



BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SCHEDULED MEETING

September 12, 2024

4:30 PM

VRE AB Area

DCTV's UStream channel: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/xUJgKs6n2VW>

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. August 8, 2024 Scheduled Meeting (p. 2)
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
 - A. Director's Report (p. 7)
- 6. ITEMS FOR DECISION**
 - A. Advance Voting Drop Box Locations
 - B. Voter Challenges Scheduling Resolution (p. 16)
 - C. Voter Challenge Procedures
 1. O.C.G.A. 21-2-229 (p. 18)
 2. O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 (p. 23)
- 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- 8. BOARD COMMENTS**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections

Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2024

Start Time: 4:48 p.m.

End Time: 8:33 p.m.

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair
Vasu Abhiraman, Vice-Chair
Nancy Jester
Anthony Lewis
Susan Motter

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director
Terry Phillips, Deputy County Attorney
Shelley Momo, Supervising Attorney
Tristen Waite, Assistant County Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 4:48 p.m. Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

Motion by Ms. Motter, seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Jester, to approve the minutes of the July 11 scheduled meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Austin read the rules for public comment:

Public comments may be made in person or submitted by sending an email of one printed page or less at a minimum font of 12 to electionspubliccmnt@dekalbcountyga.gov which must be received between 35 and 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting. The body of your email must include your first and last name. By submitting an email for public comment, you agree to have your name and the email broadcast on the UStream and entered into the record and minutes. The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections reserves the right, at the DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections' sole discretion, to (1) add your email to the record/minutes without reading any of it into the broadcast or (2) read all or a portion of your email into the record/minutes. All public comments will be limited to 2 minutes. Abusive, profane, or derogatory language, holding up signs, clapping, yelling, standing or laying in the aisles to show support for or opposition to a speaker will

not be permitted, but a show of hands or quietly standing in place will be permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position.

The following citizens provided public comment:

- Betsy Shackelford
- Lisa Wright
- Stephen Cook
- Janet Grant
- Karen McCown
- Cheryl Dudley
- Naomi Bock
- Toi Elizabeth Hines
- Gail Lee
- Joan Webb
- Lynn Hesse
- Kathleen Hamill
- Bethann Frillman
- Catherine Carter
- Doug Cumming
- Nancy Arnold
- Jim Leimbach
- Abbie Lane
- Amy Swygert

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A) Voter Challenge Procedures

1.) O.C.G.A. 21-2-229

Chair Swift began by asking the Law Department for an overview of this discussion item. Ms. Momo stated that the Board had adopted the last O.C.G.A. 21-2-229 procedures in 2021 and that only a few changes were being recommended to remain consistent with Georgia law and to make the procedures read easier.

Motion by Ms. Jester and seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the changes to O.C.G.A. 21-2-229 as presented for discussion purposes only. Further discussion ensued.

Motion by Ms. Jester and seconded by Mr. Lewis to amend her motion to include O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 in the previously stated motion.

2.) O.C.G.A. 21-2-230

Chair Swift stated that the Board did not previously have procedures for challenges based on O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 and asked for an overview from the Law Department.

Ms. Momo stated that O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 challenges are to a voter's eligibility to vote in an election and that these procedures would control the probable cause hearings and any

subsequent hearings. She further stated that these procedures would track the required procedures to make sure that the legal requirements are followed and that the statute in these procedures would set forth what needs to happen if probable cause is found. Further discussion ensued.

Ms. Jester withdrew the previously stated motions as the challenge procedures were a discussion item and no decision was required.

B) Director's Report

Director Smith reported on registration, elections, warehouse, budget, personnel, facilities, training, and communications activities. She reported that there was a significant change in registration numbers due to regular list maintenance, returned mail, NCOA and cross-state activities. Registration numbers as of August 8, 2024, were reported as; Active: 452,816; Inactive: 122,119; Total Registered: 574,935. She stated that to ensure VRE connects with as many impacted individuals as possible, she would work with the PR consultant to implement a multi-level approach to engage with inactive voters. The effort will include marketing and press releases, social media campaigns, direct mail, community ads in the legal organ and local newspapers and engagement with stakeholders via email and telephone. Director Smith mentioned the team's activities around the nomination petitions received from the SOS for the three (3) independent presidential candidates. She also stated that effective this fall, there will be an increase in the pay rates for all poll workers to re-align with the pay rates of other large counties for equity in pay. She reported on the budget and noted that requested budget adjustments were delayed as there was a system migration. Lastly, she reported the ongoing outreach activities.

Mr. Lewis thanked Director Smith for the enhancements that were made to the Director's Report to include the registration numbers. He also asked Director Smith if she anticipated needing additional funding. Director Smith replied that due to the effort of controlling expenses and overall budget management, an increase may not be needed. She added that the largest expense is generally in the budget for poll worker payroll. Mr. Lewis asked if the increase in poll worker salaries would be covered with the funds available in the budget. Director Smith replied affirmatively.

Ms. Jester thanked Director Smith for the detailed Director's Report. She asked for the approximate percentage for the salary increases. Director Smith replied that the increase would be at least 20% and stated that things were still being finalized. Ms. Jester asked additional questions about list maintenance activities and the correlation of active voters to drop box locations. Director Smith replied that the code dictates that counties can establish one (1) drop box plus an additional drop box per every 100,000 active voters. Further discussion ensued around the state's new voter registration cancellation request portal and other operations.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

A) Advance Voting

Director Smith proposed the locations, dates, and times for advance in person voting. She further mentioned that the Memorial Drive drop box would be removed if the 500,000 active voter threshold is not reached. She also advised that the Stonecrest location was still being finalized.

Ms. Motter asked how many advance voting locations were utilized in 2016 and 2020 and how that compares to the number of locations being proposed for 2024. She also asked which five (5) locations are typically the busiest and which days of advance voting are typically the busiest as

well. Director Smith replied that the amount of advance voting locations being proposed is almost double of what was used in 2016. She also stated that Memorial Drive, Dunwoody Library, and Tucker-Reid Library are usually the top three (3) busiest locations with fluctuations for the 4th and 5th busiest locations. Director Smith also stated that the last two (2) days of advance voting are typically the busiest. Ms. Motter further asked for the explanation as to why there are gaps in locations to the east and in the southwest corner of the county. Director Smith replied that staff did attempt to identify sites in those areas, however, there were not many sites to choose from that meet the requirements of the law.

