



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

June 23, 2016

To: Elections Commission

From: Scott T. Nago
Chief Election Officer

Re: Status of Operations

Since our last meeting on May 18, 2016, the Office of Elections has made ADA accessibility changes to our main website and the online voter registration website, and completed a preliminary status update for the Legislature on the implementation of the new statewide voter registration system. Additionally, ballot production is underway and we are continuously recruiting election day officials.

Candidate Filing & Ballot Printing

The deadline for candidate filing was on June 7, 2016. A total of 302 candidates initially filed for the 107 seats that are up for election. There have been a total of six withdrawals, leaving a total of 296 candidates.

One of these candidacies is currently being disputed. Specifically, the Hawaii Republican Party has filed a lawsuit (Rohlfing v. Thielen, Civil No. 16-1-1137-06 JHC) contesting whether a candidate for Senate District 25 had the requisite amount of valid signatures as part of her nomination papers. The action was filed pursuant to HRS § 12-8, which mandates that the court issue an expedited decision. The matter is scheduled for a court hearing on June 24, 2016 and the court's decision is expected the following week.

The number of candidates that filed for a particular seat and the law regarding each seat dictates which contests will appear on the Primary Election ballot, and which ones will appear solely on the General Election. For example, for some seats, if only two candidates file, they may bypass the Primary Election. The result of this is that of the 296 candidates, only 277 of them will appear on the Primary Election ballot. Similarly, there was only one candidate that filed for OHA Kauai Resident Trustee. As such, the candidate was deemed elected after the close of candidate filing and will not appear on the ballot.

Paper ballots have been proofed and are currently being printed. We have received the test ballots (June 17, 2016) and UOCAVA ballots (June 21, 2016). UOCAVA ballots were delivered to City on June 21, 2016 and will be sent by FedEx to the counties on June 22, 2016. The deadline to mail the UOCAVA ballots is June 29, 2016. Additionally, our voting system vendor is currently working on the DRE ballots.

Statewide Voter Registration System

The Legislature has requested a status update on the implementation of the new statewide voter registration system via SCR 70, SD1 and SR 41, SD1. A preliminary status update is due no later than July 1, 2016, and a final status update is to be provided by December 29, 2016. We have completed the preliminary status update and plan to file it by the end of the month.

After providing a historical overview of the development of the current statewide voter registration system, the status update covers the following topics requested by the Legislature:

- 1) Project management schedule that itemizes the various project deliverables and delivery timeline;
- 2) Identification of completed deliverables and the amounts paid to the State's contractor;
- 3) Description of the process used for quality assurance and resolution of issues or problems identified by users;
- 4) Management plan for the voter registration system that includes descriptions of the projected annual operational costs, risk mitigation, and user support; and
- 5) Itemization of expenditures from funds provided pursuant to sections 101 and 251 of HAVA.

The Office of Elections is hopeful that this status update will be of assistance to the Legislature and that it may facilitate the Legislature's consideration of any legislation in 2017 related to voter registration and the statewide voter registration system.

In the coming weeks, we will secure the ballot packing rooms and conduct tests of the vote counting system. Additionally, we are continuing to recruit precinct officials to work at the 233 polling places statewide. As of June 21, 2016, we have filled 62% of the required positions. All of the counties, except for the County of Hawaii, began their precinct official training in mid-June. The County of Hawaii will begin conducting precinct official trainings on June 29, 2016.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 453-VOTE (8683) or 1-800-442-VOTE (8683).