



To: ALL JUDGES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

**From: PAMELA PRYOR DEMBE
PRESIDENT JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**

**Subject: ELECTION DAY JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS
2009 General Election - Tuesday, November 3, 2009**

ORDER

AND NOW, this 30th day of September, 2009, the following Election Court assignments are made, which shall supersede other assignments, during the scheduled Election Court hours only.

No substitutes will be provided by the President Judge. In the event of a personal emergency, the assigned judges must arrange for substitutes with any judge not assigned herein. However, judges assigned to the criminal list room program should not sit in Election Court in lieu of their list room assignments. If substitutions are made, the information must be provided to the Office of the President Judge as soon as possible.

I. CENTRAL ELECTION COURT - Courtroom 676, City Hall

Courtroom 676, City Hall, will be the central location for all records of the Registration Division, Board of Elections and the Prothonotary. Central Election Court will convene at 7:00 AM and will remain open continuously until 10:00 PM. (Phone: 215-686-4278)

Judges assigned to the Central Election Court will have jurisdiction over all election matters, and shall, as provided in 25 P.S. § 3046:

act as a committing magistrate for any violation of the election laws;

settle summarily controversies that may arise with respect to the conduct of the election;

issue process, if necessary, to enforce and secure compliance with the election laws;

decide such other matters pertaining to the election as may be necessary to carry out the intent of the Election Code; and

when an individual is seeking a judicial order to vote, shall inform the individual of the provisional ballot process set forth in 25 P.S. § 3050. Section 3050 provides, *inter alia*:

- **an individual who claims to be properly registered and eligible to vote at the election district but whose name does not appear on the district register and whose registration cannot be determined by the inspectors of election or the county election board shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot.**
- **Prior to voting the provisional ballot, the elector shall be required to execute an affidavit which must be signed by the voter, the Judge of Election and minority inspector.**
- **After the provisional ballot has been cast, the individual shall place it in a secrecy envelope. The individual shall place the secrecy envelope in the provisional ballot envelope and shall place his signature on the front of the provisional ballot envelope.**

No judge who is not assigned to Central Election Court shall take any action with respect to any election matter, unless prior approval is obtained from the President Judge. The assigned Central Election Court Judges shall provide their personal tipstaff to assist them in their Election Day duties.

	<u>Judge</u>	<u>Court Reporter</u>
7 AM to 2:30 PM	Honorable Lori A. Dumas-Brooks	Kris Ferraro
2:30 PM to 10 PM	Honorable Thomas Dempsey	Barry Harris

The Committee of Seventy has requested that we ask judges to remind voters to re-register. Some voters incorrectly assume that an Election Day Order from a judge permitting them to vote at a particular election also restores their names to the binders. This is not the case. Registration forms will be available and judges should advise voters that they can complete their registration immediately by filling out registration forms. The forms will subsequently be picked up by representatives of the Registration Commission.

II. STANDBY ASSIGNMENTS

Judges with standby assignments may only be called upon by the President Judge to preside in Central Election Court, 676 City Hall in the event of unforeseen events. All of the standby judges must be available between the hours of 7 AM and 10 PM either in their chambers or at home.

Honorable Charles J. Cunningham, III
Honorable Idee Fox
Honorable Paul P. Panepinto

III. ELECTION BOARD PETITIONS

Petitions (**original and two copies**) to Fill Vacancies in Election Boards (judge of election, majority inspector, minority inspector) must be filed with the Clerk of Quarter Sessions (Room 310, Criminal Justice Center, 1301 Filbert Street, Philadelphia, PA.) before 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2009.

A hearing on the Petitions to Fill Vacancies in Election Boards will be held in Courtroom 676 City Hall, on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., President Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe presiding.

IV. OFFICIAL ELECTION COUNT

The official election count will commence on Friday, November 6, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., at Riverview Place, 6th Floor, Delaware Avenue and Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

*This Election Schedule is available on the First Judicial District Web Site at:
<http://courts.phila.gov>.

BY THE COURT:

/s/
PAMELA PRYOR DEMBE
PRESIDENT JUDGE