Mr. Lewis said that this is the most AIP sites that VRE has had since he has been on the Board and commended the staff for their work. He asked if the staff had been working on a wait time reporting tool for the website. Director Smith replied affirmatively and further stated that the wait times will be reported on the website as well as on social media. She also said that each location will have 4'X4' signs that display all of the advance voting sites.

Chair Swift asked if more libraries could be added as advance voting sites. Director Smith replied that she spoke with the Director of DeKalb Libraries and due to programming, they are unable to accommodate additional sites. She also asked if the hours for advance voting on Saturdays could be extended from 9am-5pm to 9am-7pm and Director Smith replied affirmatively.

Motion by Ms. Jester seconded by Ms. Motter to approve the advance voting locations presented with the amendment of Saturday voting on October 19 and 26 to be allowed until 7pm. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Jester noted for the record that the approval of the AIP sites did not include the drop boxes and that they would be finalized in September.

B) Probable Cause Determination for Voter Challenges Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-230

Chair Swift stated that on Friday, July 26, a challenge was received from Victor Tripp challenging 181 electors due to their birth years. Secondly, she stated that on Tuesday, July 30, a challenge was received from Gail Lee challenging 230 electors due to being registered in Georgia and another state. She further explained that the Board would first determine whether probable cause had been met to schedule hearings for the challenged voters.

Motion by Ms. Jester seconded by Mr. Lewis to conduct the probable cause hearing for voter challenges pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 and make a determination on the probable cause.

1.) Victor Tripp offered testimony and evidence related to the voter challenges he submitted.

After Mr. Tripp presented, the Board deliberated on the evidence and Chair Swift called for a motion.

Motion by Ms. Jester and seconded by Mr. Lewis to find probable cause for the O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 challenges presented by Mr. Tripp. The motion failed 2-3 with Chair Swift, Vice-Chair Abhiraman, and Ms. Motter voting nay.

Motion by Ms. Jester and seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman to not find probable cause for the O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 challenges presented by Mr. Tripp. The Motion passed 3-2 with Mr. Lewis and Ms. Jester voting nay.

Motion by Ms. Jester seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman to conduct the probable cause hearing for voter challenges presented by Gail Lee pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 and make a determination on the probable cause.

- 2.) Gail Lee offered testimony and evidence related to the voter challenges she submitted. Viviane H. Ernstes, the County Attorney, provided an overview of the decision rendered in 2021 in the Majority Forward v. Ben Hill Board of Elections case regarding voter challenges.

At the conclusion of Ms. Lee's presentation, the Board deliberated on the evidence and Chair Swift called for a motion.

Motion by Ms. Jester and seconded by Mr. Lewis to find probable cause for the O.C.G.A. 21-2-230 challenges presented by Ms. Lee. The motion failed 2-2 with Chair Swift and Ms. Motter voting nay.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Lewis thanked the public, the staff, and the Law Department.

Ms. Jester also thanked the public, the staff, and the Law Department.

Ms. Motter thanked the staff and the County attorneys.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Jester, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Director's Report

September 12, 2024

Keisha L. Smith, MPA

Executive Director

Voter Registration and Elections (VRE)

Topic 1: General Operations Updates

- ❖ Registration
 - Total number of Registered Voters in DeKalb County as of September 10th: 582,349
 - Total number of Active Registered Voters: 465,808
 - Total number of Inactive Registered Voters: 116,541
 - DDS: 10,649
 - OLVR: 7,876
 - MVP: 6,640
 - Handwritten: 6,469
 - Total updates/applications received since the VR Deadline: 31,634
 - Manual Voter Registration Cancellations for 2024: 974
- ❖ Election Activities
- ❖ Notes:

Topic 2: Administrative/Finance Updates

- ❖ Personnel | Facilities
- ❖ Budget Activities (pg. 8)
- ❖ Notes:

Topic 3: Stakeholder Engagement Updates

- ❖ Key Stakeholder Meetings | Activities (pg. 10)
- ❖ General Communications
- ❖ Notes:

**VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS
AVAILABLE FUNDS REPORT
AUGUST - 2024
(100-02900)**

COST CENTER DESCRIPTION	OBJECT CLASS	OBJECT CODE DESCRIPTION	SUM OF BUDGET	SUM OF COMMITMENTS	SUM OF OBLIGATIONS	SUM OF EXPENDITURES	SUM OF FUNDS AVAILABLE
02900-REGISTRAR	51	511101-SALARIES	3,813,752	0	0	1,000,152	2,813,600
02900-REGISTRAR	51	511102-SALARIES - PART TIME	0	0	0	9,386	-9,386
02900-REGISTRAR	51	511199-SALARIES - ADJUSTMENTS	73,365	0	0	0	73,365
02900-REGISTRAR	51	511200-SALARIES - TEMPORARY	8,814,861	0	0	2,596,996	6,217,865
02900-REGISTRAR	51	511300-SALARIES - OVERTIME	755,000	0	0	163,630	591,370
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512100-COUNTY MATCH - GROUP INSURANCE	0	0	0	137,571	-137,571
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512101-COUNTY MATCH - GRP INS - REVERSAL	0	0	0	-137,570	137,570
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512102-COUNTY MATCH - GRP INS - ALLOCATED	399,000	0	0	266,000	133,000
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512200-COUNTY MATCH - FICA	144,677	0	0	201,608	-56,931
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512400-COUNTY MATCH - PENSION	0	0	0	0	0
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512402-401(a) EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION	51,793	0	0	24,657	27,137
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512700-WORKERS COMPENSATION	51,871	0	0	34,583	17,288
02900-REGISTRAR	51	512904-ALLOWANCE - AUTOMOBILE	10,000	0	0	2,750	7,250
02900-REGISTRAR	51 Total	Personal Services and Employee Benefits Total	14,114,319	0	0	4,299,761	9,814,558
02900-REGISTRAR	52	521101-BOARD MEMBER SERVICES	12,000	0	400	6,400	5,200
02900-REGISTRAR	52	521104-TEMPORARY PERSONNEL SERVICES	1,792,000	0	167,714	791,549	832,737
02900-REGISTRAR	52	521105-SECURITY SERVICES	100,000	0	28,065	59,257	12,677
02900-REGISTRAR	52	521209-OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	1,655,180	329,125	603,021	691,794	31,241
02900-REGISTRAR	52	522130-CUSTODIAL SERVICES	0	0	0	5,644	-5,644
02900-REGISTRAR	52	522201-MAINTENANCE & REPAIR SERVICES	67,924	0	13,160	7,420	47,344
02900-REGISTRAR	52	522311-RENTAL OF REAL ESTATE	390,000	0	0	185,000	205,000
02900-REGISTRAR	52	522321-RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT	64,000	0	0	625	63,375
02900-REGISTRAR	52	522322-LEASE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT	70,004	0	0	8,236	61,768
02900-REGISTRAR	52	522329-OTHER RENTALS	33,948	0	14,243	12,600	7,105
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523001-OTHER SERVICES - NON PROFESSIONAL	0	0	856	1,037	-1,892
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523201-POSTAGE	192,996	0	16,323	539,502	-362,829
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523202-POSTAGE - CENTRAL SERVICES	27,552	0	0	-178,562	206,114
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523203-TELEPHONE SERVICE	5,340	0	0	0	5,340
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523204-TELEPHONE - LONG DISTANCE	2,308	0	0	242	2,066
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523206-INTERNET SERVICES	5,640	0	1,170	0	4,470
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523207-TELEPHONE - WIRELESS	236,944	0	0	101,787	135,157
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523301-ADVERTISING SERVICES	3,980	0	52,527	350,981	-399,528
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523401-PRINTING SERVICES	25,488	0	3,641	21,150	697
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523501-MILEAGE - PERSONAL VEHICLE	3,100	0	0	80	3,020

**VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS
AVAILABLE FUNDS REPORT
AUGUST - 2024
(100-02900)**

COST CENTER DESCRIPTION	OBJECT CLASS	OBJECT CODE DESCRIPTION	SUM OF BUDGET	SUM OF COMMITMENTS	SUM OF OBLIGATIONS	SUM OF EXPENDITURES	SUM OF FUNDS AVAILABLE
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523504-TRAVEL - ACCOMMODATIONS / HOTEL	4,800	0	387	0	4,413
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523505-TRAVEL - PER DIEM	5,000	0	0	120	4,880
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523510-TRAVEL ADVANCES	0	0	0	0	0
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523601-DUES	1,000	0	2,000	65	-1,065
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523701-TRAINING & CONFERENCE FEES - EXTERNAL	39,000	0	885	912	37,203
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523702-TRAINING & CONFERENCE FEES - INTERNAL	552	0	0	224	328
02900-REGISTRAR	52	523906-ELECTION EXPENSES	100,755	0	12,796	156,514	-68,554
02900-REGISTRAR	52 Total	Purchased/Contracted Services Total	4,839,511	329,125	917,186	2,762,578	830,622
02900-REGISTRAR	53	531101-OPERATING SUPPLIES	981,001	770	219,852	393,015	367,364
02900-REGISTRAR	53	531112-MAINTENANCE & REPAIR MATERIALS - OTHER	0	0	0	0	0
02900-REGISTRAR	53	531199-FREIGHT	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
02900-REGISTRAR	53 Total	Supplies Total	983,001	770	219,852	393,015	369,364
02900-REGISTRAR	54	542201-COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	92,204	0	0	6,505	85,699
02900-REGISTRAR	54	542202-COMPUTER SOFTWARE and TECHNOLOGY	210,000	0	0	6,224	203,776
02900-REGISTRAR	54	542309-OTHER EQUIPMENT > \$5,000	100,038	0	0	10,831	89,207
02900-REGISTRAR	54 Total	Capital Outlays Total	402,242	0	0	23,560	378,682
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551104-VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CHARGE	4,133	0	0	0	4,133
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551105-VEHICLE REPLACEMENT CHARGE	3,048	0	0	2,032	1,016
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551107-VEHICLE INSURANCE CHARGE	500	0	0	336	164
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551141-VEHICLE MAINT - FUEL	0	0	0	6,253	-6,253
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551142-VEHICLE MAINT - PREV MAINT	0	0	0	876	-876
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551143-VEHICLE MAINT - REPAIRS	0	0	0	3,316	-3,316
02900-REGISTRAR	55	551144-VEHICLE MAINT - OVERHEAD	2,095	0	0	1,400	695
02900-REGISTRAR	55 Total	Interfund/Interdepartmental Charges Total	9,776	0	0	14,213	-4,437
02900-REGISTRAR	70	707009-COUNTY PENSION ALLOCATION	243,545	0	0	162,361	81,184
02900-REGISTRAR	70 Total	Retirement Services Total	243,545	0	0	162,361	81,184
GRAND TOTAL			20,592,394	329,895	1,137,038	7,655,488	11,469,973

DeKalb County Voter Registration & Elections Outreach Calendar

Date	Type of Event	Group	Location	Time
September				
9/12/2024	Student Involvement Fair	Ga State University	Ga State University-Dunwoody 2101 Womack Rd Dunwoody, GA 30338	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
9/13/2024	Voter Education	Commissioner Michelle Long Spears Civics Class	Commissioner Michelle Long Spears 1300 Commerce Dr Decatur, GA 30030	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
9/16/2024	Voter Registration/Education	Clairmont Oaks	Clairmont Oaks 441 Clairmont Ave Decatur, GA 30030	1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
9/17/2024	Voter Education	disABILITY Link	disABILITY Link 1901 Montreal Rd, Ste 102 Tucker, GA 30084	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
9/17/2024	Voter Registration/Education	Doraville MARTA Station	Doraville MARTA Station 6000 New Peachtree Rd Doraville, GA 30340	3 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
9/17/2024	Voter Registration/Education	Delta Sigma Theta Decatur Alumnae Chapter	Lou Walker Senior Center 2538 Panola Rd Lithonia, GA 30058	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
9/18/2024	Voter Registration/Education	DeKalb County Schools	Stone Mountain High School 4555 Central Dr Stone Mountain, GA 30083	11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
9/18/2024	Voter Education Workshop	Covington Library	Covington Library 3500 Covington Hwy Decatur, GA 30032	6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
9/19/2024	Voter Education Workshop	Voter Education & Registration	DeKalb County Public Library Administrative Offices 3560 Kensington Rd Decatur, GA 30032	9 a. m. – 11 a.m.

