

Monmouth County Board of Elections



2011 Year End Report

**Leah Falk, Chairperson
Jo-Ann Dinan, Commissioner**

**Christine Hanlon, Secretary
Mary DeSarno, Commissioner**

2011 Year End Report

The Monmouth County Board of Elections is a quasi-state agency funded by the County. It works in conjunction with a variety of municipal, county, state and federal offices and agencies for the purpose of carrying out statutory responsibilities related to our electoral process. As a vital component to the process, the Board of Elections has mandated responsibilities that encompass a myriad of duties to ensure that all elections in Monmouth County are conducted in a bipartisan manner and with efficiency and integrity.

The Board of Elections is comprised of four Commissioners, two Republicans and two Democrats, who are appointed by the Governor, for two-year terms. At their annual reorganization meeting held in March, the appointed Board elects a Chairperson and Secretary from opposite political parties. This appointed Board also hires staff to handle the daily operations in the office.

The Board Members include:

Leah Falk, Chairwoman (D)	Christine Hanlon, Secretary (R)
Jo-Ann Dinan, Commissioner (D)	Mary DeSarno, Commissioner (R)

The Administrative Staff consists of:

Robin Major, Administrator (D)	Maria Sardo-Lopes, Chief Clerk (R)
Phyllis Gudewitz, Senior Clerk (D)	Diane Schechter, Senior Clerk (R)
Jeanne Donnelly, Senior Clerk (D)	Patricia Gatto, Senior Clerk (R)
Brandy Scott, Clerk Typist (D)	Robin Lemesevski, Senior Clerk (R)

ELIGIBLE VOTERS and TURNOUT

As of November 2011, there were 409,214 active, registered voters in Monmouth County. The voter turnout rates for each of the elections are as follows:

Election Name	Date	Eligible Voters	# voted	% turnout
Manasquan Sp. Mun.	1/11/2011	10,966	1,684	15%
Fire District	2/19/2011	33,710	139 *	0%
Annual School	4/27/2011	524,706	57,893	11%
Ocean Municipal	5/10/2011	23,170	1,802	7%
June Primary	6/7/2011	264,932	13,464	5%
Sp. Fire Freehold Twp.	8/27/2011	4,099	16 *	0%
General Election	11/8/2011	409,214	111,737	27%
Loch Arbour Sp Mun.	12/20/2011	161	79	49%

* Total votes counted do not include machine votes.

NUMBER OF ELECTIONS and STATISTICS

The following eight elections were conducted in 2011:

ELECTIONS

DATE

Special Municipal Election
in Manasquan Borough

January 11th
January 14th Provisionals & Canvassing

Annual Fire Election

February 19th

Annual School Election

April 27th
May 2nd Provisionals
May 3rd Canvassing

Ocean Township Municipal Election

May 10th
May 12th Provisionals

Primary Election

June 7th
June 14th Provisionals

Special Fire Election in Freehold Twp.

Aug. 27th

Monmouth Regional High School
Special School Election

Sept. 27th
Sept. 30th Provisionals & Canvassing

November General Election

Nov. 8th
Nov. 3rd Challenger Open House
Nov. 7th Challenger Open House
Nov. 14th Provisionals
Nov. 15th Canvassing

Loch Arbour Special Municipal Election

Dec. 20th
Dec. 21st Provisionals

MAIL IN AND PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

Effective July 1, 2009, a new law changed "Absentee Ballot Voting" to Vote by Mail. There are now two options on the Mail-In Ballot application. **Option A** allows the voter to receive a ballot for all elections within the calendar year while **Option B** a voter may chose to receive a ballot for all General Elections in perpetuity or until they may otherwise indicate to the County Clerk that they no longer wish to receive such. As a result of this new law, we have seen an increase in the number of paper ballots received for each election.

Paper Ballots Processed

There were over 10,793 paper ballots, including 10,089 mail-in ballots and 704 provisional ballots processed during 2011. The breakdown for each election is as follows:

<u>Election Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Mail-In</u>	<u>Provisional</u>	<u>Total Ballots</u>
Manasquan Sp. Mun.	1/11/2011	113	7	120
Fire District	2/19/2011	73	*	73
Annual School	4/27/2011	1380	128	1508
Ocean Municipal	5/10/2011	63	3	66

Paper Ballots Processed (cont'd)

June Primary	6/7/2011	531	32	563
Sp. Fire Freehold Twp.	8/27/2011	15	*	15
Sp. Monmouth Reg. HS	9/27/2011	38	0	38
General Election	11/8/2011	7,876	534	8,410
Loch Arbour Sp. Mun.	12/20/11	5	0	5

* Total votes counted does not include machine vote.

