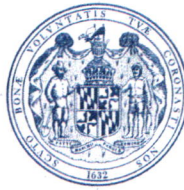


Armstead B. Crawley Jones, Sr.  
Election Director

Abigail Goldman  
Election Deputy Director

Bruce M. Luchansky  
President (R)

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September 22, 2022

***Via Electronic Mail Only***

The Honorable Odette Ramos  
Baltimore City Council  
100 Holliday Street, Room 505  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Councilmember Ramos:

On behalf of the Baltimore City Board of Elections, thank you for the opportunity to discuss the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election. The City Board shares your commitment to making sure voting is easy and convenient for every eligible voter in Baltimore City, and to safeguarding the integrity of our elections.

State Administrator Lamone's letter describes in detail the process that we (and every other local board of elections) went through to assign voters to the correct district following the 2020 Census and the redistricting of the State's Congressional and General Assembly districts. I would like to highlight just a few points.

First, I am deeply grateful to the staff of the City Board for the incredibly hard work they performed over many months to prepare for this election, to carry it out, and to canvass the ballots and prepare results afterward. They performed much of this work under even greater time pressure than usual and they deserve our recognition and heartfelt thanks. The State Board also provided significant support, as it does to all the local boards. I am also grateful to the many Baltimoreans who gave their valuable time to serve as election judges at our early voting and election day polling places. Together, our staff and election judges made it possible for more than 94,000 of our citizens to cast ballots in this election, the highest turnout in a gubernatorial primary in a number of years.

Second, Administrator Lamone correctly identifies the root cause of the issues you have noted: the very short window of time between when new legislative district boundaries were finalized, in mid-April, and the deadline to finish assigning voters to the correct districts and precincts, in mid-May. After the new districts were accepted by the Court of Appeals, we received PDF maps from the City (two examples are attached) showing locations where a precinct had been moved to a different district or where a new district line divided an existing precinct. We used that information to manually assign all affected voters to the correct precinct and district. Nearly all City voters were assigned to the correct district and received the correct information. However, we understand that an error affecting even a single voter is a serious problem that we have a duty