9/19/2024	Voter Registration/Education	Philips Tower Senior Living	Philips Tower Senior Living 218 E. Trinity Pl Decatur, GA 30030	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
9/19/2024	Voter Registration/Education	DeKalb County Schools	McNair High School 1804 Bouldercrest Rd, SE Atlanta, GA 30316	11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
9/19/2024	Voter Registration/Education	DeKalb County Schools	Arabia Mountain High School 6610 Browns Mill Rd Stonecrest, GA 30038	11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
9/20/2024	Voter Registration/Education	DeKalb County Schools	Druid Hills High School 1798 Haygood Dr, NE Atlanta, GA 30307	11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
9/21/2024	Voter Registration/Education	Stand Inc., "The Door" DeKalb	Stand Inc. 4086 Covington Hwy Decatur, Ga 30032	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
9/23/2024	Deputy Registrar Training	Deputy Registrar	Virtual via Zoom	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
9/28/2024	Voter Registration/Education	North Decatur United Methodist Church	North Decatur United Methodist Church 1523 Church St Decatur, GA 30033	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
October				
10/5/2024	Registered & Ready Block Party	DeKalb VRE	Voter Registration & Elections 4380 Memorial Dr, Ste 300 Decatur, GA 30032	10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (9 a.m. set-up)
10/9/2024	Voter Education	DeKalb VRE/MARTA	Decatur MARTA Station 400 Church St Decatur, GA 30030	3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
10/9/2024	Voter Education	DeKalb VRE/MARTA	Chamblee MARTA Station 5200 Peachtree Rd Chamblee, GA 30341	3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
10/12/2024	Voter Education Fire & Rescue Safety Festival	DeKalb County Fire & Rescue Department	Northlake Mall 4800 Briarcliff Rd, NE Atlanta, GA 30345	12 p.m. - 4 p.m. (10:30 a.m. set-up)

2024 General/Special Election

KEY DATES

August 19 - December 3



DeKalb County
GEORGIA

Aug. 19	First day to request an absentee ballot for the November General/Special Election
Oct. 7	Last day to register to vote for the November General/Special Election
Oct. 15 – Nov. 1	Advance Voting period for the November General/Special Election
Oct. 19 & Oct. 26	Saturday voting for the November General/Special Election
Oct. 20 & Oct. 27	Sunday voting for the November General/Special Election
Oct. 25	Last day to request an absentee ballot for the November General/Special Election
Nov. 5	General/Special Election Day
Nov. 25 – Nov. 27	Advance Voting period for December General/Special Runoff <i>(if needed)</i>
Dec. 3	General/Special Runoff Election Day <i>(if needed)</i>

Advance Voting for the 2024 General/Special and Runoff Elections *(if needed)*

Monday – Friday
Oct. 15* – Nov. 1
7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday
Oct. 19 & 26
9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday
Oct. 20 & 27
12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Monday – Wednesday
Nov. 25 – Nov. 27
7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

(*First day moved to Tuesday, Oct. 15, due to Monday's observed state holiday)

4 "I VOTED" 2020 STICKER 2 CHALLENGE

Design DeKalb County's New "I Voted" Sticker!

Grand Prize **\$500**
1st Runner-up \$200
2nd Runner-up \$100



For more info, including
how to submit a design,
scan QR Code or visit
DeKalbVotes.com

The sticker design challenge is
open to 11th and 12th graders
currently enrolled in DeKalb
County schools.

Deadline to Submit

Sept. 16



2024 General/Special Election
ADVANCE VOTING
October 15 – November 1



Advance Voting Dates for the General/Special Election are:
Monday – Friday (Oct. 15* – Nov. 1), 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday (Oct. 19 & Oct. 26), 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday (Oct. 20 & Oct. 27), 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

