRIMARY STATE

In primary elections, registered voters can only vote for their registered party's candidates in a partisan contest on the ballot. If you did not indicate your party affiliation when you registered to vote, you are registered with no party affiliation.

If you wish to register to vote or change your party affiliation for the Presidential Preference Primary election, please visit www.lee.vote or call (239) 533-8683 before February 20.

EARLY VOTING DATES/TIMES/LOCATIONS

03/09 TO 03/16 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Bonita Springs Elections Office 25987 S Tamiami Trl, #105 Bonita Springs, FL 34134

Cape Coral Elections Office 1039 SE 9th Ave Cape Coral, FL 33990

Cape Coral - Lee County Library 921 SW 39th Ter Cape Coral, FL 33914

East County Regional Library 881 Gunnery Rd N Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

Estero Recreation Center 9200 Corkscrew Palms Blvd Estero, FL 33928

Fort Myers Regional Library Voting Room Address: 1651 Lee St, Fort Myers, FL 33901 Library Address: 2450 First St, Fort Myers, FL 33901

Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers 4224 Renaissance Preserve Way Fort Myers, FL 33916

Lakes Regional Library 15290 Bass Rd, Fort Myers, FL 33919

Lee County Elections Center 13180 S Cleveland Ave Fort Myers, FL 33907

Lehigh Acres Elections Office 600 Homestead Rd S #9 Lehigh Acres, FL 33974

North Fort Myers Recreation Center 2000 N Recreation Park Way North Fort Myers, FL 33903

Northwest Regional Library 519 Chiquita Blvd N Cape Coral, FL 33993

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Odalys Marchese joins our team as a Poll Worker Coordinator. Her administrative work experience in private and government agencies will be a great asset to the Poll Worker Department!

Odalys was born in New York but grew up on the beautiful island of Puerto Rico. In 2017, she moved to Lee County! "My gorgeous teenage daughter Feraliz and I come from a matriarchal family of entrepreneurial and God-fearing women. We love the culture and traditions of our beloved island very much."

She is a self-proclaimed foodie who enjoys crafting and cooking almost any international food, but her forte is traditional Puerto Rican cuisine. Odalys loves to spend time outdoors and enjoys watersports, kayaking, and hiking.

We are excited to have you on board!

Carey Kruse is our new Warehouse Coordinator! He brings extensive management experience from a local big-box retailer and will be a valuable addition to our organization.

Born and raised in Fort Myers, he is undoubtedly a rare breed! Carey and his wife of over 13 years, Danielle, have two daughters, Whitney and McKinley. Rounding out their lovely family, are three cats and a dog.

He shares, "I enjoy spending time with my wonderful daughters, fishing, dancing, and having a great time together!"



Carey is a retired US Marine Corps Veteran who served from 2001 through 2006. Thank you for serving our country, Carey! We are thrilled to have you on our team.

2024 ELECTION DATES

03/19/2024 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

08/20/2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

11/05/2024 GENERAL ELECTION

<u>Important</u> <u>Reminder</u>

If you plan to vote by mail in 2024, please ensure you submit a request to our office.

Check the status of your Vote-by-Mail request on our website, www.lee.vote.

> CONTACT OUR OFFICE TO SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST TODAY.

MAIN OFFICE MELVIN MORGAN CONSTITUTIONAL COMPLEX 2480 THOMPSON ST, 3RD FLOOR FORT MYERS 33901

CAPE CORAL BRANCH OFFICE COMMISSIONER JOHN E. MANNING GOVERNMENT COMPLEX 1039 SE 9TH AVE CAPE CORAL 33990 LEE COUNTY ELECTIONS CENTER SOUTH FORT MYERS BRANCH OFFICE 13180 S CLEVELAND AVE FORT MYERS 33907

LEHIGH ACRES BRANCH OFFICE EAST LEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER 600 HOMESTEAD ROAD S, #9 LEHIGH ACRES 33974 BONITA SPRINGS BRANCH OFFICE AT BONITA COMMONS 25987 S TAMIAMI TRAIL, #105 BONITA SPRINGS 34134



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LEE.VOTE • (239) LEE-VOTE (533-8683)