POLL WORKERS and POLLING PLACES

There are 458 voting districts, also know as polling places, throughout the County. By statute, there must be a minimum of 4 poll workers for each polling district, with the exception of school elections. In compliance with various other statutes, the Board may assign 2 additional workers (one from each party) when there is an additional voting machine and/or the total number of registered voters in that district exceeds 900. The following indicates the number of districts and the number of Poll Workers that worked.

Election Name	# of Districts	# of Poll Workers
Annual School	458	1475
June Primary	458	1840
General Election	458	1851

POLL WORKER TRAINING CLASSES

In addition to assigning the Poll Workers, the Board of Elections is responsible for qualifying Poll Workers to work on Election Day through statutory required training. There are currently over 3800 Poll Worker names in the database. During 2011, 650 attended classes in the months just prior to the June Primary. An additional 558 were trained just prior to the November General Election. Approximately 32% of all Poll Workers attended some training during 2011 with a total of 1239. In addition to daytime training classes, many are given in the evening to accommodate people working during the day. The following training classes were given in 2011.

April 4, 2011	1:00 PM	Wall Municipal Bldg., Wall
April 7, 2011	1:00 PM	Monmouth Mall, Eatontown
April 13, 2011	7:00 PM	Agricultural Bldg., Freehold
May 4, 2011	1:00 PM	Mon. Cty. Library, Manalapan
May 4, 2011	6:30 PM	Mon. Cty. Library, Manalapan
May 17, 2011	7:00 PM	Bayshore Senior Center, Keansburg
May 19, 2011	7:00 PM	Agricultural Bldg., Freehold
July 20, 2011	10:30 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 21, 2011	10:30 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 25, 2011	10:30 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 27, 2011	10:30 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
August 2, 2011	10:30 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
August 3, 2011	10:30 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold

POLL WORKER TRAINING CLASSES (cont'd)

Sept. 8, 2011	7:00 PM	Agricultural Bldg., Freehold
Sept. 13, 2011	7:00 PM	Wall Municipal Bldg., Wall
Sept. 15, 2011	1:00 PM	Monmouth Mall, Eatontown
Sept. 19, 2011	1:00 PM	Mon. Cty. Library, Manalapan
Sept. 19, 2011	6:30 PM	Mon. Cty. Library, Manalapan
Oct. 5, 2011	7:00 PM	Agricultural Bldg., Freehold
Oct. 12, 2011	7:00 PM	Bayshore Senior Center, Keansburg

CERTIFICATION OF POLLING PLACES FOR ELECTION DAY

The Board of Elections is responsible for the selection of polling places. Communication with the Municipal Clerks has been established to meet these needs. The Board maintains contact information for every polling site.

REDISTRICTING ELECTION DISTRICTS and MAPS

The Board of Elections, in conjunction with the Superintendent of Elections and the County Clerk, oversees the voting process for more than 631,000 residents. We are the 4th largest county in the State. There are 53 municipalities in Monmouth County spread over an area of 471.57 square miles. There are a total of 458 election districts in our County. After a census year (2 010) and promulgation of the census figures by the Governor or a referendum, the Board must draw new boundaries in those municipalities that elect a local governing body (Title 13, Title 19 and Title 40). If an election district due to size or any other consideration as noted in Title 19 requires altering or merging, the Board must prepare such information and materials to effectuate this change (Title 13, Title 19 and Title 40).

BOE in 2011 redistricted Howell Township and Tinton Falls Borough.

ELECTION DAY CHALLENGERS

Challenger Credentials

Candidates, County and Municipal Chairs may apply to the Board of Elections for Election Day Challengers. Challengers are those people who represent their party, a candidate or a question in the polling place on Election Day.

The following illustrates the 1214 credentials initially applied for by the candidates and issued for each election but does not include any changes during the two weeks after the submission deadline to Election Day.

Election Name	Credentials
Annual School	40
June Primary	73
General Election	1101

ELECTION RECOUNTS

Election Recounts

The Board of Elections conducts all election recounts at the direction of a Monmouth County Superior Court Judge.

RECOUNTS

The following recounts were conducted in 2011

Asbury Park City	May 10 th
Eatontown Borough	May 16 th
Spring Lake Heights Borough	December 5 th
Allentown Borough	December 5 th

MISC INFORMATION

Legal and Display Advertisements

The Board of Elections advertizes all meetings and elections in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” and Title 19.

Website

The BOE Website gives Poll Workers the opportunity to refresh the voting machine training and instructions for Election Day at anytime of the year. The website is updated regularly for changes and dates of instruction classes.

Staff Training

BOE staff and commissioners attend continuing education classes throughout the year as well as attending training seminars during our annual convention each year in March.

TRAINING of MUNICIPAL CLERKS

The Board of Elections participates in Municipal Clerk training seminars. These seminars ensure that the Clerks are as up to date as possible of all the newest election laws and procedures.