*(*First day moved to Tuesday, Oct. 15, due to Monday's observed state holiday)*

Berean Christian Church

2201 Young Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30088

Bessie Branham Recreation Center

2051 Delano Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30317

Beulah Missionary Baptist Church

2340 Clifton Springs Road, Decatur, GA 30034

Briarwood Recreation Center*

2235 Briarwood Way, NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319

Clarkston Library

951 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021

County Line–Ellenwood Library

4331 River Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294

DeKalb Voter Registration & Elections Office

4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 500, Decatur, GA 30032

Dunwoody Library*

5339 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA 30338

Emory University

1599 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30322

Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church

1879 Glenwood Avenue, SE, Atlanta, GA 30316

Hairston Crossing Library

4911 Redan Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30088

Lynwood Recreation Center

3360 Osborne Rd, NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319

New Bethel AME Church

8350 Rockbridge Road, SW, Lithonia, GA 30058

New Life Community Alliance*

3592 Flat Shoals Road, Decatur, GA 30034

North DeKalb Senior Center

3393 Malone Drive, Chamblee, GA 30341

Salem-Panola Library

5137 Salem Road, Lithonia, GA 30038

Stonecrest-Former Sam's Club*

2994 Turner Hill Rd, Stonecrest, GA 30038

Tucker–Reid H. Cofer Library*

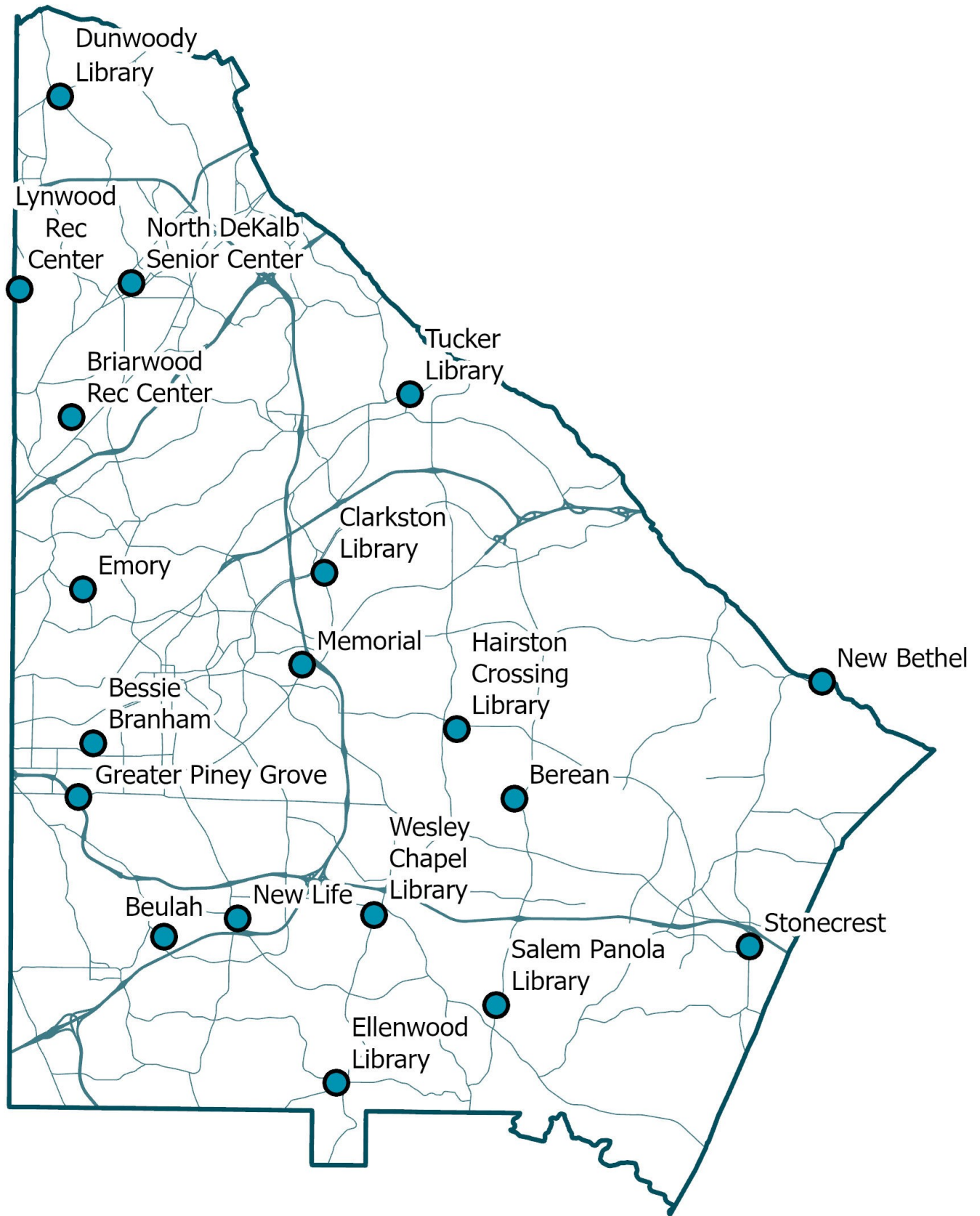
5234 Lavista Road, Tucker, GA 30084

Wesley Chapel–William C. Brown Library

2861 Wesley Chapel Road, Decatur, GA 30034

*** = Drop Box Locations**

During the designated Advance Voting period, registered voters can vote at any of DeKalb County's Advance Voting locations. For more information, visit dekalbvotes.com or call 404-298-4020.



DeKalb County GIS Disclaimer

The maps and data contained on DeKalb County's Geographic Information System (GIS) are subject to constant change. While DeKalb County strives to provide accurate and up-to-date information, the information is provided "as is" without warranty, representation or guarantee of any kind as to the content, sequence, accuracy, timeliness or completeness of any of the database information provided herein. DeKalb County explicitly disclaims all representations and warranties, including, without limitation, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. In no event shall DeKalb County be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, whether in an action of contract, negligence, or other actions, arising out of or in connection with the use of the maps and/or data herein provided. The maps and data are for illustration purposes only and should not be relied upon for any reason. The maps and data are not suitable for site-specific decision-making nor should it be construed or used as a legal description. The areas depicted by maps and data are approximate, and are not necessarily accurate to surveying or engineering standards.

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS RELATING TO THE SCHEDULING OF VOTER CHALLENGES RECEIVED LESS THAN NINETY DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF A PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, in 1993 the United States Congress passed the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), codified at 52 U.S.C.A. § 20501 et seq., for the purpose of protecting voting rights and regulating voting registration procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Election Code, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-1, et seq., regulates elections and voter registration in the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Georgia law, specifically O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-229 and 21-2-230, allow electors to file voter challenges and dictates the procedures with which they are assessed; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of county Boards of Registrars to assess voter challenges filed pursuant to these provisions; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections was established by the Georgia General Assembly pursuant to Georgia Laws 2003, p. 4200, § 1 and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-40, and is responsible for voter registration and the conduct of elections in DeKalb County; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and county Boards of Registrars, including the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections, are subject to the provisions of the NVRA; and

WHEREAS, the NVRA specifically prohibits the State of Georgia or a county Board of Registrars from conducting any program to systematically remove the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of eligible voters within ninety (90) days of the date of a primary or general election;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections finds that voter challenges made pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229 and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230 within ninety (90) days of the date of a primary or general election are “a program of systematic removal”, as prohibited by the National Voter Registration Act (“NVRA”), where the challenges:

1. Do not rely upon individualized information or investigation to determine the validity of the individual challenges; or
2. Use a mass computerized data-matching process to compare the voter rolls with other state and federal databases; or
3. Lack unique identifiers, indicia of reliability, or evidence of authenticity; or
4. Lack reliable first-hand evidence specific to individual voters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections directs the Executive Director of the DeKalb County Department of Voter Registration and Elections to:

1. Review, in consultation with the DeKalb County Attorney or her staff, all voter challenges received pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229 and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230 for compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and Local laws, including the NVRA and Georgia Election Code;
2. Determine if each voter challenge meets the criteria of a program of systematic removal as described above;
3. For O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229 challenges that the Executive Director has determined meet the criteria for a program of systematic removal, schedule, in consultation with the Board of Registration and Elections, a hearing as soon as practicable, and in accordance with law, after the certification of the primary or general election and any required run-off election;
4. For O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230 challenges that the Executive Director has determined meet the criteria for a program of systematic removal, schedule, in consultation with the Board of Registration and Elections, a hearing to determine probable cause as soon as practicable, and in accordance with law, after the certification of the primary or general election and any required run-off election;
5. Report to the Board of Registration and Elections all received and pending systematic voter challenges at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board; and
6. Post the date of receipt and name of all systematic voter challenges described in this Resolution on the voter registration and election website and when each such challenge is scheduled, update the website to advise the public of the date, time and place of the hearing for each such challenge received.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections, this ____ day of ____, 2024.

