

1. On August 20, 2020, the Attorney General issued further guidance related to election operations during the COVID-19 pandemic focused on steps moderators can take to protect the polling places and those utilizing them. A true and correct copy of this guidance is attached as **Exhibit F**.

2. The Secretary of State's Office also has posted a guidance document on its website titled, "COVID-19 Related Registration and Voting Instructions." A true and correct copy of this guidance document is attached hereto as **Exhibit G**. It provides a general overview of how to register and vote absentee during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also specifies that completed absentee ballots must be received by mail, in-person delivery, or by delivery agent by 5:00p.m. on Election Day.

3. The following trainings have occurred since March 12, 2020:

- a. March 12, 2020: On-line Regional Discussion of the Election Procedure Manual & 2020 Topics to address in 2020 Training. Three two-hour sessions were also held in April, two on April 16, 2020 from 10:00am to 12:00pm and 6:00pm to 8:00pm and one on Saturday, April 18, 2020, from 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- b. March 19, 2020: High Volume Election Day Registration Polling Place Cities – Round Table. This webinar presentation took two hours and preparation time was approximately four to six hours.
- c. March 20, 2020: High Volume Election Day Registration Polling Place Towns – Round Table. This webinar presentation took two hours and preparation time was approximately four to six hours.
- d. April 7, 2020: Moderator Training conducted from 9:00am to 11:00am
- e. April 8, 2020: Moderator Training conducted from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

- f. April 10, 2020: Moderator Training conducted from 9:00am to 11:00am.
- g. April Webinar - 2020 Instructions for Postponing Local Elections in ElectionNet.
Four webinars presented between April 29 and 30, 2020.
- h. ElectionNet¹ training, full day training sessions (6:00am to 5:00pm), occurred on June 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30 and July 2.

4. In the lead-up to the 2020 NH Primary Election, the Secretary of State's Office has made great efforts to keep the public informed about the upcoming elections, including sharing important information about what will be different for this election because of COVID-19.

5. These efforts have included extensive engagement and outreach with state and local election officials. Starting at the end of June, this office began conducting biweekly informational sessions with local election officials and established dedicated informational email accounts for all election officials to communicate directly with this office. Informational meetings were held over Zoom for the following officials on the following dates:

City and Town Clerks' sessions:

6/30/20

7/14/20

7/28/20

8/11/20

8/25/20

9/1/20

Moderators' sessions:

¹ ElectionNet is the voter registration and election administration software the State uses to manage election related data.

7/2/20

7/16/20

7/30/20

8/6/20

8/13/20

8/27/20

9/3/20

Supervisors' sessions:

7/8/20

7/22/20

8/5/20

8/19/20

9/2/20

6. Many, if not all, of these above sessions have involved discussions related to absentee registration and/or voting and in-person voting on election day as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

7. In addition to these “live” virtual meetings, the following pre-recorded training sessions have been made available to election officials, and are available on our website, for anyone wishing to learn more about the below subjects:

Training sessions made available:

- What is New? (Joint Guidance Document Review) and Election Law Changes (webinar)
- COVID-19 presentation by Dr. Chan (webinar)
- CARES Act Elections Sub Grant (webinar)
- Partial Pre-Processing of Absentee Ballots (webinar)

- 2020 Ballot Clerk Procedure at a Primary (webinar)
- 2020 Summer Election Training – Security (webinar)
- Election Officials (webinar)
- 2020 Summer Election Training – Reconciliation – State Primary (webinar)

8. In the lead up to the 2020 elections, the Secretary of State’s office has been broadening its engagement on social media, averaging 1-2 Tweets and Facebook posts per day. In the past 28 days, our Tweet impressions have gone up 26.3%, totaling 37.7 thousand impressions during this period.² Visits to our Twitter profile are up 80%, and mentions of us on Twitter are up 60.8%. We have also been doing a countdown on Twitter of the days left before the Primary, with reminders about checking voter registration, returning completed absentee ballots to city and town clerks, and encouraging voters to get their elections-related information from state and local election officials, as they are the trusted source for this information.

9. These posts also direct persons to existing guidance regarding absentee voting.

10. The Secretary of State’s office has also worked diligently to keep voters and election officials informed about developments and guidance as they relate to the upcoming elections. Over the last two months, press releases have gone out about: (a) the availability and delivery of personal protective equipment (PPE); (b) the Secretary of State’s new website; (c) the availability of absentee ballots at clerks’ offices; and (d) information about a newly available option for those with print disabilities to request an

² I understand a Twitter impression to be a total tally of all the times a tweet has been seen, including when it is re-tweeted by others and when it appears in searches.

accessible electronic absentee ballot. These releases go out statewide and are picked up by numerous media outlets.

11. The Secretary of State's Office also handles a large volume of telephone inquiries in the lead to a large election cycle. The telephone lines that field inquiries for the ElectionNet system have averaged approximately 300 calls per day. The Voter Information hotline established with federal CARES Act money began on August 12, 2020. It has received approximately 500 calls from residents asking for guidance and help. The Secretary of State's Office itself also fields telephone calls from local election officials and the public regarding the upcoming election cycle.