



Election Division Dispatch

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NEWS & UPDATES

December 2019 Conference

This year's conference will be held December 16-18, 2019, at Hyatt in downtown Indianapolis. Please look for communication a little later this summer for conference registration and room block information.

2020 Candidate Petitions

The presidential election cycle is just around the corner, and IED has released candidate petition forms for 2020. To file to run in the May 2020 primary election, D&R candidates for President and Governor must collect at least 500 certified signatures of registered voters in each of the state's 9 Congressional Districts using the CAN-8 & CAN-25 forms, respectively. Independent and minor party candidates running for statewide or state legislative office in November 2020 use the CAN-19 form, while independent or minor party candidates for local office use the new CAN-21 form. These petitions cannot be filed for county certification earlier than January 8, 2020.

2019 Legislative Summary

The 2019 Legislative Summary can be found on the IED website. Traditionally, the Indiana General Assembly updates their website with the new legislation on or around July 1. Their website will be the best source for current law until the 2020 Election Code book is delivered in December at the conference.

Updated Forms

As noted in the last Dispatch and at the State Board of Accounts conference, IED is updating a number of forms to reflect recent changes in Indiana law that take effect July 1, 2019. The county portal has word and .pdf versions of these forms; IED's website links to forms.in.gov and only has the forms in fillable .pdf.

ALERT!

Please review the attached memo about the new VRG-6 used by law enforcement agencies for voter registration services. IED has also updated the VRG-8 receipt to include this change in state law.

CALENDAR

- July 1, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline to file petition of nomination (CAN-44) for independent/minor party candidate for county review
- July 3, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline to file CAN-51 to be declared write-in candidate
- July 3, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for party to file paperwork with county clerk for D & R parties to fill ballot vacancies & for Libertarian Party to file CAN-22 & CAN-12 for candidates nominated at convention or filling a L ballot vacancy
- July 15, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for minor party/independent candidates nominated by petition to file CAN-45 consent & CAN-12
- July 15, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for a candidate nominated in the primary election or at a city convention to file CAN-46 & withdraw for any reason
- August 1, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for candidates running for "small" town office (pop. less than 3,500) to file CAN-16 & CAN-12 with county clerk
- August 1, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for candidates running for "small" town office (pop. less than 3,500) to file CAN-46 with county clerk to withdraw from Nov. ballot
- August 7, 2019:** Deadline for county VR to finish VLM work to change voter registration record status to "inactive"
- August 8, 2019:** "Freeze" period begins so no voter status may be changed to inactive until after 11/5/19
- August 8, 2019:** Deadline for town council to pass resolution to conduct its own November election
- August 20, 2019:** Deadline for counties to file VRG-21 with IED
- August 21, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for D, R, L parties to hold "small" town nominating convention, if required
- August 21, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline for "small" town to file resolution to conduct its own election with CEB
- August 23, 2019 (NOON):** Deadline to file CAN-1 to challenge candidate filling a ballot vacancy or an independent or minor party candidate filing petition of nomination
- August 30, 2019:** Returned "scanned" VLM cards will be received by counties (approximate date)

IN FOCUS: Campaign Finance & “Summer” Filings

This summer political parties and independent or minor party candidates are filing to be placed on the November ballot. Like candidates running in the May primary election, these “summer” filers must also follow the state’s campaign finance act and open committees and file reports.

The same rule of thumb applies to “summer” filers as to candidates filing for the primary election (or later this summer for “small” town office): if the office pays less than \$5,000 in a calendar year, then a candidate only needs to file a CFA-1 and file CFA-4 reports if they raise or spend \$500 toward running for office.

The following information applies to candidates who filed to run for an office paying \$5,000 or more in a calendar year. It also assumes the candidate does NOT have an open committee or raised or spent \$100 toward running for office:

VACANCY REPORT

This applies to Democratic & Republican candidates who fill a ballot vacancy where no candidate ran in the primary election AND to Libertarian candidates that fill a ballot vacancy where no candidate was nominated at their convention.

A CFA-1 must be filed no later than noon, July 10, 2019. If the candidate falling in this category does not file a CFA-1 by this deadline, then the CEB must administratively open the committee. A special “vacancy” CFA-4 report for the period of July 3, 2019, through July 17, 2019, must be filed no later than noon, July 24, 2019. (Write-in candidates filing the CAN-51 & CAN-12 are held to this timeline, too.)

NOMINATION REPORT

This applies to an independent or minor party candidate filing CAN-44 petitions (along with the CAN-45/CAN-12) to have their name printed on the ballot. A CFA-1 must be filed no later than noon, July 22, 2019. If the candidate fails to file the CFA-1, then the CEB administratively opens a committee on the candidate’s behalf. A special “nomination” CFA-4 report for the period of July 15-July 29, 2019, must be filed not later than noon, Aug. 5, 2019.

CONVENTION REPORTS

This section does NOT apply to small town nominating conventions. Instead, this applies to Libertarian Party candidates nominated at their party’s convention. A CFA-1 must be filed not later than noon, July 10, 2019. The CEB will administratively open a committee

for a candidate who fails to meet this deadline. A “post convention” CFA-4 report for the period of July 3, 2019, to July 17, 2019, must be filed not later than noon, July 24, 2019.

“SMALL” TOWN CANDIDATES

If a town convention **is** required, then a candidate must file a CFA-1 not later than noon, August 8, 2019. The CEB would administratively open a committee, if needed. A “Post Convention” CFA-4 report would be filed by noon, 20 days after the convention is held. (The filing period is the day the CFA-1 was filed through the day after the convention).

If a town convention **is NOT** required, then a CFA-1 is to be filed not later than noon, August 8, 2019. The CEB would administratively open the committee, if needed. The candidate’s first CFA-4 report would be the “Pre-Election” report due not later than noon, October 18, 2019.

NOTE: Contact our office with questions about candidates who have already filed a CFA-1 before the candidate filing period closed. Their campaign finance deadlines may be different.

QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

Q. What’s the retention schedule for campaign finance forms?

A. Campaign finance reports and statements are kept four years from December 1, following the election to which they pertain. (IC 3-9-4-6). The exception to this rule are candidates for judge, and those campaign finance records are kept for six years from December 1 following the election to which they pertain.

Q. Does the June 30 deadline for the parties to fill a ballot vacancy where no one ran in the primary election rollover to Monday, July 1?

A. No. The party chairs must take action (either hold the caucus or make the appointment) to fill a ballot vacancy where no one ran in the primary election by noon, June 30. The deadline for the paperwork required to be filed after the party’s action is noon, July 3.

VR CORNER

The statewide VLM Mailing Project continues this month through August 7, 2019. More than 4.25 million postcards were mailed to active voters in Indiana, and more than 500,000 of these cards have been returned as undeliverable.

This smaller universe of active voters were mailed a second card on or before June 25, and have until July 27, 2019, to send back the voter response card to confirm their registration, update it within the county, or cancel due to a move outside of the county.

Data from the second card is being loaded into county SVRS hoppers. A reminder: the Exceptions Hopper is only visible to county administrators, as it requires more scrutiny to determine how best to manage the change requested by the voter.