KARLI SWIFT
 Chair
 Board of Registration and Elections
 DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

VIVIANE H. ERNSTES
 County Attorney
 DeKalb County, Georgia

DeKalb County Board of Registrations and Elections

**Procedures for Responding to Voter Challenges
Submitted Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229**

1. **These procedures are intended to work in tandem with, and be consistent with federal law, including the National Voter Registration Act, 52 U.S.C.A. § 20501 et seq. (“NVRA”), and the Georgia Election Code, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-1, et seq. The DeKalb County Board of Registrations and Elections’ (“BRE”) disposition of voter challenges shall comply with the NVRA, including its requirements that any activity to ensure maintenance of an accurate and current voter registration roll shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory.**

2. To the extent that any state law conflicts with federal law, federal law shall control. To the extent any procedure herein conflicts with federal or state law, the statutes shall control.

3. Challenges to the qualifications of a Dekalb County registered voter to remain on the voter registration list under O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229 may be made only by a registered voter of DeKalb County. Challenges may not be made by voters who are not registered in the same county or municipality as the challenged voter or by private entities, businesses, political committees, PAC, political parties, or other organizations. Therefore, before acting upon a challenge submitted to the BRE, staff must determine whether the challenger is an individual elector and registered to vote in DeKalb County and, if not, the BRE must reject the challenge on this basis.

4. Challenges to the (1) qualifications of a person applying to register to vote in DeKalb County or municipality therein or (2) qualifications of any elector of DeKalb County or municipality therein whose name appears on the list of electors made within 45 days of a primary, run-off primary, election or run-off election shall be postponed until the certification of such primary, election or runoff is completed. Therefore, before acting upon a challenge submitted to the BRE, staff must determine whether the challenge is made within 45 days of a primary, primary run-off, election, or run-off, and if it is, the BRE shall postpone the challenge until after certification of said election on this basis.

5. Upon receiving a written challenge to a voter’s eligibility based upon the allegation that he or she does not reside in DeKalb County or in one of its municipalities, the BRE shall require the challenger, under the authority of O.C.G.A. §21-2-229(a), to specify whether the challenge is based on the challenged voter’s current residency status or the voter’s residency status at the time the voter initially registered. The BRE shall inform the challenger of this requirement pursuant to written notice to the challenger at the address provided in the written challenge. A copy of these procedures shall be included with the notice.

6. The BRE shall not remove any voters from the DeKalb County voter registration list solely based on a challenge alleging that the voter failed to vote, except that nothing shall prohibit the BRE from removing voters after sending the voter a confirmation notice and waiting two federal election cycles for the voter to either vote or respond to the confirmation notice or as set forth in the NVRA and paragraph 6.

7. The BRE shall not remove any voters from the DeKalb County voter registration list based on a challenge alleging that they were properly registered to vote in DeKalb County at the time of initial registration but may have moved from the address listed in their voter registration file. The sole procedure to be followed in this circumstance is to send the voter a confirmation notice and wait two federal election cycles for the voter to either vote or update his or her information before removing him or her from the rolls as outlined under Section 8(d) of the NVRA. If the challenger fails to affirmatively state in writing that the challenge is based upon the challenged voter's residency status at the time the voter initially registered to vote, the BRE shall follow the following protocols:

- (a) If such written notice to the challenged voter is returned marked "undeliverable" by the United States Postal Service, the BRE shall send the challenged voter a confirmation notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-234(b).
- (b) If no response to the BRE's written notice of challenge is received from the challenged voter, the BRE shall inform the challenger that the challenge does not present grounds to contest the eligibility of the voter to remain on the DeKalb County voter list and no further action shall be taken on the challenge.
- (c) If the challenged voter responds to the written notice with a written confirmation of a change of address, the BRE shall update the voter's record to reflect such change, including the removal of such voter from the active voter list if such written confirmation from the challenged voter reflects that such voter is no longer qualified to vote in DeKalb County.

8. If the challenger affirmatively states that the challenge is based upon the challenged voter's residency status at the time the challenged voter initially registered to vote, or that the challenge is based on grounds other than the challenged voter's residency status, the BRE shall send within (10) business days of receipt of the challenge written notice via certified mail, return receipt requested, to the challenged voter of the challenge at the registered address of the challenged voter, and provide the challenged voter with a copy of the challenge, a copy of these procedures, and the opportunity to provide information in response to the challenge. If possible, the challenged voter shall provide information in response to the challenge within ten (10) business days from the date of the notice; however, nothing in these procedures shall prevent the challenged voter from providing information in response to the challenge leading up to and during any hearing.

9. If the voter supplied a phone number or email address on the registration form or in other writings such as an absentee ballot application received by the BRE, then in addition to the notice provided for in Paragraph 4 above, as soon as possible after receiving the challenge, the BRE will make at least three reasonable attempts, including at least one attempt during non-traditional working hours, to call or email the challenged voter to determine if the issue raised by the challenge can be resolved quickly, efficiently, and informally.

10. If the BRE determines that a hearing on the challenge is necessary, the BRE shall attempt to find a mutually convenient time for the BRE to hold any hearing.

11. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229, and in addition to the above efforts, the BRE will send a written notice informing the challenged voter and the challenger of the date, time, and place of the hearing along with a copy of the challenge, which hearing shall be set no later than ten (10) days following service of the notice, and shall state that either party may, but is not required to, be represented by counsel or another representative at the hearing. The notice will be sent by email (if available) and certified mail, return receipt requested, first-class mail, or in the manner provided in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-228(c). The notice must be mailed sufficiently in advance of the hearing to provide the person being challenged at least five days' notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing.

12. The challenged voter will have the right to at least one continuance of the hearing date upon request and may be granted additional continuances for good cause shown.

13. The written challenge will be posted on the BRE website within three business days of receipt of the challenge by the BRE.

14. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229(a) requires that a challenge "be in writing and specify distinctly the grounds of the challenge." Challenges that are not in writing or which consist of vague, generalized, speculative assertions or conjecture do not satisfy this standard and must be rejected. In particular, residency-based challenges must allege facts sufficient to specifically and distinctly identify the grounds for the challenger's contention that a registered voter has not satisfied the residency requirements of O.C.G.A. § 21-2-217.

15. Under O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229(c), the challenger bears the burden of proving the challenged voter is not qualified to remain on the registration list. Because O.C.G.A. § 21-2-217(b) gives presumptive effect to the registrar's decision in determining the residence of the challenged voter at the time the registration application is considered, challengers bringing residency-based challenges must produce evidence sufficient to rebut this presumption in order to sustain their burden of proving that the challenged voter is not qualified to remain on the rolls. If the challenger fails to do so, the challenge fails and it must be rejected by the BRE pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229(c) and 21-2-217(b).

16. Examples of challenges that would fail to meet the minimum standards required by Section 21-2-229(a) include, but are not limited to:

(a) Non-individualized or generalized claims (e.g., challenges to everyone registered at a certain address);

(b) Assertions that a challenged voter's name is not affiliated with the address of registration in any governmental database. For instance, challenges based on the allegation that the voter's name is not associated with the utility bill for an address as the sole basis for challenge are insufficient because there could be many residents at a particular address who do not pay the utility company;

(c) “Voter caging” challenges—blanket challenges to large numbers of people living in certain neighborhoods—shall be rejected if they fail to specify distinctly the basis for the challenge to each voter’s qualifications.

17. In considering the evidence presented in support of or in opposition to a challenge based upon a change of residence, the BRE shall not rely exclusively upon address data on file with the Georgia Department of Driver Services (“DDS”) or other government databases, because voters often fail to immediately notify all government entities about address changes and, even if they do, there are often lag times before the government entity updates its files.

18. Where a voter is a legal resident of DeKalb County and otherwise qualified to vote within the meaning of O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-216 and 21-2-217, the BRE shall not remove such individual from the voter roll on the basis that the voter faces challenges causing them to live on the streets or in shelters, vehicles, trailers, transitional housing, non-traditional housing or at businesses serving homeless, ill, displaced, economically challenged or other DeKalb County residents in need of housing assistance in the county.¹ When adjudicating such challenges, the BRE shall consider the particular circumstances of the voter and the fact that the burden of proof is on the elector who brought the challenge to prove ineligibility.

19. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229, the BRE will notify challenged voters, in writing by first class, forwardable mail, and by telephone and email (if available), of any change in registration status resulting from challenge proceedings. This notification letter will specify in detail any basis for upholding the challenge.

20. Any notice sent to challenged voters indicating that the BRE has upheld a challenge will include a voter registration form and shall inform the voter that they have a right to appeal the decision by filing a petition with the clerk of the superior court within ten days after the date of the decision of the registrars and that such petition must be served upon the other parties to the challenge and the registrars. The notice shall also include contact information for the other parties to the challenge and the registrars to effectuate such service.

21. A copy of each written challenge upon which the BRE acts will be appended to the Minutes of the BRE meeting at which the action was taken.

22. Pursuant to the NVRA, the BRE shall not complete any activity with the purpose of systematically removing ineligible voters from the list of electors within 90 days prior to the date of a primary or general election for Federal office. This rule shall generally not preclude removal where a voter voluntarily requests removal or there is individualized evidence that a voter is deceased, convicted of a felony, or adjudicated mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

23. The procedures set forth herein shall apply to challenges to voter qualifications initiated pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-228 and 21-2-229.

¹ Note that this is a non-exclusive list of possible alternative locations where DeKalb County’s eligible voters may be living in the county.

24. The BRE will not remove any voter from the registration lists based on residency issues raised by rejected challenges. No state law will be construed to permit removals based on rejected challenges or residency issues raised by rejected challenges.

25. If any members of the BRE or employees or agents of the DeKalb County Department of Voter Registration and Elections challenge the eligibility of voters in their individual capacity while they remain in that position or have a personal or business interest in the mounting of such a challenge, they must recuse themselves from deliberating, voting or otherwise participating in any way in the BRE's consideration of such challenges.

26. The BRE will process all voter challenges expeditiously and objectively, while erring in all instances on the side of preserving the voter's right to remain on the registration lists, in recognition of the statutory requirement that the challenger has the burden of proving ineligibility.

DRAFT

DeKalb County Board of Registrations and Elections

**Procedures for Responding to Voter Challenges
Submitted Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230**

1. **These procedures are intended to work in tandem with, and be consistent with federal law, including the National Voter Registration Act, 52 U.S.C.A. § 20501 et seq. (“NVRA”), and the Georgia Election Code, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-1, et seq. The DeKalb County Board of Registrations and Elections’ (“BRE”) disposition of voter challenges shall comply with the NVRA, including its requirements that any activity to ensure maintenance of an accurate and current voter registration roll shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory.**

2. To the extent that any state law conflicts with federal law, federal law shall control. To the extent any procedure herein conflicts with federal or state law, the statutes shall control.

3. Challenges to the right of a Dekalb County registered voter to vote in an election under O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230 must be in writing, must specify distinctly the grounds of such challenge, and must be filed with the BRE, in its capacity as registrar. Challenges that are not in writing or which consist of vague, generalized, speculative assertions or conjecture do not satisfy this standard and must be rejected.

4. Challenges to the right of a Dekalb County registered voter to vote in an election under O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230 may be made only by a registered voter of DeKalb County. Challenges may not be made by voters who are not registered in the same county or municipality as the challenged voter or by private entities, businesses, political committees, PAC, political parties, or other organizations. Therefore, before acting upon a challenge submitted to the BRE, staff must determine whether the challenger is an individual elector and registered to vote in DeKalb County and, if not, the BRE must reject the challenge on this basis.

5. Challenges to the right of a Dekalb County registered voter to vote in an election under O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230 made within 45 days of a primary, run-off primary, election or run-off election shall be postponed until the certification of such primary, election or runoff is completed. Therefore, before acting upon a challenge submitted to the BRE, staff must determine whether the challenge is made within 45 days of a primary, primary run-off, election, or run-off, and if it is, the BRE shall postpone the challenge until after certification of said election on this basis.

6. If the challenge is made by a registered voter of DeKalb County and timely, the BRE should be prepared to convene a meeting to determine probable cause immediately upon receipt of a challenge under § 21-2-230.

7. The written challenge will be posted on the BRE website within three business days of receipt of the challenge by the BRE.

8. The challenger has the burden of proof to present probative and individualized evidence sufficient to meet the probable cause standard that the challenged voter does not have the right to vote in an election.

9. In determining whether there is probable cause to uphold a challenge, the BRE must consider whether there are facts and circumstances set forth in the written challenge which creates a reasonable belief that the challenged voter may not be qualified to vote in an election. The law provides several categories of probable causes, which shall include, but is not limited to:

- a. An elector who is deceased;
- b. An elector voting or registering to vote in a different jurisdiction;
- c. An elector obtaining a homestead exemption in a different jurisdiction; and
- d. An elector being registered at a nonresidential address as confirmed or listed by or in a government office, data base, website, or publicly available sources derived solely from such governmental sources.

The challenger shall still, however, put forward reliable and probative evidence to support a claim that the challenged voter falls within these enumerated “probable cause” categories.

10. Examples of challenges that would fail to meet the minimum standards required by Section 21-2-230 include, but are not limited to:

- a. Non-individualized or generalized claims;
- b. The presence of a challenged voter’s name on the National Change of Address database as having changed the voter’s residence to a different jurisdiction without additional evidence indicating the voter lost his or her residence; and
- c. Challenges to voters alleged to have gained or lost their residency due to (1) a presence or absence while enrolled as a student at any college, university or other institution of learning in Georgia, (2) being stationed on duty in this state as a member of the armed forces of the United States; and (3) moving to a federal territory, another state, or foreign country to engage in government service.

11. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-217(b) gives presumptive effect to the BRE’s decision in determining the residence of the challenged voter at the time the registration application is considered. Challengers bringing residency-based challenges must overcome this presumption.

12. Where a voter is a legal resident of DeKalb County and otherwise qualified to vote within the meaning of O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-216 and 21-2-217, the BRE shall not sustain a challenge on the basis that the voter currently lives on the streets or in shelters, vehicles, trailers, transitional

housing, non-traditional housing or at businesses serving homeless, ill, displaced, economically challenged or other DeKalb County residents in need of housing assistance in the county.¹ When adjudicating such challenges, the BRE shall consider the particular circumstances of the voter and the fact that the burden of proof is on the voter who brought the challenge to prove ineligibility.

13. If the BRE does not find probable cause, then the challenge shall be denied.

14. If the BRE finds probable cause exists to uphold the challenge, the BRE shall proceed as set forth below.

Where Probable Cause is Found:

15. Where probable cause is found, the BRE must provide the list of the challenged voters, with the basis of the challenges noted thereon, to the poll officers at the challenged voters' precincts and advance voting locations, and to the absentee ballot clerk.

16. Where a hearing is scheduled pursuant to the procedures below, staff shall notify the challenged voter of the challenge and both the challenger and challenged voter of the hearing date via certified mail, regular U.S. mail, e-mail, and telephone (if available) as soon as possible after scheduling said hearing and no later than three business days prior to the hearing, where possible

17. If the challenged voter (1) submits a timely absentee ballot or (2) appears to vote in person after the BRE has determined that probable cause exists, and it is practical to conduct a hearing on the challenge prior to the close of the polls, that hearing will dictate whether the voter can vote in the election.

- a. If the challenge is denied, the voter shall be permitted to vote. An in-person voter shall be permitted to vote notwithstanding the fact the polls may have closed prior to the time the registrars render a decision, as long as the voter proceeds to vote immediately after the registrars' decision.
- b. If the challenge is upheld, the voter shall not be permitted to vote. If the challenge is based on the grounds that the voter shall not be permitted to remain on the list of electors, the challenged voter's name shall be removed.

18. If the challenged voter (1) submits a timely absentee ballot or (2) appears to vote in person after the BRE has determined that probable cause exists, and it is not practical to conduct a hearing on the challenge prior to the close of the polls, the challenged voter must be permitted to vote by casting a challenged ballot, with the ballot then sealed in double envelopes.

- a. For an absentee ballot, the absentee ballot clerk receiving the sealed ballot must write the word "Challenged," the voter's name, and the alleged cause

¹ Note that this is a non-exclusive list of possible alternative locations where DeKalb County's eligible voters may be living in the county.

of the challenge on the back of the outer envelope. The ballot should then be deposited into a secure, sealed ballot box.²

- b. For an in-person ballot, the challenged voter may cast a challenged ballot on the same type of ballot that is used for provisional ballots. The poll worker must write the word “Challenged,” the voter's name, and the alleged cause of the challenge on the back of the outer envelope. The challenged voter should then be directed to deposit the ballot into a secure, sealed ballot box.

19. If the challenge is based on grounds other than the challenged voter’s right to remain on the electors’ list, no further action by the BRE is required, and the challenged vote will be counted as valid but may be voided in the event of an election contest.

20. If the challenge is based on the challenged voter’s right to remain on the electors’ list, the BRE must complete the challenge hearing before the deadline for certification of the election results. If the BRE upholds the challenge, the name of the challenged voter must be removed from the list of electors and the ballot of the challenged voter must be rejected and not counted. Challenges to a voter’s right to remain on the list of electors must be conducted pursuant to the BRE’s adopted Procedures for Responding to Voter Challenges Submitted Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229, with the exception of timing.

21. The procedures set forth herein shall apply to challenges to voter qualifications initiated pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-230.

22. Any challenge of a voter that occurs during a primary or general election shall continue through the run-off primary or run-off election of such primary or general election unless resolved.

23. A copy of each written challenge upon which the BRE acts will be appended to the Minutes of the BRE meeting at which the action was taken.

24. If any members of the BRE or employees or agents of the DeKalb County Department of Voter Registration and Elections challenge the eligibility of voters in their individual capacity while they remain in that position or have a personal or business interest in the mounting of such a challenge, they must recuse themselves from deliberating, voting or otherwise participating in any way in the BRE’s consideration of such challenges.

25. The BRE will process all voter challenges expeditiously and objectively, while erring in all instances on the side of preserving the voter’s right to vote in an election, in recognition of the statutory requirement that the challenger has the burden of proving ineligibility.

² See O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386(e) for absentee ballots cast during advance voting.